



# JOURNAL

— Official Publication Of The —  
**SAN FRANCISCO**  
**POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION**

VOLUME 41, NUMBER 9

SAN FRANCISCO, SEPTEMBER 2009



www.sfpoa.org

## President's Message

# Public Safety Pensions Did Not Cause This Financial Crisis

By Gary Delagnes,  
SFPOA President

I just returned from a gathering of the "Big Eleven," a semi-annual conclave of the eleventh largest law enforcement unions in the state of California. If there is one thing that I am now certain it is the fact that the profession of law enforcement is changing dramatically in this state, and thus across the nation. Not only have the economic dynamics changed, but also the very way law enforcement agencies from around the country conduct the routine business of protecting and serving the people of this great land. The citizenry deserve the best from the men and women in law enforcement, but our folks in blue are as equally deserving of a fair wage and working conditions. I want to briefly discuss two of the most discussed topics at the meeting. One is looming, the other rising on the horizon. First let's look at the gloomy economic landscape.

As the unemployment numbers rise, a disturbing trend seems to be picking up steam across the nation, so prepare yourself for a national, state, and perhaps local assault on traditional "defined benefit" pension plans. It is already happening in Texas, and legislation in California will continue to be introduced as long as we find ourselves embroiled in our current economic crisis. Just as disturbing is

the diabolical spin put on the issue of excessive public safety pensions by back-pedaling politicians intent on painting public safety unions as the lurking villains who are responsible for the state and local economic emergencies. It has become the favorite cover for inept politicians to cast the blame onto public safety pensions for the drain on general funds. Few of those same politicians will admit that it was they who either backed and/or approved all of the pension benefits in the first place. It's a classic case of long, wagging fingers and short memories. Also, what gets quickly forgotten in the argument are the justifiable reasons why public safety pensions are higher than some others. Police work is a dangerous, stressful, family-straining profession, and each nickel of each pension dollar is earned and paid for by the dedication and conviction of those who have taken the oath to serve and to protect.

Remember the good old days when your neighbor would see you stumble home after working a grueling midnight watch and muse, "Boy, they couldn't pay me enough to do your job?" Well, now the new mantra is, "You guys make too much money, and your pensions are too fat!"

This hysteria is being fueled, of course, by politicians and the so-called tax vigilantes who do not want to take responsibility for their considerable involvement in the current mess in

which we find ourselves. San Diego is a good example of irresponsible fund management. For years during the more plush economic times, elected officials chose to forgo annual contributions to the retirement system as a way to artificially inflate the coffers of the city's general fund. San Diego shorted their retirement system by hundreds of millions of dollars in the late 1990s and early 2000s in order to fund all of the their so called special programs. When the fiscal Armageddon befell that local municipality, the politicians pointed their collective finger at the public safety pensions rather than putting the blame directly on their own inability to lead or to manage the annual budgets.

As far as salaries are concerned, the benchmark figure of \$100,000 seems to have become the line in the sand drawn by those so-called experts who are most disturbed by the fair rates of compensation achieved by hard-campaigning public safety unions. It should not come as any great surprise to those of us that live in the Bay Area that \$100,000 is certainly not excessive. Comfortable certainly, but excessive? By no means. Adequate? Of course, but not lavish. Public safety pensions are fluid, and by and large the have sought their own economic levels by which they stabilize. There are no undeserved provisions in public safety pensions. There are only underfunded, under-paid private sector retirement plans to which they are compared, and therein lay the vexing discrepancies.

After taxes, retirement contributions, and health care are deducted, few of us are "living large." The reality is that we receive fair salaries, benefits, and pensions as compensation for doing a job that few people want or can handle. My answer to these so-called experts is "join up." See what this job actually entails. We can certainly use the help.

Sadly, public pensions have become the focal point for everything that is wrong in today's economy. Don't be cowed by the accusations. All of you can hold your heads high, and none have anything for which you must apologize.

Traditional law enforcement working conditions are also about to undergo a sea change. Again, the world is changing quickly, and often at a technological pace which traditional police



SFPOA President Gary Delagnes

departments cannot keep astride. We now live in a world of tech-buzz, phrases such as community policing, racial profiling, and Comp Stat. While all of these concepts may be worthwhile or even vital, I have a problem with these ideas often coming from people in the so-called "Academia" of law enforcement who continue to judge us on a daily basis without ever putting on a uniform and doing the real job. More on that in future issues.

Now, the SFPD and the POA are entering into a new era of civic and department leadership. I am pleased to tell you that our new chief has been very considerate of the rank-and-file and leadership of this organization. He has generally kept me in the loop regarding his more significant proposed changes to the way we do business. I can assure you that some of Chief Gascón's proposals will engender a collective, "It's about time" from the demoralized membership. Having said that, there will no doubt be other ideas that he brings forth that will be received quite differently. With changes come new hopes and optimism, but also fears and uncertainty.

The POA's job is to manage the change in philosophy and ideology by protecting the rights of our members, but to also recognize that many changes are long overdue and need to be implemented. We encourage the new chief to update us and the membership on his plans and intentions. This can work if everybody makes a commitment to communicate and clarify.

If we fail, it will be because we did not talk. We have seen the effects of a police administration that does not communicate with its members. It behooves us all to learn from the mistakes of the (recent) past!

## 62nd Annual Memorial Mass

Sponsored by

**San Francisco Fire Department and  
San Francisco Police Department**

**Sunday, September 13, 2009 • 10:30 a.m.**

(Photo in front of church at 10:15 a.m.)

St. Monica's Church,  
470-24th Ave.,  
San Francisco

**All are Welcome**



# POA Board of Directors Meeting, August 19, 2009\*

- Sergeant-at-Arms Breen called the meeting to order at 1200 hours, and then led in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Secretary Montoya conducted the roll call of the Board of Directors and Executive Board.
- President Delagnes presented Anthony Santana (son of Officer Ben Santana) with a SFPOA scholarship check. Anthony was the first place winner of the annual SFPOA Scholarship Awards. Anthony will be attending UC Riverside in the fall.
- 2009 Board Meeting. Motion was seconded by Rep. Mack (Narc) and passed unanimously by voice vote.
- President Delagnes introduced Sharon Ferrigno as the newly elected representative for the Health Service System.
- Chief George Gascón met with the Board of Directors and fielded several questions from Board Members.
- Treasurer Halloran provided each Board Member with a copy of the monthly expense recap report.



\*These minutes will not be adopted by the Board of Directors until the next General Membership meeting. Corrections and amendments might be made prior to a vote to enter the minutes into the permanent record. All corrections and/or amendments will be published in the succeeding issue of the Journal.

Above: Gary Delagnes and newly appointed representative for Co. H, Officer James Trail.



President Delagnes presented Anthony Santana (son of Officer Ben Santana) with a scholarship check.

Officer Dan O'Shea (Co. B), August 2009 SFPOA officer of the month with Gary Delagnes.



- President Delagnes acknowledged Officer Dan O'Shea (Co. B) as the August 2009 SFPOA officer of the month.
- Officer James Trail was sworn in as the newly appointed representative for Co. H.
- Rep. Laval (Tac) made a motion to approve the minutes from the July
- Counsel Tennant talked about the availability of liability insurance for Board Members.
- President Delagnes adjourned the meeting at 1440 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,  
**Tony Montoya**  
POA Secretary



Right: Chief George Gascón was introduced to the Board of Directors by President Delagnes.

## Board of Directors Meeting Roll Call Wednesday, August 19, 2009

President	Gary Delagnes	P	Co. G	Dean Sorgie	E
Vice President	Kevin Martin	P		Dominic Yin	E
Secretary	Tony Montoya	P	Co. H	Maris Goldsborough	P
Treasurer	Marty Halloran	P		James Trail	P
Sergeant-At-Arms	Chris Breen	P	Co. I	Scott Biggs	P
				Jody Kato	E
Editor	Ray Shine	P	Co. J	Kevin Lyons	E
Co. A	Ed Browne	P		Brian Philpott	P
	George Rosko	P	Co. K	Matt Gardner	P
Co. B	Larry Bertrand	P		Corrado Petruzella	P
	Jayne Campbell	P	Hdqtr.	Bob Mammone	P
Co. C	George Ferraez	P		Joe McFadden	P
	Chris Schaffer	P	Narcotics	Dave Falzon	P
Co. D	Martin Covarrubias	E		Larry Mack	P
	Jose Jimenez	E	Tactical	Dan Laval	P
Co. E	Dermot Dorgan	P		Mark Madsen	E
	Tim Flaherty	E	Invest.	Gavin McEachern	P
Co. F	Peter Dacre	P		Dean Taylor	P
	Rob Imbellino	P	Airport	Anton Collins	A
				Joe Finigan	E
			Retired	Ray Allen	P

### San Francisco Police Officers Association Editorial Policy

The POA Journal and the POA web site ([www.sfpoa.org](http://www.sfpoa.org)) are the official publications of the San Francisco Police Officers Association and are published to express the policies, ideals, and accomplishments of the Association. The following provisions that are specific to the publication of the POA Journal shall also be applicable to publication of material on the POA web site to any extent that is practical. Publication of material in the POA Journal or on the POA web site does not necessarily include publication on or in both instruments of communication. Nor does the following editorial policy for the POA Journal preclude a different or contrary editorial policy for the POA web site.

#### Member Opinions and Commentary: Unsolicited Written Material

A member or group of members may submit unsolicited written material to the POA Journal that expresses his/her/their opinion(s) and concerns within the following limitations and guidelines:

- Such material must be addressed as a letter or mail using common salutations such as "Dear POA," "Editor," "SFPOA" "Dear POA Members" etc.
- Such material must be authored and signed by the member(s) making the submission. Anonymous submissions will not be published.
- Such material must be factually correct and presented in a respectful and civil manner.
- Such material can not be slanderous, unnecessarily inflammatory, sexist, racist, or otherwise offensive, nor can it be disparaging of any member or bring upon them unwarranted accusation or rebuke, either express or implied.
- Such material can be forwarded to the editor by electronic mail, US Mail, inter-departmental mail or other written communication, or delivered in person to the editor or to any person in the POA office.
- Upon receipt of such material, the editor shall cause it to be published in the next regular printing of the POA Journal, or in a future issue designated by the submitting member provided that the content complies with all the provisions of this policy. Such material will not necessarily appear in more than one issue of the POA Journal.
- Such material will be published in a designated section that shall be clearly titled as "Letters to the Editor," "Letters to the Journal," "Mail" or other similar title indicating that the material included therein is the express opinion of the author(s) and not necessarily that of the SFPOA or any of its elected or appointed officers.
- Depending upon considerations of timeliness and space, the editor reserves the right to withhold publication of such material for as many as two issues. The editor also reserves the right to decline to publish material beyond a date wherein the context of the material is no longer timely.
- All such material is subject to editing for grammar and punctuation. Portions of a submission may be omitted for considerations of space so long as the general context of the material is not significantly diminished or altered.
- The editor may select portions of a submission to be highlighted in a common editorial manner such as pull quotes, sub-heads, or kickers.

#### Other Submitted Material

- All other written, photographic, or graphic material must be:
- Specifically solicited by the editor;
  - Or be unsolicited material that may be published at the discretion of the editor, and in accordance with other applicable sections of this editorial policy and Article XI, Section 8(e) of the by-laws.

### The San Francisco Police Officers Association

## POA JOURNAL

(USPS #882-320)

MANAGING EDITOR  
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WEBMASTER  
Courtney Dickson

PUBLISHED MONTHLY \$10 PER YEAR

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF  
THE SAN FRANCISCO POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION  
800 BRYANT ST., 2nd FL., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103  
(415) 861-5060

[www.sfpoa.org](http://www.sfpoa.org)

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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, 800 Bryant St., 2nd Floor, 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 via e-mail or on disk in Microsoft Word.

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to POA Journal, 800 Bryant St., 2nd Fl., San Francisco 94103. Periodicals Postage Paid at San Francisco, CA.

*Counselor's Corner***Less Isn't Always More**

By John Tennant,  
SFPOA Counsel

Chief Justice John Roberts described in a recent commencement address his approach to deciding cases that reach the United States Supreme Court: "If it is not necessary to decide more to dispose of a case, in my view it is necessary not to decide more." This view is known as judicial minimalism. A judge should only decide precisely what is before the court and nothing further. "Less is more," as the old adage goes.

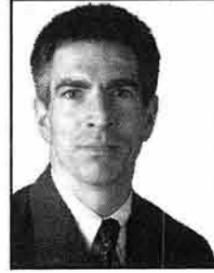
But minimalism — while extremely popular in current thinking about how courts should do their work — comes with a cost. One of the law's chief functions is to provide us with some predictability about whether certain actions we may or may not take in the future meet the law's requirements. A case that is decided too narrowly, without addressing the ultimate and often extremely-difficult-to-answer question that may lie hidden beneath the particular facts of the case, can create real uncertainty about how our actions in the future might be viewed by the courts.

As an example of this, let's take two recent cases that have been of much interest to police officers — one decided by the U.S. Supreme Court and the other by the California Supreme Court.

The first is this summer's *Ricci v. Destefano* decision, in which the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the City of New Haven, Connecticut violated Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by scrapping a promotional exam that seemed to favor white test-takers.

Many rightly ask whether this decision signals the end of affirmative action — if not in society at large, then at least in the more limited context of employment and promotional decisions. All we know from the *Ricci* decision is that employers cannot jettison the results of a promotional exam for "fear of litigation alone" under Title VII. Instead, employers must possess what the Court called a "strong basis in evidence" for concluding that they would be vulnerable under Title VII's "disparate impact" standard. ("Disparate impact" differs from "disparate treatment" under Title VII in that an action taken without regard to race, gender, or religion — in other words, one that is valid under the "disparate treatment" standard — may nevertheless have the effect of disproportionately favoring one group or another, thereby having an impermissible "disparate impact.") The Court stopped short of addressing the larger, more difficult question of whether the Constitution ever permits considerations of race and gender to enter an employer's promotional (and hiring) decisions. And so because of judicial minimalism, we are left to wonder — employees and employers alike — to what extent the oft-expressed goal of achieving diversity in the workforce remains a valid, constitutional project. By stopping short of addressing that fundamental question, the Court leaves everyone in doubt.

In last February's *Spielbauer v. County of Santa Clara* decision, the California Supreme Court ruled that public employers need not obtain a formal grant of immunity from the prosecutor before questioning an employee



in a non-criminal setting about matters that are potentially incriminating. Rather, "automatic immunity" in the form of the exclusionary rule, conferred

on the employee by advising him/her that answers to the questions posed may not be used against him/her in a future criminal trial (known in California as the *Lybarger* admonition), serves to protect the employee. But the fundamental question of whether that advisement is constitutionally required in the first place was left unanswered by the Court, despite a split in the federal circuit courts on the issue and even a contrary ruling by the Ninth Circuit in a case involving the LAPD (see my article, "*Ninth Circuit Muddies the Waters on Officers' Rights in Criminal Investigations*" *SFPOA Journal*, February 2008). In other words, does a public employee have a constitutional right to refuse to speak unless first advised by the public employer that potentially incriminating answers may not be used against him/her in criminal proceedings? Because it was undisputed in the facts of the case that plaintiff Spielbauer had been given the *Lybarger* admonition, the state Supreme Court took the minimalist approach and sidestepped the broader, constitutional question.

The cost of judicial minimalism is the public's being left in the dark as to how some of the most profound and nettlesome questions of our time are to be answered within the framework of American constitutional law. Deciding a case using only that which is absolutely necessary and leaving unanswered the larger question(s) is an evasion of the courts' responsibility to ground judgments in constitutional principle.

Some may claim that such a charge puts me in danger of becoming an advocate for something I inveighed against several months ago, judicial activism. But in fact, it is the contrary. As legal scholar Ronald Dworkin wrote recently, "It is often said that ambitious judicial arguments are arrogant. Close to the opposite is true: it is arrogant for unelected officials [i.e., judges] to declare or deny fundamental rights with no or little attempt to state a warrant for their decision in broad constitutional principle. [Judicial minimalism] permits justices to avoid full intellectual responsibility for their decisions."

We seem to live in an age where fewer and fewer of those in positions of authority appear capable of assuming full responsibility for their actions. Constitutional law is too fundamental a premise of American democracy to be allowed to suffer a similar fate.

"Roll the Union On . . ."

### Retired, or soon to be?

*Don't lose touch with the friends and co-workers you have spent your entire career working along side.*

Join the San Francisco Veteran Police Officers Association.

Contact Larry P. Barsetti, Secretary,

Phone: 415-566-5985 Email: [larry175@ix.netcom.com](mailto:larry175@ix.netcom.com)

S.F. Veteran POA 09-10/09, P.O. Box 16627, San Francisco, CA 94116

## Calendar of Events

Mark your calendars for the following meetings and events by the POA and its friends and supporters. All dates and times are subject to last minute changes, so always contact the event coordinator to confirm dates and times. If you have an event you would like posted on our calendar, contact the editor at [journal@sfpoa.org](mailto:journal@sfpoa.org).

### Regularly Scheduled Meetings or Events

Event	Location	Date & Time	Coordinator
Meeting, Veteran Police Officers Association	3255 Folsom, SF	Second Tues. of Every Month, 11:00 AM	Larry Barsetti (415) 566-5985 <a href="mailto:larry175@ix.netcom.com">larry175@ix.netcom.com</a>
Meeting, Widows & Orphans Aid Association	Ingleside Police Station, Community Rm	Second Tues. of Every Month, 2:00 PM	Mark Hurley (415) 681-3660
Meeting, American Legion SF Police-Fire Post	Old POA Building 510-7th Street, SF	Second Tues. of Every Month, 6:00 PM	Rene Laprevotte <a href="mailto:rlaprevotte@comcast.net">rlaprevotte@comcast.net</a>
<b>POA Board of Directors Meeting</b>	<b>POA Building</b>	<b>Third Wed. of Every Month, Noon</b>	<b>POA Office (415) 861-5060</b>
Meeting, Retired Employees of CCSF	Irish Cultural Center	Second Wed. of Every Month, 11:00 AM	Reyna Kuk (415) 681-5949
Retiree Range Re-qualification	SFPD Pistol Range	First Fri. of each Month, 0730 – 1130	Range Staff (415) 587-2274

### Specially Scheduled Events

<b>SFPOA Golf Tournament</b>	Marin Country Club, Novato	Monday, September 14, 2009	POA Office (415) 861-5060
Retirement Luncheon Honoring Jeff Brogan	John's Grill 63 Ellis St., SF	Thursday, September 17, 2009 Noon	Kim D'Arcy 553-1484
Fundraiser 10K Run Hanna and Mitchell 10K Fun Run	SF Embarcadero	Saturday, September 19, 2009 6:00 PM	Ed Robles (925) 336-6709
Retirement Dinner honoring Joe Buono and Greg Breslin	Italian Athletic Club Stockton Street, SF	Thursday, September 24, 2009 5:30 PM	Liam Frost (415) 412-9020
APOA Scholarship Banquet	New Asia Restaurant 722 Pacific Street, SF	Friday, October 2, 2009 6:00 PM	Eddie Chung (415) 315-2400
Golf Tourney Women Leaders in Law Enforcement	Poplar Creek Golf Course San Mateo, CA	Monday, November 2, 2009	Robin Matthews (415) 553-1093

# WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' AID ASSOCIATION

PO Box 880034, San Francisco, CA 94188-0034 ♦ Established 1878 ♦ Telephone 415.681.3660

**August 11, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Widows' and Orphans' Aid Association of the San Francisco Police Department was called to order by President Joe Garrity at 1:50 PM in the Conference Room of Ingleside Station.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by President Joe Garrity.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:** Present were President Joe Garrity. Vice President John Centurioni. Treasurer Joe Reilly, Secretary Mark Hurley, Trustees Bill Gay, Mark McDonough, and Matt Gardner. Excused were Trustees Bob Mattox and Harold Vance.

**MINUTES OF THE JULY MEETING:** Motion by John Centurioni, that the minutes be approved as published. Bill Gay seconded it. The motion carried.

**BILLS:** Treasurer Joe Reilly presented the usual bills. Motion by Mark McDonough that the bills be paid. Matt Gardner seconded it. The motion carried.

**There Were Five Deaths This Past Month:**

**ALAN W. BENNER, 67 years.** Al was born in San Mateo and attended Hillsdale High School. He served his country in the Marine Corps. Reserves. Al worked as a salesman before he entered the Police Academy in 1965. His first assignment was Central Station, followed a year later at Park. He was assigned to the I.D. Bureau briefly before going on the Mounted Unit. Al was on the horses assigned to Golden Gate Park and then at Potrero and McLaren Park. After his tour on the horses, he went to Richmond Station for a year, and then back to Central

assigned to Field Training and the Consent Degree. He made Lieutenant and worked Mission and Ingleside. Al was transferred to the Chief's Office and with his Ph.D in psychology worked Behavioral Science Detail. Al had a deep and dedicated caring for his fellow officers and everything they went through in their job as a police officer. He was always there to help a fellow cop or family member with the various problems associated with the job. Al retired in February 2000.

**MICHAEL D. WILSON, 64 years.** Mike was born in Austin, Texas. He entered the Police Academy in 1989. His first assigned was Mission Station. A few months later he went to Taraval. Three months later he was back at Mission. Nine years later he made Sergeant and was assigned to Potrero. His final station was Taraval where he remained until he retired in 2004. Mike split his residences in retirement between Florida and Palm Springs and enjoyed traveling to many different vacation locales.

**DANIEL E. BARDEN, 68 years.** Dan was born in San Francisco and grew up in the Parkside. He went to Sacred Heart High School and State College. He entered the Police Academy in 1962. His first and last assignment was Park Station. Dan left the Police Department to be a San Francisco Fireman in 1964. He had a very good career in the Fire Department. He made Lieutenant while he was at 3 Truck, Captain at 38 Engine, Batt. Chief out of Oak Street, and retired as Asst. Chief Division 2. Dan had a very successful career. He was given good advice to keep paying his dues to the

away on November 10, 2008 while he was running. His wife had no idea he was a member and by chance we found out when his name was published for not paying his dues. We got in touch with his brother, who is also a Division Chief in the Fire Department.

**JOHN FULTON MADDEN, 66 years.** John was born in San Francisco and grew up in Noe Valley. He attended Sacred Heart High School and served his country in the Marine Corps Reserves. John was a postal clerk before he entered the Police Academy in 1966. His first assignment was Central Station. Ten years later, he went to Ingleside, and then to Park before making Sergeant and working the "S" Squad. Two years later, he made Inspector and had the dual rank. John worked at Ingleside, Central, Southern, and also Night Investigations. He went to Central Station in 1992 and remained there until he retired in 2001. John was awarded many Captain's Comp's. He was awarded a Silver Medal of Valor for the arrest of two 459 suspects who they stopped for questioning when one pulled an automatic pistol and ran. John and his partner gave pursuit. The suspect with the automatic was shot and mortally wounded. The other suspect was caught. He was also awarded a Bronze Medal of Valor for taking a meat cleaver from a suspect who wanted Police to shoot him to prove his love to his girlfriend. John retired in 2001.

**THOMAS McINERNEY, 83 years.** Tom was born in San Francisco and grew up in Eureka Valley. He attended St. Joseph's Seminary for two years before he left and went to Saint Ignatius High School. Tom served his country in the Naval Reserves and attended College of the Pacific, St. Mary's College, and Santa Clara. He took the Police exam and entered the Police Academy in 1951. His brother Mort (Later Captain) was already in, and after a short time in the academy Tom was assigned to Traffic Detail and worked five years in the Accident Bureau. Tom went to Hastings College of the law while he was in the Department. He resigned in 1956 to pursue a very successful law career. Tom stayed in the Widow's and Orphan's all these years.

**REPORT OF TRUSTEES:** Our Investment team from Wells Fargo Bank consisting of Jerome Paolini and Shane Hiller gave us a report on our account. July was a great month for our account. We were up 3.76 % and 5 ~ % for the year. We kept a steady increase in our account without the risk of having everything in stocks. We can have some uncertain times in the next few months but should make a comeback in the last quarter of this year.

**SUSPENSIONS:** Pursuant to Article III, section 4 of the Constitution (non payment of dues for one year) Charles McCullar. President Garrity ordered him removed from the roles.

Pursuant to By laws article III section 3 (did not complete probationary period) Bernie Buchanan, Scott Chapin, Robert Gibson, Troy Held, George Karkazis, Kevin Kornegay, Michael Mertz, Joseph Ratti and Todd Sterner.

**REINSTATEMENTS;** With payment of dues and penalties. William Bigarani, Bruce Mac Donald Daniel Marr, Steven Mortz, Michael Shea, James Simons and David Wright.

**REINSTATED TO MEMBERSHIP.** With dues paid, Ray Hicks.

**NEW MEMBERS.** Members of the 226th Recruit Class.

Anthony Asserto, Derek Christensen, Theresa Halloran, Thomas McCarville, Elizabeth Cole, Patrick Faye, Alexandra Saarf, Julia Angalet, Anthony Castellanos, Vincent Fong, Antonio Landi, Regiland Pena, Eric Eastlund, Sarah Hathaway, Joshua Peters, Yaroslav Shablinskiy, Charles Charanghat, Ian Glynn, Tiffany Gunter, James Horan, Joshua Nazzai, David O'Keeffe, Kathryn Bartel, Jose Mora, Joseph Tomlinson, Stephon Degand, Matthew Ortega, and Raymond Padmore.

225th Recruit Class Bryan Campbell and Shante Williams.

**ADJOURNMENT:** President Joe Garrity had a moment of silence for our departed members and those men and women serving our country in the armed forces. He set the next meeting for Tuesday Sept 8, 2009 at 1:45 PM in the Conference Room of Ingleside Station. Our meeting adjourned at 3:05 PM.

*Fraternally,*  
**Mark Hurley,**  
*Secretary*

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# POLICE-FIRE Post 456 NEWS

By Greg Corrales

*"Integrity is one of those words that many people keep in that dark desk drawer labeled 'too hard'. It is not a topic for the dinner table or the cocktail party. When supported with education, one's integrity can give a person something to rely on when perspective seems to blur, when rules and principles seem to waver, and when faced with a hard choice of right and wrong."*

Admiral James B. Stockdale,  
Washington Quarterly, Winter 1983

Much is being made of the fortieth anniversary of the Woodstock Music and Art Fair, which took place in Bethel, New York (nearly forty miles from Woodstock). At the time, Newsweek described attendees as "a youthful long-haired army, almost as large as the U.S. force in Vietnam." It wrote of "wounded hippies" sent to impromptu hospital tents.

Time gushed with admiration for the gathering, declaring: "It may well rank as one of the significant political and sociological events of the age." It deplored the three deaths there — "one from an overdose of heroin, and hundreds of youths freaked out by low-grade LSD." Yet attendees exhibited a "mystical feeling for themselves as a special group," according to the magazine's glowing essay. It also mentioned the "meaningless war in the jungles of Southeast Asia."

While the Woodstock debacle was going on, on the other side of the world, over 500,000 young Americans were authentically serving the country that had raised them to place society over self. The casualties they sustained over those four days were genuine, yet none of the elite media outlets were praising their selflessness.

The 109 Americans who sacrificed their lives in Vietnam on August 15, 16, 17 and 18, 1969 mirrored the population of the time. A full 92% were white (seven of whom had Spanish surnames) and 8% African American. Some 67% were Protestants; 28% Catholic. Over two-thirds were single; nearly one-third were married. Not surprisingly, the vast majority (92%) were under the age of 30, with 78% between the ages of 18 and 22. Again, not unexpectedly, two-thirds were infantrymen and the same proportion were lower-ranking enlisted men. The preponderance (56%) had volunteered.

So when you hear talk of the glories of Woodstock, the so-called "defining event of the generation," keep in mind those 109 Americans who served so nobly yet are never lauded by the illustrious spokesmen for the "Sixties Generation."

This week in 1968, PFC James Anderson Jr. was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor, making him the first African American Marine to receive the nation's highest award for combat valor. The award was presented to his parents August 21, 1968, during a ceremony at Marine Barracks, Washington. Anderson was praised for his heroic actions while serving as a rifleman with 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines, in Vietnam.



On February 28, 1967, his platoon was fighting to extract a besieged reconnaissance patrol north of Cam Lo. Enemy forces advanced to within 20 meters of Anderson's platoon and wounded several Marines with small-arms and machine-gun fire.

When an enemy grenade landed nearby, he used his body to shield fellow Marines from the blast. Although several Marines were wounded by shrapnel, his body blunted the blast, saving those around him.

History was made at the White House on July 16 when President Obama climbed aboard his waiting helicopter: An all-female crew was taking him to Andrews Air Force base. It was Major Jennifer Grieves' last day in a rotation that made her the first female pilot of Marine One, the presidential helicopter. To honor her achievement, the day's three-person crew was made up of women — another first.

Grieves was designated a "Marine One" pilot in May 2008 and flew Presidents Bush and Obama numerous times, according to information provided by the White House. Her co-pilot was Major Jennifer Marino, and Sergeant Rachael Sherman was her crew chief.

An army has infantrymen, tankers, medics and administrative specialists, but in Sierra Leone, they might need to create a new military occupational specialty for animal wranglers. Troops were called in to end the occupation of a police station by venomous snakes, Reuters reported. Seasoned from previous skirmishes with wild bush cows and rampaging elephants, troops were called in when neither smoke nor snake charmers could remove the snakes. With the help of firefighters, troops removed over 400 snakes by flooding the station.

A federal judge has ordered Sudan to pay families of the victims of the 2000 terrorist attack on the USS Cole \$13.4 million. Individual awards ranging between \$200,000 and \$1.2 million will go to 33 spouses, parents and children of the 17 sailors killed. Al Qaeda terrorists blew a 40-foot hole in the destroyer October 12, 2000, while it was refueling at Aden, Yemen. U.S. District Judge Kimba Wood agreed with the families that the Sudanese government provided the terrorists with training and support. The money awarded had been frozen in New York banks, and the judge ordered it freed under the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002, which allows payment from frozen assets of a "terrorist party."

Police-Fire Post 456 is very anxious to recruit our newer veterans and our female veterans. If you have any questions, please contact me at Traffic Company (553-9601). We meet on the second Tuesday of every month at 1800 hours. The next meeting will be on 8 September 2009. Meetings are at the old POA Building, 510 Seventh Street. Refreshments are served at the conclusion of Legion business. Hope to see you there!

## AROUND THE DEPARTMENT

By Al Casciato



### ...Mortgage Problems:

**H**aving trouble dealing with your bank; consider visiting your local Congressional office. One City employee reports that after a frustrating experience attempting to modify a loan she contacted Congresswoman Jackie Spier's office for assistance. Lo and behold the bank became friendly and within 7 days the loan was modified, interest rate set and a credit applied to the principal. Forget paying those loan modification services, go directly to your representative and get the service you paid for on April 15....

### ...COMPSTAT:

Lot's of discussion about what is COMPSTAT and how will it be used. The short story is that the system is about management accountability through statistics. Sound confusing or daunting then think baseball. Everything in baseball or for that matter any sport, analyzing statistics is the key to preparing a game plan and for measuring performance. The same dynamic is in play here...

### ...Rest in Peace:

On July 22, 2009 retired Captain and Department Psychologist Al Benner passed away at a young 67 years of age. Al touched many people's lives during his career for which all are eternally grateful. I can imagine Al in heaven forming a peer support group for the angles. Sadly he was never able to complete his manuscript, "How One Person Can Change the Police Culture". Al taught us many lessons, some at great personal expense, for which we should dedicate ourselves to preserving for the police generations

that will follow us...

### ...Our Future:

Recently a conference announcement caught my eye at the Retirement System. The title reads; "Preventing Knowledge Collapse: Succession & Transition Planning Strategies for the Public Sector — Rising to the challenge of workforce attrition and risk of organizational knowledge loss by building the agile, knowledge-enabled government agency." The title speaks volumes about what is needed in our department and City. We need to preserve our experiences both good and bad so those who follow can build on the success and avoid making the same mistakes. Something to think about...

### ...Lot's of Work:

A little over 3 years ago while on patrol I was flagged down by Lisa Griffith near the ballpark. She told me that a local homeless person was in distress near the Old Fire Station at 3rd and 4th Streets. I investigated and found Larry Carr in cardiac arrest. Fortunately an ambulance arrived and he survived. In the ensuing years Lisa, her husband Sean and Walter Knopelf of the Mariposa Hunter's Point Yacht Club took Larry under their wings. Today Larry has his own place in South Park, owns a janitorial business and is a productive member of our society. He is supported each day by Lisa, Sean and Walt and that is what it takes to help those who have the desire to participate but just do not have the skills to do so. A perspective worth keeping in mind when you see that fragile mind wandering the streets...

### ...1929:

Was told at the retirees meeting that in 1929 a patrol officer's salary was \$200 per month and that year because of the depression it was reduced by \$25 per month. True? I don't know but when the Guardians of the City Museum is up and running facts such as that will be archived and retrievable...

### ...BDU's:

Retiree George Pohley advises to not throw out your BDU's when you retire. Seems that they are perfect for fishing...

Announcements, notices or tidbits can be e-mailed to [alfrmsf@aol.com](mailto:alfrmsf@aol.com), faxed to 552-5741, or mailed to Around the Department, 800 Bryant St., 2nd Floor, SF, CA 94103.

  
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# This and That...

By Kevin Martin,  
SFPOA Vice President

## Al Benner...

On July 22, the San Francisco Police Department family suffered yet another recent devastating loss with the passing of retired Captain Al Benner after a courageous and valiant fight against cancer.

Al was a true pioneer in the area of Police Behavioral Sciences. He was the most instrumental figure behind the formation of our Behavioral Sciences Unit (BSU), currently housed on Treasure Island and headed by Sgt. Mary Dunnigan. Mary is an apt and able leader of that vital unit as Al mentored her early on in the unit's formation. Al was Mary's Clinical Supervisor while Mary was undergoing her internship for her Marriage Family Therapy license.

Al was a wonderful man who cared deeply and passionately for police officers and their families. Known affectionately as "The Cop Doc," Al touched the lives of many, many people in an incredibly positive way. One can only guess just how many lives and careers Al saved through his work.

Al was a very humble and self-effacing man. Certainly confident of his capabilities, Al was also grounded and in touch with so much around him. He brought a unique credibility to the field of Police Behavioral Science and was nationally recognized for his published articles on the subject. Al served at many stations and details throughout his career, but found the Mounted Unit to be his favorite assignment riding on his partner, "Fast Eddie." Al rose through the ranks and along the way earned the respect and admiration of his fellow cops as well as members of the public.

In the late 1970s, Al created the Peer Support Program that thrives today with well over 200 current Peer Support Members. Soon after, the CIRT or Critical Incident Response Team was formed. Both these programs have proven to most valuable to members of our department.

While in the department, Al furthered his educational interests and in time earned his PhD in Psychology.

Upon his retirement, Al joined forces with our dear friend retired SFPD Lt. Vicki Quinn to form "Quinn/Benner Associates." Together, they taught POST certified Peer Support courses to police departments throughout the state of California as well as in Colorado and Hawaii.

Al also co-founded the West Coast Post-trauma Retreat where he served as Clinical Director.

There is so much that can be said of Al and all the good works that enveloped his life and the lives of all those he touched.

Al believed that inherently cops are good folks and more often than not they mean well. At times, circumstances can find a way to take us off the right path, and we find ourselves in uncomfortable situations. Al recognized that and believed that in most cases, we can be led back to the right direction. Al was warm, caring, and possessed a warm sense of humor. Al understood the importance of humor as a healer.

Al was also a man of thoughtful introspection and wisdom. He had a knack of always finding the right words to make sense of a difficult situation and bring comfort to those in need.

Al's Memorial Service was held on Monday, August 10th at the Golden Gate Park Hall of Flowers. A large gathering of family, friends, and members of our department both current and retired joined to honor Al. Retired Deputy Chief Bill Welch presided over the ceremonies and recounted a few of his exploits with Al on their days in the mounted Unit.

Al's legacy will continue to thrive, as others will certainly carry on his vision. Any time there is a need for a Peer Support or CIRT, or a call-out for a Hostage/Crisis Negotiator, rest assured Al Benner's spirit is responding as well.

My deepest sympathies and condolences to the Benner Family. Thank you all so much for sharing such a dear man with us for so many years.

## Phil Gladstein...

On Tuesday, August 18, 2009 former Building and Grounds Officer Phil Gladstein passed away after a lengthy battle with cancer. Phil passed away surrounded by family and friends at San Francisco General Hospital. Phil was a great guy with a quick smile and sharp sense of humor. Phil was well known and liked by many cops, judges, lawyers and employees at the Hall of Justice where he worked for many years. Phil proudly served the citizens of San Francisco for over thirty-years, starting his career at City Hall in 1975.

Phil is survived by his mother Olga, daughter Kim, son David and grandchildren Devin, David Jr.; Brittany; Rita and Nikki

On behalf of the San Francisco Police Officers' Association, I extend the Gladstein Family our deepest condolences for the loss of a very good man who was loved dearly by his family and admired by all those who had the good fortune to have had the opportunity to know Phil. He will be deeply missed.



Sergeant Quinn watches a youngster call out a BINGO spot.

## UCSF Visit...

This past August 13th, I was joined by Sgt. Dennis Quinn (Academy) and Co. B POA Representative Larry Bertrand for an afternoon of BINGO and great fun with the children of UCSF. About twenty children and their families joined us for an afternoon of diversion and fun. All had a great time, and once again the SFPD was a great hit. Dennis and Larry were nothing short of fantastic as they played with the kids and spent some very special time with kids who could use a few smiles. Everyone who played was winner and some great prizes were given away. My very special thanks and a tip of the hat to both Dennis and Larry who were great sports and did a tremendous job.

I will be looking for volunteers from



Northern Station in September for our next UCSF visit. We will be going back to our "School Schedule" in September which will be a visit on September 9, 2009 from 1200-1400 hours with the youngsters and from 1800-2000 hours with the teens in the 'teen Lounge.

Please contact your station Representative for further information.

## All in the Family...

Great police work is nothing new to Southern Station's Anthony "Tony" Pedroza (midnight watch) as he has been patrolling the streets of San Francisco since 2003. Tony is a very dedicated conscientious officer who is also an outstanding FTO. Apparently great police work in the Pedroza Family is not necessarily limited to Tony, as this story will bear out. Tony's grandfather, Frank Pedroza is something of a crime-fighting hero himself as he was very instrumental in bringing some armed robbery suspects to justice.

This past spring, Frank Pedroza, a young 77 years old, is on his way to work and stops off at a local shop for his morning coffee. On his way out of the shop, two masked and armed suspects barge into the shop bumping into Frank but paying no further attention to him. Right away Frank realizes that this is not a good situation. Frank returns to his shop and immediately calls 911 and advises police dispatch of a robbery-in-progress. When police units respond, Frank provides a description of the 211 vehicle and its license plate. Shortly thereafter, CHP and Sheriffs locate the vehicle on Highway 101 towards Salinas. At first, the vehicle yielded but then took off fleeing from the authorities. The area is locked down by the CHP, Monterey Sheriffs and the Salinas Police and after an hour search, the suspects are taken into custody. Once in custody and the investigation unfolding, Frank responds to the police station where he positively identifies the suspects by the clothing and masks worn.

All weapons and "fruits of the crime" were recovered and the incident was captured on closed circuit video.

Due to the quick thinking and dynamic actions of Frank Pedroza, two armed suspects were taken into custody after a very violent crime. Police authorities believe these two suspects were responsible for a series of similar armed robberies.

The San Francisco Police Officers Association is proud to recognize Mr. Frank Pedroza for his heroic efforts in bringing a couple of real bad guys to justice. Congratulations for an outstanding job well done! We're all very proud of you Frank, but a question...77 years old and still working every day? What is your recipe for longevity?

## OCC Concern...

There was a recent OCC case that the POA became involved in which has left many concerns. This is a case in which two of our officers responded to a call for service from a concerned citizen who was worried about a friend who had not been heard from. The officers responded to the scene and made contact with the concerned party. The officers addressed the concerns and conducted a perimeter check of the premises and determined that they could not see anything disturbing inside nor were they able to gain entry. The officers inquired about contacting a family member or landlord to gain entry into the apartment and left a recorded message advising the landlord to contact the police to make a walk through. The concerned citizen related that her elderly friend had suffered a stroke and subsequently succumbed to the disease. The concerned citizen then filed an OCC Complaint against the officers alleging "Neglect of Duty" for failing to take the required action and "Conduct Reflecting Discredit on the Department" for displaying inappropriate behavior.

The OCC conducted its preliminary investigation and determined the finding for the "Neglect" allegation to be "Proper Conduct" and "Not Sustained" for the "Discredit" allegation. No problem, right?

Wrong!

It seems the OCC determined that they should take a second look at this complaint because in the narrative of the complaint, the citizen includes the paragraph, "I can't also help but wonder if the fact that the officers were (insert race) and both my friend and I were not might have had a role in their decision not to help us."

Well, the OCC decided to reopen this investigation. An ever-so-infamous "OCC Added Allegation" Conduct Reflecting Credit for...you guessed it, "Racially Biased Policing."

Both officers were then recalled to OCC to answer for this new "trumped up" charge, which led to much concern and many questions for the POA.

My first question was, if this was such a concern, why was it not addressed during the preliminary investigation with the other two allegations? It seems to me that if there was any such concern it should have been addressed early on. Second, and even more disturbing, was the liberal license taken by the OCC to infer that a person's "wonder" is strong enough to merit such an investigation. I believe this citizen's narrative to be articulate and well written. I believe there might have been stronger grounds to proceed forward with such a complaint or allegation if the passage had read for example, "I believe that because the officers were (insert race) and both my friend and I were not, might have had a role in their decision not to help us."

I was very concerned because of the license the OCC exercised in this matter to add yet another "Racial Profiling" or "Racially Biased Policing" statistic to the fold. I brought my concerns to the Executive Board of the POA at a recent meeting and my concerns were equally shared after the disbelief subsided. We pooled our thoughts and concerns and subsequently made an appointment to meet with the Executive Director of OCC, Joyce Hicks, and Senior Supervisor, Charles Gallman, to express our ques-

tions and concerns. At the meeting we shared our disappointment with the direction the OCC is taking in this case because we did not feel the language contained within the complaint was appropriate enough to file the subsequent and very dangerous allegation to each officer.

The allegation of Racial Profiling or Racially Biased Policing is a very serious allegation with very serious repercussions if these allegations ever bear out. These are allegations that cannot be taken lightly and should always be addressed with concern and resolution.

As I have stated on many occasions, as police officers, we profile behavior... not people. From the very onset of our police careers, we are trained and educated not to engage in any type of behavior that could be construed as such. And even before our careers begin, our background investigations delve into that area.

Now, I would be incredibly naïve to believe that that type of policing has not occurred on occasion but I absolutely believe that is the isolated exception and certainly not the rule.

There have been many cases involving our members where Racially Profiling allegations have been raised in which I have strongly and aggressively defended our members because there is just no hard evidence that our members engage in such activity. It is absolutely not tolerated by the San Francisco Police Department, the San Francisco Police Officers' Association or its members. The members of this department would not tolerate such behavior and I think the wide diversity among this department

certainly bears my claim. We are too sophisticated and too well educated for that nonsense. Nonetheless, the complaints and allegations continue. How does one defend him or herself from something he or she has not engaged in? How do you prove you're not a racist? By mere words of denial alone? Is that enough?

If along with so many of you, I had a dime for every time I was accused of being a racist or taking a police action against someone "just because I'm (insert race)," we could both retire comfortably. Funny, I never knew I was a racist until I became a cop...

Anyway, we will continue to pursue this case with the OCC and even the Police Commission if necessary.

I trust our new Police Chief will also show interest and concern in this matter as it is a concern for us all and certainly affects us all.

At times it appears that it is the police that are being profiled because we are such an easy and convenient target. I also am concerned that more often than not the allegations usually come through the OCC at the behest and prodding over some over zealous Public Defender, "community activist" or "community organization" rather than the individual's own volition.

I will keep the membership abreast of the turn of events as they unfold in this matter and as to future taken by the POA in this and similar matters.

**Police and Fire Memorial Mass reminder...**

Please make plans to attend the 62nd Annual Police and Fire Memorial Mass scheduled for Sunday, September 13, 2009 at St. Monica's Church

at 470 24th Avenue in San Francisco. Please plan to arrive at the church at 1000 hours to assemble for photos at 1015 with the mass to follow at 1030. Police Department attendance has been down of late so let's please try and make a concerted effort to attend this great event. Thank you for your response.

**Congratulations and Good Luck to our new Chief!**

Our new Police Chief, George Gascón, was publicly sworn into his new office on Friday, August 21, 2009 at 1700 hours in the Rotunda of City Hall. An overflow crowd including several members of the Gascón Family (the Chief's parents included), City Officials, as well as many members of the Police Department were in attendance to witness the event and to wish our new Chief well.

Los Angeles Police Chief William Bratton was in attendance along with several members of both the LAPD and the Mesa, Arizona Police Depart-

ment where Chief Gascón has formerly served.

A reception was held at City Hall for the Gascón Family and the many well-wishers in attendance. Later in the evening, The Chief and his family celebrated at Don Ramon's Restaurant where our dear Friend, Nadi Ramirez, and her family preside.

I met with the Chief momentarily Friday night. I told him about a broadcast earlier in the evening reporting a UFO in the city sky. I asked him if there was any coincidence between being sworn into office as our new Chief and the reports of UFOs. We both laughed...

This month's column is dedicated to my dear Friend Al Benner who did so much for this great department and will no doubt leave a wonderful legacy of service. Dedication and compassion for his fellow Peace Officers... Rest In Peace, Al...your job is done... God Bless...

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**Inspector Of The Month**



Sergeant William Braconi

Sergeant William Braconi has been assigned to the Robbery Detail since 2006. He is a valuable asset to the Investigations Bureau and a tenacious criminal investigator. He always takes the extra step with his investigations. Sergeant Braconi is rarely found behind his desk. He is usually walking the streets, seeking leads, evidence and suspects in his assigned cases.

Sergeant Braconi utilizes his years as a narcotic investigator to enhance his abilities. He can be found talking with the homeless and establishing a rapport not only with them but with everyone he comes into contact with. Sergeant Braconi is an effective and respected member of the Robbery Detail.

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# Excellence is a Habit

By Sergeant Mike Nevin, MCD

I am assigned to the Officer-Involved Shooting Investigation Team of the Management Control Division. The Department has afforded me the opportunity to attend many excellent training courses for this assignment. Earlier this year, I completed an especially beneficial certification program from the Force Science Institute, Ltd. For a police officer, nothing is more important than training and preparing for a deadly force encounter and understanding the dynamics that are associated with such an event. In this issue of the *Journal*, I will be sharing information I have gathered from many renowned experts. These professionals are considered some of the country's leading experts on the topics discussed in this article.

## Part 1: Human Performance during High Stress

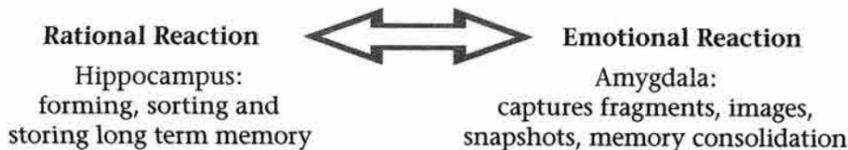
*"Courage is not lack of fear. It is acting in spite of it."* — Mark Twain

"Fear is an automatic physical reaction to a perceived threat that will result in predictable physical, emotional, perceptual and cognitive changes because of high physical arousal states," Artwohl and Christensen (*Deadly Force Encounters*). This definition goes a long way towards forever removing the stigma associated with being afraid. Fear is Mother Nature's way of telling us that something is wrong. Instinctively, we will react in one of three ways: fight, flight, or freeze. Since freezing may lead to the quickest exit out of the gene pool, this discussion will focus on the "fight or flight" response.



### Neurophysiology of Fear

Fear is controlled by a part of the nervous system called the Autonomic Nervous System (ANS). The Limbic System is a set of brain structures concerned with memory, emotional response and behavior. Two Limbic subsystems include: the Hippocampus, associated with memory and in overall control of the ANS, and the Amygdala, the location of emotional responses in the brain.



The Autonomic Nervous System has two parts: the Sympathetic Nervous System (SNS) and the Parasympathetic Nervous System (PSNS).

The SNS promotes a "fight or flight" response, corresponds with arousal and energy generation, and inhibits digestion. The following physiological reactions include:

- stimulation of the heartbeat
- rising blood pressure
- dilation of the pupils
- dilation of the trachea and bronchi
- conversion of liver glycogen into glucose
- blood shunts away from the skin and viscera to the skeletal muscles, brain, and heart
- inhibition of peristalsis in the gastrointestinal tract
- inhibition of contraction of the bladder and rectum

The PSNS is a "rest and digest" response, promotes calming of the nerves to return to regular function, and enhances digestion. The following physiological reactions include:

- slowing down of the heartbeat
- lowering blood pressure
- constriction of the pupils
- increased blood flow to the skin and viscera
- peristalsis of the gastrointestinal tract

In times of danger, the SNS prepares the body for violent activity, while the PSNS reverses these changes when the danger is over.

Let's dispel another stigma: flight. Although Penal Code section 835a states that a peace officer need not "retreat or desist" from using reasonable force to affect the arrest, prevent escape, or overcome resistance of any person he/she has reasonable cause to believe has committed a public offense, officers may choose a tactical disengagement in certain situations. In order to gain advantage a police officer might move to cover, create distance to gain time, or simply wait for back-up in situations that otherwise could justify an immediate force application.

### From 60 to 200 in a second

In a high arousal state, SNS causes massive noradrenaline (or norepinephrine) release due to an imminent threat of death. SNS can drive the heart rate from 60-80 bpm up to 200 bpm in a second.

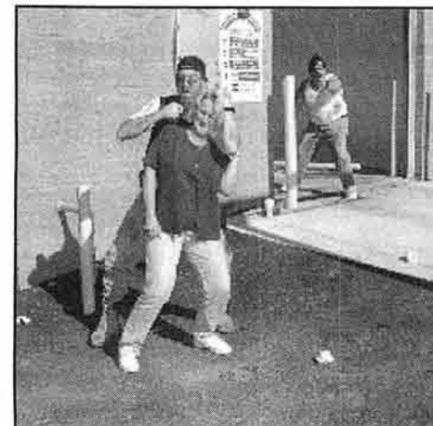
This "Adrenaline Dump" causes a surge in gross motor strength, increase in speed, and insensitivity to pain. This was very useful to our prehistoric ancestors for survival. But performance only improves to a point. Further increases in arousal can result in degraded performance.

The downside can include: severe decrease in fine motor coordination, dexterity decrease, perceptual changes, and in extreme cases—hypervigilance (heart rate > 220 bpm).

Human beings have three primary survival systems: Motor Performance, Vision, and Cognitive/Behavioral Processing. Under extreme stress, all three can begin to fail.

### Common Biopsychosocial Reactions to Stress

- **Hearing Distortions:** Most common is diminished sound or "auditory exclusion." Sounds can appear muffled and distant.
- **Time Distortions:** Many experience time moving in slow motion. Tachypsychia, or "speed of the mind," is the neurological condition that alters time perception.
- **"Response Hierarchy":** Under extreme stress, the action that is the most "natural" and/or well practiced will be utilized.
- **"Sensory gating":** Concentrating on the threat and screening out irrelevant sensory information.
- **Schemas:** Filters or "brain blueprints" that the brain uses to collect and make sense of information. The meanings people attach to these incoming stimuli will produce perception.



**Selective Attention**  
"You think you know what you saw, but you don't know what you didn't see."

**Inattentive Blindness**  
"You didn't see it, and you don't know that you didn't see it."

### Memory and Recall

Human memory is not a camera. Memory is made when perceived sensory data is hardwired into circuits. When perception is disrupted, memory is disrupted. Memory gaps, distortions, or fixations can occur under high stress.

The Memory Maxim—No one can tell you what *really* happened. They can only tell you what they *perceived* to have happened.

### Train for High Stress Encounters

If you have ever had a deadly force encounter or been engaged in a high speed pursuit, you may have experienced some of these ordinary reactions to the extraordinary event. Undoubtedly, it helps to have a good understanding of human performance during high stress before and after such an experience.

Your "response hierarchy" should be based on useful and repeated training. A high skill level will lead to confidence, and confidence breeds success.

During Force Options training at the Academy we always ask the same questions during scenario debriefing: what did you see and hear, what did you do, and why? These questions are no different in a real life investigation.

## Part 2: Force Science and Implications for Law Enforcement

The Force Science Institute, Ltd. is dedicated to the study of human dynamics in high stress, rapidly unfolding force encounters. Through its Force Science Research Center (FSRC), based at Minnesota State University-Mankato, sophisticated time-and-motion measurements have provided valuable insight into the physical and mental dynamics of life-threatening events, particularly officer-involved shootings.

### Action Beats Reaction

This is not only true sometimes, but every time. Reaction time encompasses stimulus identification—response selection—response programming. Mental Chronometry is the scientific study of how quickly the human mind and body can and do react to stimuli.

Police officers see different things based on selective attention, and it affects how they react, how fast they react. A suspect's intent can be construed from the totality of the circumstances. Picking up on contextual cues is vital to officer safety.

### The Tempe Study by FSRC

When a light was turned on, an officer armed with a specially equipped training gun was to pull the trigger of the gun as often as they could until the light went off. A previous study revealed that rapid fire, pointed shooting can average 0.25 of a second between shots.

The Tempe Study revealed that it took 0.31 of a second to shoot and 0.35 of a second to stop. It is worth noting that the officers were "shooting to stop" not "shooting to save their lives."

"Some officers might skip some or all of these steps, but for those who engage in all of them, the total time to stop shooting in a visually complex, dynamic, rapidly unfolding circumstances as most officer shootings are, is a total of the

following approximate time factors—shift and focus (1/4 of a second), clarify (1/4 of a second), decision (1/4 to 1/2 of a second or more), stop shooting (1/4 - 1/3 of a second)."

Officers are trained that if they are involved in a lethal force encounter they can shoot until they stop the threat. Officers shoot AND assess, not shoot THEN assess. If bullets had "knock-down" power the recoil would knock down the shooter. While that may happen on a Hollywood set, it's unlikely to occur on the street.

**Time and Distance**

**FSRC SpeedGrid**

	Average Stride Distance in Feet	Average Stride Time in Seconds	Speed in MPH
1	1.5	.35	2.92
2	2.5 - 3	.34	5.01
3	3.5 - 4	.33	7.23
4	4.5	.31	9.90
5	5 - 5.5	.29	11.76
6	5.5 - 6	.27	13.89
7	5.5 - 6	.25	15.00

At 1 mph a person (or vehicle) travels 1.4666 feet per second (10 mph = 14.66 feet per second). Comfortable walking speed is 3 mph. The above chart reveals that a person can travel 30.5 feet in 2.14 seconds.

Let's examine a scenario of a suspect attacking an officer with an edged weapon or blunt object. Using averages, the attacker's first stride is about 3 mph. But he can reach 12 mph or more and cover 21 feet in about 1.7 seconds, all in about 5 steps. On average, an officer requires 1.5 seconds to draw and fire one round from a level 2 holster (not even allowing for initial reaction time).

**Major Study from the FBI**

In 2006, the Federal Bureau of Investigations concluded a series of research reports on law enforcement safety. This third study, *Violent Encounters: A Study of Felonious Assaults on Our Nation's Law Enforcement Officers*, is recommended reading.

What did they learn? Threat Assessment became the focus. Offenders were confident they could assault the officer and get away.

- 64% of Offenders: "Officer wasn't prepared."
- 60% of Officers: "I didn't see it coming."

The Deadly Mix in *Violent Encounters* was described as the dynamic interaction between the officer, the offender, and the circumstances that brought them together.

Since the FBI began publishing statistics in 1972, the majority of the officers feloniously killed were slain during arrest situations, investigating suspicious persons, and handling disturbance calls.

Although offenders fell into two major categories — Anti-Social Personality (lack of conscience) and Dependent Personality (ticking time bomb) — anyone can be a threat to a police officer.

An important theme became apparent: "The officer's display of professionalism and alertness may influence the offender's perceived ability to gain control... Complacency is the worst enemy of the veteran officer." An offender should remain a threat until the contact has ended, not a minute before.

**What Promotes Peak Performance in Lethal Force Conflicts?**

Dr. Darrell Ross, Western Illinois University, analyzed 86 high-profile Officer-Involved Shootings. All of the officers survived. And of the ensuing civil suits that actually advanced to a courtroom resolution (86%), all the officers and their departments prevailed, either through summary judgments or trial verdicts. Ross explained that there is no "decision tree." Decisions tend to be made according to a "recognition-primed" model. Ross explained, "In sports terminology, they were good at 'reading the play.'" What did they do and what can we learn?

- *Formulate flexible anticipations.* Anticipation is a forerunner of perception; mentally rehearse; transitional force decision-making.
- *Heightened sense of "situational awareness."* They picked up on some indication that something was wrong.
- *Screen out distractions.* No visual "noise"; key on what's important.
- *Draw reasonable inferences quickly.* When the suspect actually presented what was perceived as a deadly threat, 95% of the officers had less than 2 seconds to react.
- *Act emphatically.* There was no "paralysis of analysis."
- *Articulate well.* An objective observer could understand the officers' thinking process and appreciate the reasonableness of their actions, even in cases where their perceptions turned out to be wrong.

**Train how you fight, fight how you train**

Police work is one of the most rewarding professions out there. Officers truly make a difference in the communities they work. Nothing beats the camaraderie with fellow officers and the satisfaction of a job well done. But, at times, police work is fraught with danger. If you are going to wear a bullet proof vest for a living, you should be willing to dedicate a substantial amount of hours to honing your skills both mentally and physically.

Force Options training at the Academy incorporates policy review and "Stress Inoculation"—repeated exposure to stressful situations in a controlled environment wherein the student will then be able to better handle a real life event. "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act but a habit."—Aristotle

**Take AIM**

- Awareness: I can be assaulted by anyone while performing my duties. I will be aware of my environment. I will not be complacent.
- Image: I will project the best possible professional image. My appearance and equipment will be well maintained. My mannerisms will imply that I am a formidable opponent.
- Mind-Set: I will take my training seriously. I will not take shortcuts. I will use appropriate force when necessary. I will fight. And above all else—I will survive.

[A few acknowledgments are due to the following Force Science instructors for material in this presentation: Dr. William Lewinsky, executive director of the Force Science Institute, Ltd.; Dr. Matthew Sztajnkrzyer, MD, PhD, Mayo Clinic; Dr. Richard Schmidt, UCLA; and Dr. Anthony Pinizzotto, FBI (ret). Visit [forcescience.org](http://forcescience.org). Article source: "What Promotes Peak Performance in Lethal Force Conflicts," [PoliceOne.com](http://PoliceOne.com), June 29, 2007]

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+ Floor Rate 4.25%; Ceiling Rate 12%.

## Ask Mike...the Retiree's Corner

# Social Security Updates

By Mike Hebel  
POA Welfare Officer

**Q.** Mike, at a recent meeting of the Veteran's Police Officers Association I heard talk of a bill sponsored by Senator Dianne Feinstein to restore full Social Security benefits to public safety officers. Is this correct?

**A.** San Francisco police officers and firefighters do not contribute into the Social Security System, nor does the City and County of San Francisco make a contribution on their behalf. This is employment not covered by Social Security. Consequently, these employees receive reduced Social Security monthly payments due to a provision in the law called the "Windfall Elimination Provision." As a result, these public safety officers receive about 40% of the benefit they would otherwise be entitled to based on their Social Security earnings (pre SFPD/SFFD, secondary employment, post SFPD/SFFD).

At the request of the Los Angeles police association and fire union, Senator Feinstein introduced S618 in legislative year 2006-2008. The stated purpose of this legislation was to remove the Windfall Elimination Provision from the Social Security law. Unfortunately, this bill (S618) did not get out of the committee due to the fiscal problems with Social Security as well as the US economy. We appreciate the efforts of Senator Feinstein and urge her to reintroduce this bill when the economic conditions are more favorable to its passage.

**Q.** Mike, several months ago you wrote that there might not be an increase in the monthly Social Security benefit for several years. Do you still believe this? While I principally rely on my police pension, some of my friends mostly rely on their Social Security checks.

**A.** Yes, I am still of the opinion that there will not be a cost-of-living increase to Social Security recipients in 2010, and probably there will not be another cost-of-living increase until 2013. Why? The Congressional Budget Office projects that, because of the recent decline in consumer prices and the expected low inflation in the next few years, there may not be another cost-of-living increase in Social Security benefits until 2013. There is some good news

here. Currently most retirees receiving Social Security benefits pay \$96.40 for Medicare Part B. There is a "hold harmless" provision in the law which prohibits Part B premiums from rising in any one year by more than that year's cost-of-living increase in benefits. With no bump up in benefits, Part B premiums are frozen. For 5% of Medicare beneficiaries who pay an income-related premium surcharge (high earners), their Part B premium will rise to \$119 per month in 2010, \$123 in 2011, and \$128 in 2012.

**Q.** Mike, how will President Barack Obama's efforts to overhaul health care effect all of us who are in the CCSF Health Service System?

**A.** I have been watching this closely and cannot discern a clear answer to this most important question. We have all seen the raucous protests representing real anger and fear. There is a growing crescendo of opposition to his administration's effort at health-care reform. The President wants to expand coverage to those 46 million Americans who do not presently have health insurance; he wants to control health care costs; he wants a public option (federal government health care plan) but does not wish to increase the federal deficit; and he wants private insurers to stop denying coverage to persons with pre-existing medical conditions. President Obama wants high income earners to pay an income tax surcharge to help fund this public option. The 260 million Americans who do have health care insurance, mostly through their employers, seem worried about rationing, delays, lines, choice restrictions, and the loss of private insurers in the market place. They are concerned that injecting the federal government too far into the health care industry will push up premium costs and taxes. Whether these fears are warranted, I do not know. But I am concerned that I cannot answer your question. Until it is clear that we will retain all our current benefits/options in the CCSF Health Service System without any increase in premiums driven solely by this federal health care initiative, I am unable to support it.

**Q.** Mike, I am the surviving spouse of a San Francisco police officer. I have been receiving a monthly benefit for nearly 12 years. I have just received a "Qualified Survivors Verification Letter" from the

Retirement System asking me to certify and affirm before a notary that I remain eligible to receive the continuation benefit that my husband earned with his 31 years of police service. Why did I get this now?

**A.** The Retirement System mailed this certification document to all 4,800 individuals (surviving spouse, domestic partner) receiving this continuation benefit. This was the first year that this document was sent, but it will be sent on an annual basis. From what I have learned, a number of continuants have remarried or entered into a domestic partnership and have failed to notify the Retirement System. The CCSF Charter governing retirement benefits provides that such remarriage/domestic partnership automatically terminates their monthly pension check. Furthermore, the Retirement System is obligated to collect any payments made to a continuant who remarries/forms a domestic partnership, but fails to notify the Retirement System. Any payments made after remarriage/domestic partnership are subject to recovery.

I urge you to complete the certification document and send it to the Retirement System by September 30.

## Foothill Fuzz Pass-The-Hat For Fallen Officer

By Rene LaPrevotte, Co. K retired

Thursday, August 20, the esteemed Foothill Fuzz lunch group met at Casa Ramos Restaurant in Placerville for our irregularly scheduled lunch/BS session. Attendance was forty two guests from all over not only California, but Nevada as well.

It's kinda neat to see two guys glancing at each other, obviously trying to recollect why that face looks vaguely familiar, then reading a name tag and exclaiming, "Hey, we were in the same academy class!"

Our Foothill Fuzz lunches started-out as a monthly lunch-meeting of seldom more than a dozen guys and gals, who meet alternately in Placerville (US-#50) then the following month in Auburn (US-#80). In the several years this festival of "Food and Foolishness" has gone on, two things have happened. The meetings have been less frequent, (increasing the interest when the lunch actually DOES happen) and the attendance has quadrupled!!

Larry Barsetti, Secretary of the Veteran Police Officer's Association (VPOA) can usually be counted upon to give a ten minute talk about the status of our pension system, retirement benefits & COLAs and Health Services updates. Larry's talk is very popular, since most retirees just can't seem to find the time to keep-up on these important issues on their own.

At this most recent meeting, we passed the hat for the family of Sgt Kelly Lara, a Sacramento County Sheriff who was killed in a traffic collision on the way to work several weeks prior. Sgt. Lara's untimely death left her husband Don (also a Sacramento Sheriffs Sergeant) alone to care for their four small children, including triplets.



Failure to do so will result in the suspension of your continuation benefit.

PS: In 2002, the POA attempted, by Charter amendment, to remove this "remarriage penalty" from the Charter. The voters were not receptive.

*Mike Hebel has been the POA's Welfare Officer since January 1974. He is an attorney and a certified financial planner. He has received awards/recognition as a Northern California "super lawyer" and included amongst "America's top financial planners." He represents POA members at the City's Retirement Board and at the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board. He also advises on investment matters pertaining to the City's deferred compensation plan. Mike retired from the SFPD in 1994 after a distinguished 28 year career. If you have a question for Mike, send an e-mail to [mike@sfpoa.org](mailto:mike@sfpoa.org) or call him at 861-0211.*

Since this wasn't a "Line-of-Duty" death, there are no Federal benefits, and the Lara's — being a young family, likely didn't plan financially for such an early passing.

At any rate, when I got home from the lunch and counted the cash and checks that were donated, the tally totaled \$1,425.00!!! I need to acknowledge retired Officer AJ Hartzer (Co.F), who wrote a check for one thousand dollars!! It's neat to see that public service doesn't end with retirement for most of us! I'm sure the Good Lord looked down on our group, and especially AJ and nodded His approval!

Anyone who would like to assist the Lara family can make a donation to:  
Sacramento County DSA  
Sgt. Kelly Lara Memorial Account  
C/O The Exchange Bank  
1420 Rocky Ridge Drive #190  
Roseville, Ca.  
Acc# 1200015061  
Routing #121101985

**The next Foothill Fuzz Luncheon and Fall Fandango will be Thursday, October 1, 2009**

At the:  
Monkeycat Restaurant  
805 Lincoln Way  
"Oldtown" Auburn, Ca. 95603  
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**Attitude adjustment commences at 1130**

**Lunch at 1300**  
**\$20 per person**  
**(Spousal Units welcome)**

I need an accurate headcount in advance so please RSVP me at:  
[rlaprevotte@comcast.net](mailto:rlaprevotte@comcast.net)  
or (530) 295-0946

## Retirements

The San Francisco Police Officers Association congratulates each of the following POA members on his or her recent retirement from the SFPD. These veterans will be difficult to replace, as each takes with him or her decades of experience and job knowledge. The most recently retired POA members are:

- Officer David Boyett #668 from Youth Services
- Officer Jeff Brogan #637 from Bureau of Inspectors
- Sergeant Joseph Buono #328 from Medical liaison
- Sergeant Carri Lucas #912 from Mission Station
- Officer Andrew O'Mahoney #1396 from Medical Liaison
- Sergeant James Seim #467 from Homeland Security Unit
- Officer William Sweeney #152 from Tactical, Honda



*Long-Term Investing*

# Economic Recovery: Tight-Fisted American Consumers Proceed With Caution

By Edwin K. Stephens,  
The Stephens Group

*A wise man does not trust all his eggs to one basket...Cervantes*  
—Don Quixote

*A man who both spends and saves money is the happiest man, because he has both enjoyments.*  
—Samuel Johnson

Why are Economists concerned about a bleak report on our nation's retail sales?

Answer: Because consumer spending powers about 70 percent of economic activity.

**Sluggish Retail Sales**

Economists noted that the sluggish July retail sales figures showed that shoppers remained tight-fisted and many merchants raised concerns about the back to school shopping season's health.

The International Council of Shopping Centers which is a monthly compilation of more than 50 retailers and Goldman Sachs showed that overall same-store sales fell 5.0 percent in July 2009 compared with the year-ago period. Same-store sales are sales at stores open at least a year and are considered a key indicator of a retailer's health.

On August 17, 2009, Pan Pylas, Business Writer for the Associated Press noted that a disappointing consumer confidence survey on Friday combined with a raft of down beat of earnings from the likes of Abercrombie & Fitch



Co., JC Penny Corp. and Nordstrom Inc. to fuel concerns that the world economy may not recover as swiftly as many in the markets have been hoping.

Investors are fully aware that without the support of the U.S. consumer, which accounts for around 70 percent of the United States economy and 20 percent of the global economy, recovery will be muted at best.

**Economic Reality Check**

Mr. Christopher S. Rugaber, Economics Writer for the Associated Press noted that employers cut the fewest number of jobs in July in nearly a year. And, the unemployment rate fell for the first time in 15 months. But jobs remain scarce.

On August 14, 2009, more than 6.2 million Americans are receiv-

ing jobless benefits according to the government — 140,000 fewer than the previous week. Economists noted if one counts the people who have taken advantages of an unemployment benefits program enacted by Congress, 9.25 million people received unemployment compensation in the week that ended July 25, down about 100,000 from the week before, as new claims rose but some recipients ran out of benefits and fell off the rolls.

**Tight-Fisted Consumers**

As a result of unemployment, flat wages, tighter credit, fear of layoffs and the urge to save more have caused many consumers to spend less. Consumers note that shrinking home equity and stock portfolios have compounded the problem.

Mr. Paul Dales, U.S. economist at Capital Economics wrote in a note to his clients that as a result, "households are in no position to drive a decent economic recovery." However, low prices should provide some comfort for consumers. The worst recession since World War II has kept prices in check, as workers can't demand higher pay due to the scarcity of jobs. Companies have been unable to boost prices because of weak demand.

Over the 12 months ending in June 2009, consumer prices fell 1.4

percent, the biggest decline in almost six decades.

**Proceed With Caution**

On August 20, 2009, The Federal Reserve Board signaled that the recession appears to be ending, and said it would hold interests rates at their current low records. The Fed said that the economy appeared to be "leveling out."

Meanwhile, the number of newly laid-off workers seeking jobless benefits rose last week, the government said, in another sign of a weak job market. Ms. Jennifer Lee, an economist at BMO Capital Markets noted, "The dismal job situation is the dark storm cloud hanging over consumers." It appears that the United States economy has somewhat improved and avoided an earlier "free fall" into oblivion. But it is the psyche of the American consumer that has been shaken. And if our nation's economy is to improve, the consumer will have to have confidence that the economic recovery is very real and not imagined.



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- Myth #2:** I can't bring a claim against the negligent driver.
- Myth #3:** I can't file a claim with my own auto insurance company.

**FACT:** If you've been injured on the job by a third party such as a negligent motorist or drunk driver, **YOU CAN** (and should!) recover substantial personal injury damages (tax free) in addition to worker compensation benefits. **DO NOT** leave money on the table by limiting your remedy to workers compensation! I have helped police officers throughout the counties of San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara.

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# Jeff Barker Scholarship Awards

By Marty Halloran  
Chairman Scholarship Committee

The annual Jeff Barker Scholarship Awards were presented in late August to dependents of active, retired, and deceased members. The recipients of these awards were judged by the POA Scholarship Committee on their academics, extracurricular activities, community service, and a five hundred word essay. The topic chosen for this year was "Should the United States Government Allow the Use of Torture to Protect Our Nation?"

The first place for the year 2009 goes to Anthony Santana, son of active member Benjamin Santana from Central Station. Anthony is attending the University of California at Riverside and has received \$2,500.00 towards his college education.

Forty students will receive a total of \$24,000.00 towards their college education. The funds for these awards are raised through the proceeds from the annual POA Golf Tournament so our thanks go out to the sponsors and participants in that tournament.

My thanks also go out to the POA Scholarship Committee and especially to Kevin Martin, Yvonne Pratt, Greg Suhr, Kevin Lyons, Frank Hagan, Lyn Tomioka, Matt Gardner, Glenn Sylvester, Robin Matthews and Eddie Hagan. These officers spent many hours reading and grading the submitted essays. Without their assistance and their dedication the Scholarship Committee would not exist.

On behalf of President Gary Delagnes and the entire Board of Directors I would like to congratulate all the recipients of the Jeff Barker

Scholarship Awards and wish all of these students much success in their college years.

**1st Place: \$2,500.00**  
Anthony Santana  
University of California, Riverside

**2nd Place: \$2,000.00**  
Emily Block  
University of California, Los Angeles

**3rd Place: \$1,000.00**  
Rick Solomon  
Sonoma State University

The following students were each awarded a \$500.00 scholarship towards their college education.

Elora Belt  
Institut Catholique de Paris

Garrett Biel  
Trinity University

Beau Bruneman  
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo

Kathryn Cashman  
Saint Mary's College

Matthew Ching  
University of California, Davis

Michelle Cleary  
Gonzaga University

Ann Marie Dahlberg  
Pace University

Kevin Downs  
Mount Saint Mary's University

Kathryn Duderoff  
University of California, Davis

Caroline Fagundes  
Paris Beauty College

Jake Garcia  
Chico State University

Emily Hanley  
University of California, Los Angeles

Alexandra Hartmann  
Sonoma State University

Ciara Karski  
Creighton University

Kelcie Lai  
Foothill College

Michelle Julia Lee  
University of Portland

Jason Leung  
City College of San Francisco

Ryan Leung  
City College of San Francisco

Daniel Marks  
Santa Rosa Junior College

Michael McCann  
University of California, Santa Cruz

Jessica Meyer  
Sonoma State University

Frank Olcomendy  
Sonoma State University

Gianna Puccinelli  
Georgetown University

Justine Pon  
City College of San Francisco

Eric Quesada  
Villanova University

Nicholas Roualdes  
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo

Melanie Shea  
Dominican University of California

Kyle Sung  
University of California, Santa Cruz

Kaila Tang  
University of California, Davis

Kevin Tang  
University of California Los Angeles

Sean Taylor  
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo

Kelby Tittel  
Diablo Valley College

Dustin Tsang  
San Francisco State University

Marie West  
University of California, Davis

Alexander Wong  
California State University, Fullerton

Cassandra Wu  
University of San Francisco

Haley Zerga  
Loyola University New Orleans

## 1st Place Essay

# Should the United States Government Allow the Use of Torture to Protect Our Nation?

Anthony Santana  
POA Scholarship Award Winner

Whether or not our government should permit the use of torture in interrogation is a heated debate with loyal advocates on each side. Proponents of the use of torture argue that it is a necessary evil to help keep our country safe from terrorists. But the reality is that the United States should not allow the use of torture because it violates United States and international law, it damages the United States' image internationally, and it has been proven to be unreliable and, therefore, ineffective.

The Eighth Amendment to the United States Constitution expressly prohibits the use of "cruel and unusual punishments." In 1972, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that there were four principles by which we may determine whether a particular punishment is "cruel and unusual." One of these four principles states that "...a punishment must not by its severity be degrading to human dignity, especially torture."<sup>1</sup> Torture is also against the Geneva Conventions, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and numerous other international laws that the United States has supported and ratified.

Our nation is founded on principles of individual freedom and human rights. Denying individuals the rights we call "unalienable" in our own Declaration of Independence makes our nation appear to be hypocritical and immoral. After 9/11, President's Military Order of November 13, 2001, authorized the capture and arrest of anyone, anywhere in the world, and allowed them to be held without evidence, without being charged with a crime, and without due process in a court of law.<sup>2</sup> It is a fact that detainees have been tortured. Some of those detainees may have been innocent of any crime. The use of torture makes the United States appear to be no better than the dictators and terrorists it is trying to bring to justice in its "war on terror." By allowing torture, officially or unofficially, the United States is losing integrity and trust with foreign nations, including some of our closest allies.

Not only has the use of torture earned the United States the ethical disdain of people around the world, it has also resulted in false intelligence and misinformation. It has been proven that individuals that are subjected to sustained physical and mental abuse will say anything to stop the torture. In one such case, Jeff Deskovic confessed to a murder he did not commit after being subjected to hours of harsh interrogations. He spent sixteen years in prison before DNA evidence proved his innocence.<sup>3</sup> It is estimated that approximately 25%

of the wrongful convictions overturned due to DNA testing have involved a false confession or admission.<sup>4</sup> If harsh interrogations produce false confessions, admissions made by persons who have suffered prolonged torture are even less credible. The use of torture cannot be validly justified to obtain information if the accuracy of the information cannot be relied upon.

Torture is unlawful and unethical. The United States government's use of torture seems more like a misled attempt at gratification or revenge than an exercise in the pursuit of justice. Torture is glorified by many in an attempt to convince us that it will help protect us. I believe that resorting to the use of torture, and approval of such use by our government, create the impression that we are desperate and arrogant with false perceptions of superiority. The United States needs to truly demonstrate its strength by upholding our laws and showing respect for human dignity. We need to set an example for other nations that torture is not a required or appropriate method of insuring the well-being of the people.

<sup>1</sup>"Eighth Amendment to the United States Constitution." Wikipedia. 2009, Web.12 Jun 2009. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eighth\\_amendment\\_to\\_the\\_United\\_States\\_Constitution](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eighth_amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution).

<sup>2</sup>Lendman, Stephen. "Torture of Detainees under CIA Custody: Damning Exposé of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)." Global-Research.CA 13 April 2009 Web.15 Jun 2009. [www.globalresearch.ca/index.php?context=va&aid=13154](http://www.globalresearch.ca/index.php?context=va&aid=13154).

<sup>3</sup>Deskovic, Jeffrey. "Home." Jeffrey Deskovic Speaks. 2009. 10 Jun 2009 <http://www.jeffreydeskovic-speaks.org>.

<sup>4</sup>Kelley, Matt. "Torture and False Confessions." Change.org Criminal Justice 14 May 2009 Web.13 June 2009. [http://criminaljustice.change.org/blog/view/torture\\_and\\_false\\_confessions](http://criminaljustice.change.org/blog/view/torture_and_false_confessions).

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# Wilderness Program – Summer 2009

By Michael Rivera

Summer 2009 is gone and we have begun the school year providing trips for school district students. Summer has always brought us an interesting and wonderful mix of youth and this summer was no different.

We kicked off the summer with four-day hikes with youth from Lazarus House in Alice Griffith Housing. The first day was to Mt. Tamalpais State Park, the second to Crystal Springs Reservoir, the third to Mt. Diablo State Park and the fourth to Mid-Peninsula Open Space in the hills above Palo Alto. These were youth ages 5 to 12 years old. The first day began, when I met the youth, with a 5 year old telling me "I don't like police". We ended that day as best buddies. It is always amazing what a day in a positive and challenging environment can do to help clear misunderstandings both from the child's and officer's perspectives.

We also provided two kayaking trips in Richardson Bay with youth from Visitation Valley and Sunnydale Boys and Girls Clubs, and three river rafting trips to the South Fork of the American River with youth from Gilman Playground, Willie Mays Boys and Girls Club and Heritage Homes in Visitation Valley.

Mixed in with the water trips were 6 more day hikes. These included groups from Safehaven in the Western Addition, Willie Mays and Visitation Valley Boys and Girls Clubs, Sunset Youth Center and Columbia Park Boys and Girls club.

We ended the summer as we began with a hike to Mt. Tamalpais with youth from Columbia Park Boys and Girls Club. None of the youth including two staff members had ever been to Mt. Tamalpais. They were in awe as we cleared the cloud cover and they were looking down at the tops of the clouds, many of these youth for the very first time.

The second leg of the hike was to Muir Wood National Monument. The weather and hiking through the redwoods was great. On our way out, however, we came upon a small parcel of private property. I don't think that anyone expected what would happen next. The occupants, of this small parcel, were none to pleased that one of our group's staff had the audacity to step onto their property and immediately made their point known. In all my years I have

never seen such a swift, overwhelming and viscous thrashing because of such a minor transgression. After a few moments of stinging discourse we retreated not wanting to cause any more problems with the State Park's neighbors the Yellow Jackets!!! We made our way back to the vans licking our wounds knowing full well that the Yellow Jackets had won that encounter hands down.

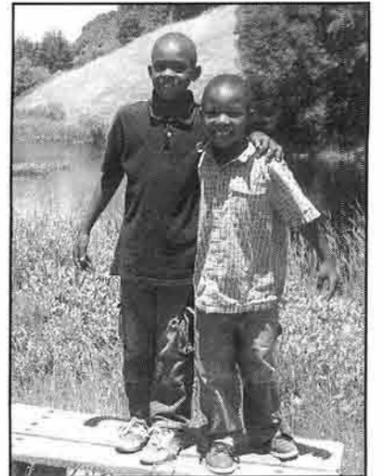
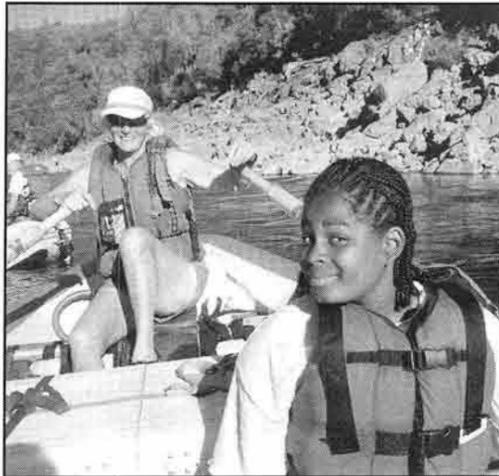
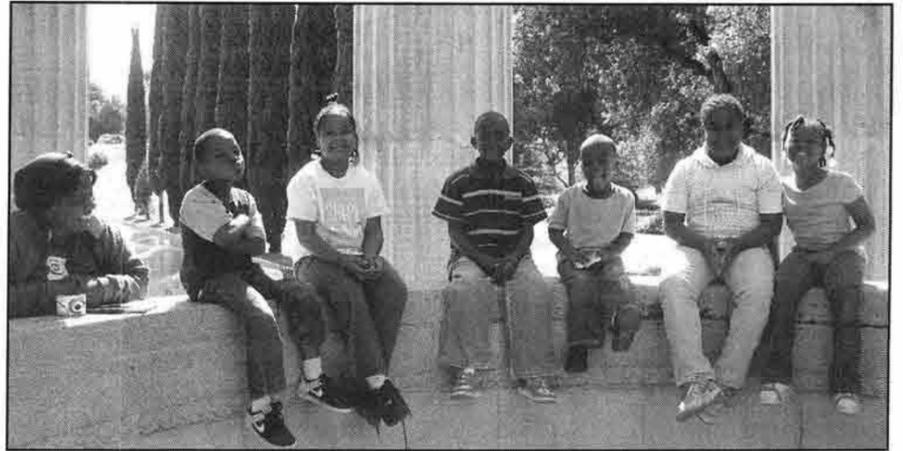
With all the adventures, challenges, hardships, and ordeals we introduced our youth to this summer they all managed to have an exciting and wonderful summer. We are already looking forward to this fall's trips with school district's students.

I would like to thank Retired Chief Heather Fong, Chief George Gascón, Deputy Chief Kevin Cashman, Commander John Murphy and my fellow participating officers for allowing the Wilderness Program to provide our children with these rich educational opportunities.

The Wilderness Program is administered by the San Francisco Police Department's Youth Service Unit and is funded by grants and donations.

The Wilderness Program is now listed as a Combined Charities organization under "Local Independent Charities." The code is L2306, Supporters of the San Francisco Police Department's Wilderness Program.

All donations should go to:  
Supporters of the San Francisco Police Department's Wilderness Program.  
155 Montgomery 12 floor, San Francisco, CA. 94104  
All donations are tax deductible and greatly appreciated.



# The 2009 Emerald Soc



*Kerry Egan, on right, a loyal and generous sponsor of the SFBALLEES Golf Tournaments and Annual Awards Dinner Dances with friends Bill Moore, Tom Harlin and Vince Ferrer.*

*By Ed Carew,  
Central Station*

I really thought three was going to be a charm when it came to the weather, but no such luck. That did not damper the spirits of those who participated in the 8th Annual San Francisco Bay Area Law Enforcement Emerald Society's Charity Golf Tournament. We were once again treated to the challenging and pristine confines of the Lake Merced Golf Course. Although I did not get a chance to play, I could see how beautiful the course was and heard the same from many of the golfers; and, this was besides the excellent service provided from the Lake Merced staff. Next year I'm playing!

Congratulations to the foursome of Larry Mack, Phil Fee, Kirk Edison and Kirk



*John Pai, Jack Hart, Bill Conley and Pete Mellett strike a professional pose as they enjoy the 8th Annual SF Bay Area Law Enforcement Emerald Society Golf Tournament.*



*Mark Obrochta, Joe Fischer, Steve Ryan and Bud Clinton would fit in as well at the OK Corral.*



*Matt Hanley, Dino Marcic, Rich Dalton and Rick Parry, looking very dapper after a great round of golf.*



*Bob Swall shows "PGA Tour" form hitting one straight down the middle. Al Miranda looks on approvingly.*



*After a remarkable 10 Under Par Performance Bob McMillan, George Brown, Harry Pearson and take a well earned time-out at the Lake Merced Country Clubhouse.*



*Nick O'Shihadah shows that a rifle is not the only instrument that he is proficient with. Check out the fashion!*

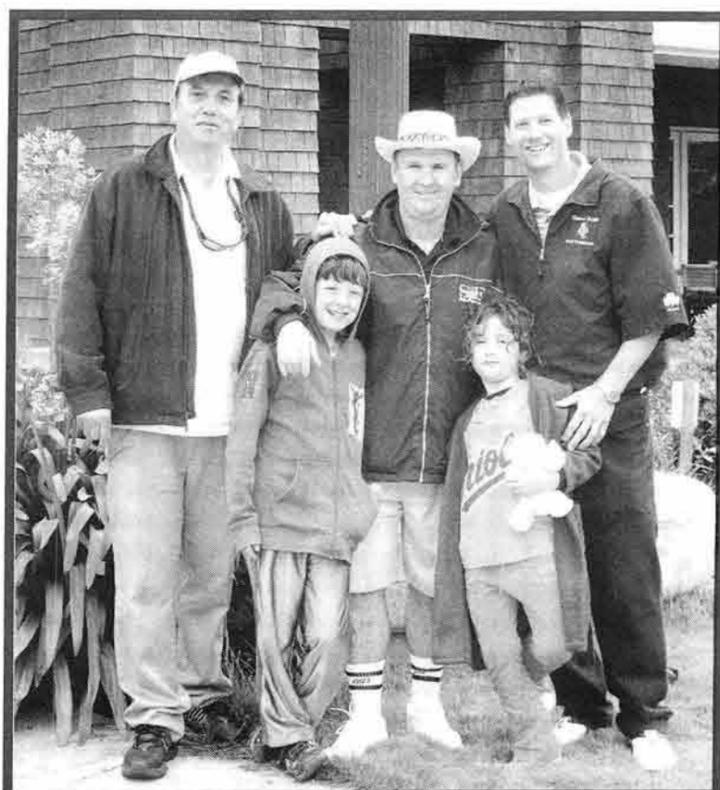
# Society Golf Tournament

DeJesus (all of Narcotics) on taking first place at ten under par. Way to go boys! Of course what would the tournament be if the foursome of Harry Pearson (Retired), Bob McMillan (Homicide), George Brown (Deferred Comp Rep) and John Ferrando (Central Station) was not represented? They too came in at ten under par, but were edged when it came down to scoring by the lower handicap holes.

I want to mention those who volunteered their valuable time to this event: Anne Carew (my lovely wife), Denize Borges (wonderful sponsor), Pat Burke (Park Station), Val Kirwan (Traffic/Northern), Tim Falvey (Southern Station), Joe McFadden (FOB), Liam Frost (Homeland Security), Kira McPollin (niece of Tom Maguire), Marty Halloran (Narcotics), Mike "Bugsy" Moran (Ingleside Station) and of course Brian Philpott (Tenderloin). Thank you all for such tremendous work in putting on such a wonderful golf tournament.

I also want to acknowledge all the golfers who came through with flying colors when it came to helping raise money for the holiday party that went towards the kids in the ICU at UCSF. They also came up big on the Par Three Challenge Hole to benefit the Friends Of Frankie Souldice Fund Raiser. Also, congratulations to Bob McMillan on his winning shot of seven feet even. He won a two-night stay at the gorgeous Villagio Spa in Napa that was donated by the tremendous owner Kerry Egan — thanks to Egan for that incredible support.

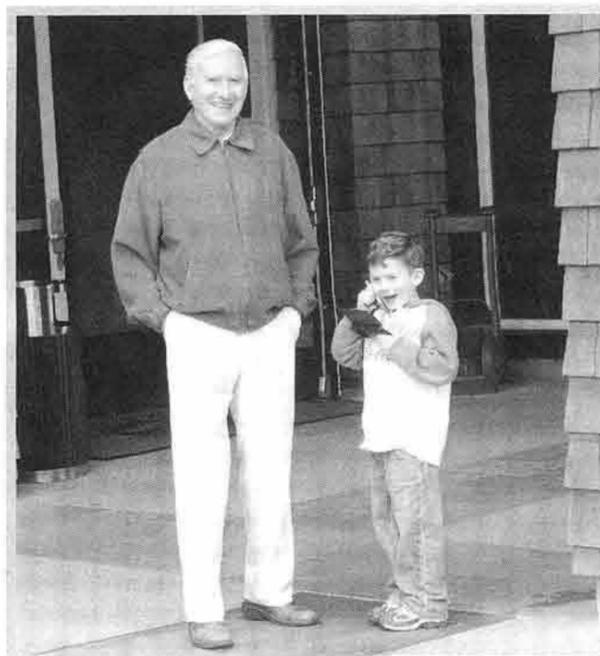
Please take note of our sponsors; without them, we could not raise the money for such worthy causes...I look forward to seeing you all next year out at the Lake Merced Golf Club. Until then, Erin Go Bragh!



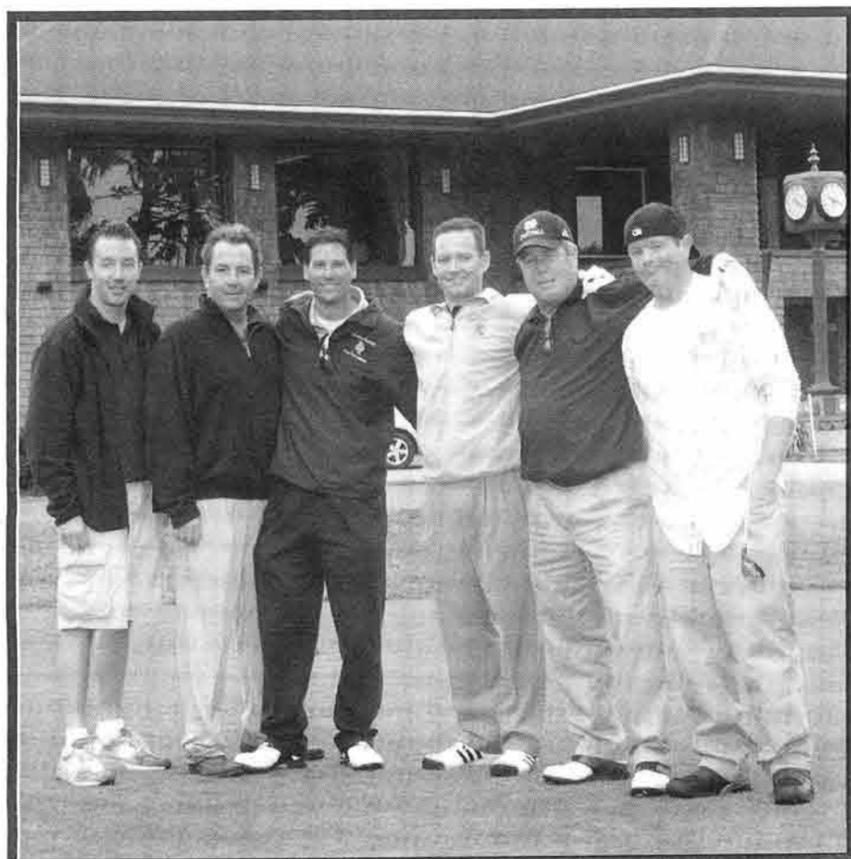
Three Presidents of the Emerald Society: former Presidents Pat and Val with President Ed Carew and Ed's children Ryan and Shannon.



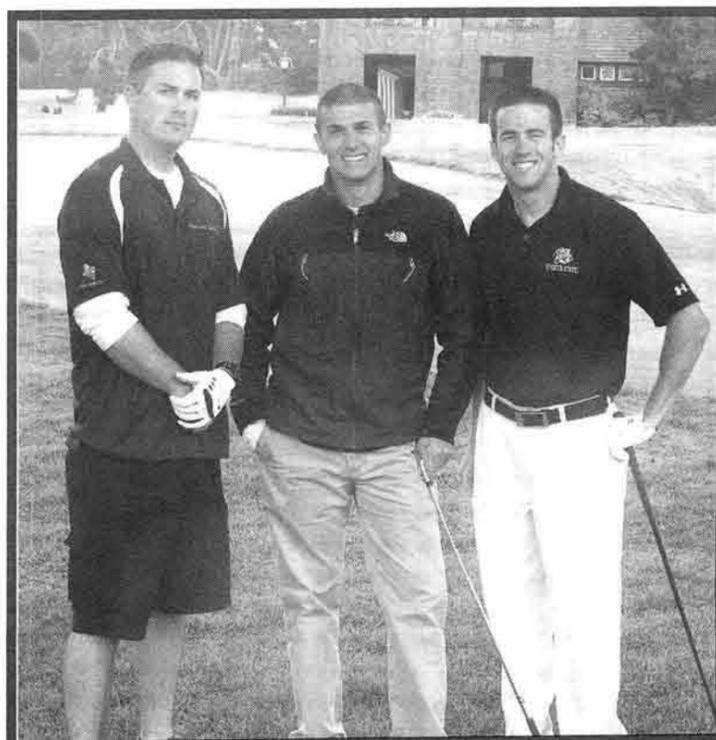
The Costello Brothers, Mike and Tom, enjoying another great tournament with their friends Sean Shannon and Andy Fogaty.



Deputy Chief Diarmuid Philpott (ret.) stands by while his grandson, Neil, calls in the results from the leader board.



Sean and Liam Frost, Pres. Ed Carew, Brendan and Tim O'Connor and Johnny Hallisey get together for a photo-op during a great day on the greens.



Welcome to new members Brian Burke, Dan Rosia and Keith Murphy. A few more tours like the Great POA Golf Extravaganza on Sept. 14 and these guys will be contenders.



## POA MAIL



### Dear SFPD Family —

It has been eight weeks since our family was devastated by the revelation that Frankie, our 10-year old son, had developed cancer. Much has happened in that time as Miriam and I, as well as our daughter Lily, have adjusted our lives to deal with the job of getting him back to a full and healthy life the line. The pain of dealing with this new reality has been eased considerably by the thoughtfulness of so many people, and I am writing here to specifically address those of you in our SFPD Family who have been with us all the way.

The POA has been magnificent to our family, and special mention must be made of Marty Hal-loran who we are fortunate to count among our closest friends. Our sincere thanks to Gary and the extended Board of Directors for the many considerations you have shown us.

The CSI Unit has been like a second family to us. Members of this unit have been incredibly kind, and there are some who have gone well beyond that in their efforts to help us. You know who you are, and you have our greatest respect. Likewise with many others in the Department who have signed into our website ([www.lotsahelpinghands.com/c/614640](http://www.lotsahelpinghands.com/c/614640)) with messages and good wishes. Not only has it been so heartwarming for us, but has been a great show of support for our families in Ireland who have been feeling very isolated.

We have received cards and other kindnesses from many of you and want you to know how much we appreciate it all. We have had similar contacts from members of the Crime Lab, District Attorney's Office and D.A. Investigators.

All of these acts of thoughtfulness are a testament to the bonds that connect us in this chosen field of ours and to the caliber of people it embraces. We have been touched time and time again by the caring of so many of you. I have always been proud to be a member of this Department, but never more so than now.

Thank you all very much.

**Ronan, Miriam, Lily, and Frankie Shouldice**

### Dear Editor —

When I received a phone call from a police officer friend who told me that Mike Walsh had passed away I was not only shocked but deeply saddened. It is never easy to accept any family member or friend passing away, but this death especially affected me because Mike was a very close friend during the five years I was assigned as a Resource Officer at Balboa High School. During the funeral Gary Delagnes and Tim Plyer gave very moving remembrance sharing and I felt that I wanted to

share my own experience of a very warm, dedicated and extra ordinary human being and police officer.

When I was assigned to Balboa High School in February 2001 as the School resource officer Mike introduced himself the first day and told me that he along with his partner Jenny Merino were the district school car and would be available any time I needed help or assistance with any juvenile issues. I had just transferred from the Tenderloin Task Force and was not very familiar with most juvenile related arrests or matters, Mike was. A school car officer needs to be knowledgeable in the extreme where juvenile related matters are a concern. Procedures from every thing to an arrest and a 5150 are completely different than from an adult booking.

I recall working with Mike once an entire shift because Balboa was closed that day.

This was the first time I had ever worked in a school car capacity and found the experience interesting. Over the ten-hour shift we responded to a number of different schools where we dealt with administrators who had different problems and issues. We also dealt with students who had every problem imaginable ranging from attitudes to down right violent behavior.

I watched Mike adjust his approach and demeanor with each school, each administrator and each student, no matter how difficult they were and as a result in most cases we left the involved parties happier than when we arrived. In addition to that Mike's cell phone was ringing constantly throughout the day from principals, teachers and coaches asking him for assistance or advice, Mike handled each phone call with unbelievable compassion coupled with advice. I was impressed that he was able to handle a large percentage of the calls via cell phone, instead of responding to the school.

Over time, Mike, and I became close and began each day talking in the locker room before line up. We would compare information regarding outstanding juvenile suspects, discuss current gang issues regarding which set was fighting with whom and meet throughout the day if any crimes occurred which could involve Balboa High School students. Sometimes we would talk after work regarding family and personal problems and issues. Mike had an ear and a heart geared towards problem solving and his demeanor was true and genuine.

Mike's calm and professional mannerisms also endeared him to many of my gang related students who for the most part hated anyone in blue. The Principal and staff at Balboa High School truly liked and respected Mike and considered him and Jenny part of the school family.

Officers like Mike Walsh come along only occasionally and he will be sorely missed by the police community and his friends throughout the Police Dept and Ingleside Station. I will miss him greatly. Rest well my friend and God Bless you and your lovely family.

*David P. Bardoni,  
Retired S.F.P.D.*

### Editor —

I have presented the U.S. flag at military funerals to widows whose husbands had proudly served their country and told them that it was "on behalf of a grateful nation". This remembrance and recognition honored, and continues to honor, the service these individuals gave to their country whether through the completion of a successful retirement or the loss of their lives.

These events crossed my mind when I recently attended the funeral mass for SGT John Madden, a 33-year veteran of the SFPD. SGT Madden ended his distinguished career at Company A where he was thought of as the role model for all supervisors. For those of us who knew him for a short time we can only imagine all the contributions he made to our department and the countless sacrifices he made for our city.

So I wondered why it was that the SFPD chain of command failed to recognize this man's service to our department, an oversight with all retirees upon their passing. No department honor guard, no Chief of Police letter to be read from the pulpit honoring his service, not even 2 motorcycle officers to accompany the casket from one location to another. On this day, however, a motorcycle detail was provided for a Mexican soccer team. This lack of official recognition was tempered by an honor detail made up of Company A officers whose initiative saved this department's reputation.

Failing to recognize the service given to San Francisco by officers such as John Madden becomes truly "the darkest days of this department" not the Bayview video incident.

John, the chain of command may not honor you "on behalf of a grateful department" but the patrol officers do.

*Jesse Heredia,  
Company A*

### To All members —

The POA Editor rejected my submission to the August *POA Journal*, which addressed erroneous pension information reported in our June newsletter.

The following facts are indisputable:

On page 11 of the June *Journal*, Mike Hebel stated that our pension plan of \$11.4 billion in assets "is presently funded at about 100%." Prior to a Grand Jury report, I submitted a letter to the POA analyzing the impossibility of Mike Hebel's statement. At \$11.4 billion, our pension would be only 75% funded translating to a deficit of approximately \$4.4 billion. Editor Ray Shine would not allow my analysis in the August *POA Journal*. In Mike Hebel's August *Journal* column he confirmed the Grand Jury report that claims our pension was \$4 billion

underfunded, then immediately contradicted himself by stating our pension is "funded at or about 100% with a 2-3% margin of error." Over just sixty days, our *Journal* readers were left to reconcile how a pension could decline from 100% funded to a \$4 billion loss but still be within three percentage points of 100% funding.

It is my opinion that our newsletter should ring of clarity, transparency, and the accurate promotion of the welfare of our members. Per Mr. Hebel's figures, our pension deficit translates to about \$150,000 per public employee. This is significant. Mr. Hebel's statements made on page 9 of the August *Journal* are confusing, and by definition, illogical and mathematically impossible. If facts are inaccurately reported on a consistent basis, I believe members have the right to challenge, whether there is a reason for the misinformation.

Accordingly, in a spirit of clarity, I am asking VPOA Secretary Larry Barsetti to forward me the VPOA minutes from 2004-2007 to substantiate his claims on how the Retirement Board's Herb Meiberger became an honorary member.

**Lou Barberini C.P.A.  
Narcotics**

### Editor's Note—

*I rejected Lou's submission to the August POA Journal because it conflicted with our editorial policy. I explained to him that what I read included some "...attacks on other members without undeniable and credible evidence of wrong-doing, fraud, or other unethical behavior." I went on to advise him that he was welcome to continue to submit opinion letters about the Retirement System provided that unsubstantiated personal allegations — either express or implied — are not present within the content of the letter. I also advised him of the recourse available in regards to the rejected letter. — RS*

### Dear SFPOA —

Thank you so much for supporting us in the 2009 Livestrong Challenge Cancer Awareness Walk/Run/Bike Event. With your support our team (Cuc's Kung Fu Fighters) was able to raise \$4,075.00. Overall the Livestrong Challenge raised approximately 1.2 million dollars. This was the second annual event held in California and as you can see it was a success.

1 in 3 people will be diagnosed with cancer. Every single person will be affected one way or another by this illness. Whether it is a relative, friend or loved one, we will all suffer until there is a cure.

We were honored to have run for the friends and family that we have lost to cancer, but most of all the friends and family who are SURVIVORS. Thank you for supporting us in making a contribution for this cause.

*Warm Regards,  
Angel Poon & Maricela Sainez*

### Dear POA —

The family of John Madden would like to thank all of the members of the SFPD who supported us during this difficult time. Thank you to the POA for the beautiful floral spray. A special thank you to Mike Kangrga, George Rosco, Ret. Lt. John Carlin,

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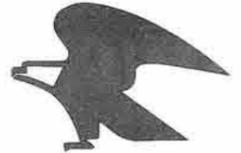
Fax: 650-991-2010

E-mail: [fpassaglia@aol.com](mailto:fpassaglia@aol.com)

Former San Francisco Police Officer  
Former San Francisco Assistant District Attorney (1979-1997)



## POA MAIL



and the Honor Guard from Central Station.

*Sincerely,*  
**The Madden Family**

**Dear SFPOA —**

The spray you sent for Bob was absolutely beautiful and very much appreciated.

God bless you all.

**The Marsh Family**

**Dear SFPOA —**

Our family thanks you for the beautiful flowers you sent in sympathy for the loss of our dear Greg.

We appreciate your support during this sad time.

*Sincerely,*  
**The Morris Family**

**Dear POA —**

Thank you for the money you sent at Christmas time. It is very much appreciated.

**Devlin Anzore**

**Dear SFPOA —**

We would like to thank you for your recent donation of \$900.00 to the Crime Victims United Classic Cup Golf Tournament.

Crime Victims United Charitable Foundation operates solely on donations and your generous gift will help ensure we will be able to continue our worthwhile work for victims.

*Sincerely,*  
**Harriet Salarno,**  
*Crime Victims United Charitable Foundation*

**Dear SFPOA —**

I cannot overly express my gratitude to the San Francisco Police Officers Association for their generous donation in support of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation & the AIDSLifeCycle 2009 Event.

Each year, I cycle 575 miles from San Francisco to Los Angeles. And each year, I complete the ride knowing I did the right thing. Yet, I could not have completed the mission without your support.

On behalf of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation & the AIDSLifecycle Event, I thank you very much.

Wishing the best of all possible worlds,

**Tony Eason**  
*12yr. California AIDS Ride*  
*(AIDSLifecycle Cyclist, Tony Eason*  
*http://ynottony.com*

**Dear POA —**

I'm writing you this letter to assure you that I wholeheartedly endorse your sentiments and observations as they appeared in your President's Message with respect to the completely unacceptable and inappropriate action of the San Francisco Labor Council in passing a resolution directed to Attorney General Jerry Brown asking that all charges be dropped against Herman Bell, Ray Boudreaux, Richard Brown, Henry Jones, Anthony Bottom, Harold Taylor and Francisco Torres for the unprovoked 1971 murder of Sgt. John V. Young.

This action of the Labor Council was both indefensible and unwarranted. It not only indicates support for the "cowardly murderers of police officers", as you point out, but quite

frankly in my opinion is outside the purview of the San Francisco Labor Council. To put it bluntly, a matter such as this one is none of the Councils' business.

Larry Mazzola, Jr. and I helped lead the fight along with representatives of other Building Trade Unions and the Firefighters Union to rescind the Resolution passed at a previous meeting at which we were not present. Unfortunately, we did not have the votes.

As the San Francisco Police Officers Association continue the fight on this issue, please don't hesitate to call on me for what ever assistance I, the officers and the members of Local Union 38 can contribute. You and your organization have our complete support.

*Fraternally yours,*  
**Larry Mazzola, Sr.**  
*Bus. Mgr. & Fin. Secty-Treas.,*  
*Local Union #38, United Assoc. of*  
*Journeyman & Apprentices of the*  
*Plumbing & Pipe Fitting Ind.*

**Dear SFPOA —**

On behalf of the Oakland Police Officers Association, Oakland Police Department and the families of the four slain officers, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the beautiful flowers you sent to the services for Sgt. Mark Dunakin, Sgt. Ervin Romans, Sgt. Daniel Sakai and Officer John Hege. It was very thoughtful of you and we greatly appreciate it. We do apologize for the tardiness of this acknowledgement, but we are just now gaining some organization again.

This tragedy is still unbelievable to us, but with people like you and your kindness, we were able to work our way through the services and we are now trying to move forward.

Again, please accept our gratitude.

*Sincerely,*  
**Dominique Aroztarena**  
*President*  
*Oakland Police Officers Association*

**Dear SFPOA —**

On behalf of the Long Beach Police Officers Association and the families of officers killed or injured in the line of duty who benefit most from the Long Beach Police Officers Memorial Widows Emergency and Scholarship Trust fund, I would like to thank you for your generous donation to our 37th Annual Charity Golf Tournament.

With your assistance, we were able to raise over \$45,000.00 at our June 10th event. Your participation made this year's tournament a success.

We are very aware of the fact that businesses such as yours are limited in the number of donations you make and feel very privileged and grateful to be one of the select few recipients of a generous donation from your organization. The acknowledgment you deserve was made at our awards presentation. We hope that you can get involved again next year, when we put on the 38th Annual Tournament on June 9, 2010.

Again, thank you for assisting us in making this a fantastic tournament.

*Sincerely,*  
**Brian J. Bell, Golf Chairman**  
*Long Beach Police Officers Memorial Widows Emergency & Scholarship Fund*

### SFPOA Scholarships

**Dear SFPOA —**

I want to express my gratitude and thanks for this generous scholarship. The POA scholarship will greatly help me in my pursuit of higher education. My mind is at ease knowing that I will be able to focus more on academics and less on the financial burdens of college. Again, thank you SFPOA for your time and generous contribution to my education.

*Sincerely,*  
**Kevin Tang**

**Dear SFPOA —**

Thank you very much for the SFPOA scholarship award! I am honored to be one of the recipients of this tremendous gift. Thanks to your generous support, I am able to tackle the academic obstacles at UC Davis with less to worry about. Thanks again for your generosity and support.

*Sincerely,*  
**Kaila Tang**

**Dear SFPOA —**

Thank you very much for selecting me to be a recipient of the SFPOA scholarship award. I feel both proud and grateful to have received such a generous and prestigious award from your organization. I anticipate that it will prove very beneficial to my family and me as I begin my college education at Georgetown University this fall. Once again, thank you for granting me this honor.

*Sincerely,*  
**Gianna Puccinelli**

**Dear SFPOA —**

I want to thank Mr. Halloran, the Scholarship Committee, and SFPOA for giving me the opportunity to earn a scholarship. I am very thankful for the \$500 awarded to me that I will use towards my college education at Sonoma State University. Thank you very much!

*Sincerely,*  
**Alexandra Hartmann**

**Dear Mr. Halloran —**

Thank you very much for the opportunity to participate in the annual SFPOA Scholarship process this year. I appreciate your award and thank all the members of the com-

mittee who had a part in making the scholarships possible. Your scholarship will be very helpful in allowing me to study in Europe my freshman year in college.

The San Francisco Police Officer's Association should be very proud of their community involvement and the numerous ways that they help the citizens of San Francisco, both on and off the job. Thank you for all that you do.

**Elora Belt**

**Dear POA —**

Thank you so much for the generous scholarship to Gonzaga. I am so excited to leave for college and I truly appreciate your generosity.

*Thank you,*  
**Michelle Cleary**

**Dear SFPOA —**

Thank you very much for giving me the scholarship. The money has been used towards my college education. You have always supported me throughout the years. I appreciate your efforts to help me.

*From,*  
**Garrett Biel**

**Dear SFPOA —**

I want to thank you for the opportunity you have given me and other college students who have won scholarships through the SFPOA. With your generous scholarship, I will be working less and be able to spend more of my time studying for my future as a medical doctor. I know that there were many applicants and I am grateful that I was selected as one of the recipients. This \$500 scholarship is greatly appreciated, as it will help alleviate the burden of my tuition costs at Sonoma State. Thank you again.

*Sincerely,*  
**Jessica Meyer**

**Dear SFPOA —**

Thank you so very much for evaluating my scholarship essay and granting me money for college! I leave next week for Creighton University in Nebraska, and cannot wait to start school. The letter of good news from the POA is a great send-off! Thank you again.

*Sincerely,*  
**Ciara Karski**

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| Sgt. David Kamita    | CSI 553-9262   | Insp. Henry Seto    | GTF 553-9144     |

**OFFICER ASSISTANCE NEEDED**

**San Francisco Police Department Behavioral Science Unit**

September 1, 2009

Catastrophic Illness Program — Family Member  
Vacation hours urgently needed.

The CIP – FM Program makes it possible to donate vacation time to fellow members who are taking care of family members at home who have been diagnosed with life-threatening illnesses. These donations provide these recipients with a paycheck while caring for their family members. Currently the San Francisco Police Department has three members in this program and all three need donations.

We know how hard it is to give vacation time but these folks have no time and two of them are without checks. Please give if you can in increments of 8, 16, 24, 32, etc. Please use the family member form and forward all originals to the behavioral science unit for processing. If you need forms or have questions please call bsu at 837-0875.

You may leave the recipient blank and we will fill in to the most in need.

- |         |                |
|---------|----------------|
| #001390 | Perveen Khaliq |
| #001475 | Darla McBride  |
| #001487 | Lisa Torres    |

**Catastrophic Illness Program – Employee**

Please use form f2006b – Employee

Recipients in this program may receive *SP or VA time* and the citywide pool is always in need of time:

- |         |                    |         |
|---------|--------------------|---------|
| #000939 | Confidential       | (Co. B) |
| #001471 | Off. Alice Dicroce | (Co. C) |

**Catastrophic Illness Program – Family Member**

Please use form f2006a – Family Member:

Recipients in this program – family member; may receive donations of *vacation time only*:

- |         |                    |                  |
|---------|--------------------|------------------|
| #001390 | Perveen Khaliq     | (Investigations) |
| #001475 | Off. Darla McBride | (Y.S.U.)         |
| #001487 | Off. Lisa Torres   | (Planning)       |

Please send all original donation forms to the Behavioral Science Unit for processing and call if you need forms or have questions. (415) 837-0875

5K Fun Run/Walk for SAFETY

**Join us to Raise Awareness of Personal and Family Safety!**

Save the date!! San Francisco SAFE is gearing up to host its first ever annual 5K Fun Run/Walk for SAFETY event designed to promote awareness of personal and family safety, while raising funds for all of our important crime prevention services. The event will be held on Sunday, October 25, 2009 at Peacock Meadow in Golden Gate Park. Race starts at 11:00 a.m.; BBQ and after-party immediately following. This event is designed to bring communities, Neighborhood Watch groups and the Police together to show their support for a safer City.

You can run or walk the 5K — as an individual or as a team! Get your fellow officers at your station and form a team!

SAFE needs your support to increase our public safety efforts. We believe that through simple and practical crime prevention techniques everyone can avoid being targeted. In 2008 SAFE staff gave over 100 presentations on

personal and pedestrian safety, observing and reporting suspicious and criminal activities and created at least 10 different neighborhood advisories

in a variety of languages for the affected areas. We combine a proactive approach with 33 years of experience in crime prevention.

All proceeds from the 5K Fun Run/Walk will go to SAFE to support its mission — building safer, stronger communities through crime prevention education and public safety services.

Join the SAFE team and members of your community in this effort. Register to participate in the 5K Run/Walk as an individual or form a team! All participants are encouraged to raise a minimum of \$100. If you decide you don't want to run or walk, register to volunteer and still be a part of a great cause, and help make our event a success. For more information and to register please visit our website at [www.sfsafe5k.dojiggy.com](http://www.sfsafe5k.dojiggy.com) or call (415) 553-1984.



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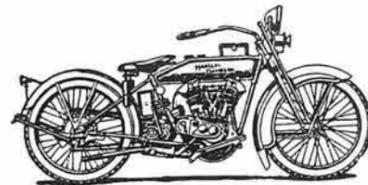
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## Book Reviews

### Rain Gods

By James Lee Burke  
Reviewed by Dennis Bianchi

I hadn't read a James Lee Burke novel in quite some time as I had grown a bit tired of his continuing protagonist Dave Robicheaux's heroics and battle with alcohol. That is not to say those novels aren't great reading. They are indeed. Many years ago I went out of my way to listen to Mr. Burke read from one of those novels, followed by an opportunity to speak with him a bit and have him sign a copy. He is a warm intelligent writer and as entertaining in his oral tales as he is in his written ones. But I had just let a few of those stories slip by until now, when he gives us a new sheriff, Hackberry Holland. I believe he has created another legend.

Sheriff Holland is from a different era, an age that was sometimes referred to as The Lost Generation. Like the men from that era, Hack Holland fought in the Korean War but was taken prisoner. Surviving that experience has left permanent scars in Hack's psyche. The investigation of the slaughter of nine young women from Thailand discovered in a mass shallow grave in an outlying piece of Texas near the Mexican border sets the stage for Rain Gods. An autopsy reveals that the young women were carrying balloons of drugs in their stomachs. Organized crime seems clearly involved, but Sheriff Holland and his deputy, Pam Tibbs have to ferret out which criminal could have been so maniacally bloody.

Burke has created just the maniac for the job; Preacher Jack Collins.

Preacher Jack is a murderer for hire and the story winds around a bit as Holland and Tibbs figure out just who hired the Preacher. But the book isn't as much about who did it, or why but about the writing. The only author I

have read recently that can create a scene and people so real is Cormac McCarthy. As a matter of fact, McCarthy's No Country for Old Men was constantly on my mind as I read Rain Gods. Both men write prose that competes with poetry and connect beauty with evil, sin with redemption. Burke even puts the words of Shakespeare into the mouth of an ICE agent: "By my troth, I care not; we owe God a death, and let it go which way it will, he who dies this year is quit for the next." Yes, that was it. By accepting your mortality, you walked right through its shadow into the light on the far side." Preacher Jack abides by that thinking and the ICE agent will not have to die next year.

At the same time, Burke will have you laughing at this seriously bent killer. The Preacher gets roughed up and shot by a young female country/folk singer and, later, when he breaks into another character's home with seemingly the intent to kill, he is run out of the house by the target's wife who wields a mean hot cooking pot. As a matter of fact this book has very strong women characters, something not often seen by Burke or other writers of this genre. And as solid as those characters have been developed, as intriguing as the several low-life criminals that wander about the story or as odd as the two love stories that flicker on and off, it is still Burke's beautiful prose that makes the book worth reading. Very few writers of any genre can have the reader feel as though they are present with the characters, so in tune with all of the nuances of the scene. And his style is such that if the reader chooses to flip through the pages and enjoy the story one can do that, but should the reader choose to look deeper, there is a morality play at work.

### Philip's Code No News is Good News — To A Killer

By James O. Clifford, Sr.  
Reviewed by Dennis Bianchi

This is an unusual book. First, you most likely haven't heard of it or read about it. It was published by a small company. There has been very little marketing of the book. Mr. Clifford is a fine writer but not a novelist by training or trade. Instead, he was a journalist and editor for forty years. None of those facts should deter you from finding the book (Amazon.com) and reading it. I'm confident that you will learn something about how news is collected, written and disseminated. In Clifford's introduction he updates an old adage: "There's an old saying that no one should be forced to witness the making of a 'hot dog or a law.' It's time to add news story to the list." But we curious humans want to know how these things are formed. James O. Clifford, Sr. has tried hard to help you see why learning about some things can be interesting, but distasteful.

Solving the murder/mystery is ostensibly the vehicle Clifford uses to criticize as he educates, to take some very serious shots at what he describes as the slow, tortuous decline of journalism. The suspect becomes known to the reader before half of the book is over; so much for mystery. But to the author's credit, the story pulls the reader along, nonetheless.

Like the author Clifford, the protagonist of the novel, Phil Davis has been a reporter for forty years in the San Francisco Bay Area. Phil works nights, frequently alone and has the psychological scars of fighting in the Korean War and the death of both his wife and son. Phil remembers a time when getting all the facts correct and corroborated before sitting down to a type-writer was of first importance. He remembers when there was competition between newspapers in big cities and how the competition kept reporters and editors on their toes. He doesn't like seeing once hard-charging and drinking journalists replaced by pretty faces who question very little and rely on wardrobe and make-up.

The reader gets the sense that the book is a Journalism 101 textbook, or at least a history of the subject. But

Clifford informs us about more than the changes that have taken place. He brings up questions such as: Why is My Lai, the infamous village in the War in Viet Nam, always referred to as a massacre, but Hue, also in Viet Nam, and the scene of mass assassination of captives by the Communist troops, referred to as a "battle?" Well, news people decided that and it has remained so, in spite of its uneven assessment.

Clifford describes an enormous number of such distortions as the years go by and he doesn't hesitate to condemn them thoroughly, nor should he.

My one complaint is about style. I read one reviewer refer to the book as, "... a gripping crime novel out of the Mike Hammer tradition." Mickey Spillane's Mike Hammer was an enormously successful series character (I believe the series sold over 225 million copies!) but his dialogue quickly became dated. Clifford's style is not so much dated but, rather not the style of a novelist. After forty years of writing and editing news, it is to be expected that one's style is set. He could use more of the old novel-writing rule: Show the readers, don't tell them. Writing dialogue is not his strong suit, nor is catching the nuances of the setting that helps the reader feel as though he or she is there, right then. But Clifford can turn a phrase or two. In commenting about the differences of reporters thirty or forty years ago compared to the new breed he writes; "As the century began to turn, there was no spell-check for history, which meant Davis' love of history became a very valuable commodity." But a complaint about style is subjective and other readers may find his style to their liking. Clifford covers many Bay Area subjects of relatively recent interest: the Zebra murders (in which I thought he correctly put the emphasis on the victims, who were killed solely because of their race), the drug culture of the Bay Area and how it wreaked havoc upon the fabric of neighborhoods and families, drug thugs in Oakland and of not-so-recent times, immigration clashes over the last 150 years. It's clear that Mr. Clifford has a lot to say and I found it worth reading.



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Carol M. Keane, CPA  
wife of John Keane,  
Narcotics Division, SFPD



Photo courtesy of Insp. Matt Perez

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# PAL CORNER

By Rick Bruce  
PAL President



In less than two months the SFPAL will celebrate its fiftieth birthday, and over the past two years I have written several articles about the police officers (and others) who were there in the early years to ensure that kids growing up in the city were steered away from the streets and into the gyms and playgrounds of San Francisco.

Earl Gonsolin was one of those legendary figures, and I was saddened to learn from Dan Hance that Earl passed away this summer, just a few months before his formal induction into the PAL's Hall of Fame. Prior to his entry into the police department, Dan was one of Earl's young boxers, and right up to the end, Dan kept in touch with Earl and always made sure that he was OK. Dan is also going into our Hall of Fame in October, and has graciously agreed to accept Earl's award in his honor, and to forward it to Earl's surviving son who cannot attend the ceremony.

These are some of Dan's memories of Earl Gonsolin:

"This article is written to express our sincere gratitude to fellow Officer Earl Gonsolin who recently passed away.

Earl served with the S.F. Police Department from 1947 to 1977. Prior to that time, Earl was the 1943 National Golden Gloves Champion. During the 1940's, he was coached by the famous trainer Spider Roach at the Olympic Club, along with Tim Heffernan, father of the Heffernan brothers. Earl

served in the United States Army during World War II and was wounded while in the Pacific Islands.

Earl coached boxing for the San Francisco Police Athletic League for over 20 years. His knowledge was second to none and he was a positive role model. He never yelled or put anyone down. He was all business and did not allow a half-hearted effort.

Many a young man who came under Earl's guidance subsequently led a productive life that may not have done so otherwise. I personally was in contact with Earl since my teen-aged years, first boxing for him and then seeing him around the SF Police Department and at the Elks Club gym on the peninsula for the past 25 years.

Here are some of the men who boxed for Earl who went on to either become Golden Glove Champions or were very competitive: Police officers Tom Heffernan, Mike Manley, Jesse Byrd, Ed Wyncoop, Dan Maginnis, Jim Maginnis, Ben Vigil; and Firefighters Tim Heffernan, Ron Apostoli (brother of 1938 Middleweight Champion Fred Apostoli), Jerry Heffernan, George Seckols, Raul Muella, Al Fernandez, and Bob Serrano. Some of Earl's other excellent fighters were: Pete Gemma, Joe Gemma, Jose dela Mara, Rocky Perez, Al Macauley, Cisco Gomez, Little Butch Gomez, L. C. Brown (who gave George Foreman a rough fight in the

1968 Olympic trials), Paul Sherry (who lost a split decision to the great Sugar Ray Leonard in the 1976 Olympic trials and was 1975 National Champion), Jimmy Sosa, Carl Bridges, Brent Venegas, and Ed Collantes (Brent and Ed are currently USA Boxing referees). Earl's sons Earl Jr. and Mike Gonsolin also performed well and were extremely competitive boxers.

Top flight professionals who also worked with Earl in the ring included former #6 heavyweight contender Henry Clark and Jimmy Lester, the famous "Bayview Blaster" who, in October 1965 at Kezar, knocked top contender Florentino Fernandez with a perfect left hook which broke Fernandez's jaw. Another Earl prodigy is Ray Lunny who fought for the World Junior Lightweight title in 1977. Lunny is currently a lieutenant in the San Mateo County Sheriff's Department.

Earl Gonsolin was very special to all of us, and he will be sorely missed. Men like Earl don't come along very often. We will miss you, Coach.

My personal thanks to Tim and Tom Heffernan who helped me with this article, and I am sincerely sorry to any boxers I may have omitted."

— Dan Hance

### Looking to the Future

On October 20, the SFPAL will formally move past its first half century, making it one of the oldest youth service organizations in San Francisco, and one of the oldest PAL's in the nation. Although the PAL had undergone some major changes in the past few years, there are many more changes that we anticipate in the coming months and years. Although our Board has discussed the possibility of bringing back some additional needed programs (such as track and field), our top priority for our second fifty years is to get as many police officers involved in our programs as possible.

To that end, within a few weeks, ev-

ery station will start receiving weekly updates from the PAL which list all of the activities taking place in each of the ten police districts. It would mean a great deal to our PAL kids to have a real police officer stop by at a practice just to say hello, or better yet, to talk about our PAL values. (We can provide interested department members with a statement of our values, which include good sportsmanship, dedication to both school work and athletics, treating other players with respect, etc.)

Each of our PAL participants will receive a certificate at the end of each season which articulates these values, and officers wishing to stop by a practice or game to hand out these certificates are also welcome to do so. Just contact the PAL offices and express your interest in doing this and we'll take care of the rest.

Our boxing program has been down for a couple of months because the Bayview YMCA (where our program is housed) is undergoing a major renovation. We are slated to reintroduce the program on October 1, and welcome the assistance of any officers who would like to help out. If you are wondering whether your presence could make a difference in these kids' lives, please read Dan Hance's words again.

We are also looking for officers who would like to coach their own teams. Ideally, these teams would consist of kids from your assigned beats and sectors. This has been done in the past few years in both the Bayview and Ingleside Districts, and it's not just the kids who benefitted from this contact with our officers, it was the officers themselves.

We are in the process of putting together a PAL poster for display in each district station, and these posters will describe all the myriad ways that you can support and get involved with your PAL.

Hope to see as many officers as possible on October 20!



San Francisco Police Activities League

## Fiftieth Anniversary Dinner & Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

October 20, 2009, 6 to 9 pm

United Irish Cultural Center  
2700 45th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94116

Inaugural SFPAL Hall of Fame inductees:

Gus Bruneman	Jim Meyer
Ed Chow	Joe Mollo
Gary Delagnes	Ray Musante
Heather Fong	Kevin Restani
Pete Franceschi, Sr.*	Vera Rogulsky
Pete Gardner*	Donald Strickland
Rotea Gilford*	Kelly Waterfield
Earl Gonsolin*	Ray White
Dan Hance	Thelma Williams*
Sophia Isom	

\*posthumous award

Register for this event online at [www.sfpal.org](http://www.sfpal.org) or by calling Anne Crawford at (415) 401-4667 by October 9

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## Retirement Planning Seminar Class # 52

# Three Days At Sigmund Stern Grove

By Mike Hebel  
Welfare Officer, Attorney, CFP

The Clubhouse at Sigmund Stern Grove hosted the latest SFPD-POA pre-retirement seminar (June 10, 11 & 12, 2009) — class #52. The Stern Grove with its club house and concert pavilion is a beloved community treasure and part of San Francisco's romantic history. The Clubhouse, built in 1892 as the Trocadero Hotel and beer garden, is a beautiful Victorian, stick-style resort with its multi-gabled roof and delicate ornamentation. Shortly after the 1906 earthquake and fire, Police Chief William Biggley arrested Mayor Eugene Schmidt's bag-man — the notorious Abe Ruef — on corruption charges at this very site. Shortly after this infamous arrest, the Chief disappeared while on boat trip from Sausalito to SF. The Grove property was purchased in 1931 by Mrs. Sigmund Stern and donated to the City. It is a festive and fitting venue for the seminar. The seminar has been expanded to include discussion of social security and medicare benefits, health service system plans, long-term care, post retirement employment, retired employee organizations, health and nutrition, taxation, essentials of estate planning, and critical psychological issues presented by and in retirement.

This seminar, titled "The Gino Marionetti and Michael Sugrue Memorial Seminar", honors its two founders. May they rest in peace. This seminar is now in its 24th year having started in March 1985. Since its inception, more than 2, 245 participants have completed this seminar.

Special thanks to **Chief Heather Fong** and **Captain Denise Schmitt** for providing the necessary funding to expand the seminar subjects and to allow members a three day detail to make their plans for a prosperous and rewarding retirement.

### 18 Participants

Eighteen participants attended this lively and informative seminar which is coordinated by Courtney Dixon, POA staff member.

The seat of honor, which is reserved for the most senior member in attendance, was given to both **Robert Massola**, Airport Academy class of May 1979 and **John Cleary** of the 135th recruit class (February 1980). A special moment of appreciation was given to senior department member **Marty Bastiani** (53 years' department service joining on 9-1-56).

All of the attendees were in the Tier II retirement plan (now with the acquired moniker "Tears Too"). *Tier I members are nearly an extinct species.* Class attendees were from the 135th to the 156th recruit classes. The 227th recruit class is currently completing its basic course at the Academy. Some members attended with their spouses/partners (which is much encouraged).

**Lindsey Suslow** did an excellent job as fire-tender. The long standing tradition wherein members attending from Taraval Station either provide sunshine or presto-logs for the fire-place was followed. The class thanked **Steve Wonder** who provided two current books on the "Best Places to Retire." Two members of the seminar will be 4-baggers in retirement (SFPD pension, social security, deferred compensation, and DROP).

### Hot Topics

As expected, much discussion focused on the 3% at 55, 90% cap charter amendment which was approved by the voters at the November 2002

election. It passed with an unprecedented 65% majority. Also the source of lively discussion was the DROP (deferred retirement option program) passed by the voters on the February

2008 ballot (effective July 1, 2008), the 3% at 55 Charter amendment (passed by the voters on the November 2007 ballot) for those who served at the Airport prior to the merger in 1977, and the additional 4% pensionable, longevity pay with 30+ years of service. The DROP will allow police officers to defer retirement by entering DROP, direct their monthly retirement check into a 401(k) like-account, and continue to work in the Department earning full salary and benefits. Police officers could remain in DROP for up to 3 years, sergeants for up to 2 years, and lieutenants/captains for up to one year. The monies placed in the 401(k) like-account have a 4% interest guaranty. DROP is a voluntary program allowing members to build a substantial, supplemental retirement nest-egg. As of August 1, more than 50 members have entered DROP of which 4 are sergeants. One lieutenant recently completed the program. This program will continue to July 2011 at which time its renewal will be determined by the SF Board of Supervisors.

**Chief Heather Fong** and Assistant-Chief **Jim Lynch** welcomed the participants and asked them to put to practical use the information that is contained in this 3 day seminar. She reminded the attendees that police work is a stressful occupation; she exhorted them to take good care of themselves, their families, and their future. She said the focus of this 3 day seminar was to provide adequate time for attendees to attend to their life after the SFPD. This will be her last appearance as Chief. We wish her a prosperous retirement.

POA president **Gary Delagnes** stated that a large exodus of police officers was expected over the next 4 years with as many as 600 police officers reaching a full/maximum pension status (a full one-third of the Department, not including the Airport Division). Between 2008 and 2012, over 800 police officers will join the KMA club. The Department is now understaffed by over 200 officers; he noted that police officer recruitment is an urgent problem for all large city police departments. He stated that the first raise under the new MOU did occur on July 1, 2007 at 4%; over the next 4 years the wage increase will equal 25.5% compounded. **Gary was commended for his primary role in advancing, in thirteen years, the total compensation of SF police officers from #92 in the state of California to #2 in the nation (cities with populations of 200,000 and over). (Hayward is numero uno.)** Gary appears close to accomplishing his personal goal of financial freedom for the rank and file: a thirty-year veteran Q4 police officer, on July 1, 2009, receiving an annual wage of \$106,690 and thereafter retiring with an annual pension of \$96,021. Gary set forth the pay raises that have been received over the last decade: 1992 – 5%; 1993 – 5%; 1994 – 5%; 1995 – 0%; 1996 – 3.5%; 1997 – 3.5%; 1998 – 3.5%; 1999 – 5.5%; 2000 – 5.5%; 2001 – 8%; 2002 – 8%; 2003 – 0%; 2004 – 9% (with uniform allowance); 2005 – 6.5%; 2006 – 4.9%; 2007 – 6%; 2008 – 7%; 2009 – 6%, and 2010 – 4%. (Note: subsequently the contract was revised to provide for a 2% raise in July 2009, 2% raise in January 2011, and a 3% to 5% raise in

July 2011). What a glorious record of accomplishment! This will be known as the **Delagnes-Cunnie legacy**. Gary outlined the 30 year police career path: years 1-10, job oriented; years 11-20, promotion oriented; and years 21-30, retirement oriented.

**Mike Hebel** urged all to consider participation in the 30 – 30 program: 30 years of service and then at least 30 years' collecting a retirement benefit with no death before age 80. This is the Hebel corollary to the Delagnes police career path description.

### Class Comments

Comments from past and present attendees during the informal course evaluation included: "very helpful and useful information. What an eye opener. A wonderful seminar – the Department did something good for us all. I am glad I came; everyone close to retirement should come to these. Much needed information; should be open to officers with 20 or more years of service. Super and marvelous; I enjoyed this seminar immensely. I am now more confident in the City's retirement system. I would hate to think what would happen if we retired without the knowledge that we now have. Great class, everyone should attend, keep them up. Very good, can I come again. Most practical course I have ever attended. Great facility, coordinators, and presenters."

From a class member comes the following admonition: Cops must think out of the box when it comes to retirement. We are so used to 30 years of taking directions and receiving a check every 2 weeks. At retirement, the gate opens up. You have to think about what to do every day. No can no longer look at a calendar for your days off for every day is a day off. Your retirement requires at least 3 years' advance planning. Take your pension and go do what you really want to do. Now it is solely your choice.

Another member stated that when neighbors ask about his retirement, he says: "I am on a fixed income." But I do not say what it's fixed at. Many others marveled at how truly wonderful their retirement and health plan benefits truly are.

And just recently this comment was received: "This class is worth at least \$20,000. Consider all the experts you have direct contact with, who stay and answer your questions, and give such helpful advice. Any SFPD member who doesn't attend this 3 day seminar has truly failed to take advantage of a marvelous pre-retirement resource."

### Instructor Comments

**Xavier Obando**, Great West Retirement Services deferred compensation regional director, urged participants to select an appropriate asset allocation plan for themselves identifying their risk tolerance, time horizon, and retirement savings target. The SFDCCP has 18 options and, if desired, a self-directed brokerage account through TD Ameritrade. Xavier said that the police department's average deferred compensation balances are the highest amongst all city departments. He said that the life style portfolios (near term, mid term and long term), with their automatic daily rebalancing, were particularly attractive offerings for broad diversification. Each strategy suits a specific investor profile — based on the number of years you have until your planned start of distribution. Xavier explained all the distribution options: defer distribution (up to April 1 of the year following the year in which

you reach 70 ½), lump-sum payment (full or partial), periodic payments (amount certain, period certain), annuity payment (fixed, fixed with period certain, joint and survivor) and a combination of these options. He also explained the distribution options for your designated beneficiary who will receive any remaining funds in your account upon your death. Despite the recent drop in stock market averages, Xavier urged continued contributions into equity funds appropriate for each participant's risk tolerance and distribution date.

When to start social security payments? The class agreed, the sooner the better. If you began to collect at age 62 (the earliest age allowable) rather than at age 66 (normal retirement age for baby boomers), it would take 14 years for the older recipients to catch up. Monthly social security payments for police officers, subject to the windfall elimination provision, average between \$100 to \$450 after deduction for Medicare part B.

Wow! Said many: a CCSF retirement pension (at 90%), deferred compensation distributions, and social security. And now DROP!

**George Eimil**, retired deputy chief and dedicated instructor in these seminars, said that he began estate planning as an attorney when he realized after his 1986 retirement that he needed something more than golf to keep him occupied. George does an excellent job in explaining the basics of estate planning (wills, trusts, gifting, probate and its avoidance, estate taxes, powers of attorney, property titles, and medical directives). George covers a lot of territory in 50 minutes. His advice on dying remains: "If you have to, the year 2010 is best for federal estate tax avoidance." He again warned attendees not to put their real property in joint tenancy with anyone other than your spouse or domestic partner. With respect to titling property, he continues to urge the use of "community property with right of survivorship" for best tax advantages. He urged the use of a revocable living trust to avoid probate and to protect estate tax exclusions. George emphasized the need for a Will, Revocable Living Trust, Durable Power of Attorney and Advance Health Care Directive.

**Duane Collins** (SFPD 1976-2000), licensed tax preparer and dedicated instructor in these seminars, covered the issues of federal and state taxation in retirement, Social Security off-sets, and retirement plan (traditional and Roth IRAs) distributions. With his short tax quiz, he clearly demonstrated the tax savings for those awarded an industrial disability retirement.

**Candice Fan and Imelda Cerezo** set forth all the basics of the CCSF Retirement plans. They most adequately described the benefits of and qualifications for service and industrial disability pensions. Also explained were death benefits, beneficiary designation, and cost of living adjustments. Candice and Imelda answered all questions insuring that the basics of the CCSF Retirement System were understood by the attendees. To increase your pension: work longer, get older, and hope for many more pay raises. Also, buy-back miscellaneous time (accrued during police academy) to obtain a separate monthly pension check, albeit small; such buy-back must be completed before retirement. With regard to service pension calculations, the age factor goes up every 3 months while the service factor increases



each day. To schedule a retirement interview call 415-487-7070 up to 6 months before your expected date of retirement. They urged members to bring their spouse/domestic partner to this interview. Also, said Candice, keep your beneficiary designation current. They all noted that the date of retirement chosen will effect cost of living adjustments as well as the SP/OU/VA payout. Cola's are effective on July 1 of each year; to get the cola for any given year you must retire on or before June 30 of that year; but remember that payouts (SP/OU/VA) are based on your rate of compensation for the month in which you retire (higher payout if you retire on or after July 1). There were options for retiring members to reduce their monthly pension so that a spouse/partner/beneficiary could get a larger monthly pension as a survivor. Candice explained that the pension benefit calculation for new plan members (Tier II). It is based on the highest average monthly compensation paid to a member. The Retirement System compares each member's earnings for the 12 months immediately preceding their retirement date with the member's highest fiscal year earnings. Whichever is higher is used for the pension calculation. They also explained the cost of living adjustment changes resulting from the successful passage of Proposition B (June 2008 ballot) wherein the basic cola (up to 2%) is now compounded and the supplemental cola, when excess earnings are present, was increased from 1% to up to 1.5%.

It was noted that the average retirement age for San Francisco police officers in 1931 was 71.5 years; in 2008, the average age was 55.5. Quite a difference in two generations.

#### Tier I vs. Tier II

The participants reviewed the retirement/survivor benefits contained in the two police retirement plans. Tier I (old plan, pre-November 1976) remains superior for 3 main reasons: 1. spousal/domestic partner continuances are 25% larger; 2. cost of living adjustments are about 1.5 times better; and 3. the marriage/domestic partner rights are superior (a Tier I member can marry or form a domestic partnership after retirement, live one year, and then the spouse/domestic partner is entitled to a continuation; for Tier II, the marriage/domestic partnership must have occurred at least one year before retirement for there to be a spousal/partner continuation entitlement).

To understand the cost of living adjustment (cola) differences, the class undertook a comparison exercise. One of the presenters, who retired holding the rank of sergeant in May 1976 in the Tier I system with 29+ years' service at age 51, received his first monthly check in the amount of \$1,130 - having contributed less than \$15,000 in retirement system contributions over his long career. In January 2009 that monthly check had grown to over

\$5,100 thanks to the power of the cost of living adjustments. *Wow! For a \$15,000 investment — a pension that started at \$13,560 a year has now grown to a pension of \$61,200 a year and it will keep growing.* Tier I grew at a 4.7% compounded rate. *Fortunately for Tier II members, the supplemental 1% cola has been paid in every year since its adoption in 1996, except 2003-04 & 2008-09, thereby lessening, but not eliminating, the cola differences in the two systems; and the recent passage of Proposition B creating a compounded basic cola (up to 2%) and added ½% supplemental cola will also lessen this difference.* The retired sergeant also reminded the class that police wages were set by Charter amendment prior to 1953; by annual salary survey from 1954 onward; and now by collective bargaining since 1992. Thanks to **Larry Barsetti**, **Sol Weiner**, and **John Lehane** for discussing the Veterans POA and the Retired City Employees organization. This well informed and entertaining trio said that the most valuable assets a police retiree has are his/her CCSF health plan and retirement plan. The retiree's most valuable personal asset is his/her training as a decision maker which is much valued in post-retirement employment. They urged the class participants to qualify for social security benefits (40 units) and to consider finding some type of post-retirement employment or volunteer; just "doing nothing" will lead to a disastrous retirement.

**Darlene Hong** (VP - Organizational Development) provided many convincing reasons why members should continue their financial contacts with the SF Police Credit Union. Thanks Darlene for the morning beverages and treats. Darlene has completed more than 25 years service — congratulations. Thanks also to **Roy Priest** and **Paul Lane** for candidly discussing emotional problems that can arise in retirement and how to avoid destructive responses.

#### Other Observations

**Chief Fong** continues the tradition of gifting every retiree with his/her police officer star as the Department's recognition for a job well done; this has also reduced to zero the number of missing/lost police star reports made by those members approaching retirement age.

Attendees were stunned by the costs of health coverage upon retirement. Few had realized just how good the POA Memorandum of Understanding is in keeping these costs down for members and their families. After retirement, there is no subsidized dental plan, but thanks to Proposition E (Nov. 2001 ballot) there now is a medical care monetary subsidy for the principal dependent. The member's health care cost on retirement, depending upon the plan selected and the number of dependents included, is zero or highly subsidized. **Susan Rodriguez-Corns**, HSS benefits analyst,

urged participants to take care of their dental needs before retiring. She emphasized that the HSS plans, excepting the City's plan, were geographically limited. She said that the HSS walk-in hours are 8 am to 4:45pm; phone calls are taken for four hours every day. On an average day, there are up to 200 walk-ins and over 1,000 phone calls. The plans available, as of July 2009, are: City Plan, Kaiser, and Blue Shield. City retirees are indeed very fortunate to have life-time medical care; most employers terminate health care coverage at age 65. **Clare Zvanski**, employee elected commissioner on the City Health Service Board, spoke on the funding of retiree health plans, the importance of Medicare reimbursements, and the pre-funding of retiree health care that new City employees (hired after January 10, 2009) will be required to make (up to 2% of salary) so as to pre-fund their benefits to the year 2038. Clare is the longest serving city employee on the Health Service Board. Congratulations to Clare on her recent re-election victory and to **Sharon Ferrigno** (SFPD lieutenant, Homeland Security unit) who just won a Health Service Board seat replacing retiring commissioner Jim Deignan.

**Dr. Forrest Fulton**, Ph.D. (formerly of the behavioral science unit, retired July 2003, and thereafter became a certified gerontologist) reminded the attendees that men are the suicide gender with men's rates now increasing and women's decreasing. Reason: women are better at expressing their feelings. He urged the use of stress reducers including restriction of caffeine and alcohol and the elimination of tobacco. Relying on the work of George Valliant entitled *Aging Well*, Dr. Fulton said that longitudinal research has shown what life styles led to a successful life. He mentioned: good attitude, positive self identity, intimacy in relationships, love-work-play in balance, career transitions, generous & giving back, keepers of meaning, mentoring other people, integrity and a personal value system, need for a retirement plan with fun and creativity, wisdom in old age, and a spiritual dimension to help give meaning to life.

**Ana Morales** made her second presentation at this seminar — and successful it was. She discussed fitness for life. Ana urged attendees to adopt life-styles that would ensure a longer, healthier life. Her suggestions included an annual physical check-up, avoiding fatty, processed foods, adequate exercise, and a diet full of fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and protein. She distributed several booklets covering topics of healthy life style, lowering blood pressure, weight management, and control of cholesterol and stress. Ana reported on a recent study from the Cooper Institute examining national statistics on police officer life spans after retirement. The study showed a shocking five year average retirement because of: lack of cardio-fitness, lack of physical exercise, poor diet lacking

fruits and vegetables, failure to have annual physical exams, alcohol/drug abuse, and pre-mature heart related deaths. Thanks Ana for the good news that SF police officers have a much longer average life span following retirement. Ana is going to the solos — best wishes.

Joining this seminar for the ninth time was retiree **Mike Gannon** (SFPD 1972-1998) speaking, robustly and vigorously, on the issue of long term care insurance. Mike is a licensed insurance salesperson (since 1984). He said that long term care is not covered by the CCSF health plans or by Medicare. As he told the attendees: "You deserve a long walk in the sunshine. You deserve the glory and honor that you earned as a public safety hero." With the average stay in a nursing home now 2.5 years and its annual cost of \$74,208 for a private room, he urged all to consider long term care insurance. Since almost 25% of original applicants for long term care are denied (medical issues), he urged picking this up in your early 50's. He thought that excellent long term plans were available from Genworth (GE), Met Life, & John Hancock; he also urged comparison with the plan offered by CALPERS. Mike quoted his favorite financial advisor, Suze Orman: "1 in 1200 homeowners will use their fire insurance, 1 in 240 automobile owners will use their auto insurance, but 1 in 2 long term care insured's will call upon their policy for financial assistance."

Retirement Board commissioners **Herb Meiberger** and **Al Casciato** helped bring this seminar to a most successful conclusion. Al and Herb proudly told the attendees that San Francisco's retirement fund is amongst the best funded in the United States. They urged the members to stay active in the retiree organizations to protect their retirement and health service benefits. Of course, with the recent passage of Proposition B improving the supplemental cola, attendees asked Herb and Al: "Will the SFERS earn sufficient 'excess returns' so as to be able to pay the annual supplemental cola at 1.5%?" Answer: Not in FY 2009-2010. Let's hope and pray for better returns thereafter.

#### Next Seminar

The next retirement planning seminar is scheduled for **October 20-22, 2009**. For 2010, the seminar dates have yet to be selected; probably February, June and October. The seminar will be available to the first 50 persons, members and their spouses/partners, who contact the POA after the announcement is sent to all members with or near retirement eligibility. Preference is given to those members who are near retirement or who have already contacted the Retirement System for their retirement dates. The seminar fills up quickly so don't delay. Contact **Courtney** at the POA (861-5060) if you desire advance notification for these seminars.

Seattle, Sept, 20-24

# International Association Of Women Police 47th Annual Training Conference

By Robin Matthews

There's still time for you to register for the 47th Annual International Association of Women Police (IAWP) Training Conference that will be held in Seattle, Washington September 20-24, 2009. If you've never had an opportunity to attend an IAWP Conference before, this is your chance. The training is always outstanding, and the connections that you'll make with women officers (and some men) from around the country and around the world is priceless. And don't forget that all expenses related to the conference are a tax write-off!

The Conference will be held at the Westin Seattle Hotel at 1900 Fifth Avenue in Seattle, 206-728-1000. IAWP room rates are \$179.00 for a single and \$199.00 for a double. There are also opportunities to share a room with someone if you'd prefer to cut down on your expenses (or, you can bring a co-worker with you and do the same!) Go to the IAWP website at [www.iawp.org](http://www.iawp.org)

and click on the link to the Seattle Conference for a link to those who are seeking a roommate.

Registration rates are \$525.00 for IAWP members, and \$575.00 for non-members. (To join the IAWP, you can go to the website for information, or you can find a membership application included in this issue of the Journal). There is also a companion/retiree registration fee available for \$250.00, as well as one day registration fees of \$125.00 per day, with a two day maximum if registering in that manner. Payment can be made by Master Card, VISA, or by check or money order (checks should be made out to IAWP 2009 Conference), and sent to 18336 Aurora Ave. N, Suite 112, #206, Shoreline, Washington 98133, or by fax to 866-404-7975. For assistance, please call 206-418-9274. In addition, every 50th paid registration will win a prize, which will be given to you at check-in!

The Seattle Conference Committee has put together an outstanding

training program for you this year. The Opening Ceremonies will be on Sunday, September 19th, and will be followed by an ice breaker event that shouldn't be missed! On Monday, September 20, there will be two keynote speakers in the morning — Colonel Katherine Miller, Deputy Provost Marshal General/Commander U.S. Army who will discuss Corrections Command, and Ann Rule, the foremost crime writer in America and former Seattle P.D. member who will discuss Serial Murder — the Green River case. In the afternoon, there will be a case study done on the Green River Serial Killer, and classes on Bringing Out Your Personal Best in the Way You Work, Prescription Drug Abuse & Diversion, Forensic Ecology for Crime Scene Analysis, and Washington State and Human Trafficking.

On Tuesday, September 21, the morning sessions will cover The Troubled History and Modern Issues and Conflicts of Sudan, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Preventing and Responding to Identify Theft, Excited Delirium, Virtual World: Real Risk, and a Corrections Section on The Neighborhood Corrections Initiative. The afternoon sessions will include a continuation of The Troubled History and Modern Issues and Conflicts of Sudan, Career & Tactical Survival for Women, Winning Courtroom Confrontations, "Sleepless and Stalked in Seattle", and Building a Respectful and Civil Workplace.

On Wednesday, September 23, the morning sessions will include Effective Combatives Problem-Solving, Taking Leadership in Handling Problems, Redefining the Strong Willed Woman, Case Study: Investigation of a Level 3 Sex Offender, and United Nations: Police Women's Participation. Following the annual Awards Luncheon, afternoon sessions will include a continuation of Effective Combatives Problem-Solving, Internet Child Exploitation, The Use of Forensic Anthropology in Medico-Legal Death Investigation, Gang Awareness for Police, and Practical Less-Lethal Force Options.

Then on Thursday, September 24, the morning sessions will include

Force Response Civil Liability Prevention, Elder Abuse/Homicide, United Nations: Gender-based Violence & Gender Mainstreaming, ID Theft, Fraud Related Crimes & Computer Evidence, Women's Vital Role in Successful Undercover Operations, Aggressive/Surveillance/Suspicious Behavior, and Weight Loss to Wellness. The afternoon sessions will include a continuation of Force Response Civil Liability Prevention, Human Trafficking, The Active Shooter Problem, and a Corrections Session on Successful Re-Entry: Connecting Offenders to their Communities. That evening will be the Final Banquet with a Wizard of Oz theme (Seattle IS known as the Emerald City, after all!)

As you can see, the training is going to be unbelievable and will have something for just about everyone. In addition, the Conference Committee has set up a fun companions program, and they encourage you to bring your spouses and significant others so they can share in the fun, as well. (Companions do NOT include children; however, they have adopted and used the commonly-accepted definition for companion as a comrade, a domestic partner or a paid "live-in" or "travel with" adult assistant). Companion tours provided will include the following: on Monday, the 20th, there will be a get-acquainted continental breakfast at the Seattle Police Museum, followed by a tour of Safeco Field, and lunch at the Space Needle; on Tuesday, the 21st, there will be a tour of local wineries and lunch at the Redhook Brewery; on Wednesday, the 23rd, there will be a trip to the Museum of Flight, followed by participating in the IAWP Awards Luncheon; and on Thursday, the 24th, there will be a visit to Snoqualmie Falls and the Snoqualmie Casino, as well as possible outlet shopping as time allows.

I hope you will consider attending the IAWP Conference in Seattle this year. There's nothing quite like it, but be prepared; once you attend one, it is unlikely that you'll want to miss others in the future!

Hope to see you there.



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- ❖ **\$900,000** settlement for a police officer injured in a motor vehicle

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— Chris Boyd, Chief of Police, Citrus Heights

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# Sports

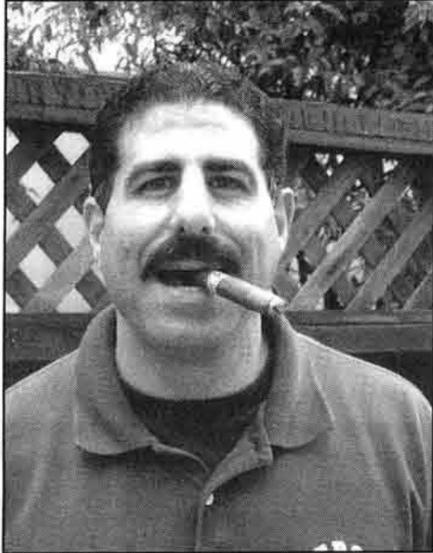


## NICK'S NOTES

By Nick Shihadeh,  
Journal Sports Editor

### Emerald Society Golf Tourney

**C**HECK IT OUT: I was able to play as part of a foursome in the 8th Annual SF Bay Area Law Enforcement Emerald Society Golf Tournament that took place last month on Mon. Aug. 17th at the "fancy, smancy" Lake Merced Golf Club (see article and pics in the center spread of this Journal). It was a well run event as usual and of course a great time as usual as it included lunch, dinner, a keen golf shirt, a raffle, a "grab bag" of items related to golf, hosted beverages, prizes for hole-in-one, longest drive, and closest-to-the-hole competitions, and of course a great venue to play golf at. My foursome included Stevie Stearns (Park Station), Bob Swall (Park Station), and Al "You Can Call Me Alberto" Miranda (Hondas); and, even though we didn't come close to winning the tourney, we shot pretty decently and had a very good hearted time doing it. I'd like to acknowledge Brian Philpott and Ed Carew for planning and putting on a great event.



Championships he would take two medallions that were presented by the B.C. Rifle Association. Along with the competition as part of the SFPD Rifle Team when shooting in the Western States Police/Fire games back in June (see article in last month's Journal), Takaoka is taking a much needed rest. He still likes to thank everyone for all the support he has received before and after.

### Other World Games Participants

Ed Marchand (Taraval Station) and Mike Simmons (Southern Station) were Track and Field participants that also competed in Vancouver, and they represented the department very well while up there. While Simmons was able to win a gold medal in a relay race competition (4X100 meter relay) and a silver in another, Marchand who came away with the same gold and silver medals in addition to a gold and bronze in solo events (javelin and triple jump, respectively). An article with pics should be in either this same sports section or in next month's, so look for it. Otherwise, I'd like to congratulate those guys for a job well done.

It's a short column this time around...So See Ya next month....

### Alex Takaoka In Canada

Alex Takaoka (Northern Station) travelled to Vancouver, B.C. for the Police/Fire World Games as well as the British Columbia Championships in early August and competed in many rifle competitions. It was a 10-day marathon of shooting for him with over 500 rounds being shot. Even though it took him two hours to get across the border and back to US soil when it was time to return, Takaoka was still a happy man as he came away with some decent medals. In the World Games he won two golds and two bronzes, while in the B.C.



Val Kirwan, second from left, sporting a new hat this year, joins Steve Stearns, Bob Swall, Al Miranda and Nick O'Shahadeh.

PHOTO BY PATRICK BURKE

## Women's Soccer

*Interested in playing?*

Looking for interested members to start up a team.

Any level of play welcome.

Let's have some fun and kick some balls!

**Contact Officer Amanda Cordoba or  
Officer Esther Gonzalez at  
Central Station 415-315-2400**

Looking to put a team together for  
indoor soccer 2009 fall and for the  
Summer 2010 Western States Police/Fire Games

## Let's bring the Trophy back home to the SFPD!

Last year, the SF Fire Dept. took first place in the Cable Car Pull. For 2009, the POA will sponsor all SFPD Teams — Form a team; stop a repeat win by the Fire Dept.



**Cable Car Pull** Teams of 4 will compete against each other to see who can pull a cable car the fastest over a distance of 200 ft. Challenge your favorite rivals to join you in this special Fundraiser! Teams are asked to raise a minimum of \$250.00 from family, friends and colleagues — made easy with our online fundraising @ [www.SFPDChallenge.org](http://www.SFPDChallenge.org).

### FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Picnic at the Hyde Street Park and enjoy the competition, the Hyde Street Historical Pier, the Cable Car Turnaround, Aquatic Park, panoramic vistas of the Golden Gate Bridge and more.

Parking is available but limited, so carpool as much as possible.

Trophies will be awarded to the best overall Cable Car Pull Team with special awards for the fastest Fire, Police, Female, CHP and Sheriff Teams. All participants receive a Challenge T-Shirt

## MAKE-A-WISH

GREATER BAY AREA CHAPTER

Saturday, October 24, 2009

At the Aquatic Park (Jefferson & Hyde)

Register online today @ [www.SFPDChallenge.org](http://www.SFPDChallenge.org)

### Schedule of Events

8:00 am Cops & Coffee

9:00 am Registration Begins

10:00 am Plunge into the Bay

11:00 am-2:00 pm Cable Car Pull!

Enjoy live music, raffle, food and Festivities!

### About Make-A-Wish

This event raises funds to grant magical wishes for children with life-threatening medical conditions, such as Wayne, age 14, who wished to see the Golden Gate Bridge. Thanks to the SFPD, the SFFD, the California Highway Patrol, the Coast Guard and the Golden Gate Bridge Police, Wayne's wish was granted in a very big way.

Contact Sergeant Bob Guinan for registration information at (415) 850-5726.

# San Francisco Police Officers Association 18th Annual Golf Tournament

## Monday, September 14, 2009

*This is your invitation to play in the 18th Annual San Francisco Police Officers Association Golf Tournament on Monday, September 14, 2009.*

*This prestigious Marin Country Club at 500 Country Club Drive in Novato will be the site of this year's event. The 18 hole par 72 course designed by Lawrence Marion Hughes was the site of the 1993 U.S. Open Championship qualification tournament.*

*This year's tournament is a scramble format, with a shotgun start. Prizes will be awarded for low gross; hole-in-one prizes on selected holes; and longest drive. Fabulous tee prizes and raffle prizes will be featured.*

*Tournament activities include a chipping contest, a barbeque lunch, refreshments on the course, concluding with the awards dinner in the Course Club House. Complimentary wine will be served with dinner.*

*Additional guests may be added to the Awards Dinner for only \$55.00 each.*

*Your support of this tournament provides the funding for the Police Officers Association support of worthwhile charitable contributions, which might otherwise go unassisted; community based organizations; and provides scholarship money to deserving youth.*



### Tournament Schedule:

10:00 AM	Registration
10:30-12:00	Chipping Contest & Lunch
12:00 PM	Shotgun Start
7:00 PM	Dinner

### Entry Fees for this year's charitable fundraiser: (Includes golf, barbeque lunch, and dinner)

Friends and Supporters: \$225

### Additional Information:

Gary Delagnes	(415) 861-5060
Marty Halloran	(415) 861-5060
Larry Mack	(415) 850-6831

### Yes, I will be playing in the SFPOA 18th Annual Tournament

Players Names:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt Size: S M L XL XXL

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt Size: S M L XL XXL

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt Size: S M L XL XXL

4. \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt Size: S M L XL XXL

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I would like \_\_\_\_\_ additional Awards Dinner Tickets @ \$55 each.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to be a Tee Sponsor for an additional \$150.

Please use the following copy on the sign: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to be a Platinum or Gold Sponsor. Please contact me at: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: **SFPOA Scholarship/Community Service Fund**  
San Francisco Police Officers Association • 800 Bryant Street, 2nd Floor • San Francisco, CA 94103

# Word Search

Created by Officer Michelangelo Apodaca, Chief's Office

Enjoy this relaxing and fun-to-solve puzzle! If you've never solved a puzzle like these before, it's a good idea to read this before you begin.

Each puzzle has a grid of letters that conceals words reading in different directions — forward, backward, up, down, or diagonally — but always in a straight line. The words, abbreviations, or phrases one must find and circle are listed below the grid in capital letters. That's all you need to know before you sharpen your pencil and begin your search!

- |      |      |       |
|------|------|-------|
| ALUM | HAVE | OBIE  |
| BAST | ICON | PACK  |
| CANT | JUDO | QUILL |
| DEED | KRIS | REBUT |
| EASY | LIEN | SAPID |
| FACT | MACE | TASTE |
| GAMP | NAPE | UNTIE |

A	L	U	M	E	L	E	L	T	E	T	S	A	B
C	N	E	Y	C	L	O	V	U	P	T	S	W	A
H	S	S	U	A	I	L	Z	B	A	P	C	I	T
Z	A	R	A	M	U	H	S	E	N	Y	T	A	E
E	J	U	D	O	Q	D	A	R	N	O	C	I	F
G	R	S	O	A	I	L	W	N	C	U	Y	A	H
E	A	O	T	U	N	T	I	E	E	L	B	A	B
H	T	M	P	A	C	K	E	I	B	O	V	O	D
T	I	E	P	A	M	I	T	Y	N	E	A	S	I
S	I	R	K	E	A	S	Y	O	S	L	I	E	N
E	D	I	P	A	S	T	A	S	T	E	E	M	C
T	N	A	C	M	A	O	G	Y	D	E	E	D	S

## Classified Ads

### Automobile For Sale

2004 HONDA CRV all wheel drive, dark blue, black leather, sunroof, 58,300 miles, nice tires, one owner. Call Sonia at (415) 341-8117. Asking \$13,500 or best offer.

### Home For Sale

MUST SELL: HOME IN INCLINE VILLAGE, NV. Near half acre lot, fenced in, good location, built in 1981, up to present building code, 4 Bds, 2 1/2 bath, hydronic heat, all privileges, was used as a rental unit and an in-law apartment until 2004 (in-law apartment has one bedroom, living and breakfast nook, walk in closet and large bathroom) for self use (skiing and summer recreation). Move in condition. Ample space for RV and Boat parking. Originally advertised for \$875,000.00, now \$575,000.00. 504 Jensen Circle, IV, NV. The best buy and the least expensive buy on the market. (415) 661-9815. Photo available EMail: [rgwallace@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rgwallace@sbcglobal.net)

### Hunting Trips

Colorado Deer/Elk Hunts. Private ranches, Tresspass Fee Only. Contact Bob Brodnik, (415) 320-0628.

### Motorcycle For Sale

1991 FXRS LOW RIDER SPORT HARLEY DAVIDSON. Like new. Custom painted tank and fenders and stock tank and fenders also custom and stock chrome. Front forks just refinished and new tires. Top end just done. New exhaust. Many extras, helmets custom and stock painted. Jackets, chaps male and female, saddle bags, gloves, goggles, glasses, bike cover. Runs and handles like a dream. Contact Les Adams (415) 613-4692.

2006 HONDA CBR 954. 23,000 miles Black & Silver paint, race exhaust, tank bag, new slick race tires. Never laid down \$9500. Call Katherine (707) 393-9432

2004 YAMAHA YZF-R1 1000 CC, Silver, Very low miles (6,500). Excellent condition, never been down, never raced, always garaged. Oil changed every 1,500 miles, synthetic only. Modifications include: DynoJet Power Commander III, w/USB Port, Grave Motors Slip-On Exhaust, Frame Sliders, Racing Air Filter. Asking \$7,500. Contact Joe (415) 254-8055.

### Room For Rent

\$720 ROOM FOR RENT IN THE HEART OF BURLINGAME. Great location, three bedroom & two bath home located on a storybook street in Burlingame. This wonderful home is located just a few blocks from Burlingame Ave. Main Street and Cal Train Station & 1 mile from Bart Station. All utilities paid; access to common area like (kitchen; dining rm; laundry rm) ample parking off street in front of the house. No Smokers or Pets Please. Contact Aida at (650) 340-8911 (after 6pm) or leave a message on my voice mail.

### Vacation Rental

RELAX IN CARSON VALLEY! Carson Valley Golfers Retreat Vacation Home Rental. Gorgeous Views of the Sierra Mountains, 4 Bed, 2.5 Baths, 2300 s.f. SFPD/SFFD Member Rates: \$150 night or \$900 Week Call Vince at (415) 302-2500

KAUAI — KIAHUNA PLANTATION, POIPU BEACH! Owner direct rental rates 50% plus discount. Beautiful 1 bedroom/1 bath sleeps 4. Unit overlooks the Moir Garden at the only "beachfront" condominium project in Sunny Poipu. Email [Rpmapiest@aol.com](mailto:Rpmapiest@aol.com) or call Patty or Roy at (925) 676-0568

TUCSON ONLY \$125 PER NIGHT. 1,100 sq.ft. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo newly renovated and refurbished at 5500 N. Kolb. Ideal for that family getaway. 2 pools and workout facility on property. 2 full golf courses nearby. Unobstructed view of the Catalina mountains from the patio. Bookings on first come, first served basis. Call Chris (707) 337-5514

### Vacation Rental

FALL-STIMULUS-PACKAGE SPECIAL FOR SFPD 2 bedroom/2 bath South MAUI CONDO RENTAL available September 10 to October 29. \$99 night 5 night minimum. sleeps 2-6 (winter dates, also available — ask for rate). Located across from Maui's BEST BEACH — 6 tennis courts, 3 pools and barbecues on 10 acres of security patrolled tropical gardens. Enjoy nightly palm tree sunsets from our private lanai or walks on our local sandy shored beach. Condo is located within walking distance to shopping, dining, scuba, surfing lessons and swimming with turtles! Numerous Championship golf courses near by. View our condo at: [www.VRBO.com/221566](http://www.VRBO.com/221566). Contact Alan McCann, (925) 672-0578. [MauiCondo.MauiVista@gmail.com](mailto:MauiCondo.MauiVista@gmail.com). Mention that you saw the SFPDPOA ad!

SOUTH LAKE TAHOE VACATION RENTAL Looking for a rustic cabin in the woods with a big screen TV? Take a look at this home perfect for families and larger groups. With sleeping for up to 10, a large living room with 50' TV and dining area, this property is wonderful for the vacations with budget in mind! Located just 4 miles to the casinos and less to the beaches and Heavenly Ski Resort. This home features 3 bedroom, 2 baths with 1600 square feet of room. Each room has a television with either a dvd/vcr player. Gas fireplace and nice wrap around deck to enjoy the scenery. Phone Maricela at 415-260-3484 or visit <http://www.vacationhomerentals.com/41600>

GOLF GETAWAY IN THE REDWOODS. This beautiful two bedroom, two bath home is right on Northwood Golf Course (the fourth hole is your backyard). The amenities include complete kitchen, VCR, cable television, deck and hot tub. There is a third room with bunk beds unattached from the house. Call Mike Siebert (415) 342-2241 for more information.

ENJOY THIS 2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH CONDO in sunny old town Scottsdale AZ. Just steps away from the Giants Spring training stadium. This gated community offers 2 swimming pools, 2 spas, large fitness room and is next to the community golf course with bike/walking paths. ENJOY, NBA, PGA, NASCAR, NFL SUPER BOWL, NHL. Washer/dryer in unit, with plenty of storage. Pictures available on [Scottsdalesprings.com](http://Scottsdalesprings.com). Contact Patti and Gary (650) 355-7770. SFPD OWNED

### Wanted

S&W CENTENNIAL SERIES, Model 40, blue steel; Model 60, Stainless. Contact retired #1771 (415) 648-4332

I AM INTERESTED IN PURCHASING POA Journal issues Aug. 08, July 06, Apr. 05 and Notebook issues Apr. 98, Apr. 97, July 96, Feb., Mar., & Dec. 95, Aug. 90, Jan., Feb., May, & June 89, Nov. 88 and any prior to January 1988. Contact Greg Corrales at (415) 759-1076 or at [gc1207@comcast.net](mailto:gc1207@comcast.net). Thank you.

"OLDER" MODEL COLT GUNS. Contact Thomas Moore at (415) 648-4332.

### Free Classified Advertising Available for POA Members

- To place a free classified ad, you must be an active or retired POA member.
- A member may run only one classified ad per issue. However, a member may repeat the same ad in three consecutive issues. An ad may run for three additional issues upon request of advertiser.

Ads must be typewritten and submitted to the POA, attn: Journal Advertising in any of the following ways: US Mail, to the POA office; Interdepartmental mail, to the POA office, Email to [journal@sfpoa.org](mailto:journal@sfpoa.org)

### WOMEN LEADERS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

Payment to San Mateo Credit Union  
525 Middlefield Road  
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Payable To Caroline Serrato  
Questions?  
[cserrato@hillsborough.net](mailto:cserrato@hillsborough.net)



- HI/LOW PAR PRIZE
- BEST BALL
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- GREAT RAFFLE PRIZES
- SCRAMBLE FORMAT
- MULLIGANS/THROWS



Award Banquet Master of Ceremonies: Chief Susan Jones, Healdsburg Police

Tournament Chairs: Lieutenant Caroline Serrato, Hillsborough Police  
Officer Jennifer Thompson, San Francisco Police

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>  
POPLAR CREEK GOLF COURSE — SAN MATEO  
\$125.00 per person

COST INCLUDES: GREEN FEE, CART, BOXED LUNCH & AWARDS BANQUET

CHECK-IN 1100 SHOTGUN START 1200  
AWARDS BANQUET WILL FOLLOW CLASSIC (BANQUET WITHOUT GOLF \$30.00)

LIMITED TO FIRST 120 GOLFERS - ALL PLAYERS WELCOME!

# Close Encounters

By Steve Johnson,  
SFPOA

It's 1980, and President Jimmy Carter signs a \$1.5 billion dollar loan to bail out (are you ready for this?) the Chrysler Corporation . . . hmmm. The Pittsburgh Steelers defeat the Los Angeles Rams in the Super Bowl and the United States amateur ice hockey team defeats the Soviet Union in the semi-final Winter Olympic Games, an event later documented as the Miracle on Ice. And, on March 3, 1980, Officer James Hunt was working as a plain-clothes unit out of Park Station checking out someone new on the block who didn't want to be checked out. Jim followed this individual into what was known back then as a 'social club' on the corner of Haight and Steiner. As soon as Officer Hunt followed his person of interest into the club the individual grabbed a woman and used her as a shield while he started emptying his .357 caliber revolver in Officer Hunt's direction. Jim was able to pull the woman free while dodging the metal flying by and entered into a "raging close quarter gunfight" where 9 rounds were exchanged and the only one who never left the building was the guy with the empty .357 . . . as it should be.

The suspect, in this case, had just been paroled from San Quentin and was wanted on a murder warrant out of San Mateo County. Officer James Hunt received a Gold Medal of Valor for his actions.

It's 2009 — we have a new President and another check for Chrysler . . . But it's August 18th of 2009, where we find Officer Jennifer Dickson and Officer Adrian Payne watching a man running down Golden Gate from Taylor weaving side to side trying to avoid being shot by the armed suspects chasing him. Seems our victim was approached by these same armed suspects a few minutes earlier who demanded his car. He complied but that wasn't enough for those enrolled in the felony master's program . . . Lucky for the victim Jen and Adrian happened by. So the chase is on. Officer Dickson and Officer Payne follow the suspects to Potrero Hill where they dump their car and run. Jennifer and Adrian are soon joined by Officer Cliff Burkhart and Officer Brent Cader and the suspects are soon in custody along with the guns they used to terrify their victim.

Walter Cronkite retired in 1980 and David Letterman's first talk show aired in the morning hours and bombed (It was resuscitated 2 years later and the rest is history.) But on November 10, 1980, Officer John Payne and Officer Harry Pearson were driving to a call of a 'person down' on the 2300 block of Polk Street. The victim had been shot and was critical. John and Harry located the suspect a few blocks away at Green and Larkin Streets and immediately learned that he was still armed as 2 rounds came smashing through the front windshield of their black and white unit. John and Harry abandoned their car and were now chasing the suspect through the

streets. The suspect turned and fired 2 more rounds at the officers who finally had a chance to show him just how much they learned at the police range. The suspect dropped his weapon as the officers approached, finally giving up. Then, as Officer Payne and Officer Pearson were just 10 feet away from him he dropped to the ground and grabbed the 9mm semi-automatic again but never got a round off as John and Harry made sure this story ended appropriately - suspect in custody.

It's July, 2009, and Officer Nick Donati and Officer Nick Ferrando received information that a van leaving a nearby parking lot had several suspects on board who were armed with guns. The officers followed up on the information and attempted to investigate but the driver of the van had trouble finding the brake. Officer Donati and Officer Ferrando were soon joined by Officer O'Brien 1427, Officer Smith 2385 and Officer Lyons 4048. The van continued to travel, very slowly, away from the officers who were totally exposed to whatever danger that could be hidden inside the paneled vehicle. The occupants of the slow-moving van were, no doubt, hoping that the uniformed officers would just call it a day and go away . . . they obviously didn't know they were in TTF territory. When the van did finally come to a stop, the side door immediately slid open and one of the passengers made a break for it. He obviously didn't want anything to do with the fully-loaded, 9mm or the fully-loaded, .45 caliber semi-automatic weapons that were left inside . . . And the driver also explained that his wearing a bullet-proof vest in the heart of the Tenderloin at 2:45 a.m. was simply a fashion statement . . .

During the last 2 months of 1980, a rapist was breaking into the apartments of single women living in the Pacific Heights neighborhood. Sergeant Bruce Marovich had a hunch of where he might try next so he set up a surveillance for several nights in a row. Bruce almost gave up on the third night when at 1:25 a.m. at the corner of Bush and Taylor he suddenly saw an individual who matched the description of the rapist exactly. Bruce detained the suspect who was holding onto a non-prescription drug which not only led to his arrest but revealed the man was armed with a knife, had a flashlight, mask, and the wallet of his last victim in his pocket. The suspect was subsequently convicted of five hot-prowl rapes thanks to the outstanding work of Sergeant Bruce Marovich.

August 21, 2009, and Sergeant Sam Christ and Sergeant John Bragnolo notice a broken mirror on the car in front of them. They pull the car over at 6th and Mission Streets for an advisement when they notice the passenger is extremely nervous and very intent on watching Sgt. Christ approach the car. He was also very surprised when he saw that Sgt. Bragnolo was watching him, right outside his door. Pleasantries are exchanged and one thing leads to another and the passenger is now outside of the car hoping that his t-shirt is going to con-

tinue to hide the stolen, fully-loaded, 9mm semi-automatic he has tucked into his waistband. The shirt was just a little too short . . .

A similar incident occurred on Mendell Street with Officer Ken Bates and Officer Greg Skaug finding it impossible not to notice the speeding car that nearly rear-ended them, neither party inside wearing seatbelts, and no front plate which, of course, gave plenty of reasons for a traffic stop. The officers noticed a loaded, silver magazine on the floorboard. The driver told the officers he had nothing to hide and stepped out of the car - and, just as he did, the fully-loaded, .357 revolver he had concealed, slid down his pants leg out onto the street . . .

It was just a little before midnight when a man was robbed at the corner of Trinity and Bush by a group of suspects who were both armed with a gun and who also beat their victim. They apparently picked the wrong police district to hone their criminal enterprise. A perimeter was set up and Officer Amanda Cordoba, Officer Ryan Macarthur, Officer Eric Valentini, Officer Nelson Artiga, Officer Eric Tapang, Officer Angel Lozano, and Officer Matt Dudley soon located those responsible in a short time. Suspects, and gun, in custody.

It's three in the morning on July 26, 2009, when Officer Adrian Payne, Officer Jayme Campbell, Officer Anthony Pedroza, and Officer Esther Gonzalez respond to a call of a man armed with a gun inside the establishment at 1077 Market Street. They walk into the all-night cinema 'showcase' at a total disadvantage

because all they have is a description of the suspect. The suspect, who was armed with a fully-loaded, .40 caliber semi-automatic, could have decided to shoot it out but, fortunately, didn't.

And you just never know - it's one in the morning on the 200 block of Terry Francois Street when Officer Ryan Doherty and Officer Edric Talusan stop a group of individuals who are drinking beer with the intent of admonishing the wayward crew. A subsequent investigation finds both narcotics and a fully-loaded gun.

And the sleepy, little town of Clayton, California was totally disrupted on March 7, 2009, when an individual in an altered mental state, armed with a knife, who also just happened to be over 6' tall, breaking the scale at 250 plus, fatally stabbed a 73-year old man who was just dropping mail off at the local post office. Officer Kevin Rightmire just happened to be in the park nearby with his young son. People started screaming and pointing at the suspect who by now was just roaming through the streets with both of his hands covered in blood. The suspect went into a restaurant and Kevin made sure his son was safe and then entered the building. He saw one individual was trying to control the suspect so Kevin identified himself and immediately grabbed the suspect's arm in a bent-wrist control hold. (The other individual assisting turned out to be an off-duty Pittsburgh Police Officer.) Kevin and the other officer held on to the suspect until officers from the Clayton Police Department arrived and took control of the situation.

## San Francisco Police Officers Association 18th Annual Golf Tournament Monday, September 14, 2009

### Tournament Schedule:

10:00 AM	Registration
10:30-12:00	Chipping Contest & Lunch
12:00 PM	Shotgun Start
7:00 PM	Dinner

### Additional Information:

Gary Delagnes	(415) 861-5060
Marty Halloran	(415) 861-5060
Larry Mack	(415) 850-6831

See page 26  
for entry form  
and details

