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 Willie Louis Brown gets Shakespearean
 His Mandate To SFPD:
 Get Thee To Milwaukee
 See story on page 11

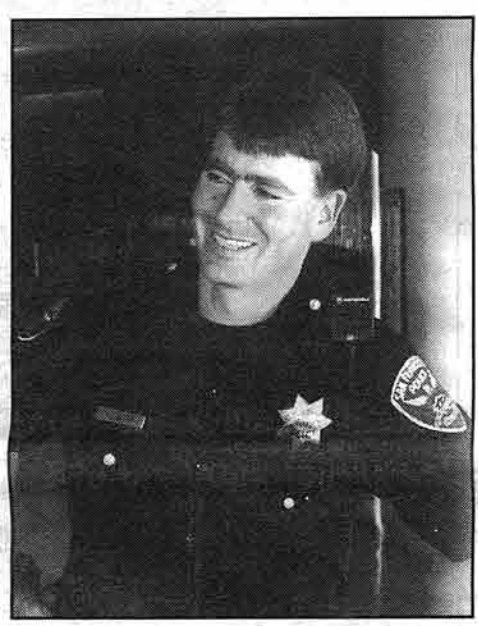
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POA NOTEBOOK

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

VOLUME 29 SAN FRANCISCO, NOVEMBER 1997 NUMBER 11

Mike Keane: SFPOA Officer Of The Month



By John Scully Airport Bureau

On October 21, 1997 Officer Mike Keane was presented a plaque honoring him as the San Francisco Police Officers' Association's Officer of the Month. Among those in attendance at the POA office for the ceremony were Commander Gary Pisciotto and Captain Jim Lynch of the Airport Bureau.

Mike is well liked by the officers he works with. He goes about his duties in a quiet way never complaining about his assignments and is always the first to arrive at a call or to help another officer out. Mike is also involved in teaching first aid and CPR and was a field training officer. Mike will be taking part in the police department's peer counseling program.

When Mike is not working, he is actively involved in sports, playing on the Airport Bureau's basketball team, and has done volunteer work for the Polly Klaus Foundation.

Mike grew up in the city's Mission District and graduated from Sacred Heart High School. Mike has been a police officer at SFO for seven years. Prior to that he was a deputy sheriff in the San Francisco Sheriff's Department for three years.

Mike is married and is the proud Father of a daughter, Erika, six years old and a son, William, two years old.

On behalf of the San Francisco Police Department's Airport Bureau officers, airport Rep Jim Millett and I congratulate Mike Keane for being selected Officer of the Month.



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 our new
 web site:
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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 Pres. Kurpinsky at 2:03 P.M., Wednesday October 15, 1997 in Conference Room, Ingleside.

Roll Call of Officers: All present with members Ray Crosat, Layton Duffy and James Sturken.

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

Reinstatements: Three members reinstated by Trustees after payment of Dues and Penalty.

Communications: Following donations received and acknowledged by Secretary: Police Commissioners Sidney Chan and Edward Petrillo are donating their monthly salaries. Treasurer Parenti presented the regular bills — Benefits, salaries, taxes, accounting — Approved. Treas. Parenti reported the following deaths: Thomas M. Childs — Born in San Francisco in 1927, Tom was still in College when he became a member of the Department in 1949, age 22. From the Academy to Ingleside for 3 years, then to Central for 12 years. He was appointed a Sergeant in 1965, assigned to Ingleside. Tom stayed there for a year, returned to Central for 5 years. His last assignment was Richmond where he remained until his retirement for Service in 1977, at age 50. Tom received the following awards — 1959-C/C for arrest of 2 armed suspects attempting the holdup of a restaurant; 1965 — assisting in the arrest of 12 pickpocket suspects from Columbia, South America; 1967 — 3rd Grade for pursuing and disarming a man who had fired 7 shots, wounding 2 people. Tom was 70 at the time of his death.

Peter F. Christensen — Born in San Francisco in 1934, he was working as a Bill Poster before he became an S.F. Police Officer in 1960, age 25. Assigned to Potrero after the Academy, Pete was there for 2 years, then 2 years at Richmond, 3 years at Central. Pete was then detailed to

Central Warrant Bureau staying there until he retired on Disability in 1986, at age 52. He was appointed a Sergeant in 1974. Pete was awarded a C/C in 1960 for the arrest of 6 suspects on suspicion of strong arm robberies. Pete was a young 63 when he passed away.

Report of Trustees: Mr. Bricker and Mr. Joe from B of A. Mr. Bricker — Economy Growth 2.5% and Inflation 2.5% are remaining constant. Expects Growth in 1998 to be streaky, while Interest Rates should remain stable (2.6-2.8) Market is trading at 21.3 time earnings 1998 should be about 20 times earnings. Any inflation would likely come from some decrease in labor market, or a catastrophe. Portfolio — compares well with Standard & Poors. Bond Maturity at 3 years. No necessity to go out further, little difference in return.

Unfinished Business: Letter to New Members of Department from Airport Police was approved by Trustees. States age limitation. Letter from Physician as to Health and requesting all sign as Cash Members.

New Business: Treas. Parenti reported that Accountant would like the Widows and Orphans to handle the collection of monies from Cash Account. We would mail and get returned checks. Will have to Notify Mr. Joe (B of A) if we intend to do so.

Good of the Association: Pros. Kurpinsky set next regular meeting for 2:00 P.M. Wednesday November 19, 1997 in Conference Room, Ingleside Station.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the membership, the meeting as adjourned at 2:45 P.M. in memory of above departed Brothers.

Fraternally,

Bob Mc Kee, Secretary

Notice to Cash Members: 1998 Dues notices will be sent out at the end of November.

Please: Remit your \$36.00 Dues A.S.A.P. and avoid any late penalties.

SFPOA Halloween Party

By Chris Cunnie, SFPOA President

The SFPOA Halloween Party, held on Saturday, 10/26/97, was a tremendous success all because of the assistance of:

Pat Barsetti - Chair, SFPD Wives' Association

Eileen McEachern

Dayna McEachern

Sue Smith

Sally DeHaven

Dave and Cathy Oberhoffer

Gavin McEachern

Jennifer Forrester

and especially, **Ryan McEachern.**

Since the watches off for all of our members were cancelled, as usual because of the tremendous need of police services on Halloween, these are

the people

we owe a

special

thanks to

who made

it possible

for our

members

to preview

their

children's

Halloween

costumes

in a party

atmosphere.

Jennifer

Forrester

was one of

the biggest

hits

of the day

Cathy Oberhoffer, Dayna McEachern, Ryan McEachern, Pat Barsetti, Jennifer Forrester, Eileen McEachern and Gavin McEachern

with her face painting and Eileen and Dayna were up till midnight the

night before getting the Haunted House ready (no doubt, the best

attraction) and Ryan McEachern's role as "The Body" will be legendary,

at least, we hope, till next year.



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.

San Francisco Veteran Police Officers' Assn.

"Keep in touch"

On the second Tuesday of every month, you can visit and have lunch with your police friends at the ICA Hall, 3255 Folsom St. Parking is good. Annual dues of \$15 includes a monthly Bulletin.

Attend to join or write to Box 22046, SF 94122, or call the Secretary at (415) 731-4765.



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Members or readers submitting letters or articles to the editor are requested to observe these simple rules:
• 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.
• The editor reserves the right to add editor's notes to any article submitted, if necessary.
• Articles should be typed, double-spaced.

Around The Department

By Al Casciato



...Crop a Cop Squad:

The SF Bay Area Combined Charities Campaign is in full swing. There are many deserving charities on the lists that have been distributed to all the departments. If you are confused and don't know which one to chose. **Rene LaPrevotte**, Co. K/Solos, **Bert Siebert**, and **Phil Fee**, Co. F/Park Station, (The Crop a Cop Squad) have a suggested Charity: **Wish Upon A Star Foundation** 1-800-821-6805 PO Box 4000, Visalia, Ca. 93278. Just fill in the foundation's information in the "Other" section of the payroll form, your donation will be greatly appreciated, and the squad will make sure it goes to good use...

...New Book:

Retired Captain **Tom Dempsey** has authored a book *Real Police Stories: No Names*. I received a preview recently and can assure you that you'll find the stories very humorous. The best part will be identifying the officers involved. Tom gives just enough clues. Prepare to compare notes and make some identifications...

...Horse Tales:

The Mounted Unit has been practicing some new exercises. Officer **Jeannie McVeigh** will be happy to share the tale of how she learned to pick up a plastic bag full of aluminum cans and immediately execute a perfect 4 point landing. No permanent damage (fortunately)...

...Births:

The **Lazars**, **Sgt. David**, Co. H and **Officer Julie**, Backgrounds welcomed their second child on August 14, 1997 at 1827 hours. **Nicholas David**, 8 lbs. 3 oz. 20 1/4 inches joined big sister, **Adrianna**, 2 years as their parent's pride and joys. Especially proud is grandmother **Donna Cimino**, Communications.

General Work Inspector **Dominic Celaya** and wife **Tai** welcomed their

second child on September 20, 1997 at 0707 hours. **Kersey Nicole** 7 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.

Housing Lt. **Tony Fotinos** and wife **Irene** welcomed their second child, on September 25, 1997 at 0500 hours, **Alexandra Barbara** 8 lbs. 4 oz. 21 3/4 inches is being cared for by big sister **Katherine**, 7 years. Proud Grandpa, Retired Inspector, **John Fotinos** is plotting ways to spoil both his princesses.

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

...Cab Driver Problems:

Ever get really frustrated with a taxi cab driver who does things that lack common sense and you just don't have the opportunity to issue a citation because passengers will be inconvenienced or you are on a run. Here is a tip: All you have to do is record the driver's name and cab company, tell the driver that you are ordering him/her to Taxi School 0900 Thursday in the 6th floor auditorium of the hall; when you return to the station send a note to Officer **Paul Makaveckas**, (Permits), detail all the particulars and describe the action of the driver that you want corrected... Taxi School is held every Thursday except holidays. As one driver told me "I'd rather have a ticket than have to go to class.." Taxi school evokes more fear than a citation because it's mandatory, not appealable, and lasts about 8 hours...

...Condolences:

Our hearts go out to the **Tim Mayer's** family, Hondas, for the loss of Charlie at age 13 years in a tragic accident. Retired Sgt. **Al Johnson** and **Marita Spes**, Investigations on the loss of wife and mother, Diane, who for many years battled MS. We send our prayers and share your grief...

...Press Quotes:

Quotes from reporters speaking off the record. "Never let the truth stand in the way of a good story..." "...if it bleeds it leads..." "...good guy stories don't sell advertisements..." "...check only the facts that you like..." and "leaving messages on Hall of Justice answering machines always creates stories...I equate it to flushing quail..."

...Citation Tip:

If you are on the street and not sure of the correct section to cite someone who has ignored a posted sign or signal, use 21461A CVC - traffic control devices: This section is the catch all for any device...

...Web Page:

The P.O.A now has a web page (www.sfpoa.org) if you have any suggestions on what should be included on the page please contact **Ray Shine** at the Association office. We are currently in the process of preparing a retirement section. Visit us soon and bookmark the page...

...Congrats:

Congratulations to **Steve Glover**, (son of Lt. **Roddy Glover**, Taraval Station) who graduated from the Oakland Police Academy October 23, 1997. The family is very proud of

Steve and looks forward to him having many enjoyable and rewarding years in police work.

Tom Flippin, Co F, and his wife **Anna**, are feeling extra proud of their 17-year-old daughter, **Christina**, these days. Christina, a senior at Half Moon Bay High School, has just been selected as this year's Homecoming Queen. Besides being beautiful, she is maintaining honor roll status in all her advanced placement (college level) classes. Christina also will be competing this year for the SFPOA scholarship.

Have a happy Thanksgiving our best wishes to all of you and your families...

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



SFPOA HOLIDAY BLOOD DRIVE

Lunch generously provided by the S.F.P.O.A.

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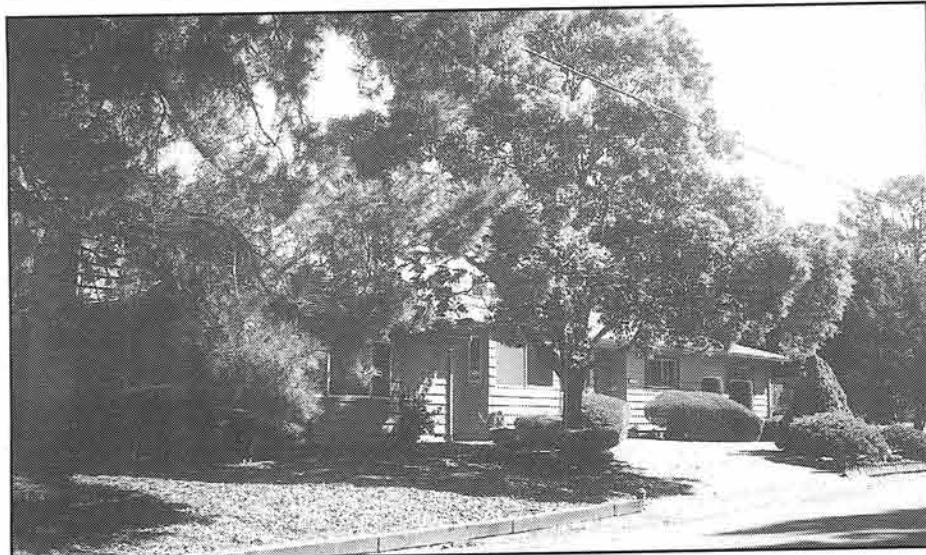
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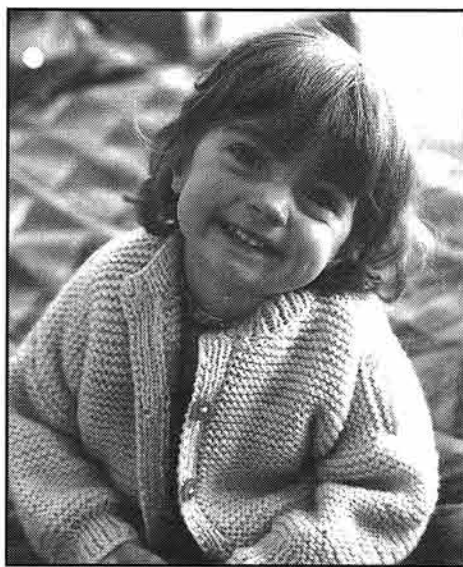
Ever Heard of J.R.A.??

Officer Ronan F. Shouldice
Crime Scene Investigations

Until last December I know I hadn't. Now it is a large part of every day for Myriam and myself. Our daughter Lily will be two and a half years old by the time of this printing and has been unable to walk any distance without pain since Christmas. She is on a regimen of oral and injected medicines to ease her pain and is brought to four physical therapy sessions weekly. She has been receiving nutrition through a nasal feeding tube for eight weeks and will most likely need to suffer this intrusive feeding method for some time as she has little appetite due to the almost constant pain she endures. Lily was diagnosed with Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis (JRA) at the start of 1997 and I don't think the shock of it has left us yet. About one in twelve hundred children are afflicted with this chronic disease, the cause of which is still unknown.

I have no wish to use this medium to exploit Lily's plight in particular. Her prognosis is for possible eventual recovery but she will be subject to 'flare-ups' for the rest of her life. Like most of us I always thought that arthritic conditions were synonymous with older people, certainly older than twenty months, which was the onset of Lily's problems. Sadly, this is far from true, and while Lily's condition is chronic (affecting her knees, ankles, left wrist, left hip and a few toes) there are a great many young children who have far more degenerative versions of this insidious disease. We were exposed to this during a two week stay at UCSF recently, and the sight of that kind of suffering and the limitations it places upon these kids is heart-breaking.

The team of pediatric doctors, physical and occupational therapists, dietitians, social workers and, of course, nurses who comprise the aggressive multidisciplinary ap-



Lily Shouldice

Research is ongoing into the roots of this disease that deprives children of childhood, but the breakthrough answers are still elusive.

proach to care of this disease are second to none. Research is ongoing into the roots of this disease that deprives children of childhood, but the breakthrough answers are still elusive. Money for this research, as well as for the demands for outpatient therapy, monitoring, education, and equipment is constantly an issue and it is toward this end that I am moved to put this appeal to the members of this Department. Those of you who know me realize that I am not one to lightly ask for anything, and among the great many deserving causes out there I believe that this is one of the least known about.

Four medical staff from UCSF will be participating in a marathon in December which is a fund-raising event for the Arthritis Foundation. It also serves as an awareness-builder for people such as I who had never previously considered the possibility of such a disease crippling the young. Any donation of sponsorship (tax-deductible) made out to the "Arthritis Foundation" would be greatly appreciated and that amount, regardless of what it is, will go further than you can imagine in the hands of these very dedicated people. You can contact me at 553-1506 with any questions and send any donations to me at Crime Scene Investigations for forwarding to the foundation. Any skeptics are encouraged to call Colleen Fedick of the Arthritis Foundation for verification at (510) 743-0816. We all get hit up a lot at this time of year but if you would participate in this to the tune of \$10 or \$20 or whatever feels good I would be personally touched and proud of our SFPD for doing something for the kids. The Pediatric Staff at UCSF join me in advance in thanking you all for your help.

VISIT MALTA DURING EASTER WITH FRANK FALZON (April 7-17th, 1998)

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

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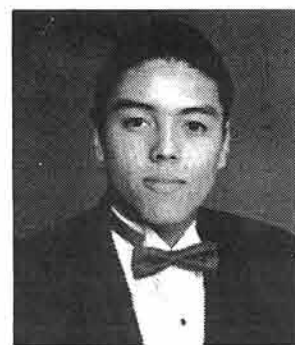
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San Francisco City and County Combined Charities Campaign

Combine Our Charity for the Kids Campaign is Station & Unit Effort

The Police Youth Fishing Program is approaching its 30th year anniversary and during that time has served more than 80,000 local youngsters. The program provides a salmon and trout fishing adventure which is taught by a police officer. Today we have numerous members of the local law enforcement community whose first exposure to police officers came as a young participant in the Fishing Program. The Fishing Program exists solely through private donations. To that end we would like to ask each member to consider donating a dol-

lar or two per pay period to the Fishing Program through Local Independent Charities. 100% of all donations goes directly to program operations and is tax deductible. Last year the proceeds from the combined charities campaign covered a third of our expenses. Our thanks to our supporters. Please renew your pledges this year and "reel in new catches for our kids". Look for more information about the combined charities campaign in an upcoming department bulletin.

By Captain John Ehrlich,
Support Services

The 1997 City and County Combined Charities Campaign will run until the beginning of December. Last year the Police Department distinguished itself by increasing the number of contributors and the amount contributed.

The Combined Charities Campaign means that you are solicited once a year for charitable contributions. The participating federations are the following: Combined Health Appeal, The United Way of the Bay Area, Bay Area Black

While it is easy to bemoan our fate, we have jobs and live in one of the best places in the world. There are people who through no fault of their own need help.

ties that support cases to which we do not agree. For each one of those there are many charities doing things that make our lives better. It is part of my religion and every other faith that I know of to contribute to charity. While it is easy to bemoan our fate, we have jobs and live in one of the best places in the world. There

are people who through no fault of their own need help. All of us have been helped at one time or another. This campaign is an easy way for us to help others.

There are several benefits to contributing through this campaign. First is the ease of payroll deduction. You

will hardly notice the five or ten dollars a pay period and it adds up over the year. The second benefit is the tax deduction. Once when I was audited by the IRS they wanted to know about the charitable deduction. I showed them the last paycheck stub for the year and that was the end of it. The third benefit is the amount of time it takes. I used to spend a lot of time writing checks to the various organizations to which I contribute. Now all it takes is a few minutes of time filling out one form. The last major benefit is that it does not put me on any new mailing lists.

We will be asking you for contributions this month. I ask all of you to find at least one charity you can support and contribute generously to it.

Yes Virginia, There Are People Worse-Off Than You!

By Rene LaPrevotte, Solos

Next month, the city is going to hit-up all City Employees to make a small donation to the Bay Area Combined Charities. I'd like to make a pitch for you to pledge a dollar or two a pay period to **California Law Enforcement's Wish Upon A Star Program.**

Wish Upon A Star is a non-profit, law enforcement effort designed to grant the wishes of children who suffer from terminal illnesses. Since its inception in March 1982, the program has granted wishes for over 1000 children. When we grant the wish of such a child, many things happen. The happiness these children experience can be so profound as to actually transcend the illness, allowing them a physical improvement that is often substantiated by medical tests.

While such an improvement is temporary, it does demonstrate that the human spirit, given a chance, can soar. As for the parents of these children, people who have been under great emotional and financial

...The happiness these children experience can be so profound as to actually transcend the illness...

stress, the opportunity to join with their child in enjoying the happiness of these moments is a priceless gift in itself. For many parents these moments become comforting memories.

Wish Upon A Star operates in a quiet manner, without fanfare or publicity. We feel these children have been through a great deal in their fight for survival and that the severity of their prognosis is a very private and sensitive matter. We also feel that "hope" is a necessary aspect of any life, regardless of expected duration. After all, every once in a while

the miraculous does happen. Because we do not want to jeopardize whatever climate of hope each child and family may cling to, we do not permit any intrusion which could be exploitative or damaging to the child. For that reason, media coverage of our wishes is not permitted.

Wish Upon A Star is funded strictly through donations and sometimes there is simply not enough money to allow us to grant all the wish requests we receive. When those situations arise, it becomes necessary to put children on a waiting list. Based on information we receive from medical staff we do our best to prioritize children, hopefully allowing those children with the least amount of time to have first access to our resources. Sometimes our best guesses are wrong. With your help such sad circumstances could be eliminated.

Our assistance is available to children in the state of California. Children are referred to our program by medical staff working in the major Children's and University hospitals. A statewide network of law enforcement personnel and community volunteers allows our program to operate quickly, regardless of a child's location or circumstance. It also allows us to work efficiently, with one central office and a bare minimum of paid staff. Our ability to grant wishes is only limited by the amount of contributions we receive each year.

Please consider contributing to *Wish Upon A Star*. Your help will have a significant impact on these deserving children and their families.

There are three charities run by members of the police department; *Wish on A Star*, *Operation Dream*, and *The San Francisco Police Fishing Program*.

It's easy to get cynical doing police work. These charities have many wonderful people donating their time and efforts trying to fill needs not being met. We can all point to chari-

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Retired Members Column

by Mike Sugrue



Pre-Retirement Seminar

Retirement gives us freedom. No worry about what the bosses think. Who cares about what you do? The neighbors, your kids, your relatives, your friends? They are interested in, and concerned about your well-being, but they don't have a dominant influence on your behavior in the same manner as the department, your boss, and your boss' boss.

With retirement we're free, within certain limits. I'm not suggesting you go hog-wild. Just apply some good old common sense, but don't feel you have to act your age.

Just take a moment to think back: Was there something you dreamed about doing, but couldn't afford? As a young adult and on into middle life, was there something you wanted to

do but never had the time for? Now, in later life, retirement time, you probably have some money to work with and you have the time. Why not go after your dream?

What is a dream? A motorcycle... an RV ... see the USA ... world travel ... learning to fly... buy a horse... a new convertible... learn a skill... earn a degree... be a helping hand to others? Is there some hidden adventure in your soul, waiting to be released?

You are different, your dreams are different. No one can tell you what's right for you. What others have done can help you evaluate alternatives. You can visit localities, observe other lifestyles, and study the myriad of opportunities.

Retirement is a new beginning. What's needed is a plan, your unique plan to fit the unique You.

Cyber News

By Glen Silverster

Now that we all have become familiar with E-mail, time to dive into the INTERNET and some of its intricacies. The "WEB" is another part of the Internet. A conglomeration of computers hooked up to each other with no geographical boundaries which is similar to a spider's web that just grows and expands. With that, keep this saying in mind that I recently heard at a seminar, "there is no law, west of the modem." How true it is, but we have to start with the basics before you understand the true meaning in a law enforcement perspective.

"there is no law, west of the modem."

You have seen those URL's (Uniform Resource Locators) or website addresses, on the television, newspapers, business cards and etc...? These are like your e-mail addresses, they are unique and only one exists. They take the form like this: "http://www.address.com". Let's break this down. In order to communicate effectively between two computers, both must agree on a protocol. If you were able to connect to your ISP, you have already negotiated a protocol. On the WEB, it is most common to use "http" which is "hypertext transport protocol". WWW stands for World Wide Web, ADDRESS=location/computer, COM=commercial. This is what makes up the URL or Website address. They can and will always take different forms, but is generally preceded with HTTP. If you ever see or use FTP, this means File Transport Protocol and in most cases, you are in the process of transferring or receiving a file.

It takes time to develop and write script(s) that compose a webpage. This script is written in a form called HTML (Hyper Text Markup Language) which offers unique capabilities which I won't elaborate on at this time. A person who writes, maintains the script with changes, and posts it to an ISP for others to access and/or view is called a "WEBMASTER". SFPD has a website which is maintained by ISD. With this you are probably wondering about the POA.



Editor Ray Shine, Dan Linehan, Chris Cunnie and others have constantly asked about a website for the POA. At this time, Sgt. Tom Feledy (Fraud) has accepted the challenge of developing a website for the POA. This indeed is a real challenge and I want to wish WEBMASTER Feledy the best of luck. Can you guess the URL for the site.....? How about "http://www.sfpoa.org." Look for it, coming soon.

Back to.....

PRSMobile training is going full strength at the Police Academy. There has been a tremendous and overwhelming response to receive the training. MIS has worked hard to get the new computers out to the stations ahead of schedule and as such, members have been attending the training ahead of their scheduled time. I have had the pleasure to impart this training to some members and while at the same time, I have learned additional aspects of this program from the members by the questions posed. Gee, Nick Shihadeh does do real police work. Thanks for the questions. Have you written a report yet Nick, with the new system? Remember those important keys, ALT-W and ALT-F. For more information, contact Sgt. Sharon Ferrigno at the Police Academy at 695-6905.

OK, what about the laptops? I have asked this before when we converted over to the new Berettas. Will the Department or Vendor allow members to "piggyback" onto the order when acquiring the new laptops? I am sure the vendor would be happy to get additional sales and perhaps a greater discount would be applied. A win-win situation if you ask me. The Department gets their laptops, and members wanting to become more computer literate can get theirs as well. Contact Sgt. John Bisordi at the Grants Unit @ x1120 and let him know if you are interested. No guarantee, but someone has to take the ball and run with it. Until next month, Happy computing!!!

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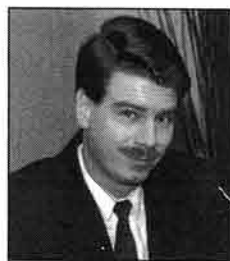
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Illo Goes Home to Stay

Pack of Supporters Rush to Illo's Rescue

By Sergeant Carri Lucas,
Mission Station

I have always believed that police officers, their families, and supporters are the most generous people on the planet. I have seen police officers come forth to help sick and abused children, members of their departments who were suffering from catastrophic illnesses, and lonely elderly people. They are always giving of

the "10-25" (call for back-up) for Illo was put out. The response was tremendous! Within less than two weeks \$4,000 was raised. Just a small notice in our POA newspaper brought donations from retired officers and members of the public. Two San Francisco residents who contributed sent along a card with a note starting with the greeting, "Dear friends". Retired SFPD member D.J. Cole of Lucerne, California closed his letter by saying

work, whether it be sniffing out burglars in a dark building and getting to take the occasional bite if necessary, or locating hidden contraband for our Narcotics Unit officers. As of yet he does not understand why he is not still going out on patrol with Brian when he leaves for work. Hopefully, in time he will grow to be content with his new job of protecting the Delahanty children, Meaghan, Molly, and Connor and just taking a well-deserved rest.

All the money raised to assist Illo was placed in the already established "Sentry" Fund at the SF Police Credit Union. (Sentry was an SFPD K-9 member who was killed in the line of duty.) What is left over after paying for Illo's operation can be used to purchase new police dogs.

In closing I would like to acknowledge, by singling them out, the people who went way beyond the call of duty in assisting Illo. Thank you and a loud Czechoslovakian Shepherd "woof" to Jack Smoot, Kevin Jones, Jim Balovich, Dorothy Shurtleff, Deborah Braden, Dennis Meixner, John Currie, Maryanne Lowman, Al Trigueiro, Joe Zamagni, Donna Butler, John Scully (Airport), Judy Riggie, Dwayne Tully, assistant D.A. Carol Lankford-Gross, the entire San Rafael Police Officers' Association, the Delahanty Family, Captain Greg Suhr and Lieutenants Ottone, Cashman and Harp of Mission Station, and finally, Jill Brophy, whose Bayview Station officers donated the

Illo loved to work, whether it be sniffing out burglars in a dark building...or locating hidden contraband for our Narcotics Unit officers.

their time and their money to one good cause and another. In most instances this occurs quietly with no fanfare. Consequently, I was not surprised when my fellow SFPD officers showed tremendous generosity in coming to the aid of one of our own canine members that needed assistance.

In September it came to the attention of myself and other members of Mission Station that police K-9 member, Illo, was going to have to be retired due to a problem with one of his legs that could not be healed with routine veterinary care. He was going to need an operation by an orthopedic specialist and a home would have to be found for him quickly, since his replacement's arrival was imminent. It is my understanding that our retiring police dogs are usually adopted out pretty easily, but Illo's uncertain health picture presented a problem and there are no funds earmarked by our Department to cover this eventuality. This is when

that he was glad that he was once one of "San Francisco's finest". We even got a contribution from a lady in Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania. (I know the POA Notebook has a wide readership, but this amazed even me.) And the vice-president of the San Rafael Police Officers' Association, Jim Kelley, called to say that his POA had voted to donate \$1,000 if we fell short of money for medical expenses!

So Illo went off to the University of California at Davis Veterinary Hospital for his operation. There they took bone tissue from his right shoulder to replace what they discovered to be infected tissue in his right rear leg. His staples from the operation are out now and he will return to UC Davis shortly for his final post-op exam. He has been recovering nicely in his retirement home with his former partner, Officer Brian Delahanty, and family. Brian tells me that retirement has been an adjustment for him, as it will be for many of us. Illo loved to



Meaghan, Molly and Connor Delahanty at UC Davis picking up Illo after his successful operation. A happy surgeon looks on (far left).



Delahanty and neighborhood children playing with Illo.

largest amount of any unit in the SFPD. Thank you also to the citizens of San Francisco who helped out and a special thanks to Christine Bill, wife of deceased SFPD Officer Phil Bill, who made a generous donation in his memory.

With all due respect to the U.S. Navy all who took part in this effort are the real "Blue Angels."

(See letter to membership by Brian Delahanty on page 21)

Mount Hermon's 22nd Annual Law Enforcement Conference

The conference will be held February 10-12, 1998, at Mount Hermon Christian Conference Center. San Diego Police Chaplain and Pastor Mike Macintosh is the keynote speaker in this special mid-week conference during Valentine's week in February. Terry Bates and Dave Talbott will lead the music for the conference. Captain Jack Gleeson, of the San Francisco Police Depart-

ment, and his wife Betsy are members of the Steering Committee for this conference. They can testify that this yearly conference is a great get away for officers and their spouses for relaxation, communication, worship, and spiritual growth. Call the conference center for toll-free registration: 1-888-MH-CAMPS, the cost is modest and the experience enjoyable.



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The Gift

By Daniel Hampton

Have you come to a place in your thinking where you know you have eternal life? Will you go to heaven or not? Suppose you died today and you were standing before God Almighty and He asked you, "Why should I let you in heaven?" What would you tell Him?

Many people answer this question with, "I'd tell Him that I haven't been that bad", or "I've done certain good things to get in", or "I belong to a certain denomination".

Can you identify with some of these answers? I've got some good news to tell you if you'll accept it. Getting into heaven is a free gift. The Bible says, The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ Our Lord". It's so simple if you will hear. You can't earn or deserve your way into heaven, you have to accept it as a gift.

Many of you will say, "No way, you have to work and earn it." We are so work oriented and believe nothing is for free. But the Bible says, There is a way that seems right to a person but the end thereof is the way of death."

In other words, you're dead wrong if you think this way. And if you think you've done some pretty decent things towards others and attend church the Bible says, Our own righteousness is as filthy rags."

Yes, all of us have hidden motives for doing things and all of us are born sinners because of 'original sin' caused by our first parents in the Garden of Eden. The Bible says, "For all have sinned and come short of the Glory of God." Our sin has separated us from God Almighty. It has caused a rift or chasm between us and God. We are on one side of the Grand Canyon and God is on the other side.

Our sin must be dealt with before we can be in right relationship with God. The Bible says, "The soul who sins shall surely die", and "He who sins shall die in his own iniquity."

What a fix we're in. We all sin and our sin has separated us from God. God has solved this dilemma by coming down to earth in human form in the person of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ experienced life as we know of it, and yet, without ever sinning. His deity is played out every Christmas Season.

He was born of the Virgin Mary (proving His humanity), and this Virgin Mary was impregnated by the Holy Spirit as told in the Gospel of Luke (proving His deity). The Bible

proves His sinlessness by saying, "He did no sin, neither was deceit was found in His mouth." This Jesus Christ who was both man and God, Who never sinned or lied, said He was the Son of God. He told His disciples that He would be hung on a cross, His blood would be shed, and His life taken for the sins of many. In fact, John the Baptist said in the Bible, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world."

All of our sins were laid on Jesus Christ at the cross. And after three days He would rise from the grave, proving He had the power over death and sin. And in another passage it says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever would believe in Him, shall not perish but have everlasting life." Do you want to receive this gift of eternal life and become a member of God's eternal family? This is the simple part, just say this prayer as I did on May 11, 1980. Dear Heavenly Father, I am a sinner and I receive Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. I believe in your Son Jesus Christ who died for my sins on that cruel

cross. I ask that you give me your Holy Spirit to dwell inside me so I become empowered and sin less and less each day. As time goes by, may my family and friends see Christ living in and through me.

Help me be a responsible member of the family of God. Amen.

Now that you said this prayer what happens next? God promises to make you into a new person. That new person is God in you, bonded with your soul and spirit. Read the Bible every day.

Start with the New Testament in the following order: Gospel of Luke, Gospel of John, Romans, Acts, Corinthians 1, Galatians, Ephesians, Gospel of Matthew, Colossians, Philippians, Gospel of Mark, Hebrews, James, Peter, etc., (read the New Testament several times during the course of one year).

If at all possible, read the Old Testament at least one time from the beginning to the end once each year. Find a church that believes that the Bible is the inspired word of God and follows the teachings and commands of Jesus Christ Our Lord.

Attend the Bible studies and classes that your church has on Sundays or weekdays. Make friends within your church and become involved in the ministries of your church that support youth groups. Give to the needs of your church, the poor, widows, and orphans.

Develop a close relationship with God through prayer and worship. Please tell me if you asked Jesus into your heart. I will send to you a pamphlet to help you on your journey. God Bless.

I've got some good news to tell you if you'll accept it. Getting into heaven is a free gift.



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It started with a suggestion.....

By Laurie Pisciotto
Family Day Picnic Committee

Last year Chief Lau suggested we have a S.F.P.D. Family Day Picnic at the Range. As a result, a crew of volunteers got together, called themselves the Family Day Picnic Committee, and proceeded to make plans. None of us expected the turnout of nearly 1,500 people that sunny day. However, our goal of bringing our police family together for a day of relaxation and fun was realized.

This year, we began to fine tune the picnic by making improvements and changes to the games, displays and food. Our efforts were rewarded by an attendance of 2,500 people on yet another beautiful Sunday.

The Family Day Picnic would not be possible without the support the

Picnic Committee has received from its volunteers as well as the generous donations provided by individuals, companies, organizations and sponsors of this event. Although we cannot name you all, we are grateful to each and everyone of you. In addition, we thank Chief Lau, the Command Staff and Commanding Officers for their support.

I personally want to acknowledge Sandi Bargioni, Pat Barsetti, Charlie Coates, Mickey Griffin, Rich Pate and Maryann Strange for once again offering their time, talent, and commitment to this event. You cannot be thanked enough.

The Picnic Committee is already working on plans for next year. We will need even more help for 1998. Be prepared, we will be calling on you!

Second Annual Family Day Picnic Is Another Success

By Rich Pate,
Family Day Picnic Committee

On Sunday, October 5th, the San Francisco Police Department held a 'Family Day' picnic at the Police Range. This year there were new attractions. There was a dunk tank where I think Captain Martel and Commander Santos were having more fun than the kids. There were several others who were in the tank - including Chief Lau. The kids loved it, but I didn't see too many police personnel throwing the ball at your favorite boss.

Sergeant Rick Schiff, provided farm animals and ponies. The children loved the pony rides and the petting zoo. Other attractions were Canine, Mounted, Solo's, Tac, EOD, Police museum, S.F.P.D. boat and helicopter as well as representation from other units. Officer William Murray provided music which everyone seemed to enjoy.

Charlie Coates and crew put on a fabulous feast. How about chicken, hamburgers, sausages, wild bore, salad bar, chips, beverages and even peanut butter and jelly. The kids could play an assortment of games, including a fast pitch booth provided by Lt. Don Carlson, jumping tent, and high/low striker. None of the children went home empty handed - there were prizes and goodie bags handed out. Everyone had a great time. I guess what I'm trying to say is, if you didn't make it this year, please come out next year. There were over two million people there. I mean two thousand (it seemed like two million). I am sure you will enjoy yourself.

On behalf of the Picnic Committee I want to thank all of you who attended and a special thank you to all of you who made contributions, donations, and those who helped out.

Blood Drive And More!!!

By Mark Hawthorne,
Chair, POA Blood Committee

On Monday, December 1, 1997, the SFPOA will host another blood drive at the POA building, 510 7th street, between 1100 and 2000 hours. You may be thinking, yeah O.K., another blood drive. First of all, it isn't just a blood drive, it's an event. Aside from the normal organized pandemonium that sometimes arises in the form of lunch, raffles every 1/2 hour, the opportunity for reunion with fellow officers, making new friends and influencing people, this drive will offer much more. Repre-

sentatives from the Police Department, Equitable Global Group, and the Marrow Foundation, recently met and agreed that the blood drive would be an excellent opportunity to solicit donors for the National Marrow Donor Program. There will be a representative from the Marrow Foundation at the blood drive to explain the program to you. Let us all take this opportunity to take the lead and become part of the National Marrow Donor Program. Mark your calendar for Monday, December 1, 1997, 1100-2000, at the POA. We look forward to seeing you there. And don't forget to tell a friend.

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Someone Call A Plumber!

By Steve Christie, Southern Station

Help! We have a leak in our promotional testing process...a **bad** leak. Thankfully our Chief had the courage to make an historic decision and cancel a promotional test when it was discovered that this test had been compromised. I am guessing that the new test includes a different set of scenarios in the same format as the leaked information. **We still have a big leak.** No one has talked much about how or where this critical test information has made it's way out of the Consent Decree or the think tank where the test was developed. The new Q-35 test answers will most probably still be given to some of the candidates...The only difference is that most of us won't hear about it because the only person currently on the hot seat is the poor guy who was willing to throw a wrench into the gears of his own career. The only person taking the heat is some-

one who blew the whistle on corruption and wrongfulness, someone who had nothing to lose or gain from the Inspector's test, someone who knows right from wrong and believes that a principle is not just the head of a school. I'll bet that anyone thinking about blowing the whistle on corruption in this Department will think twice before doing what they feel is right. Also, how can this Department give another test when they don't know where the breach lies? I guess it's O.K. to waste the taxpayers money on another test and give them nothing in return. Of course it is, this Department does it all the time. A thought that really makes me shiver is that this Department does know the source of the leak and doesn't care. Could all of the talk and bulletins about bringing the source of this leak to justice be lies? I sure don't have the inside information on these questions...but, **Someone call a plumber, we still have a leak!**



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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 has asked that this trip be increased to accommodate some of his many friends from the SFPD. To make it more special, he is planning his trip over Easter of 1998. We will need to know of your interest in joining Frank, no later than Nov. 1st, 1997. Malta gets pretty crowded during Easter.

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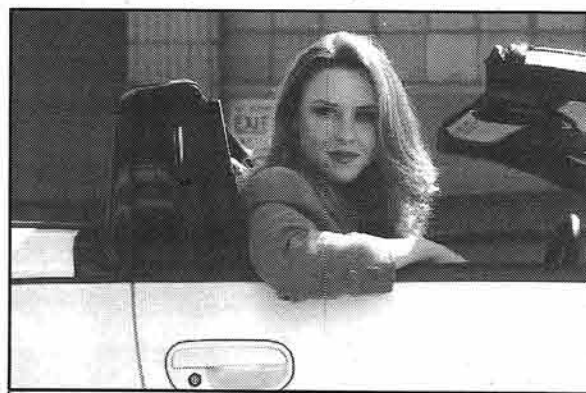
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Mayor To SFPD: Get Thee To Milwaukee

Mayor Puts SF Traffic Officers Back On Union-Built Motorcycles

Notebook Staff Report

In Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, Ophelia is advised to forego temptation and scorn, and told to "Get thee to a nunnery." So, too, did Mayor Willie Brown warn SFPD motorcycle purchasers. In order to stave off his displeasure, and the scorn of organized labor, His Honor put them on sudden notice: Hie, and get thee to Milwaukee.

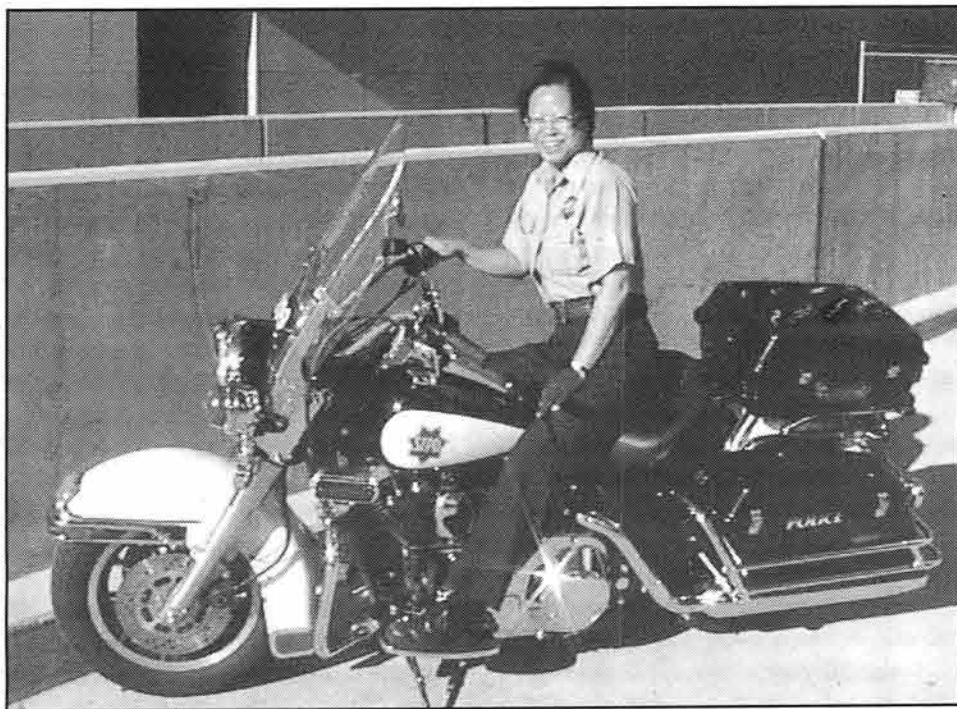
Acting on this direct order, the Police Department purchased 20 new Harley-Davidson Police Special motorcycles from the Wisconsin-based, domestic manufacturer. Intended as the first replacements for the aging Kawasaki fleet, the new black and white Road Kings are the first Traffic Company acquisition of American "iron" since 1976.

Mayor Brown may be the City's Supreme Easy Rider. Rumored to be a long-time aficionado of the big bikes, he gave the union-built Harley the nod last summer after he appeared chagrined to see his motorcycle parade-escort riding Kawasaki 1000's.

It so happens that the aforementioned detail was assigned to a pair of Traffic Company's least-bashful officers: Al McCann and Kevin Gotchet. They spent the remainder of that parade — and a good portion of several others — putting a Harley-Davidson sized bug in the Mayor's ear. So, a few months later, the shiny new bikes arrived at Dudley-Perkins for prep and delivery.

Even now it is not clear whether the City purchased these Harleys because of their classic look and superior engineering, or simply to get Al off of His Honor's back.

But to at least twenty of Co. K's 60 motorcycle cops none of that really matters. All they know is that the



Co. K clerk Ada Wong gives her approval to the new fleet of Harley-Davidson Police Special Road Kings. "If this wasn't a comfortable and safe motorcycle," she declared, "there's no way I'd let them be issued to any of my Solo's"

bikes are here and in service. And each came equipped with some impressive technology and rider accommodations: Like Air-adjustable, floating seats, shocks, and forks; super-clean belt drive; 5-speed tranny; strobes on all sides; an extra battery and built-in trickle charger; electronic ignition; fuel-injection; dual exhaust; and, of course, LOTS of chrome.

A significant factor in this return to Milwaukee is that Harley-Davidson is the *only* union-built motorcycle in the world. Every Harley that comes off the line is stamped with a union-made label. In many ways, the venerable Harley is a tribute to Yankee know-how, American labor, and union pride.

That's not to say that the new

Harley's don't have their detractors down at Co. K. One motor Sergeant, renowned for his personal collection of Japanese motorcycles and adherence to Pacific-Rim economics, will have no part of the new H-D's. It seems that if he can't run a bike out to strato-speeds, lean one over to 89° through every turn, and wrap his hand up in the rear chain sprocket while doing maintenance, then he's just not happy.

But for those officers who were issued the shiny new Hogs, going low and slow is a viable option. Tradition. Classic styling. Patriotic presence. These are the things that count to them, especially to the older, veteran traffic cops who feel like they are coming home after a long, twenty year stop-over in Japan.

POWCA Scholarship

1998 High School Graduates

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".

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Commission Flags Runaway Prosecutions

Damato Case Illustrates Need For Enforcement On The 'Discipline Expressway'

By Chris Cunnie, President

Stepping into a prominent place in the hectic intersection of POA Boulevard and the Discipline Expressway, the San Francisco Police Commission assumed traffic control duty at that busy junction. Following-up on a "Not Sustained" finding in an excessive force case, the Commission flashed a glaring yellow light at OCC hotrods.

The unsustained charge vindicated Officer Anthony Damato of Northern Station, but hasn't done much to fix his "car." It was two years ago that his smooth-running career vehicle was broadsided by a biased OCC investigator and a vindictive domestic violence arrestee who were carpooling down the expressway. That collision prompted a lengthy investigation, case review, and Commission hearing that culminated with the "not sustained" finding on October 29, 1997.

Officer Damato is only the latest victim of the unchecked, seldom-patrolled Expressway on which OCC investigators and MCD reviewers propel discipline cases toward their statistical toll booths. Almost always arriving without the necessary change, it is usually left to the trailing POA to pay the freight for the use of this public right-of-way.

Civilian Review Proves Its Viability

Those of us witnessing the exoneration of Tony Damato at that October Commission meeting also had the rare privilege of watching a much-touted philosophical ideal used effectively to resolve a real-life injustice.

The Commission finding was a tremendous personal victory for Tony and his family. But it was also a triumph for the spirit of civilian oversight of police discipline. The finding of the five-member panel exemplified the best of what civilian oversight can be: A community forum, free of politics and media persuasion, that seeks truth over preconceptions, fair-

...hapless officers...get tacked up on an OCC wall for an administrative game of Pin-the-Tail-on-the-Donkey.

ness over agendas, and honor over popular appeasement.

It was this civilian panel, led by Police Commission President Pat Norman, who realized that the investigators, reviewers, and OCC prosecutors had given improper weight to questionable evidence against Tony Damato and, by so doing, jeopardized his career and emotional well-being.

Passionately represented by former POA Staff Counsel Kathy Mahoney, and supported by a cadre of the Department's most honorable and respected officers, the defense of Tony Damato was based upon the glaring inaccuracies and inconsistencies in the prosecution's case.

It is to the credit of this Police Commission that justice carried the day and vindicated one of San Francisco's most dedicated and promising young officers.

It took the panel less than ten minutes of deliberation to arrive at a unanimous verdict of not sustained, and that following a long and protracted administrative hearing which produced over 500 pages of tran-

scripts and files.

OCC and Dunlap Put On Notice

It was apparent to those of us in the audience that the commissioners were not pleased with the collective decision to prosecute this case. Comments directed at those responsible were made on the record by President Pat Norman. She pointedly referred to the considerable time and resources that were spent in the investigation, preparation, and presentation of what was essentially a non-sustainable charge against Officer Damato. We can only hope that those persons to whom she directed her constructive criticism heard the message as clearly as those of us in the gallery; those of us who pay to defend hapless officers who get tacked up on an OCC wall for an administrative game of Pin-the-Tail-on-the-Donkey.

Now would be an appropriate time for department heads to overhaul their management policies in regards to the charging officers with misconduct. For her part, Ms. Dunlap should strive to produce the most objective investigations possible. To do this she will need experienced, unbiased investigators, reasonable and discretionary supervisors, and a de-emphasis on the Holy Bench Mark of the OCC: The Sustained Complaint Rate.

The persistent—even obsessive—drive to raise this statistical percentage only adulterates the mission of the OCC. And what is it that the sustained rate is actually supposed to quantify? Is it a gauge of the productivity of her work force, or is it really just a way to perpetuate her own position. Is it the quarterly servings of manna from the Sustained

Complaint Goddess that are fattening the OCC cash-cow?

Chief Lau has a different problem: He is ill-advised. He needs to identify someone within his administration on whom he can rely for a qualified recommendation in every discipline case. That person should be placed in charge of MCD, and he or she must possess a set of rare and special qualities, and hold impeccable credentials. It should be that person's task to filter out poor investigations passed along from OCC before they reach the desk of the Chief. It seems that process failed in the Damato case, as it has in others. A biased and flawed OCC investigation was passed along to MCD for review and recommendation. From there it was virtually rubber-stamped and passed off to the Chief, and eventually to the Police Commission.

Now, following a finding of "not sustained", we see that this was the very case which Pat Norman used to illustrate how NOT to handle a discipline issue.

The person in charge of MCD — the one who reviews these cases and makes recommendations to the Chief — should hold the rank of Lieutenant or higher, be both trained and experienced in investigative technique, and be respected for doing such work well. He or she needs to be someone who can give practical weight to testimony and evidence. And, most importantly, he or she must be trusted and respected as an approachable, reasonable and fair facilitator to the discipline process.

Under no circumstance should a person be retained in that position once their credibility has been called into question, or after failing the test of faith and confidence, or after brashly jeopardizing the career of a solid, hard-working police officer.

Dear Members of the P.O.A.

I wanted to say thanks for all the support you gave me for my Police Commission hearing. The hearing finally ended last night with a unanimous decision by the Police Commission in our favor.

I am especially grateful for the service of attorney Kathy Mahoney. The members of the department that were there, saw Kathy Mahoney put on a brilliant defense. Kathy Mahoney spent countless hours doing research, and reading endless transcripts. Kathy never missed a detail, and when cross examining witnesses she was absolutely masterful. I cannot say enough of her abilities as any attorney. Kathy Mahoney has moved on to private practice, but I think the members should know that we were very fortunate to have such a fine attorney of law.

I would also like to thank Captain Richard Cairns. Captain Cairns support was absolutely solid. Captain Cairns was there for me from the day he called me into his office to hear first hand the no nonsense account of this incident. Captain Cairns read every one of the five hundred pages of the

O.C.C. transcript, and saw first hand the major problems with O.C.C.'s case. Captain Cairns also testified in my behalf, even after he just had a near fatal heart attack. We hear it so many times from our superiors that when we get in trouble that they will back you, but Captain Richard Cairns went out and proved it.

I am extremely grateful for the support that I received from Commander Santos, Lt. Cashman, and Sgt. Joe Currie. These legendary bosses were there through the hearing and at last night's conclusion. It really meant a lot to me that these officers that I regard in such high respect were there. It seems to me that you get the most support from the people who have been there, and spent their entire careers on the street fighting crime with their heart and soul. Last night I turned around and saw true COPS sitting behind me in support.

I would like to thank Sgt. Bill Ruoides, Sgt. Dave Collins, and my old partner Patrick Overstreet. These officers were there the night the original incident took place. These officers came before the Police Commission and gave a truthful and accurate account of what took place that night. O.C.C. stated that we all made up a story

together. O.C.C. basically called us all liars. I do not think that O.C.C. realized that you could not have hand picked three more honest and by the book Police Officers than these fine men. These Officers never wavered, and told it like it happened. I am grateful to them, and it made me absolutely sick to hear O.C.C. question their integrity.

The moral support I received from the members of Northern Station was incredible. From the top down I heard nothing but words of encouragement. On hand last night was Lt. Barsetti, Sgt. Marty Lalor, Sgt. Mike Favetti, Glenn Ghiselli, Rob Ziegler, Mike Evanson, and P.O.A. president Chris Cunnie. I would also like to especially thank Lt. Keohane, Sgt. Joe Garrity, and Rich Struckman. These members gave me great advice all along, and I am grateful to them. The great members of Northern Station listened to me gripe about this case on an almost daily level, and their words of encouragement helped me through a tough couple of years.

I would lastly like to thank the San Francisco Police Commission. I was admittedly terrified of going before them, but in the end they turned out to be brutally fair. Commissioner Sydney Chan heard

my case, and I found him to be both fair and competent. I was surprised that a non lawyer could handle the case as well an experienced judge. The decision was unanimously not sustained, with some extra worlds from Commissioner Pat Norman. Commissioner Norman told O.C.C. that this case should not have made it this far. Commissioner Norman went on to say there was a lot of wasted man hours in this case. Commissioner Norman relieved my mind when they came back from chambers, and before she was seated in her chair she said "not sustained." I do not know if she did that on purpose, but I was grateful to her nonetheless. Last night's decision took away a lot of the bitterness I have held inside of me for the last two and half years.

I intend on writing another letter on the problems with our system, but for now I wanted to say thanks to a lot of people. I went through many sleepless nights over this case, but now thanks to some great people I can finally say it's over.

Sincerely,
Officer Anthony Damato #980

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Dear POA Members,

I am not usually at a loss for words, but I have put off writing a good-bye to the POA for some time.

I returned to private practice in mid-September after two years as in-house counsel to the POA. Every day of those two years was an adventure.

My decision to go back into private practice was not an easy one. I have made many lasting friendships in the past two years, and I have thoroughly enjoyed being part of the POA family.

But an opportunity came up to return to my previous office and resume my practice and I just could not pass it up.

I will, however, miss working on a daily basis with such a dedicated group of police officers and union members. Chris Cunnie, Gary Delagnes, Steve Johnson, Jack Minkel, Ray Shine and the entire Board of Directors were much more than my employers, I think of all of them as my friends.

You are in very good hands with your new counsel, Sean Connolly. I have known Sean for many years, and he is a tenacious lawyer who will fight for you.

I am very grateful for the opportunity to have been your lawyer. I hope that I will continue to represent POA members in the future. I will always look at the last two years as the most challenging and rewarding of my career.

Sincerely,
Katherine M. Mahoney

Almost from her first day on the job as POA General Counsel, Kathy Mahoney was embroiled in some of the most high-profile and politically charged cases ever to face the members of this Association. Throughout the two years that followed she handled her job like a true professional, always giving more of herself than was ever expected, and was always the rock on which the rest of us flitting crows would light for much needed rest and solace.

Now she is moving on, and with all our best wishes and expectations of success and happiness. She was a stable and gracious presence in our offices, but a force of advocacy at OCC, MCD, and before the Police Commission.

Now in private practice, she specializes in criminal defense and personal injury cases. Certainly this is the area of law where she has found her niche. As many POA members will attest, Kathy is a crack defense attorney who comes to each case prepared and ready to seek the most practical outcome for her client.

Now working in offices located at 3223 Webster Street, Kathy welcomes all her old POA friends for a visit anytime you happen into her neighborhood. So stop in for a cup of coffee and catch her up on all the recent news and gossip. As all of us at the Notebook have learned, Kathy is a good friend to have, either in a time of need, or in the need of friendly time. — Editor

Former Public Defender/1990's POA Make Good Match

POA Welcomes New General Counsel

By Ray Shine, Editor

The POA has a new General Counsel. He is Mr. Sean Connolly, Esq., and he assumed his position as the in-house legal adviser to President Cunnie, and the Executive Board, on October 1st.

Sean comes to us from the Office Of The Public Defender, City And County Of San Francisco, where he spent the last six years managing a case load that — if you can believe it — is even larger than ours. While serving as a highly regarded "PD", Sean worked in the Felony unit, taking over thirty cases to jury trials.

Before going to work across the street, Sean served stints in both the Public Defender and the District Attorney offices for the County of Alameda, and clerked for the law firm of Lynch, LoofBourrow, Helmenstine, Gilardi & Grummer. Sean, 34, was admitted to the California State Bar in 1991 after studying jurisprudence at the University Of San Francisco School of Law, where he earned honors and received the American Jurisprudence Award for Legal Research and Writing.

Sean landed at USF after graduating *Cum Laude* from Boston University, taking a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and English in 1986. He has also studied, on scholarship, History and English Literature at St. Catherine's College, Oxford University. While at St Catherine's, Sean relaxed from a regime of study and research by playing on both the rugby and soccer teams.

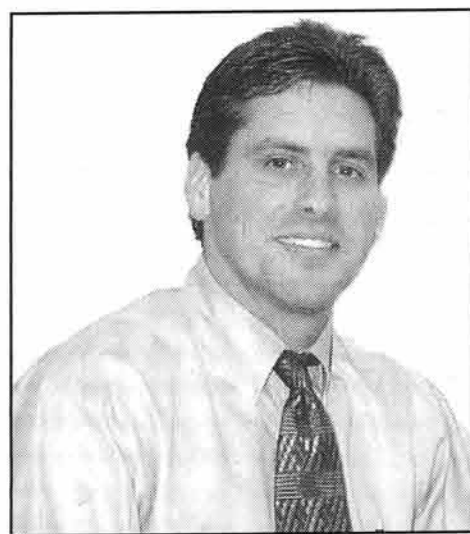
Asked how he will reconcile transition from an experienced criminal defense attorney to the representation of San Francisco police officers, Sean explained it this way: "I don't see that as a problem at all. I feel strongly about people having a voice when they're charged with wrongdoing, and feel everyone has a right to due process. My job is to make that happen, regardless of the circumstances or the facts of the case."

Treasurer Minkel Eyes A Bargain

POA Treasurer Jack Minkel, who participated in the applicant reviews, anticipates a long-term fiduciary benefit in the hiring of Sean.

"You know, it seems everyone wants a piece of us these days," Jack mused. "But with Sean's background and experience, he will have no problem jumping right into our defense cases. He'll do a good job, and he'll be doing it on salary. That'll save us a lot of money in the long run because we won't need to farm as many cases out to private attorneys."

Old Association goats like Jack are bewildered by the increasing numbers of cases charged against good, hard-working officers in these times of excess scrutiny. "I don't think Sean quite realizes this yet," quipped Jack pragmatically, "but we got the bargain in this deal. We're robbing him blind."



Sean Field Connolly, POA General Counsel

Family Ties To Law Enforcement

Many of Sean's uncles and cousins pound beats and push radio cars in the metropolitan Boston area. "On my fathers side," he remarks wistfully, "Connollys have been in law enforcement since the day they stepped of the boat from Ireland."

If any of you have had the experience of going up against Sean in a criminal case you may be some of those to whom he refers when he adds, "I get along with officers at trial. I think they respect vigorous cross-examination. They are professionals, and realize you are doing your job well. I don't think they take it personally."

Sean is looking forward to his new duties as our attorney. The wide variety of the legal work he will be performing interests him, and, ever the student, has forced him back to the books to bone up on contracts, copyright, and other areas of law less practiced at the Public Defender. He is also anxious to take a few ride-alongs with officers in the field in order to witness the difficulties of street work first-hand.

Case Loads Don't Necessarily Mean Work Loads

Sean's only regret so far is starting his duties for the POA too late in the year to play in our annual golf tourney out at the Olympic Club. An avid sports fan, Sean played ice hockey for Boston University, the perennial Division I powerhouse in college-level athletics. He also skated for the Nashua Huskies, a semi-professional hockey team based in New England.

Sean keeps trim with regular workouts, and I learned early on about his commitment to health and fitness. On the weekend that he moved into his office he politely asked if I would move a file cabinet for him, explaining that he could not because of an old sports injury to his back. After I wrestled the heavy oak cabinet into the furthest, dustiest, most hard-to-reach corner of his chamber, Sean gave me a pat on the back, offered a handshake, and thanked me for my effort. He then excused himself, explaining that he was off to his gym for his daily workout.

That was when I realized that of Sean's a pretty damn good lawyer.

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Legal Update: Pat Search — Terry Frisk

Briefed by: Mike Paganini,
Legal Division

People v. Gilbert Avila
Court # E 018792 Fourth Appellate
District
Filed : October 28, 1997
Cite as 97 C.D.O.S. 8238

Question: Can an officer conducting a patdown search for weapons inquire as to the nature of an object when the officer is uncertain as to whether the object is a weapon or not?

Answer: YES!

Facts: Officer Jones saw defendant, Gilbert Avila, walking across a parking lot while committing a littering violation. Furthermore, the officer saw the defendant walk to the passenger side of a truck, then to the driver's side, then back to the front of the truck with his hand directly in front of his body. The officer then saw the defendant drop a white envelope from his waist area. The officer thought that the defendant's actions were very suspicious. Officer Jones contacted the defendant who was standing in the open driver's side door area to his parked truck. The officer explained that he stopped the defendant for littering and asked him for identification. While talking with the defendant, the officer saw a "long black metal object" that appeared similar to a "mag type" flashlight inside the truck. This metal object was approximately 10" away from the defendant and positioned behind him. The officer became concerned for his safety, and inquired as to the nature of the metal object. The defendant said he did not know what the object was and the officer noted that the defendant never even turned to look at the object. The officer told

defendant to walk to the rear of the truck and he complied. At the rear of the truck the defendant, on his own initiative, assumed the "standard search position" by spreading his legs, placing his hands behind his head, and interlacing his fingers. The officer then conducted a pat down search for weapons. During the patdown, the officer felt bulky and somewhat hard object at the defendant's ankle. The officer asked what the object was and the defendant's reply was unclear. The officer repeated his question and the defendant replied, "it is meth." After finding two more bulges, the officer handcuffed the defendant and then removed a total of three baggies of methamphetamine from his person. The defendant was placed under arrest, and a search of the vehicle revealed more methamphetamine and a gun.

RULING: The Appellate Court held that Officer Jones conducted a valid lawful patdown search. The Court noted that the officer felt a bulky and somewhat hard object along defendant's ankle. The officer was unsure if the item was a weapon or not a weapon. The officer then asked the defendant what the object was and the defendant said it was "meth", a common street term for methamphetamine. The Court held that the defendant confessed to a crime, namely, felony possession of a controlled substance. Furthermore, the Court maintained that once the defendant admitted he possessed methamphetamine, the officer had probable cause to arrest the defendant. Once probable cause exists for a custodial arrest an officer is permitted to conduct a search incident to the arrest.

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Off-Duty Employment Clean-UP Bill Signed

By Bill Hemby
COPS Legislative Advocate

Senate Bill 243, by Senator Steve Peace - D Chula Vista was signed into law by the governor. The bill contains "clean-up" language that will help officers working off-duty security. While SB 243 does not exempt entirely peace officers from licenser, it does clean up some of the burdensome red tape that existed after the passage of SB 1375.

The bill essentially is a clean-up measure to the author's SB 1375, Chapter 710, Statutes of 1996, which clarified that peace officers who receive approval from their department to engage in outside employment, as armed private investigators or armed security guards, have to be licensed by BSIS as private investigators or security guards.

Prior to the enactment of SB 1375, peace officers who worked for a private employer in off-duty employment were exempt from Department of Consumers Affairs licensure. The exemption did not apply to a peace officer who contracted for his or her services as a private patrol operator or private investigator.

Peace officers who were employed by a private security operator or private investigator were exempt from Bureau of Security and Investigative Services licensure. However, peace officers who operated a private security services company or who contract with others as security guards or private investigators were subject to the BSIS licensure requirements. DCA stated that approximately 55% of peace officers working in the security services industry were operators or contractors and thus are already required to be licensed by BSIS prior to SB 1375.

SB 1375. SB 1375, among other things, removed the distinction between people who were working as security guards and people who were private patrol operators acting as security guards.

This provision leveled the playing field between public and private security service providers.

Prior to the passage of SB 1375, BSIS could not take disciplinary action against peace officers who were exempt from licensure. If a peace officer violated the rules relating to security guards duties while working in an off-duty capacity, BSIS could only take action against the licensed employing security services operator. Only the employing security services operator or the peace officer's employing law enforcement agency had authority to take disciplinary action for a violation of the rules by an off-duty peace officer.

By licensing peace officers who were presently exempt, BSIS was authorized to discipline peace officers for violations committed while working as armed security officers or private investigators.

Apparently, the implementation of SB 1375 has caused considerable confusion for law enforcement agencies over the interaction of the Penal Code exemptions and the Business and Professions occupational licensing requirements in relation to the off-duty employment of peace officers.

Supporters of SB 243 argue that the existing training and certification requirements for peace officers generally meet or exceed all BSIS requirements such as firearms and baton training. In addition, they argue that the overlapping and contradictory provisions in the Business and Professions Code requiring peace officers working as security guards

to carry CCW permits is unnecessary given peace officers' existing authority to carry concealed weapons on-duty and off duty.

SB 243 removes the unintended consequences of SB 1375 on peace officers who often seek off duty, private employment as security guards. The bill would attempt to accomplish this by removing BSIS licensing requirements that are duplicative of existing peace officer training and certification requirements or are unclear, and conflict with the exemption from BSIS licensure for peace officers pursuant to Penal Code Section 70.

Penal Code Section 70 allows peace officers to engage in off duty employment in a security capacity under specified conditions, such as wearing a police uniform. SB 243 states that compliance with Section 70 is an exemption from BSIS licensure if the officer is in the police uniform. The bill amends Section 70 to mandate, rather than permit, an indemnity agreement as a condition of the exemption.

The Penal Code currently allows peace officers and honorable retirees to carry concealed weapons. However, the Security Guard Act and the Alarm Company Act states that it is a security act violation for a state-licensed security personnel to carry a concealed handgun without the general CCW permit. Thus, peace officers and honorable retirees need a general CCW permit to comply with the Private Security Act or act as a bank guard if they are licensed by BSIS.

The bank guard exemption was added by AB 882 (W. Murray) Chapter 961, Statutes of 1991. AB 882 clarified that security guards or private patrol operators who act as guards or messengers of banks and

other financial institutions do not have to obtain a local CCW permit as condition of compliance with the Security Act licensing scheme in certain circumstances.

This bill exempts the following licensed security personnel and alarm agents from obtaining a concealed weapons permit as a condition of their Security Act and Alarm Company Act licensure:

Peace officers who are authorized to carry concealed weapons pursuant to the Penal Code without a concealed weapons permit.

Honorably retired peace officers who are authorized to carry concealed weapons pursuant to a special retiree concealed carry permit which is a distinct permit from the regular Penal Code concealed weapons permit.

The Bill Makes it Easier for a Peace Officer to Obtain a License as a Security Guard. Standard BSIS licensing generally takes from 60 to 80 days and up to 90 days for issuance of a Firearms Qualifications Certificate. Currently, BSIS offers a temporary security guard and private investigator license which allows most applicants to begin employment within 10 working days.

BSIS internally issues FQC's to peace officers within 5 to 7 days. The bill would codify this existing practice for peace officers, which is currently authorized under BSIS regulations, by in essence allowing BSIS to issue temporary FQC's simultaneously with temporary licenses for all active duty peace officers. This allows for an expedited licensing process for those peace officers who have the appropriate training and meet BSIS licensing requirements by virtue of their peace officer status.

Because SB 243 was an urgency bill, it takes effect immediately.

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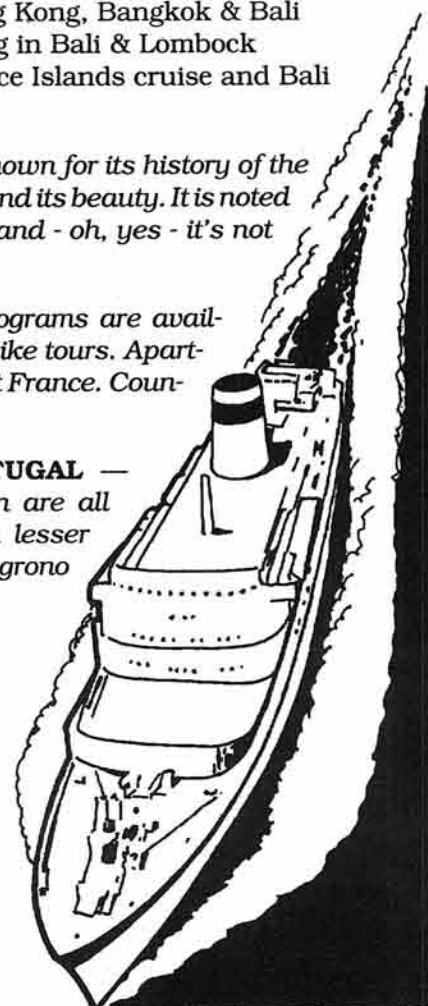
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Flourish Of Faux Police Jeopardizes Public Safety

By Chris Cunnie, President

Rene LaPrevotte, Co. K, has started a grass-roots effort to abate a mounting problem in San Francisco: Impersonation of police officers by wanna-be's, party-goers, private security guards, and others.

Rene suggests that a law be passed that would make it illegal for anyone

other than sworn police officers to purchase and wear official uniforms and equipment. He cites the degradation of the authority and meaning of the uniform, as well as the security problems inherent in allowing police impersonators to present themselves to the public as law enforcement personnel. It is a particular problem when a dignitary escort is involved.

It is routine for the US Secret Service to investigate thefts of uniforms whenever a VIP is about to visit the City.

Later this month, I will be meeting with representatives from the 11 largest police officer associations in the State. I will seek the support of these organizations for legislation we will propose that will drastically curb the

selling to, and wearing of, police uniforms by non-sworn persons. Once such legislation is drafted and sponsored, I will appeal to all police officers in the State to contact their local legislators to express support for this effort.

In the meantime, Rene has written State Senator Quentin Kopp. A portion of Rene's letter, and the Senator's reply, are printed below.

As Sent to Quentin Kopp, Esq.

La Prevotte to Senator Kopp: There Ought To Be A Law

I am a career police officer with the San Francisco Police Department, and in that capacity I appeal to you to correct an inequity in the law.

As a police officer, my conduct both on and off duty are scrutinized and subject to censure. Police officers are held to a higher standard of conduct so that the public might have faith and trust in the uniformed officers who come to their door.

Recently, I was at our uniform supply store on 9th Street and was shocked to see people who were not police officers shopping for official San Francisco Police Department uniforms to wear.

The conduct that is frequently practiced in the streets, alleys, and by party-goers and impersonators, WHILE WEARING OUR UNIFORMS AND INSIGNIA, heaps discredit on the City and its Police Department.

How about National Security? No one in the SFPD knows all two thousand other members of the SFPD. We simply acknowledge the uniform to allow what we assume are other police officers through police security lines, such as during Presidential visits. How do you think the U.S. Secret Service would react to the knowledge that any presidential assassin needs only walk in to our uniform supplier to buy the clothing that will assure unimpeded passage through police security lines.

Currently it is only a crime (misdemeanor) to impersonate a police officer. It is no crime to sell, purchase, wear or degrade any official police badge, insignia, patch or uniform.

I purpose that it become an offense for a uniform supplier to sell, for any non-police personnel to wear or display any police uniform whether impersonating a police officer or not. There is no justification for these symbols of trust to be displayed in any unofficial manner.

Sgt. Rene LaPrevotte
Traffic Division
San Francisco Police Department

California State Senate

STATE SENATOR

QUENTIN L. KOPP

EIGHTH SENATORIAL DISTRICT

REPRESENTING SAN FRANCISCO AND SAN MATEO COUNTIES

October 8, 1997

Sergeant Rene LaPrevotte
San Francisco Police Department
850 Bryant Street, Room 150
San Francisco, CA 94103
Dear Mr. LaPrevotte:

Thank you for your prescient undated letter which I received on September 29, 1997 regarding the sale of official police uniforms to the general public.

I am astonished that official police uniforms are being sold to the general public whereby the appearance of the wearer substantially imitates that of officers of the law. Although it is common practice to offer for sale insignias and other memorabilia from various government offices, including the State Legislature, the sale of uniforms extends that concept beyond the display of a keepsake. I will instruct my staff to investigate the feasibility of introducing such legislation as you suggest when the State Senate reconvenes on January 5, 1998.

In the meantime, I invite you to continue to furnish me the benefit of your views on any other matter which concerns or interests you, and if I can ever personally assist you, at the State Capitol or otherwise, just notify me accordingly.

Sincerely yours,
Quentin L. Kopp

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SFPOA Bulletin

#97-72

November 7, 1997

To: Association Members
From: Chris Cunnie, President

CCSF/SFSU Criminal Justice Degree Program: Assessment and Academic Counseling

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The assessment procedures is for those who have not yet begun, or completed, their Associate of Arts degree. It will determine your placement level in the lower division courses. The testing will last for three hours in the morning and will be followed by counseling sessions with City College personnel.

The criminal justice faculty from San Francisco State will also be here to advise prospective candidates who will be applying directly to the university. It is a great opportunity to meet and talk with people who will be providing the instruction.

It makes no difference where you are in getting your degree. If you are interested in taking advantage of this excellent program, bring a copy of any college transcripts (unofficial OK) to the academy at the below time. **It is open to all, and well worthwhile!**

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Court Reviews Department's Right To Withhold Weapon From Retired Officer

By Tony Santana, Attorney At Law

The California Court of Appeal reviewed the case of a retired officer who made a request to carry a concealed firearm which request was denied by his department. The case of *Summerfield v. Helmick*, involved an officer who was on job related disability, engaged in alleged conduct which caused his department to notify him that he would be dismissed for cause. Prior to the effective date of his dismissal, the officer applied for and was granted a disability retirement which became effective as of the date of his dismissal. Based on the fact that he was not an employee as of the date of his dismissal, no disciplinary action could be taken against him.

Sometime thereafter, he requested from his department authorization to carry a concealed firearm. The applicable Penal Code statute is 12027.1, which authorizes a permit for carrying a concealed weapon to retired officers. Such endorsement can be denied but only upon the showing of good cause. This request was denied. He then appealed the denial to a three-member board consisting of his attorney, a department deputy commissioner, and a neutral party selected by the two panelists. The department described the hearing as informal without use of formal rules of evidence or use of witnesses. The officer stated that this process denied him the opportunity to call and cross-examine witnesses and a right to an attorney. The officer believed that this hearing should be akin to an arbitration-type hearing. The three member board denied his request to carry a concealed firearm. The officer appealed. The Court of Appeal disagreed with the officer and stated that the right to counsel and the right to cross-examine or call

witnesses and present evidence is not required. The Court looked at the intent of the legislation and looked at what was called a "limited hearing process." Hence, an informal hearing provides the opportunity to present information that deals solely with the issue of the officer's ability to responsibly and lawfully exercise concealed firearm privileges. This hearing afforded the officer would appear to meet the minimal requirements of procedural due process. Because due process is a flexible concept, it would allow for the process which is due to be dependent on a variety of factors including the nature of the interests involved, the nature of the proceeding and the possible burden on that proceeding and as long as there is some notice and an opportunity to respond.

Another issue the Court looked at, because the officer stated that the hearing board erred in finding good cause for the refusal, was the fact that the officer had pled no lo contendere to misdemeanor charges underlying the misconduct alleged. The Court then looked and noted that Penal Code 12027.1a(2) states that the privilege may be revoked or denied by violating any department rules, state or federal laws that an officer on inactive duty would result in discipline.

In conclusion the Court reviewed the case of *San Jose Police Officers Association v. City of San Jose* and noted, "because the need for a concealed weapon does not inevitably flow from a police officer's prior service, relatively slight factors may tip the balance in favor of finding good cause to deny."

Former SFPD Officer, Tony Santana, now a practicing attorney, has represented officers around the state in administrative matters.

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Letters

October 14, 1997

Ray Shine
Editor, POA Notebook
510 7th St.
San Francisco CA 94103

Chris Cunnie, President,
Representatives, & Members of the
Police Officers' Association

Effective October 14, 1997 I will no longer be associated with the Office of Citizen Complaints. Please accept my thanks for your continued cooperation and assistance during the past nine years.

Please direct any officers who have questions regarding a pending case to the main number 597-7711.

Best Wishes,
P. A. Moy
Investigator

Dear Editor

The police bashing S.F. Chronicle is at it again; looking for any excuse to belittle and demean the police service. Reporter Rojas (S.F. Cop Who Broke the Color Line-October 10) should check his sources for veracity and accuracy. His article implies war-time limited tenure employees were not re-hired because they were black. The fact of the matter is, ALL limited tenure police officers were allowed to take the civil service examination for permanent employment; there was nothing on the examination paper denoting the race of the applicant. Many limited tenure employees passed, and many failed the exams. They were white, black, Latino and American Indian (native Americans). Testing and hiring was done by the Civil Service Commission, NOT by the Police Department, and they had no way of knowing the race of an applicant.

Sterling Weatherspoon, my partner for many years, was black and one of the finest, bravest officers I ever knew. The color of one's skin never deterred him from making an arrest and no one ever told him he could not arrest a white. I know of only one black officer that men were reluctant to work with; he was an activist who spent much of his time telling others that the whites deliberately injected native Americans with smallpox vaccine. In my opinion, that officer's statements, and the one-sided, unsubstantiated type of reporting (as exemplified by writer Rojas's article) has been detrimental to the complete trust and confidence in one another-so necessary in law enforcement.

Ray White

October 21, 1997
Chris Cunnie, President SFPOA
510 7th Street
San Francisco, Ca. 94103

Dear Mr. Cunnie:

I wish to express on behalf of the Picnic Committee and myself sincere gratitude for the San Francisco Police Officers' Association generous donation of \$2,000.00 to the Friends of the San Francisco Police Department for the San Francisco Police Department Family Day Picnic. There is no doubt that numerous S.F.P.D. members and their families thoroughly enjoyed the festivities on October 5th.

An event of this nature would not be possible without the support of donors, contributors and volunteers. The "Family Picnic" will be planned for next year. I hope the P.O.A. will be able to assist once again.

The Friends of the San Francisco Police Department is a tax exempt charitable corporation with the State of California and the Internal Revenue Service number is: 94-2738058.

Sincerely,
Fred H. Lau, Chief of Police

October 24, 1997
SFPOA
510 7th St.
San Francisco CA 94103

Gentlemen:

Thank you for your generosity in sponsoring a hole in Local 38's Eighth Annual Charity Golf Tournament held at the Adobe Creek Golf Course in Petaluma on October 4, 1997. Enclosed is a picture of your sponsor sign which was on display at the tournament.

Once again, Local 38 was proud to sponsor this event for the benefit of the Diabetes Research Institute. As part of the Building and Construction Trades Dollars Against Diabetes fund drive, we can join forces with other building trades unions throughout the country to construct the world's most comprehensive diabetes research facility, where the leading scientists and medical doctors in the world can pursue their diabetes research. We are pleased to report that this year's tournament was most successful and Local 38 is proud to be a part of such a program.

Your help and support certainly made the "Local 38 Diabetes Golf Tournament" a great success, enabling us to give a generous contribution to the Diabetes Research Institute.

Thanks again.
Very truly yours,
Larry Mazzola
Local 38 Golf Committee
Chairman

United Association of Journeymen
and Apprentices of the Plumbing
and Pipe Fitting Industry

November 3, 1997
To: All Concerned Parties
From: Al Angele,

Executive Director, COPS
Subject: Patrol Specials

Any proposal by the San Francisco Police Commission to allow private security personnel unlimited access to patrol the streets of San Francisco is an insult to the professionalism of every member of the San Francisco Police Department as well as to every legitimate peace officer throughout the state, and will decrease the current level of integrity maintained by San Francisco police officers.

Allowing non-trained or minimally-trained security personnel to answer calls for service would be tantamount to perpetrating a hoax on the people of San Francisco, and would create a higher degree of danger for police officer and citizen alike.

Any proposal granting Patrol Specials the power to protect life and property, enforce laws and ordinances, prevent crime, preserve the public peace or detect and arrest offenders would be contrary to the best interests of the City and County of San Francisco.

Current policy allows Patrol Specials to buy the rights to solicit

for their services within a district. In our opinion any person who is successfully solicited has become the victim of intimidation and extortion. After all, are they not paying for protection? Any attempt to give these individuals additional power would dilute public trust.

The California Organization of Police and Sheriffs strongly urges the City and County of San Francisco, and any department or agency thereof, to abandon any attempt to expand the use of Patrol Specials.

Chris Cunnie President,
S.F.P.O.A.
510-7th St.
San Francisco, CA 94103
Dear Chris,

I come to you and the S.F.P.O.A. in need of help. I did not sign up for the 1997 Assistant Inspector's test for personal reasons during the Summer of 1997. Department Bulletin #97-192 notes that the test has been canceled and a new test will be developed. Later bulletins tell us that this new test will be given in 1998. I would now like to sign up for this new test in 1998. Department Bulletin #97-213 tells me that "No new applications will be accepted for this examination". I feel that the SFPD is denying myself and other members of our department (and P.O.A.) a great promotional opportunity. Please help us to remedy this injustice.

We might start by verifying if the Department has previously allowed members to take a promotional test, even though these members were not eligible to sign up for the exam. Further, have any members been appointed to a rank when they did not even meet the eligibility requirements to take the test?

Before the new test, all applicants must be provided with the "leaked" portion of the test, so that all applicants will be on a level playing field. Department Bulletin #97-198 says that an entirely new test will be developed and bulletin #97-213 says that "the format of the examination will remain as outlined in the previously issued Preparation Manual". For this reason alone, the "leaked" information must be provided to all to lessen the chance of costly court intervention.

I believe that any action that we take at this time will save the Department and P.O.A. unnecessary expenditures when it comes to future lawsuits having to do with denying promotional opportunity and fairness of the testing procedure.

Chris, for the benefit of our members now and in the future we must hold our Department and its Administration responsible for their actions and statements. One statement that comes to mind says "The person or persons responsible for revealing the contents (of the

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Letters

written test) will be dealt with severely". Presently, the only person taking the heat is the poor guy who had the guts to bring this crime out in the open. Also, we were lead to believe that "an outside investigation of this incident by an appropriate agency so that fairness and reliability of our testing process can be assured". How many other promotional tests were compromised in the past? Could prior candidates have had inside information? Was there an investigation? Do the results of this investigation assure the fairness of our testing process? In absence of this information we must work with all of our energy to delay a new test until "fairness and reliability" can be established. We must do this for our Association members and for all members of this Police Department.

We cannot be blind to these problems. We must take action to right these wrongs; for ourselves and for San Francisco.

Thank You,
Stephen Christie,
Southern Station

Editor,

It has been five years since I left the SFPD and moved to Washington. I am now a Deputy Sheriff on an island about the size of San Francisco with a full time population about the size of the SFPD. I still get *The Notebook* and read it avidly to see how my old friends are doing. I still communicate with some of my old partners, mostly Steve Mroz and Rod Lee (hi guys.) I am mostly writing this letter because I read the front page article about Johnny Brandt. John isn't just officer of the month. In my book, he's officer of the millennium. John has more knowledge in his little finger about being a cop than any ten captains (or three sergeants) have in their whole bodies. In the time I knew John I was ever in awe of his abilities. He is a man of both style and substance. The picture of him on the

cover of *The Notebook* says it all, "here is a by-god cop." They don't make them like John anymore and even if they did they don't hire them like John anymore. He will be missed. God bless John Brandt.

Sincerely,
Mark Felber
San Juan County S.O.
Lopez Island, WA

P.S. To Al Casciato: Another baby due any day.

To all SFPOA members:

Thank you all for your kind expression of sympathy and support. My dad would have been proud of your good wishes.

Gratefully,

Lou Girardo

Mr. John Sterling
c/o POA Notebook
510 7th Street
San Francisco, Ca

Dear John Sterling,

Just reading your column probably keeps a lot of guys on the force from throwing in the towel. It's terrific!

Sincerely yours,

Pauline McConnell
(Surviving spouse, SFPD retiree)

To All POA Members and
Supporters
c/o The Editor, *POA Notebook*

A few months ago, I received a phone call from Sgt. Larry Manwiller regarding the retirement of my former K-9 partner, Illo, from the Dog Unit.

Illo came to the Dog Unit through funds donated from the San Francisco Elks Club (Rich Adkins, Sex Crimes, and Bill Gay, retired mounted). After we picked him up, our veterinarian, Robert Arrick, pronounced Illo to be in good health, but his right rear leg was shorter than his left rear leg. This was due to a bone break,

possibly when he was a pup. He didn't think it would slow Illo down until he was much older.

But as time went on, I noticed, as well as the other members of the unit, that Illo would favor that leg. Four exploratory surgeries, followed by some time off after each, did Illo some good, but explained nothing. The vet couldn't find anything.

After five years in the Dog Unit, I left the detail in March of this year, and broke up the partnership with Illo. My wife, Linda, and children Meaghan, Molly, and Connor were crushed because they basically lost a member of the family. Obviously, Illo wasn't just a piece of SFPD equipment that I took care of (And, Who took care of whom?). He meant much more to me. We had been through a lot together, and he saved my behind many times.

So, when Sgt. Larry told me that Illo's leg had gotten worse, and they needed to replace him, he asked if I wanted him. My first reaction was okay, I'll take the dog back, but I knew that a major surgery would cost between \$3500 and \$4500, plus whatever he needed on top of that. The City paid for all his medical expenses, food, etc., when I was in the unit. I wasn't sure I could handle it now.

Sgt. Manwiller had three options for me. First, to look into finding a veterinarian who does *pro bono* work, or who would do the surgery for a reduced price.

Secondly, have the whole leg amputated. "Dogs get used to three legs." Sgt., Manwiller assured me.

Thirdly, he posed the unthinkable possibility that Illo would have to be put to sleep.

I called Sgt. Carri Lucas and explained my situation. Carri told me not to worry, that she could help me with Illo. I had no idea what she was going to do, but she seemed very confident, and said it would be resolved within a couple of weeks.

She had put the word out. Her network of friends throughout the department, the District Attorney's Office, and even the San Rafael Police Department began a huge fund-raising effort. Their hard work and determination raised over \$4,000.

In the meantime, I contacted the Veterinary Clinic at U.C. Davis. They routinely do surgeries on all animals — and for much less, due to the fact that students perform the surgeries. An appointment was made for October 7th. I was assured that, for anything short of cancer, Illo would be fine.

I dropped Illo off on the appointed date. He underwent surgery on the 8th of October. Surgeons removed the bone in his lower right leg, and the tissue around it. It was the same bone that had been broken when he was a puppy, and it never healed properly. They removed some tissue from his right shoulder to replace the other. Illo spent four days in recovery and came home on Saturday, October 11th.

Illo limped around for a couple of weeks until the staples were removed. Now, he is good as new, our family is happy, and I'm cleaning up the yard again!

I can't say enough about Carri Lucas and what she did for us. I owe her a great deal, and will never forget her. I'd also like to thank the other men and women who contributed to this effort. I know who some of you are, but I don't want to offend anyone by omitting their name. So, until Carri gives me a list, I will just say thanks to all of you.

Also, the remainder of the money raised is going into the "Sandy Fund." This will help purchase another police dog when the time comes.

Thanks again.

Fraternally,
Brian Delahunty

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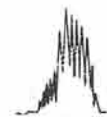
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SPORTS



Editor's Message

There are only a limited number of sports stories in this issue of the Notebook. Sports Editor Nick Shihadeh experienced a death in his immediate family and was unable to prepare this month's section. I would have tried to organize it in his absence, but I know I would not be able to produce a collection of sports stories as interesting and well-written as his.

All of us at the POA extend to Nick and his family our sympathy, and we all look forward to Nick's return in the December issue of our paper.

— Ray Shine

ON 2 WHEELS



By Rene LaPrevotte,
Traffic Company

The first weekend of October, my most dependable riding partner (and girlfriend), Susan and I rode down to the new Las Vegas International Speedway for the penultimate round of the AMA Superbike series.

Rather than ride down the painfully boring Highway #5, we opted to ride Southeast and over Tioga Pass in Yosemite, out to Tonopah, Nevada then South to Vegas.

The ride through Yosemite was in perfect weather, the only bummer being the five bucks a head the rangers charge to drive through the park even though you have no intention of stopping to oogle the scenery. If you're an oogler, expect to pay twenty bucks a pop! The "drive through" permit gives you three hours to make it the ninety miles through the park to the ranger station on the opposite side of the park. The ranger time stamps your receipt and if you don't get through the park in three hours, they assume you committed the heinous crime of stopping to take a picture, and you're billed an additional fifteen duckets a piece!

The faithful civil servant didn't bat an eye when she time stamped our

receipt which showed it took us seventy five minutes to traverse the entire park. We were hoping for a partial refund of our five dollars since we didn't look at anything but the apex of the road traversing Yosemite, but alas it was not to be.

We stopped near Mono Lake and paid \$2.05 a gallon for gas and thanked the Gods of motorsport that we weren't driving a Winnebago. If you've never done so, you absolutely HAVE to ride Hwy #120 East from Lee Vining to Benton, Nevada. The road is sixty or so miles of undulating washboard that taken at the proper velocity will have you screaming inside your helmet as your bike crests the hundreds of rises and dips and goes total airborne. Just beware that there is an off-camber right turn that will come up while you are flying with both wheels three feet off the ground... it helps keep you awake!

Lunch was in the silver mining town of Tonopah Nevada, then south through the humming desert communities of Scotty's Junction, Beatty, Amargose Valley, Cactus Springs then finally, about thirty miles out of town you see the Las Vegas skyline. That skyline starts to seem like a mirage as you ride mile after mile and seem to get no closer, while visions of cold, frosty beer mugs dance through your hallucinating head.

Once in Vegas, Susan and I met up with my buddy from Phoenix, M.J. Mauser, with whom I had ridden the Great Volcano Tour several months prior. We checked in to the Best Western and washed the desert dust from the old esophagus.

We enjoyed two days of racing in 100° heat at L.V.I.R. then Monday morning MJ departed due East for his back breaking four hour ride back to Phoenix and Susan and I headed North back up Hwy 95. As we rode the first hour, I sensed something wasn't quite right but couldn't put my finger on what it was. Finally it dawned on me that even though we were going seventy five miles an hour (or so) there was no wind in our face. What that means, is a seventy five mile an hour wind AT YOUR BACK!

Highway #95 finally made a meandering left which put the wind that had been previously coming from our rear suddenly blasting at us from the left. We rode for an hour leaning into the wind, with the bikes uncomfortably leaned about 45° to the left. Every time a truck would pass going the other way, we would suddenly find ourselves in a temporary still air pocket which caused the bikes to suddenly swerve the direction they were leaned.

After some soul searching, I decided that the hurricane wasn't about to abate anytime soon, so I decided to try heading West toward the leeward side of the Sierras, and hopefully the wind would be deflected by the mountains. This plan necessitated riding through Death Valley, but Susan hadn't seen the place so I figured

what the hell... and hell it was.

The gale force winds that were beleaguering us out in Nevada were just as fierce in Death Valley, and in fact as we rode through the 118° heat, we were treated to a sandstorm of epic proportions. The entire Valley was engulfed in a total whit-out. The blowing sand limited visibility to about five feet as there was no horizon or road, just white blowing sand below us, in front of us and above. As we poked along with grit in our mouths and the paint being sandblasted off the motorcycles we came up behind a half dozen guys on Harleys wearing jeans, T-shirts and pisspot helmets with sunglasses. We were wearing full riding gear with full-face helmets and we were miserable. I couldn't even fathom what those Macho Harley-guys felt like!

Needless to say, we didn't escape any of the windstorm by going West to 395 and actually only ended-up adding about two hours to the ride. We finally stopped in Bishop for dinner, with the first few bites being nothing but sand.

Dinner finished, we were off with the sun setting over the Sierras. We were giving serious consideration to calling it a day in Bridgeport and riding over the summit the following day, but our decision was made for us when we noticed snow flakes falling from the cloudless sky! If there was a storm coming over the Sierras, the passes would be closed, and we would have to back-track and go all the way back to Mojave and through Bakersfield! This meant we would have wasted about five hundred miles of less than ideal riding so the decision was made to suck it up and head through Yosemite Park in the dark. The temperature traversing Tioga Pass was 24° and we both had dark tinted face shields on our helmets as we hadn't had any intentions of being on the road this late. Not only was the night totally moonless, but out faceshields had been sandblasted to near opaque, which meant we couldn't see a thing. We poked along, teeth chattering and extremities frozen stiff unable to see any farther than about ten feet ahead. After what seemed like ten hours (but was actually about three) we finally made Groveland and stopped at the Iron Door Saloon to brace ourselves with some coffee drinks to get the blood flowing again. From there it was a piece of cake as the weather warmed in the lower elevations making the ride much more tolerable, even though we still couldn't see a thing.

We got home about midnight and lay there laughing about the day's ride. We had ridden for twelve hours through the bowels of hell, suffering a temperature swing of **ninety** degrees, with near terminal "burn-butt", sandblasted the paint off our bikes and frozen stiff over 10,000 foot Tioga Pass in the dark.

What a blast, I can't wait to do it again next year!

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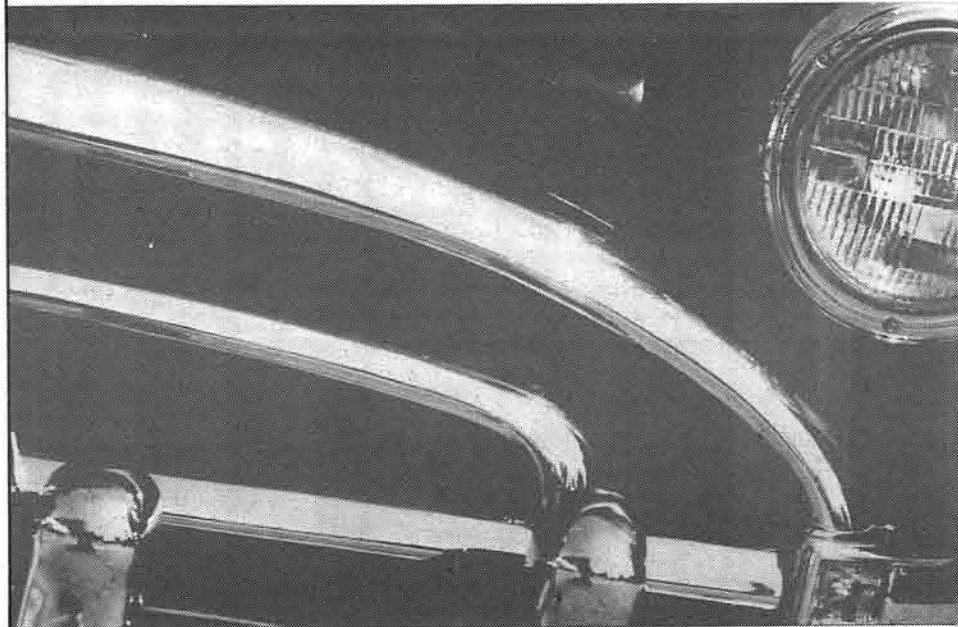
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Jeff Barker Memorial Ironman Competition Update

After a 12 year absence, the SFPD Ironman competition will return on Tuesday, January 13, 1998. The events will be exactly the same as they have been in the past, so that we can maintain some continuity between the past and the present in terms of records. Both men and women are encouraged to participate, either as individuals or as members of teams. The following categories of competition are being considered at this time, and will be utilized assuming a sufficient number of competitors:

Individual Competition

- Open Men (any age)
- Senior Men (40 and over)
- Masters Men (50 and over, including retired)
- Open Women
- Senior Women (40 and over)

Team Competition

- Open, 5 members from any unit (male or female)
- Open Women, 5 members from any unit (female only)
- Seniors, 5 members from any unit 40 and over (male or female)
- Mixed Doubles, one man and one woman

Events

- Bench Press (1000 points) 10 points per rep. The bar must touch the chest and there must be full extension. Three 5 second pauses allowed in the lock-out position. 100 pounds for men, 60 pounds for women.
- Sit-ups (1000 points) 5 points per rep with three minute time limit. Hands must be touching behind the head, elbows must touch knees at upright position. Back must touch the mat in the down position.

• Pull-ups (1000 points) 20 points per pull-up. Hands face outward at shoulder width, feet together. Arms must be fully extended, the chin must touch the bar. No swinging or kicking. Women may hang from the bar, 3 points per second. Gloved allowed.

• Pistol Shoot (1000 points) 20 shots from the 50 yard line at scored ring target (10 right handed, 10 left handed.) Department issued service weapons only.

• Lake Merced Run (1000 points) approximately 4.5 mile race around lake. Begins and ends in Police Range parking lot. Men subtract 1 second from 1000 points for every second over 27 minutes. (Women 30 minutes base time.)

The competition will be held beginning at 0900 hours at the Police Academy, to be followed by competition at the Police Range. A ten dollar entrance fee will be required of each competitor to help cover the costs of T-shirts and lunch, and awards. Each competitor will be invited to attend an Awards Luncheon to be held immediately following the conclusion of the event at the Police Range. Winners' names will be placed on perpetual trophies to be displayed in the office of the Chief of Police. If you are interested in competing, please forward the following information to Rick Bruce at Ingleside Station:

- 1) Your name and age
- 2) Which category you wish to compete in (you may compete in as many categories as you wish for the one fee)
- 3) Name(s) of team members if you wish to compete as a member of a team
- 4) T-shirt sizes for all competing members

S.F.P.D. Junior Golf Program

By Steve Balma

The S.F.P.D. Junior Golf Program is taking shape. Thanks to the generosity of Lt. Larry Manasian (Southern), Sgt. Pete Alarcon (Retired), my brother-in-law and fellow Loon's Nest member Doug Seefus, and some fast talking at a few garage sales, we have about six sets of golf clubs and about four golf bags that have been donated to the program. In the next week or so, I plan to get some of these clubs cut down to junior size and re-gripped. Once that has been finished we should be all set to begin the program.

Special thanks to P.A.L. President Captain Rich Cairns and Joe Mollo (Retired) for their support in getting this program approved by the P.A.L. Board of Directors, and their commitment to help us with our transportation needs, providing P.A.L. T-shirts, and helping cover additional costs.

I would also like to thank those of you who have expressed an interest in helping with this program. I know (I have a fifteen month old daughter at home) that we barely have enough time to spend with our own kids due to our bus schedules, so I really appreciate those who called me to

say that they are willing to spend a little time with some kids who could use a good role model, and who are not as fortunate as our own kids.

The first group of kids that we are going to teach are going to come from the South of Market (SOMA) Recreation Center at 6th and Folsom. This location is going to work out great because we can pick them up with the P.A.L. van and have them at Mission Bay driving range in a few minutes.

I hope to start this first group (guinea piglets) before the new year, so that we can iron out any problems before we go full steam ahead in the spring. Remember this program's success will be based on the number of volunteer S.F.P.D. golf instructors that are willing to help. You don't have to be a good golfer to participate. This goal of this program is to introduce these kids to the game of golf, and in doing so, introduce them to some of S.F.P.D.'s finest in a casual, social, fun atmosphere. The kids that like it and want to continue can be referred to other (more advanced) youth golf programs. Once we have finished with this group of future "Tigers", we can try another group from another part of the city.

See You Soon.

Clisham & Sortor

Attorneys at Law

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Discount Ski Ticket Program

Winter is on the way and so is the POA '97-'98 discount ski ticket program. For the past several years, the POA has been able to purchase tickets from Northstar/Sierra-at-Tahoe Ski Resorts at a discounted Corporate rate and then made them available to members and their families. This year we have been able to add a limited amount of tickets for Squaw Valley Ski Resort as well.

This years prices have changed a bit. Only adult tickets will be sold through the POA and all others will be sold directly at the ticket booths of respective Ski Resort (no discount on the teen or child tickets). Prices are as follows:

	Northstar/Sierra	Squaw Valley
Adult	\$39.00 (save \$7)	\$41.00 (save \$7)
Teen	24.00 (13-22)	24.00 (13-15)
Child	10.00 (12 & under)	5.00 (12 & under)

As in the past ticket sales will be run by Matt Castagnola of the Tactical unit. He can be reached at work 553-1278 or on pager 708-8091.

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Funny ... But True

By Tom Flippin, Park Station



I'd like to thank Bob Faenzi, Co. K, and Eddie (Co. K) Dare's wife, Wanda, for their contributions to this month's column.

Upset residents of one Mission District neighborhood had their fill of the unending drug deals on every street corner. One of them saw a notice in a local weekly paper imploring citizens to call a phone number (a pager number) with complaints about drug dealing. The residents called the number...called again after no one got back to them. After calling repeatedly without results, they called Mission Station to find out what the story was. Red-faced officers of Co D had to explain that the pager was to alert station's narcotic officers about neighborhood drug problems...but somehow the bill didn't get paid, and service was cut-off. The concerned citizens were assured that the problem was being rectified.

Three burglars in Southern California were interrupted by fast-responding cops as they were looting a large building. Police caught one of them right away, and they knew there were probably a couple more of the desperadoes hiding in the building. But the local K-9 unit wasn't needed this time. As the officers were just beginning what looked like a long and difficult search, one of the hidden burglars received a call to his pager...and, unfortunately for him and his partner in crime, he didn't have the pager set to vibrate. That familiar "beep-beep-beep" allowed the cops to locate the secretive (but stupid) crooks very nicely.

Robin Hood is alive and well...in Seattle. David Deyoe recently held up a bank in that city. He handed the teller a note and got away successfully with a substantial amount of cash. At this point, the usual hold-up saga goes weird. Instead of making the invariable fast get-away with his loot, Deyoe stood on the sidewalk outside the bank and began handing out fistfuls of greenbacks to passers-by. Over a hundred people were gathered around him for their share when police arrived and cut short the give-away by arresting Deyoe. No explanation was forthcoming to explain his behavior. Maybe he caught that old Robin Hood movie and saw Errol Flynn swing down from a tree to rob the rich and give to the poor...and he couldn't resist.

A crook in New Mexico who had more chutzpah than the average bank robber (or maybe he was just so broke that he couldn't afford a gun) got away with an undisclosed amount of money from a bank in Carlsbad. The resourceful bank robber first produced a note demanding money, but when the teller was slow in handing over the cash he flashed a gun...that is, he flashed a photograph of a man holding a gun. That did the trick. The teller gave him all the money she had, and he walked calmly out of the bank and disappeared. *We have no details on how the wanted bulletin read...maybe instead of "armed and dangerous", he was described as "carrying a lethal picture".*

After an arrest for driving with a suspended license, Richard Foster, was held by police in Columbia, South Carolina. They checked for warrants, and the computer showed an outstanding warrant issued by Georgia law enforcement authorities. Foster was held while jail personnel made sure that Georgia would extradite him. Shortly thereafter, however, the county jail received a fax stating that "there are no holds on the subject" and the Sheriff's Office "has no criminal interest in Mr. Foster." Foster was immediately released. Somebody finally took a good look at the fax and saw that the heading read "Kroger Grocery Store, Augusta, Georgia." The fax turned out to have been sent by person or persons unknown from a public fax machine in the grocery store. The jail's assistant director, Ronaldo Myers, said that given the usual poor quality of faxes, the supervisor on duty didn't notice anything wrong. Embarrassed jail officials said that Foster was nowhere to be found.

Santa Monica police arrested a local man after he attacked and choked his female roommate while in a drunken rage. Roman Kasprzcki (*common spelling, right?*) evidently became enraged with his companion when he opened the oven and a pot roast she was cooking fell out and burned his bare feet. Police said the woman didn't appear to be seriously injured by the attack, but Kasprzcki had to be treated for second-degree burns on his feet before being booked.

Co A officers caught a car theft suspect red-handed not long ago. Cecil Armstrong, 36, made it fairly easy for them, though. He purloined a Friendly Transportation taxicab in Oakland and drove it across the bridge into the city. Evidently the drive exhausted him. After reports came in that a cab was stopped in a lane of traffic at Stockton and O'Farrell with the unconscious driver slumped over the wheel, responding cops woke up the sleepy thief and booked him after a check showed that the cab had been stolen. Armstrong is catching up on his sleep in CJ 9.

Mario Lopez, of Hayward, says he's a misunderstood crime-stopping hero. Hayward police say he's guilty of a felony for firing six shots at a vehicle. It all started when two guys got into a fist fight during a party.

One of the combatants left, vowing to return with a gun. When he came driving down the road toward the party, Lopez stepped into the street and fired six times at the vehicle... "to scare the driver." His tactics succeeded beautifully. The car crashed nearby and the driver abandoned it and fled into the early morning darkness. Police took a somewhat dimmer view of Lopez' explanation and hauled him away to the slammer.

Anthony Laplante, a 19-year-old resident of Tucson, Arizona, is facing the music after being arrested for burglary. Among items he stole from his neighbor's home was a CD of a band called "Nine Inch Nails". Evidently, the band's music is just as distinctive as its name. The victim asked to borrow Laplante's phone to call police and report the burglary. While on the phone she heard music pounding and became suspicious. She told her boyfriend of her suspicions, and he went over and asked to borrow the phone again. While in Laplante's house he recognized a whole bunch of his CDs stacked up in the living room. Laplante confessed to police after being confronted about his new collection of CDs.

The guy asked what valuables and was told "my father's dead body". The guy looked, freaked and called police.

A dutiful son assured his dying father that he carry out his wish to be cremated and buried in Colma. The son's problem was that his father died in Salinas, quite a way from Colma. A local funeral home told him that transportation to Colma by their hearse would cost \$1,000. The resourceful son found out that California allows family relatives to assume many of the burdens normally performed by funeral homes. So he picked up his dad's body, loaded it into his car and headed for Colma. Unfortunately, his car started acting up almost immediately...and he only made it to Gilroy before finally breaking down. He called a tow truck and managed to convince the driver to tow him to Colma. The son's second piece of bad luck came on arrival at the crematorium in Colma...his breakdown had used up a lot of time, and the place was closed for the night. The tow truck driver was anxious to get back to Gilroy and dropped him and the car (and dad) at a gas station on the edge of San Francisco. The gas station's garage was closed. His last piece of bad luck was asking the attendant if he could leave it parked near the office overnight, "because of the valuables in the car". The guy asked what valuables and was told "my father's dead body". The guy looked, freaked and called police. Fourteen radio cars ended up responding. After listening to the poor son's tale of woe, they found him a safe place to park and gave him an escort to Colma the next day. Total cost for the trip was \$114 versus \$1,000...emotional cost is unknown.

I don't know if we have any readers incarcerated in the various facilities of the California Penal System, but

here's a FBT for them...if any. I have it from a very reliable source that TTF recently took down a dealer in the Park District who was carrying 358 grams of cocaine...that's **three hundred fifty eight grams!** After arraignment the Honorable Judge Moscone set bail for this creep at \$500,000, but when he came in front of Judge Meeks the suspect was released OR. Better yet, after reviewing the case against this major dealer, the judge decided in his infinite wisdom to refer him to Mentor Court...meaning no jail time at all. For those of you doing hard time for dealing a few grams here and there...or even for selling some marijuana...too bad, so sad, next time try for Meeker's court.

Loony Lawsuits

The owner of a Chihuahua named Babette took the owner of a boa constrictor named Alissss to court...specifically, TV's "The People's Court". Flossie Torgerson asked the judge for \$5,000 (for emotional distress and the cost of the dog) after Babette was eaten by Alissss. Judge Ed Koch, former mayor of New York, awarded Flossie only \$1,500. He decided that Alissss' owner, Angus Johnson was negligent in letting his snake slither out the door of his apartment, but ruled that California law doesn't allow compensation for bereavement over a deceased canine.

Dorothy Zauhar and her brother, John Dahl, are suing Dorothy's former fiancée, Richard McNutt for "theft by swindle of a body organ". They are asking for \$150,000 in damages. Dorothy and Richard were introduced by a match-making friend and soon were inseparable. They became engaged after six months, and it was then that Richard told her his unhappy story. His kidneys were failing, and he was desperate for a transplant. Dorothy offered him one of hers but was ruled out as a donor. Her brother John agreed to give up one of his kidneys but, in return, asked Richard to guarantee three things: a life insurance policy, \$5,000 to cover his lost pay and a promise that Richard would try to make Dorothy happy forever. Forever doesn't last as long as it used to...on the way home, in fact before they got out of the hospital driveway, Richard backed out of the marriage (the life insurance and the 5 G's never materialized either). Now Dorothy and John contend that Richard romanced Dorothy deceitfully, hoping all along to get a kidney instead of a wife.



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