

Is Deregulation Of Law Enforcement
The Coming Trend?
Story on Pages 12 & 13

Local 911
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POA NOTEBOOK

SAN FRANCISCO POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION
To Promote the Ideals, Policies and Accomplishments of the Association and its Members

VOLUME 29

SAN FRANCISCO, OCTOBER 1997

NUMBER 10

Co. A's Classiest Officer

John Brandt: SFPOA Officer Of The Month

By George Rosko, Central Station

On September 16, 1997, 250 People assembled at the POA office for a special purpose. This gathering was to honor a special man. That man is John Brandt.

John was presented with a plaque commemorating the award. I was greatly honored to have made this presentation. Vice president Gary Delagnes presented John with a caricature of himself, doing his favorite hobby, fishing. This art work was drawn by Sgt. John Sterling. Officer Carl Payne presented John with a beautiful and ornate Marine Corp belt buckle.

When it was determined that the Association was going to start up the Officer of the Month award, the only possible choice for the first award was John Brandt from Central Station. John is one of the most respected, fine people I have met in this Department. This feeling is shared by all who have worked with John over the last twenty-seven and a half years.

John has been off work for the last few months. During this time, officers continually would ask about John. This was no surprise since he is highly respected by his peers. Business people in North Beach and Broadway would also ask me about John. This didn't surprise me since as a terrific old fashioned beatman, he knows and is appreciated by the businesses on his beat. But what truly is unique was when the lowly, downtrodden of society, homeless asked about John. People who usually avoid the police, approached me out of true concern. After a few min-



utes, several times these poor souls ended our conversation with "God bless John Brandt." John is that type of person. A man who touches all those he meets in their hearts.

John has always been the consummate professional. A supervisor's dream come true who always does it right the first time. A humble man who rarely asks for anything but who could be counted upon for a favor. He is a walking encyclopedia when it concerns the bad guys on his beat. A beatman who could make a case just by the physical suspect description, because he paid attention to details.

John Brandt will be retiring on January 5, 1998. His shoes will be hard ones to fill. We can only hope that John's traits and abilities rubbed off on some of the officers around him. For the San Francisco Police Department is not only losing a great Officer, but an outstanding human being.

'Crop-a-Cop' '97

By Philip Fee, Park Station

On August 6, 1997, Sgt. Rene LaPrevotte and I flew to Sydney Australia to take part in the annual "Crop-a-Cop" fund raising event to benefit children with cancer. Sgt. LaPrevotte and I were selected to represent the San Francisco Police Department to show worldwide support for this worthy cause. We joined police officers from England, Canada, The United States and Australia for the ceremonial head shave and visited with children suffering from the effects of chemotherapy while battling the disease. These Officers would raise money and have their heads shaved to show the children that it was OK to be bald and that Police Officers from around the world admired their courage. In all, approximately twelve hundred police officers took part in the campaign, which raised over 1.4 million dollars for childhood cancer research. SFPD Officers Mike Siebert and Rob Zeigler attended the 1996 "Crop-a-Cop" even and made a lasting impression on the organizers foundations; so much so that Officer Siebert was designated the United States West Coast coordinator, who hopes to bring the event to San Francisco in the summer of 1998.



Rene meets with a new friend

What is "Crop-a-Cop?"

The idea for "crop-a-cop" originated with Officer Carl David in Melbourne Australia in 1994. Carl was visiting a children's hospital when he met several children who had lost their hair during their chemotherapy treatment. The children were very happy to see Carl in uniform and hear police stories. Carl left the hospital with a better appreciation of his own family life and was touched by the children's courage. Carl noticed that some of the children were concerned about their appearance and lack of hair. So Carl called on a few "mates" like Kent Strickland, Nicole Hamilton and Spud McDevitt to organize the first "Crop-a-Cop" head shaving even. Carl wanted the kids to know that they didn't have to be embarrassed about their appearance.

The idea took off. Officers from a few district stations spread the word and officers from all over Australia responded. Several corporations also responded with financial contributions or donation of their products. In just three years, "Crop-a-Cop" has gained the support of over twelve hundred police officers around the



Phil gives one of the kids a SFPD Bear

(see CROP-A-COP, page 11)

Need Blood Donation

Special Agent George Domich works in the San Francisco Office of the Secret Service. George is to have major surgery at UCSF on October 27, 1997.

We are requesting anyone who could be a designated donor for (O-) blood (O NEG) to contact:

Bob Huegle SID 553-9141
Bob McNight USSS 744-9026

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Widows and Orphans Aid Association

The regular monthly meeting of The Widows and Orphans Aid Association was called to order by Vice President F. Forencich at 2:08 PM Wednesday, September 17, 1997 in Conference Room at Ingleside Station.

Roll call of Officers: President Kurpinsky and Treasurer Hurley were excused. All others were present.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: Approved as presented in writing to the membership.

Suspensions and Reinstatements: Eight members were stricken from the rolls. Four members were reinstated.

Treasurer Parenti presented the regular bills, benefits (6), salaries, taxes, accounting, etc. Approved.

Treasurer Parenti reported the following deaths:

John F. Carney: Born in New Bedford, Mass. in 1926, John worked for Santa Fe Railway until he joined the Department in 1959 at age 33. From the Academy to Southern for a year, then to the Bureau of Identification for another year. John was then transferred to Northern where he worked until his retirement on disability in 1978, age 52. He received the following awards: 1970-Bronze for the arrest of two suspects who had just committed a burglary, reached for their weapons, but were overpowered before any shots could be fired. Suspects had committed over 200 burglaries and \$150,000 in valuable stolen merchandise was recovered. 1973-Silver for the arrest of a suspect who was pointing a gun at pedestrians at Fillmore and Golden Gate Ave. The suspect was rushed by Officers and disarmed before he could fire. John was 71 at the time of his death.

Albert Chaquette: Born in San Francisco in 1913. Albert worked for the City as a gardener before he became a member of the Department in 1940 at the age of 27. He was assigned to the Richmond District after the Academy for a short stay, then to Southern, staying there for eight years. He went to B.S.S. until he was appointed to a Sergeant in

1957. Al worked at Southern, Ingleside and Park until being assigned to Northern where he worked there until his retirement from the Service in 1963 at the age of 50. Al was 84 when he passed away.

Frank Defanti: Born in Healdsburg in 1919. He worked as an electro-plater before joining the Department in 1949 at the age of 29. From the Academy to Ingleside for a year, then to Southern for 6 years and to Central until his retirement from the Service in 1976 at the age of 56. Frank received 2 C/C for the arrest of holdup men. In 1961 he received a 2nd Grade for rescuing occupants of a burning building, having to carry many to safety. 1961 for the arrest of an armed suspect who had just robbed a restaurant. 1963 for the arrest of a suspect who had just assaulted a woman with a gun. 1963 for the arrest and disarming of a suspect who had pistol whipped a woman. Frank was 78 at the time of his death.

Milton Piro: Born in San Francisco in 1924. Milt was in the restaurant business before he became a member of the Department in 1948 at the age of 23. From the Academy to Central for two years. He was in Detailed Crime Prevention for five years and was assigned to the Bureau of Inspectors in 1955. Milt was promoted to Assistant Inspector in 1958, and to Full Inspector in 1960. In 1963 he was granted a Leave of Absence to the D.A.'s Office. When he returned, Milt was assigned to the B.S.S. from which he retired in 1970 at the age of 46 on Disability. He received the following awards: 1949-1st Grade for the rescue of a drowning man from the Bay. In 1950-C/C for the arrest of a suspect wanted for kidnapping. In 1949 for the arrest of two armed suspects in the act of holding up a pool hall. In 1951 for the arrest of two suspects in a liquor store holdup. In 1952-C/C for the arrest of two robbery and kidnap suspects. In 1953 for the arrest of an armed suspect in a drug store holdup.

(see WIDOWS, page 4)



Police Fire Post #456 News

by Greg Corrales

"If a selection of good sergeants and corporals be made by the officer at the head of the regiment, and if that officer will only allow those individuals to do their duty, there is not the least doubt that they will do it."

— Anonymous diary entry of a British sergeant, War of 1812

More medals, more medals, more medals. Various proposals by the Senate and House would mandate them for millions more people who served their country, even, potentially, if they never left their home base. Despite the concerns of many regarding the proliferation of medals, provisions in the Senate and House versions of the defense budget bills for next year propose new medals for Cold War service, Bosnia duty, and injuries in non-combat operations. The proposals include:

1. A Cold War service medal for people who served from 15 August 1974 to 21 December 1991, **if those people re-enlisted.**
2. The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for anyone who partici-

pated in Operation Joint Endeavor or Operation Joint Guard in Bosnia. Eligible troops under this proposal would include those who served aboard ship, miles from Bosnia, those who flew over Bosnian airspace, and perhaps those who provided support from regions outside Bosnia. Although the Defense Department has maintained that the lesser-ranked Armed Forces Service Medal is the more appropriate award, many members of Congress insist on the more prestigious Expeditionary Medal, which has historically gone to members who participated in operations that encountered armed opposition.

3. A decoration for injuries or death incurred in the line of duty, but in non-combat situations.

While in Vietnam I was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal with combat "v". I have always been aware that it is a very low-ranking medal, but the Navy has recently forced me to change my description of the Navy Achievement Medal from "low-ranking" to "worthless." It's come to this: The Naval Reserve is offering the Navy-Marine Corps Achievement Medal (new name, same medal) to any Naval or Marine Corps reservist who refers four people that join the Naval Reserve. A **medal** for talking people into joining up!

The SFPD is doing their part to cheapen Medals of Valor. Ribbons are being invented for just about any expected performance of duty. Enough is enough! I am the first to advocate recognition of members for

(see POST, page 8)

Editorial Policy

The Notebook is the official newspaper of the San Francisco Police Officers' Association and is published to express the policies, the ideals and the accomplishments of the Association. It is the Notebook's editorial policy to allow members to express their individual opinions and concerns within the necessary considerations of legality and space. Submissions that are racist, sexist, and/or unnecessarily inflammatory or offensive will not be published. Contributors must include their names with all submissions but may request that their names not be printed. Anonymously submitted material will not be published. The SFPOA and the Notebook are not responsible for unsolicited material. The editors reserve the right to edit submissions to conform to this policy.

The San Francisco Police Officers' Association

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- Address letters to the Editor's Mail Box, 510 7th St., San Francisco, CA 94103.
 - Letters must be accompanied by the writer's true name and address. The name, but not the street address, will be published with the letter.
 - Unsigned letters and/or articles will not be used.
 - Writers are assured freedom of expression within necessary limits of space and good taste.
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 - Articles should be typed, double-spaced.

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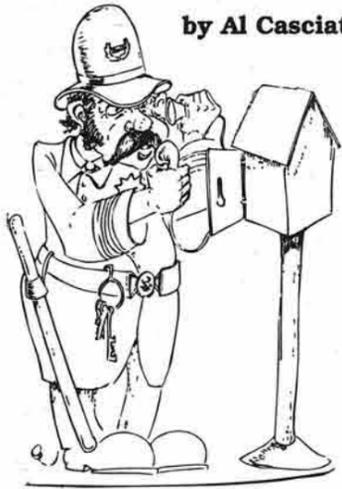
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Around The Department

by Al Casciato



...Recruitment:

Word is out that recruitment will issue a job announcement for Q2 Police Officer on October 31. According to **Julie Gonzalez**, Consent Decree Coordinator, Marin and Solano County residents will be allowed to apply.

...Reckless Driving:

Lt. Denis O'Leary in the Hit and Run detail is working on a project which is analyzing accidents caused by reckless driving. He asks that if anyone, anywhere, has some data—to please mail it to him c/o of Hit and Run Section at 850 Bryant St. S.F. Ca. 94103...

... Births: Births: and More Births:

Tenderloin Task Force's **Eddie and Annette Hagen** are the proud parents of **Edward Liam** 9lbs 201/4" who was born April 26, 1997. Big sister **Katie**, 2 1/2 years is very proud of her new brother and is helping mom and dad.

Ricci and Liz Rodriguez, Bayview Station, ecstatically welcomed their first child, **Danielle Rodriguez** 8 1/2 lbs. 20 1/2 inches was born September 1, 1997 1154 hrs. at Mills Hospital.

General Work Inspector **Dominic Celaya and wife Tai** welcomed their second child September 20, 1997 at 0707 hrs. **Kersey Nicole** lbs. 4 oz. 19 inches takes after her Dad, (she was late) Happy big sister, **Shayna** is almost 7 years old and absolutely thrilled with her new sister. Proud Grandmothers are **Phyllis Leonhart** of San Mateo and **Pat Celaya**, retired Richmond Station.

Sam and Denise Christ (Mission Station) were blessed with their second child September 25, 1997 at

0616 hours. **Zachary Allen** 8 lbs. 8 oz. 21 1/4 joined big Sister **Kaitlin Marie** (3 1/2 years) as their parents pride and joy.

Congratulations to all and our best wishes for future happiness and success.....

...Sadness:

One veteran Sgt. commented recently that she loved the job, loved the people, but hated the department. Its sad to think that we spend 25-30 years in a department and take that emotion into retirement...

...Medical:

In the next few months the Health Service System will be putting out to bid next years medical coverage. If you are interested (**you should be**) and want to do something about it you should communicate with the system. How you ask. How about mailing or faxing them the official position of the Public Employees Committee of the San Francisco Labor Council. The position is "That all active, retired employees, and survivors have identical medical, dental, and vision coverage. That the coverage be fully paid mandating yearly physical, twice yearly dental exam, yearly vision exam, and no co-payment for prescriptions. If you agree with this position Fax to HSS Commission at 554-1721- (be sure to put your name so they know you are a member) or mail to 1145 Market Street 2nd Floor, SF. Ca. 94103. Be sure to notify all other city employees of what we are doing so they can join us; it benefits all of us....

...Retiree:

Retiree, **Cal Frost and his wife Gerry** became Great Grandparents for the 1 st and 2nd times this past summer. **Joshua Grau** lbs. 8 oz. was born May 28, 1997 **Nicole and Joe Frost-Grau**. Number 2 arrived August 14, 1997 with the birth of Wyatt Dean Rea 7 lbs.. 13 oz. to **Erika and William Frost-Rea**. Wait! ! Cal you may be a Great Grandpa but this makes (your Lil boy) **Larry Frost and wife, Robin**, Traffic Court Liaison, grandparents for the 1 st and 2nd time. Thought you'd try to sneak one past me...Knowing Larry he's probably trying to get Lou Holtz to be the godfather and have the kids christened at Notre Dame. Congratulations to all...

Announcements, notices or tidbits can be faxed to 552-5741 or mailed to Around the Department, 510 - 7th St., S.F. CA 94103.

SFPOA Retirement Planning Seminars and The Hartford Asset Management Services announce a workshop entitled How To Maximize Your Deferred Compensation Withdrawal

When: Saturday, November 8, 1997

Time: 9:00 a.m. — 12:30 p.m.

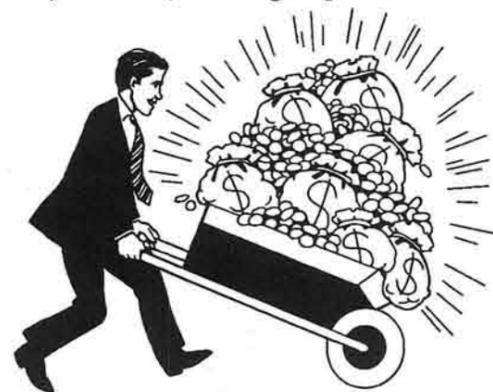
Place: POA, 510 - 7th Street

Presenters: Mike Hebel (POA)
Peter Belardinelli & Gary Bozin (Hartford)
Steve Dillman (American Century Funds)

As requested by the attendees of the April 26 workshop on "Building a Deferred Compensation Portfolio" this new and exciting follow-up workshop will present an in-depth review of the various deferred compensation distribution options.

In addition, Steve Dillman, Marketing/Portfolio Director for the American Century Funds, will be present to discuss the Ultra, Select, and Balanced investment funds.

This workshop is available to the first 50 SFPOA members who sign up. Contact the POA (861-5060) and sign-up. There is no charge for this workshop.



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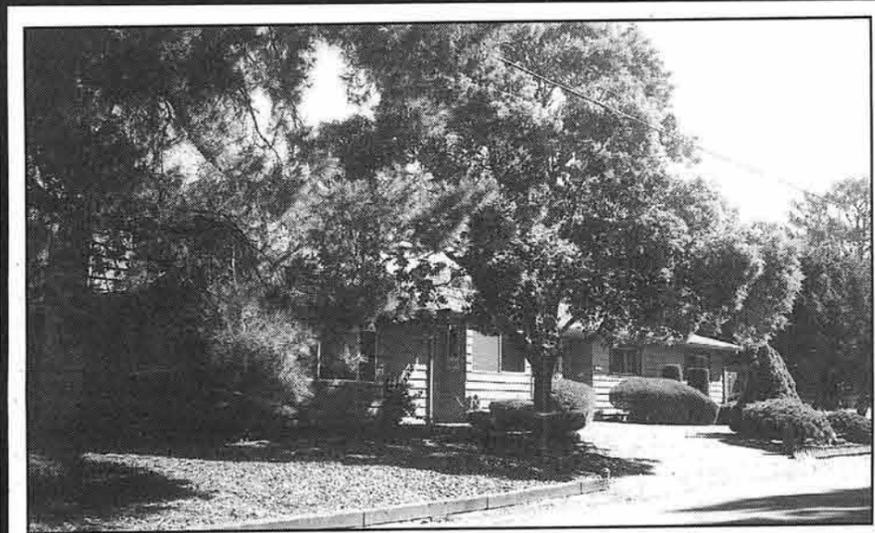
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Another Mark for San Francisco's Finest

By Chris Cunnie, SFPOA President

On Thursday, September 18, 1997 Officer Yulanda Williams became the first recipient of one of law enforcement's prestigious awards. Officer Williams is the 1997 California Crime Prevention Volunteer of the Year Award. This award was presented to her in San Diego, California by Mr. Johnson from Attorney General Dan Lungren's Office.

Officers were nominated by their police agencies across California, however, she was selected overwhelmingly by the nominating committee.

On Friday, September 19, 1997, San Francisco Police Department made another first, three of our own officers graduated as Master Instructors in Sacramento, California. Off. Stan Buscovich (Mounted Patrol), Off. Victor Tsang (Tac Unit), and Officer Yulanda Williams (Bayview Police

Station). Each officers committed themselves to one year of extensive research and developed 40 hour training courses for police personnel. The courses that were developed by each of these officers are now certified by POST. Training will be available to police personnel in 1998 at the San Francisco Police Academy.

Off. Buscovich is a certified Master Instructor of Mounted Unit Ceremonial Training, Off. Tsang is a certified Master Instructor of Officer's Survival Training and Off. Williams is certified as a Master Instructor on School Resource Officers Training.

Congratulations and good luck to them and all the other graduates of the POST Master Instructor's Development Program Class #6. Those interested in the Master Instructor's Training Course should contact Sgt. Bray in the Training Division of the San Francisco Police Academy.

Retired Members Column

by Mike Sugrue



Right now we're sitting on the patio of a beautiful fourth floor apartment overlooking the Atlantic Ocean on Hutchinson Island in Stuart, Florida, and it's raining — what a bummer — and I can't get my money back if it rains the rest of the week!!

Gone is the stereotype retirement: buying a small house in Florida, fishing from the city pier, and then rocking away watching the sunset. Today retirees have numerous opportunities to give themselves years of satisfaction and living one's life to the fullest.

Great retirements don't just happen — they are planned. They require making choices and developing plans. Where a spouse is concerned the plan has to be for two and requires give and take as decisions are made. Your feelings, opinions and preparations need to be identified and clarified before examining

specific life-style options.

Ask yourself these five questions. Your answers, and when applicable, those of your spouse, will be the cornerstone of your retirement plan.

1. Do you know what your retirement income will be?
2. Are you going to retire or change jobs?
3. How great a change do you want to make in your life-style?
4. How much provision for "old age," when there are health impairments, do you want to include?
5. What will you do with your free time?

There are no right or wrong answers — except for the first question. Each person will have his or her own likes, dislikes and basis. These differences, in the case of a husband and wife, need to be worked out.

Source: A Field Guide to Retirement, Alice and Fred Lee.

Attention 154th Academy Class Members

Our 15th year anniversary is coming up. Is anybody interested in getting together for a dinner to catch up on old or new times? If so, please contact Officer Jennifer Lee at the Field Operations Bureau at 553-1527.



Paul M. Gisler
General Contractor

(415) 661-2255

CAL # 670241

WIDOWS

(continued from page 2)

In 1954-1st Grade for the arrest of three dangerous criminals who had committed three armed robberies. In 1955 for the arrest of two armed suspects who had just held up a cigar store. In 1959 for the arrest of an armed prowler who had threatened Officers. Milt was 72 when he passed away.

James Solden: Born in Kansas City in 1920. After working as a mechanic he joined the Department in 1948 at the age of 28. From the Academy to Mission for two years then to Central for five years and then to Southern. He was appointed to Sergeant in 1959 and remained at Southern for several years. From there he went to Central for two years, Richmond for four years until he was appointed to Lieutenant in 1967. He stayed at Park for a year and then a year at Northern. He was assigned to Richmond where he stayed until his retirement from Service in 1976 at the age of 55. Jim received the following awards: 1949-C/C for the arrest of a burglar armed with a six inch knife. 1950 for the arrest of two armed burglars and shot a 3rd who was attempting to escape. 1953-2nd Grade arrest of a burglary suspect with a concealed weapon. In 1958-C/C arrest of two armed suspects who had just robbed a grocery store. In 1958 C/C arrest of an armed suspect who had just robbed a tavern. In 1960-C/C arrest of two men in the act of holding up a

grocery store. Jim was 77 at the time of his death.

Donald Towle: Born in Hollister in 1925. Don became a member of the Department in 1950 at the age of 24 after working as an automobile mechanic. From the Academy to Ingleside for two years, then on to the Bureau of Identification for two years, Southern for 3 years, Central for four years and finally to Richmond until his retirement on Disability in 1964 at the age of 41. Don received a C/C in 1952 for the arrest of two juvenile in the act of a burglary. He was 72 at the time of his death.

Report of Trustees: Mr. Bricker and Mr. Joe from Bank of America feel that the economy will continue as in the past because the Fed's seem to feel that the economy can grow at a higher rate than the 2.2% that they felt was secure and would not cause inflation. Inflation is holding around 2.2%. Growth is about 3.4%. Due to expenses this month (6 deaths) our cash is low. However, we do have growth; from 1995 to 1997 the Market has risen 100%. No recommendations at this time, due to the lack of Cash and the performance of the Market.

Unfinished Business: Waiting for the mailing list for the former Airport Police.

New Business: Secretary McKee voiced the possibility of trying to get the Academy Class to go on cash instead of payroll. This would stop a lot of problems when the Payroll members go on leave and no money is collected.

Good of the Association: Vice President Forench set the next regular meeting for 2:00 PM, Wednesday, October 15th in the Conference Room at Ingleside Station.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the membership, the meeting was adjourned at 2:47 PM in the memory of the above departed Brothers.

Fraternally,
Bob McKee, Secretary

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4 Toppings	11.51	13.55	16.61	18.78
5 Toppings	12.51	14.70	17.98	20.30
6 Toppings	13.51	15.85	19.34	21.82
Extra Toppings	.95	1.10	1.30	1.45

TOPPINGS

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- Pastrami*
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- Ham
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- American Bacon*
- Linguica
- Clams*
- Pine Nuts*
- Capers*
- Feta Cheese
- Pineapple
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- Jalapeños
- Pesto*
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- Green Onion
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By Glenn Sylvester

Online!

The new "Police Reporting System" (PRSmobil) is now online at Northern Station. Hmmm ... did I say PRSmobil? Yes, "mobil" indicates that this will be the new reporting system to be utilized in the forth coming laptops in Patrol. Before this can take place, members will and should know how to complete them on stand-alone computers now being installed in phases. By the time you have read this article, Co. H, Co. F and CPC have gotten their computers as well. This first phase and roll-out takes place with additional FOB units to come online at strategic times. It is anticipated that all FOB units will have their computers with members having attended a 3 hour training block by late January 1998. Stay tuned and watch the bulletins. Again, don't get caught behind the curve.

E-mail stuff:

Do you know your e-mail address? Many have logged on and subscribed to an ISP. But once you are there, what do you do?. Yes, there is a lot out there and the Internet can be overwhelming. Start communicating with others. During brief chats, conferences, seminars, parties, get-togethers and more.....Instead of just asking, What's your number or address, ask if they have e-mail. You can send instantaneous messages and files over the internet in a matter of seconds. No matter where your recipient lives. So, do you know your e-mail address? Here's a way to remember and find it. To log on, you need a User-ID. This can take the form of Alpha-numeric characters. Examples: tsmith103, 4cyberchat, phun2go, and etc..... Next, what is the name of your service? Is it America Online (aol.com), or Netcom (ix.netcom.com), and so forth. Your e-mail is made up of your User-ID and your ISP. So if "tsmith103" was on America On Line, the e-mail address would be tsmith103@aol.com,



if "4cyberchat" was on Netcom, the appropriate e-mail address would be 4cyberchat@ix.netcom.com. See it's easy!!! There is a lot more about an e-mail address, as such try to take note of components and extensions of e-mail addresses as you get them.

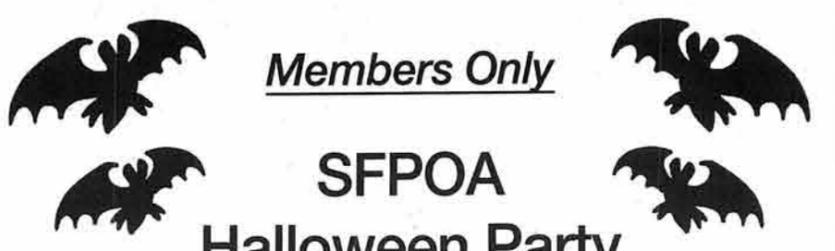
Notice that the above ISPs end in the word "com". Start from the far right and lets take apart the e-mail address. Everything to the right of the "@" sign is called the DOMAIN. "com" means that this is a commercial service. "AOL or NETCOM" is the name of the company. In the case of NETCOM, you will see an "ix" which denotes the computer server getting the mail. To the left of the "@" sign is the USER (in most cases, you!!). Here are some more extensions for you, (far right side) just to name a few.

- com: Commercial
- net: Network
- edu: Educational (colleges, universities)
- gov: government

The only way to get mail, is to send mail. Proper rule of Internet Etiquette: If someone sends you mail, you should always write back. If you don't know their address, it will always be posted in the header of the message, just hit reply and the e-mail client software will do the rest.

Now that you are becoming an expert, try sending mail.
 Glenn R. Sylvester, DSC
 e-mail: glennsylv@pacbell.net
 glennsylv@aol.com
 glennsylv.bigfoot.com
 glennsylv@juno.com
 glennsylv@excite.com
 glennsylv@hotmail.com

<http://members.aol.com/glennsylv/glennsylv.htm>



Members Only

SFPOA Halloween Party

Sunday, October 26, 1997
 11:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

The majority of our members will, once again, be required to work on Halloween, giving up the only opportunity they might have to see their own children in costume. However, thanks to Chairperson Patty Barsetti and the members of her SFPD Wives' Association, we will be sponsoring a Halloween Party for the very young on Sunday, 10/26/97, between 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the POA Building, 510 - 7th Street (cross of Bryant). The party will feature:

- A Haunted House
- Candy/Refreshments
- Face-Painting
- Games



Patty has a great team of volunteers but we can always use more... If you wouldn't mind helping out (i. e. face painting, escorting little ones through our Haunted House or maybe help us put a Haunted House together ? ? ?) we could really use your skills. Patty's team will be putting the Haunted House together the night before and could definitely use some help.

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SFPD Hate Crimes Unit Honored

Notebook Staff Report

The nationally recognized Hate Crimes Unit of the SFPD was honored at a reception hosted by the Intergroup Clearinghouse, a non-profit community organization that works closely with the unit to promote "harmonious relations among San Francisco's diverse populations." The well-attended event was held at the Lone Mountain campus of USF on September 10, 1997.

Accepting the Community Service

Award on behalf of the unit was Inspector Bob Huegle. The award was presented by former San Francisco Police Commissioner Lou Giurado, currently serving on the Board of Directors of the Intergroup Clearinghouse. Members specifically named as honorees were Inspector Sandy Bargioni, Officer Milanda Moore, and Henry Seto, however the honorarium was made to the collective unit for its tradition of community service and efforts to abate hate crime violence.

Officer Henry Seto, Diane Chin (Intergroup Clearinghouse), Inspector Sandy Bargioni, Officer Milanda Moore, Jill Tregor & Lester Olmstead-Rose (Intergroup Clearinghouse)



PHOTO BY DUANE TULLY

Panic Disorder

Submitted through Al Benner, Behavioral Science Unit, and reprinted at the request of the author, an anonymous SFPOA Member

According to the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), approximately 3 million people in the USA will experience "Panic Disorder" at some point in their lives. Panic attacks are a serious problem in this country. Why? Because those who are undiagnosed and desperate to find out what is wrong with them, will spend millions of dollars annually on emergency room visits, blood tests, EKGs, MRIs, and countless doctors' appointments.

You as police officers may have even responded to a 911 call from a citizen who thought that they were having a heart attack or dying, when they may have actually been suffering from a panic attack.

The symptoms of a panic attack can appear "out of the blue" and may include some of the following:

- Racing or pounding heartbeat
- Chest pains Dizziness, lightheadedness, nausea
- Difficulty breathing
- Tingling or numbness in the hands
- Flushes or chills
- Dreamlike sensations or perceptual distortions
- Terror: a sense that something unimaginably horrible is about to occur and one is powerless to prevent it
- Fear of losing control and doing something embarrassing
- Fear of dying

A panic attack can last for several minutes. Many people who have an attack will have another. The fear of the panic attack can actually perpetuate the fear of the "next attack". Simply stated, the impact of the panic attacks can have a snowball effect. When the constant anxiety of the "when will it happen again" thinking takes hold of you, you are now entering the world of "Panic Disorder".

The good news is that Panic Disorder is one of the most treatable men-

tal disorders. Treatments may include cognitive behavioral therapy, psychological/psychiatric counseling, EMDR, or a combination of counseling and medications. The 1990's has been declared the "Decade of the Brain", so research into Panic Disorder is continuous.

I am not a therapist. I am a cop. So how do I know about Panic Disorder? Because I have it. Surprised? Don't be. There are many of us living in the closet with this disorder.

I am not here to preach or get on a soap box about the effects of this disorder on my life. What I am here to say is, if you have "Panic Disorder" or "Anxiety Disorder", you don't need to suffer in silence. There is help available. The help comes from knowledgeable people in SFPD who have information on psychological resources and from those of us who have "been there."

There is no shame in having Panic Disorder, but it is a shame when you have to struggle through it alone.

If you feel that you need to talk to another cop about Panic Disorder, please contact the Behavioral Science Unit at (415) 837-0875. If you wish to remain anonymous, you can give the BSU employee your pager and/or home number and it will be passed on to one of your peers', who is experienced and/or familiar with Panic Disorder.

For more information, you may also contact:

- The Anxiety Disorders Association of America
6000 Executive Blvd., Suite 513
Rockville, MD 20852
- NIMH Panic Disorder Education Program
1-800-64-PANIC
- American Psychological Assoc.
750-First St., N.E.
Washington, D.C., 2002-4242
- American Psychiatric Association
1400-K St., N. W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
- National Panic/Anxiety Disorders
1 (707) 527-5738
- Internet Support:
<http://www.algy.com/anxiety/panic.html>

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Police/Media Forum

An Interview With Rachel Gordon

By Rowena Wilson,
Ingliside Station

This interview is the second in a series. The subject of the forum is the state of relations between the local media and our department. The Notebook is interviewing prominent media personalities to gain their personal perspectives on the matter.

This interview of Rachel Gordon, a reporter with the San Francisco Examiner, took place at the War Memorial Building on a pleasant afternoon September the 9th.

Rachel was born in Chicago and moved to San Francisco at the age of seven. She attended public schools in the city, and studied journalism at San Francisco State University.

Rachel's newspaper career began as an editor for her college newspaper, the Golden Gator. Since then, she has worked for the Alameda Times Star and the San Francisco Independent. For the past five years, she has been working with the Examiner, covering the City Hall beat. She frequently writes stories about the San Francisco Police Department.

Q: Do you have an historical perspective regarding the relationship between the media and the San Francisco Police Department?

A: I think it is fair to say that there is some animosity. A mistrust — I think more on the part of police officers than the other way around. But I have been successful in getting officers to talk to me over the years because I am willing to listen to them and their point of view.

I also try to put a human face on police stories. In 1991 I did a series following the 168th recruit class through the academy. I think I did about 16 stories: This is the training they are going through; this is what they are thinking; here are the cops who are coming into the department. A lot of them were on their second or third career, and some of them were very skeptical of having a reporter there.

But a lot of them were happy to have someone there to show what they were going through: This is the kind of training; these are the concerns we have. I mean, some of them had never held a gun before they entered the police academy. For a lot of them it was very difficult to consider the possibility of having to shoot somebody. The morality of it is one thing. How do they get through that?

It was interesting for me because I learned and it helped me as well because I got to know 40 police officers. I think about 30 or 35 are still in the department, and, if I recognize them or they recognize me, there is a little bit more of a comfort level. So, in the long run, it helped me in my career. I think it also helped the readers. It also helped some of the police officers to realize that they aren't always going to get screwed by a reporter.

I have also written a number of critical stories about the police. I did a lot of work on the Marc Andaya/Aaron Williams case, so it has been a mixed bag.

Q: Are you influenced by your editorial policy or restricted by time constraints when covering a story?

A: Time restrictions always. What I think might be the truth today, tomorrow may show not to be be-

cause more information comes out. One of the wonderful things about daily newspapers is that you can keep updating: This happened Tuesday; this happened Wednesday; this happened Thursday. Each day you can put more perspective into a story.

I have never been told not to write a story. Often I am told what might be a good story to pursue. But I have never handed in a story where they said it would not run because it is something we don't agree with.

The Examiner is very aggressive [when it comes to a good story]. The reality is we are an afternoon paper that relies heavily on street sales. We have got to stop people who are walking by our news rack. The Examiner might be a bit more sensational—and that's just in terms of having much bigger headlines — [in order] to grab readers. I also think they try and be truthful.

Q: How often would the Examiner print changes or updates? Would it be the following day, or would it wait a while?

A: It would be the following day. The goal is to get the most accurate news in the newspaper as quickly as we can. Sometimes we can't do anything on it because we have to confirm [information]. For instance, you could come to me and say, you know, the inspector's test really wasn't stolen, it was all a hoax. And I can go [to my editor and say], well Officer Wilson said this. My editors will ask: Who is Officer Wilson? How does she know this? So I would have to call Chief Lau or Willett or Welch or someone and find out if there is any truth to [your story.]

"People don't always want to read good news. You kind of look for scandal sometimes..."

Q: Is the SFPD covered more extensively than other departments?

A: Yeah. I think the police department is definitely covered the most consistently of any department, and in two areas. One is the politics — it is an extremely political police department. And secondly because of the news that comes out of crime. So there will always be a police story in the paper because there is always going to be hit and run accident, or a rape, or a murder, or something happening where the [mere] nature of the incident will get it in the paper.

But for the politics of it... When I worked in Alameda, which was a city of about 75,000, just across the bay, I covered the police department. It was very closed and cloistered. I think the term is blue silence. No one spoke outside — you couldn't get information. Everyone kind of shut down.

In San Francisco's police department there are so many factions: The Tier I people vs. the Tier II people; The Officers for Justice vs. the POA; The women vs. the men. That kind of descent makes it both interesting and somewhat easy for reporters to go and get somebody to talk because everyone has an agenda.

But there is also something that is very unique to San Francisco. There might be other police departments that have this policy, but it's really in San Francisco's police department where it is alright for individual officers to talk to reporters. In fact, I think that is part of the police academy training.

In Alameda — again to do a comparison — the only person who could talk to a reporter would be the chief of police. No one else. Here [a reporter] can talk to an officer on the scene, the responding sergeant, the lieutenant in the station, the captain, the deputy chief of investigations, or whoever it might be who might have some information on [a story]. So in that sense it is more open.

There are a lot of people who are involved in union activities here. And while they may not talk to the reporter while in uniform and on duty — they might talk when they are off duty. So, in that sense there seems to be a little more openness.

Q: How do you respond to a common perception that the media covers more negative stories about the department than positive ones?

A: I think it is true, and I think that is somewhat the nature of news. People don't always want to read good news. You kind of look for scandal sometimes, but I think that it is more a matter of how we receive information. I'll use Steve Johnson's column in the POA Notebook as a good example. Every month he lists heroic deeds that officers have done. Now if someone called up a reporter in a timely fashion — not something that happened several weeks ago — and said: You know, my partner last night single-handedly tracked down two rape suspects, arrested them, had a shotgun pointed at his face, and arrested the suspect on X, Y and Z charges, do you want to know about that? I think that we would jump at a story like that. If we hear the good news — if we hear something that is heroic or out of the ordinary, — that makes a good news story. I think that a lot of people can identify with police in San Francisco because they are one of the most visible city employees. Not only because there are 2,000 cops in San Francisco, but you are in uniform, and you are in every neighborhood, and you work 24 hours a day. People want to read about what the cop on the beat did.

Q: Who should a police officer contact with a tip on a story? The city desk?

A: You could call the city desk, you can call an individual reporter at the Examiner, or our main police reporter, Jim Samora. Jim works part time at the Hall of Justice in the Press Room.

There are going to be times when a reporter is going to come down hard on the police department, or have only a portion of the story. My suggestion is to give the reporter a chance. Talk to him or her, and don't sign someone off saying that's it, I'll never talk to you again.

Q: Right, you hit on a point that I think the majority of peace officers have about the stories we read in the newspaper, that stories are incomplete. Now, I understand about the deadlines, and about how the

information is given to you, but most of the time there isn't a follow through.

A: I think you are right.

"There are a number of attorneys who make it a business to pursue cops..."

Q: Is it because it's considered old news?

A: I think it could be considered old news, and I also think that news keeps happening and reporters can be pulled to another story.

Q: Do you feel that the Examiner's editorial policy favors negative news over positive news?

A: No, I think it favors exciting news, and I think you can get exciting on both "negative stories" and "positive stories" but it has to be fresh. When policies are broken in the police department — especially if there is the potential for wholesale policies to be broken, general orders disobeyed or whatever — I think part of the role of the paper is to hold public employees and public officials accountable. And I do believe that police officers should be kept to a higher standard than a street sweeper for the mere fact that you have arresting powers, you carry guns, you carry pepper spray, you carry batons and you have the use of extraordinary powers that most other city employees and most private sector employees don't have.

I think though that it can be put in perspective. If there is an Aaron Williams case, I think that it is imperative that the press talk to the officers at the scene and say, here is one man who may have been high on cocaine, and was violently struggling with 12 officers. It took 12 or 10 officers to subdue one man. Maybe extraordinary measures had to be taken. I think that other perspective has to be put into [a story]. Not for the press to come up with the conclusion, but to let our readers come up to a conclusion.

Q: Okay, holding police officers to higher standards — I agree with you. We do have sort of life and death capabilities. But, what about the human side? Emphasizing the fact that during high stress situations we may not follow procedures simply because of the stress involved?

A: I think that is a good point, and I think it is newsworthy to report it — that general orders weren't followed. I think it brings up the next question then: Is the training done properly? Is stress management there when it is needed? And, is the police administration and the Police Commission relooking at the guidelines?

I think when you said the human face though, that is the key, and that is where a police officer comes into play. I mean, people don't usually want to have their life displayed on the pages of a newspaper if there is some kind of negative connotation like — we screwed up. But I think that is a very good role for the police union to play, where it is not the individual that's necessarily put on

(see INTERVIEW, page 16)

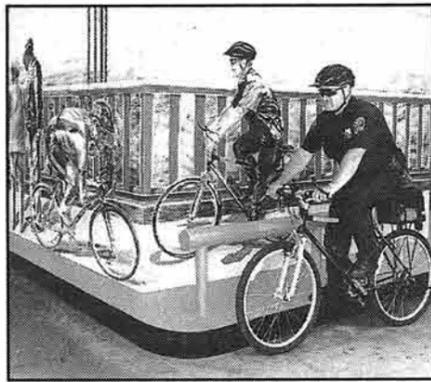
Police Doubled At SF Hilton

By Susan Saltzer, Public Relations Director, Hilton Hotel

Officers George Fogarty and Harold Vance are old friends of the San Francisco Hilton, which they have patrolled for more than five years. Working out of the Tenderloin Task Force station at Jones and McAllister, they spend most of their time making Boeddeker Park safe for moms and kids. They can also be seen 24 hours every day at the San Francisco Hilton. Have they mastered being in two places at once? Not exactly.



Officers George Fogarty and Harold Vance and Urban Muralist Stephanie Taylor surround the portrait Taylor painted of Vance in the San Francisco Hilton's motor entry.



Is it real or is it Memorex? Officer George Fogarty poses next to his painted image riding across the Golden Gate Bridge far from his usual beat.

At the Hilton, Fogarty appears riding his bike, while Vance is portrayed standing next to his in the hotel's motor entry off Ellis Street. They were painted there by urban muralist Stephanie Taylor, who is creating murals and ceramic sculptures that are transforming the hotel's parking entrance into a lively San Francisco experience. Taylor photographed the "bike guys" with the bicycles that the Hilton purchased for them earlier this year. Then she translated their photo images to life size portraits on the walls, where they joined scores of other real San Franciscans that people the murals.

POST

(continued from page 2)

outstanding performance of duty. It has been my contention for a long time, however, that the only ribbons that should be worn are the ribbons for Medals of Valor.

The House of Representatives has reaffirmed its support for deploying 10,000 service members along the U.S. border with Mexico to help immigration and customs officials. The chief sponsor of the legislation, Rep. James A. Traficant Jr., D-Ohio, admits that sending troops to the border is a quick fix for the shortage of Border Patrol agents that has been acknowledged by the White House. The United States has only 6,800 agents, although the administration admits that 25,000 are needed. The administration plans to hire 1,000 Border Patrol agents a year until 2001.

The Defense Department objects to the idea. Opponents, including senior Pentagon officials, say that they understand that the legislation only authorizes deployment. But they say that they are worried that the Pentagon will be criticized if it sends troops on a mission for which most military members are ill-equipped.

The Women in Military Service stamp will be dedicated on 18 October 1997, the day the new Women in Military Service for America memorial will be unveiled at Arlington National Cemetery. A week-long commemoration, beginning 16 October, will include a reunion reception, a candlelight march and sunrise me-

morial ceremony.

The next stamp we must fight for is the Lt. Gen. Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller stamp. The 149,048 signatures collected far exceeded the 60,000 required to get the matter before the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee. Now letters to the committee at U.S. Postal Service, Room 4474E, 475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW, Washington DC 20260-2437 might also help. Let's honor the most decorated Marine in history before we see another cartoon character stamp.

George F. Schuster was wounded on a South Pacific beach more than a half century ago. On 6 September he got his Purple Heart.

On 15 July 1944, Schuster was among 70,000 men to land on Saipan, then a vital Japanese base in the Mariana Islands. The next day, his platoon was blasted by an enemy shell. Eight of his comrades were killed, and he sustained ear and head injuries. A short time later his medical records were lost.

Earlier this year, the Marine Corps got documentation that he was wounded.

"Receiving it 53 years later doesn't diminish the decoration a bit," the Florida resident said. "it makes it even more important to me. I'm honored because...my family was there," Schuster, 73, said about getting the medal five decades late.

Please try to attend a Post meeting. The Post meets on the second Tuesday of every month at 1800 hours. The meetings are in the POA Building, 510 Seventh Street. Refreshments are served at the conclusion of business.

I have recently discovered a little known fact about George Washington. Few people know this, but George Washington was actually a San Franciscan. As a young boy he chopped down his father's favorite shade tree. His father returned from a hard day in court defending criminals and demanded to know who had cut down his prized tree.

"Father," said young George, "I cannot tell a lie. I chopped it down."

"That settles it," said his father, "we're moving to Virginia. With an attitude like that, you'll never make it in San Francisco politics."

Semper fi, Jack.

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Frank's retirement is great but he wanted to do something special. So, he's taking a trip to his ancestral homeland, Malta. Frank and his wife Donna have asked that this trip be increased to accommodate some of their friends from the SFPD. To make it more special, he is planning his trip over Easter of 1998. We need to know of your interest in joining the Falzon's no later than December 1st, 1997, as Malta gets crowded during Easter.

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PS Form 3526, September 1995 (Reverse)

Attention Retirees

We're Looking For Two Old Friends

Can you help? We need to contact two retired members of the SFPD. The first would be an old traffic investigator who was active in the AIB in the early 60's. Mr. Thomas Murtaugh has written a letter to the POA making a heartfelt inquiry about an old AIB man who made a positive and permanent impression on him way back in 1962. His interesting letter is published below.

The second old friend we are seeking is John C. Lynch, SFPD sergeant #807. We received his Sergeant's star in the mail from an anonymous person who recently happened upon the relic in a Richmond District garage sale. The inscription on the back of the star reads: *John C. Lynch, Co. A, From The Members Of His Platoon, 5-1-50.*

If any one can help us track down either of these men please contact us with the information. If Sergeant Lynch has heirs or relatives who are interested in retrieving his star, please make direct contact with POA President Chris Cunnie. Thanks.

— Editor.

September 4, 1997

Chris Cunnie, President
SFPOA
510 7th Street
San Francisco, California 94103

Dear Mr. Cunnie:

I am writing to you in an attempt to locate a retired San Francisco police officer, so I can write to him and thank him.

In 1962, I was a twenty-three year old Lieutenant/junior grade in the Navy, assigned to an ammunition ship in Concord/Port Chicago, California.

A Chief Petty Officer on our ship was involved in a very serious, two-car automobile collision, while on liberty, in Oakland.

Shortly after the accident, the Captain of my ship appointed me to conduct a formal investigation into the matter.

I was very apprehensive about the assignment. After worrying and floundering around for a few days, I went over to the Navy facility on Treasure Island, and talked to some Navy Lieutenant Commander. He in turn told me that there was "a guy on the San Francisco Police Department who really knows how to investigate a car accident. Why don't you ask him?"

After talking to several different officers, I was given the name of this police officer who was acknowledged to be the most knowledgeable man on the force with regard to automobile collisions.

I managed to contact him, and he went out of his way to be helpful to me, despite the fact that he really had nothing to gain by being so helpful.

He spent quite a bit of time teaching me how to "reconstruct" an automobile collision based upon physical evidence.

Due almost entirely to the help I got from this San Francisco police officer, I was able to complete my investigation assignment and actually write what turned out to be a very good report.

I later on left the Navy, went to MIT studying automotive engineering, and then worked for a while for the United States Department of Transportation.

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If there is any way that you could inquire among the "old timers," both active and retired, as to the identity of this police officer, I would be extremely appreciative.

To reiterate, I would identify him by saying that in the early 1960's he was the acknowledged expert within the department on automobile accident reconstruction. At the present time I would estimate that he would be 10 years older than me, that is he would be about 68 years old. He is a Caucasian of average height and build.

Thank you for taking the time to read this long letter, and any help you could give me would really be appreciated.

Very truly yours,
Thomas Murtaugh

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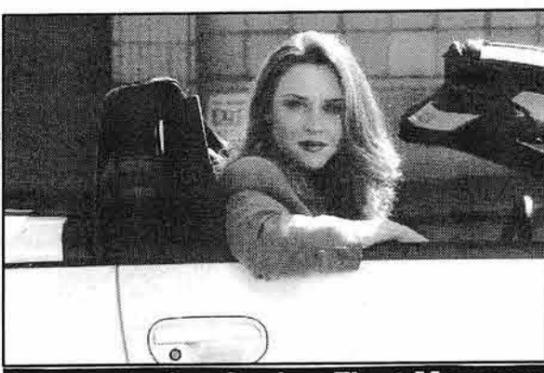
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— Cornelius Johnson
SF Police Sergeant and USF student

OCC: What Rules?

OCC is, as OCC Does . . .

By Steve Johnson,
SFPOA Secretary

Once again, the Office of Citizen Complaints has outdone itself. Two officers from Ingleside Station recently obtained information that a subject on probation had an outstanding arrest warrant. The officers verified the warrant through our Department's Central Warrant Bureau, making sure it was still valid. The officers then found out that this subject also had consented to a warrantless search agreement as a condition of his probation. The search condition pertained to the subject's residence, vehicle and person.

The two young officers went to the subject's residence, placed him under arrest for the outstanding warrant and then executed the search condition. A perfectly legal and acceptable law enforcement practice anywhere, I guess, except for San

Francisco. In San Francisco, the officers were immediately charged with Unwarranted Action for the arrest and Unwarranted Action for the search by the Office of Citizen Complaints. The Office of Citizen Complaints charged these two proactive, conscientious police officers with violations of Department policy without having any basis to do so, without conducting any investigation, and without using any common sense. These two charges of Unwarranted Action will remain on the officers' records throughout their career with our Department. Make any sense? Not really.

We'll be initiating action against the Office of Citizen Complaints very soon.

Oh, the search? Turned out a loaded shotgun and a loaded 9mm semi-automatic handgun just happened to be hanging around in the suspect's bedroom closet.

So, You Want To Sue Internal Affairs

By Tony Santana

Every once in awhile, really more likely than not, an officer under investigation believes that he or she was treated improperly and denied his or her rights for due process. On more than one occasion an officer has told me that the crooks on the street have more rights than "I" do. If you are around long enough you see a case that allows an individual officer, who is treated improperly by the department, to sue and effectually sends a clear message to the department saying that you've got to play by the rules. Such a case was entitled, *Los Angeles Police Protective League, and Roger Gibson v. Darryl F. Gates, and the City of Los Angeles*. (I and II.)

Gibson, who had been a sergeant, claimed that his constitutional rights were violated when he was ordered to submit to an administrative search of his home, then terminated for refusing to submit and for other charges. The trial court granted the officer's claim that the discipline imposed for his refusal to consent to a search violated his constitutional rights and that the individuals of the Los Angeles Police Department were not entitled to qualified immunity for their part in the violation. The court left the determination of damages to the jury. In that case, the jury awarded \$2,087,000 compensatory damage and \$55,000 in punitive damages. The defendants appealed from this judgment and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal reviewed. (Gibson I.)

As way of background, this matter involved the investigation of corruption in the Hollywood division of the LAPD. Based on an unsubstantiated hearsay statement of another officer, that Gibson had been involved in burglaries, the Internal Affairs division obtained an administrative search warrant for Gibson's garage and automobile. The department requested a legal opinion regarding the legality of the administrative search warrant and was advised that the search would probably not be legal, but that the officer could be ordered to submit to a search and if he failed to comply would be insubordinate. The internal affairs investigators took the administrative warrant to Gibson's home but Gibson refused permission to the investigators to conduct the search. He was subsequently charged with insubordination. Gibson was then charged on various disciplinary violations and the Board of Rights, the disciplinary

review body, found Gibson not guilty of committing on-duty burglaries, but found him guilty of insubordination and guilty of lying to investigators, and was terminated from his employment. Gibson then filed the lawsuit. His claim was based on the way the investigation was conducted and that there had been violations of his constitutional rights. The Court of Appeal looked at *inter alia* the administrative search warrant and its constitutionality. The Court stated that Gibson's garage, where the search was supposed to take place, was entitled to the cloak of protection envisioned by the Fourth Amendment. In other words, unless there is a special exception, the garage was not subject to invasion in the absence of a warrant issued upon finding of probable cause. The Court went further to examine whether the same protections of the Fourth Amendment should apply based on the fact of Gibson's employment. The Court said that while officers are not regulated to watered down versions of constitutions rights, the fact that they are officers may affect the meaning of reasonableness when their rights are being considered. The Court held that there is privacy expectations in their residences. They, like the rest of the people, must be able to retreat to a safe place free from prying eyes of even the most well-intentioned employer. Therefore, the administrative search warrant was improper and enforcement of the warrant would violate Gibson's right. By the same token, Gibson could not be disciplined when he refused to allow the department to violate his rights. The employer could not use a fact of the employment relationship in an attempt to coerce the relinquishing of their constitutional rights. The Court looked at qualified immunity as it pertained to the individual members of the department who were sued and found that none of the appellants could be held liable for disciplining Gibson because he refused to exceed to the administrative search. The Court also found that a Skelly violation occurred in that Gibson was not given sufficient time in order to respond to the charges made against him based on the fact that the City had filed three different sets of charges against him, the last being three days before the effective date of the punitive action, as well as not being provided all relevant materials before the suspension and before going to his hearing board. There was evidence which showed Gibson was not provided exculpatory evidence.

In conclusion, the Court held that the department could not discipline Gibson when he refused to submit to a search of his garage, that such a search would violate his Fourth Amendment, as well as that Gibson did not receive relevant information from his department prior to hearing. The case was remanded, or sent back to, district court to determine the proper allocation of damages. The results of that action will be set forth in my next article when follows this case as it is reviewed again by the Court of Appeal.

Tony Santana represents members in administrative and disciplinary matters and can be reached at (650) 364-9111

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'CROP-A-COP'

(continued from page 1)

world and has raised millions of dollars in the battle against childhood cancer.

Highlights of "Crop-a-Cop" '97

After a few refreshments to brace us for the fourteen-hour fight, Rene and I headed our for Sydney Australia. We were met at the airport by Constable Craig Folbigg who is a main coordinator in this year's event. We were set up in the Steyne Hotel, which was in a town called Manly just outside Sydney. It was here that Rene became known as "red zone LaPrevotte" (I'll let him explain) and we had our first vegamite sandwich. The next day, we flew up to the Gold Coast and got rid of the jet lag in Surfers Paradise. We had to learn key phrases in order to get along with the natives, such as, "blow the froth off a schooner", "your shout" and the difference between a "mate, bloke, and Sheila". When we returned to Sydney, Senior Constable Kent Strickland had our agenda planned out as we had now become "Crop-a-Cop" celebrates.

We changed lodgings and moved into penthouse suits at the Gazebo Hotel in the Kings Cross area of Sydney, where manager Wendy Correy made sure everything was perfect. Prior to our trip down under, Senior Constable Strickland had asked us if we were afraid of heights. We told him, "not any more than the next guy," but we had no idea what he had in store for us. As a publicity stunt, the day before the main shave, we were to climb to the top of the Sydney Harbor Bridge and I was to have my head shaved. This also happened to coincide with my 31st birthday, one which I'll never forget.

The day began with a meeting at the bridge with reporters, cameramen and the bridge district manager. Also present were members of the Sydney Rescue Squad, which gave us a little peace of mind. We signed our lives away with a release of liability and were allowed to ascend the tower. There was a news helicopter filming us as we climbed but I don't think it was close enough to see the fear in our eyes. Once at the top, Senior Constable Strickland and "Crop-a-Cop" mascot "Bluey" (a.k.a. Peter Martin) began the shave. I thought that I would be a little nervous about having my head shaved but I was more concerned about falling into Sydney Bay. Rene was trying to be a "tuff guy" but his pale face and white knuckles on the railing gave him away. I returned to the parking lot totally bald or follicly challenged to be politically correct. Rene and I were on the front page of the local newspa-

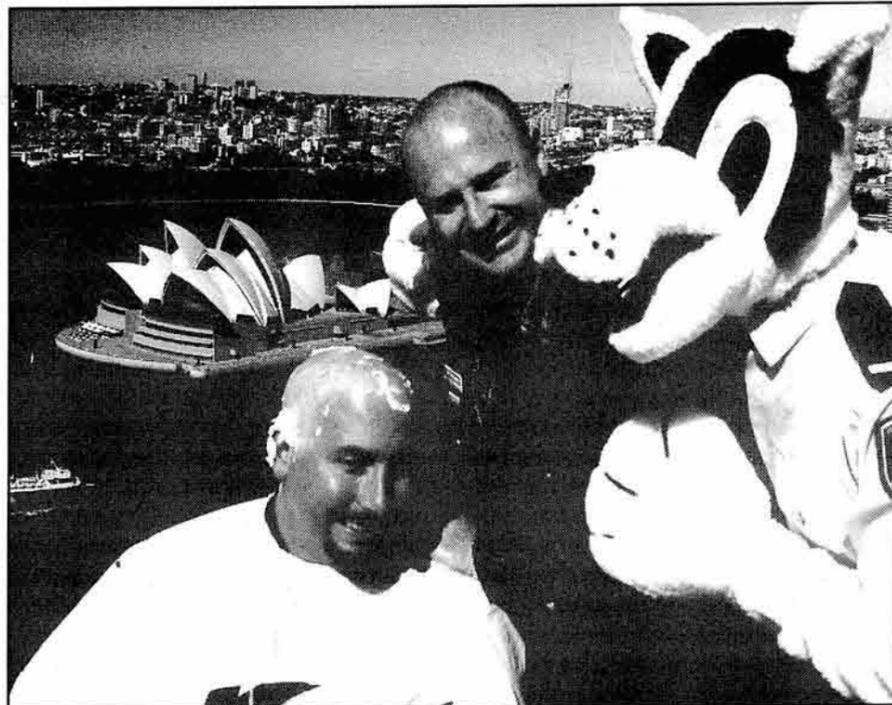
pers and made all the evening news reports.

The next day was the main event. This was Rene's turn to face the razor and the host of "Good Morning Australia" had the honors. Rene was a little more concerned than the rest of the participants because at his "golden" age, he wasn't quite sure that it would grow back. After the shave, we looked like a combination of "Forrest Gump and Kojak." We met with some of the kids from the hospital and presented them with S.F.P.D. teddy bears. The kids were excited to see us and were so thankful that police officers from around the world supported them. We also met Commissioner Peter Ryan who heads the New South Wales Police Department and Commander Dennis Percy, who heads the Blue Mountain region. It turned out that Commander Percy was an old running mate of Lt. Joel Harms. Commander Percy's right hand man, Sgt. Bob Barnes, gave us a great tour of the Blue Mountain Range, which was like Yosemite with kangaroos.

For the next several days, Rene and I gave live morning radio interviews and met with reporters in an effort to promote the "Crop-A-Cop" campaign. We even took a helicopter tour of the city and gave the evening traffic report. The officers of the New South Wales Department are some of the friendliest "blokes" you'll ever meet and treated us great. They showed us all the sights during a ride-along and a tour of Sydney Bay in the police patrol boat by Captain Kevin Finley.

The week ended with a party and dance at the "Triple O" center. Triple O is the equivalent of our 911 system. This group of emergency personnel, including firefighters, dispatchers and police, gathers monthly to throw a party for various charitable organizations. As all good things must come to an end so did our adventure in "Aussie Land." We brought home some great memories and a good feeling about the cause that brought us there.

"Crop-a-Cop 97" was a great success due to a lot of hard work from our new friends "down under." The organizers of "Crop-a-Cop" hope to bring this event to San Francisco in the summer of 1998. If you are interested in helping to organize or participate in "Crop-a-Cop 98", drop Rene or myself a note. Rene and I would like to thank the P.O.A., Chief Lau, Deputy Chief Holder, and Captain Newlin for their support in the 1997 campaign. We would also like to thank Judy at Butlers for the donated SFPD bears and hats that the kids appreciated. We will have more information about "Crop-a-Cop 98" in future Notebook issues.



From the top of the Sydney Bridge, Phil gets shaved by Senior Constable Strickland and mascot "Bluey"



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San Francisco Labor Council, AFL-CIO

October 2, 1997

President and Members of
San Francisco Police Commission
850 Bryant Street
San Francisco, California 94103

Re: Proposed Revisions to Police Commission Rules
Concerning patrol Special Officers and Their Assistants

Dear President and members:

We write to you on behalf of the San Francisco Labor Council. Based on our review of the proposed revisions to the Commission's rules concerning Patrol Special Officers and their Assistants, the Council must go on record as opposed to these revisions.

The rules purport to grant to private parties the historical work and core duties of police officers within the city and county of San Francisco. Thus, as we understand the rules, they purport to grant the right to enforce laws and ordinances, prevent crime, preserve the public peace and detect and arrest offenders, to private police. The council opposes the "privatization" of work performed by public officers and employees, and is particularly concerned with any proposal which would contract out to private persons the essential elements of government: public safety and public health.

The Council is also concerned that these proposed rule revisions, while authorizing the exercise of police powers by private parties, would not require those exercising those authorities to meet the minimum standards prescribed by the law for peace officers. We do not understand how the public safety is served by such a system. And, even insofar as the new rules proposed require newly-appointed Special Officers or their Assistants to meet certain published minimum standards, the rules apparently intend to exempt from their application all of those persons who are currently appointees, although granting them the same general law enforcement authority. We have also been advised by those knowledgeable in the field that the requirement for a type of physicians' certificate clearing these persons for appointment, fails to require a certificate that the individual meets the standards the law imposes on those exercising peace officer powers.

On behalf of the Council, therefore, we urge you not to adopt the proposed rule revisions. It is not in the public interest, and we do not believe the public will support and action of the commission granting to private parties the right to exercise police powers in the neighborhoods and districts of the City and County of San Francisco.

Sincerely,

Walter Johnson,
Secretary-Treasurer
San Francisco Labor Council, AFL-CIO

Josie Mooney,
President
San Francisco Labor Council, AFL-CIO

San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council

October 13, 1997

President and Members of the San Francisco Police Commission
850 Bryant Street
San Francisco, California 94103
RE: Proposed Revisions to Police Commission Rules Concerning Patrol Special Officers and Their Assistants

Dear President and Members:

I just recently received a copy of the proposal for privatizing part of the San Francisco Police Department. I want to voice our objections to any private police patrolling and controlling the City streets of San Francisco.

In the Labor Movement, we have had continuous problems with private police forces. In our history, the Pinkerton Detective Agency was developed, as a private police force, for the sole purpose of strike breaking. In recent years, this type of activity has well served corporations whose employees are on strike. The most notable is "Your Own Private Army When You Need It." This organization was brought into a small town in Northern Minnesota where Building Trades unions where on strike over the non-union contractor renovating a large paper mill. RST brought in more employees than the small town police force. They not only harassed, intimidated and beat up strikers, they terrorized the whole City which created a retaliation from working people, causing one of the largest labor riot in over 30 years.

Though obviously, that could not happen to a City the size of San Francisco, however, it certainly would not be unimaginable in a single neighborhood.

I also would be concerned if I were a merchant and decided not to subscribe to the Private Police Force, then what type of protection would I be entitled to. Also since part of our tax dollars goes toward police protection, it would seem the merchant who subscribe to this would be paying double taxes, thus forwarding those costs on to the consumer.

Private policing have always been a bad idea and still is. I am asking the Commission to turn down the offer by the San Francisco Patrol Special Police Officers' Association. An offer that could turn out to be penny wise and dollar foolish.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
SAN FRANCISCO BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL
Stanley M. Smith
Secretary-Treasurer

Deregulation Threatens Public Patrol Specials Shaking At Hall Of Justice

By Chris Cunnie, President

Members of the San Francisco Patrol Special Officer's Association — led by Sam Reyes — are trying to backdoor their way into our ranks, our duties, and our jobs. And that's the polite way of putting it. To speak more pointedly, Sam and his gang are trying to pull off one of the biggest job-grabs in City and County history.

Their group has formally proposed recommendations to the City leaders that will restore their police powers and greatly expand their jurisdictional prerogatives. If they succeed in their union busting job-grab you will soon see Patrol Specials regularly issuing parking citations, responding to and handling "B" and "C" priority calls, and patrolling Treasure Island and all its facilities.

Foot-in-the-Door Politics

I believe this is only the beginning. The Patrol Specials are building their house now, but soon they'll go to Sacramento to get the furniture, that coming in the form of special legislation that will blanket them into our ranks and pension system.

In order to make their proposal as palatable as possible to fiscally-minded city administrators, the Patrol Specials have not only agreed to perform these Police Department tasks for free,

but have itemized the cost savings to the city for each task and phase of their take-over. On paper it might look good to the politicians, but on the street citizens and real police officers see it for the white-wash that it is.

Local Labor Alarmed

Our detractors will jump up and point me out as a Chicken Little, a ranting little boy crying "wolf." But not those in the know, and certainly not the labor leaders of this town. Few issues have garnered the support of the local unions as has this shameless pick-pocket.

As you can read on this same page, our support is wide ranging and concrete. One respected labor boss told me that this drive by the Patrol Specials amounts to little more than a deregulation of police, and is happening despite increased community demands for police over-sight, training, and qualification.

Where might deregulation of police lead our community, our department, and our dedicated police officers? Well, is privatization of public services looming on San Francisco's horizon? Many in labor believe so. That is why they see this attempt to police our streets with unqualified volunteers as a dangerous, precedent-setting, anti-labor drive that must not be allowed to succeed.

Recruit We r ranks c new off the rest entry, b men tha any of th to apply ticipate cess th our ran is irresp to put i individu civilian and eva career o jecting ors of a quirem argume hundre training
Let Re On W will ad with my bers of leaders nity. I that the conceiv lice dep nity.

Sanitary Truck Drivers and Helpers

October 6, 1997

President and Members of
SAN FRANCISCO
POLICE COMMISSION

Dear Honorable Commissioners:

I am writing on behalf of our Labor Organization concerning the proposed revisions to the Commission's rules concerning Patrol Special Officers and their Assistants.

I cannot believe that your Commission would entertain granting the above Special Officers the historical and proper duties of our police officers in the City and County of San Francisco.

To allow the private patrol Special Officers the exercise of police powers without the minimum standards prescribed by the law for peace officers will only contribute to the deterioration of our fine police department.

This situation cannot become a political football. This is a most serious concern and it should be treated with the highest regard for the well-being of the police officers and the department.

Let's keep the police department in San Francisco respectful and vote "NO" on the above proposal.

Thanking you in advance for your right decision on the above matter, I remain,

Respectfully yours,
Robert Morales
Secretary-Treasurer
Sanitary Truck Drivers and Helpers
Local No. 350

Deputy Sheriff's Association of San Francisco, Inc.

October 6, 1997

Ms. Pat Norman, President
San Francisco Police Commission
Hall of Justice
850 Bryant Street
San Francisco, California 94103

Dear Commissioner Norman:

The Officers and Executive Board of the San Francisco Deputy Sheriffs' Association (DSA) wish to communicate their displeasure and opposition to the proposed revisions to the rules for Patrol Special Police Officers.

Those revisions would transfer public safety functions to private parties. We believe such a transfer will do nothing to increase the safety of San Franciscans and may well expose them to increased liabilities.

On a pragmatic level the revisions seems to sets standards for future Patrol Special Officers at the same time it exempts present incumbents from those same standards. Our review of the revision also seems to find a weakening in the section that deals with medical certifications. As a result individuals who currently would be found ineligible could no longer be disqualified.

The DSA believes it not in the public interest to allow this change and urges the Commission to reject the proposal.

For the Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 and the SFDSA.

Yours truly,
Al Waters
President SFDSA

Ed Lieberman
Business Representative

Safety Backdoor

Only The Best
 ed more fine people in the our department. But those ers must be as qualified as f us. They must undergo the kground, and training regi- all of us have experienced. If current Patrol Specials want o our department and par- that same 18 month pro- I would welcome them into as equals and peers. But it sible on the part of the city o unpaid service gun-toting ls that are unaccountable to ersight, insufficiently trained ated, and less qualified than ers. And any notion of sub- ese persons to the same rig- demy and field training rets defeats the money saving e since that would amount to of thousands of dollars in nd evaluation costs.

on Prevail
 nesday, October 15, 1997 I ess the Police Commission concerns, as will other mem- he POA Board, local labor nd members of the commu- l try to convince the panel atrol Special proposal is ill- and detrimental to this po- tment and to this commu-

San Francisco Police Officers' Association Local 911 SEIU

October 1, 1997

Pat Norman, President
 San Francisco Police Commission
 Hall of Justice
 850 Bryant Street
 San Francisco, CA 94103

RE: **Proposed Revisions to the Rules for Patrol Special Police Officers and their Assistants**

Dear Commissioner Norman:

The San Francisco Police Officers' Association, after extensive review of the proposed revised rules to govern the activities of Patrol Special Police Officers and their Assistants, and as well, the proposed amendments to Penal Code Section 830.7, has determined to oppose these rules and the proposed amendment to the Penal Code.

The Association is opposed to a grant of arrest and general law enforcement authority to these private patrol officers. The proposed rules, as revised September 29, 1997, in Section 1.03, now describe a broad authority which includes "but is not limited to" the enforcement of laws and ordinances, the prevention of crime, the preservation of the public peace, and the detection and arrest of offenders. Apparently, the rules intend to grant the same authority to the Assistant Patrol Special Officers. See Section 1.04. This is a clear effort to transfer public safety functions from the police force of the City and County to private parties. The Association vigorously opposes such "privatization" of historic police work.

The present version of Rule 1.03, while deleting the specific reference to Penal Code Section 832.7, nevertheless creates the impression that the Chief of Police presently as authority under the Penal Code to grant to these private persons the right to perform these functions. This is not the case. The absence of such authority is the reason that the police administration apparently proposes an amendment to Penal Code Section 832.7. It is at best "misleading" to assert an authority in such a rules which does not exist.

The Association does note that the present rule, as proposed, does set forth minimum requirements for Patrol Special Officers, and their Assistant. It appears, however, that the rules intend to exempt current occupants of these positions from these minimum requirements. Such a "grandparenting" approach makes no sense if these persons are in fact going to be granted the same authority of those newly appointed to these positions.

We also note that although it is written in a fashion which resembles the standards of Government Code Section 1031 which sets forth minimum standards for peace officer, Point 6 of the qualifications rule (Rule 3.303B(6)) is not precise in describing the function of a physician's certificate. The function of such a certificate is not to establish whether the person has a "physical, emotional or mental condition which adversely affects the individual's ability to safely exercise their duties," rather, it is to identify any defects which might affect the public safety in the performance of these duties by such person. In other words, to identify defects which, in the words of the Government Code, might "...adversely affect the exercise of the powers of a peace officer." Government Code Section 1.031. Thus, the certificate described in this qualifications rule will not screen out those persons who are emotionally or psychologically unfit to exercise peace officers function.

In light of recently history, it is inconceivable to the Association that the Commission intends, as a matter of public policy, to grant general law enforcement and arrest authority to persons who do not meet the minimum standards for peace officers described in the California law.

In light of these objections, and those we previously have raised and communicated to the Commission, the Association urges the Commission to reject these revised rules and the related proposal to amend Section 830.7 of the California Penal Code.

Sincerely,
 SAN FRANCISCO POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION, LOCAL 911
 Chris Cunnie
 President

Final Summary of Differences in Training

	Police Officers (Required)	Patrol Specials
Completed POST Basic Academy (21+ weeks)	Yes	No
Passed Rigorous 10 Year Background Checks	Yes	No
Passed Physical Agility Tests	Yes	No
Passed Psychological Testing	Yes	No
Received Biennial Advance Officer Training	Yes	No
Received Basic POST Certificate	Yes	No
Affirmed Peace Officer Code of Ethics	Yes	No
Received Extensive Vehicle and Firearm Training	Yes	No
Completed 12 Weeks FTO Program	Yes	No
Completed 18 Month Probation	Yes	No

California Organization of Police and Sheriffs

Tuesday, October 07, 1997

Senator John Burton
 Room 4074
 State Capitol
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Burton:

I have been advised by Chris Cunnie, President of the San Francisco Police Officers Association, that the San Francisco Police Commission intends to seek peace officer powers for Patrol Special Police Officers and Assistant Patrol Officers in San Francisco.

Since the 1850's Patrol Special Police Officers have been granted the right by the San Francisco Police Commission to patrol special beats or territories as a privately hired security officers. Under the city charter, these beats may be purchased or sold, and subleased to Assistant Patrol Specials.

There has been an ongoing question whether patrol specials have authority to enforce state law, with powers of arrest. In 1994, the police commission adopted a formal resolution rescinding any generalized authority to enforce state law, and to make arrests, whether or not it had in fact ever existed.

Now, however, the police commission intends to seek an amendment to Section 830.7 of the Penal Code and grant peace officer powers to patrol specials. This is the first step in privatization of police functions. Both the San Francisco Police Officers Association and COPS oppose any attempt to amend the Penal Code to grant peace officer powers to Patrol Special Officers, and oppose privatization of essential law enforcement services.

There are no published guidelines concerning the eligibility of these positions, there is no psychological screening, nor are there any criteria to exclude any persons unsuitable for police work. There has been a POST study of the feasibility of this position. Existing Patrol Specials will not be required to have POST Certification.

Patrol Special Officers have been around for a long time. In essence they are glorified doorshakers. They have what amounts to a life time, lucrative private security job, and get to wear a uniform similar to San Francisco police officers.

This is essentially an attempt to create another bureaucracy; another command function within the San Francisco Police Department. If the San Francisco Police Department wants to exert more control over Patrol Special Officers, they can do that now, without granting them peace officer powers.

COPS asks that you join with us in opposing any attempt to amend the Penal Code that will allow Patrol Special Officers peace officer powers.

Sincerely
 Bill Hemby
 Legislative Advocate

Health Care Workers Union Local 250

October 14, 1997

Pat Norman, President
 San Francisco Police Commission \ Hall of Justice
 850 Bryant Street
 San Francisco, CA 94103

RE: Rule Revisions for Patrol Special Police Officers

Dear Commissioner Norman:

I am writing on behalf of Health Care Workers Union, Local 250, concerning the proposed revisions to the Commission's rules dealing with Patrol Special Officers and their assistants.

We are opposed to any change in Commission rules which would transfer public safety functions now performed by the San Francisco Police Department to the private sector. Our 40,000 members are most concerned about the outsourcing of their work. Our members who work for the city of San Francisco enjoy contractual provisions protecting them from the practice of outsourcing. San Francisco Police Officers deserve the same consideration.

As a community organization involved with the public's health and safety, we are most concerned that Patrol Special Officers could be granted police powers without being required to adhere to the minimum standards set by the law for peace officers. This could only have an adverse effect on the citizens of San Francisco.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of our concerns in this matter.

Very Truly Yours,
 Al Rosselli, President
 Health Care Workers Union, Local 250

The Void, Lloyd, Remember the Void!

By John Sterling

Once upon a millennium, in a distant galaxy far, far away there existed a force of starfighters whose duty it was to police the Constellation.

Commentary

The force consisted, based on their numbers, of Majoritoids from the planet Caucasoid. Sprinkled among them were interplanetary Minoritoids. Starfighters competed in exams to levitate in rank. Celestia manuals had to be memorized, that and veteran points and bragging rights placed them in a sequential list and were picked accordingly. Annoyed with the quizoids, paranoid Minoritoids felt devoid of equanoid. They claimed schizoid was employed. Kryptonoids, rulers of the Universe, agreed, and called upon Dart Vader to fabricate a Cosmic Decree. Faster than a nano second, Venus, Pluto, and Uranus no longer aligned with Mars. Orbits shifted. A new dawn of

Aquarius began. What once took one day of exams now took weeks. Billions and billions of zyrcons were spent. To tun the starfighters, factoids were contrived such as assessment centers; appropriate in selecting a Jedi from a small pool, but dumb for one promotion from a pool of hundreds. In it they used terms like psychometry to fool nitwits with sesquipedalian space lingo. They took a simple tried and true method and turned it into a blackhole; everything was sucked in, nothing comprehensible came out. Some Starfighters, desperate for an edge, hired the same maladroit testoid-concoctors selling inside horoscopes while conveniently taking leave of absence. There is not truer axiom that zyrcon begets zyrcons.

Confusion reigned as new systems of exams rained like Meteor showers. Starfighters were held at bay, before, during, and after the exams, never knowing what results were to be used. Predictably, lawsuits followed with the incessancy of a Chinese water torture. But the lawsuits were doomed from the start. One suit collapsed when a co-plaintiff was se-

duced with an appointment reaped-off from another whose acquiescence has been well compensated since (Is this coingkidink, or is it memorex?), leaving his friend drifting in space without an umbilical cord. Allegedly a "mistake" was discovered; just one of many such discoveries, thank you. Another suit challenging the fairness of one list actually won after light years of 'due processing.' It became moot when the judge, although ruling for the plaintiffs, refused to reverse the list by declaring it more unfair for those already enjoying their good fortune. The judge was feeling their pain but that was all they deserved. That my friends is Astrological justice. There is more! A subgroup of minoritoids made a covenant not to accept appointments out of sequence from each other. Yup! You guessed right, it was ignored at the first opportunity. How about the one whose appointment was based on his claim that there was a Chewbacca in his space genes, qualifying him to jump over others for whom the appointments were designed. On top of all this, there is now the incredible case of the purloined testoids. Oooooooh! That never happened before. If the full implication of that is ever exposed, there would be a star war, and schadenfreude in reverse. Unfortunately, the Asteroid media is not interested. Quick! Send for the Tabloids. Is this the Andromeda strain or just Hokey-pokey?, take your choice.

Now that the Cosmic decree is in its necrosis, efforts are still afoot to

find even now a phonier substitute. If ever there was a full employment guarantee for lawyers, this is it. To all things there is a season. Nothing lasts forever. Even Star Trek is running out of sequels. Though it is now known that picking anywhere on a list is as good as any, Chiefoids are already picked that way, so what? If that is acceptable, why bother with a list at all? Just have two categories. A lunar modular for losers, and a solar module for winners! The only thing setting Starfighters apart now is suspicious circumstances. The old earthly ways do have merit. Return to common sense and reasonable expectation. Compromise taken is but euphemism for manipulation. Bring honesty and honor back in the process. What is so wrong with competing with one another based on the cumulative strength of one's work ethics, good record, experience, and percipency with manuals? Everything else is sanctimonious police-socio-atmospheric methane gas.

Over two decades have gone by, yet what has it wrought? Certain individuals are better off, but the Biosphere is leaking. Before zooming into another twilight zone and new dimension of sights and sounds, prophylactic spacesuits are needed to screen against ultrastupid rays. Intrigues, half-baked and misapplied theories breed cynicism and disrespect. This is no way to crack the space ceiling or the magnetic force field. Fortunately for the Asteroids, the satellites are still crewed by a few Hemorrhoids with humor. Listen to One Obe Kanobe when he said; "You can fly, Luke, only if you take yourself lightly."

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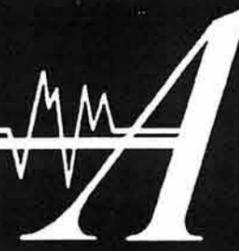
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Who's the Boss?

By Dave Tussey
Behavioral Science Unit

In my 16 plus years as a police officer, I've become more than a little cynical and embittered from time to time over the seemingly impossible conditions under which we're expected to perform our duties. Coupled with grossly unfair criticism that we're forced to endure along with the selfish, politically motivated attacks of special interest groups, it sometimes seems hopeless that we'll ever be able to work efficiently and maintain our sanity while doing so. The stress that's produced and added on to that normal stress we deal with in our private lives is often very difficult to take. Some of us don't make it through these periods and the results are sometimes tragic. Often it appears that there's no way out; that everyone's against us.

Reflection

But I don't think that's true, and here's why.

Just as it's estimated that 15% of the population commit approximately 85% of the crime; about 15% of the population give us 85% of the grief that we're forced to suffer through. This is not a guess or a feel good thought but something I've learned from working on patrol at Mission Station for 15 years.

A surprising awakening of sorts occurred to me when I started doing community policing (God, I hate that phrase), several years ago. I remember attending community meetings in various sections of the district. The Captain and other officers would go to the first few meetings then afterwards I'd attend by myself on a regular basis.

The first meetings were tough to take. Scores of people lined up and it seemed that everyone had a complaint about something and either wanted us to fix it or blamed us for letting it happen, or for not doing anything about it. I left those early meetings shell shocked and regretted volunteering for CPOP. All I wanted to do was to get out of it and back on regular patrol as soon as possible. But, I stuck it out and after a short time things began to change. I began walking footbeats in various neighborhoods and started getting to know the people who lived in those neighborhoods on a personal basis. I learned a valuable lesson from that experience that had a profound effect on my approach to my work.

I learned that the people who lived on those streets and attended those meetings were indeed good people and, amazingly, they either liked the police or wanted to like us very much. Not only that, they wanted the police to like them and sometimes weren't sure if that was the case. After all, for many of them, the only contact they'd

ever had with us was in a negative context or under less than pleasant circumstances. I quickly figured out that all I needed to do was give them the slightest reason to like me and they would. Once they knew I was on their side, the complaining stopped and they started telling me what they needed. I'd do my best to solve the problem and they were happy.

You see, those people, those good people who were ranting at those first meetings were venting frustrations that had taken years to build up. It was the first opportunity they'd had to express that frustration to anyone in a position of authority and they took advantage of it. Once they'd gotten things off their chest they were relaxed and very easy to work with. The job became so much easier.

There's one story I love to tell. I went to regular monthly meetings with a group that called itself "Calle 22". It was the neighborhood around 22nd and Alabama Streets. I'd attend while on duty, when I was scheduled to work, and even on my days off in civvies. I never missed a meeting.

It was at one of these meetings that I found out who it was that I really worked for. And it helped me reprioritize my duties and made my job much easier and more rewarding than I'd ever thought possible.

One night a member of the Board of Supervisors showed up. The group had invited him for months and he finally made it there. He spouted the usual baloney to these good citizens who were savvy enough to know a crock of bull when they heard it.

At one point a question arose that he couldn't answer and in desperation he looked around the room and saw me and said, "What about the police? Officer, can't you do anything to help these people?" (The political kiss-off)

I had been sitting there quietly taking notes. Before I could reply, an elderly woman seated directly in front of him, who was a regular at the meetings, stuck her index finger in the guy's face and sternly admonished him saying, "now just you wait a minute. That officer's here at every meeting. He's the only person who does anything for us. This is the first time we've ever seen you here." You could have heard a pin drop!

It was fun watching the guy do the old political, side-step shuffle as he tried to regain some sense of dignity after being appropriately humbled in front of all those people. I sat there more than a little amused as he awkwardly tried to back out of the hole he'd dug for himself. Not much later, he was gone to another "important" meeting and that was the last we saw of him.

That night, I realized that, as far as those folks were concerned, I was a member of that neighborhood. After all, I spent 10 hours a day on their



San Francisco
**Fellowship of
Christian
Peace Officers**

Is There A God?

By Daniel Hampton

Do you really believe in evolution and not in the existence of Almighty God? If you do, you have a recent faith based on a philosophy which excludes the existence of a Supreme Being, in spite of all the evidence to the contrary. Anthropologists and archaeologists have found that primeval man always recognized and worshipped gods or a God which was intertwined in the development and order of their societies. Now, some of you might conclude that primitive man needed a crutch to control, develop and organize. Yet, when one researches the development of primeval people and their societies and the ancient wonders of the world, one can conclude that these people were highly developed and intelligent. They were intelligent to discern that mankind, who was able to develop a society and organize a structured government, must recognize the gods or God who created the heavens, seasons, seas, lands, agricultural produce and life itself. Are we so sophisticated and supposedly intellectual that we should think that there is no God?, that there is no life after death?, that everything that exists today came about by a freak chance of nature?

Look, if there is no God, why should any individual conform to any law made by society? If we are beings of chance, who cares for the ethics, standards, or morals of this world? "Let us eat, drink, and be merry for tomorrow we die". Why should we as officers worry about capturing the rapists who attack our daughters, or the judge care about putting away the violent offender or murderer? Why should legislators make laws? What's there to protect if everything

that exists is by chance and not by order? Really then, we come down to be a mass of flesh and blood with intelligence that doesn't matter at all. Let chaos rule because life, law, and order have no value at all. This philosophy is hopeless, ruthless, and senseless as you can see.

The evolutionist would have you believe that we are an organism of chance, natural selection, or survival of the fittest. This belief is a recent innovation. Who gave the evolutionist the brains to even make up this philosophical theory? They are like the proverbial ostrich who is scared and blocks out all truth by sticking his head in the sand! They have no empirical proof for their faith in evolution, yet they have written books and books attempting to impose their belief on us common folks. The mere fact that evolutionists are attempting to recruit converts by rationalism proves that they have given value to intelligence. But, if we are just a blob of atoms developed by chance and have no rational meaning for existence, Oh, who cares about your philosophy, Mr. Evolutionist, and why should we support it (mentally or monetarily)? I would rather trust in the beliefs of primeval man who at least believed there was a higher intelligence greater than his own; the Creator who put the laws of nature into motion, and who sustains life.

The proof that there is a God can be found in the Bible. It has been around a lot longer than any published book supporting evolution. It contains authors from every walk of life spanning hundreds of centuries. It is a book of writings incorporating genealogy, history, proverbs, wisdom, psalms, songs, poems, biographies, autobiographies, mystery, miracles, majesty, prophecy and the account of Jesus Christ's life and resurrection. It is a book of hope for mankind that gives a reason for existence, a quest to live for the common good, and a knowledge that God gives the gift of eternal life to those who humble themselves and trust in His Son Jesus Christ.

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INTERVIEW

(continued from page 7)

the line but Chris Cunnie or Steve Johnson or Gary Delagnes who can step back and say look folks, you know the stress these officers are under? He or she was confronting someone with a semi-automatic weapon in a dark alley — he heard gun fire — didn't know where it was coming from and had to make a split second decision... If there is a voice in there like that, it's going to get in the story.

Again, I'm not going to judge as a reporter whether it is right or wrong, but I'm going to put the facts out there as we know them and let the readers decide and let the policy makers decide. But a lot of times [officers] shut down and shut up after something bad happens. I think a lot of times that is why you get [only] one side of a story and not the full story.

There is very, very active police watchdog community in San Francisco — as you are well aware. Cop Watch; the ACLU; the National Lawyers Guild; the Office of Citizen Complaints. There are a number of attorneys who make it a business to pursue cops and they are going to pick up the phone and they are going to call reporters and let us know about it. And, that is why it behooves people from "the other side" with another perspective to also be available for comments — whether it is the POA's attorney, the POA leadership, an officer's supervisor, or the officer him or herself.

Going back to your question about is coverage negative or positive: I think a lot of times we gloss over the positive stories anyway and I think that if you really went through the pages you would find a lot of very positive stories about police officers and arrests they made and heroic deeds they did. But those seem to often get forgotten. But again, you also can't erase the politics of the police in San Francisco, and the police interject themselves into it as much as people pull them into it. [They are] very, very active at City Hall.

Q: *Would you delay the reporting of a story if some aspect of it would jeopardize an investigation?*

A: I have not personally been put in that situation because I really do not do crime reports. But what I would do is discuss it with my editor. If an inspector said, please don't run this information now because it would jeopardize the investigation, I would get all the facts of why it might jeopardize it. I would go and discuss it with my editor and I think the judgment most of the time would be don't jeopardize the investigation. Again, I haven't been in that situation. We just did it recently with the East Bay rape suspect where we did not publish the photo or a sketch of the suspect before the lineup was done. We were asked not to do that.

Q: *Do you feel that the media has any obligation to assist the police department in the investigation?*

A: I think that as long as we are not lying to the public.

Q: *Like printing a mug shot?*

A: I think that is a great idea, printing the description of suspects to know where crimes are. If we can get information out there that can help the community — particularly in public safety issues — that's keen to our job.

Q: *How many reporters actually*

deal with the police department?

A: On a regular basis? There are probably about a half dozen of us who would regularly have reason to call the police department — whether it is a politically related story, or a crime story. We rotate working weekends and everyone calls the police when you are covering weekends.

But, if one reporter might feel uncomfortable pursuing information on a police officer I have a professional relationship with, someone I have been able to trade information with, I don't want to write about that person. I can go to another reporter and say, maybe you should pick this up.

There is — in the newspapers — also the good cop, bad cop. There are the reporters at the Examiner who investigate — who regularly will investigate — the actions of individual police officers. Looking into, usually, his background. Has he had trouble before? Have there been complaints about him? etc. Now that [reporter], often times, but not always, will be different than the reporter who calls and has a daily relationship with officers. Sometimes it is good just to have different reporters doing different stories.

Q: *If you had informant information about a serious felony, would you feel any obligation to pass that information along to an investigator?*

A: I would not.....

Q: *Would you do so if that informant's identity would never be divulged?*

A: No, if I had an agreement with an informant — off the record, an anonymous agreement that his or her name would not go forward — I would not pass that on to the police.

Now, I can say that easily sitting here, but if it was the Zodiac or some notorious serial rapist or serial murderer, I would hope — journalistically — that my answer would be the same: to protect the source. I would hope I would rely on my training, just as officers rely on their training. But I really can't say what I would do. I cannot see an instance of betraying the source. However, I think I would still be betraying the source. Now, if it was newsworthy, this tip — something we could check out — I would think that there would be a way that the investigating officers could use the information that was published in the newspaper to pursue an angle on the story.

I mean, I am part of this community — as well as a lot of the cops who live in San Francisco — and I don't want a serial rapist running around if I had information to stop that. I hope I would do the right thing.

Q: *Have you ever felt you were ever used or manipulated by the San Francisco Police Department?*

A: Yes, I know I have been used and manipulated by the Police Officers' Association. I don't begrudge that at all because I have also gotten pretty good stories out of it. Like during contract times, or when police are going to be shifted from one precinct to another — that's a lot of politics in there — and all of a sudden I'll get fed a lot of information about crime that is happening in a certain area or certain dangers that police officers are facing. And those make good stories and I don't have to worry too much about why they are doing this although, to make sure I put it in perspective — do a paragraph in my story saying — as they are shifting boundaries in the city, the Police Officers' Association is looking to start a public relations campaign why this isn't a good idea.

I am sure I have been used by police administration for the same ends. Budget time is always notorious. Luckily, the last couple of years the budget has been really good, so there haven't been threats of cutting services or laying people off. But you can be sure that whenever there is talk of taking away money, the administration is going to let the reporters know why it is good to keep their budget intact.

Q: *Have you ever felt you were unfairly locked out of a story by the police department?*

A: I think — yeah, I won't say the police department... but definitely by individual officers. And there is one case that came up last year — and I won't go into details — where I really feel I was locked out because I am a female reporter and where the officers felt much more comfortable with male reporters because they were men they were talking to.

I can't tell you how many times I have tried calling the Public Affairs office — not with Sherman Ackerson who is there now. He has been terrific anytime I have asked him for information — and not gotten information in a timely manner.

"In terms of the reporters wanting to talk to the POA to get a police perspective, I think that is true, that the door is always open."

Q: *What is your opinion of the working relationship you have with the police department?*

A: I feel very fortunate, and I think I have a good working relationship with a lot of police officers. I think that started when I was at the Independent and I spent a lot of time in the district stations, and I went to the monthly community police meetings that the captains hold in the different districts. I think the fact that I covered one police academy class helped.

Q: *Have you been on a ride-along?*

A: I have gone on a number of ride-alongs. I have a good working relationship with the Chief and several of his Deputy Chiefs. I am somewhat fortunate, I think, because I can call up Lau and either he will come right on the phone or he will return my call when he is available.

I know a lot the captains and lieutenants in the department so that helps. I grew up with a number of police officers, and played softball on teams with a number of officers, so I have been able to get relationships with people that way.

Q: *How can we improve ties with each other?*

A: I would urge people not to be scared of reporters; to feel comfortable. If you are scared of being misquoted or taken out of context feel free to ask a reporter to read back the quotes that you plan to use and in what context you are going to use them. I think that is the number one thing. If you feel I am unfair to you, let me know about it right away. If you don't get a response from me, then call my boss and let my boss know. My boss will tell me about it. I think that is the best thing.

Again, I think to put a human face on stories — whether they are crime stories or political stories — is always helpful, and I know, as a reporter, that I'm eager for that voice. Although I don't like to, if people are scared to have their names in the paper you can discuss that with me. I won't always agree to an off the record conversation, but I'll tell you if I don't agree to it.

Q: *Do you feel that the average SFPD street cop is as hip to media relations as they should be?*

A: No.

Q: *Can you articulate why that is detrimental to the individual or to the department?*

A: There seems to be a distrust police have of reporters. You feel you get screwed. We only go in the negative, you get slammed and again, I don't think that is necessarily reality. When a cop works in a structure where you do have a sergeant, lieutenant and captain and up the line, you do want to be somewhat careful of making sure you are talking as an individual and not for the department because that's just how the structure works.

But your stories are, often, very good, heroic stories. Your job is a difficult one, and I think to have your voice reflected in a news account is essential to making it balance. But feel comfortable to call reporters on something you think we don't do right or don't cover.

Q: *Do you feel that good media relations are important for the department?*

A: The answer to that is yes. It is important because you don't want to just have one-sided stories appear in newspapers. I think that if a "no comment" keeps coming from the department, readers are going to wonder what's wrong. I don't think that helps anyone. I think there is somewhat of a beneficial relationship between us getting information and being able to put out interesting and timely news stories and for the police to say, no we are actually working hard for the city. And I won't lie to you. If I find an officer who is accused of misconduct — we are going to write about that. And I personally think it is extremely newsworthy, and I won't run from that for anything.

Q: *Did you elect to cover the San Francisco Police Department, or was it an assignment that was forced upon you?*

A: I have pretty much chosen to cover the stories that I cover. I've been thrown into stories somehow. I mean, a lot of it is happenstance. At the Independent it was one of my assignments — the Police Commission — and so that started me there. And at that point I got to know some people in the police administration and on the Police Commission. When I came to the Examiner there was a story early on a spy case. One of the officers accused as spying. I was called into that immediately because I happen to have contacts. I don't really do crime stories anymore.

Q: *Do you believe that the POA is a dynamic force in San Francisco?*

A: It is dynamic when it comes to politics. I think that some of what the POA did with Proposition E on the ballot last year backfired in terms of public support. I think the POA was very tied to that.

But in terms of the POA having access to city officials, I think it does. In terms of the reporters wanting to

(see INTERVIEW, next page)

INTERVIEW

(continued from previous page)

talk to the POA to get a police perspective, I think that is true, that the door is always open. So it is dynamic in that sense. There is still, I know, a lot of dissension though where a lot of the women particularly and some of the minorities groups in the department think that the POA is still against them and it seems like the POA, if you look at the Board and the leadership, still has a far way to go to reflect not only the police department's population, but more so the population of San Francisco as a whole.

Q: Understanding the role of the POA as a labor organization, do you feel that it has any influence on the overall policy and mission of the San Francisco Police Department? And, if so, is it undue?

A: No. I mean, I think that when it comes with the staffing levels, it definitely has a say in the policies of the police department, but so does the federal court. I think the union's voice should be heard when the police chief and the police commissioners are making their decisions on policy changes. But a lot of that,

what the union wants, is reflected in departmental policy.

Q: From a reporter's perspective, is the POA appropriately responsive to media issues?

A: I think the current administration has been very responsive, at least when I have needed to get in touch with them. And I think that one of the main roles of the union — my personal opinion — is to be public advocates for its membership, and to be a public advocate means to talk to the media because you aren't going to go and talk to 760,000 San Franciscans. You can talk to a reporter who can reach more than 100,000 in one shot.

Q: Do you feel the POA is reactive and not proactive?

A: Yes. I think that often we call on the POA for response to something instead of the POA coming out and saying, this is what they want. Again, it is a little bit different when it comes to union negotiations or budget time.

Q: Okay. Closing comments?

A: I guess my closing comments would be to give reporters a chance and don't look at us as the enemy as we don't look at the police as the enemy. But we will definitely look at you with straight scrutiny..

Selling Your Home

Know The New Tax Law

By Lou Barberini, Co E

The 1997 Taxpayer Relief Act recently passed by Congress added several new tax provisions and considerable complexity to our everyday investment planning. One of the laws that will affect all of us is the new capital gains tax calculation on the proceeds from selling your home. Under prior law, if you sold your home, you had two methods to shelter or postpone the capital gains tax on your home's appreciation:

1) if you were over 55 years old and had lived in your home for a couple of years, you could cash out of your home or trade into a less expensive home without paying capitol gains tax on the first \$125,000 of appreciation or, within a two year period, if you wanted to sell your current home and trade the proceeds into another home of equal or greater value, there was no capital gains tax on the appreciation.

The new law completely eliminates both of these provisions and replaces them with a new exclusion, irrespective of one's age, of \$250,000 for single taxpayers and \$500,000 for married taxpayers. At first glance it might appear that only the wealthy will be subject to this new law, but the following example illustrates how this law will impact an average Californian middle class taxpayer: Ms. Taxpayer purchases her first home for \$150,000 in 1981. Today the home is worth \$425,000. Ms. Taxpayer decides to sell her home and use the exact proceeds to purchase a home in another location for

\$425,000. If Ms. Taxpayer had made this transaction in 1996 she would have had NO gain because she was applying her proceeds from home #1 to an equally priced home #2. If Ms. Taxpayer waited to sell her home until 1997, she would incur a capital gain tax on \$25,000. Thus, Ms. Taxpayer would not be able to simply sell home #1 for \$425,000 and buy a new home for the same amount without having extra money in her bank account to pay the capital gains tax. The tax would be calculated as follows:

Selling Price Home #1: \$425,000
less: Investment (basis) 150,000
Appreciation: \$275,000

less: \$250,000 exclusion: 250,000
Amount subject to capital gains tax: \$25,000

This law hits high-priced real estate areas like the Bay Area much harder than Mid-West cities because the \$250,000/\$500,000 exclusion represents a smaller percentage of our property value and potential appreciation when compared to someone living in a similarly constructed home in St. Louis, Minneapolis or Chicago.

Another negative attribute of this law is that it is not indexed to inflation, thus it will literally take an act of Congress to increase the exclusion. Absent an increase in the exclusion, as your home appreciates with inflation, Congress will have a built in tax increase as the capital gain tax cost to sell your home correspondingly increases with inflation.

'98 High School Grads

POWCA Scholarship

Applications for the annual Peace Officers Wives' Clubs of California Scholarship are now available. Eligibility requirements are:

1. The applicant must be the dependant of a sworn law enforcement officer (active, retired, deceased) whose department has a wives organization that is a paid member of POWCA.

2. The applicant must be graduating high school in the spring of 1998.

This is an essay contest, this year's theme being "The Weight of the Badge On My Life".

Awards are:
1st Place \$1500.00
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3rd Place \$500.00

To receive an entry packet contact Pat Barsetti, 415/566-5985.

All entries must be returned completed by January 10, 1998.

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Illo's Medical Fund

By Chris Cunnie, SFPOA President

A collection was taken up last month to raise money for medical treatment for an injured SFPD police dog. The amount that we have collected will enable us to initiate Illo's medical treatment. Any excess money will remain in the Sendy Fund at the SF Police Credit Union.

Thank you to all concerned POA members, their families, friends, and other POA supporters who generously donated to this cause. And a special thanks to the members of the San Rafael Police Officers' Association for their impressive offer of backup funds.

We'll keep you posted on Illo's progress and recovery.

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For additional information,
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PAL Basketball

The San Francisco PAL Basketball began on Thursday, October 2nd with 99 teams. Games are played on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at Columbia Park Boys Club, Ingold Boys Club, Mission Dolores, Mission Rec Center, Presidio Middle School, St. John, St. Monica, and SOMA (South of Market Gym).

6th Girls

Vikings
SOMA Bulldogs
John Muir Bears
Ingleside
The Lady Tar Hills
Knights

7th Girls Division

Rebels
St. Cecilia Irish
Panthers
Knights
Columbia
Mission Rec Center

8th Boys East

SOMA Bulldogs
The Bears
St. James Vikings
Corpus Christi Bucs
Holy Name Panthers
Mission Warriors
Knights

6th Boys East

Tomcats
Tigers
SOMA Bulldogs
St. Cecilia Irish
St. Stephen Cougars
Salesian
John Muir Bears

7th Boys North

Eagles
Salesian
I.C.E. Magic
Holy Name Panthers
F.A.I.S. Associates
Bruins
Columbia

8th Boys North

Tigers
Bulldogs
Salesian
Vikings
St. Emydius Earthquakes
I.C.E.

6th Boys North

Tigers
Jaguars
Ice Lions
Salesian
Operation Contact
Corpus Christi Bucs
Ingleside

7th Boys South

Rebels
SOMA Bulldogs
St. Emydius Earthquakes
Grattan Panthers
Solos
Vikings
St. Pauls Celtics
San Francisco Warriors

8th Boys South

Rebels
Eagles
Hawks
Hoopsters
Star of the Sea
Taraval Chumps
St. Gabriel Knights

6th Boys South

Rebels
Tigers
Eagles
St. Emydius Earthquakes
Grattan Panthers
Holy Name Panthers
Olv
Salesian Bruins

7th Boys West

Tigers
Eagles
Bruins
Precita Panthers
Ingleside
Operation Contact

8th Boys West

Tomcats
St. Monica Pride
Oceanview Bulldogs
St. Philips Bruins
Holy Name Panthers
Operation Contact
St. Finn Barr Celtics
Excelsior

6th Boys West

Tomcats
SOMA Bulldogs
Oceanview
St. Mary's Rec Cntr.
Running Reds
Ingleside
Edgewood Bulls
Mission Rec Center

8th Girls

St. Paul's Celtics
Ingleside
Lions
S.F. Knights
Mission Rec Center

PAL Judo

Reminder: Anyone interested in participating in Judo, contact the PAL office at 695-6935 for details.

BOSS

(continued from page 15)

streets doing their bidding and looking out for them and they knew it. As far as they were concerned we were all in this together. And they were not about to let some "fair weather politician" from City Hall put me down without a fight.

That day changed my attitude toward my job forever.

It occurred to me after that incident that I didn't work for the people that I thought I worked for after all. I didn't work for the Chief, or the Mayor, or the Board of Supervisors. I didn't work for the Lieutenant or that petty sergeant I couldn't stand. I worked for those people. And not just the taxpayers. I worked for them, sure; but I also worked for the immigrants both legal and illegal; the kids in abusive homes and the elderly folks as well. I worked for the yuppie couple trying to make their neighborhood a better place for their kids. I even worked for the wino on the corner who could be a saint one day and a pain in the butt the next.

I decided that the only people who would be afraid to talk to me would be the person who was breaking the law. I had re-prioritized my management hierarchy and it made my job so much easier.

After the meeting I thanked the lady for "sticking up" for me and asked her what I could do for her. She complained about a shooting gallery across the street from her house. I quickly enlisted the help of our 35 car and Dept. of Electricity, Health and every other city agency I could think of. The problem was solved in less than 3 days. She was ecstatic and grateful and loved the cops. She couldn't believe we took her problem seriously. But as far as I was concerned, that woman was my friend. She had proven it and I wanted to help her.

Her problems became my problems and together we took care of them. When that happened everybody felt good.

I guess the point of all this is that I believe that almost all people who become cops do so for very good idealistic reasons. I believe that they're sincere, caring and scrupulous. If some become embittered over time I fully understand why and don't blame them because it's happened to me. I know what it's like. I know how it feels and I don't like it.

But what I've learned is that it doesn't have to be or at least stay that way. If we keep the lines of commu-

nication open and take every opportunity to talk to the folks out there, we can be very effective. We need to let them know what's going on out there on the streets and ask for their input. Tell them what the situation is for you and what difficulties you face and ask them for what you need. Let them know what you're up against and how hard it is. Believe me, they'll appreciate the honesty and they'll respond positively.

And tell them how pathetic our Tier 2 retirement is. Most of them think we've got it made. They don't know that our contract is as bad as it is. If they did, the next time we have a initiative on the ballot they'll vote for it. But, they have to hear it from YOU. Why, because you're the police and you're the good guy, remember?

And I firmly believe that they know that too. Everybody knows that even the bad guys. John Crew knows it and so does Mary Dunlap, OCC, the Police Commission and all the character assassins that show up to demean us when it's politically advantageous for them to do so.

I have a theory that, if they had their way, most of them would love to be cops but they don't have the moxie to stand up to the plate. So they take the other tack and come after us fueled with resentment and their fear of their own inadequacies and make pathetic attempts to belittle us in front of the good folks. But, those folks know better and will continue to know. But only if they hear it from us. Because we're the cops and we tell them the truth, and not what we think they want to hear. And we do it because we have no reason to do otherwise. These people are smart and they know that we "put our money where our mouth is" and take the risks to look out for their interests.

So my thought is to keep them informed with the TRUTH. And we won't have to become embittered and angry when the vultures start to circle because those folks will take them on just like the lady at that meeting. They'll stick a finger (hopefully the index) in their faces and tell them "now just you wait a minute!"

We won't have to break a sweat. Anyway, I hope I haven't preached to the choir too much here but I hope you get my point.

By the way, remember that Supervisor at the meeting? He was voted out of office after only one term and I've never heard his name mentioned since.

But me? I've still got my job. Any questions?

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SPORTS



Nick's Notes

By Nick Shihadeh, SFPOA
Notebook Sports Editor

Check it Out — I want to thank the Airport's Alex Jackson for sending the sports page his outstanding results from Fresno in the August issue (three gold medals in the Grand Masters track and field competition). I was also happy to hear about Mike Simmon's (SFPD) gold medal he won with Jackson in the relay. Bob Massola of the Airport also sent results of some of their athlete's accomplishments, and this is also very much appreciated. In fact, Massola combined with Roger Farrell to win a gold in the open bowling division in addition to his winning an individual bronze in open/singles. The merger with SF Airport was way overdue — it's great that we're finally as one.

Other bowling news from the Summer Games features Les Adams winning an individual gold in the masters competition as well as a bronze in the four member team B Division. The other members of his team included Richmond's Mike Regalia and retired member Dave Winn Sr. Park Station's Rick Araujo won a bronze in the singles B Division, if I'm not mistaken. Finally, another four member team included Ed Santos, Pete Cozell, John Propst, and of course the ever popular Glenn Sylvester. They were in the open division but

unfortunately didn't win a medal. Have another go at it next year fellas.

There are big congratulations going out to Mission's Rene Guerrero for the outstanding Gold medal he won competition in the Triathlon Open division. This is the competition that Rene has worked seven long and hard years to try and win and his ship finally came in down in Fresno. Rene didn't do too shabby in the 2-mile Open Water Swim either when he just missed taking a bronze when he came in 4th place. Great job.

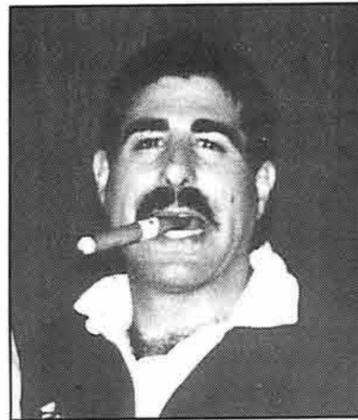
Closing out the Police Summer Games, I'd like to honorably mention three track and field competitions" Leonard Morrow, Wendel Jones, and Rafael "Raffy" Labuton. Jones just missed a bronze with his 4th place finish in the Senior A 100 yard dash; he finished 4th in the Senior A long jump as well. Morrow finished 5th place in the same 10 yard race as Jones, while Labuton competed in various masters divisions events unfortunately without any medals. It was a good effort out of those guys and hopefully they'll be back at it next year. As far as photos from Fresno, the *Notebook* would like to thank Labuton as well as Matt Castagnola for taking and providing great pics.

I recently got a note from retired Lieutenant Eugene Del Carlo (Sgt. Ed's dad) who wanted to make sure we spell their last name correctly in the *Notebook*. Well sir, it was great to hear from you and I will make it clear right now that the proper way is: Del-

space-capital Carlo (Del Carlo). With the department hoops league starting soon, let's hope big Ed will give us something to write about so we can include his name correctly in the sports page. Take care.

The "Blue Team," SFPD's all star softball club, won a Police/Fire tourney down in San Jose last month. It was a two day event that required the team to win a bunch of games in that span in order to capture the title. The Blue Team is run by Gary Delagnes and Jim Drago and has been very successful in two of the last four tournaments that they've entered. This was an emotional victory for Delagnes as it was to be his last playing for the all star team. During the last game, Delagnes was to be replaced in the field by most probably a younger member of the squad to signify his retirement. It didn't turn out that way, as another "old boy" Ross Laflin was the one who replaced him. Oh well. Delagnes is considered irreplaceable anyway. Nevertheless, good luck Gary and thanks for all you've done for department softball.

A recent Monday Night Football party took place at Ron Lumont's City Forest Lodge on Laguna Honda. It featured the Niners vs the Panthers and included lots of food and drinks, cigar smoking, and a big screen TV. It was a good night and we were very much take care of by Ron as well as Jimmy Potts who helped cook up some great grub. Please don't hesitate to book this great hall that has catering included at 254

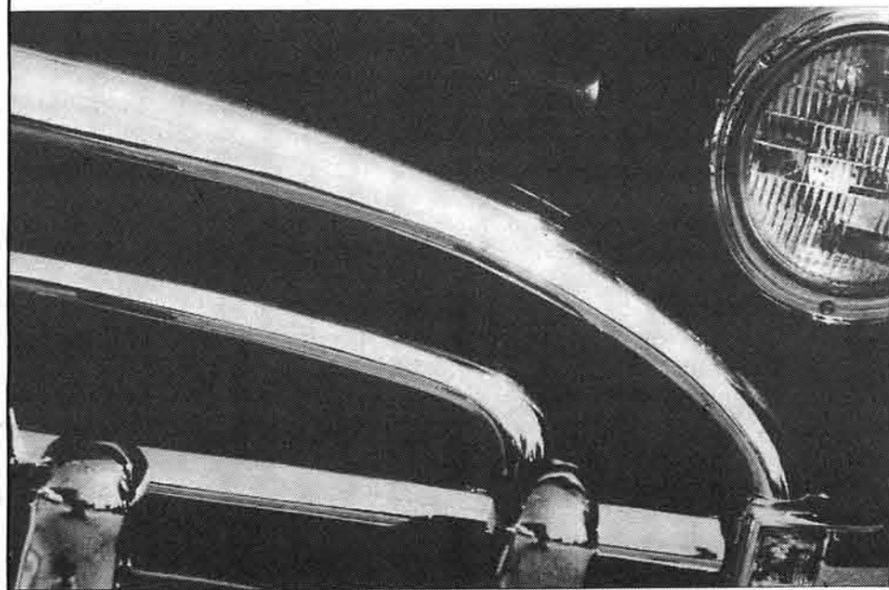


Laguna Honda Boulevard in the City. (Call Ron Dumont at 415/753-8326).

Another place I'd like to mention is Tony Bosque's "Uncle Jack's" restaurant and sports bar at 2417 Lombard St. (at Scott) in the Marina District. It's got a great menu and features Steve "Canig" Caniglia cooking marvelous Saturday college football brunches from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. "We feature comfort food" says Canig. "You know, food your mom used to make only better." Anybody who has experienced Canig's cooking knows not to hesitate in dining at Uncle Jack's.

I almost forgot: "How about those Giants!" They did a great job winning the division from the rivaled Dodgers, but unfortunately couldn't do much more after that. Hopefully they're not a flash in the pan and might somehow have another run at it next season. We'll see. Now I'm going to start saying: "How about those Niners!"

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By Rene LaPrevotte
Volcano Tour 1997

The first two weeks of July, myself, John Wyman of Co. K. and retired (but not forgotten) Arizona DPS Officer Mike Mauser toured the great Northwest. What had originally started out to be a ride to the Calgary Stampede became the **1997 Volcano Tour** when we found that we couldn't get lodging anywhere within one hundred miles of Calgary due to the popularity of the Stampede and the coincidence of the 1997 Police & Fire World games being held simultaneously.

Planning the trip turned out to be nothing more than sitting down with a Triple-A map of the Northwest, and highlighting every road that was noted as scenic. Our trip would therefore cover near three thousand miles while actually only traveling about nine hundred miles each way. As we all know, the joy of the trip is the ride, not the ultimate destination, so we were looking forward to the scenery lying in wait ahead.

Mauser rode his new Suzuki RF900R sportbike from Phoenix to my Nine-Motorcycle-Garage with an attached house in Novato a couple days before our departure, and July 1st we were itch'en to ride!

In keeping with our "Scenic-is-Cool" plan, we headed up to Napa, then Northwest along highway #128 through Yountville, St Helena, Geyserville and Cloverdale up to the coast at Albion. In riding through Albion, I noted several romantic Bed & Breakfast Inns overlooking the crashing surf and filed them away in my "Really-impress-the-old-lady" memory banks.

We now rode North up the coast with our first night being Eureka. As we slowly rode through Eureka, we found a comfort Inn that looked like we could sleep without fear of fleas or breaking our lodging budget, and as we pulled into the parking lot, we were followed into the parking area by the Eureka P.D. We knew that we had been "cool" riding through town, and this city copper couldn't have seen the hyjinx we were involved in miles back (we hoped), so we got off the bikes with our best "It couldn't have been us" looks on our faces. It turns out that the officer is a biker too, with a hot-rodged GSXR 1100 and a pristine Ducati 900SS in his garage. Further, he has a drag race car that is campaigned at the Samoa Drag strip that is used for department P/R and is painted like a radio car, with lights & siren... pretty cool guy!

"The scenic route is awesome, and the only interruptions are the stops we must make every twenty minutes or so for Wyman to take a..."

The officer then tells us that this sleepy little town has a 65% welfare rate, that the town just had to build another (larger) jail, that half the population lives on the streets and the jobless transients are forcing the long-time residents out. The cop also admonishes us to keep our bikes out of sight at night, at which time a trio of rag-tag street people walk past and yell to the officer: "Hey you want part of my donut?" The officer responds in kind and we begin to wonder if we haven't left the frying pan for the fire. Later that night we encounter a counter-culture type who tells

us that our expensive motorcycles mean that we are "rich" and not a member of the proletariat as he hocks a lunger on the front of my new \$12,000 Honda. The rest, as they say, is history. Needless to say we took the Eureka policeman's admonishment to heart and concealed our bikes in the hotel foliage that night, in anticipation of the little Maoist returning with something more destructive than the contents of his sinuses.

We awoke early the next morning, checked the bikes and confirmed that the little "speed freak" had been unable to find us, so we cleared out of Eureka with no plans of ever coming back. Hopefully, welfare reform and a strong police presence will return Eureka to the homeowners, at the expense of the creeps passing through.

Back on Highway #101 North toward Oregon, with warm crystal-clear weather and Roseburg, Oregon as our next night sleep-over. The scenic route is awesome, and the only interruptions are the stops we must make every twenty minutes or so for Wyman to take a leak and have a cigarette. It never ceases to amaze me how his body can convert nicotine to urine the way it does, but we soldier on to Coos Bay, Oregon where we pick-up Highway #42 Easterly into what is a hot Central Oregon and our second night's respite in Roseburg.

July 3rd we make our first volcano (Crater Lake) and are surprised that there is still eight feet of snow on the side of the road this late in the year, even with eighty degree temps. We circle Crater Lake after the obligatory photo-sessions and lead due East on Highway #138 where we pick-up Highway #58 Northwest to Eugene, Oregon. We arrive in Eugene with three hours of daylight left, and polish our bikes while doing away with copious amounts of Miller Genuine, then walk over to the Black Angus across the parking lot from our hotel. Our motel is on the South bank of the Wilmonet River, and our two-room suite costs \$65.00 a night, no tax. I think I could get to like this place!

The next morning we have an abbreviated ride to Portland (Wyman only had about 35 smoke/pit stops) so that we could get situated and find a place to celebrate the 4th with the locals. We check into a Red Lion Inn and find that the money we saved in Eugene last night will be eaten-up in our \$130.00 room in Portland. We pull the luggage from our bikes and head down to a park on the South side of the Columbia River where



The boys park their bikes and try their hand at surfing

there are various musical venues and BBQ of all sorts. We watch a fireworks display over the Columbia, then after a few libations hack to the Red Lion for the nightly snoring contest (Mauser usually wins). While the 4th of July had been 99°, the 5th of July was 65° and overcast. As they say in the great Northwest, if you don't like the weather, wait an hour and it will change.

Today we visit our next volcano, Mt. Saint Helens and I'm struck by the change since I was here three years ago. Last time I was here, the entire area was a lunar landscape of desolation, with scalded tree trunks blown over like matchsticks everywhere (I know, there aren't any trees on the moon), but the loggers have salvage harvested all the fallen trees, and nature has already started to replant the area's foliage with greenery and saplings. The result is that the cataclysm that happened here has been dulled and has lost the visual impact of the event.

Back to Highway #5 for a brief run up the "super slab" where we get off the freeway on Highway #12 through Mt. Rainier State Park and up to a suburb of Seattle named Fife, Washington where we find a Best Western with the hottest nightclub in Fife right there in our motel. How lucky can we get? By now, I've been tagged with the nickname of "The Night Crawler" as I usually drag myself back to the room a couple of hours after my roommates begin their snoring contest. This night was the exception as I'm captured on video tape sound asleep in a booming disco with the universal mating ritual going on all around me. Hey, even NASA has had a few glitches!

The next morning we wake-up to find a storm passed through during the night, and while overcast, we manage to stay one step ahead/behind the storm. We pass numerous glacial rivers and lakes and it's South on US #90 back toward Oregon. At this point, I am twisting the right handlebar a bit harder than the others and find myself at the Washing-

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ton/Oregon border at the Columbia River all alone. I've made several stops and a lunch break along the way, and start to wonder if I'm ahead or behind the other guys. I stopped at the border town of Biggs, Oregon and checked into a motel where I secure a two room suite, unsure if I'll be staying there by myself or if I'll finally be reunited with John and Mike. Being prepared for just this kind of event, we are all carrying cellular phones, and have message machines at home we were supposed to check in the event we got separated, so I go through the entire litany of actions to get in contact with the guys...bad news, no one is answering the cell phones. My messages on the home answering machines are going unanswered, so it looks like I'm in Biggs, Oregon alone. I unpacked my bike, put my gear in my personal two-room suite, locked the bike up and walk across the street to a restaurant/bar overlooking the Columbia River. There I sit watching TV and quaffing a few cold beers with my cell phone on the bar in front of me hoping it will ring with my displaced riding partners seeking my 10-20. For a reason I will never be able to explain, I turned on my bar stool and glanced out the window toward the highway, just in time to see John and Mike crossing the Columbia River Bridge and heading West away from me. I've been sitting here for nearly two hours, and probably didn't look out that window three times, but there they go. I jump up, yell to the bartender to watch my stuff and run through the restaurant toward the door. I'm sure the restaurant patrons thought I just robbed the place, as I ran across the street to where my bike was locked. I weigh the time lost going upstairs to my room to get my helmet and jacket (I'm in shorts and a tanktop) and decide to just jump on the bike and head after my mates. By now they've got a five or six minute head start on me and they're traveling sixty-seventy miles per hour. I will never admit to the speeds I attained, helmetless in shorts to overtake those guys, but I did so seven miles down the road. Wyman relates



Mauser and Wyman at Mt. St. Helens. Rene is forty miles ahead.

seeing some maniac screaming Mach 3 up from behind with his hair frozen straight back, blinking his headlight only to find out it was yours truly. We took the next off-ramp and drove back seven miles to the hotel. It took the better part of the night for my hearing to return after the deafening roar of the wind at XXX MPH with no helmet.

The next day was a fairly straight shot into Klamath Falls where our arrival was slightly less eventful than the day before and we settled into a nice hot-tub with a twelve pack of rations. After dinner the guys crapped-out early and the "Night Crawler" stayed out seeing the sights of Klamath Falls.

The following morning we were South on highway #97 to Mt. Shasta (Another volcano) then South on Highway #89 through some of California's most scenic landscape with our final stop in Quincy where we had a world class meal and an early turn in time (even the "Night Crawler").

Day break, and breakfast and down #89 through Truckee where Wyman split to take the US 50 home, while Mauser & I continued down #89 to #88 and back to the Bay Area.

Close to three thousand miles, no mechanical problems, no tickets, no screw-ups and about a half hour of hilarious video tape. Next year, don't just read about it, join the "Night Crawler" for the 1998 edition of "In Search of the Perfect Burrito"... si...we're going South.

The Last Annual ZUKAS 'Wish Upon A Star' Golf Tournament

By Rene LaPrevotte, Co. K

As aficionados of fine cuisine and drink already know, the world famous Zukas across from the Hall-of-Just-Us sold some time back and Frank and Evie have retired to the scenic hills of San Bruno.

Yet another tradition that went the way of Zukas was the annual Zukas Golf Classic, which the past several years has benefited California Law Enforcement's Wish Upon A Star program. But do not despair, as Frank and Evie will host the Last Annual Zukas Golf Classic on Sun-

day, November 9, 1997 at Sharps Park in Pacifica. Your \$105 entry will get you a round of golf with cart, BBQ lunch and refreshments on the course, a sit down Prime Rib dinner with raffles and T-prizes. All profits will benefit the Wish Upon A Star Foundation, which grants the wishes of seriously ill kids whose parents find themselves financially unable to fulfill. If you are interested in becoming part of history, contact Frank or Evie Mah at (415) 952-1686 or call Rene LaPrevotte at the Traffic Company at 553-1246.

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Police Games

Hi-Power and Small Bore Rifle

By Bill Leet

Three members of the SFPD met at 6:30 am to compete in the high-power Rifle competition at the Police Games in hot, hot Fresno. The range was primitive at best and firing points were downhill from the targets requiring shooters to bend in ways nature never intended. Although they finished out of the medals, Sgt. Tom Morris (Ret-20 years), Sgt. Bill Leet (Ret-5 years) and Jamie Ongpin (Housing) gave it their best at 600 yards.

The following morning, again at 6:30 am, small-bore competition began at a much nicer range. The range even provided a shaded firing line.

Good shooting in both prone and kneeling disciplines (not so great in standing position) earned our guys a team Fourth Place Medal.

Many thanks to Range Master Mickey Griffin for the small-bore practice time allotted to two retired but active shooting members.

Range Master Griffin is planning to schedule a meeting for all members who may be interested in the '98 games in Contra Costa County. Tom and Bill will be there to answer any questions regarding both the high-power and small-bore competitions. Call the range for details.

Let's have a couple of teams representing San Francisco at the '98 games!

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The Loon's Nest Report

By Ed Garcia, T.T.F.

Glenn Mar Sizzles in Hot August Shootout

On August the 7th, Rancho Solano Golf Club was the location for the L.N.G.C.'s Hot August Shootout. The weather was just right for this tournament, as the mercury hit 97 degrees as the Loon's fought against the heat and the monstrous Rancho Solano greens. The weather seemed to bring out the best in the Loons, as the front side leading scores looked like something from the P.G.A. tour. Longtime ball bashing Loon Steve Landi of Support Services was the leader at the turn, as he fired a two under par 34. Landi picked up birdies on the first and seventh holes and allowed no bogies on the front.

One stroke behind Landi at the turn was Tournament Director Glenn Mar from the Tac Squad. Glenn blistered the front side with a one under par 35, which included a birdie on the first hole and an EAGLE on the seventh hole, which is a 482 yard par 5. Hot on their heels was Mike Renteria from T.T.F., who fired a one over par 37 on the front. Mike came to this tournament still hot from his record breaking under par round of 69 at the previous Loon's tournament at Blue Rock Springs in late June. Renteria posted two birds on the front side, at the first and seventh holes. Renteria's playing partner Bruce Lorin from Permits also had a fine front nine, with a score of 39, including a birdie on the seventh hole. Paul Guinasso, also from the T.T.F. matched Lorin's 39, as the Loon's were really on their sticks.

After 13 holes, Mar, Landi and Renteria were in a dead heat as the temperature soared into the middle nineties. The greens by this time were dry and lightening fast and each player knew that any mistake from that point would cost them the tournament. Landi ran into a double bogie on the fourteenth hole which cost him big. Steve picked up a birdie on 17, but it was not enough, as he finished at one over par 73, a great round. Mike Renteria played the final six holes in one under par, but this could not overcome the double bogie that he suffered on the par 3 twelve hole. Mike finished with a fine round of 74, to take 3rd low gross in flight one. Glenn Mar was the player who faced the challenge and played the back side in a manner that brought back memories of Ken Venturi's great victory at the 1964 U.S. Open at Congressional C.C. Just like Venturi, Mar played on through blazing heat, dehydrated, fatigued and suffering from back pains. Mar fought on hole by hole, playing the last eight holes one over par and finishing the day with an even par round of 72, giving him the title of "Hot August Shootout Champion". Mar's round tied the old club tournament record of even par 72, a record



Friends, partners and champions.
John Greenwood and Glen Mar of the
TAC Squad.

that stood for several years. That round had been shot at the same Rancho Solano Golf Club by Mike Yee years earlier.

First flight low net was also a tight contest, as two T.T.F. members fought for first place. Paul Guinasso fired a net 66, as he used his hot front side and maintained a smooth back side. Finishing one behind Paul was T.T.F. member Ed Garcia, was posted a net 67. Third went to Glenn Melanson who posted a net score of 70.

In the second flight low gross match, Joe Allegro from the Honda's ran away with the show. Joe opened with a front side 39, including birdies on the first and eighth holes. This is the second Loon's tournament with second flight players posting nine hole scores under forty. Allegro faltered, as he ran into a double bogie on the tenth hole, but Joe did not let the bad hole fluster him. Joe being the trophy player that he has always been, went on to pick up additional pars and finish with an 83. Al McCann of Co. K went out and shot two consistent sides of 45, to take second low gross in the flight with a score of 90. Al was the only player on the day to birdie the eleventh hole, a tough 429 yard par 4 hole. No Loon tournament would be complete without one of the Mahoney brothers picking up trophies and prizes. Dan Mahoney kept the tradition alive, as he shot a 95 to take third low gross in the second flight. Dan shot a 43 on the front side and was close to the leader at the turn for second flight low gross. Then disaster struck, as Dan was stunned by triple and quadruple bogies on the tenth and eleventh holes. Dan fought back with a birdie on the 15th hole and finished with a 95 to take third place.

Second flight low net saw a new face come onto the scene, as Gentleman John Greenwood from the Tac Squad jumped out of the pack to fire a net 64. This gave John a five stroke margin over second place finisher Steve Morimoto from Domestic Violence. Morimoto posted a net 69, leaving him in a tie with Dino Diodati of Diodati Construction. The U.S.G.A. tie breaking system was employed and Morimoto was awarded the second place trophy and prizes, leaving Dino in third place.

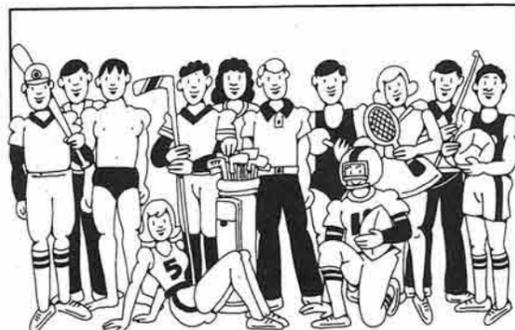
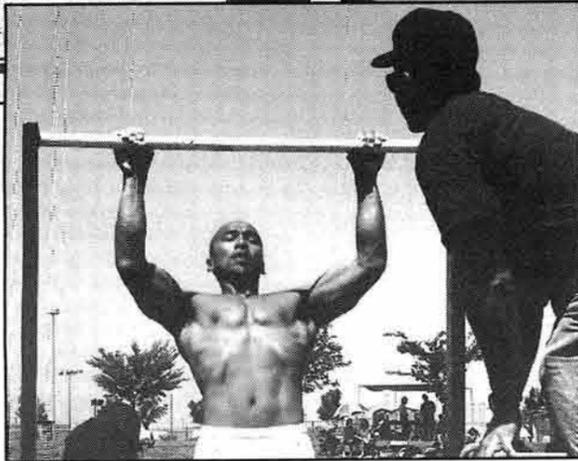
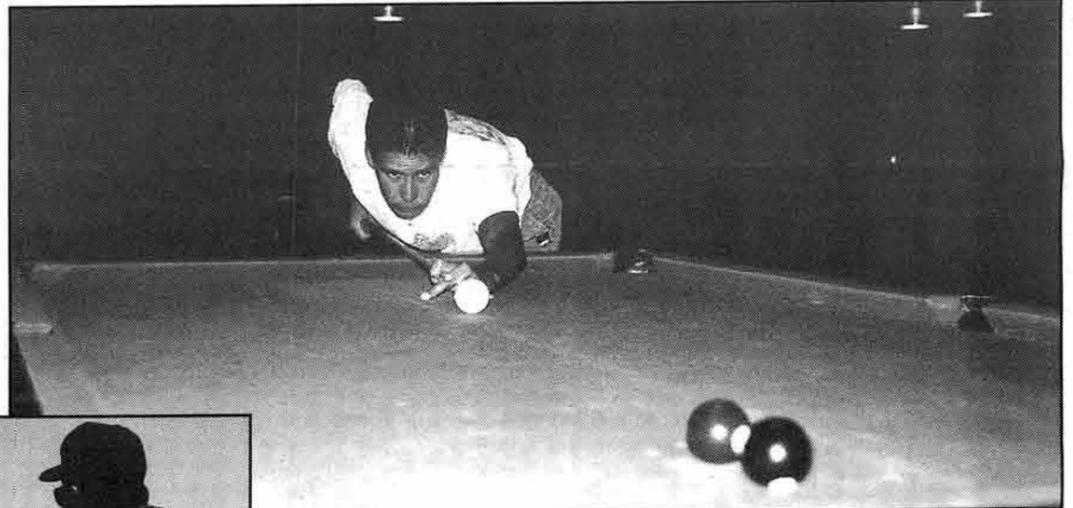
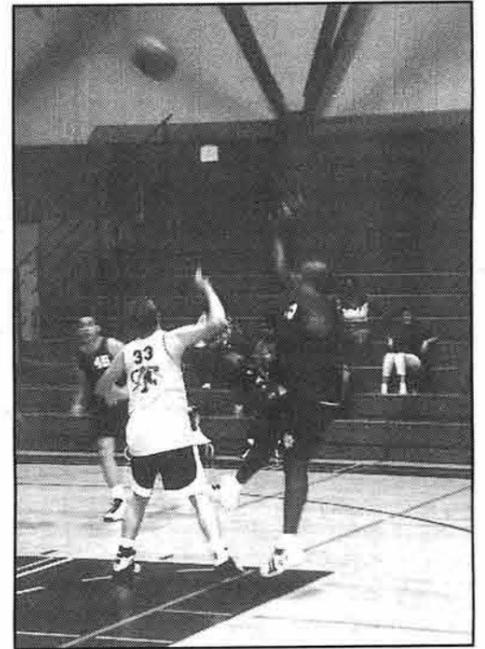
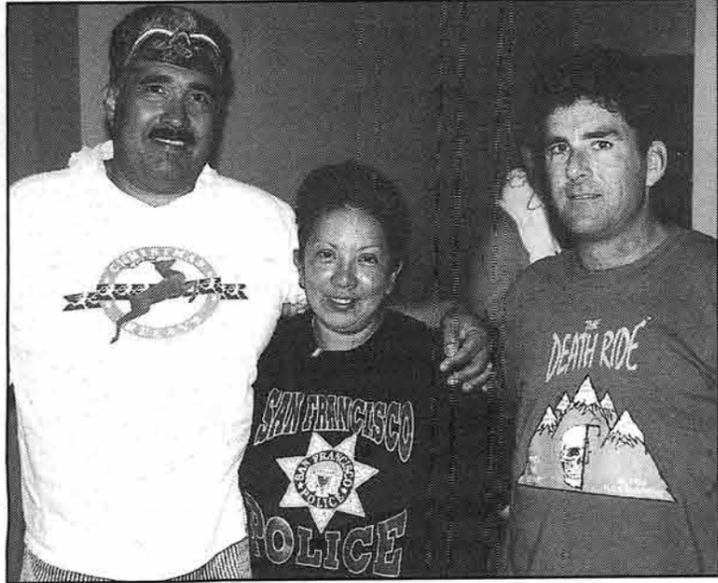
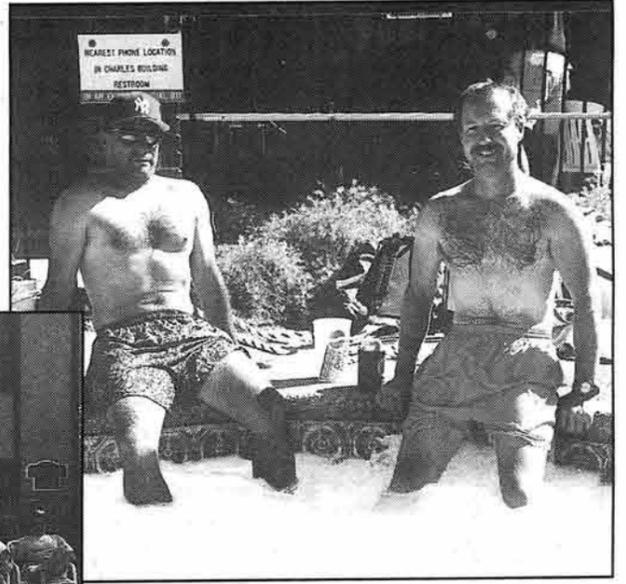
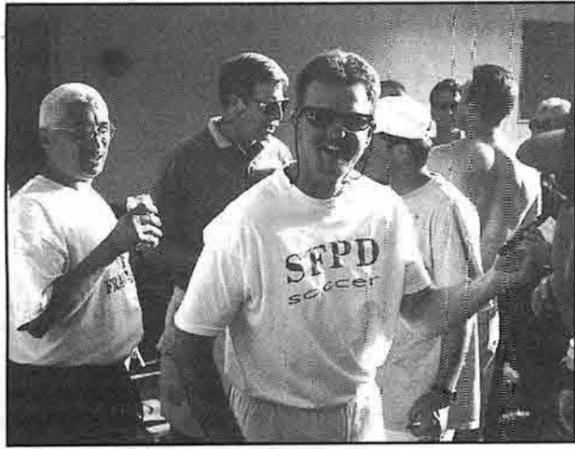
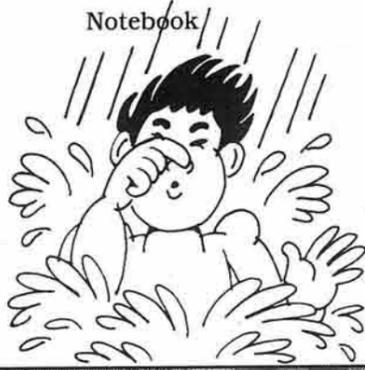
The guest flight title went to Bob Belrose, guest and friend of the Barbero brothers of Co. B. Bob has a current handicap of 17 and posted a net 76. Second place went to Kitt Crenshaw of Narcotics. Kitt played to a slightly higher handicap and produced a fine net round of 80. The two winners in the "Closest to the Hole" contests were Glenn Melanson and Co. E's Dave Hamilton. The two men had shots of 5 ft. 7 in. and 5 ft. 8 in. respectively. A display of strength and skill was put on by Big Mike Renteria in the "Long Drive" contest. Mike ripped a drive 262 yards on the UPHILL par 5 seventh hole.

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1997 Summer Games — One Final Look



Close Encounters

By Steve Johnson, SFPOA Secretary

Officer Kevin Mannix wanted to express his appreciation for all the concern shown, especially by his fellow officers from Northern Station, during his recuperation period. Kevin was viciously assaulted by a suspect during an arrest of an individual wanted for robbery. Kevin has undergone 3 operations so far: The first surgery was done to correct damage to the orbital bone of his right eye, the second involved knee surgery, and now he is recuperating from a surgical procedure that was necessary when he developed an infection from the knee operation.

The day after his youngest child's 3rd birthday **Officer Glen Ortega**, working as a one-officer unit out of Southern Station, responded to a call of a man setting fires at a building located at 100 Harrison Street. As Glen approached the strange-looking 36-year old nomad he ordered him to show his hands. The suspicious character kept his one hand in a plastic bag pointing it at Glen as if he was holding a gun trying to get a bead on the officer. Before Glen knew it the suspect charged him and they both went to the ground. The suspect threw an upper-cut that fractured Glen's jaw and then pulled out a steak knife and slashed a 6" gash across Glen's face. Glen grabbed the knife as the two wrestled on the ground with traffic stopped and Glen calling for assistance from the stunned motorists hoping that one of them would have a cell phone to call 9-1-1. Glen could not get to his microphone without relinquishing his grip on the suspect's powerful stabbing actions. Glen finally managed to push the suspect away, drew his service weapon and fired one round, striking the suspect in the chest.

Officer Glen Ortega was only off for 3 weeks recuperating when he returned to duty and paired up with **Officer Jose Lopez**. Their second call of the day sent them to 7th/Mission Streets to investigate a suspicious person. When the officers arrived they noticed one subject who started walking away from them. When Officer Ortega attempted to make contact with this subject, he ran. The chase was on and at one point the suspect hid between two parked cars. As Officer Ortega and Officer Lopez approached the man jumped from his hiding place and again took off running until he fell and was detained. Officer Ortega was immediately approached by a citizen who drew his attention to an object that the suspect had discarded during the chase. A fully-loaded 9mm, semi-automatic handgun with a round in the chamber and the hammer back. **Officer Ortega and Officer Lopez felt pretty good about their capture until the citizen told them that the suspect was aiming at both of them when they were approaching him as he was hidden between the two parked cars.**

—Officer Glen Ortega was involved in two extremely dangerous and difficult incidents for which he should be recognized, and this recognition should be made in a timely manner. There should be a mandatory 90-day turn-around for reviewing such cases where a recommendation for a medal of valor has been made. I'm certain that our present Police Commission will make this a priority issue, after

all, they have already recognized the fact that we should have a Purple Heart Medal available for incidents such as the one Officer Kevin Mannix had to endure.

Sergeant Mike Flynn and Sergeant Dan Linehan responded to a call of "numerous gang members armed with guns" in the area of 20th/Mission Streets. When they arrived where the gang and guns were supposed to be they saw a shop owner pointing up the street where there was a group of youths, all dressed in blue, who made the corner as soon as they saw Mike and Dan. The group was briefly detained then sent on their way. Mike and Dan circled the block and came back upon the shop owner who walked over to their black and white. He thanked both sergeants for getting rid of the "trouble-makers" up the street but he was a little upset with Sergeant Flynn and Sergeant Linehan since he felt that they had cost him a sale. When Mike asked him what he meant he told them that when they (Mike and Dan) pulled up in their police car the real contingent of gang-members who were armed with guns were actually in his store getting fitted for tuxedos. The business owner had called to get rid of the other group up the street because he thought they might interfere with the sale. But it all backfired on the owner because after the dangerously armed gang getting fitted for 9mm cummerbunds saw the two sergeants go after the first group they dropped their rental gear and quickly fled to their cars.

This man, the owner of a business establishment in the Mission, had purposely ignored the danger both he and the other civilians in the area were in, not to mention the potential for having both Sergeant Flynn and Sergeant Linehan killed; all because of his greed and stupidity.

Officer Paige Markham and Officer Matt O'Leary came across a group who were tediously bilking a number of parking meters from the city's coinage in the early morning hours on 24th Street. Paige and Matt did an excellent job of rounding up all 6 suspects, recovering the key they were using, and, most importantly, relieving them of the fully-loaded, 9mm semi-automatic pistol one of suspects was carrying concealed.

Let's not be too upset when a General Works inspector can't get to the scene of a serious assault right away. We apparently had 25 inspectors assigned to this unit 2 years ago where we only have 12 now. Plus, one crew (i.e. 3 inspectors) at General Works were recently given a "new" car to share for follow-up investigations. Problem is, the "new" car has 100,000 miles already logged on it.

No problem finding a police officer at San Francisco General Hospital, especially between 7:00 p.m. Thursday, 9/25/97, until 11:00 a.m. Friday, 9/26/97, since that's how long it took, **over 16 hours**, to clear one prisoner who "felt ill". Why are we tying up police officers at the hospital for endless hours trying to clear prisoners that are in custody? I thought we made the arrest and the sheriff "took custody"???? I was on the POA Board of Directors when Sheriff Michael Hennessey asked for

our support of his multi-million dollar "jail facility" and he assured us, at that time, many years ago, that once his unit was completed we would no longer have to babysit prisoners for minor ailments. I'd sure be upset about my officers being away from their beats performing an administrative task that is the responsibility of another agency if I was a Police Commissioner . . .

Sergeant Pablo Ossio and Sergeant Tim Oberzeir were monitoring the UPS strike (By the way, another major event that was expertly handled by the members of our Department that the local news forgot to mention) when a call came over of a robbery-in-progress, possibly hostages being held at gunpoint, at the Teddy Bear Factory on DeHaro Street. Pablo and Tim were relatively close so they responded and pulled up as the two robbery suspects, guns in hand, were running from the business. Pablo drew down on one of the armed robbers who decided it was probably better to be prone out on the sidewalk than on a gurney. The other armed suspect pointed his gun at Tim, but Tim couldn't get a clear shot with so many citizen-shoppers in the area (I've seen Tim qualify — this robbery suspect had an extremely luck day . . .). Tim's quarry jumped headfirst through the open window of a waiting car and the chase was on. The chase ended up at San Francisco General Hospital where the suspects bailed out and just managed to escape . . . for now. And yes, this was a robbery take-over in the middle of the day.

Should be a Unit Citation issued for the outstanding work of the members of both Ingleside Station as well as Mission Station when they took a deranged killer into custody. **Officer Craig Wilson, Officer Eric O'Neal, Officer Michael Rivera and Officer Angelina Sanchez** responded to the 600 block of Campbell Street late one night to check on the well-being of the occupants after a neighbor expressed concern. The officers made entry and followed a blood-soaked trail which lead them to three victims: two women shot and stabbed and a 1-year old child shot through the chest. Even some of the most senior Homicide Investigators were shaken by the viciousness of the attack, especially with the death of the child. But the initial officers did an outstanding investigation and the suspect's car was located at San Francisco General Hospital. Mission Station personnel did a complete lockdown of the facility and located the suspect who had obtained medical treatment for a cut hand and was about ready to be released. **And why wasn't a great investigative effort like this covered by our local media??**

Speaking of Ingleside Station, **Sergeant Robert DelTorre, Officer Michael Androvich, Officer Moses Gala, and Officer Eric Leal** got tired of the continuous drug-dealing that was taking place at the children's playground area on Kelloch Street so they developed a plan of action. As the officers approached a group dealing dangerous drugs, one of the suspects ran. The officers gave chase and the suspect turned and leveled a fully-loaded, 9mm semi-automatic handgun at the uniforms. Sergeant

DelTorre fired 3 rounds at the suspect, striking him in the hand, at which time he dropped his weapon but again tried to escape. The officers finally caught up with him and were met by an angry crowd who tried to pull the suspect from the officers. Obviously no one in the crowd had a small child who wanted to use the children's playground area for what it was intended . . .

Sergeant Robert DelTorre, Officer Moses Gala, Officer Steve Ford, and Officer Reynaldo Serrano, responded to the area of Mission and Cortland where a man was robbed at gunpoint. The officers managed to locate an individual who matched the robbery suspect's description and, as they approached him he turned his back to them but then suddenly spun around facing the officers with his hand on his fully-loaded, .45 caliber revolver. The officers tackled the armed suspect who put up a tremendous fight all the while holding his gun. Suspect and gun in custody

I always get beat up by my "audience" because I feature so many stories about Mission Station capers (Hey, I work there so it's easy to get the info). But lately, I've been sent copies of outstanding work from many of the other district station commanding officers and that's great because when you're on Patrol you're taking all the chances and, as such, you deserve the recognition. If you sent me a copy of a great arrest/incident and it's not in this column, it will be in the next.

Sergeant Robert DelTorre and Officer Jason Jefferson (Captain Rick Bruce, Ingleside Station, does a great job of recognizing outstanding police work) responded to the 200 block of Crescent Avenue where they were met by a hysterical woman who told the officers that her husband was inside their residence and that he was acting strange. The officers entered the living room area and found the husband calmly sitting on the couch and, when he saw the uniforms enter the residence he just as calmly reached over and pulled a loaded .44 caliber revolver from a hidden location. The man then pointed the weapon at his mother ignoring the repeated requests of Sergeant DelTorre and Officer Jefferson to relinquish his control of his weapon. Sergeant DelTorre finally maneuvered his way close to the armed man where he had the opportunity to lunge and disarm the very confused but extremely dangerous subject.

Officer Russ Gordon and Officer Brian Devlin (Yeah, they're from The Mission, but these two guys could fit in anywhere) captured an ex-felon in possession of a gun (.380 Browning semi-automatic). The report was only a 3-pager, the other 37 pages attached were all part of the suspect's arrest record!! This guy had one of everything: stolen cars, drug abuse/use/sales, robbery, domestic violence, conspiracy, and aggravated assault.

The really scary thing is that members of our Department are taking more guns off the streets of our City every day. You get one, send me a copy of the report, please.