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**SAN FRANCISCO
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www.sfpoa.org

SFPD: Reform is Coming – Soon

By Mike Hebel,
Political Commentator

A well respected and trusted police department is fundamental to the quality of life in any city. The election of November 2003 had office seekers (mayor and district attorney) putting forth platforms that prominently featured police department reform. Why?



Public confidence in the SFPD was strained and nearly ruptured by its management's response to a series of high profile incidences – most notably the Union Street "Fajitagate." So critical did this become that some members of the Board of Supervisors proposed the consolidation of the SFPD into the Sheriff's Department. This proposal would have ended the SFPD – the oldest police department west of the Mississippi River which had just recently celebrated its first 150 years. This consolidation attempt failed, but another reform measure, Proposition H, did not.

Proposition H

By a 53% majority, the voters increased the Police Commission to seven members. The Mayor will appoint four Commissioners, subject to the Board of Supervisors approval. The other three will be appointed by the Supervisors. Additionally, the Office of Citizen Complaints can now verify and file charges directly with the Police Commission after meeting and conferring with the Chief of Police.

Of Proposition H, U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, a former San Francisco Mayor, stated: "It is the job of the Board of Supervisors to set policy for the City and the job of the Mayor

to manage the Departments. The Board should not seek to grab power from the Mayor. That is why Proposition H is so dangerous."

Supervisor, and now Mayor-elect Gavin Newsom did not support Proposition H. He often stated, during his campaign, that "H" would subject the SFPD to the politics that the

best police departments seek to avoid. It would produce political meddling and less accountability. Amongst all candidates for mayor and district attorney, his was the sole voice opposing Prop. H.

While the intent of Proposition H is to increase public scrutiny of police practices, an unintended consequence could certainly reduce police officer productivity. Successful police work requires officer initiated activity. Perceived overly critical supervision will reduce this much needed activity.

The Newsom Reform

While opposing Prop. H, Mayor-elect Gavin Newsom does believe that Police Department reform is necessary. In his acceptance speech of December 9, he clearly told the assembled crowd that: "The time for change is here. It is time to work in a new direction."

With regard to staffing his administration with its multiple departments, Gavin Newsom has promised to bring the best people possible regardless of their political leanings or campaign contributions. "I want the best and brightest; I want a diversity of opinions. I want people focused on governance, people focused on real

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Chris Cunnie
SFPOA President

2003 was a watershed year, and I am a bit ambivalent about seeing it fade away into POA history. It is the year that offered up personal tragedies, such as the death of Brian Olcomendy, and a significant political defeat in the form of Proposition H. On the other hand, this was a year in which we scored some of our most important political victories, inked one of the best city contracts of the day, and managed to put a new building together just as the old one began crumbling around us. Any way you cut it, it was a fast, roller-coaster year.

We are looking forward to the changes that come with a new mayoral administration. It's time for a change, and we know that mayor-elect Newsom is a bright and forward-looking man who will include the POA and the SFPD in his vision of the future of San Francisco.

There is no doubt that many departmental changes lie ahead at the command and administrative levels. I have confidence in the many young, competent leaders in our ranks who will be given their chance, and who will rise to the occasion. We have an incredibly deep pool of talented, mid-level supervisors and administrators who will, over the course of the next several years, assume the key command and leadership roles in the department. We are looking forward to working with new people with fresh ideas as we move ahead with confidence and optimism.

As for your part in this period of transition, be patient, and don't succumb to the aggravation of the rumor mill. There will be plenty of false and misleading rumors floating around. Let it all go. Continue doing what you do best – serving the people of this city. All of you are resilient professionals who are capable of embracing posi-



tive innovations. Remember that you are the most important element of any policy. No civic or department leader can implement effective changes without the tacit endorsement of the rank-and-file. Your active, day-to-day role in any policy – new or old – is critical to its success. The best leaders understand that, and they will do whatever he or she can to gain your confidence and give you the tools and the support that you will need to accomplish the mission. While we focused on the politicians and administrators in 2003, this will be the year in which all eyes look to you, the man or woman on the street, to deliver on the promises made by your new leaders.

Thank you again for your support. I look forward to working with the new administration to provide you with the best working conditions possible. We are moving out of some tough fiscal times, but we are not yet out of the woods. Keeping all of that in mind, rest assured that we will strive to obtain for you whatever training, tools, and benefits we can to assist you in policing this city.

On behalf of the POA staff and executive board, let me wish all of you and your families much health and happiness in the New Year.

Taraval Officers Pitch in to Clean Up

Staff Report

This photo shows several members of Taraval Police Station along with Supervisor Fiona Ma and community members performing a cleanup along Great Highway and Judah.

Taraval's Captain Keith Sanford has lead the way to cleaning up the district. Sanford and Java Beach owner, Pat Maguire, are working hand in hand with the community to clean up litter and debris along

the Great Highway corridor. This pictured cleanup took place in August and involved planting several trees and the creation of a garden on a previously neglected area on La Playa at Judah.

Sanford and Fiona Ma have enlisted the help of the SF Rec & Park Dept, the Dept of Public Works as well as Taraval Station police officers!

Several cleanups have taken place in the district and more are planned for the future.



Officers pictured are (left to right) Arline Gilmore, Lorenzo Adamson, Captain Sanford (2nd row with baseball cap on) and Barbara Dullea. Supervisor Fiona Ma is pictured front row, second from right.

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' AID ASSOCIATION

December 17, 2003

The regular meeting of the Widows' and Orphans' Aid Association of the San Francisco Police Department was called to order by President Al Aguilar at 2 PM in the conference room of Ingleside Station.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by our President Al Aguilar.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS: President Al Aguilar, Vice President George Jeffery, Trustees Joe Reilly, Joe Garrity, Dave Fontana and Mike Kemmitt. Absent Rene LaPrevotte. Treasurer Jim Sturken and Secretary Mark Hurley.

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING: Motion by Jeffery and seconded by Garrity that the minutes be approved as published. Motion carried.

BILLS: Treasurer Sturken presented the usual bills. Motion by Reilly and seconded by Fontana that the bills be paid. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS: We received several donations made to the memory of our past member Jack Kerrigan. Able Engineering services \$200.00, Vera Mahoney \$100.00, John and Jeanne Fracchia \$100.00, Robert Newton \$100.00, Jasper and Earleen Mateer \$50.00, Steve Buich \$50.00, John and Janet Meehan \$50.00, Douglas and Mary Duncan \$50.00, Richard Violet \$50.00, Susan Manheimer \$50.00, Elsie Euing \$30.00, Douglas and Vicki Bell \$25.00, Nan Cusulos \$25.00, SFVPOA \$25.00, Marion McInerney \$25.00, Dante and Sylvia Bacigalupi \$25.00, Barbara Corning, \$25.00 Mary MacDougall, \$25.00 George and Mary Miller \$20.00, Barbara Schroff \$20.00, Ralph and Patricia Kermoian, \$20.00, Thomas Callen \$50.00, John and Helen Cunningham \$15.00, Karen Alvarado \$10.00, Bette Levin \$10.00, Bruce Jones \$100.00, Philip Ouyang \$250.00, Edward Mosconi \$25.00, Dorothy Golden \$10.00.

We Had Five Deaths The Past Month:

EDISON BLOOM, 85 years. Ed was born in San Francisco, grew up in the Mission, and attended Commerce High. (Currently the Board of Education 135 Van Ness Ave.) He served in the Navy as a Machinist Mate First Class. He was employed as a cab driver before he entered the Police Academy at the age of 31. His first assignment was Potrero for 10 years before he went to Traffic, assigned to Fixed Post. He worked various assignments in the downtown area but was especially remembered at the intersection of Fifth and Market. He had the great size and especially smile of Jackie Gleason. Well known newspaper men of the time, Herb Caen and Jack Rosenbaum often featured Ed in their daily articles "That's not Jackie Gleason directing traffic at Fifth and Market. That's his

look alike, Edison Bloom." Ed received several Captains Comp's and was awarded a Silver medal of Valor for his arrest of two suspects, one armed, in the act of holding up a grocery store clerk.

GEORGE DAWE, 88 years. George was born in Brooklyn, New York. He moved to San Francisco at an early age and grew up in several different neighborhoods in San Francisco. He attended Mission High School. He was employed as a Blueprint Supervisor before he entered the Police Academy in 1941. He went to Richmond Station as his first assignment, a year later he went to Potrero for a few months before going to Mission where he remained until he retired in 1969. George was awarded several Captain Comp's during his career. George worked for many years at the San Francisco Police Credit Union.

NORBERT GUTIERREZ, 65 years. Bert was born in San Francisco and grew up in the Excelsior District. He attended Riordan High School. He served in the Navy as a naval airman for four years, serving on the U.S.S. Lexington. He worked as a warehouseman before entering the Police Academy in 1962. His first assignment was Southern. He worked various assignments and worked his way into the busiest radio car in the district — the well-known Southern 2 car, with Lister and Moore as the day watch. I had the unique honor to work with Bert as my partner for over a year before Bert went to a newly formed unit called the "TAC" squad. Bert worked his way through the tough times of the late 60's and returned to Southern. He made Sergeant a few years later and went to "the Big E," then onto Mission and Central. He was appointed to Lieutenant and went to Richmond for a few months before going back to where his Police career started at Southern. Bert loved the street and especially Southern, and trained many fine officers who are in command of our department today. Bert was awarded two Bronze medals of valor, one very good pinch of three 211 suspects fleeing a hold-up of a grocery store. He got license number and went to an area he thought the suspects might go and, with the assistance of his partner, disarmed and arrested the three suspects.

JOHN FOWLIE, 58 years. John was born in San Francisco and grew up in the Excelsior District. He attended Balboa High School and went on to join the Army. He served in Vietnam receiving the Bronze Star with "V" for valor during the Tet Offensive. Upon discharge he returned to San Francisco and worked as an S.F. Sheriff before entering the Police Academy in 1970. He then worked at Mission, then the

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Attention Readers and Advertisers

The San Francisco Police Officers' Association and POA Journal are terminating their business relationship with advertising solicitor, David Dermer, and with any of his associates, representatives, or agents. During a period of reorganization, the POA Journal will not accept any new advertising.* A notice will appear in the POA Journal when we are prepared to accept new advertising and/or resume current advertising. We regret any inconvenience this may cause, and we thank all of our advertisers, past and present, for their business and support.

*Special attention all current advertisers, or advertisers who have entered into a contract or written agreement with David Dermer for consecutive running ads, or long-term ads, whether paid in whole or in part: The POA appreciates your business and respects your rights as an advertiser. We will continue to print any advertising that has been contracted with David Dermer prior to August of 2003, provided that Mr. Dermer will continue to manage the contract that he made with you or your company. We consider it the responsibility of Mr. Dermer to provide to us, in a timely manner, your ad for each month that it has been contracted to appear in the POA Journal, and to document to us the length and terms of your advertising contract. For questions regarding your advertising contract or other agreement with David Dermer, you may contact him directly by telephone at (415) 863-7550, or by Fax at (707) 556-9300.

Questions regarding the status of POA Journal advertising may be directed to Editor Ray Shine at any of the following contacts:

Email : journal@sfpoa.org
 U.S. Mail: Editor, POA Journal
 510 Seventh Street
 San Francisco, CA 94103
 Phone: 415.279.7441

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The San Francisco Police Officers' Association

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The POA Journal is the official publication of the San Francisco Police Officers' Association. However, opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the SFPOA or the San Francisco Police Department.

- 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, or submitted on disk in Microsoft Word.

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San Francisco Veteran Police Officers' Association

On the second Tuesday of every month, you can visit with other retired police officers at the Veteran POA meetings. We meet at the Immaculate Conception Parish Hall, 3255 Folsom St. Parking is good in the lower yard. Arrive by 11:00 AM and be on your way by 1:30 PM.

Call the Secretary to join at (415) 731-4765



or write to us at P.O. Box 22046, SF 94122.

The Veteran POA has 1045 members. Stay in touch!

AROUND THE DEPARTMENT



By Al Casciato

...Births:

Ben and Debbie Vigil, Treasure Island, are celebrating the birth of their first grandchild, **Juliana Ashley Vigil** born July 28, 2003 to proud parents **Jason and Lorena Vigil**.

Michael and Shelley White, Juvenile Division/Wilderness Program, proudly announce the birth of their first child **Zachary White** 7 lbs. 10 oz., 21 inches born November 16, 2003 at California Pacific Medical Center.

Congratulations to all; we wish you the very best...

...Perfect Season:

Sgt. Frank Lee, Richmond Station, is also the head coach of the Sacred Heart Cathedral freshman football team. Frank deserves congratulations on coaching the team to a perfect 9 - 0 season, which included wins over both city rivals S.I. and Riordan. The team outscored its opponents 230-36 and logged 5 shutouts. In addition to Frank's son **Tommy Lee** the roster also included four other sons of department members - **Martin Barnes**, **Joseph Brophy**, **Chris Heidohrn** and **Kevin Kelly**. Frank stressed discipline on and off the field, which translated to well over half the team maintaining a 3.0 GPA during the season. Go Irish!

...Time to Move?

Steve Johnson, POA Office, reports that the flooding problems at the Hall of Justice are continuing and raw sewage has been released into the building. Steve is recommending that the hall's locker rooms be move to another location. He will be posting bulletins with updates on the contamination tests that are in process...

...Central America or Asia:

DPK Consulting is looking for bilingual officers for projects throughout the world. Interested parties can log on to www.dpkconsulting.com read the latest postings and submit a resume. Non techies can call **Traci N. Okinaga** at 415-495-7772...

...Health Rates:

Ray Mason, Health Service Monitor for the City Employees Retiree Organization, points out that increased premiums are being considered for our system. The rates and benefits Committee of the Health Service System is currently meeting in an effort to set the rates that we will be paying for medical coverage in fiscal year '04-'05...

...Prop A:

The March '04 ballot's Proposition A if passed will authorize the Board of Supervisors to create a 401a Plan for all city employees who are retiring, vesting or resigning to shelter "termination pay" (vacation, sick pay and compensation time) in a tax deferred account (401a). The City Controller estimates that this account would save the City an estimated \$250,000 per year. Station representatives will have a packet in early January that explains the Charter Amendment and illustrates how the tax savings for the city and employee occur...

...Blackout:

The December 20-21 PG&E blackout in downtown San Francisco knocked out power to the Hall of Justice from 1800 hours 12/20 until 1730 hours 12/21. Emergency generators provided light, but all computers, radio based stations and pic battery chargers were knocked out of service. Lesson learned, if there is a citywide blackout the emergency generators need to be adapted to keep base stations and pic batteries charged...

...Christmas Spirit:

Police-Fire Post 456 of the American Legion visited Fort Miley Hospital on the night of December 15. **Patrick Cadigan**, General Work, and **Jennifer Forrester**, Hit and Run, dressed as Santa Claus and an elf. Post Commander **Bob Belt**, Airport Bureau deployed two full squads to help distribute gifts of stuffed animals, candies and money to 240 patients. Doctors, nurses and support were also treated to goodies...The entire event is very emotional for the members of the POST especially when they find a patient that they served with...

...Businesses:

Businesses worth mentioning: **Sears's** department store for leading the way on supporting its employees called to active duty. **Gitty Joon's** (owned by **Gitty and Mike Hebel**) on Union Street near Laguna for going all out on its Nativity scene displays. If you hurry you can still see them. **George Lam Jewelry** at 888 Brannan (415-863-LFLF) for staying open and servicing all those last minute shoppers from the Hall. George just hopes that most will call and come by early for Valentine's Day...

...Where is the Coffee?

Have you noticed that since the Credit Union was remodeled the coffee service at the front door has disappeared? Why? Were too many of us just dropping by for coffee and a chat? So next time you visit the credit union ask. Where is the Coffee??? Does the San Mateo branch have coffee?...

...Wills and Trusts:

We have been getting several calls about Wills and Trusts. Have any of you had any experience with lawyers or trust preparation services? If you would care to share a good experience please drop us a note so we can pass it on here next month...

Announcements, notices or tidbits can be e-mailed to mcasci2525@aol.com, faxed to 552-5741, or mailed to *Around the Department*, 510-7th Street, SF, CA 94103.

TRAFFIC TIPS

By Sgt. John Nestor, OIC
S.T.O.P. Program
Traffic Company



Properly Identify Traffic Violators

Local courts, the Traffic Company, and district police stations have experienced a surge in complaints regarding traffic citations that have been issued to motorists who are using another person's drivers' license information. Such an effort to obstruct justice could be construed as an abstract form of identity theft. This can become very problematic for the person falsely documented as a violator, for the department, and for the issuing officer.

Failure to properly identify a traffic violator can result in the "victim" of this sort of identity theft having an FTA (failure to appear) recorded on their state driving record. This can lead to a suspension of their driving privileges, and impoundment of their vehicles.

Motorists are required by California Vehicle Code (CVC) Section 12951 (a) to have their valid driver's license with them while operating a motor vehicle on a public roadway. Subsection 12951(b) states that the operator shall present their D.L. upon demand to a police officer enforcing the provisions of the vehicle code. Department Bulletin 03-038 reminds officers of their duty under G.O. 9.01 in that when he or she is "issuing a moving violation, an officer shall reasonably ascertain the true identity of the violator..." or "the violator shall be booked."

CVC section 146076(c)(1) states "If a driver is unable to produce a valid driver's license on the demand of a

peace officer enforcing the provisions of this code, as required by subdivision (b) of Section 12951, the vehicle shall be impounded (towed) regardless of ownership, unless the peace officer is reasonably able, by other means, to verify that the driver is properly licensed. Prior to impounding a vehicle, a peace officer shall attempt to verify the license status of a driver who claims to be properly licensed but is unable to produce the license on demand of the peace officer."

Whenever you stop a vehicle for a traffic violation, I recommend that you always ask the driver to sign the citation the way it appears on their license and then compare signatures and the physical description on their driving record. Signature comparison is often a key element used by a traffic court to decide if a party is a victim of identity theft.

If a driver, at the scene of a traffic stop, claims to be properly licensed, but does not have the DL with them you need to investigate further. Ask the driver for other means of identification, (credit cards, passport, employees ID, etc). This, combined with their ability to answer questions about prior addresses, citation history, and accidents on their DL record should help you make a reasonable decision that the driver is who he or she claims to be. If this fails, you should seek the approval of your supervisor to arrest and book the subject. You should also tow the vehicle. When writing your report, describe in detail the inconsistencies of the violator's responses to your investigation.

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Well we have arrived at the beginning of a New Year. What does God have for us in 2004? I'm ready! Ready for the adventure, the challenges ahead and for new experiences in God.

We ended 2003 with such a great victory. The capture of Saddam Hussein.

Thank you God for our President, for it is YOU and you alone who move the hearts of man in whatever way you choose, to fulfill your divine purposes. Thank you for granting him and us this victory and for choosing him to fulfill your plans on earth.

For you are not interested in political parties, you see the heart of man and how you will fulfill your greatest plans on earth. Every king's heart and the heart of every leader are in your hand and you turn them wherever you will. Turn all our leaders' hearts in the way of your wisdom. Let their actions and words be in agreement with your plans and your purposes, whether Democrat or Republican, Jew or Latino, White or Black. Political parties, ethnic backgrounds or the color of someone's skin means nothing in your sight, for it is your purposes that prevail; it is the heart of man that you see and how you can turn that heart in the way you choose.

Father God, thank you from the depths of our hearts, for bringing freedom to your children in Iraq. Thank you for moving the heart of our President Bush towards compassion and the desire to bring justice and freedom to your children, who's cries have

reached your throne of mercy and grace. Protect our President and his family from all the opposition and from those that cannot see your purposes in all that He has done to fulfill your laws. Forgive them. He is not perfect and not anyone of us is. The cry of your children in Iraq reached heavens throne and it was you who seated President Bush in office and only you — all to accomplish your purposes. If it was only for the Freedom of Iraqi people, for that alone we give you Praise and Honor Father. There is FREEDOM in GOD!!!

In spite of what man sees. You are alive and well and you are still on the Throne causing circumstances to fulfill your greatest purposes on earth, for that is what we are all here for. Politics divide us, your spirit unites us. Let us always stir each other up towards good and cause us to be one as you so desire to see your people walk in love and unity. You cried out in your word, *Holy Father; protect them (us) by the power of your name — the name you gave me — (JESUS) so that they may be one as we are one. John 17:11.*

Cause us to see beyond political parties to the human spirit and into your divine purposes in all circumstances Lord. Your word commands us to pray for our leaders in government and for all those in authority, for all authority on earth are under your rule.

I close with a this last line of immense gratitude, not only to our troops in the military throughout the world and those who gave their lives for freedom, but for our very own troops in our San Francisco Police Department who sacrifice daily- For Chief Alex Fagan and his command staff. May God richly bless you and your loved ones!

Always,
The Granados Family

Catastrophic Illness Program 2003

The Behavioral Science Unit, on behalf of the recipients of the Catastrophic Illness Program, would like to thank everyone who donated time to the program. City rules that govern the program do not allow us to print a list of donors as some of you have asked us to do.

We would like to take this time to individually acknowledge each donor with a certificate of appreciation. Recipients of these donations greatly appreciate the help and care during extremely trying and life-threatening circumstances. Oftentimes stress plays a huge role in a person's ability to overcome their health situations in life and not receiving a paycheck is a huge stress. Your donations make it possible for recipients in the program to focus on life and their health without the huge weight of wondering how to survive economically.

This year the S.F.P.D. program had a total of 175 donors and some of these donors gave multiple times during the course of the year to multiple recipients. The average donation was 40

hours and some donors gave many times over that amount.

The S.F.P.D. Catastrophic Illness Program received a total of 9,184 hours of donated time; of this, 8,048 hours were SP time and 1,136 hours were VA time. These numbers continue to be absolutely phenomenal during a very tough year and reflect the genuine care and concern that members of the police department share toward "people in need." A tremendous "Thank You" again to all whom participated in the program and helped with cards, calls, visits, and a variety of care-giving services.

Please contact Officer Ernie McNett at the BSU if you donated time and did not receive your certificate of appreciation. Don't hesitate to call for any additional information, donor forms, or questions at BSU 837-0875.

The Staff of the Behavioral Science Unit,
Sergeant Mary Dunnigan,
Officer Ernie McNett,
Officer Michael Cowhig,
and Maggie Ortelle

Catastrophic Illness Program Donors By Unit 2003:

The following 175 donors donated 8,048 hours of SP, and 1,136 hours of VA for a total contribution of 9,184 hours.

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Co. D	5	BSU	1	JUVE	10	RETI	7
Co. E	6	BURG	5	LEGL	5	ROBB	3
Co. F	2	CSI	5	MCD	2	SEX	6
Co. G	3	DA	3	MEDI	2	SID	3
Co. H	2	ENFO	5	MUNI	1	SOS	1
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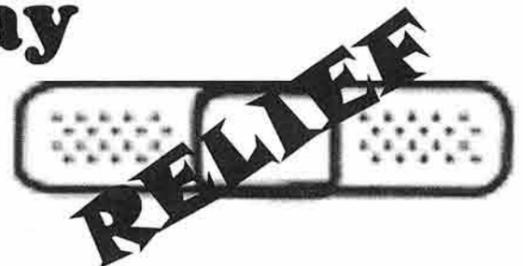
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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Bureau. His first assignment was Southern then Potrero for a couple of years. He went back to Southern and onto Traffic Administration where he made Sergeant and was assigned to Narcotics Golden Gate, N.E.T. John had the street name as "red beard" and was well known on the Streets of Hunter's Point. John always said, "I was born a 100 years too late." He loved history especially with a great pride of his ancestral land of Ireland. John fought cancer for many years and his friends had a benefit that sent him and his wife Jane to Ireland. He moved to Twain Harte and lived the country gentlemen's life for several years before his death.

Jack Kerrigan, 76 years old. Jack was born in San Francisco and grew up in Eureka Valley. He attended Saint Ignatius High School and U.S.F. He served in the U.S. Navy on the U.S.S. Bennington in the Pacific Theater. He returned to San Francisco and worked briefly as a clerk before entering the Police Academy in 1949. He was assigned to the juvenile bureau as his first assignment. His next assignment was B.S.S. as an Inspector, then Narcotics as a Sergeant. In 1970, he made Lieutenant and worked Juvenile and Patrol Bureau Headquarters. He then saw his first taste of being a Lt. at Taraval Station, followed by Northern, then Southern. In 1978 he went back to the Bureau, worked Investigations, and finished out as a Captain in Field Operations. Jack was awarded several Captain Comp's and a Silver Medal of Valor for his arrest of a robbery suspect who just robbed a drug store. Jack remained active with the naval reserve as a Captain assigned to the Intelligence division for over 33 years. He was recognized as an expert on his knowledge of Narcotics on the State and Federal level. He was still em-

ployed with the California Department of Justice until his death.

SUSPENSIONS: The following member is dropped from the roles as per Article III, Section 3, of the by laws. (Did not complete probation) Stephanie Quock.

REINSTATED: Julie Lazar, with payment of back dues Pursuant to Section 5 of Article III of the Constitution. President Al Aguilar so ordered.

REPORT OF TRUSTEES: Mr. Bruce Bain of Bank of America passed out material and gave a presentation on the status of our account. Our account is up 9.5% for the year. Our Asset allocation Cash 2.75%, Stocks 43.72%, Bonds 44.39%, Hedge Fund 6.09% and REIT 3.05%. The Market seems to be approving at a slow rate and we seemed to be well placed for the long haul. Mr. Bain made no recommendations on buys or sells this month.

NEW BUSINESS: With the recent death of our data entry operator, Maryliz Lincoln, it was left to Treasurer Sturken and Secretary Hurley to send out the bills to the retired members and collect and file all the necessary documents. We will be a little busy, but should have no trouble keeping the books in order.

OLD BUSINESS: Nomination of Officers for the coming year. President George Jeffery, Vice President Joe Reilly. Treasurer Jim Sturken. Trustees Rene LaPrevotte and Joe Garrity. President Al Aguilar ordered their election and they are to be sworn in and at the meeting in January 2004.

ADJOURNMENT: President Aguilar had a moment of silence for our departed members as well as our data operator Maryliz Lincoln. He set the next meeting for Wednesday January 21, 2004 at 2 PM in the conference room of Ingleside Station.

Fraternally,
Mark Hurley,
Secretary

Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken.
— MATTHEW 24:29

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POA Board of Directors' Meeting

POA Building, December 17, 2003

1300: Meeting Convened

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call and Attendance

Unit	Present	Excused	Absent
President	Chris Cunnie		
Vice Pres.	Gary Delagnes		
Treasurer	Jack Minkel		
Secretary	Tom Shawyer		
Editor		Ray Shine	
Co. A	Ron Ophir George Rosko		
Co. B	Jason Fox Kevin Martin		
Co. C	Mike Moran George Ferraez		
Co. D	Teresa Ewins Tony Montoya		
Co. E	Steve Murphy		John Van Koll
Co. F	Patrick Burke Mike Siebert		
Co. G	Sean O'Leary Dean Sorgie		
Co. H	Jennifer Marino Val Kirwan		
Co. I	John Scully Joe Finigan		
Co. J	Jesus Pena Theresa San Giacomo		
Co. K	Frank Lutticken Don Moorehouse		
Tac	Mike Favetti		Mark Madsen
Narcotics	Lynne Atkinson John Cagney		
Invest.	Jim Balovich Dan Leydon		
HQ	Dennis Callaghan Neville Gittens		
SFO	Bob Belt Bob Swall		
Retired	Gale Wright		

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Jefferson Ng Family Prevails

By Mike Hebel
SFPOA Welfare Officer

On December 3, 2003 Administrative Law Judge Melissa Crowell issued her order granting the application of Rose Ng for death in the line of duty allowance.

Lt. Jefferson Ng, assigned to the Airport Bureau, died on April 29, 2000 of multiple causes including heart trouble. Following a trial of four days, at the Retirement Board, between the period of December 21, 2001 and July 19, 2002, the matter was submitted for decision. Thereafter, the principle issue in this case – heart trouble, went to the Board of Supervisors for resolution.

Jefferson became an airport police officer at the San Francisco International Airport in 1975. As an airport officer, he was a member of the Public Employees Retirement System. In August of 1998, he was reclassified as a Lieutenant in the San Francisco Police Department following the incorporation of the Airport Police Department into the SFPD. By virtue of the reclassification, Lt. Ng became a member of the San Francisco City and County Employees' Retirement System. Imme-

diately following his death, the first hurdle that the Ng family faced was which Retirement System would provide a death benefit. After much discussion between the two systems, it was finally determined in December of 2000 that the City and County of San Francisco Employees' Retirement System was the appropriate jurisdiction in which to file the claim.

Medical – Legal Controversy

Of the four days of trial on this application, three were devoted to eliciting medical testimony from experts presented on both sides. The Retirement System relied on Dr. John O'Brien, M.D. who had concluded that unless the heart presumption applied, the cause of death would be non-industrial.

On behalf of the Ng family, Dr. Robert Blau M.D. concluded that Lt. Ng's death was due to a host of medical problems, including heart trouble. This specialist found Lt. Ng's death to be work related since industrial elements of heart trouble and heart disease played a major role in his death and that the heart disease shortened Ng's life as well as causing severe brain injury. Dr. Blau also opined that the

death would be clearly work related if the heart presumption were to apply; even without the heart presumption, Dr. Blau felt that this was an industrial death.

The Heart Presumption

The heart presumption, found at section 16.85 and 16.86 of the San Francisco Administrative Code, provides that heart trouble which develops or manifests itself while a member is employed with either the Police or Fire Department shall be presumed to arise out of the course of employment, unless there is evidence to the contrary. This presumption requires five or more years of service in the Police or Fire Department in order for it to be effective. In Lt. Ng's case, he was a member of the International Airport Department from 1975 to 1998. No heart presumption was in effect for members of the International Airport Police Department. They were not covered by the administrative code provision in that this department was separate and distinct from the Police and Fire Departments.

When Lt. Ng joined the SFPD in 1998 he became entitled to the presumption but only after he had completed five years. At the time of his death he had been a member of the Police Department for 20 months – falling far short of the required five years.

When it became very apparent that Mrs. Ng would not receive a monthly pension from the PERS System and that her application at the City's Retirement Board was contested because of the absence of a heart presumption, the Police Association and Firefighters' Union went to work at the Board of Supervisors.

Chris Cunnie and Mike Hebel from the POA in conjunction with John Hanley and Joe Moriarity of the Firefighters' Union put together an amendment to the administrative code so that Lt. Ng's employment time at the San Francisco Airport would count toward the heart presumption. With the able assistance of Clare Murphy, Executive Director the Retirement Board and the Board's General Counsel Dan Maguire, the matter was submitted to and passed unanimously by the Board of Supervisors. Without this amendment to the heart presumption provision, the Ng family could have easily been left without the monthly pension benefit which Lt. Ng had earned with his 25 years of service to the City and County of San Francisco.

Special thanks are given to John Hanley, President, and Joe Moriarity, Vice-President, of the San Francisco Firefighters' Union for their efforts on behalf of Lt. Ng's family.

Lt. Jefferson Ng

At this lengthy trial, coworkers of Lt. Ng testified as to his work performance, courage and skill, and dedication to duty. Captain Mario Gonzalez, Lt. Sam Craig, Sgt. Gerald Ishida, and

Officers Robert Chapman and Thomas Tang testified. Lt. Ng's son, Philip, also testified as to the stresses his father underwent as a San Francisco Police Officer. These witnesses especially emphasized Lt. Ng's exemplary work with the Airport's Bomb Explosive Unit (EOD) and his work as a safety expert, assisting in the remodeling process of the new international terminal. Lt. Craig described Jefferson as a dedicated and caring police officer. He was described by Captain Gonzalez as very conscientious, extremely intelligent, ethical, hard working, and compassionate. Testimony of Officer Chapman was particularly compelling when he described what it feels like to be inside the bomb suit and helmet working on an actual incident. He described how he and Lt. Ng handled various EOD incidents at the Airport. Often Lt. Ng would state "This could be my last walk up." They never knew for sure because everyone of these incidents was totally life threatening. Sgt. Ishida testified to the physical and emotional stress that Lt. Ng was under being on-call 24 hours a day as a bomb technician. Officer Tang described the Lieutenant as an individual always thinking about work with the safety of police personnel as a primary issue. He described Lt. Ng as a person who felt a strong duty and obligation to his Department. Philip, the Ng family's oldest son, described the pride his father took in his work and the emotional toll that his many years with the bomb squad had taken on his father. Philip was told to by his father to "Take care of the family" whenever Lt. Ng received a page do to a bomb call at the Airport and had to leave a family function.

Benefits Awarded

For three and a half years following the death of their husband and father, the Ng family was uncertain as to whether a monthly benefit would be awarded. No monthly benefit was payable from the PERS System following the transfer into the CCSF Retirement System. A non-industrial death benefit was not payable since Lt. Ng had not been a member of the CCSF Employees Retirement System for the requisite ten years. At the outset of this case, no heart presumption applied since Jefferson had not been a member of the San Francisco Police Department for the requisite five years.

The Ng family will now receive a monthly death in the line of duty benefit because of the testimony of fellow employees and Dr. Robert Blau at the trial, and most especially because of the partnership between the Retirement System, the POA, and the Firefighters' Union to write and lobby for an amendment (Ordinance #29-03) to the heart presumption section in the SF Administrative Code. Special thanks is also given to the Board of Supervisors which unanimously passed the heart presumption ordinance and to Mayor Willie Brown who signed this legislation into law. With this extraordinary effort, the family of an extraordinary police lieutenant now receives the benefits which he worked so hard for them to enjoy.

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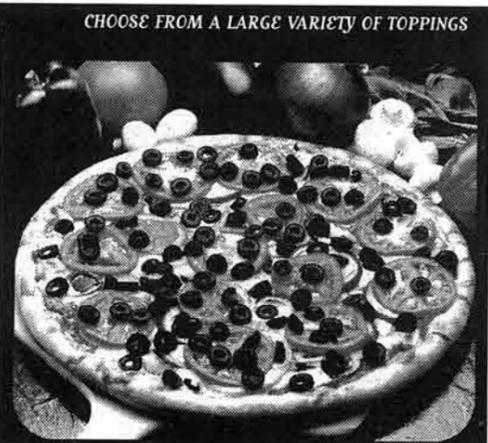
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SFPD Training Division

Force Options

By Sgt. Dennis Quinn
Force Options Coordinator

Years ago, when I was a young officer assigned to the Ingleside, my partner and I received a call of shots fired on Arlington Street. When we arrived at the late evening call, we found two individuals in the middle of the street. One was supine on the pavement with two .25 cal. bullet holes in the center of his chest. His friend was tending to him by applying ice to the wounds. (It had the effect of cleaning up the injuries nicely, but in reality probably just pushed his friend that much faster into the grave.) The suspect, an acquaintance, had already fled.

My partner for the night, a more senior officer, took one look, and quietly said to me, "We're going to need the coroner on this one."

The friend with the ice overheard the remark.

"Yeah," he interjected, "but other than that, how's he gonna be?"

How, I thought to myself, could he not comprehend? Clearly, he heard the words, even though they were uttered quietly. Yet he had not understood. Was it the shock of the moment, or perhaps the frustration of not being able to do anything that got in the way? It was years later before I would learn of "auditory exclusion" and how it can affect our understanding.

In the Force Options classroom we emphasize the importance of words, both spoken and written. Words are often used to announce, to command and to reassure. Words are used with witnesses, victims, suspects and officers alike. Words can sting or overwhelm, often times depending upon how we use them. But however we use them we want to be heard and remembered and understood. We don't want a situation like the uncomprehending mend mentioned above. So we try to speak loudly, directly and briefly.

Recently there was a newspaper article detailing the trial of two officers accused of a Federal civil rights violation involving allegations of improper use of force. They were cleared. One of the attorneys commented that the trial came down to one word against another. So the incident came down to a matter of words: perhaps words used in the initial encounter, words conveyed to the supervisor, words written in the incident report and certainly words used in testimony.

One of the older scenarios we use in Force Options training involves a suspect who picks up an object and "charges" the off-screen officer. The "object" turns out to be a large bladed weapon. In talking to the officer after-

wards I often ask him or her to imagine being in Federal court three years down the road and having to describe the setting for the judge and jury. Which word, I ask, conveys most specifically, what the suspect held in his hands: weapon, knife or machete? Almost all of the participants choose the word "machete." The reason? "Machete," a large fixed-blade tool designed for hacking through jungles, conjures up a distinct image in the minds of those listening. "Weapon" or "knife" tend to be more generic, but there is no mistaking the meaning of "machete." Again, words can be used to reinforce and re-create the threat an officer might face. Why settle for those words which don't deliver the full message?

Critiques: All of the comments on the critiques are read by the instructors. Most are positive. One comment did, however, state that the officer felt the class was treated "like kids." I can only guess what that might have meant since nothing further was written. If it was in regards to keeping guns and ammunitions out of the classroom, I make no apologies. We do check and re-check to make sure that live ammunition is kept out of the classroom. We do not compromise on safety... We have taken into consideration that officers out on the street do work as partners, so we are putting some officers through as a team, with one being the designated "contact" officer and the other being the designated "cover" officer.

Recently members of the Bayview community attended two Force Options night sessions at the Academy. These were two small groups that were invited by Captain Michael Puccinelli of Bayview Station as a way of informing citizens as to how we train and what an officer might experience in having to make a split-second use of force decision. The two groups enjoyed their experience and learned a little bit of what an officer goes through out there on the street.

Also: Available through Calibre Press: "The Worst Is Over: What to Say When Every Moment Counts" (Judith Acosta/ Judith Simon Prager 323 pages). Words have the power to heal in a literal sense. Officers on scene in a crisis situation can use those words to tend to the injured and dying and at times bring victims successfully through a crisis. With the right words an officer can get a victim to breath or even control bleeding. Words definitely have power behind them. Worth reading.

Driving in Reverse

By Off. Jose Pubill,
EVOC Unit

Everyday we routinely patrol in our "radio cars" going from location to location handling a variety of assignments. That is until we hear the "A" priority call or the urgent request from another officer who is in need of assistance. Calls such as these will have an effect on you. Your sight perception will decrease and your need to get to the call quickly interferes with your ability to operate your patrol vehicle, especially when driving in reverse.

Characteristics

Driving in reverse is probably one of the most difficult vehicle maneuvers to execute, whether in a stress or non-stress situation. There are several things to notice: Steering response is delayed because it is the rear of the vehicle that is now doing the steering and with every turn you execute the front end will swing out (front-end swing). The direction of the swing is dependant upon which way the wheels are turned therefore, proper vehicle placement is essential prior to the turning move. Vision is limited because you're sitting further back in the vehicle and you cannot easily see directly in front of the trunk because of the new car design.

Positioning

How many times have you seen a driver using only the rearview mirrors while reversing? This is a bad habit. Most people probably practice this because it's the easiest thing to do and it doesn't produce any physical discomfort.

Rearview mirrors are for looking rearward while you are moving forward. They are not to be exclusively used for parking maneuvers.

The proper position to drive in reverse is to turn your body to the right so that your right shoulder touches your backrest cushion. If necessary, lift yourself high on the seat by using your left leg to push your body upwards towards the ceiling. This position affords the best vision. Your left hand is placed at the twelve o'clock position,

palms (palming) the wheel to the desired steering direction and your right foot is placed on the brake. To avoid neck and muscle strains, adjust your position to maximize your comfort.

Slow Speed Reverse Driving

Place yourself in the proper driving position and place the gear in reverse. While you are reversing you should be looking through the rear window and monitor the front end swing, especially while turning. Continue looking through the rear windshield until the maneuver is completed and the vehicle comes to a stop.

All movements should be smooth and coordinated.

Fast Speed Reverse Driving

Place yourself in the proper driving position and place the gear in reverse. Use two hands on the steering wheel.

Place the left hand at the twelve o'clock position and the right hand at the five o'clock position. The reason for this two handed technique is to reduce the vibration caused by a castering effect. These vibrations start at the front wheels, travel through the steering column, and finally to the steering wheel. The greater the speed, the greater the vibration becomes, and hence the greater the need for maximum vehicle control. If possible, you may also use your left thigh to stabilize the steering wheel.

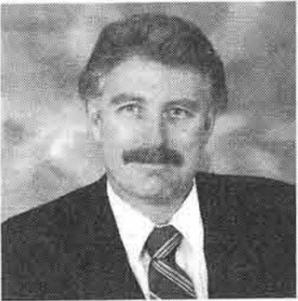
During a steering movement the left hand feeds the right hand

The right hand then releases as needed for directional control.

All movements should be smooth and coordinated to maximize vehicle control. Any sudden or abrupt movements while turning are greatly exaggerated at the higher speeds. This is the critical time where the loss of vehicle control is the greatest.

The techniques listed above are simple and designed to assist you in safely operating not only your police vehicle but your personal vehicle as well. These techniques will work if you practice them long enough to become second nature and will help you avoid a collision.

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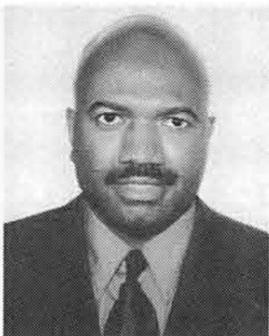
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There are now more than the required 20 persons booked, so the tour is definitely on.

For more information call Larry Barsetti: 415-566-5985 or via e-mail at: larry175@ix.netcom.com.



US Troops Seek SFPD Patches

This photograph, taken recently at a landing zone outside of Kabala, Iraq, is of CW2 Paul Dulfer, an Army Black Hawk helicopter pilot currently serving in country. Paul is the nephew of retired SFPD Inspector Joe Kennedy, and cousin of Pat Kennedy, Northern Station.

Paul asked for SFPD patches as some of his fellow pilots are using American law enforcement shoulder patches to adorn their flight uniforms.



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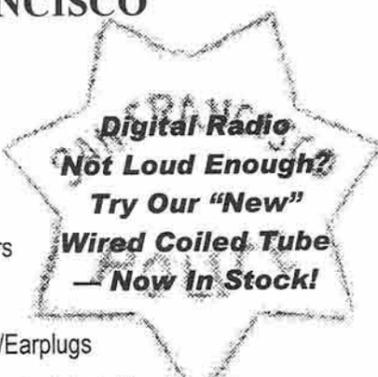
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Treasurer's Message

New POA Building Coming to Fruition

By Jack Minkel
POA Treasurer

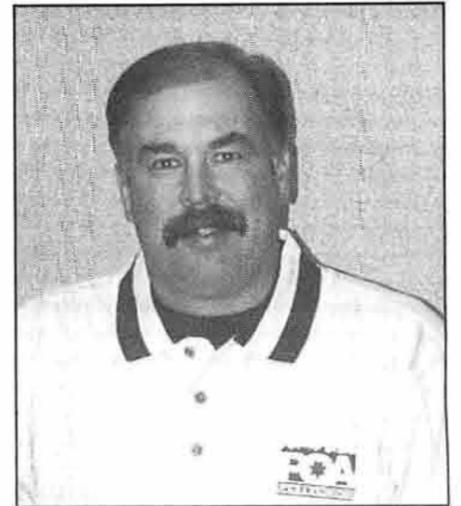
Work on the new POA Office and Conference Center is well underway. The building sits on the northwest corner of Sixth and Bryant Streets. It is a new three story commercial building. We already have two long-term tenants on the ground floor; Burger King and Tully's Coffee. The second and third floors will be exclusively for POA offices and conference space.

We anticipate that the building will be complete and ready to move into by the end of January. We are looking

forward to the day when we can conduct the business of this association without worrying about covering the fax and copier with plastic tarps each time it rains! It will also be nice to work in a space that does not throw electrical breakers whenever the furnace and paper shredder fire up at the same instant. Moreover, of course, who will miss the delightful odor that emanates from the men's room each time the plumbing clogs up? (Hey guys, won't it be nice to not be sprayed in the crotch each time you flush the urinal?)

The new building was not only a bargain, it will also be state of the art in terms of the building codes and of-

fice systems. We will have a totally networked information system that will not only speed up the processing of documents and bulletins, but saves money on extra printers and fax machines. We will have, at last, proper filing equipment and ample capacity. Editor Ray Shine will no longer have to stack thirty years of POA archives in his upstairs closet at his home. We will soon have file drawers that will house every POA paper that has printed in the last three decades and these will be made available for any member to peruse or use for research.



Current Building...
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New Building...
Corner of 6th & Bryant

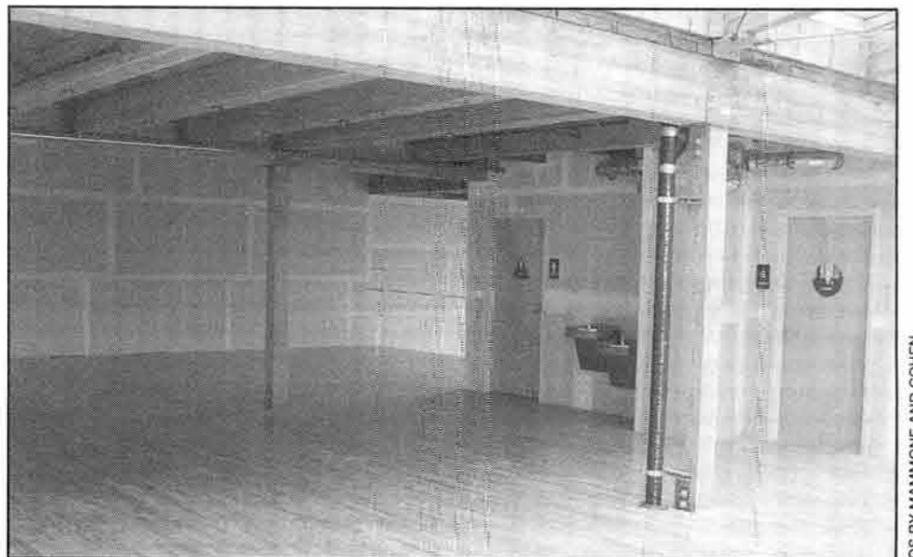
October 1, 2003



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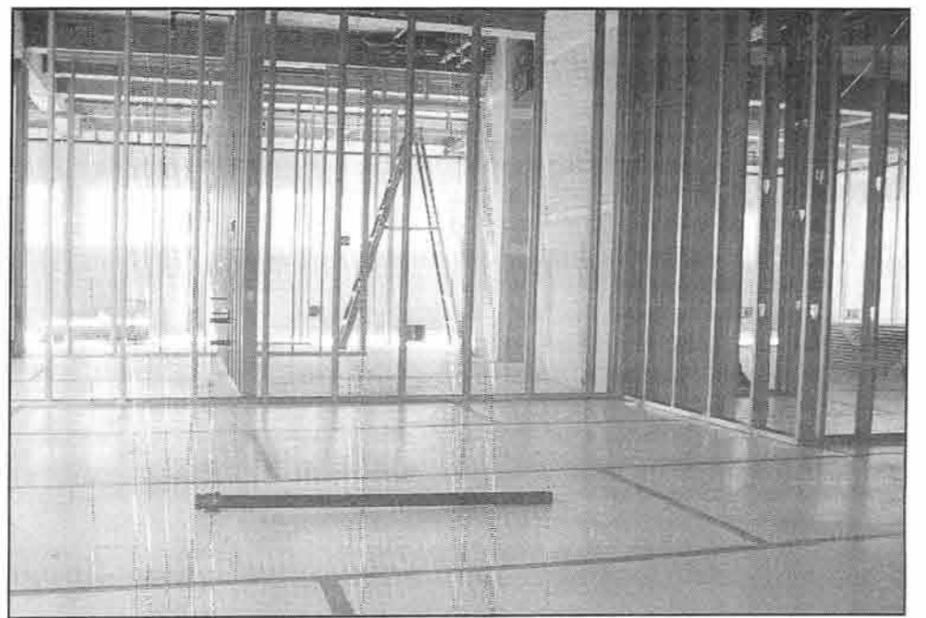
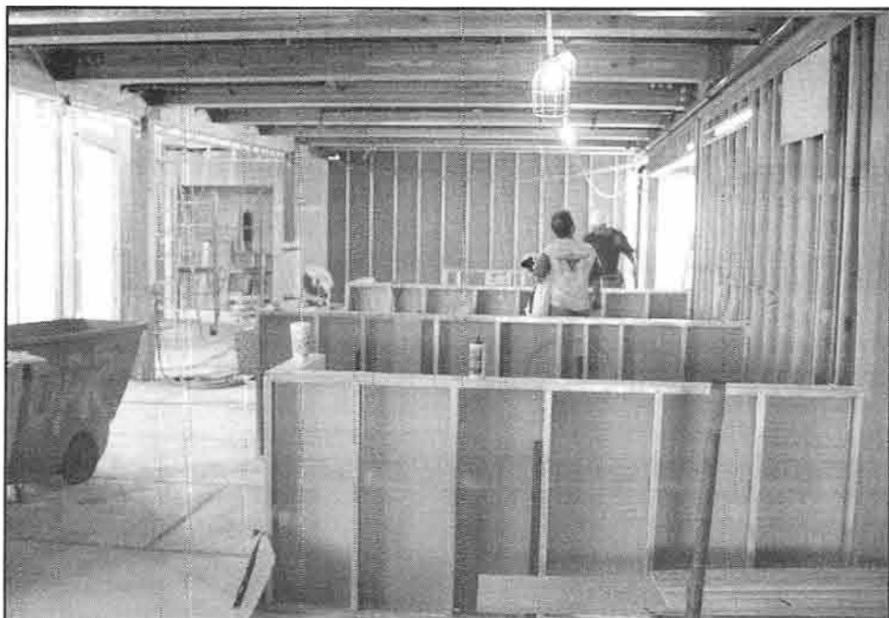
New officers will be light and airy.



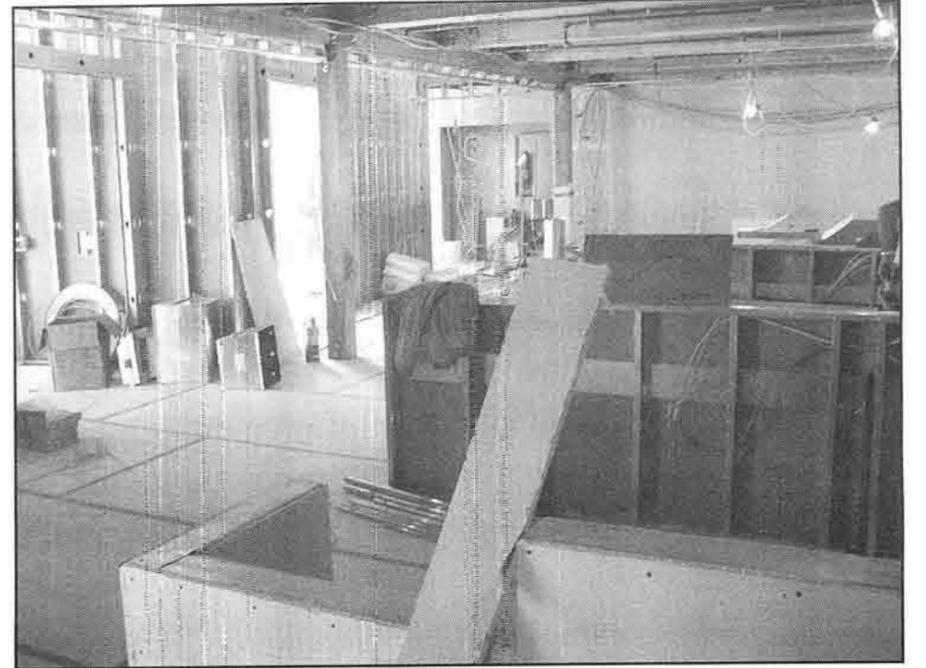
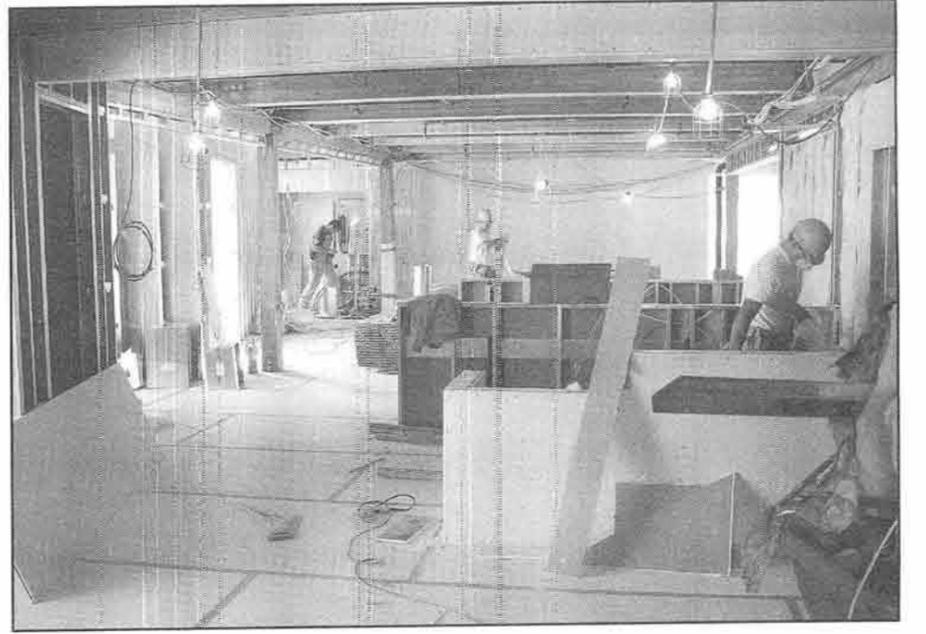
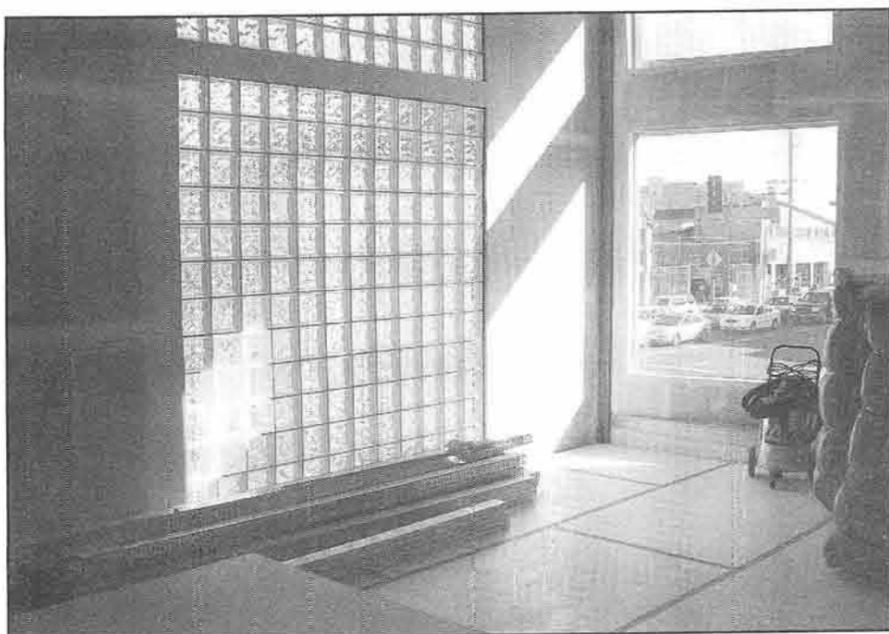
Even without paint, it looks better than our current meeting hall.

PHOTOS BY MAMMONE AND COHEN

October 19, 2003



December 11, 2003



Letters



To The Members of the San Francisco Police Department:

Men and Women of the SFPD, it is with a mixture of both joy and a heavy heart that I bid my brother and sisters of the SFPD goodbye. After 34 years, I felt it was time to move on, and pass along one of the greatest jobs, in the greatest department in this country. I have never regretted one single day in the SFPD, and I have met and become friends with hundreds of you and I pray every day that you too will get to retirement safe and sane.

You need to know, that despite the whisperings of people who don't share your courage, you have absolutely the most dedicated and honorable command staff I can remember running our department. Alex Fagan, Greg Suhr, Bob Puts, Rick Bruce and the rest, not only take media heat daily, but knowing each of these people the way I do, they would literally step in front of a bullet meant for YOU. They are "Cops' Cops" and have walked many miles in your shoes.

I want to thank the 200 people who came to my send-off dinner at the Marines' Memorial Club the 15th of November. Special thanks to the Latin Police Officers Association who honored me with my retirement star. Seeing both the old and new, with whom I've worked in these past three decades reinforces in one's heart that this is, without doubt, the most honorable calling a man or woman can answer to. (Despite the moronic charges of the Chronicle and SF media that you are a "Department out-of-control"). The media needs to look just about anywhere BUT San Francisco in its witch hunt for non-existent corruption... Fajita-Gate my ass.

Leaving the department, I know well, that the job is in capable hands. The young men and women pushing the radio cars on the night watches are the brightest people I have ever worked with, and that includes "The Good Old Days." The guts and dedication of cops like Nick Ferrando fill my heart with pride that I have worn the same uniform as you.

In closing, I'd like to thank Officers Bob Mamone and Andrew Cohen who compiled a video essay of my career (Note to Matier & Ross - they did it on their OWN time). That tape ends with the song they did for their "Hearts of the City" tape, and at the end of the song is a recording of a female communications dispatcher over-riding the song with a code 33. In making five copies of the tape for my family, I cried every time I heard the Code 33.

Please be careful; be safe and watch-out for one another, physically and politically. I love you, each and every-one.

Rene LaPrevotte
Always with you

To the San Francisco Police Department,

My name is Kimberly Mullins. I am the oldest of four children of two SF police officers, Patrick and Kathleen Mullins. On November 20, 2003, my grandfather, Edward Mullins, passed away. On November 25, many of you joined family and friends in honoring him. I don't think you know quite how much it meant to our entire family that you did what you did. It made me so proud to see so many police officers come and support their fellow officers and soon to be officers in mourning their father. Not only did I see personal family and friends from the police department, but I also saw members of the SFPD soccer team, which my grandfather came and supported no matter where the games were being played. I saw my uncles, Jimmy and Kerry Mullins' Academy class present at the funeral as well as officers and bosses that my parents work with every day. I must say, it made my entire family very proud to see the support we received from all of you.

Also, a special thanks to the amazing police officers who escorted all of us to the cemetery. On the ride there I rode with my cousins. We were in awe and had to smile at how you shut down traffic for the Mullins Clan. We all agreed that my grandfather would have enjoyed seeing everything turned upside down just for him. The officers who helped get everyone to the cemetery hold a special place in our hearts.

Thank you to ALL of the San Francisco Police Officers who gave my grandfather a memorial that he truly deserved. My grandfather had a lot of friends, except they weren't considered friends, they were family. All of you in the police department have a special place in the Mullins family. Thank you again so much for supporting and joining us is remembering a great man, Edward Mullins.

With Sincere Thanks,
Kimberly Mullins

December 1, 2003
Terrence Hallinan
Candidate for District Attorney

Dear Mr. Hallinan:

I received your letter requesting my support for the District Attorney's race. I couldn't possibly

support you less. As a police officer in the City, I have sat court while you sent drug dealers to diversion. Drug dealers. I don't think you care, but these are the people that are spreading the cancer of crime and destruction throughout the City. It may surprise you to know that the drug problem has an enormous impact on the rest of the crime in the City. It especially carries over to assaults, robberies, and burglaries. People with real drug addictions need help, but not when they are getting others hooked on drugs. Again, I don't think you care, but drug dealers are coming to San Francisco because of you. I have spoken with admitted dealers who have told me that they come here because they don't fear any serious consequences from your office. How does this make the good citizens feel? They don't feel safe.

Your cooperation with the police department is probably the worst in the nation. You seem to be more concerned about legalizing marijuana than having a serious impact on crime. Victims of crime get no justice. You have had eight years to "go after corruption." That's a nice little campaign slogan, but your job is to prosecute criminals and your conviction rate has been horrible. The SFPD command staff indictment was laughable. Your missteps in that case showed the real level of you competence. You place blame for your poor record on others and assume no responsibility yourself. What does this teach young people?

I supported Bill Fazio because I felt he would be a strong DA and we could get the DA's office back on track. Now, if he supports you, he will lose any credibility he may have had with the citizens.

Please remove my name from any mailing lists you have.

Sincerely,
Michael J. Favetti
Police Officer

Chris-

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the POA for its support of the SFPD Mounted Unit's participation at the Grand National. The color guard competition was held on Saturday, October 25, 2003. The SFPD Mounted Unit finished second. Current and retired members of the unit attended the event. We also had a few loyal volunteers who came out and assisted to prepare the team for the competition.

On everyone's behalf, I thank you and the association again for the support. Your help made it a very enjoyable and successful day.

Happy Holidays To All!
Bill Simms
SFPD Mounted Unit

Dear Chris and Marty -

We are in receipt of your generous contribution to Police/Fire Post #456 of the American Legion. I cannot begin to express my appreciation for your gift. Because of you, and others like you, we will again be able to

bring a little joy and happiness to the lives of our hospitalized veterans. The American Legion looks forward to visiting our oft forgotten, but unsung heroes at the San Francisco Veteran's Hospital every year. Your contribution allows us to visit with those less fortunate than us and give them a little inspiration and entertainment. We give each patient a Christmas card, cookies, \$20.00 and a small token from the branch of service in which they served. This year we will also have a Santa and a helper to give them a small remembrance of our visit. Without your assistance, we would not be able to provide this service to our comrades.

We sincerely thank you for allowing us to visit and pay small tribute to those who gave so much for our country. The America Legion appreciates your generosity and wishes all of our brethren in the POA a very HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON.

Sincerely,
Robert W. Belt,
Commander

American legion Police/Fire Post #456

Editor -

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, Yu-Ai Kai raised over \$125,000 last year, which accounted for over 20% of our total annual revenue budget. As a result, Yu-Ai Kai was able to provide services to elderly clients in the Senior Day Services, Nutrition Lunch, Activities, and Wellness Programs.

Sincerely yours,
Yu-Ai Kai Board of Directors

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$100.00 dated October 3, 2003 for the Riley Center. It is people like you who help us to fulfill our mission "to accomplish through charity what justice alone cannot do." For over 140 years in San Francisco, need has been the only requirement to receive help from the Society. Every day over 1,000 people in San Francisco suffering from poverty, homelessness, substance abuse, and domestic violence are helped through the Society's programs - to help themselves.

Sincerely,
Teresa Martyn
The Riley Center
Of the St. Vincent De Paul Society

Dear Friends,

I am writing to you on behalf of the RCH Board of Directors, staff, and the over 2,000 individuals who participate in our programs. RCH would like to thank you for your donation of \$200 to our annual Casino Night fundraiser. Your participation and generosity is greatly appreciated and will continue to provide support for our participants throughout the year.

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Book Review

Dark and Tangled Threads of Crime:

San Francisco's Famous Police Detective, Isaiah W. Lees

By William B. Secrest
Word Dancer Press \$15.95

Reviewed by Kevin Mullen

It is a commentary on the impermanence of fame that few modern San Franciscans would be able to identify Isaiah Lees, the first Captain of Detectives in the San Francisco Police Department. Similarly, it would have been just as difficult to find anyone in San Francisco in the second half of the nineteenth century who was unfamiliar with Captain Lees and his accomplishments.

In his *Dark and Tangled Threads of Crime*, Bill Secrest begins to set things aright by rescuing Lees from an undeserved obscurity. Isaiah Lees, whose almost 50-year career as a San Francisco police detective gained him an international reputation as one of the world's leading detectives, is reflected in Secrest's biography as one of those rare individuals whose talents and temperament are uniquely suited to their time, place, and situation.

When municipal police departments were first established in nineteenth century cities, the initial concept was that uniformed "preventive" police officers would, by their presence on patrol, inhibit those inclined to commit crime. Some of the proponents of the new system believed that predatory crime could actually be eliminated by these methods.

As a practical matter, no municipality has ever had a tax base sufficient to provide enough preventive patrols to eliminate crime and it soon became evident that something more was needed. Beginning in Boston in 1846, American cities began forming detective police units. Patrol officers would attempt to prevent crime or make an arrest if possible. Detectives were expected to follow up on those cases in which no arrest was made in order to identify offenders, or, when arrests were made, to do the post-arrest collection of evidence necessary to secure a conviction.

The police force established in San Francisco in 1849—the year Lees arrived—was a preventive or protective department; there was no detective element. By early 1851, however, as offenders slipped through the justice system, the *Daily Alta California*, after one particularly egregious lapse, commented that "it should be the duty of some one, when notorious thieves are thus arrested, to hunt up evidence and convict the suspected persons, if guilty."

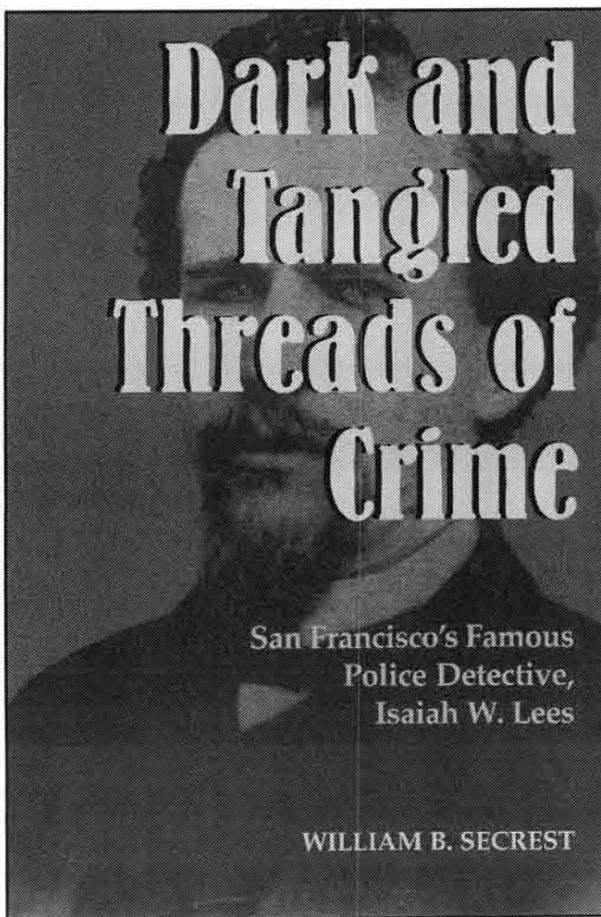
Like many others, Lees was unsuccessful in his efforts to find gold and he returned to San Francisco where he went to work for the Union Iron Works, South of Market Street. It was there, in 1852, that he received his first taste of the work that was to consume his life.

In September, adjacent to where Lees worked, a Spaniard named Jose Forni was observed by several witnesses to chase down a Mexican named Rodriguez in broad daylight and stab him to death. There was no question that Forni had done the stabbing, but his story was that he had killed the man in self-defense after the man had tried to kill and rob him of \$300 he was carrying. Though not yet a member of the department, Lees became involved in the crime through friendships with police officers and he aided materially in prosecuting the case. Forni was found guilty in District Court and later that year was hanged on Russian Hill before a crowd of thousands, earning the dubious honor of being the first man legally executed in American San Francisco.

In response to a spate of unsolved robberies, several months later the editor of the *Alta* again brought up the subject of establishing a detective police force. "[We] would suggest the organization of a small 'detective police' of about six men here," he wrote, "who would be selected with the greatest care as to their integrity and capabilities." Nothing was to come of the suggestion at that time, either.

On October 26, 1853, the 23 year-old Isaiah Lees was appointed to the police force, unknowingly putting himself on the ground floor of a new era of police work in the Far West. A year later a basic detective unit was indeed finally initiated.

The new officer's abilities were quickly recognized and he was put in charge of the detective unit with the title of assistant captain. In those early days, Lees and his men had to depend on natural abilities, rather than a criminal science that was yet to evolve.



Although appointed captain of detectives in 1856, in the turbulent political climate of the early department Lees was soon bounced back to patrolman. Reappointed captain in late 1859, he was to hold that post continuously until appointed Chief of Police in 1897.

Lees led a life of high excitement and drama, ranging from corralling burglars and con men to chasing stage robbers and forgers around the country. His physical prowess, as well as his innovative, psychological approach to fighting crime, made him truly a legend in his own time.

In his detailed study of Lees' career during the second half of the nineteenth century, Secrest takes us from the turbulent days of the Vigilance Committees of the early 1850s to the "Crime of the Century" belfry murders near the century's end. Along the way he records the criminal justice history of the city and the important part Lees played in the story. In accomplishing his task, Secrest shows us the exciting evolution of a fascinating city, the development of the detective police, and the life of Isaiah Lees.

Isaiah Lees has long deserved to be the subject of a full biography, and Bill Secrest is a worthy chronicler of that life.

Copies may be obtained from *Amazon.com*, most Costco stores, and many large books stores.

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SFPD: Reform is Coming – Soon

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

results. This is performance politics not patronage politics."

During the campaign Newsom issued 21 position papers full of ideas, promises, and pledges that he called the blueprint for his new administration. Solutions were offered, many borrowed from other cities, to improve San Francisco's parks, Muni railway, chronic homelessness, panhandling situation, department administrations, affordable housing, the City's sputtering economy and public safety.

Gavin Newsom presented himself to the voters as a pragmatist, someone more interested in solving problems than winning an ideological debate. His campaign promises included a computerized mapping system of City trouble spots, denser housing complexes targeted to middle income earners, creation of business improvement districts, public school subsidies, replacement of cash welfare aid with services for the homeless, and requiring City departments to set and abide by customer service standards. Mayor-elect Newsom's platform focused on the homeless policy, economic development, and measures to improve the quality of life in the City's many neighborhoods.

During his mayoral run, Gavin Newsom said he would replace the chief executive of several City departments including the police. He said he was ready to conduct a national search for a police chief though he would first look within the Department. "We will be looking for change in the Police Department . . . We want to see real changes in the City. We want to see different department heads and new Commissioners – we want to get the best and the brightest."

Newsom has recently stated his position regarding the Police Department's command staff: "I've made a commitment to the people of San Francisco for an order-of-magnitude change in the Police Department – the command staff level, the chief level. We've got to restore some confidence in this level."

Mayor-elect Newsom is also on record to commit more resources to the Department's Investigation Bureau so it can increase its clearance rates for reported major felonies. A May, 2002 *San Francisco Chronicle* investigation of

clearance rates showed the SFPD to be near the bottom compared to other large California police departments.

Great Cities, Great Ideas

During Mayor-elect Newsom's campaign he sponsored a series of public policy forums. These forums featured guest speakers who were experts on the best practices of other thriving North America cities. These public policy forums complemented his 21 position papers (policy briefs). Both were replete with practices, policies, and procedures used in other U.S. cities which were successful in solving urban problems.

Newsom pledged that public safety would be a top priority in his administration. He said he would make sure that CCSF Public Safety Services have the tools, leadership, and training to meet the challenges ahead.

Amongst his 21 position papers, 6 attracted much attention: Financial Health for Working San Franciscans, Building a Strong Local Economy, A Ten Year Plan for Ending Chronic Homelessness, Affordable Work Force Housing, Support for Small and Local Businesses, and Making San Francisco Safer.

In his public safety policy brief, he stressed the need for crime mapping technology, a record management system to improve data sharing amongst San Francisco's crime fighting agencies, and an enhanced community policing strategy. "My administration will take this pro-active approach to solving problems and developing innovative strategies that achieve results. The "City that knows how" can do things better. I want San Francisco to improve outcomes, like reduce crime and increase public safety, not just outputs, like the number of arrests. Cities across the country have found that innovation, creativity, and experimentation yield improved performance and dropping crime rates. We can do the same here in San Francisco."

All the policy papers are available at www.gavinnewsom.com. If you want to know what's ahead for City government, including the SFPD, this is a good place to start. It is clear that the Mayor-elect will call upon his own experiences as an entrepreneur (12 business with 600 employees) as well as the best and most successful man-

agement practices, policies and programs currently working in U.S. cities to inform and energize his administration.

Observe Gavin Newsom

If you want to know what to expect from the Newsom mayoralty in terms of his direction to city departments, just look at his business practices.

In 1992 he started the Plump Jack Wine Shop (3201 Fillmore Street). He developed a business plan. Today he is a partner in 12 businesses which include Plump Jack Café (3127 Fillmore), Plump Jack Balboa Café (3299 Fillmore), Plump Jack Squaw Valley Inn (Olympic Valley, CA), Plump Jack Winery (Oakville, CA) and the Matrix Fillmore (3138 Fillmore). Just walk north on Fillmore Street from Union to Lombard and you can see the Gavin Newsom footprint. If you go inside these establishments and just observe, you can get an idea of what Newsom will expect from City departments. He will certainly use his experiences in creating the Plump Jack Companies to bring into being his vision for a better San Francisco.

In observing these businesses I have found: customer focus, well trained and attired staffs, knowledgeable and friendly managers, efficient business procedures, inviting exterior and interior environments, appropriate use of technology and telecommunications, and food/entertainment/retail establishments to which people want to return. These will surely all be part of his public enterprise business plan for San Francisco.

Read These Books

I believe that there are two books which help reveal how Gavin Newsom will approach City governance. There are: *The Tipping Point* by Malcolm Gladwell (2002, Black Bay Books) and *Leadership* by Rudolph Giuliani (2002, Hyperion Books).

The first (*The Tipping Point*) is subtitled "How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference." It details that there is a magic moment when an idea, trend or social behavior crosses a threshold, tips, and spreads like wildfire. A small but precisely targeted push can cause a fashion trend, the popularity of a new product or a drop in the crime rate. The central ideas of this book are: (1.) to understand the seemingly mysterious changes that mark everyday life is to think about them as epidemics - ideas, messages and behaviors spread just like viruses do - they are contagious; (2) little changes can have big effects; and (3) changes can happen in a hurry. It also sets forth the three rules of the tipping point - the law of the few, the stickiness factor, and the power of context. This book illustrates the dramatic reduction in violent crime in New York City in the 1990s.

The Tipping Point concludes: "In the end, tipping points are a reaffirmation of the potential for change and the power of intelligent action. Look at the world around you. It may seem like an immovable, implacable place. It is not. With the slightest push - just at the right place - it can be tipped." Watch Gavin Newsom look for the opportunities for a "slightest push." He

will do so by concentrating resources in a few key areas with a few key people to solve problems with the minimum amount of effort, time and cost.

The second book, entitled *Leadership* was written by former New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani. "Leadership works both ways: It is a privilege, but it carries responsibilities - from improving a structure suitable to an organization's purpose, to forming a team of people who bring out the best in each other, to taking the right, unexpected risks. A leader must develop strong beliefs, articulate and act on those beliefs and be held accountable for the results."

In "*Leadership*" Mayor Giuliani sets forth the following advice for leaders: prepare relentlessly, everyone's accountable - all the time, surround yourself with great people, reflect then decide, under-promise and over-deliver, develop and communicate strong beliefs, organize around a purpose, study - read - learn independently, and be your own person. Loyalty is set forth as the vital virtue. For Giuliani nothing surpasses a genuine, deep felt love of people.

Conclusion

I can state with certainty that change is coming to the SFPD - change in its management and change in its practices. The passage of Proposition H insures this. Gavin Newsom wants a police department that is well respected and trusted. He also wants a department, building on its current strengths of which he acknowledges there are many, that can be recognized, amongst its peers, as "great."

The Mayor-elect will be looking for police managers who share his values and vision for San Francisco. He will be seeking those who can build on "the great City's - great ideas" theme and who can also, by content of their character and leadership skills, work with the "rank and file", the POA, and other City department to produce results through the power of intelligent action. He will be looking for respected leaders and managers who can develop a public sector business plan, find and develop support, and achieve measurable results.

On January 8, 2004, Gavin Newsom will become San Francisco's 42nd mayor. At age 36 he is the youngest mayor San Francisco has had in nearly a century.

A democratic group, Democratic Leadership Council, recently listed him as one of the party's rising stars. His political future depends on his performance running one of the nation's best known cities. If Mayor Newsom succeeds with the difficult issues facing San Francisco - chronic homelessness, transit needs, struggling schools, limping economy, housing, crime and disorder - the national democratic scene will find him.

His journey as a political leader is now paralleling the one he early took as an entrepreneur. Remaining true to his ideas, values and vision he can succeed and so will the SFPD.

Next month: *The POA powerhouse achievement for its members. From 82nd in California to the top 10 nationwide in a decade.*

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Do Not Dial 809 Area Code

Beware of Expensive Telephone Scam

Submitted To the Journal
by Marshal Wong
Taraval Station

We'd like to thank Verizon for bringing this scam to our attention. This scam has also been identified by the National Fraud Information Center and is costing victims a lots of money.

There are lots of different permutations of this scam. Here's how it works:

You will receive a message on your answering machine or your pager, which asks you to call a number beginning with area code 809. The reason you're asked to call varies. It can be to receive information about a family member who has been ill, to tell you someone has been arrested, died, to let you know you have won a wonderful prize, etc. In each case, you are told to call the 809 number right away. Since there are so many new area codes these days, people unknowingly return these calls.

If you call from the US, you will apparently be charged \$2425 per-minute. Or, you'll get a long recorded message. The point is, they will try to keep you on the telephone as long as possible to increase the charges. Unfortunately, when you get your telephone bill, you'll often be charged more than \$24,100.00.

Why it works:

The 809 area code is located in the British Virgin Islands (The Bahamas). The 809 area code can be used as a "pay-per-call" number, similar to 900 numbers in the US. Since 809 is not in the US, it is not covered by U.S. regulations of 900 numbers, which

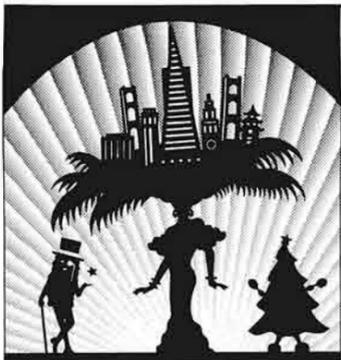
require that you be notified and warned of charges and rates involved when you call a pay-per-call number.

There is also no requirement that the company provide a time period during which you may terminate the call without being charged. Further, whereas many U.S. homes that have 900 number blocking to avoid these kinds of charges, do not work in preventing calls to the 809 area code.

We recommend that no matter how you get the message, if you are asked to call a number with an 809 area code that you don't recognize, just disregard the message.

Be wary of e-mail, or calls, asking you to call an 809 area code number. It's important to prevent becoming a victim of this scam, since trying to fight the charges afterwards can become a real nightmare. That's because you did actually make the call. If you complain, both your local phone company and your long distance carrier will not want to get involved and will most likely tell you that they are simply providing the billing for the foreign company. You'll end up dealing with a foreign company that argues they have done nothing wrong.

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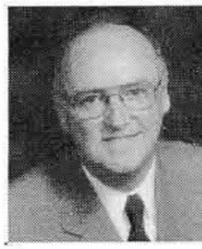
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Workshops Help Seniors Avoid Abuse and Fraud

Staff Report

On three Fridays in November, Senior Citizens in the Mission were given an overview of how to protect themselves from some of the scams being played on our elders, as well as what to do if they are being abused in any way.

Inspectors Tom Feledy (Fraud) and Tony Flores (Domestic Violence) brought their presentations to the Capp Street Senior Center, Bethany Center, and Centro Latino de San Francisco. At each location the Inspectors

told their audience what to look out for and who to contact if they ever do become a victim. The Seniors welcomed them with enthusiasm and lots of interesting comments and questions. Despite the fact that translation into Spanish and Russian was needed, everyone learned a lot from the presentations.

The workshop series was sponsored by St. John's Educational Thresholds Center and Neighborhood Safety Partnership, with Spanish translation provided by Jon Shepherd from SF SAFE.



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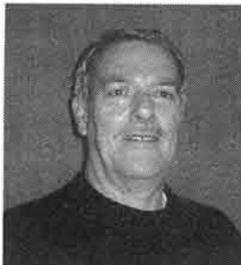
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2004 Scholarships

The San Francisco Asian Peace Officer's Association (SFAPOA) is accepting applications for student scholarship(s) up to \$1,000.00. The SFAPOA sponsors the following scholarships.

The *Nicholas Lau /APOA Scholarship* was established in conjunction with former San Francisco Police Chief Fred Lau. This scholarship is intended to help those interested in obtaining their education and entering the field of law enforcement, or through an alternative college major, impact the law enforcement field in a direct positive manner.

All graduating high school seniors and full/part-time college students (minimum of six(6) units/semester or equivalent quarter units) with -a minimum 3.0 grade point average (gpa) or better who satisfy at least one of the following requirements:

- 1) enrolled in administration of justice course(s)
- 2) participate in a youth enforcement organization
- 3) enrolled with a college major making a direct positive impact on the law enforcement field. (ie: accounting major with emphasis on becoming an IRS agent or science major with a career objective to be in forensics) Applicants are further required to specifically articulate in essay format on the application how their college major makes a direct positive impact on the law enforcement field.

The scholarship grants will be presented at the SFAPOA's Annual Promotional and Scholarship Banquet in September 2004.

For applications, please contact Officer Christopher Woon at 650-335-9109 or write to our email address at SFAPOA@yahoo.com.

All applications must be postmarked on or before August 1, 2004.



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PAL Judo

PAL Judo is a year round activity for boys and girls ages 7-17. Classes are held at the Mission Recreation Center on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM. Call 415-401-4666 for more information.

PAL Golf Tournament

Mark your calendars! The PAL Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, May 17, 2004 at the Peacock Gap Golf and Country Club in San Rafael. If you want to help or participate - call PAL at 415-401-4666.

PAL Soccer

The PAL Soccer League will start on April 3, 2004. If you wish to sign-up your child, please call us the last week in January at 415-401-4666. If you wish to enter a team call the office for a packet or go to our website at www.sfpal.org. Mandatory coaches meetings are as follows:
Under 8's and Under 10's -
Tues., February 3, 2004 - 7pm

Under 12's and Under 18's -
Wed., February 4, 2004 - 7pm

Meetings will be held at the Police Academy, 350 Amber Drive, Community Room 100. No appointments will be given to coaches who do not attend the meeting. To make an appointment to register a team, you must show up in person at the PAL Office, 350 Amber Drive, Room 203, from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM on February 5, 2004. Appointment dates are February 10th to February 12th and February 17th to February 19th.

San Francisco Youth Baseball

The San Francisco Youth Baseball will start in April 2004. If you wish to sign-up your child, please call us in January 2004 at 415-401-4666. If you wish to enter a team call the office for a team packet.

PAL Cheerleading Highlights Of 2003

The PAL Pee Wee Dance Team, PAL Jr. Pee Wee Dance Team and the PAL Midget Dance Team all took first place at the Pop Warner Regional Championship competition in Sacramento, California. All three teams went to the Pop Warner National Dance Team Championship held at Disney World in Orlando, Florida, which took place from December 9th through December 14th.

Congratulations.

San Francisco Police Activities League 2004 Schedule of Activities

Baseball: Call 401-4666 For Sign-Ups in January

T-ball I	5-6 years
T-ball II	7-8 years
Pinto	7-8 years
Mustang	9-10 years
Bronco	11-12 years
Pony	13-14 years

Basketball: Boys and Girls
6th Grade, 7th Grade, 8th Grade
Season: October and November
December playoffs

Football (Ages 8-14)
Cheerleading (Ages 5-15)
Sign-ups - April, May, & June
Practice/conditioning - August
Season: September, October & November.

Judo: Boys & Girls 7-17 Years
Mon/Wed/Fri - 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm
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NCJA affiliation fees:
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Soccer: Boys and Girls
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Team information -
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Individual sign-ups -
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Sports



Nick's NOTES

by Nick Shihadeh

CHECK IT OUT: I want to point out the article and pics submitted by Northern's Alex Takaoka about the Olympic Club/SF Police/F.B.I. rifle match that he set-up recently at the Richmond Rod and Gun club. It's the first year that this match has taken place and it turned out to be a success enjoyed by all.

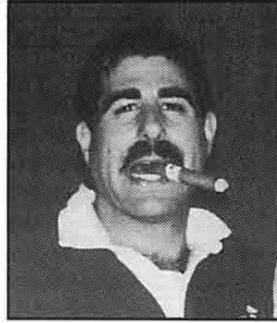
I participated in this shooting event as being one of the representatives of the Specialist Team and enjoyed myself as well.

I wish that I could have shot better but was happy with my performance just the same. The other specs who participated also shot very well, and the best target turned in was by Northern's Nick Rainsford. Rainsford was married to his lovely Anna back in October so it appears this union really agrees with him.

Congrats to Rainsford as well as the FBI, Olympic Club and the Sheriff's Dept. winners for their excellent performances. Also congrats to Takaoka for running a successful match.

To let you know, Takaoka is a member of both the Olympic Club and the SFPD Rifle Team and is just the guy to

promote this type of event. He encourages anyone interested in participating in future matches to contact him at Northern Station during the midnight shift.



The SFPD Basketball League has gotten underway but probably is on respite during the holidays. I haven't received any results of any games yet but should probably have some for next issue.

As far as the SFPD Softball League is concerned, I'm scheduling the season to start on Tuesday, March 9 2004. I hope that all team managers will start organizing things in January/February so that we can get the league off to a smooth start.

That's all I have for this month... Happy Holidays and a safe New Year to everyone... So See Ya next month.....

Olympic Club/SF Police/F.B.I. 1st Annual Rifle Match A Success

By Alex Takaoka, Northern Station

Ready on the right, ready on the left, all ready on the firing line. So started the first annual SF Olympic Club, SF Police and FBI Rifle Match. SFPD Specialists and the SFPD Rifle Team braved the freezing cold temperatures on 12/11/03 to pit their shooting skills against the FBI Sniper Team and Olympic Club Rifle Team at the Richmond Rod and Gun Club. The course of fire was two sighter shots and then twenty shots fired with a twenty minute time frame for score from the prone position. Most competitors used a bolt action rifle (.308 caliber rounds) with scope, but some competed with a service rifle (AR-15 with .223 caliber rounds) with iron sights.

Shooting at a bull's-eye target 200 yards away the competition was fierce. Many competitors shot perfect scores of 200 points out of 200, but the key

was how many times the "x" in the center was hit in the twenty rounds shot. Nick Rainsford was the top SFPD Specialist with a score of 200 points with 14-x's, while Gian Tozzini was the top SFPD Rifle Team shooter with a score of 200 pts. with 7-x's. Bob Hall was the top Olympic Club shooter with a score of 200 pts. with 15-x's, but it was the F.B.I.'s Dave Anderson taking the match with 200 pts. and an impressive 16-x's. The SF Sheriff's Dept. Rifle Team showed up and Deputy Eric Wong was their top shooter with a score of 195 pts. with 2-x's.

Thirty-eight competitors shot this match and a good time was had by all. Next year the hope is to open the match to other agencies and include a pistol match and a "sniper only" competition as well. If you want more information about this event, please contact Alex Takaoka on the midnight shift at Co. E (415-614-3400).



Several SFPD members participated in the First Annual SF Olympic Club, SF Police and FBI Rifle Match.

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2003 First Annual Olympic Club Rifle Team, San Francisco Police Department, Federal Bureau of Investigations and the San Francisco Sheriff's Department Rifle Match Results

FBI		Olympic Club	
Gregory Walton	200-16 ***	Alex Takaoka	200-12
Andrew Skane	200-12	Bob Ribak	195-6
Stacy Mitry	200-10	Larry Wilkins	199-9
David Anderson	200-14 ***	Larry Killcullen	187-5
Kraig Graham	198-6	Merrill Martin	199-9
Ken Karch	200-13 ***	Maurice Milam	167
Brian Dugan	200-12	Dennis Shea	200-11
Vice Lucero	200-15	Robert Hall	200-15 *
Ed McConnell	198-9	George Martin	200-11
Terry Hyland	200-16 **	John Devine	147-1
		Mike Dunia	200-12
SFPD		SFPD Rifle Team	
Mark Lundin	195-5	Cezar Perez	169-1
Douglas Farmer	200-13	Gian Tozzini	200-7 *
Nick Rainsford	200-14 *	Dean McEllistrim	198-7
Noel DeLeon	200-9	Larry Kempinski	199-11
Berry Fong	197-3		
Tim Yee	200-12	SFSD	
Paul Stefati	199-7	Eric Wong	195-2 *
Mike Sullivan	197-5	Ed Espinoza	181-1
Nicholas Shihadeh	196-2		
Tim Flaherty	200-11		

* = High shooter ** = First place team *** = Second place team

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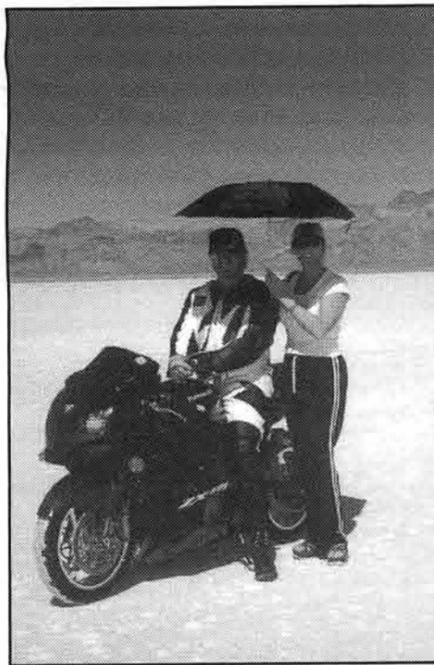
ON 2 WHEELS

By Rene LaPrevotte
POA Interstate Correspondent

About eighty-thousand years ago, what is now the Pacific Ocean stretched through the present states of Nevada and Utah, until Teutonic plate shifts formed the Sierra Nevada Mountains, and trapped all that salt water in the relative lowlands of Nevada and Utah. Over the millennia, the water evaporated leaving behind hundreds of thousands of acres of salt a foot deep, and flatter than a Gold Wing's torque curve.

What does this have to do with motorcycling? Well, nothing until a club called the "Southern California Timing Association" (SCTA) decided after WW-II: "what better place to see how fast your hot rod could go flat-out than on the salt residue constituting the flattest land on earth."

So, the salt flats just outside Wendover, Utah came to be known as the "Bonneville Salt Flats," and have, over the course of the last sixty years, played host to the fastest motor vehicles on earth. Being a lifetime motor-head and hot-rodder, I had no choice but to travel to the salt, with the Beach Boys song "Spirit of America" playing over and over in my mind and my 170 hp Kawasaki ZX12R in tow.



Go 160 at Bonneville and score a cute umbrella girl!

There are numerous "Land Speed Record" events held at Bonneville during the course of the year, and several sanctioning bodies hosting those events. It seems that the only way to coerce the BLM to maintain the historic salt, is to hold multiple events yearly, which obliges the Feds to keep the ground under the salt pumped free of residual water, and the salt in its natural pristine condition. I chose to attend an event in September hosted by the USFRA (Utah Salt Flat Racers Association) who holds several other races there annually.

There are myriad classes that you can prepare your vehicle for, with cars and motorcycles being classified by degree of modification and engine displacement. The fact of the matter is, that since my "stock" motorcycle is probably more "stock" than many

other "stock" bikes raced there all year, I would be hard-pressed to walk away with a class record. Additionally, there are numerous modifications that must be performed in the name of "safety" to a "stock" motorcycle before it will pass "Tech Inspection", and I was reluctant to commit to making those modifications to my 8-month old bike.

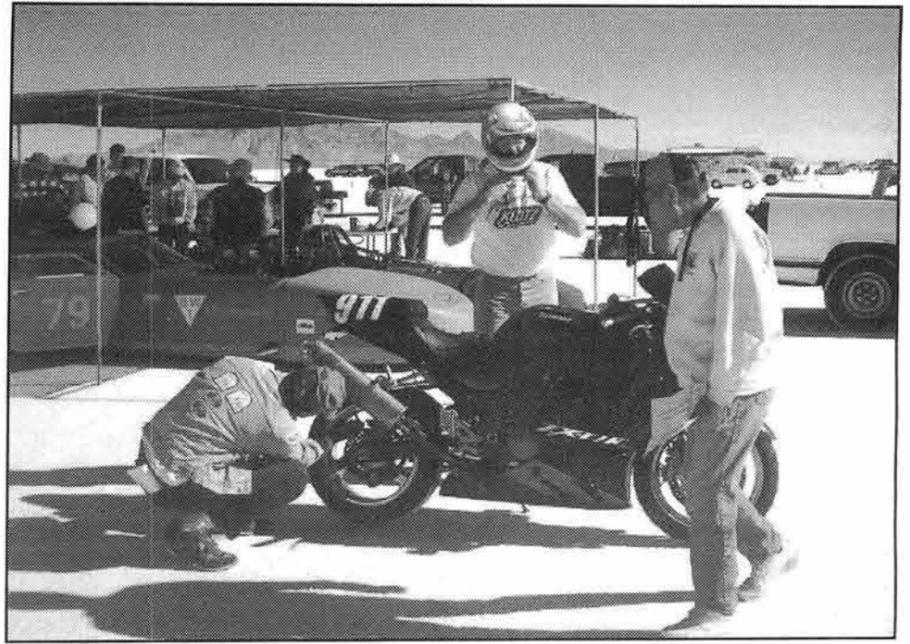
No, I found another avenue in my quest to run the salt, and that was the "150 Mile-per-Hour Club." This class is open to any vehicle that can exceed 150 MPH twice during a single day without exceeding 160 MPH (which would result in disqualification). It seems that they don't want someone entering the 150-MPH competition and then storming to 200 MPH without the mandated safety modifications. Now, before you mutter that "my Kawazuki DT1X can go over 175 MPH, remember that the Salt Flats are at 4200 feet above sea level, and the altitude positively saps the horsepower from non-supercharged gasoline engines.

I arrived at the Salt Flats on Thursday, and since not everyone is retired yet, the line at Tech was relatively short. Required changes were the removal of the rear-view mirrors (There won't be anyone tailgating you at Bonneville), the addition of number plates (I chose #911 of course) and the replacement of the stock rubber valve stems with metal valve stems in each wheel.

The Technical people want "150 club" beginners to make a single qualifying pass at exactly 125 MPH to acquaint you with how your bike feels "at speed" on the equivalent of a dirt road. Now again, to those of you who snicker that "Sheeet, I done gone 150 across Nevada and it twern't nuthing." Well, let me describe what the salt is like. The 150-MPH guys have two miles to get up to 150, then the next quarter-mile is the timing traps where your speed is recorded. While two miles seems like an eternity to get up to speed (My bike will accelerate from 0-143 MPH in under ten seconds on asphalt) you need to bear in mind that over abundant throttle application in the first three gears results in wheel-spin! You must nurse the bike up to 100 or so in the first mile, then pin the bugger!

My qualifier was about as close to 125 as I was going to get, so we secured our pit space and headed into the casino area of Wendover for the night. The next morning (Friday) saw about double the race vehicles that had been there the day before. While the others were languishing in tech lines, I was in line for my first 150-MPH pass on the salt.

A bit disconcerting was the fact that a "blown fuel" hot rod in front of me got "squirrely" about 50 yards off the starting line, spun 90 degrees toward the pits at about 75-MPH and nearly caused serious havoc. If this guy had that much trouble getting the power down with two tires, how was I going to do with just one! Well I left the line, and looking down-track almost to the vanishing point is nothing but glaringly white salt. I nursed the throttle to about half throttle through the first two gears, then gave it a bit more gas in third, which resulted in immediate wheel-spin! Nurse the throttle through third, fourth, more gas in fifth tucked in behind the abbreviated windscreen with the speedometer under my nose... 125-135-145-150! I was still well short of the 2-mile mark with the speedo registering 150 when I started to wonder... "If I go less than 150, this is a wasted run, so I better wick-it-up to about 155 (Still safely under the 160 limit). At an indicated 155-MPH there



Day #1 is "Tech Inspection" at Bonneville

is a rooster tail of salt flying off the back of the bike, and salt flakes coming off the front tire, blowing up through the fairing and into my face, obscuring my vision. I held it at 155 through the timing lights, then s-l-o-w-l-y roll-off the gas (no brakes) until the thing slowed to about 35 MPH where you can safely turn off the course and ride to the timing station. My timing slip read 151.2 MPH! Jeeze, I just barely made it by 1.2 miles per hour! My second required run would HAVE to be faster or risk a "wasted" run for being under 150.

After the run, I got back into line and waited about 90 minutes until I again found myself at the starting line. The flagman waived me off down the salt and here we go again. I had formulated the plan to run at an indicated 160 MPH, as my speedometer was obviously 5 MPH "optimistic" and I had to get a little breathing room above a "buck-fifty." Same story, baby the throttle up to 4th gear, run the motor to 12,000 RPM then shift into fifth and cruise about 3/4 of a mile at an indicated 160 MPH. (You'll never use 6th gear at this poky pace). Once through the timing section and back at the timing booth to get my time slip. Speed attained... 150.9 MPH! With an addi-

tional 5 MPH registered on the bike's speedometer, it actually ran 3/10s SLOWER. The reason? While the rear tire was going near 160, the front tire (and the bike) was going ten miles per hour slower. TEN MILES PER HOUR REAR TIRE SLIPPAGE AT 160 MPH! Like I said, it ain't like going a buck-fifty across Nevada!

Even though I came close to not reaching the magic 150 MPH, I made it and I am now a permanently recorded member of the Bonneville "150 Mile Per Hour Club."

I'm going back again next year. They have a class that I think I can qualify for and without quite the drama of my motorcycle going different speeds front & rear. See, they have this "Electric Bar Stool Class" and the record is just over 43 MPH. My brother is working on the "racer" as we speak, and we will most certainly be there next September. If you aren't doing anything, this is about old-time 1950's hot rodding at its best. There isn't a single competitor there without gray hair, a quick smile, and a willingness to lend a hand... even to his competition.

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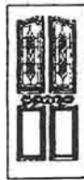
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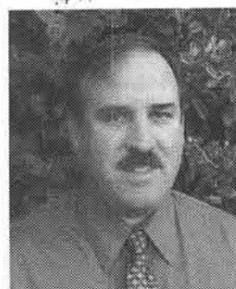


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Close Encounters

By Steve Johnson
SFPOA

There will be another ballot measure this March that will dramatically effect the way police services are provided in San Francisco. This ballot measure, if passed, will utilize civilians to a greater extent within the Department. No one can have a problem with that if it means there will be more police officers available to handle calls for service. Unfortunately, we have not seen any language within the ballot measure that provides for a specific number of officers, a baseline, necessary to handle the current workload. And there is no way the current situation can continue. The SFPD is simply too short of personnel...



Officer Anthony Holder, a one-officer unit, located an individual who matched the description of the suspect who robbed the shop on the 3200 block of Mission Street walking on 25th Street near Guerrero. The suspect was sweating profusely and trying to look like even that was acceptable except for the fact that it was a very cold day in our City. Officer Holder took him into custody. The money was recovered and the suspect was booked not only for this particular robbery, but also for three others that occurred in SF. I'm sure Officer Holder would like to have a partner, but that isn't going to happen...We lost over 100 officers to retirement this year and we've only hired 40 new recruits.



Officer Eric Lederer was watching the very suspicious looking individual in the downtown shopping area when he decided to make contact with him. One thing led to another and the subject freely admitted that the several bags of narcotics that he was holding were purely for "personal use". And when Eric went to conduct a pat search for weapons the subject became extremely arrogant telling Officer Lederer that the gun he was carrying was his and the officer had no right to confiscate it...wrong again. The fully loaded weapon was confiscated and the subject was taken to another location where he can serve as a "legal" advisor, to many other "wrongfully" detained, individuals. Officer Eric Lederer probably would have really appreciated having a partner under those circumstances.



Officer Dan O'Brien and Officer Glenn Juco were flagged down by the owner of a pick-up truck who just watched it drive away with someone else at the wheel who had no permission to be there. Officer Anthony Inocencio and Officer John Tack helped conduct a perimeter search and in exactly 2 minutes the officers had the suspect in custody and the truck returned to its rightful owner.



And, it was in the middle of the day in the Tenderloin when even the most hardened criminals who have been routinely paroled into this part of our City got upset. Some idiot went crazy, kicking cars, screaming obscenities at strangers (normally not unusual in this particular locale) but then he attacked an elderly woman. He knocked her to the ground and struck her several times. The suspect was immediately surrounded by ex-cons and even those conducting their brisk narcotics sales slowed their pace until the cowardly subject was taken into custody by Officer Tony Ng, Officer Michael Montero, and Officer Keith Singer.



Talk about denial...Officer Irene Michaud and Officer Brian Michaud (yep, they're married) responded to a domestic violence complaint where the woman had been severely stabbed. When they went to search for the suspect they found him right outside the hospital where his wife was currently in surgery. They placed the suspect under arrest and he denied any involvement, telling the officers he had no idea why his wife would make up such a story, and even gave them permission to search their apartment. He had a more difficult time explaining the seven swords, the divorce papers she filed, and her statement, eventually obtained by Inspector Gianrico Pierucci, detailing the attack...



Wrong place at the wrong time...Officer Joseph Boyle and Officer Steve Caniglia raced to the area of Franklin and Geary where there was a report of a kidnapped infant. The officers stopped an individual a few blocks away who was carrying a blanket all bundled up that looked like it might have sheltered the missing baby. Turned out to be a large amount of stolen items the subject had just taken from the car around the corner that he broke into. The missing baby? False alarm.



Very early morning hours when a young girl heard someone walking in the hallway just outside her bedroom. The child called out to her parents but there was no response. The bold intruder wasn't even scared by her being awake but now opened her door and started to enter. The victim screamed and her father woke up just in time to see the suspect run out the front door of their home. The lady called 9-1-1 and Sergeant Nelson Lum, Officer Jon McMahon, and Officer Kevin Byrne wasted no time responding and conducting a search for one of the most dangerous species of burglar. They caught their suspect a few blocks away, and a positive identification was made by the young victim's father. The suspect was no novice felon, a number of narcotic and burglary priors...



A very high risk sexual offender had been released from San Quentin and took up residence in our City. He struck again. This time it was a 19-year old woman that he held hostage for some time while he sexually assaulted and beat her to the extent that she was hospitalized for five days in the intensive care unit. The officers from Southern Station and the inspectors from the Sexual Assault Detail took a personal interest in this case and immediately went to work. They identified the suspect and determined that he had made his way to Santa Cruz where he thought he could hide. But within 48 hours he was in custody and, once again, charged with a brutal assault. We can thank: Inspector Pete Siragusa, Inspector Dan Everson, Inspector Ron Reynold, Officer Steve Griffin, Officer Tim Yee, Officer Joe Garbayo, Officer Arshah Razzak, and, from Santa Cruz Police Department,

Officer Scott Campbell, Officer Jack McPhillips, Officer Dave Albert, and Officer Bynes.



And, because the two suspects couldn't decide who was going to reap the profits after they had put the young woman (who was a reported missing juvenile) out to work on the street soliciting dates Officer Brian Oliver and Officer Dave Frias had to figure it out for them. The two felons were in such a heated argument over the rights to the young victim that they forgot the car they were driving was stolen and the noise from their arguing eventually upset the neighbors to the point where they called the police. That's when Brian and Dave showed up and solved their dilemma.



And, from the "You'd think they'd learn Department", Officer Neil Fanene and Officer Moli Finau decided to stop the speeding vehicle with no front or rear license plates. The driver pulled over, got out and just started to walk away like nothing happened. At least it was a new approach. Anyway, Neil and Moli stopped the driver-in-denial and found that he left behind a substantial quantity of narcotics in the car, was sporting a bullet-proof vest, and had just been released from the California Youth Authority after serving seven years for murder...



Then there was the guy trying to impersonate a police inspector. He started off trying to lure a 13-year-old girl from her home with promises of travel and stardom but then her dad got involved, fortunately. The suspect told the young girl's father that he was a police inspector conducting a special type of investigation but wasted no time in leaving the residence. The father called Taraval Station and Officer Lewis Fong took the information and, keeping the dad on the line, directed Officer Michelle Liddicoet, Officer Jim Nguyen, Officer Tracey Green, and Officer John Keesor to the suspect's location where they took him into custody.

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