



JOURNAL

— Of The —

SAN FRANCISCO POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

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A Message from the President

2001: A Year like No Other

By Chris Cunnie

I suppose that all of us experience significant times in our professional lives that are of such consequence that they define the end of one life chapter and the beginning of the next. Year 2001 is that kind of measure. It is a year deeply notched into the yardstick of my career. What sets 2001 apart from more undistinguished times is the extreme polarity of its gains and losses; from sky-high elation to ground-zero grief.

Our \$46 million wages and benefits package, which gives each one of you a 16 percent raise over the next two years, was the high point. The contract, which represents an unprecedented gain in wages, benefits and working conditions, was the culmination of months of negotiations.

What sets 2001 apart from more undistinguished times is the extreme polarity of its gains and losses; from sky-high elation to ground-zero grief.

Then came Tuesday, September 11. The events of that date are beyond my comprehension. It is difficult to grasp the magnitude and the sudden-



ness of the attacks. It was harder, still, to witness those brave police officers and firefighters perish; each death a mark of selfless obedience to a duty to which all of us avow. For all of us in public safety professions, it was the depth of despair, an unprecedented loss.

Just as unprecedented, however, was the immediate response by our membership, the

Police Department, and the people of San Francisco. Within weeks, this Association had collected and delivered more than a quarter-million dollars for assistance to the survivors of the fallen officers in New York City. It was a remarkable effort by remarkable people — the benevolent men and women of the SFPOA.

This December issue of the *Journal* — the last of 2001 — recaps the POA response to the 9/11 travesties. To that end, we have provided a special section of color photos that shed light on the POA perspective of the worst and the best of this watershed year. This issue is at once a eulogy and a celebration, and by the time you read through to the final page, I trust you will understand.

So, gather with one another in this season. Take comfort and pride in being part of this Department and this Association. On behalf of all of us at the POA, I offer each of you and your family our best wishes for a safe and happy holiday. Thank you for your support and your confidence, your generosity and compassion, and for making 2001 a most unforgettable year.



US Armed Forces Remembered This Holiday Season

The men and women of the San Francisco Police Officers' Association extend our warmest and most sincere holiday greetings to all of America's fighting forces around the globe. These terrible times have necessitated the separation of thousands of families over the holidays. Our safety and security remains intact, largely because of the sacrifices borne by our uniformed men and women. Thank you all, and God Speed.

Gifts for kids of NY officers killed at WTC

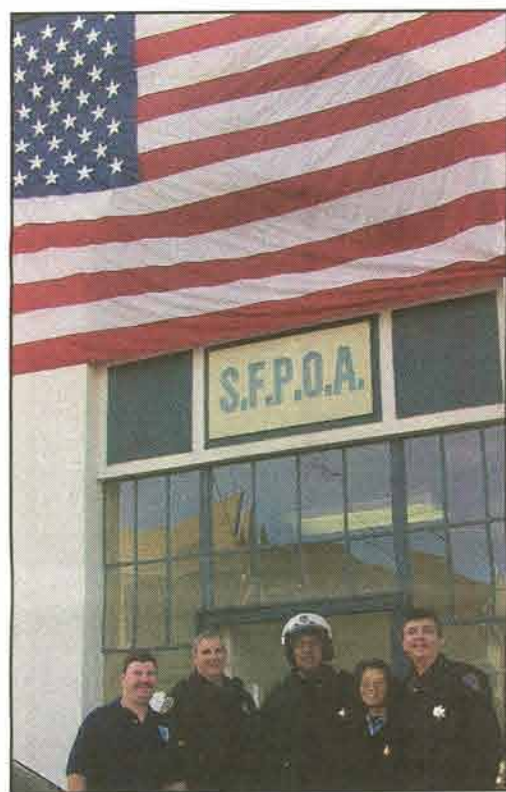
Toys Collected By POA Head for New York

Staff Report

After learning that 87 children have suffered the loss of a parent who was a New York police officer killed at the World Trade Center, Val Kirwan, Marty Halloran, and Steve Johnson put out the call for donated toys, hoping to brighten the Holiday Season for the small, hapless survivors.

As with so many other calls, POA members and the public responded quickly with open hearts and open wallets. Over the course of a few days, enough toys were gathered or ordered to enable the three POA elves to forward five new toys to each of the 87 children.

Val, Marty, and Steve extend their most sincere gratitude to everyone who helped with this effort. Special thanks goes out to Joe O'Donoghue and the Residential Builders Association for their \$5,000 contribution. Thanks as well to the FAO Schwarz Company for granting toy drive purchasers a 15% discount. Federal Express graciously shipped the toys to the Police Benevolent League in New York free of charge in packing boxes donated by the U-Haul franchise on Valencia Street. The SFPD Airport Bureau collected \$800, Co. H and Co. D \$250 each, and our friends at Department of Parking and Traffic helped out as well.



Toy drive elves (l to r) Val Kirwan, John Nestor, Dave Kranci, DPT's Debbie Fong-Borthne and Pat Burke.



(L to r) Val Kirwan, Chris Cunnie and Pat Burke take a break after loading crates of toys.

City Attorney-Elect Dennis Herrera

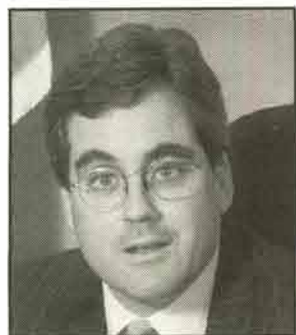
By Chris Cunnie, SFPOA President

I am happy to announce to all of you that Dennis Herrera has won a hard-fought race for City Attorney.

The POA supported Dennis Herrera early on in the race for City Attorney, one of the most critical positions in City government. We supported Dennis because we believed he was the most qualified candidate for the job. Our members know and respect Dennis from his years of serving on the Police Commission.

I want to thank all of our members who volunteered their time and effort to help Dennis win.

We look forward to working with Dennis when he takes office in January, and we congratulate him on his victory.



Dennis Herrera

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' Aid Association

The regular meeting of the Widows' and Orphans' Aid Association of the San Francisco Police Department was called to order by President Dave Fontana at 2:05 PM in the conference room of Ingleside Station.

Pledge Of Allegiance: Led by President Fontana.

Roll Call Of Officers: President Fontana, Vice President Crosat excused. Treasurer Sturken, Secretary Hurley. Trustees Kemmitt, Jeffery and Aguilar. Excused Kurpinsky & Reilly. Also present were past Presidents Robert Mc Kee and John Newlin.

Minutes Of The October Meeting: Motion Jeffery and seconded by Kemmitt that the minutes be approved as published. Motion carried.

Bills: Treasurer Sturken presented the usual bills. Motion by Jeffery, seconded by Mc Kee that the bills be paid. Motion carried.

Report Of Trustees: The representatives from Bank of America did not attend this meeting. We had the meeting at the Bank of America on California St. on November 8th, 4:30pm Bruce Bain and Michael Harrington gave a report on the condition of our account to the Officers and Trustees at that meeting. Interest rates are the lowest since '94. The rates are so low more money is being put back into the market. With the recent rate changes from the Federal Reserve, it takes 6 to 9 months for that to really set in with the Market. People are putting off big spending items. Walmart is doing well as well as Home Depot. As of this meeting, we are dead even on our account for the year. The bank made a few recommendations to the Trustees on some Buys and sell stocks. They asked to Buy 250 shares of General Dynamics, 1200 shares of Tyco, 2000 shares of Anheuser-Busch, 500 shares of Chevron and 500 shares of Merck. They also want to sell 2097 shares of Ford and 900 shares of Honeywell. The Trustees approved their request. It looks like the Market is coming back. Our Asset Summary of our Total Portfolio is 56% in Bonds, 33% in Stocks and 11% Cash.

Communications: We received several donations in the memory of Merritt Mc Kevitt. Bruce and Rose Mackin, Claire O'Hara, Jim and Loretta Mancuso, Agnes Mc Kevitt, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Gogan, Anne Jahnsen, SFVPOA, Doris Scott, Walnut Country Seniors, and Ester Litzus. Total Gifts were \$455.00. The secretary will send thank you notes to everyone who send a donation in Merritt's name. Also, the Arthur Gallagher Foundation sent in \$25.00 as part of their Gift Matching Program from employee Janet Phillips.

Re-instatement Of Members: William Hemby with payment of past dues.

Suspensions: The following members are delinquent in dues for six

months. (Section 3 of Article 3 of the Constitution): Ronaldo Caldito, George Cima, Timothy Fitzgerald, Lillian Hitt, Michael Nowlin, Astrida Rudzitus and Paul Weggenmann. The following members did not complete their probationary period, (Article III, Section 3 of the Bylaws.) John Antonio, Artur Tilis, and Ramon Velasquez. Also, Sharon Bissell is to be dropped from the rolls for non-payment of dues for one year. (Section 4 of Article III of the Constitution.)

Report Of Special Committee: On November 5, 2001. Casey's Moving took some of our necessary files and office equipment to the Police Academy. We have been allowed to use a small area of the Academy for the conducting of our necessary business when the Credit Union is under construction. We would like to thank Captain Dan Lawson for his help in getting us up and going again.

New Business: Nomination of Officers for the coming year. President-Ray Crosat. Vice President-Al Aguilar. Treasurer-Jim Sturken. Trustees-Robert Kurpinsky and Joseph Garrity. Motion by Jeffery that the nominations be closed. Seconded by Mc Kee. Motion carried. We are ready to have the Credit Union take out the \$36.00 to pay your dues starting with the 2002 billing. You can have your dues automatically taken from your checking or savings account. No need to remember to write a check. Your credit union statement will show the deduction in the February mailing. This will be for the retired members, the active members have their dues taken out through payroll deduction. (\$1.44 per pay day)

We Had Two Deaths:

STAMATI DAVANIS. 77 years. He was born in Woodland, California. He moved to San Francisco at a young age and lived in the Haight. He attended Saint Ignatius High and U.S.F. He joined the Navy because he didn't want to march. Guess what, he was assigned to the Marines as a corpsman. He saw a lot of action in the South Pacific, and was awarded three purple hearts while he was aiding wounded Marines. Upon returning home he worked as a trainer before entering the Police Academy in 1948. His first assignment was Traffic on a fixed post detail. He then moved on to the A.P.B. before being promoted to the Bureau. He was a founder of the PAL and Joe Dimaggio League and served 14 years as baseball commissioner. A few of our present officers today were coached by Stamati.

MERRITT MC KEVITT, 80 years. He was born in San Francisco and grew up in the Mission. He attended Mission High and enlisted in the Navy and was assigned to a Seabee unit. After the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 32

POLICE-FIRE Post 456 News



By Greg Corrales

"Weep not that the world changes — did it keep a stable, changeless state, it were cause indeed to weep."

—William Cullen Bryant, 1824

After fifteen years as the Police-Fire Post 456 scribe, this will be my last column. The demands on my time are such that I have no choice but to regretfully pass the duties of Post Scribe to Rich Struckman, who will do an excellent job. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who over the years gave me positive feedback, and those of you that mailed me items of interest. Your many kindness were greatly appreciated.

The December meeting was a great one. A number of new members attended, as well as some old friends that we hadn't seen in a long time. The attendance was very encouraging

On 21 December members of the post will be visiting the veteran's hospital at Fort Miley. Every year we go visit the old veterans that will be spending Christmas in the hospital. We give them a Christmas card with a small cash gift inside. This year, thanks to very generous donations from the San Francisco Police Officers' Association and from the San Francisco Deputy Sheriffs Association, we will be able to increase the number of veterans we visit. When I see the beaming

smiles on the old-timers when they realize that they aren't forgotten, I know that this is one of the most important programs in which Post 456 participates.

Country singer Lee Greenwood was on his tour bus in 1983 when he heard that Korean Air Lines Flight 007, carrying, several U.S. citizens aboard, had been shot down by the Soviet Union. Angered by the atrocity, he took pen to scratch paper and composed "God Bless the USA" in less than two hours.

Eighteen years later, following another atrocity against U.S. citizens — the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon — Greenwood's song has found renewed popularity as it is played on the airwaves and at memorial services. "God Bless the USA" went platinum after its original release in 1984 and experienced a second wave of popularity a decade ago during the Persian Gulf War.

Since the start of Operation Enduring Freedom, sales have been brisk for Greenwood's "American Patriot" album, a 1992 compilation of "God Bless the USA" and other patriotic songs. In the week before the attacks, "American Patriot" sold only 235 copies. For the week ending October 7, the album sold 59,000 copies.

In bowling alleys and at church dinners all across the state, some 20,000 Iowans have said they want to see

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

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

The San Francisco Police Officers' Association

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Members or readers submitting letters or articles to the editor are requested to observe these simple rules:

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

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San Francisco Veteran Police Officers' Association

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

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



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

The Veteran POA has 982 members. Stay in touch!

AROUND THE DEPARTMENT



By Al Casciato

Active Duty:

Brien Hoo, Potrero Station (AKA Bayview), has been in Fort Bragg, North Carolina for the last 4 months undergoing some pretty tough Army training. He was home for Thanksgiving and may be home for Christmas prior to deployment overseas. Brien sends Holiday Greetings to all and advises that he can receive e-mail at Hooster5186@aol.com. We wish him the best and pray for his safe return...

Welcome Back:

James Winters left the Department last month for Contra Costa Co. SO. Well, he's back at Bayview Station. James wanted to be closer to his family and spend more time with them. Because of severe staffing shortages, he would have been working a 60-hour week. Overtime being mandatory, he could not meet his family goals. He is happy to be back, loves the department and knows that he can spend more time with the family even though the commute is longer. Tim Buelow also left Bayview and went with James to the Contra Costa County S.O. for the same family life reasons. Well, he too has left the Sheriff's Office and is now a member of the San Carlos Police Department...

Corner Cup:

Retired Captain, **Richard Cairns**, and his wife, **Amanda**, have opened a coffee shop on the corner of 43rd and Lawton in the Sunset. Their shop is called "Corner Cup". Rich says all are welcome and there is even a "police discount". Retired Commander, **Ray Canepa**, stopped by and has given his stamp of approval...

Life Saver:

On November 26, 2001, Inspector **Dino Marci**, Auto Detail, collapsed in the Police Gym while playing basketball with **Ed Santos**, Southern Station, **Mike Biel**, Auto Detail, **Corrado Petruzzella**, Solos, and **Joe Cordes**, Fraud. When Dino hit the floor he was "gone" according to the players. Joe Cordes rose to the occasion and performed CPR reviving Dino. The ambulance crews credit the fast work of Joe and the others with saving Dino's life. Great work and thank you very much...

Plea for Help:

Brian Boyd, Solos, brings word that **Joanne Pang**, a third grader at St. Cecilia School, has leukemia and her disease has taken a turn for the worse. She needs a bone marrow transplant urgently (within the next three months). If you are between 18 and

60 years old, and are willing to be tested for a possible donor match please call **Anne or Joseph Pang** (Joanne's parents) at 415-566-7882. In the meantime, keep her and all the other leukemia patients in your thoughts and prayers...

Bar Exam:

Servo Flores, Airport Bureau, is ecstatic after having received correspondence from the State Bar that he passed the July Bar Exam. The notice arrived the Monday before Thanksgiving and the entire family gave thanks that Thursday and celebrated. Congratulations Servo — Good job...

Golden Gate Bridge Tolls:

The American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) is conducting a campaign to eliminate tolls for motorcycles on the Golden Gate Bridge. Solo Sgt. **Rene LaPrevotte** is coordinating the effort for Marin County motorcycle commuters. For details and contact information log on to the AMA's web site at untip.AMADirectlink.com, or call **Nicholas Harris** at 530-647-1195...

Thank You:

Harriet and Mike Solarno of Andre's Television wish to thank all those who helped make the Crime Victim's Golf Tournament a huge success. The funds are used to lobby Sacramento Lawmakers and the Parole Board to not be lenient on violent offenders. Plans for next year's October fundraiser are already in the works. If you can help with prizes or volunteer time contact Sgt. **Mike Favetti**, Tactical, at 415-6713100...

Births:

Kenny and Wendy Lui, Southern Station, proudly announce the birth of their son **Garrett Tanner Lui**, 7 lbs. 10.8 oz. 23 inches on November 20, 2001.

David Garcia, Northern Station, and his wife, **Kristen**, proudly announce the birth of their twin baby boys, **Matthew David**, 7 lbs., 13 oz., and **Zachary Roger**, 7 lbs. 5 oz. on November 21 at 10:48 a.m and 10:49 a.m. Big sister **Camryn Marie** couldn't be happier!

All are doing well. Congratulations and best wishes...

Moving:

Maggie Ortelle, Field Operations Bureau, was moved to tears as she listened to NYPD Officer **Dan Rodriguez** singing at the 3-month memorial of the WTC tragedy. She passes on that the songs by the police opera tenor are available on CD at Tower Record stores. The CD is only \$3.99, and all proceeds from the sales go directly to Mayor Guilanni's Twin Towers Fund.

The power of the spoken word, especially when sung, is a tremendous way with which to honor the memory of those we have lost and to inspire our resolve to eradicate the evil. Add the CD to your collection and let Dan's renditions inspire you...

Exhibition:

Graphic Artist, **Amy Nelder**, Crime Scene Investigations, also paints privately. She is currently displaying her work at La Cucina, 2136 Union Street, San Francisco, between Fillmore & Webster. The show runs through New Year's Day 2002. The opening reception held Thursday November 29, 2001 was well attended and the works were enjoyed by all. If you get a chance drop by and view Amy's work...

Gracias:

Nacho Martinez, Ingelside Station, wishes to thank all those who supported the "Nachomania" held December 6, 2001 at El Valenciano Restaurant. The fundraiser for the NYPD Fund was great and fun filled. A big "Thank You" to all who donated and attended. An East Bay event is being planned for early next year...

Honored:

Commander **Sylvia Harper**, Airport Bureau, coordinated a mass at St. Mary's Cathedral on December 12, 2001, that honored the graduates of

Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory School who are Public Safety Officers. The mass and reception were well attended. The honorees were moved and touched by the program put on by the students of SHC and De Marillac Middle School. Police Chaplain, Monsignor **John Heaney**, celebrated the Mass...

Happy Holidays to all! Wishing everyone a healthy and prosperous New Year!

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



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GOD BLESS AMERICA!

Retirement Planning Seminar

Three Days In Burlingame

By Mike Hebel, Welfare Officer, CFP

The Embassy Suites Hotel in Burlingame hosted the SFPD-POA semiannual pre-retirement seminar (October 15, 16 & 17). Members and their spouses/partners stayed at the Embassy Suites. The seminar has been expanded to include discussion of Social Security and Medicare benefits, Health Service System plans, Veterans Administration benefits, PERS long-term care, retired/veteran employee organizations, health and nutrition, taxation, essentials of estate planning, and critical psychological issues presented by retirement.

This seminar is now titled "The Gino Marionetti and Michael Sugrue Memorial Seminar" to honor its two founders. May they rest in peace.

Special thanks to Chief Fred Lau, Assistant Chief Earl Sanders, deputy Chief Bill Welch and Captain Dan Lawson for providing the necessary funding to expand the seminar subjects and to allow members and their spouses/partners to reside at the Embassy Suites.

27 Participants

Twenty-seven participants attended this lively and informative seminar which was co-ordinated by Louise Wright, POA staff member. Officer Andy O'Mahoney from the Police Academy provided excellent on site assistance.

The seat of honor, which is reserved for the most senior member in attendance, was given to Officer Ross Laffin of the 118th recruit class (March 1971). One of their more probing observations by the group pertained to a saying attributed to Yogi Berra: "Its important to go to funerals so when you die they will come to yours." When speaking about retirement qualifications, an old Chinese proverb was enunciated: "short breath — short life; long breath — long life; no breath — death." To this was added the Hebel corollary: "no breath — no retirement check."

Also attending with their spouses were: Charles and Marie Collins, Alex and Shannon Fagan, John and Sandra Fewer, Paul and Angie Kendall, Ross and Bunny Laffin, Dan and Laurie Lawson, Sam and Angela Martin, Ed



and Clorinda Springer, and Dave and Nadine Suyehiro.

The November 2002 ballot was the first item of immense interest to the attendees. Rumors are afoot that there will be a retirement issue on the ballot pertaining to police-fire pensions. Both these public safety groups are now actively considering such a Charter amendment. No specifics have been proposed. Voter polling will be conducted to assist in the planning process. Certainly the state of the City and national economy, in late 2002, will be most important in assessing success at the ballot box.

Class Comments

Captain Alex Fagan explained his comprehensive retirement plan (Chief for the Day) to increase retirement benefits. He was also active in the real estate arena showing attendees how to sell their principal residence every two years. Captain Fagan set the class record for the number of cell phone calls received and answered during the 3-day seminar.

John Fulwood exclaimed that he loved riding a motorcycle and giving out tickets. Tom Cunnane pointed out that, excluding the police range, the SFPD discharge record was at 12%; that is, only 12% of firearm discharges hit the intended object. Matt Perez, class photographer, was stunned to learn of his potential social security benefit (\$250/month): "I can't live on that kind of benefit." During the discussion of deferred compensation, Ed Springer

noted: "There's money somewhere!"

Herb Meiberger, elected member of the Retirement Board, informed the class that the Retirement System now has \$8 billion in promises to retirees and \$10 billion in assets to fund these promises. He observed that the SF retirement system is one of the best-funded public pension plans in the U.S. He observed that the CCSF retirement system's assets are there for only one reason — to pay benefits to retirees and their survivors. Herb forecast that the CCSF would probably contribute \$0 for the next decade because the pension system is so well funded. Herb noted his conservative tendencies by stating that: "I would have voted 'no' at creation."

Comments from the attendees on the course evaluation form 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."

Other Observations

Chief Lau now gives every retiree 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 shocked by the costs of health coverage upon retirement. Few realized just how good the POA Memorandum of Understanding is in keeping these costs down. After retirement, there is no subsidized dental plan, but thanks to Proposition E (Nov. ballot) there now is a medical care monetary subsidy for the principal dependent.

Clare Zvansky, longest serving member of the City's Health Services Board, assured attendees that the Health Plan Trust, city health plan, is in good financial shape. She said that pharmacy benefits are now the most expensive part of the plan. She felt that the federal Medicare picture is grim. It has dramatically reduced its reimbursements. She noted that as we get older "we creak more and cost more for

health care." The Health Service System urges members to become Medicare eligible at age 65 to avoid rate increases especially if you are enrolled in the city's indemnity plan.

Retirement Board commissioner Herb Meiberger said that the CCSF contribution for its employees' retirement benefits was \$150 million annually 10 years ago. It is now \$0 and will be at \$0 for the foreseeable future. Herb is up for re-election in January 2001. Mike Hebel went on record as being amongst the first to endorse and support Herb's re-election. He has earned and deserves the support and vote of his "customers."

Retired deputy chief George Eimil, in discussing essential elements of estate planning, urged attendees to take advantage of a new way (available as of 7-1-01) of holding title to real property, namely "community property with right of survivorship."

Special thanks to Tom Cunnane, SFPD physical training specialist, for his 3rd presentation on exercise, health, and nutrition. Tom noted the top 3 police disabilities: cardiovascular, gastro-intestinal, and low back disorders. Upon observing that diets don't work, Tom urged exercise and less eating. When asked how to determine if you need a diet, Tom quipped: "Look in a mirror!" Tom noted that the biggest health epidemic in the US is now diabetes due to excess sugar consumption. "America is getting fatter and less physically active." He urged all attendees to become avid walkers or gardeners. He recommends a heart monitor as a Christmas gift or an annual subscription to the UC Berkeley "Wellness Letter." He praised the benefits of eight glasses of water daily and vitamins C and E.

Gary Bozin, Aetna deferred compensation, said that the maximum contribution will rise, in 2002 to \$11,000. After 2002, tax withholding for every deferred compensation distribution check is a flat 20% per IRS rules. Under the new rules, changes can be made once distribution has begun.

Next Seminar

The next retirement planning seminar is scheduled for April 22 – 24, 2002. The seminar will be available to the first 50 people, members and their spouses/partners, who contact the POA after the announcement is sent to all members with 20 or more years of service. 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.

Accepting Delta Dental Plan JULIA A. HALLISY, D.D.S.

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POA ELECTION NEWS

Vote by Mail – January 28 through February 8, 2002

I have a vision

By Steve Balma

I have a vision that the San Francisco Police Officers' Association (SFPOA) will become an Association that represents ALL of the members of the San Francisco Police Department, and one that is more inclusive (not exclusive) with the members that it represents. I envision an executive board that is more representative of the diversity that exists within our Department, and one that makes every member of the Association feel that he/she has an equal voice in the decisions that are made by THEIR Association. This executive board will work more closely with the membership, and the Department, in order to make the changes necessary to make OUR Department the best in the world.

I have a vision that the current promotional system will be abolished, and that a new system will replace it. The new system will not judge an officer solely on the score of a test, or the color of his/her skin, but on the content of his/her character, the contents of his/her personnel file, and the contributions that they've made during their career with the SFPD. In order to assist ALL officers, who want to get promoted, I envision a fair and equitable career development program that will prepare an officer to be a leader in our Department. These changes would eliminate the stigma attached to the current numbered ranking system, and would guarantee that the officers who get promoted are promoted based on their merit, not just for being a good test taker.

I have a vision that the current P-1 transfer policy will be abolished, and that a new, and fairer, rotational policy will replace it. This new policy will allow ALL officers an opportunity to transfer to a specialized unit, instead of keeping them waiting 25-30 years on a stagnant list.

I have a vision that officers working for the SFPD have the best salary, best benefit package, and best retirement package in the State, because we live in an area with the highest cost of living, and because we are the best police department in the State.

I have a vision that members of the SFPOA will receive the best legal representation possible when facing any type of disciplinary inquiry, and that the SFPOA will aggressively defend our members from frivolous OCC/MCD witch hunts.

I have a vision that the SFPOA will openly communicate with both its active and retired members and keep them informed on important issues like contract negotiations, large capital expenditures, staff hiring, political endorsements, etc...

I have a vision that the SFPOA is due for a change, and that your vote can make these changes occur.

Biography:

I was born and raised in San Francisco.

I have been married for 14 years to my wife Laura. We have a 5 year old daughter (Hailey), and a six month old son (Cade).

This is my twentieth year serving the S.F.P.D.

I am a Sergeant and an Inspector.

I am a graduate, *cum laude*, of S.F. State (B.A. Criminal Justice), and I am



Steve Balma

currently pursuing a Masters Degree (Organizational Management) at the University of Phoenix.

I have worked at Central Station, Bayview (Potrero) Station, the Patrol Bureau Task Force, the Narcotics Division, and for the past 4-1/2 years, Southern Station.

I am currently an F.T.O. Sergeant, Community Liaison Officer, Special Events Coordinator, and "Quality of Life" Enforcement Program Coordinator at Southern Station, but I have also been a Code Enforcement Officer, Training Sergeant, Specialist, and I-Cell member.

I have taught regularly at the Police Academy (Community Policing, and Laws of Arrest) during the past five years, and I am a certified P.O.S.T. and I.C.I. Instructor.

I was a member of the P.O.A. Board of Directors (while at Narcotics) and I have represented many officers at O.C.C., M.C.D., E.E.O., DABOR, and Chief's Hearings (I still get many requests from members to represent them).

I have been on several P.O.A. committees (Judicial Review, Contract Negotiation, Community Service, Golf Tournament), and a regular contributor of articles for the P.O.A. newspaper.

I have received several awards including: Police Commission Commendations, Unit Citation, the "John Blessing Award" for being the Narcotics Officer of the Year, and I am receiving an award from the Attorney General of California for Outstanding Service to the Community, in mid-December.

I am an active volunteer (off duty), and regularly contribute time (and money) to community organizations, while promoting the good name of the SFPD.

I am a dedicated father and husband who knows, first hand, the difficulties of raising a family on a police officer's salary, and the sacrifices one has to make (overtime) in order to make it work.

I am proud to wear the SFPD uniform, and honored to serve with the dedicated men and women of our Department.

I am committed to working with our Department's leadership, and the entire membership, in order to make the necessary changes to make the SFPD "The Best Police Department in the World."



Valerie Matthews

Hello, my name is Valerie Matthews and I want to be your new P.O.A. Vice President.

I am very excited about the opportunity to serve my fellow officers and the idea of having an executive board that will truly reflect the diversity of the S.F. Police Department; as well as bridge the gap amongst our other police associations.

Although the present executive board has worked hard for the membership there is still alot of work to be done to ensure that our members continue to receive every benefit that they are entitled to, and to ensure that we continue to strive to stay competitive and or exceed other agencies.

There are several issues that must be revisited in the near future such as:

- Salary Increases
- Retirement Benefits
- Medical Benefits
- Examination Process and Promotions
- Legal Representation
- Consolidation of Ranks

I want very much to be an active part of this process and I look forward to representing you.

YOU HAVE A CHOICE! IT'S TIME FOR CHANGE!

Biography:

I am a single mother with a 14 year old son named Brandon and a 12 year old daughter named Brittini.

I have been a S.F. police officer for 10-1/2 years.

I hold both Sergeant and Inspectors rank.

I am a P.O.S.T. certified Instructor.

I am presently assigned to the General Work Section. Prior to my present assignment, I have worked at Mission Station, Central Station, Northern Station, and the Hit & Run Section. I have also worked with Muni, Housing, Vice, GTF, and the Narcotics unit on numerous occasions, I have worked as an F.T.O., and worked with the Operation Dream Christmas toy drive.

I am an active O.F.J. board member and active in the community in which I serve.

I have received several awards including a police commendation.

I am proud to be a S.F. police officer and consider the opportunity to represent you an honor.

Serving you

Cunnie Executive Board Team Announces Re-Election Bid

We will be announcing our intention to seek re-election to the Executive Board of the San Francisco Police Officers' Association at the next Board Meeting scheduled for 12/19/01, at 1300 hours, at 510 7th Street.

We will not rest on our accomplishments until we fulfill our promise to you to sponsor a successful campaign for a 90% retirement charter amendment in November, 2002, and to obtain an additional contract to improve your wages above the recent 16% raise. Negotiations for that contract will be starting next July, 2002.

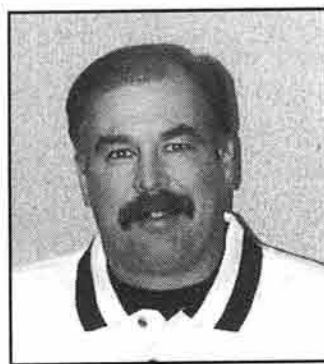
There are many other issues we will be pursuing and we will be addressing those matters in the coming weeks, with personal visits to each station and unit.



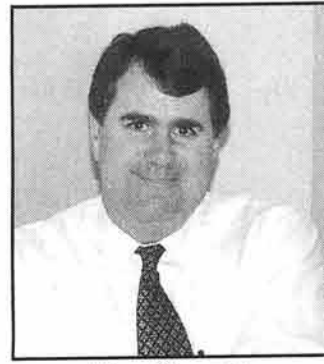
Chris Cunnie
President, SFPOA



Gary Delagnes
Vice President, SFPOA



Jack Minkel
Treasurer, SFPOA



Tom Shawyer
Secretary, SFPOA

Duty Belt Presumption

By Mike Hebel,
Welfare Officer

Effective January 1, 2002 law enforcement officers injured from wearing duty belts will be covered by new legislation creating a rebuttable presumption that their lower back injuries arose out of their employment.

This bill, carried by San Francisco State Senator John Burton, provides for every law enforcement officer who has been employed for at least five years on full time salary and who has been required to wear a duty belt as condition of employment, that any lower back injury will be presumed to have been caused in the course of employment unless contradicted by other evidence. Compensation awarded for lower back impairments include full hospital, surgical, medical treatment, disability payments, and death benefits.

This legislation, actively supported by the SFPOA, recognizes that police

officers, on a daily basis, wear duty belts that weigh between 30 to 45 pounds when completely equipped. Testimony in favor of this legislation demonstrated that the average police officer gets in and out of a vehicle, on an average tour of duty, approximately 80 times per shift.

Senator Burton, President Pro Tem, said, in support of his bill: "We ask an awful lot of our law enforcement officers. It only makes sense to me that when they are injured by a tool they are required to wear, that we take responsibility to correct or compensate for that injury." Thank you Senator Burton. The POA salutes you for your vigorous support of this additional presumption.

Thus low back injuries produced by the wearing of a duty belt are added to a long list of presumptions now enjoyed by law enforcement officers. These include: hernia, pneumonia, heart trouble, cancer, tuberculosis, hepatitis, and meningitis.

One year limitation enforced

POA Prevails On Peace Officer Bill Of Rights

By Steve Johnson

A San Francisco Superior Court judge has found that the Police Commission and the Police Department violated the Peace Officer Bill of Rights in three pending disciplinary cases.

Judge David Garcia signed an order November 26, 2001 granting the POA's request for a preliminary injunction in the three disciplinary cases. The order restrains the Police Commission and the Police Department from taking any disciplinary or punitive action against the three officers and any other officer where the only notice of discipline provided to the officer within one year is the Office of Citizen Complaint's letter of preliminary findings in its current form.

At issue is California Government Code Section 3304 (d) of the Public Safety Officers' Procedural Bill of Rights Act, which sets a one-year limitation on the completion of investigations of allegations of possible public safety officer misconduct. The statute provides that complaints of misconduct against peace officers regarding incidents that occur on or after January 1, 1998, must be investigated and the officer notified of any proposed disciplinary action within one year of the agency becoming aware of the allegation of misconduct. Section 3304(d) also sets out eight exceptions to the one-year rule, including an exception for multi-jurisdictional investigations.

In the three disciplinary cases, the Department served the officers with charges more than one year after the OCC received a complaint of alleged misconduct. In one case, the Department served the officer with charges more than two years after the OCC received the complaint.

The POA filed motions to dismiss the charges on behalf of the officers at the Commission for failure to comply with the one-year limitation period. The OCC and the Department argued that they complied with the limita-

tions period because the officers received letters from the OCC Director within one year notifying them of the agency's "preliminary findings." The OCC and the Police Department also claimed that the multi-jurisdictional exception applied because the Police Department reviews OCC's findings. The POA argued that the OCC letter of preliminary findings did not meet the notice requirement and that such notice can only come from the Chief of Police. The POA also argued that the multi-jurisdictional exception does not apply because the OCC and the Department act together.

The Commission heard arguments on the motions on April 18, 2001. Almost one month later, the Commission issued a written decision denying the officers' motions and finding that the OCC's letter of preliminary findings satisfied the Government Code's one-year requirement. The Commission also ruled that the multi-jurisdictional exception applied in each case.

The POA sought relief from the Superior Court to prevent the Department from taking disciplinary action. On September 27, 2001, the court granted the POA's request to temporarily stay the disciplinary hearings pending a hearing on the request for a preliminary injunction. Judge Garcia heard arguments on November 1, 2001, and took the matter under submission. Judge Garcia then granted the POA's request for the preliminary injunction and agreed with the arguments brought forth by the Association — that the Department and Commission violated the one-year limitation set forth in the Peace Officer Bill of Rights. Judge Garcia also rejected the Police Department's assertion that the multi-jurisdictional exception applied.

We want to thank and acknowledge POA attorneys Kathy Mahoney and Vin Harrington for representing our members on this issue at the Police Commission and successfully following it through to Superior Court.



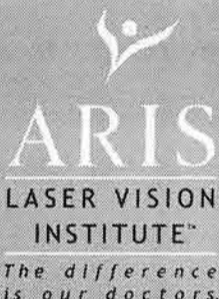
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VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Gary Delagnes

It most certainly is a great time to reflect on a year that has changed all of our lives to some degree. The acts of September 11th will remain on our minds and in our hearts forever. I am sure that all of us had our own unique reaction to these tragic events. Never have we seen so many firefighters and law enforcement personnel lose their lives in one such stunning event. We witnessed acts of bravery and heroism that reinforced our faith in this great country and made all of us appreciate what a special place we call home.

I spent time reflecting on what my priorities should be for the rest of my life. I looked at my own children and decided that the most important thing I could do was make sure, to the best of my abilities, that they receive the same opportunities that my parents gave me. It also made me realize that this tragic event could have easily occurred in San Francisco. I know our emergency service personnel would have risen to the occasion just as our counterparts did in New York City.

As most of you know, we negotiated a contract that resulted in the highest two-year salary increase in our history

Our members exhibited a tremendous outpouring of generosity to the families of the officers who died in New York by donating and soliciting contributions in excess of \$250,000. A group of our members personally delivered the contributions to NYPD Benevolent Association. Inspector Marty Halloran coordinated the fundraising event. Marty's incredible dedication to this cause made this Association and this Department proud.

As most of you know, we negotiated a contract that resulted in the highest two-year salary increase in our history (16% and 18% for members with 25 years or more). With the 11% we received the two prior years, we have now received pay increases of 27-29% over the past four years. This is the highest four-year increase in our history. We accomplished many other goals in the contract, which I will talk more about in next month's edition.

We will not stop here! We will ad-



dress our Board of Directors and the general membership at the meeting on December 19th at the POA building to unveil the details of a "Charter Amendment" that we will bring before the people of San Francisco in November of 2002 to enhance our pension benefits. All interested members are urged to attend!

We are also well into the process of constructing a new building on our current site at 510 7th St. I have looked forward to the project for the last 14 years, and it is now moving towards reality. We are currently in the permit process, and our existing building should come down early next year. We will relocate close to the Hall of Justice during construction, which should begin by the summer of 2002. We will finally have a building we can all be proud of and use on a regular basis. We have plans for a "down room" in the building that will finally give our members a comfortable and convenient place to go while waiting for court or to relax for awhile. Couches, a big screen TV, and study area are all in the plans.

I have worked very hard to earn your trust and respect these past 11 years while serving as your Vice-President. It has been an honor and a privilege to represent your needs. I have worked as hard I could to make you proud and play a part in obtaining the salary, benefits, and working conditions you deserve. I had convinced myself that this would be it for me at the POA, but there is just too much left to accomplish. I want to see this new building through and make sure you get the pension you deserve. I have so much respect for Chris Cunnie, Jack Minkel, and Tom Sawyer that I have decided to run — at Chris' request — for one more term as Vice-President.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Thank you all for your support over the years.

The "Cunnie Team" is a Cut Above

By Inspector David W. Tussey
Background Investigations

The recent contract negotiations and subsequent ratification of an excellent labor contract demonstrates the superb work done by our present Board of Directors. I've been a member of the POA for 20 years and I've seen boards come and go. I must say that, in my opinion, they've improved with each group. But this group is palpably different from the rest for a few very important reasons.

Chris Cunnie's honest leadership has been exemplary. The work of the other members of the board has been tireless. And the atmosphere of cooperation between the Board, the Police Department Administration and City Hall has been unprecedented.

My hope is that this atmosphere be duly appreciated and not taken for granted. It would be a pity to have it dissipate through apathy or a sense of entitlement. If we lose it we may never capture it again. I hope that the younger members of the Department adopt this same attitude of fair play

and dedication whether it be as members of the Board of Directors of the POA or as future members of the Department Administration. The role models that we have presently in Chief Fred Lau and his command staff and Chris Cunnie and his Board of Directors don't come along very often. It would behoove us all to abide by their example and carry on in their manner.

Those of us who have been here awhile have known the nightmare of rigid attitudes and an air of intolerance in times past. The relationships that ensued were often unpleasant and at times hostile. The folks I just mentioned worked hard to overcome those things through humility, cooperation and a sense of caring for all involved. For this they should be commended.

We can all show our gratitude by continuing our tradition of diligence, integrity and compassion that has made the San Francisco Police Department and the San Francisco Police Officers' Association the best organizations of their kind in the entire world.

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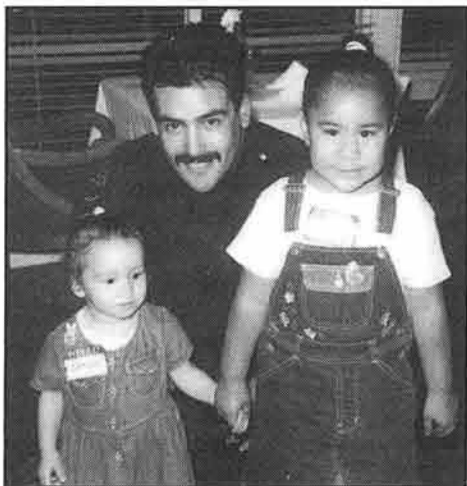
SFPOA Sponsors Thanksgiving Meal

By Jennifer Forrester

On Wednesday November 21, 2001, the SFPOA sponsored a very special Thanksgiving meal for 15 families that were selected by district stations throughout the city. These families were treated to a special dinner prepared by the Cathedral Hill Hotel staff. As an added treat, Officers Mark Alvarez and John Torrise (Central Station), Steve Blair and Craig Canton (Bayview Station), and Daniel Laval and Clayton Goodwin (Northern Station) assisted in making these families' evening a very joyous occasion.

Initially, some of our guests were very surprised about this dinner. But at the end of the evening, they were all very impressed with what the SFPOA and the officers had done. Needless to say, by the end of the evening there were a lot of very happy faces and full stomachs!

Thanks to the Cathedral Hill Hotel staff who had done such an excellent



Officer Craig Canton poses with two special friends.

job in serving our special guests: Miriam, Juan. Carlos, and Fausto.

Special thanks to Chris Cunnie, Mark, John, Steve, Craig, Daniel and Clayton. All of you helped to make this a very enjoyable and memorable evening! You really do make a difference!



San Francisco
Fellowship of
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Peace Officers

Celebrate the Birth of Immanuel

By Daniel Hampton

The celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ is upon us this December. It's the most significant fact in the history of mankind. God would send His Son to be born in the flesh at Bethlehem. Think about it. God would condescend by leaving Heaven, be born as a babe, experience all of humanity just like us (without ever sinning), and show the world how to live a life of service to God and mankind. This child, Jesus Christ, was also destined to pay the penalty for all our sins by the shedding of His blood and by His death on the cross. He is, "The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world," as John the Baptist testifies In the Gospel of John.

The Old Testament Scriptures describe this miraculous event in world history in the Book of Isaiah. It foretells the birth of God's Son and honors Him with the names Immanuel (means "God with us," in Hebrew), Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, and Prince of Peace. Did we read the names of Jesus Christ, the Messiah?

Don't we realize that if we want to intimately know who Almighty God is we have to study the life and the words of Jesus Christ, in the New Testament? As Jesus Christ said, "I and the Father are one." This same Jesus Christ proves He is equal to God the Father by rising from the grave. He has the authority to break the power of sin over us who believe in Him and promises us the gift of eternal life. Yes, this

is true. When we die we immediately go to Heaven to be with our Lord Jesus Christ, and at the final Judgment Day we are promised our bodies in the grave will be resurrected like Jesus' body and we will remain with Him forever. Now, this is the gift we want. Let's ask Jesus Christ to come into our hearts to be our Lord, Savior, and King.

My son, Stephen, played varsity football at Mills High School this fall season. They played in the Ocean Division and were 7/0. It's the first time in Mill's history that the varsity team was uncontested divisional champions. It's a milestone for the varsity team and a dream come true. I watched all their games. It was a thrill. Stephen was awarded "most valuable defense" and was chosen by all the Ocean Division coaches as "first team, all-league (defensive back)." He played offense and defense and caught several touchdowns and interceptions. He's a senior and enjoyed the football season. Yvonne, my wife, and I enjoyed the thrills with the rest of the parents that attended.

My daughter, Laura, and Yvonne are busy with the plans of marriage in the spring. Laura has made her mom, matron of honor. She says Yvonne is her best friend and that's the reason she chose her. I think I'm a very blessed man to have the children God has given me. I'm looking forward to her marriage. My son-in-law to be, Gino, is already a close friend to both Yvonne and me. I'll have to keep the checkbook in the ready position as the wedding plans unfold. But I have no worry at all because I saved for this event ever since Laura was an infant. Gino's parents are also chipping in for the wedding with a substantial sum of money. They are very close friends to us also.

I'm wishing you all a blessed Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I pray that the Lord bless each and every one of you and your families.

A Phone Call Away

By Steve Johnson

When I put my star away for the last time, it was one of the hardest things I have ever had to do. You do not have to figure out what days off you will have next week since every day is the same. Your car does not have a computer telling you where to go, and your time is your own. You do not have to make decisions for other people, and you will no longer be questioned about the ones you have made. It is called retirement, and it is a major life change.

Anything I can do to take some of the pressure off Chris is always a welcome challenge. He is in constant demand.

But, I was given a reprieve, of sorts. Chris Cunnie, the President of the SFPOA, allowed me the privilege of working with his team, serving as a representative for members in every investigative forum (e.g. OCC, MCD, DABOR, Chief's Hearings, and Commission Hearings). Things I used to do but for which I always felt guilty since I would have to leave my compatriots at Mission Station to attend the many

interviews. It is busier at Chris' office now, more than ever, because of the increased scrutiny of officers' actions, a constant demand for investigative hearing requests and, if they are ever granted, the required preparation. Anything I can do to take some of the pressure off Chris is always a welcome challenge. He is in constant demand.

The Association has a major charter amendment coming up next November 2002. Chris' team will be back in negotiations for another contract with the Mayor's representatives shortly, and your new POA building will be breaking ground right around the corner. These major projects are in addition to the hundreds of administrative requests that come before Chris in just one week. Yet, Chris and his team — Vice-President Gary Delagnes, Treasurer Jack Minkel, and Secretary Tom Sawyer — handle each one of the issues before them in a personable yet professional manner.

Years ago, many of these issues would be fought over for months, and it would have cost us thousands of dollars in attorney fees. Now, all it takes is a telephone call, because Chris and his Executive Board have such an excellent relationship with Chief Lau's command staff and the Mayor's Office.

There are still some unresolved matters out there. When an officer is charged with unwarranted conduct for arresting a person who was identified as a robbery suspect by the victim - we have issues. And those issues are, right now, being addressed within the appropriate forum.

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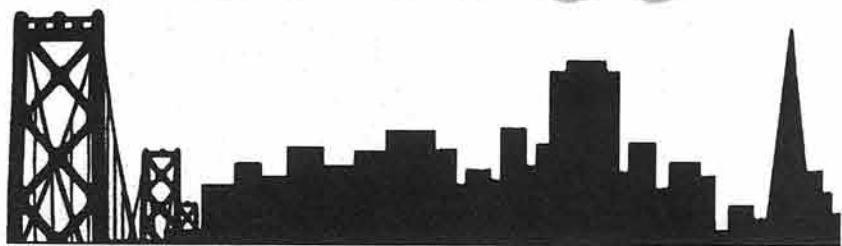
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By Michelle Jean,
Ingleside Station
Contributions by Tom Sawyer
POA Secretary

August 11th, 2001, Bayview Station. Off-duty Officer, Bryan Woo, and off-duty Parole Agent, Gloria Curio, heard shots fired in the area of Bowdoin St. Officer Woo called 911 and Communications dispatched the information to all Bayview units.

Within minutes, the following officers responded to the scene; **Raymond Koenig, Robert Byrne, James Lewis, Erick Solares, Timothy Buelow, and James Winters.** Officer Lewis was the first on the scene and was briefed by the off-duty officers. The three searched the neighborhood and found a witness who had seen the suspect standing on a rooftop firing a shotgun in the air. Officer Lewis broadcast the location of the gunman to alert responding units of the possible danger.

As Officers Buelow, Winters and Lewis approached the house, they observed a man leaving the home and asked him if he had any weapons. The man, now a suspect, said he did have a shotgun in the house and allowed the officers to seize it. During this time, Officers Byrne, Koenig, and Solares arrived on the scene to assist with the investigation.

After locating the shotgun in the house, they conducted a cold show, with the witness positively identifying the suspect as the one who had fired the shots. Officer Byrne and Koenig, obtained consent to search the suspects house as well as his car. What was located in the house? Well, let me tell ya. The shotgun, a rifle, ammunition, a large amount of marijuana, an electronic scale, and over six thousand dollars in cash. Thanks to all the above

officers for taking that extra step to make this great arrest!



August 12th, 2001 Tenderloin Station. In the early morning hours, Sgt. Ed Garcia was at Mason and O'Farrell streets, when he heard a women scream for help. The woman, who had been knocked to the ground, told Sgt. Garcia a man had stolen her purse. Sgt. Garcia saw the suspect running across the street being pursued by two citizens. Sgt., "Lone Ranger" Garcia ran across the street and quickly tackled the suspect to the ground. With assistance from the two citizens, the thief was soon in handcuffs.

Because of Sgt. Garcia's quick actions and the help of some good Samaritans, this suspect is behind bars, and the victim got her purse back!



August 23rd, 2001 Mission Station. Communications broadcast a call of shots fired in the area of 16th and South Van Ness Avenue. Officers **Mathew Tonsing and Jeffery Chang** arrived on the scene and located a victim and a witness. The victim explained that a man had pointed a gun at her, fired one round which missed her, then fled the scene in his vehicle. Officers **Shawn Fulgado and Giani Tozzini** sprang into action and located the suspects' vehicle. When they attempted to pull the vehicle over, the driver sped off and was momentarily lost in the area. **Sgt. Richard Pate** was monitoring the pursuit, and soon located the outstanding suspect as the driver tried to get onto the freeway at 11th and Bryant St. The driver lost

control of the speeding vehicle, crashed through some shrubbery, and came to a halt when the vehicle struck a building.

Several units responded to the area and the suspect was taken into custody. When Officers **Raymond Lee and Eric Tapang** searched the car, they located a 9mm magazine but not the gun. A search of the area was made and Officers (now Sgt.'s) **John Bragagnolo and Eugene Galeano** located the loaded 9mm handgun. A cold show was conducted, and the victim positively identified the suspect as the shooter.

One to go!



August 27th, 2001 Ingleside and Taraval. Through information gathered by Officer **Gregory Latus**, it was discovered that a parolee at large who lives in the Ingleside district was attempting to sell his vehicle using the auto trader magazine. This parolee had managed to elude several attempts to locate and arrest him. Officer Latus, using the telephone number listed in the magazine, had Officer **Melonee Alvarez** call the number and arrange for a meeting to see the car in hopes our parolee would be the person who would meet them.

The meeting place was arranged at the Stonestown shopping area. Officers **Gregory Latus, Dan Gibbs, Melonee Alvarez and Joseph Salazar** then made arrangements with other Ingleside and Taraval units, Officers **Moli Finau, Angel Poon, Arline Gilmore, Jason Jefferson, Michael Perego, Gregory Dare and Michael Lau**, to assist with the arrest that might result from the meeting.

Officer Latus and Alvarez, in plainclothes, waited at the meeting place for the wanted subject to appear. As luck would have it, when the car arrived, Officer Latus recognized the driver as the wanted parolee. Two other individuals were also in the vehicle. Using a pre-determined bust signal, all officers moved in to make the arrest. The suspect seeing the gig was up, attempted to flee on foot but was grabbed and placed under arrest. The other two suspects were detained and released.

Thanks to the investigative skills of Officer Latus, and the great teamwork employed by all officers involved, this wanted parolee is back behind bars!



August 27th, 2001 Richmond Station. Officer **Nick Bryant** was on patrol when he saw a suspicious person standing in the doorway of a restaurant. Officer Bryant made a quick U-turn to check out the situation and saw the subject had abruptly walked away from the doorway. Officer Bryant detained the suspect for further investigation, while officers **Julian Ng and Lori Lamma** responded to assist.

Upon investigation of the doorway, they discovered one window louver had been removed from the frame, and five others had been tampered with. Also found on the sidewalk was a screwdriver that had been discarded by the suspect. Officer Bryant's keen observation skills lead to the arrest of a suspect with an extensive arrest record for burglary. Excellent job!



August 31st, 2001 Richmond Station. An incident occurred involving a suspect making verbal threats and brandishing a gun at his mother and brother. Nice son! The mother, fearing for their safety, waited for her drugged out son to fall asleep, then called the police for help. The mother requested the police respond without sirens so as not to awaken her son who was still in his bedroom with the gun.

The arriving units, Officers **Jennifer Lee, Craig Kuwabara, Lori Brophy, Deborah Gizdich, Steve Matthias, Rafael Labutan, and Robert Wong** planned a strategy for the arrest of this dangerous suspect. Once the game plan was put into place, the officers proceeded into the flat and went to the suspect's bedroom, where they found the sleeping suspect. He was taken into custody before he knew what hit him! A cocked and loaded gun was found next to the suspect's bed. A second gun was also found inside of the suspect's closet, along with a large amount of cocaine and marijuana.

The teamwork of the above officers resulted in this violent suspect being taken into custody without incident.



September 3rd, 2001 Southern Station. Officers **James Custer, Allan Honniball, and John Havercamp** responded to a call of a violent man who had just attacked another man for no apparent reason. At the scene, they found the victim who had been punched, knocked to the ground, and had his head smashed on the pavement.

After calling for an ambulance, they began to search the area and found the suspect across the street in a storage rental area. The suspect attempted to flee, but Officer Havercamp caught up to him and tried to restrain him. The suspect immediately began to struggle, striking Officer Havercamp several times in the chest with his elbow. At this point, Officers **Custer and Honniball** caught up and saw the suspect kick Officer Havercamp. The three officers were able to tackle him to the ground, but the suspect continued to violently resist arrest. The officers had no choice but to use their batons and their body weight to limit the combative suspect's mobility. It was not until officers **Kevin Jow, Kenneth Lui, Sgt., James Millett, and Sgt. Peter Dacre** arrived on the scene when they were finally able to place the suspect into handcuffs.

The suspect was transported to Southern Station, but started to exhibit signs of a possible seizure or excited delirium. The suspect was quickly transported to SFGH.

At the hospital the suspect was still combative and tried to bite off the IV tubes that were in his arm. The medical team sedated him, but they were still not able to properly examine the individual for another five hours because of his violent behavior.

The officer's swift response to this call ensured that this violent and crazed individual harmed no one else.



My apologies to Officer **Maricela Sainez, Co. H**, who was indentified incorrectly in last month's article. Sorry! I also want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas. See you next month — and next year!

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SECRETARY'S REPORT

By Tom Shawyer, POA Secretary
POA Board of Directors' Meeting
POA Building, November 28, 2001
1300: Meeting Convened
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call and Attendance

Unit	Present	Excused	Absent
President	Chris Cunnie		
Vice Pres.		Gary Delagnes	
Treasurer		Jack Minkel	
Secretary	Tom Shawyer		
Editor	Ray Shine		
Co. A	Judith Riggle		
Co. B	Kevin Martin	George Rosko	
Co. C		Ed Santos	
Co. D	Tony Montoya John Zachos	Greg Lynch Joe Buono	
Co. E		Steve Murphy	
Co. F		Dave Householder	
Co. G	Dean Sorgie	Pierre Martinez	
Co. H	Mike Dempsey	Mike Siebert	
Co. I	Jennifer Marino		
Co. J	Val Kirwan		
Co. K	John Scully Joe Finigan		
Tac	Jesus Pena		
Narcotics	Theresa San Giacomo		
Invest.	Doug Foss		
HQ	Ben McAlister		
SFO	Mike Favetti		
Retired	Mark Madsen		
	Brian Olcomendy		
	Lynne Atkinson		
	Jim Balovich		
	Dan Leydon		
	Dennis Callaghan		
	Neville Gittens		
	Bob Belt		
	Mike Chandra		
	Gale Wright		

Motions From The 11/28/01 SFPOA Board Of Directors Meting

Motion: That the Q-80 Captain Job Announcement be approved by the SFPOA Board of Directors.

Move: N. Gittens (ADMIN)

2nd: D. Sorgie (Co. G)

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Motion: That the SFPOA support the March 2002 ballot measure to clean up surplus language concerning the 3% COLA for retired City employees that appeared in the voter-approved Proposition C.

Move: B. Olcomendy (Narc)

2nd: K. Martin (Co. B)

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Motion: That the SFPOA endorse Gina Papan in her State Assembly race.

Move: B. McAlister (Co. K)

Second: J. Zachos (Co. D)

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

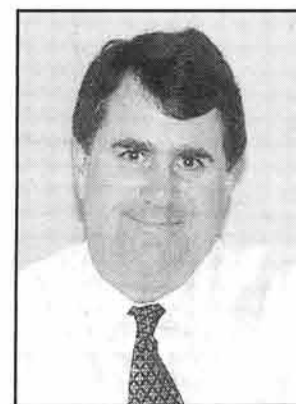
Motion: That the POA earmark \$5,000 to purchase Christmas gifts for the children of law enforcement officers orphaned by the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Move: M. Dempsey (Co. G)

Second: D. Foss (Co. K)

Motion unanimously passed by voice vote.

A MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY



Another year is quite rapidly drawing to a close. This year saw the creation and ratification of an outstanding two-year Memorandum of Understanding. We were well served by the members of the Negotiating Committee, who labored long and hard to put together this excellent contract.

The year 2002 will bring its own challenges and victories in this organization's attempts to maintain and enhance our wages, benefits and working conditions. For the time being though, best wishes for the holidays, and hope to see you at the Board of Directors' meetings.

SFPD hiring continues to lag

POA Joins SFPD in Recruitment Drive

The San Francisco Police Department is in the midst of a major recruitment effort. The events of September 11, 2001 have placed extraordinary demands on the men and women in law enforcement. Heightened states of alert, chemical scares, and other terrorist-related activity have stretched the Thin Blue Line to a critical point.

Now, more than ever, we need qualified and dedicated men and women

to work alongside us to keep this city secure and safe. These are exceptional times, and exceptional people are needed to combat the fear and assure the people of this city

Come work with us. Join our team, and become a member of the most professional law enforcement agency in the state. Phone SFPD Recruitment and start your career with San Francisco's Finest.

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Plastic or Paper?

Why Your Checkbook is Not Your Friend

By Tom Feledy,
Fraud Detail

President Bush has told Americans to keep the economy alive, and around this time of year that means shopping! But what is the best way to pay for all that valuable merchandise you're buying?

This article is not about using or abusing credit. It's about how you choose to pay for things when you go out to shop, and the fraud risks associated with your three choices: paper (checks), plastic (bank cards), and of course, cash.

Cash is the easiest for small purchases, while cards and checks are used for larger purchases. Since most banks don't charge interest as long as you pay your credit card bill each month, the cost of using checks or cards is about the same. Actually, checks cost more, because you have to pay for them, while cards are sent to you for free.

Those of us who grew up in the 60's and 70's remember when bank cards were a new thing. There was a time when very few people had them, or checking accounts, either. Now everyone has checks and cards. Before credit cards became popular, you paid for things by saving your money and paying with cash or a cashier's check — ahhh, the good old days!

Today, almost everyone has bank cards of one type or another, and at least one checkbook. And the odds are, that sooner or later, one of your checkbooks or cards will get stolen. Or, you'll lose them, and they'll still end up in the hands of a thief.

Before we look at the risks of each, let's compare how checks and bank cards work.

Checks were the first popular non-cash method for payment. With the exception of the MICR (funny numbers on the bottom of your check) checks are still processed today the way they were in the fifties — before computer and phone networks were available to instantly determine the status of your funds. It takes several days for your check to go from the merchant to your bank, and for the money to flow backward from your bank account to the merchant. This "float" and the paper handling associated with it, create a lot of loopholes that crooks have learned to exploit over the decades, causing many problems for merchants and consumers alike. There's nothing to prevent a crook from writing a check, and then taking all the money from the account before the end of that day — perhaps by passing more "rubber" checks.

Consider that when you pay for something with a check, your name,

address, telephone number, and DMV license number are all on the check. So, anyone that has access to your check at the store or the bank can copy this information down, and steal your identity — and use these to create

Once you report the card stolen, the bank becomes the victim, since the card is actually their property. The bank will pay the merchants for all the purchases made by the crook

counterfeit checks with your account number and fake ID with the right info — yours!

Bank cards, on the other hand, cannot be used with a guarantee of payment unless the merchant first connects to the card network and gets an authorization. The process takes only seconds, and the authorization "locks up" those funds, by reducing your available credit. There's no way a crook can go beyond their available credit like with checks, above.

Contrary to checks, when you pay for something with a bank card, the only information on the paperwork is your name and bank card number. Because your address, telephone number and DMV number are not on each credit slip, identity thieves have much less opportunity than with your checks.

Now, let's compare what happens when bank cards and checks are stolen.

Stolen Bank Card. As soon as you call the 800# to report your card stolen, it is dead. No merchant can accept payments on it, and this status information is available world-wide.

Once you report the card stolen, the bank becomes the victim, since the card is actually their property. The bank will pay the merchants for all the purchases made by the crook which were authorized by their card network in error. Neither the merchants nor the banks will ever hassle you about the purchases crooks made on your card. The bank may ask you to fill out an "affidavit of forgery" and return it, but that's it.

Stolen Checkbook. Reporting your checks stolen is a different matter.

There is no single 800# to call. You have to call your bank, usually open only during business hours. To get your bank to take the loss, you fill out an "affidavit of forgery" form for any checks used fraudulently and return the form to your bank. And that's where your information stops.

Banks do not talk to each other about fraud losses. Only your bank knows your checks are stolen. Banks other than your own are not told unless they receive one of your stolen checks and ask your bank pay for it. Merchants aren't told until they try to present your stolen check for payment at their bank. Some merchants may contact you, asking for payment, assuming that you're the one who passed the check. Merchants may even turn your checks over to a collection agency to go after you.

Many smaller merchants do not have a check verification service, whereas even the smallest mom-and-pop store has a bank card terminal. Thus, merchants will continue to accept your checks, because they have no way of knowing your checks are stolen, until days after they "bounce".

Larger merchants who can afford it will use a check verification service like Telecheck. There are presently 7 such services. They are in competition, so they don't share information with each other, and your bank doesn't share information with them. So the only way any Telecheck finds out your checks are stolen is by approving one, and then being forced to take the loss when your bank returns it.

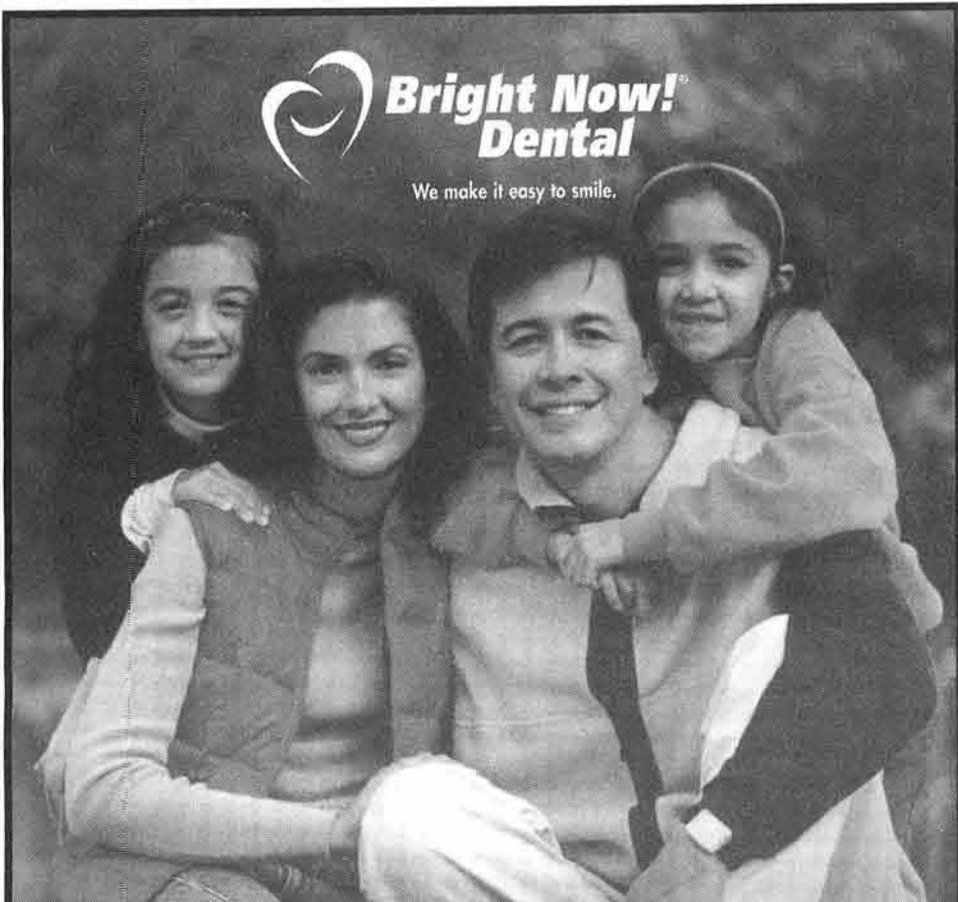
By the way, if your stolen driver's license was used in passing your stolen check, your DMV # may also be listed by the check verification service. You may never be able to have a check accepted by stores that use that service again — unless you get a new DMV #. At present, DMV is reluctant to issue new #'s to victims, but I'm told they're improving.

Recommendation. Choose "plastic" over "paper". Leave your checkbook at home. Use checks only to pay your bills. Mail checks in blue US Postal mailboxes or at the Post Office. Do not leave checks to be mailed in your house or apartment mail box. When ordering new checks, do not have your telephone #, your driver's license #, or your Social Security # printed on your checks. Do not have new checks mailed to your home, unless the check box will fit completely inside your locked mail box. It's much safer to have your new checks mailed to your bank or your work, and pick them up there. When you leave home, carry only your bank cards. Don't leave your purse under your desk at work, on the chair at the restaurant, or in the parked car. Better yet, don't carry a purse at all. Make a list of the 800 #'s to call if your bank cards are lost or stolen. Keep this list in a safe place at home and at work. Be smart and safe for the holidays!

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Kudos for Capt. Mike Yalon

It Is Time to Say Goodbye

By Regina Blosser

The following tribute to Captain Mike Yalon is reprinted from the November, 2001 issue of the Ocean View*Merced*Ingleside Neighbors In Action newsletter. The OMI community has long been a supporter of the SFPD, and this article bidding farewell to Mike Yalon is typical of the support and confidence officers in the area enjoy from this group of concerned residents and merchants. Commander Greg Suhr submitted this item for reprint in the Journal. — Editor

As many of you may have heard by now, Captain Mike Yalon has been transferred to Traffic Division, effective December 1, 2001. We all knew this day would come but it has come much too soon for us. One of the hardest things we are now faced with is how to thank him for all that he has done for the OMI in his over 5-years as Captain of Taraval Police Station. As he has always given us his best, here is our best effort to acknowledge Captain Yalon's service to the OMI.

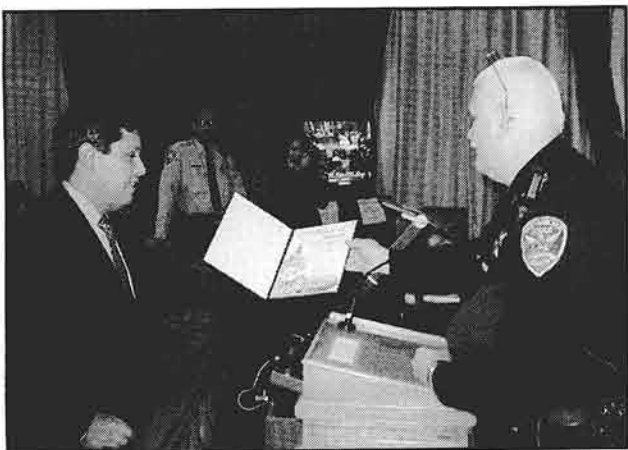
Al Harris, OMI NIA member and NSP Safety Outreach Worker, put it quite well when he said Captain Yalon is the "epitome of community policing." Al also pointed out that he is "loved by all," and is a man of grit willing to take his turn at the dunk tank even in freezing cold weather. Many other OMI members, like Mary Harris and Barbara Monie, added the numerous events Captain Yalon has attended and participated in, such as our Family Day Picnics and Christmas Parties, and riding a bicycle in the Ocean View Library Parade. And then there are the OMI Action Days, practically invented by Captain Yalon. He was able to take many of our clean-up efforts and turn them into an annual event that saw the clearing of brush from Brotherhood Way, and cleaning of Capitol Avenue by Ocean View Park in its worst hot spots.

Hmmm, let's see — Captain Yalon also conducted annual Pedestrian Safety campaigns going to various Taraval District schools and educating our youth. He jumped in and supported Sergeant Mike Williams' proposal to implement a neighborhood policing

team — TNT — which has been an undeniable success at fighting crime in the OMI. He took the

Weed and Seed grant and didn't just pass out the funds — he expected results and follow up. Because of his exceptional leadership, the Weed and Seed grant was extended for another 18 months in the OMI.

Are we done? No, not yet. He has been a regular at our Public Safety Meetings to work directly with OMI residents in solving not only crime but quality of life issues in our neighbor-



District 11 Supervisor Gerardo Sandoval presents Captain Yalon with a Board Commendation for his service to the OMI Community

hood. He has also been a regular at our General Meetings, always keeping OMI residents updated on the goings on in the area. And, we most certainly have Captain Yalon to thank for seeing that the OMI got a Community Service Center that will not only provide for 24-hour police presence on a corner that sorely needs it but will also bring City services to the OMI, a neighborhood that often seems forgotten when it comes to these services.

Now, are we done? Well, we are sure we have missed something but we must stop somewhere. Minnie Ward probably sums up best what Captain Yalon has been to the OMI. She calls him a "Community's Dream;" a Captain who gets things done; a Captain who is always in the middle of everything.

So, we reluctantly say goodbye to you, Captain Yalon. Though we will greatly miss you as Captain of Taraval Station, we look forward to your continued presence in the OMI (we intend on holding you to your promise of motorcycle traffic patrols in the area!). And, we give you our best wishes for success and fulfillment in your future endeavors.

"Powder to the People"

Staff Report

It isn't every day that a San Francisco Police Officer comes out with a CD, but it appears that Officer Andrew "Powder" Cohen completes one about every year.

"Powder to the People" is yet another musical journey through the strange but diligent mind of this tenacious Officer. Cohen brings you a more somber collection of songs on this CD, mostly pertaining to the law enforcement community and perhaps even more narrowly focused to the San Francisco Police Department. If you ever wondered where the music comes from for the "Chief's Message" or the "Hearts of the City" series, it is from Officer Cohen and most of the soundtrack compositions can be found on his CDs.

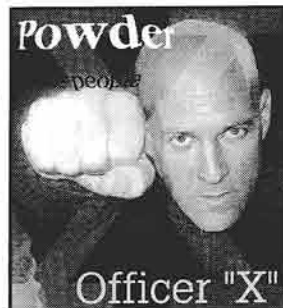
On this compilation, Powder invites his two daughters to sing a little jingle about the Police (*Mr. Policeman*) and in return he sings a ballad expressing his love for them (*Daddy's Here*). If you were looking to find the song pro-

duced for the 25th anniversary of woman in law enforcement: (*Butterfly*) sung by Officer Brenda Walker (background vocals by numerous SFPD female vocalists), this too can be found on this newest CD release. *Officer X*, the title track, will be the song that leaves you humming for the rest of the day. *Officer X* expresses the often, prejudiced view of society towards the Police; *the blanket color of blue and not the individual heroes who keep the streets and neighborhoods safe.*

Officer Cohen is selling this CD as well as his other previous CDs, "Knowledge is Powder" and "A Different Perspective" for \$10.00 ea. The proceeds from these sales go to the "Sgt. Kenny Sugrue Tenderloin Fund".

If you are interested in purchasing these CDs, please call Officer Cohen or visit him at the POA building at 510-7th St. (415)431-6541

WANTED: Law Enforcement Personnel who are interested in singing, writing or rapping on the next CD. Please contact Officer Andrew Cohen at the POA — (415) 431-6541.



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IAWP NEWS

By Robin Matthews, FTO Office

Pre-register For The IAWP/SF 2003 Training Conference!

Conference pre-registration for the 41st Annual Training Conference of the International Association of Women Police is now available. The conference will be held at the Hyatt Embarcadero in San Francisco August 31st through September 5th, 2003

Conference fees are presently at \$350.00 for IAWP members, and \$400.00 for non-members. Rates will increase \$50.00 every six months beginning January 31st, 2002 for both members and non-members. So, now is the time to take advantage of the low rate AND get that last minute tax write-off at the same time!

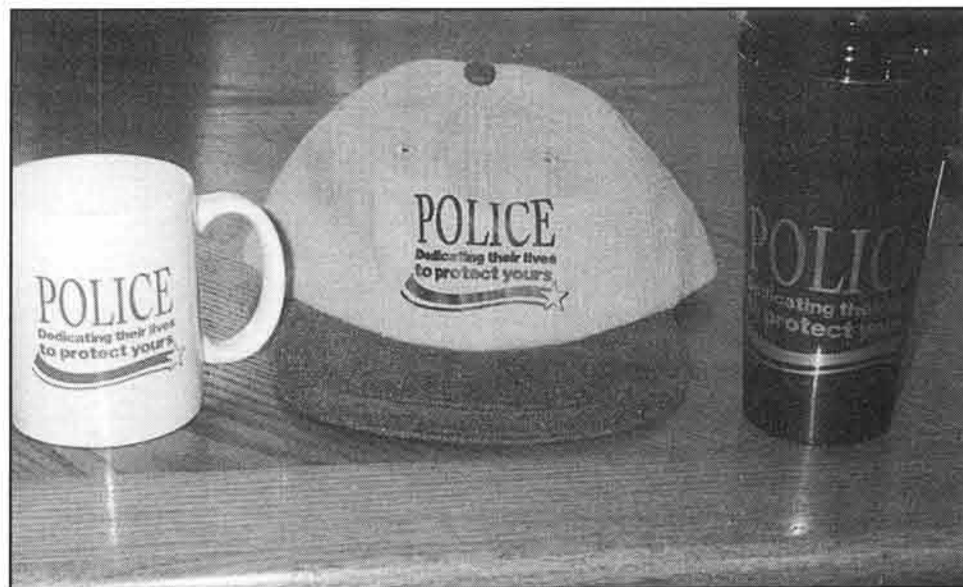
Registration fees include all learning sessions, daily continental breakfast, International Scholarship Breakfast, Keynote Luncheon, Buffet Lunch, Awards Luncheon, Final Banquet, and evening social activities.

Delegates are encouraged to bring their spouses, significant others, children, or other companions to the conference. A program of activities and classes is being developed so that

guests have an opportunity to explore San Francisco and attend classes that are relevant for them, as well as to participate in the conference social events and meals. Companion registration fees are \$250.00, and fees for children under 18 are \$150.00.

Registrations can be paid by check, Master Card or VISA, and should be sent to IAWP/SF 2003 Conference, P.O. Box 5037, Baypoint, CA 94565. Conference registration forms can be obtained off of the IAWP website at www.iawp.org, then click onto the link to Conferences, and then go to the San Francisco 2003 Conference site. (For those who do not have access to the Internet, let me know and I will make sure that a registration form gets sent to you).

For those not yet members of the IAWP, now is a good time to join so that you can take advantage of the lower conference rates. (Membership fees are also tax deductible!). Register now and support this outstanding conference!



Glass Coffee Cups \$5.00, Baseball caps \$5.00, Travel Coffee Cups \$3.00
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Make checks out to: IAWP/San Francisco 2003 Conference
Send to Robin Matthews/FTO Office

The NYPD Policewomen's Endowment Association has a memorial fund going for Officer Moira Smith who died in the WTC disaster. We are accepting donations in her honor, and will be giving the money directly to her husband, who in turn will be setting up a scholarship fund for women seeking careers in law enforcement.

We will be honoring her as Woman of the Year on February 27, 2002, so there is plenty of time. If anyone wishes to make donations, they can make them to:

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SFPD Women Attend Health Issues Luncheon

By Forrest Fulton Ph.D. Director of Police Psychology,
San Francisco Police Department

On Friday, October 19, 2001 women of the San Francisco Police Department gathered at the Delancey Street Restaurant at 600 Embarcadero for a training luncheon sponsored by Walgreen's Pharmacies to help promote health awareness.

The SFPD Women, both sworn and civilian, from all over the Department gathered at the Hall of Justice and then boarded two SFPD busses to the Delancey Street Restaurant. The bus drivers were officer's Leon Sorhondo (Co. A) and John Mulkern (Co. H). Both officers were performing their Special Operations Division's routine bus transportation training by transporting the SFPD women to the front door of the restaurant.

Our members gathered on the wrap around balcony with the beautiful

The emcees were the Behavioral Science Unit's, Sergeant Mary Dunnigan and Intern Jody Greenhalgh. They introduced the first speakers — Lieutenant Al Casciato, our City and County Retirement Board Employee Representative, and Clare Murphy the Director of the Retirement Board. Al and Clare updated the audience on the latest changes in the San Francisco City and County's Retirement System. Many of



Robin evaluated the women's training to use it as a prototype. I hope that we will see our training at the 2003 International Association of Women Police's Conference in San Francisco. Both Lynette and Robin are looking for interesting training for the conference. I know this training will become a model for other police agencies in the world.



view of the embarcadero and San Francisco Bay. Approximately eighty SFPD women and men whetted their appetites on platters of assorted cheeses, fresh fruit, and crackers, then dined at a table of Herbed Roasted Chicken on skewers, vegetarian pasta, and salad. Finally fresh baked cookies and giant strawberries dipped in chocolate were served for dessert.

Chief of Police, Fred H. Lau, and Assistant Chief of Police, Prentice Sanders, attended the lunch to provide their support and guidance. Chief Lau helped coordinate both the restaurant and the training. Assistant Chief Sanders helped with words of encouragement to the police department members.

the women requested clarification on the differences between sworn and civilian retirement plans.

Doctor Joan Steidinger presented a wonderful address on the, "Superwoman Syndrome". Doctor Steidinger is a member of the San Francisco Police Department's Preferred Providers Group (Psych Pros), and she has been volunteering her services for over 20 years to the department. She has presented at the SFPD Academy's Advanced Officer Classes (AO's), and to recruit officer classes. Her expertise is in stress management, women's performance enhancement, and chemical dependency counseling. Doctor Joan's lecture about "women who do too much" really rang true for many

people at the training. The Superwoman Syndrome topic was accepted by all of our SFPD Superwomen that attended.

The women's training was a complete cross section of the entire San Francisco police department. There were about 60% sworn police officers, and 40% civilian department employees.

Deputy Chief Melinda Pengel insured that the Investigations Bureau was well represented. The Pengel clan was also well accounted for with, Maura, Miriam, and Molly Pengel at the table.

In attendance were representatives of the International Association of Women Police, 2003 San Francisco Conference Committee, Sergeant Lynette Hogue (FOB) and Robin Mathews (FTO). Both Lynette and



Representatives of the Women's Officers Network (WON), Sergeant Leanna Dawdyak and Inspector Sally Dehaven, also provided their support.

Finally, the people from the Delancey Street Foundation also had a great time. Several of the servers stated that it was nice to see the police come and not take anybody away with them. So, this training also helped the community experience a lighter side of police officers. We plan to continue to present this type of training for the women in our department.

According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, while both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year, male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid-December.

Female reindeer retain their antlers till after they give birth in the spring. Therefore, according to every historical rendition depicting Santa's reindeer, every single one of them, from Rudolph to Blitzen, had to be a girl.

We should've known. Only women would be able to drag a fat-ass man in a red velvet suit all around the world in one night and not get lost.

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Submitted by Rene LaPrevotte
Traffic Co., S.T.O.P.



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SFPD References: Officer Richard Aceret
& Officer Brian Barron

Traffic Law Update

Briefed by Mike Paganini,
Airport Bureau

People V. Paul Mortimer White
Fourth Appellate District
CCourt #E029989FFiled:
November 15, 20011

Question:

Does a license plate that is partially obscured by a trailer hitch ball violate Vehicle Code section 5201, which in pertinent part requires that license plates be mounted so as to be "clearly visible?"

Answer:

Yes

Background:

On October 12, 2000, a San Bernardino County deputy sheriff stopped defendant's pickup truck after noticing that a trailer hitch or tow ball on the truck's rear bumper blocked the deputy's view of the middle numeral of the rear license plate. The deputy testified that he believed the tow ball's

position violated Vehicle Code section 5201, which requires that license plates be clearly visible. On cross-examination, defendant had the deputy identify two photographs that depicted the rear view of defendant's truck. In one photo, taken from directly behind the vehicle, the trailer hitch ball obscures the lower half of the middle numeral on the rear license plate.

Discussion:

The traffic law at issue in this case is Vehicle Code section 5201, which provides in pertinent part, that "license plates shall at all times be... mounted in a position to be clearly visible, and shall be maintained in a condition so as to be clearly legible." The statute imposes two obligations — that the plate be clearly visible when mounted on the vehicle and that it be clearly legible. The words "clearly visible" are unambiguous. "Visible" means "capable of being seen, perceptible to vision, "exposed to view, conspicuous." The term "clearly" means "free from obscurity... unhampered by restriction or limitation, unmistakable." In using the phrase "clearly visible" in Vehicle Code section 5201, it is apparent that the legislature meant a license plate must not be obstructed in any manner and must be entirely readable. A license plate mounted in a place that results in it being partially obstructed from view by a trailer hitch ball violates Vehicle Code section 5201 (infraction) and, thus, provides a law enforcement officer with a lawful basis upon which to detain the vehicle and its driver.

Officer James Guelff

A Local Hero

By Marty Lalor
Northern Station

I would like to commend the P.O.A. and members of the N.Y.P.D. Survivors Trust Committee for their work in raising \$250,000 for the police officers families killed in the line of duty on 9/11/2001 in the terrorist attack.

I would also like to remind our membership that on November 14, 1994 a local tragedy occurred at 1830 hours in San Francisco. During this event, a local hero stood by himself in a gun battle with a crazed gunman, defending the citizens of San Francisco from harm.

During that struggle, Officer James Guelff lost his life. Jim left behind two beautiful children, Laura (then 8 years old) and Landon (then 6 years old).

While the New York disaster had international significance, and national security was destroyed, Jim's death had a significant impact on his children's lives and destroyed their childhood security.

The S.F.P.D. Specialists have been quietly conducting fundraisers for the last couple of years to raise "fun

money" or "spending cash" for Jim's kids. During the year, I collect a \$20.00 donation from each team member around Christmas time. Sean O'Leary (Co.G) coordinates a sponsorship for the specialist's "Bay to Breakers" run in May. Recently, Glenn Mar (Co. I) has been selling Specialist T-shirts to raise money for the kids.

We like to give the cash around Christmas time, and when summer is approaching so the kids can have some play cash to spend on themselves or their families.

While I think the New York disaster requires the kind of effort and response brought forth by our members, I request that you look locally and remember our heroes. Please donate to any Specialist Team member what ever you can afford, or buy a shirt from Glenn Mar. If cash is tight, please send a card or letter to me reminding Laura and Landon that their dad is a local hero, and let them know his courage will always be remembered in our hearts.

It's easy to give immediately, it requires thought to remember the past. On behalf of the entire Specialist Team and the Guelff kids, I thank you.

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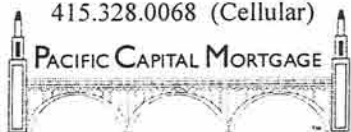
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POST 456

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Waterloo's five Sullivan brothers on Iowa's commemorative U.S. quarter. James W. Miller of Plainfield and Lois Roose of Allison have amassed that many signatures since beginning the project in January.

Brothers George, Francis, Joseph, Madison and Albert Sullivan, who grew up on Adams Street in Waterloo, died after their ship, the fight cruiser Juneau, was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine and sunk near Guadalcanal on 13 November 1942. All but 13 of the crew of 700 perished, including all five Sullivans. The death of the five brothers is considered to be the greatest combat-related loss of life by one family at one time in American history, although several families lost as many members over the course of the Civil War, in the North and the South.

The pilot of the American Airlines jet that terrorists crashed into the Pentagon was to receive a burial at Arlington National Cemetery. The burial initially was denied, even though the Navy veteran apparently died while battling hijackers for control of the plane. On 5 December national security spokesman Sean McCormack announced that Charles Frank Burlingame III was to be buried at Arlington.

Burlingame flew Navy jets for eight years and later served in the Naval Reserve, from which he retired as a captain. But the Army and the cemetery had initially decided that Burlingame, 51, wasn't eligible for

burial there because retired reservists must turn 60 before admission.

This is the last of fifteen years of pleas that you attend a Post 456 meeting. Meetings are at 1800 hours on the second Tuesday of every month. They take place at the POA Building, 510 Seventh Street. Refreshments are served at the conclusion of business. Make my last plea worthwhile and attend the January meeting. You won't regret it!

A local United Way office realized that it had never received a donation from the town's most successful lawyer. The person in charge of contributions called him to persuade him to contribute.

"Our research shows that out of a yearly income of at least \$500,000, you give not a penny to charity. Wouldn't you like to give back to the community in some way?"

The lawyer mulled this over for a moment and replied, "First, did your research also show that my mother is dying after a long illness, and has medical bills that are several times her annual income?" Embarrassed, the United Way rep mumbled, "Um ... no."

"...or that my brother, a disabled veteran, is blind and confined to a wheelchair?"

The stricken United Way rep began to stammer out an apology but was interrupted,

"... or that my sister's husband died in a traffic accident," the lawyer's voice rising in indignation, "leaving her penniless with three children?"

The humbled United Way rep, completely beaten, said simply, "I had no idea..."

On a roll, the lawyer cut him off once again: "...so if I didn't give any money to them, why should I give any to you?!"

Semper Fi, Jack. Semper Fi, Dale.

So long, Greg. We'll miss your regular contributions to the Journal. Thanks for all your good work over the years, and thanks for all the good lawyer jokes as well.

—R.S., Editor

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JOURNAL

— Of The —
**SAN FRANCISCO
POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION**

POA Benevolence Stretches 3,000 Miles

By Marty Halloran
Narcotics Division

On that fateful morning of Tuesday September 11th 2001 when this great country was viciously attacked I acted and felt like most officers. I watched the news reports, on TV, in stunned disbelief before I began to feel rage and anger towards those who could have done such a horrific act. Not knowing if these attacks would occur on the West Coast I responded to my assignment in anticipation of being mobilized. Like most officers I immediately wanted to do something to help. We are all trained to assess a situation and to react to them in order to protect life and property but this event was something that nobody could have foreseen or could have prepared to deal with.

When I arrived at the Narcotics Division it was clear that other officers from the division were thinking along the same lines. Once again I watched the news footage on TV except now there was an eerie silence in the office among all the narcotic officers who were dressed in their BDU's waiting to be deployed. The initial reports were unthinkable (20,000 dead or injured, 500 firefighters and 200 police officers missing). The comfort of not having terrorist attacks occurring on our home soil was now over and there were enormous challenges facing all Americans.

The leadership of the POA recognized some of these challenges and was reacting within hours. President Chris Cunnie attempted to contact the leadership of the New York City Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (PBA) but since their hall was located within blocks of the World Trade Center all power and telephone lines had been knocked out. Chris remained in contact with Vice President Gary Delagnes and they decided to set up a mobile blood bank at the POA. Since the telephone lines to Irwin Memorial Blood Bank were jammed, Gary and I responded to their office on Masonic Ave. Both Gary and I were surprised at what we saw. Hundreds of people in line waiting to donate blood. As in the Loma Prieta earthquake of 1989 San Franciscan's once again demonstrated that they do come through in a crisis. The management at the blood bank expressed their thanks but requested

that we delay our drive until they could better assist us.

Chris did not stop there. Realizing that this day would mark the single largest loss of life among law enforcement officers, on September 12th Chris established the NYPD Survivor Trust Fund at the San Francisco Police Credit Union. Chris still did not have an accurate count of how many offic-

ers were lost and from which agencies but he was sure that funds would be needed by the grieving widows and orphans left behind. POA bulletins were sent out and the word soon began to spread about this fund. Within days the credit union and the POA were flooded with calls from officers, citizens, and local business' from throughout the bay area offering both financial and moral support.

In my years with the department I have observed a level of compassion among San Francisco Police Officers where they are willing to go beyond the scope of their employment in order to offer aid to those who are truly in need. This once again held true. Because of the tremendous outpouring from our members Chris asked me to chair the NYPD Survivor Trust Fund Committee in order to coordinate fundraising efforts and monitor the donations arriving at the POA. I was happy to accept this position because it now provided me an opportunity to directly help.

A committee was established with representatives from each

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20



PHOTO COURTESY NYPD



Sean Veerapen, NYPD Highway Patrol and WTC survivor escorted SFPOA members.



SFPOA members at ground zero with Sergeant Joe Keenan, NYPD.



SFDP officers at St. Patrick's Cathedral for FDNY funeral.



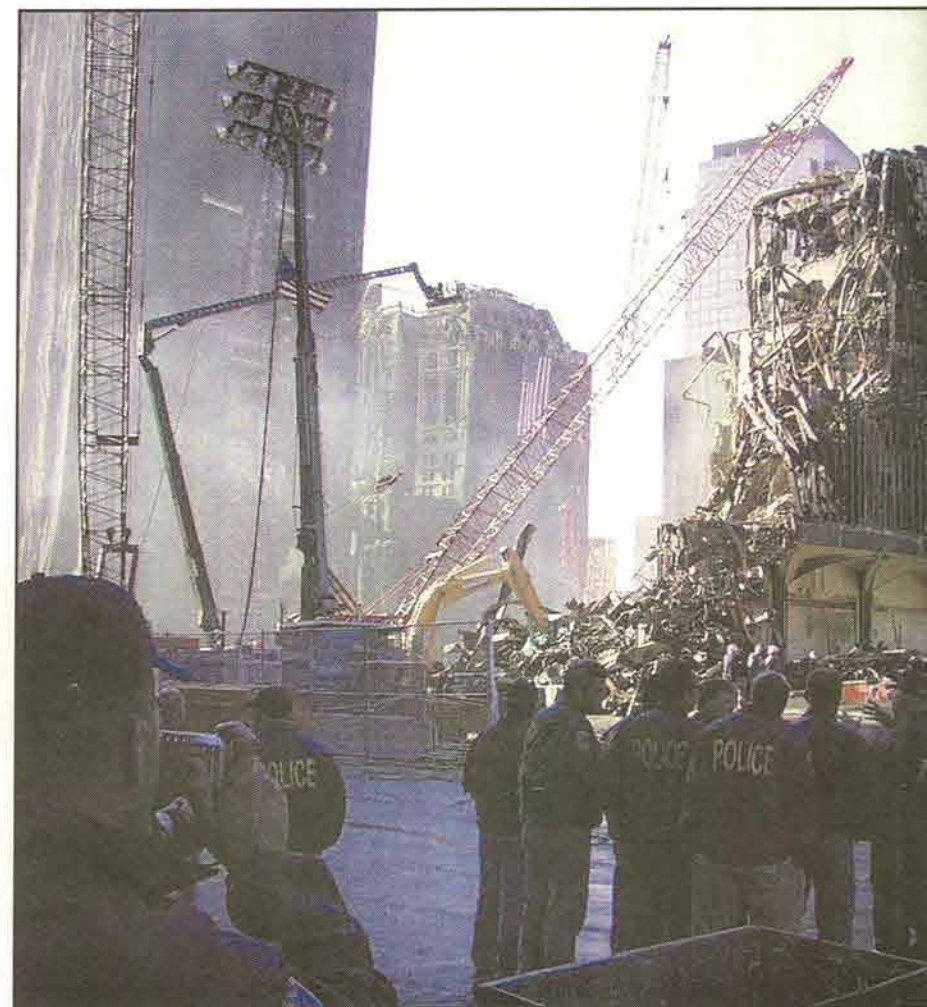
SFPD Sergeant Martin Halloran, left, Chair of the NYPD Survivor Trust Fund, presents a check to NYC Policeman's Benevolent Association President, Patrick Lynch.



Sgt. Joe Keenan (right) presents a plaque of appreciation to Sergeant Marty Halloran.



Brian Gleeson, Nassau County Sheriff's Department with SFPOA members.



Members of SFPD at ground zero



(L to r) Marty Halloran, SFPD, presents a check to Sgt. Joe Keenan while PBA President Patrick Lynch and Deputy Chief Thomas Dale look on.



Members of the NYPD who were killed in the WTC.



SFPD officer Michael Alexander, left, presents a "Collage of Hearts" to members of the NYPD. The collage was made by the children in teacher Gianna Alexander's Kinder Care class. Gianna is Michael's wife.



SFPD



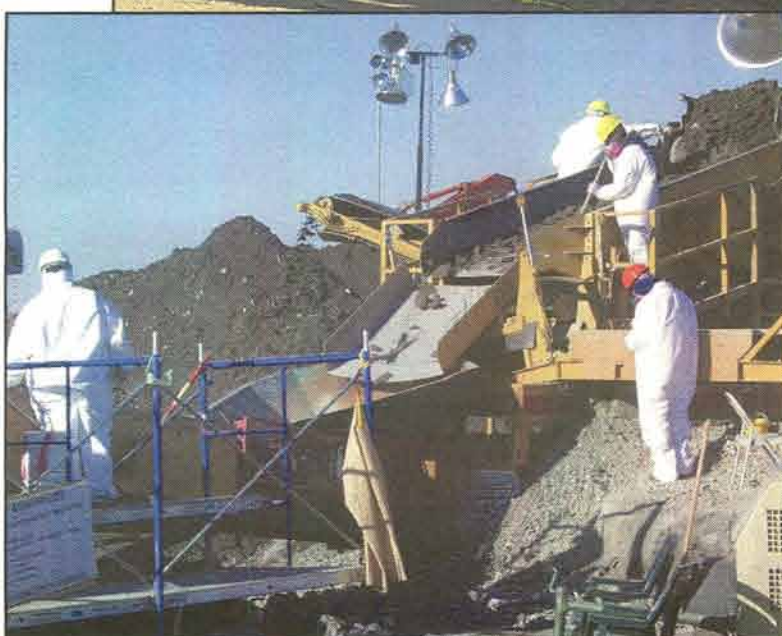
NYPD Deputy Chief Thomas Dale presents a plaque of appreciation to SFPD Sergeant Joseph McFadden



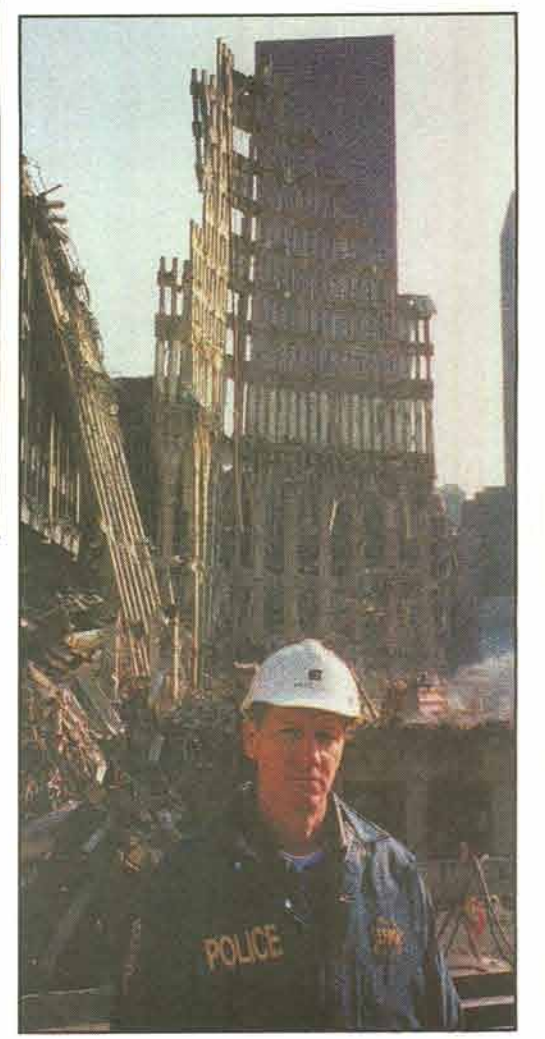
Another tribute from the children: SFPD officer Brit Elmore, left, presents commemorative flag art to NYPD officials. The flags were created by the 7th graders in Brina Elmore's class at Taylor Middle School.



Destroyed vehicles at Staten Island site.



NYPD members sifting through rubble which has been taken to Staten Island.



Brian Danker, SFPD, at ground zero.

COLLAGE PHOTOS BY
PATRICK BURKE
BRIAN DANKER
BOB GUINAN

POA Benevolence

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

district station and our first meeting was held at the POA on September 25th. Not having very much experience in fund raising I was open to any and all ideas. The reps came through with some great plans so I set a goal for the fund of \$250,000.00 by the end of the year. These reps put in many hours of work beyond their regular assignments and I want to express my thanks, for this could not have been possible without them. Thank you Carl Tenebaum (Co A), Dave Albright (Co B), Eric Perez (Co C), Carrie Lucas (Co D), Steve Murphy (Co E), Pat Burke (Co F), Mike Dempsey (Co G), Val Kirwan & Lynn Tomioka (Co H), Joe Finigan (Co I), Ron Banta & Theresa Sangiacomo (Co J), Bob Guinan (Co K), Joe McCloskey (TI), Ed Yu & Kevin Dempsey (CPC/Tac), Dennis Callaghan & Joe McFadden (HOJ), Andy O'Mahoney (Academy), and Bob Belt (Airport).

The committee's first goal was to solicit funds from all sworn members in hopes of getting as close as possible to 100% participation within the department. I would like to acknowledge the command staff and the Narcotics/Vice Division who both had 100% participation from the HOJ/Bureau. I would also like to acknowledge the members of Mission Station who with the gentle persuasion of Carrie Lucas raised over \$13,700.00. Mission Station had the highest participation rate in FOB; over 95%. Well done! The 202nd Academy Class also came through with a very generous donation from monies saved by not having a graduation banquet. My thanks go out to all officers who made contributions to the fund purely out of their sincere generosity.

Our first public fundraising event occurred on 10-01-01 for the Monday night 49er football game in New York

against the Jets. Representatives from the POA were in various bars on this night talking about our efforts and the needs of the families in New York. The committee members spent their own time in these taverns, well beyond the duration of the game, out of sheer dedication. I would also like to thank GERALYN Kavanagh, Mike Costello, Damien Fahey, Brian Olcomendy, Ricky Guerrero, Jon Kasper, Gary Delagnes, and Chris Cunnie who also helped in this event. In one night of football we raised almost \$4,000.00.

The next event we had planned was at Pacific Bell Park on 10-06-01. This was a make up game between the Giants and the Dodgers that was originally scheduled to be played on September 15th. The administration had allowed us to solicit funds in class "A" uniforms at all the gate entrances. With help from Keith Sanford and John Centurioni we were able to get ex-49er running back Roger Craig to join us. Roger helped us for a couple of hours by signing autographs and posing for photographs. Over \$11,500.00 was raised in just a few hours and for a nice change in San Francisco the crowds praised the officers for all their work.

As the committee organized these events members from the Airport Bureau were working on a memorial T-shirt idea. Joe Lynch, Mike Lynch, and Mike Chandra had designed a patriotic SFPD logo on a black T-shirt and secured a very reasonable cost for them. This allowed us to sell the shirts for only \$10.00 each. The shirts were an immediate hit and the company producing them could not keep up with the initial demand. All of the proceeds from the sales of the T-shirts went directly into the NYPD Survivor trust fund and at this writing over 5,000 shirts have been sold thanks in a large part to Bob Belt and Dave Albright. I think Bob was selling the

shirts from his motorcycle at the airport in-lieu of issuing citations to violators.

Britt Elmore and Simon Chan also designed a memorial T-shirt but elected not to sell them until the memorial shirts from the POA got out to the majority of the members. A large portion of their shirt sales was dedicated to the NYPD Survivor Trust Fund and they raised over \$1,000.00. Thanks Britt and Simon for waiting and thanks for your efforts.

Joe McCloskey made use of his gift for refined speech and requested donations from several local corporations. This yielded thousands of dollars for the fund. Capt Richard Carnes also directed Joe to donate all remaining monies from his retirement dinner into the fund. Thank you Captain and thank you Joe for all your work.

Supporters of the police, within our community, also got involved in our

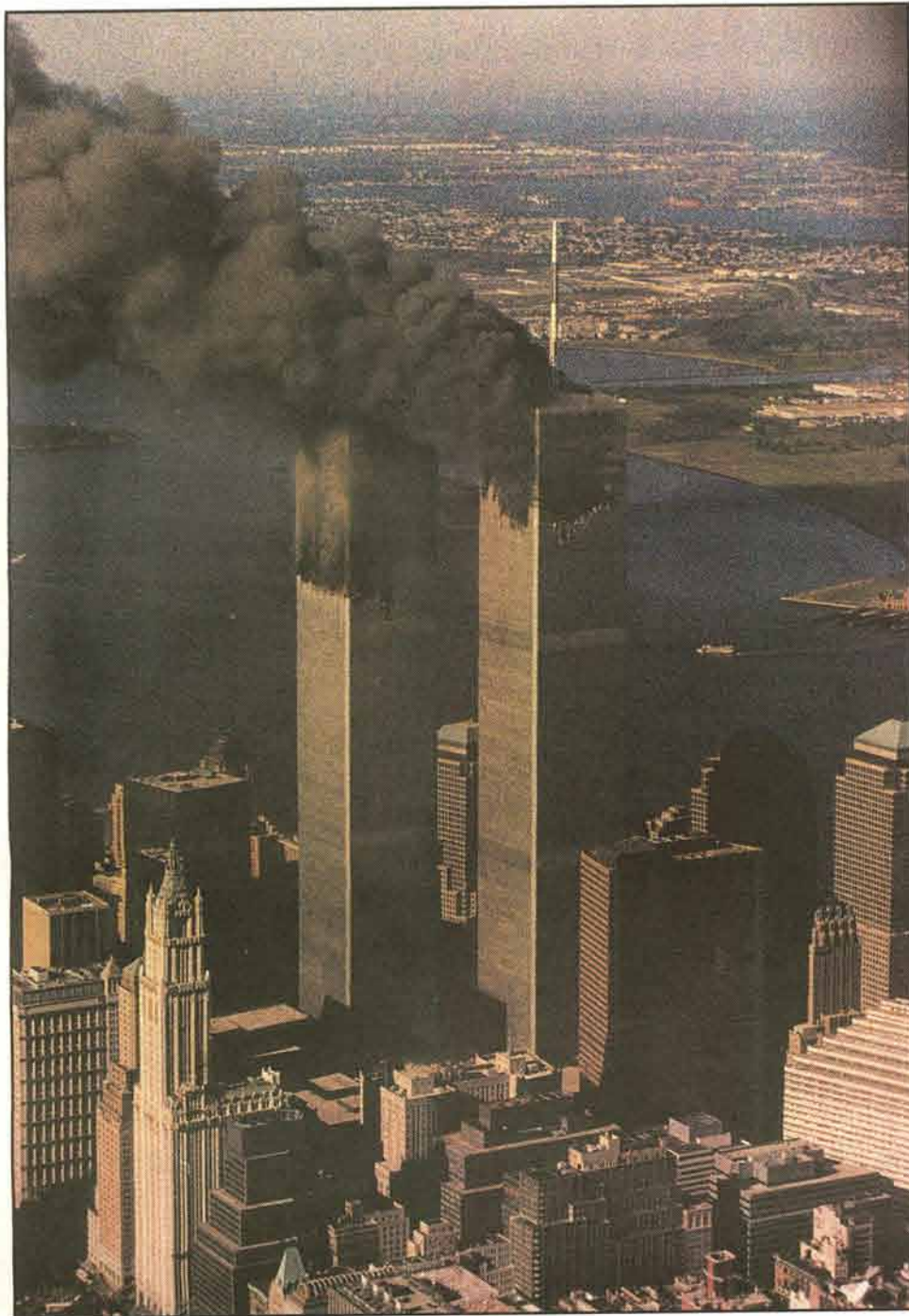
fundraising drive. A lady in San Jose contacted me and requested several SFPD patches so she could incorporate them into a quilt that she was making to be raffled. This quilt had images of America embroidered into it and our patches were prominently placed. Mrs. Gwen Yamamoto raised close to \$600.00 in this raffle and her support for the POA will not be forgotten.

Many local businesses organized their own campaigns. The San Francisco Irish Music Community raised close to \$9,000.00 for the NYPD and another \$9,000.00 for the FDNY. This was all accomplished in one day at the Plough & Stars Pub on Clement St. "Ten15 Inc" held an event at their club south of market and raised over \$2,000.00. Armanino Foods in Hayward contributed \$5,000.00 to the fund thanks to Chairman Bill

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PHOTOS COURTESY NYPD



Beyond Blue

By Pamela M. Hofsass
CSI

On October 16, 2001, my 93-year-old Greek grandmother passed away. It wasn't unexpected; she hadn't recovered at all from a fall (3 months prior) where she had broken her arm. But it was still very sad to see my own personal "Rock of Gibraltar" go. The funeral was held in Staten Island, New York on Saturday, October 20, 2001, and although her story could easily fill a book, it's not the reason I am writing today.

As a New York City transplant, I felt a strong need to do something, *anything* to help in the efforts of my brothers and sisters in blue, and the people of my roots after September 11. I fantasized about taking a leave of absence — or getting detailed for a few weeks — or, like fellow San Francisco Police Department Officer Rich Benjamin did (my new hero), tell the boss, "I don't care how you carry me, I'm going to New York." I was planning on making a visit on Veteran's Day (3-day holiday) — but due to my grandma's passing, I ended up in New York City for a precious few days in October.

First, I should tell you that my two Detective cousins (no, they're not named Vinny) have been working 12-hour shifts ever since the attacks. They were able to get me connected to the right people to get inside the barricades and view up-close and personal the carnage (aka Ground Zero), as well as a volunteer "tour of duty" at the recovery site in Staten Island. Words cannot describe the devastation — so,

suffice to say that it is a lasting impression that any form of media cannot compete with. I signed up at the NYPD Command Post at 0900 hours on Tuesday, October 24th for my volunteer shift.

Muldoon Hill (aka *Fresh Kills* — talk about irony) is a village, a town, a sanctuary to the archaeological dig for "anything identifiable." The site encompasses around 100-acres of mounds and mounds of rubble consisting of concrete, steel, and reminders of the lives that were lost. There are conveyor belts set up one-story high, in order to sift through extra heavy masses of concrete, steel, etc. There are semi-enclosed domes, set-up with 4-5 "lanes" of debris, gently distributed by the dump trucks. There are trailers upon trailers housing all kinds of specialized personnel (FBI, ATF, and bomb squads for starters). The constant drone of the construction and sifting equipment is deafening, not to mention the dust factor. Every worker is suited up with Tyvex, goggles, hardhat, heavy duty gloves, personal respirator and most important — earplugs. I was assigned to one of the "domes" and, with rake in hand, sifted through the freshly laid piles of debris. I found a graduation gown ("Forest Hills High School"), a piece of a make-up kit, batteries, all sorts of wires, computer parts, shoes and two bones. One of the two bones turned out to be of human origin (rib to be exact) — this information later confirmed by the Forensic Anthropologists at the Crime Scene Investigations (CSI) trailer. CSI personnel then document the human

San Francisco Police Department's Inspector Pam Hofsass gives the big thumbs up to a Forensic Anthropologist on top of Muldoon Hill. Staten Island, New York



remains with Polaroid and 35mm cameras, then "tags and bags" them. After the documentation process, the material is transported to the DNA Unit in Manhattan for extraction, analysis and hopefully, identification (or association) with one of the many victims. While hanging out by the CSI trailer, I saw all sorts of bones (some animal, some human), and an intact hand. Two days before, they found an entire human body. Did I mention how incredible it felt just to be there?

Thanks to the anonymous Tyvex suits, nobody really knows who is who (although, the group I was assigned to work with were from the Dept. of Corrections, according to my Sarge). At lunch break, the Tyvex comes off, your boots are hosed down by a couple of guys in yet another trailer and, finally, a chance arrives to see who's who. I can't tell you how many cops came up to me (ever so proud to be wearing my SFPD uniform) and said, "Wow, Frisco...you're a long way from home", and I would explain about my grandma dying and spending an ex-

tra few days to visit and volunteer. After a while, I came up with "Hey, I'm closer to home than you think — born and raised on Staten Island." To which, most replied- "No, sh—, well, alright, thanks for being here." One guy saw me hunched over my delicious baked lasagna and salad, stopped dead in his tracks and says "San Francisco...there's a bar by the Pier that makes the best Irish Coffees...I can't think of the name?" When I quickly affirmed "Buena Vista Café," his face lit up and related that his favorite vacation was in my city and his favorite bar was the Buena Vista. The rest of my lunch continued in that vein and after an hour, it was back to the trenches.

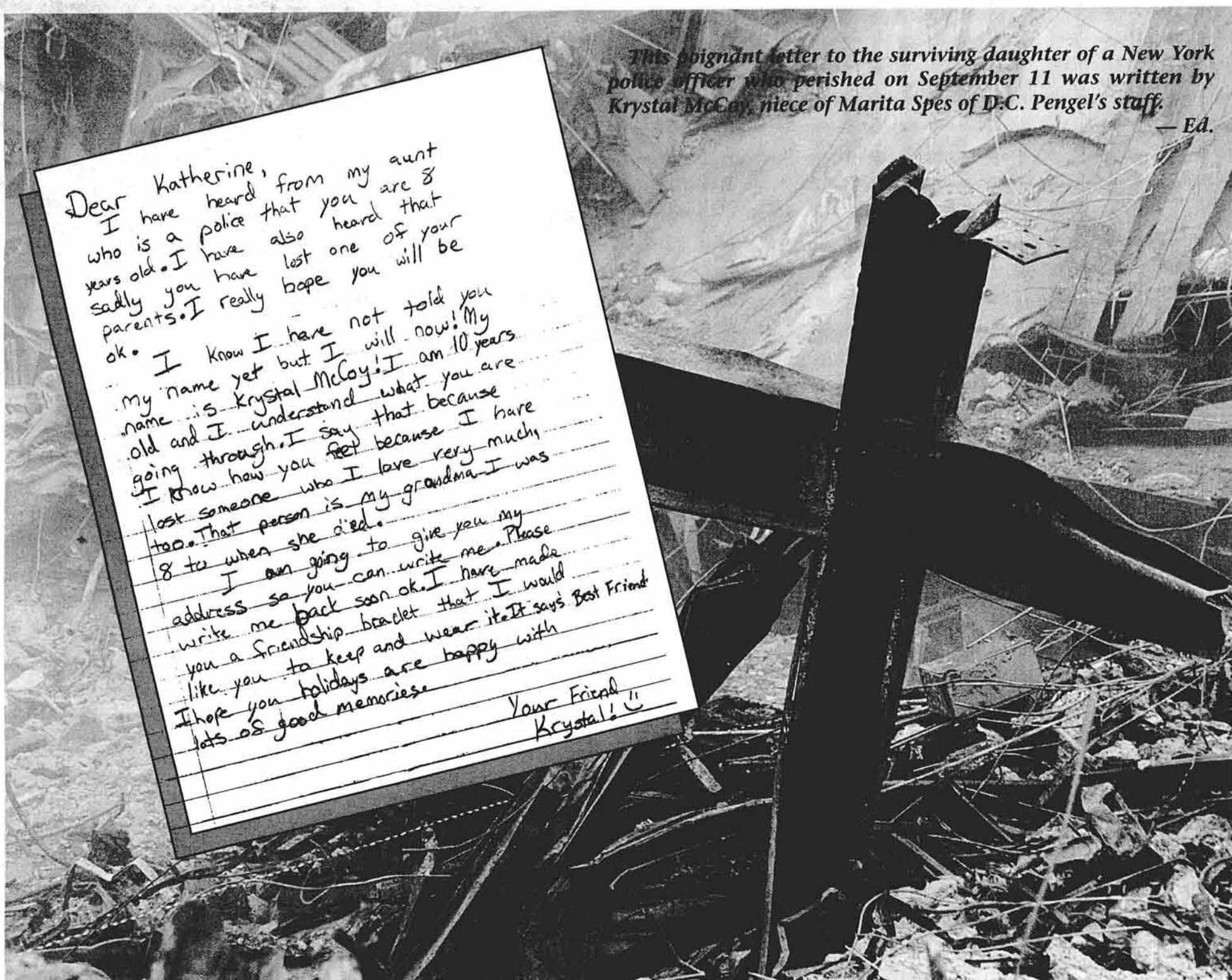
In the short time that I spent sifting through the rubble, and finding maybe one answer to one family's prayers, I felt an incredible sense of belonging, camaraderie and purpose. After much loss in my immediate family in the past few years, I drew great comfort and pride to know that I am part of a much larger family — the one in blue.

This poignant letter to the surviving daughter of a New York police officer who perished on September 11 was written by Krystal McCoy, niece of Marita Spes of D.C. Pengel's staff.

— Ed.

Dear Katherine,
I have heard from my aunt who is a police that you are 8 years old. I have also heard that sadly you have lost one of your parents. I really hope you will be ok. I know I have not told you my name yet but I will now! My name is Krystal McCoy. I am 10 years old and I understand what you are going through. I say that because I know how you feel because I have lost someone who I love very much. That person is my grandma. I was 8 to when she died. I am going to give you my address so you can write me. Please write me back soon ok. I have made you a friendship bracelet that I would like you to keep and wear it. It says Best Friend. I hope you holidays are happy with lots of good memories.

Your Friend
Krystal! ☺



POA Benevolence

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

Armanino. Retired Lieutenant Dan Hallisy who is now employed by Thomas Weisel Partners in the financial district helped organize efforts with his company's human resource department. The contributions from this company both here and from the New York office total over \$26,000.00. Great job Dan! The United Irish Societies, Carpenters Local Union No. 22, and "Bar None Tavern" on Union St each donated \$1,000.00. Norma Thoshinsky of Vacaville raised \$500.00 by selling handmade flag label pins and second graders from Briarwood Elementary School in Santa Clara pooled their nickels and dimes and raised \$112.61.

I could continue to list contributors but then this would have to be an extended edition of the *Journal*. It's fair to say that those who stepped forward to help were young and old, rich and poor, from near and far, and from all walks of life. The common denominator was their care, concern, and compassion for those who made the ultimate sacrifice. The generosity of our members and the community that we serve was nothing less than overwhelming.

By the beginning of November the fund was over \$200,000 strong so plans were made to travel back to New York in order to present checks to the NYPD and NY Port Authority. Chris along with members of the board of directors and I were hoping to present these checks on the second month anniversary at the NYC Patrolman's Benevolent Association. Word spread within the department about this trip and before I knew it 20 officers had requested to go with us in a show of support for our law enforcement brothers in New York. Unfortunately Chris would not be able to make this trip due to scheduling conflicts. All of these officers who traveled back to New York are to be commended since they did so at their own expense with no compensation from the POA or the administration. This was a true expression of fraternal support.

Our delegation arrived in New York on the morning of 11-08-01. We were met at JFK by Nassau County Deputy Sheriff Brian Gleeson who had made arrangements for seven of us to be escorted, by the NY Port Authority, to St Patrick's Cathedral in Manhattan. It was here that we represented the SFPD in class "A" uniforms at the funeral of a FDNY fireman who was recovered several days earlier at the rubble of the WTC. Before and after this funeral we received a lot of double takes at our uniforms but once they realized that we really were from San Francisco we received many handshakes and expressions of appreciation. Many were surprised about the distance that we traveled but all were happy to have us there.

On 11-09-01 the entire delegation was escorted back into Manhattan by Officer Sean Veerapen of the NYPD Highway Patrol. Sean was at the WTC on September 11th and barely escaped with his life. Sean told us chilling stories of that faithful day that would rattle the most seasoned officer. Sean is a true living hero of the NYPD. We arrived at the NYC PBA and were brought directly to President Patrick Lynch's office, which overlooks the East River and the Brooklyn Bridge. It was here that we met with NYPD Deputy Chief Thomas Dale and NYPD Sergeant Joe Keenan. I first read a letter from President Cunnie to President Lynch, which expressed condolences

from the members of the POA. I then presented Patrick with a check for \$85,000.00 made out to the NYPD PBA in memory of the 23 NYPD officers killed in the attacks. A check in the amount of \$135,000.00 made out to the Port Authority PD was presented to DC Dale in memory of the 37 Port Authority officers killed in the attacks. A third check in the amount of \$10,000.00 was made out to the NYPD Anchor Club and presented to Joe Keenan. This organization is a well-established widows and orphans club that serves members of the NYPD. Val Kirwan then presented these gentleman with commemorative wall clocks from the POA as a sign of unity between our organizations. These clocks displayed the SFPD patch in the cen-

tables were neatly set for the lunch crowd and I could see pots and pans on the stove in the kitchen probably still containing the special of the day for September 11th. What struck me was that everything was covered in heavy gray dust and the chairs and tables near the exit were turned over as if there was a frantic evacuation. It was as if time stood still. I will never forget it or ground zero.

As we walked through the site every New York officer that we came in contact with was given a memorial T-shirt or a SFPD patch along with a pat on the back for all their hard work. Once again these officers were surprised to see us so far from home but they loved the fact that we were there for them.

The NYPD and the PBA were overwhelmed. They had heard about some of our fundraising efforts but they had no idea of the tremendous outpouring from our members and our community.

ter with an inscription from Chris Cunnie on the face of the glass.

Needless to say the NYPD and the PBA were overwhelmed. They had heard about some of our fundraising efforts but they had no idea of the tremendous outpouring from our members and our community. President Lynch was clearly moved and could not thank us enough on behalf of the fallen officers and their families. These officers face the physical and emotional destruction everyday in their city. Our support for them may mean more than we will ever know.

After the presentations at the PBA members of the delegation met outside the building for the walk to ground zero. All members were dressed in SFPD raid jackets and they each were given two or three of our memorial T-shirts to be passed out to officers at ground zero. Joe Keenan recounted the events of that fateful day as we approached the ruins of those once towering buildings. Joe is another example of a living hero of the NYPD who was at ground zero on September 11th. Without his assistance our trip to the PBA and to ground zero would not have been possible. When we arrived at the outer barricades surrounding the site we observed that the walls, gates, and sidewalk around the entrance were draped in American flags, written messages of support, flowers, and candles. As we filtered through the crowd of citizens to get to the site entrance we were thanked numerous times by these citizens for just being there.

It is difficult for me to describe ground zero. Those who had visited the site had told me that television does not completely do it justice. They were right. The complete and utter destruction of those two enormous buildings that I had once viewed all of Manhattan from was difficult to believe. The thousands of lives lost became more evident as we walked further onto the site. The smell of death was everywhere. Smoke was still rising from the fires burning beneath the rubble and the site was busy with activity. Many of us just stood there in silence while the clean up continued all around us. At one point I looked through the window of a padlocked restaurant less than a half a block from ground zero. It looked like something from a nuclear holocaust or a scene from a sci-fi movie. Half the

Joe Keenan then took us out to Staten Island where the temporary morgue was established on September 12th. This site has been up and running non-stop day and night since the attacks. NYPD Crime Scene Investigation was operating on this site along with the FBI and this site must have been as large as 5 football fields. Standing on this high ground we could see the changed Manhattan skyline off in the distance. Joe showed us the huge tents that were erected for the large dump trucks to drive into. The trucks deposit debris from ground zero in these tents and NYPD officers shift through this debris with rakes and shovels. When these officers located any body parts or evidence the line would stop and the evidence would be recovered and cataloged. Along the sides of these tents I observed several five-gallon buckets which contained burnt and mangled personal items (i.e. credit cards, wallets, & jewelry). Next to one of these buckets was a pile of shoes that were also mangled and torn. As I took a closer look at these shoes I could not find one matching pair. It reminded me of newsreel footage from World War II of the Nazi internment camps. Another image that I will never forget.

Joe then took us to the backside of the lot where all of the damaged and destroyed vehicles from ground zero were placed. There must have been over 300 vehicles on this lot both private and emergency. By far the majority of the vehicles on this lot belonged to the FDNY. Some of these vehicles were identified only by their engine block number because in no other way did they look like a car. As we turned one row of cars we came across a FDNY hook and ladder truck that was barely recognizable. The truck was charred and the metal was twisted in every direction. The tires were melted away to the point where only the steel belts remained around the wheel rims. It was unbelievable! Joe's tour of duty is at this site 6 days a week 12 to 14 hours a day. When we returned home Chris Cunnie asked me to send Joe another sixty memorial T-shirts for his troops at this horrible site.

This trip to New York had a more somber tone than any other trip I had taken to that great city but there were some noticeable differences among the people. In the past they may have been

a bit "stand offish" and in a rush but now they appeared to be more united and available to lend their support. It was a trip that I will never forget and I was proud to have made this trip on behalf of Chris Cunnie and all POA members. As I told President Lynch at the PBA "Pat, as we approach the second month anniversary of these attacks we want you and the members of the NYPD to know that even though we are thousands of miles away, the members of the San Francisco Police Department will not forget. Nor will we forget on the second year anniversary or the second decade anniversary."

Upon returning to San Francisco additional checks were drafted and sent back to New York to aid the families of the remaining officers that were killed in the attacks. \$10,500.00 was sent to the Court Administration Families Assistance Fund in memory of the 3 officers killed from their agency. \$3,500.00 was also sent both to the FBI AA/Lenard Hatton Family Fund and the USSS/Era Miller Family Fund in memory of the FBI agent and the Secret Service agent killed at the WTC.

When the columns were all added up \$247,500.00 was either hand delivered or sent to funds established for fallen New York officers. When you include the \$11,097.37 that remains in our account at the credit union; members of the POA and the Bay Area Community raised \$258,597.37 so our goal was met. The only bill paid for out of the NYPD Survivor Trust Fund was to cover the cost of the memorial T-shirts. All other costs (i.e. photographs, postage) were paid for out of the Community Services account at the POA. There was no overhead or administrative cost so rest assure that your donations went directly to the families in New York.

The money in our account along with any additional funds raised will be distributed to representatives from the affected agencies in Washington DC. This will take place at the Peace Officer Memorial Week in May 2002.

As you can see there were many officers and civilians involved in this fundraiser and no one man could have done it on his own. If I failed to mention your support then I apologize. Your efforts were not unnoticed by the law enforcement community of New York.

I would be remiss if I did not mention a POA member who was there at every turn. This man worked tirelessly in this fundraising effort and often spent much of his own money to promote the cause. He organized events and rallied the troops in support. His contacts in New York proved to be invaluable when the delegation made the trip. For those of you who have ever dealt with him then you know that his heart is as big as his brogue. Since I was never able to get a word in edgewise with him, I will say it now in print. Thank you Val Kirwan. Thanks for everything.

In these new and changed days when we are all challenged I'm reminded of a great American who, not too long ago, fought for freedom and justice in this country. This great American once said "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands in times of challenge and controversy." Well the challenge was upon us and as members of the POA we demonstrated where we stand. By the way, that great American was Martin Luther King Jr.

Let Freedom Ring!

Ground Zero

By Mick Shea,
Stress Unit

Due to our association with the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation, Sgt. Mary Dunnigan and I were invited to respond to New York City to do some Peer Support work in the aftermath of the 9/11/01 terrorist attack. With the backing of the department and the financial aid of the POA we were able to make this trip. Our responsibility while in New York was to represent both the SFPD and the POA while supporting our counterparts on the East Coast. Let it be known that while I was with my Sergeant, Mary Dunnigan, I was in good company. We would both soon realize what an honor it was to be there.

We landed at Newark International Airport in New Jersey on Sunday afternoon, September 30th and reported to the Port Authority of NJ & NY in Jersey City, New Jersey. This is where the Critical Incident Stress Management Command was located, and we were teamed with the Boston Police Department group, as well as Police Chaplains from around the country. That evening we were given photo credentials and were shuttled to ground zero in New York City. After passing through about 4 checkpoints we exited the van to be confronted by the sight of our lives. In civilian dress in the pouring rain we walked the outer perimeter of the carnage known to all Americans as ground zero. Words will not adequately describe the magnitude, ugliness or the destructive sight that lay before us. These smoking ruins effected all the senses and the reality of it was shocking. Calling it the

pile, with its insides referred to it as the pit, brought it somehow down to size, knowing what it was, a tomb for thousands of victims never allowed it to lose its meaning. Of course our hearts ached as we saw it as the resting place of hundreds of rescue workers. We knew we were walking through a memorial, on sacred ground, in the midst of heroes who had lost their lives as well as many that had survived this horror.

The death toll of rescue personnel heroes at ground zero: 38 Port Authority Cops (1000), 23 NYPD (40,000), 343 Firefighters (14,000). There were thousands of people within the inner perimeter of ground zero. Rescue personnel, construction workers, volunteers, cops, firefighters, medical people and certain civilians. An eerie silence would take place in an area that was continuously a buzz when a body would be removed from the pile. If the body were that of a rescue worker a small memorial would take place. Uniformed co-workers would assemble on the pile with a body basket and an American Flag. The body would be wrapped in the flag and placed in the basket. Those of us within eyesight would remove our hats and/or helmets and the chaplain would lead a prayer. The body would be carried off the pile to a waiting transportation cart to be taken to the on-site morgue. As it passed all uniform personnel would salute. Mary and I were in attendance representing San Francisco at many of these heartfelt memorials.

We spent four days at ground zero with the pile, or memorial if you will, as a backdrop, while focusing on the cops and firefighters on scene, many



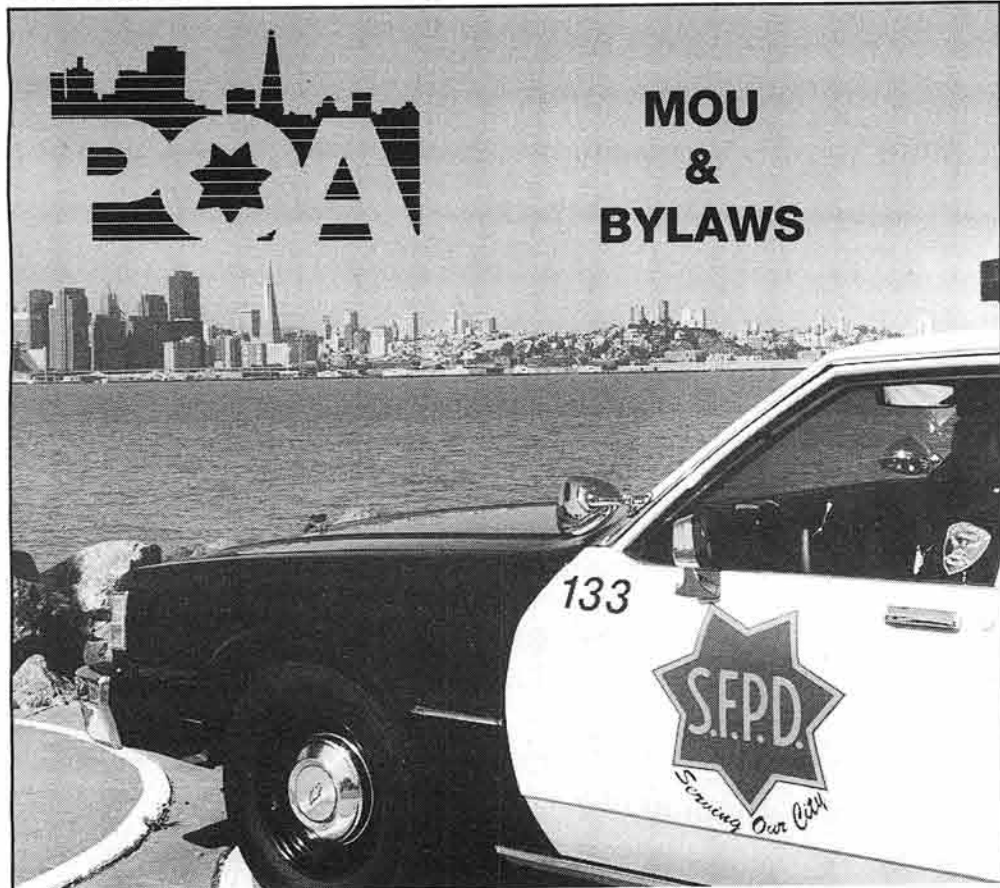
Mick Shea and Mary Dunnigan at ground zero.

of whom were present on 9/11/01. We were in full dress uniform and the fact that we were from San Francisco seemed to let the troops know that we cared. Upon mentioning how far we had come we let them know we were all Americans. All of our fellow officers would acknowledge us and some would even open up, start talking about what was going on or what they went through. We encouraged them to continue to do so. This article does not present the time or space to go in to detail, but all the stories were horrific. To all we came in contact with, we let them know that cops nationwide and at the San Francisco Police Department as well as our Association were thinking of them and praying for them. I repeat that it was an honor to be among them.

Our eyes could behold the damage to the buildings around the fallen towers our minds know there will be collateral damage to the men and women we spoke with. It comes in many forms and of course that is why Critical Incident Stress Management is so important. I would like to say, that if fate had landed that hit on the West Coast,

I know that the men and women of our department would have reacted in the same heroic manner as they did in New York, because that is what we do. We must take care of ourselves with any critical incident we are involved in, deal with how we feel rather than how we think we should feel. By taking care of ourselves, we will take care of those around us and most importantly those we love. The SFPD might be better prepared in this area, than New York, for an incident of this magnitude, but only if we use what's in place. The Behavioral Science Unit on Treasure Island has many programs in place that are voluntary, confidential, informative and growing. Even a critical incident that appears to be harmless or of little consequence can take a toll on an individual if not dealt with appropriately. I urge those who read this to make use of the department's resources when they feel in need of any assistance.

Your spirit was felt in New York City, your contributions are in route, let your good thoughts and prayers be ongoing.



**MOU
&
BYLAWS**

Memorandum Of Understanding
Between
City And County Of San Francisco,
The Police Commission, The Chief Of Police
And
San Francisco Police Officers' Association
July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2003



San Francisco Police Officers' Association
Bylaws

**The 2001 – 2003
MOU
&
POA Bylaws
have been printed.**

Members may obtain a copy
by contacting the POA
or their
Station/Unit Representative

NYPD Diary

By Lucas Miller, NYPD

Submitted to the Journal
by Sarah Kelly, FOB

Posted:
Monday, Sept. 24, 2001,
at 4:00 p.m. PT

I have been moving around the department quite a bit these days. Three months ago, I was transferred from my assignment investigating robberies in Midtown to a precinct detective squad in East Harlem. Precinct detective work means working on major cases that occur in your domain as well as catching relatively minor cases where there is a good chance of making an arrest. For instance, a precinct detective might catch a homicide one day, and then on the next a misdemeanor assault where the attacker is known to the victim. It makes for a nice variety of cases.

In the 19th century, the police department had an elite unit called the Broadway Squad. These cops were the most handsome and presentable in the NYPD and worked along Broadway, putting the department's best face forward. My old Midtown assignment was reminiscent of that squad. The detectives there are good-looking, well-spoken men and women, proud of the busy location they police, and they still cover Broadway.

On my first day there, I wore a dark blue Brooks Brothers suit along with a lighter blue shirt and a dark tie. I thought I looked pretty good. My sergeant took me aside and said, "Miller, we wear white shirts here."

I protested, "Boss, even the FBI doesn't have to wear white shirts all the time."

"Well, we do here."

A week later, when all my suits were at the cleaners, I wore a pair of khakis and a blazer to work.

Same sergeant: "Luke, we wear suits here."

Despite the preoccupation with clothes, I met some outstanding detectives there, cops who really knew their stuff. After working there about a year, I was transferred north. Detectives were needed in East Harlem, and since I was the last one last in, I was the first one out. Harlem was a new thing for me. I had spent my entire career in Manhattan South, whose northern border is 59th Street. I felt a little out of place uptown. My first night, there was a shooting in a brothel. It was a pretty busy place. The next week, there was a shooting in a housing development. The week after that, one along the eastern side of Central Park.

I was transferred to the precinct in which the Trade Center had stood. Ordinarily this would be a plum assignment

These uptown detectives were not as preoccupied with clothes, but when the heavy cases came in, they came together and worked as a team in ways that I hadn't seen before. A call would come in and one pair of guys would head for the scene, one pair would head for the hospital, and another pair would head for the building where the most likely suspect lived. If there weren't enough guys working, detectives from neighboring commands would lend a hand and if there weren't enough of them, guys would just work harder. It was the tightest team in which I have ever worked.

When the World Trade Center was hit, the department lengthened our shifts to better cover the city. My squad

was at first assigned to canvass hospitals for victims. We were very frustrated. We wanted to be at ground zero, not waiting for victims miles away. People came up to me on the street to say thank you. I wanted to tell them that I didn't deserve their thanks for running around a hundred blocks from the scene. When the shift ended, the lieutenant led us downtown and we volunteered at the site.

At ground zero. At first, I thought that I was brave for standing on a bucket line under giant jagged remnants of the buildings that had collapsed. Then I noticed that there were rescue workers deep inside the smoldering wreckage, high up on precarious beams and descending below the ground.

A few days after the attack, while at home sleeping, I was awakened by a phone call with the news that I was transferred downtown. I was transferred to the precinct in which the Trade Center had stood. Ordinarily this would be a plum assignment.

So I packed up my uniforms and other gear and moved downtown. I am still moved by the generosity and thoughtfulness of the residents. The lobby of the stationhouse is packed with cards and letters expressing condolences, thanking us for our efforts and of course begging for information on the missing. Local restaurants send over trays of food. My drive into the secure zone downtown was lined with people holding up posters expressing their appreciation for the police and fire departments.

That was last week. This afternoon, I took a walk to get something to eat for lunch. I walked north to Soho. I ogled some of the trendy restaurants, the gorgeous renovated buildings and the beautiful people still shopping. I smiled and thought, "Hey, this is nice, nice precinct to work. I am going to really like it here." I had forgotten, for a moment, the giant smoke cloud billowing up behind me from my wounded city, all those people missing some of them my fellow cops, and all those poor, brave firemen. Then I remembered and turned back south, a little ashamed.

Posted:
Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2001,
at 10:00 am. PT

I have to confess that I have always resented firemen their popularity. They never have to do those unpopular things that cops do. They never seem to embarrass themselves. They never shoot anyone. It is all saving people, looking good, and driving around in cool red trucks.

A while ago, I met an attractive girl at a party who grabbed my arm and asked excitedly, "Are you really a police detective?"

"That's right." I said puffing up my chest and fixing her with a manly smile.

"Great. Do you know any firemen?" Despite this jealousy, I have no interest at all in running into burning buildings, and I am afraid of heights.

One reason that I am a cop is that I really do hate crime. It bothers me to see people victimized, and it also both-

ers me to see people getting over on society. Do firemen hate fire? I don't like it when people get burned, but it doesn't make me angry. I guess I would make a lousy fireman.

Years ago, I was on a drug team serving a warrant in Washington Heights. One of the detectives carried a hydraulic ram up five flights and had a heart attack. By the time we got him downstairs, not only was EMS waiting for us, but there was a company of firefighters who looked ready to take the front right off the building, if necessary, to get the detective down. There is a popular image of cops and firefighters not getting along, but I have never seen anything like that.

We lost over 30 members of the NYPD last week. That is more than in the 11 years in which I have been a cop combined. The Port Authority Police Department lost over 30 more. That staggers me. The FDNY lost 300 men—300 men who showed up just like they showed up to help out my drug team. I can live with the jealousy.

It was therefore with some satisfaction that we locked up a guy for burglarizing a firehouse today. He took a fireman's dress uniform so he could pretend he was a fireman, bask in some of the glory that currently surrounds the FDNY, and probably steal some more stuff.

When I got to this new precinct, I was pleased to see that a detective with whom I had worked in uniform had also been transferred and that we would be working together. Tim had been a smart, aggressive patrolman when I knew him and was quickly assigned to the detective squad in that precinct about the time I went off to Narcotics. Today, he and I got this little puke who took the fireman's uniform to confess by alternating between indignation that he took advantage of grieving firemen and sympathy for his not getting the recognition that he really deserved in life. We did a nice job.

One of the reasons I think I was transferred here is that there is a huge body of paperwork hanging over this squad from the World Trade Center. If the 1993 bombing is an indication, every person confirmed dead will be carried by the department as a homicide, and every person missing will be carried as a missing person and then probably a homicide. I suspect that the mechanics of this haven't been worked out yet, but we are waiting to catch 6,000 homicides.

The drudgery of the paperwork is intimidating, but the concept of treating each victim as a separate murder pleases me. It is as if the NYPD is saying that the global politics and the scale of the carnage don't change the reality that each one of those people was killed on our watch and that we will hold the killers responsible no matter what else happens. The victims were New Yorkers, some only temporarily, but each death affects us as much as the killing of anyone in our city.

We have been working 12-hour shifts since the attack, and the firehouse burglar didn't really take that long, so I had some time on my hands.

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The disaster notwithstanding, we are still catching the cases that we would normally catch in this precinct, albeit with a slightly altered outlook. I called a woman who demanded that I arrest her neighbor. After much conversation, I deduced that the neighbor had left her a note that had upset her. I asked if the note was threatening. No, but she said that the note had been rude and when was I coming to lock the guy up?

Contrast that with a man I called whom had been the victim of a mugging just before the WTC attack. He seemed surprised that I was calling, and when I explained that I still wanted to find his mugger, he said, "Detective, I know that you have much more serious things to do than take care of my problem. Couldn't we just forget about my problem so you can get back to the important stuff?"

Posted:
Wednesday, Sept. 26, 2001,
at 12:30p.m. PT

I got a call as I was leaving the office yesterday from a friend of mine at ground zero. Joe was my sergeant when I went to Narcotics seven years ago. He used to give us pep talks and say; "I will never ask you guys to do anything that I wouldn't do myself." This was not reassuring, because we all knew that Joe would do anything for a case. He has the greatest work ethic of anyone I have ever met. We would be tailing some dealer deep into Queens, 20 miles from where the case started, 10 hours past the time we were supposed to go home with the overtime budget empty, and he would be calling up headquarters for permission to leave the city, in case the dealer kept going. Joe's mettle could be traced to his father, a well-respected chief in the fire department.

Since then, Joe had been promoted to captain—no surprise. I haven't worked for him for five years, but we keep in touch. He has been assigned to ground zero since the attack. I found him last week, covered with soot, supervising hundreds of police rescuers, with an EPA air-quality monitor strapped to his back.

He didn't see me walk up beside him, so I grabbed his arm and pointed to the EPA monitor. "Captain, don't move. A small robot has jumped onto your back. Hold still, I will kill the little bastard."

My humor was lost on him. He grabbed my hand. "We have to get these sightseers out of here. I caught some guy who brought his girlfriend down and she was posing on the wreckage." He was yelling although we were in a quiet spot.

In the years that I have known him,

I have never heard him complain about having to work. I think that yelling was the closest he could come. We exchanged concern about each other's families. He was also working on getting flowers sent by various precincts to the Police Memorial, which still stands almost directly west of the World Trade Center along the Hudson



River. He told me that his father had lost a lot of friends. Then he stalked off to find his lieutenants.

He called my cell phone yesterday on his way home. He told me how he had just found the body of a woman who had been on the 82nd floor. I asked him what he was going to do today. He told me he thought he would take the day off—his first since the 11th.

On my way in to the station house this morning at 4, I got a cup of coffee from the buffet table that has become a permanent fixture on the ground floor. A restaurant had just sent over a giant bag of bagels, really good ones, still hot. The man from the restaurant apologized that he couldn't bring anything tomorrow because it is Yom Kippur. He assured us he would be back on Friday. There is a group of mostly women who come to the precinct every day to offer massages to cops and other rescue workers.

In the wake of this horrible, horrible time, the city is in the midst of a love affair with the NYPD. The city has always been one of my great loves. Cops sometimes debate the extent to which the public appreciates us. Some of us feel quite strongly about it. I have always felt that the majority of New Yorkers like us, even if they are not as vocal about it as our detractors, but never in my wildest dreams did I think I would encounter the kind of affection that we now enjoy.

9/27/2001 8:18 AM.

The Yankees and Mets show up to ballgames with NYPD caps on. I saw a waiter the other day wearing an Organized Crime Control Bureau T-shirt. I received a call this morning from a narcotics detective from the San Antonio Police Department. He didn't know anyone in the NYPD. I don't know if he had ever been to New York, but he wanted to tell someone here that he felt for us, and mine was the first phone number he found. I passed a Miami police officer directing traffic on 23rd Street. Last week, in Fenway Park, there was a giant "I love New York" banner. Several huge bags of teddy bears arrived at the station house from children in Oklahoma City. I don't know if they are for us or for children somewhere. The detective who sits across from me has one on her desk. I guess I am only cataloging some of the many ways in which the country is coming together in this tough time, but I don't think I am missing the significance when I say that I don't want it to end.

I recognize that as police we have made sacrifices this month that touch people across the country. But, the NYPD that I know has always been ready to make those sacrifices. Those guys following dogs around the site,

digging first for survivors and then for bodies, are the same plainclothes cops who are so unpopular in the Bronx for stopping and frisking people. The bravery that cops showed running into a doomed building last week is the same bravery that they showed the week before running after some mutt with a gun. My friend Joe has always been willing to forgo his days off.

I also understand that we bring some of our unpopularity on ourselves. We screw up sometimes. We make mistakes of the head and sometimes of the heart. Some of our mistakes have had tragic results. We are also not so great at communicating. But, for a little while now, we are forgiven. The tragedy of the World Trade Center is obviously too big a price to pay for this, but I don't want it to end.

The attack on New York has been heartbreaking, but the appreciation of New York and the rest of the country has made a huge difference to me. Maybe it won't end. Maybe cops will manage to go back to enforcing the law in the city without alienating too many people. Maybe the civilians will continue to respond to the police with the same goodwill that they have all month. Maybe the press will give us a break. I know that when this love affair does come to an end, it will break my heart again.

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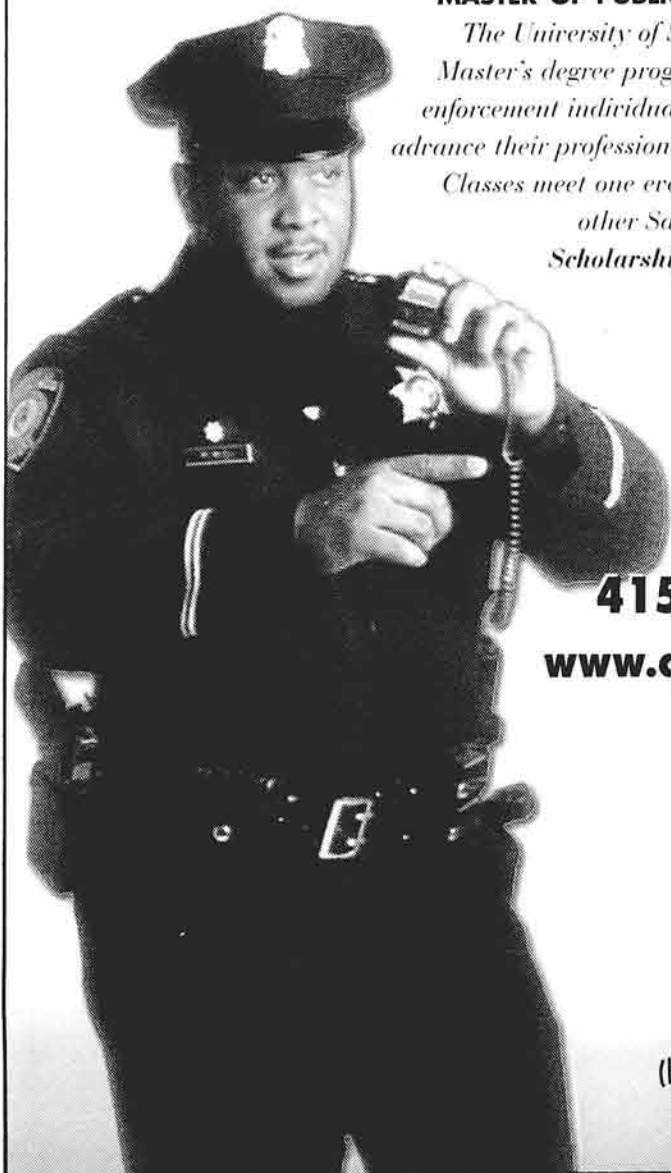
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Open Letter to Our Fellow Officers Across the Nation and Right Here at "Ground Hero"

Almost three months have passed since the terrorist attack on America, and the good that has come out of that unspeakable evil continues to grow. For this we give thanks.

Once again, we thank all who have given so generously to the PBA Widows' and Children's Fund as well as those who have contributed food, supplies and other essential to the rescue and recovery effort. We also owe a special debt of gratitude to our brother and sister law enforcement officers from across the nation, who have worked so hard, even risked their lives, in the rescue and recovery task and in helping to patrol our stricken city. Their spirit of solidarity has been inspiring.

And, of course, through this terrible time, New York City police officers have continued to serve and protect, to risk their lives in the rubble that once was the World Trade Center, to shed blood, sweat and tears in the war against terrorism.

The PBA wants to thank them most of all.



Patrick J. Lynch, President

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Reprinted from American Police Beat, December 2001



We salute you, and will never forget you

The Port Authority PBA wishes to thank all those who offered help, in ways too numerous to name, since the September 11th attack. The Port Authority Police Department suffered the largest single, loss of life to a law enforcement agency in the history of our country. We must regroup and rebuild; we will do so bolstered with the knowledge that we have the thoughts, prayers, and support of law enforcement officers everywhere.

The following members of the Port Authority Police Department made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty responding to the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center:

- P.O. Christopher C. Amoroso
Tactical Response Bureau
- P.O. Maurice V. Barry
Port Authority Trans-Hudson Railway
- P.O. Liam Callahan
Tactical Response Bureau/Emergency Service Unit
- Lieutenant Robert D. Cirri
Police Academy
- P.O. Clinton Davis
World-Trade Center
- P.O. Donald A. Foreman
Holland Tunnel
- P.O. Gregg J. Froehner
Tactical Response Bureau/Emergency Service Unit
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World Trade Center
- P.O. George G. Howard
John F. Kennedy International Airport
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Police Academy
- Director/Superintendent Fred V. Morrone
Police Headquarters
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Police Academy
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- P.O. John P. Skala
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Reprinted from American Police Beat, December 2001

An Officer's Thoughts This Holiday Season

By Dennis Schardt
Airport Bureau

Awaking that morning to a very dark day, watching in horror as so many lives were swept away.

Answering the call as so many others have done, standing together as a nation of one.

Needing time to reflect and deeply mourn, along with a country that had been shattered and torn.

Thinking of those who have lost loved ones and how they must spend their days, handling their grief and sorrow in many different ways.

Tears come often as many courageous stories unfold, we know there are many more stories that will never be told.

Although time has now passed and the holidays are here, they will not be the same because of what happened this year.

We now look at everything in a more significant way and cherish the meaningful events each moment of each day.

Our family, our friends, the ones we love so much, a smile, a handshake, a warm gentle touch.

America means freedom, Lady Liberty is standing tall, Old Glory flies high and eagles soar as our heroes protect us all.

God Bless America!

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Premium education still to be had at SF neighborhood school

St. Emydius Elementary School: A Jewel in San Francisco's Educational Community

By Ray Shine

Contributions By Mart Cafferata,
Traffic Company

A small San Francisco elementary school just might be one of the least-known education bargains in the city. St. Emydius Elementary School educates students in grades Kindergarten through 8th with a strong academic emphasis. The school staff and teachers create a loving, safe environment rooted in the Catholic faith that appreciates the community diversity and fosters in its students strong academics, respect, and self-esteem. At present, the enrollment is less than 200 students. Class sizes average just 20 students each, allowing for important teacher/student interaction for

each child in the class. That sort of attention to the needs of the student has generated attention from education-minded parents. The diverse student population is drawn from all areas of San Francisco and the greater Bay Area. Several San Francisco police officers have children enrolled in this premium school.

The philosophy of the school administration is to create an environment where their students are free to explore and develop to their highest potential. St. Emydius is fully accredited, and offers all students a strong academic program. Working as a close-knit professional team, the staff and teachers guide and assist the students with love, so they can reach their highest potential. St. Emydius cherishes the uniqueness of each member of the community, and recognizes the value of cooperative growth.

St. Emydius is located in the heart of the Ingleside District between City College and San Francisco State University; one block off Ocean Avenue at 301 DeMontfort. It is easily accessible by car or by public transportation, and has easy access to the 280 freeway.

The curriculum

taught includes reading, language arts, mathematics, religion, science, social studies, spelling, art, music, government, handwriting, family life, physical education, and computer. The children can participate in an athletic program that includes CYO, FLAME, and PAL leagues.

The school is accepting applications for the remainder of this school year (2001-2002) and for the next school year (2002-2003). If you have any questions about placing your child in a local school with a strong education mission, contact Judy Borelli (Principal) at (415) 333-4877.

As if close teacher/student interaction, a defined purpose, and a diverse student body isn't enough to encourage enrollment, the school also offers before and after school care that is provided by the Y.M.C.A.



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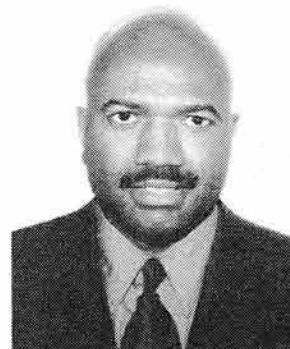
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Letters



POA Attorney Kathy Mahoney and I had the pleasure of meeting with a group of Coro fellows on December 7, 2001. Coro aims to strengthen communities and the democratic process by preparing individuals for effective and ethical leadership in the public affairs arena. The fellows Kathy and I met with are interested in law enforcement and labor issues. We met with them for more than an hour and also gave them copies of all of the Hearts of the City videos.

—Chris Cunnie

Dear President Cunnie and Ms. Mahoney,

On behalf of Coro and the Fellows of 2002, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to interview you.

I just finished watching all four videos that you gave us at the end of our meeting. All were incredibly educational and, at times, emotional to watch. After speaking with you and viewing these tapes, I have a much better understanding of what it takes to be a SF Police Officer, and the importance of the POA.

The amount of training, stress, and support that come with the job is impressive. For several years I was a volunteer with the Portland Oregon Police Bureau. Even with that experience, I was relatively unaware of the myriad of issues that face every officer every day.

The interview that you granted provided a succinct and quite thorough overview of the services that the POA provides its members. We appreciated the background information about the changes that SFPD has made over the last fifteen years. You also left us with thought provoking examples of how the POA has helped to make SFPD stronger and more responsive to Officers' needs through stress units, legal counsel, and community involvement to name a few.

We now better understand the role and importance of the POA to the SFPD, the officers, and the public.

Your support and contributions of time and energy are appreciated and recognized by all of the Fellows and

by the Coro staff. Thank you again.

Sincerely,
Lainie Motamedi
Coro Fellow 2001-02
CORO NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Marty Halloran, Chair
S.F. Police Officer's Association
Scholarship Committee
5 10 Seventh Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear Mr. Halloran:

Thank you very much for the five hundred-dollar scholarship. Thank you also for the opportunity to participate in the Police Officer's Association scholarship process.

Sincerely,
Nicholas A. Suslow

Editor —

I read with great interest the letter from Joanna Erickson Mitchell of Langley, Washington that appeared in the October issue of the POA Journal. Ms. Mitchell hailed the heroics of her father, San Francisco Police Officer James Erickson, who was shot during a hold-up attempt.

My interest is personal. My father, San Francisco Police Officer Fowlie was with Officer Erickson during the shoot-out. I would be very interested in contacting Ms. Mitchell regarding the careers of our fathers. I would very much appreciate it if you could put me in contact with her.

Sincerely,
Ed Fowlie
SFPD, Retired

Ed —

I'm sorry, but I no longer have Ms. Mitchell's address. I am printing your inquiry here in the hope that she is a regular reader of the Journal, and will contact our office with the address and contact information that you seek. Good luck, and take care. — Editor

Dear Members of the POA,

Thank you all very much for the kind contribution to my education. An education is something which cannot be taken away, so I truly appreciate your generosity in helping me to further my knowledge.

So far everything here is going very smooth. My classes are challenging, but I have stayed on top of the work, which is so essential.

Thank you once again.

Sincerely,
Peter Newland

To: Chris Cunnie and All Members of the P.O.A.

This is a letter of heartfelt thanks and sincere appreciation to you and all of the men and women of the San Francisco Police Officers Association for your generous donation to Local 798s' San Francisco Firefighters Toy Program, as well as our 911 Fund.

Our continued partnership with the P.O.A. is a special one.

Again, Thank You!!

John Hanley
San Francisco Firefighters Local 798

Dear Friends,

Thank you very much for your generous donation of \$100.00 dated October 11, 2001 for the Riley Center. It is people like you who help us to fulfill our mission "to accomplish through charity what justice alone cannot do." For over 140 years in San Francisco, need has been the only requirement to receive help from the Society. Every day over 1,000 people in San Francisco suffering from poverty, homelessness, substance abuse, and domestic violence are helped through the Society's programs — to help themselves.

As required by the IRS, this letter certifies that no goods or services were provided in exchange for your contribution. It is appreciated and will be carefully used.

Sincerely,
Louis Alessandria
Executive Director
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY
SAN FRANCISCO

Dear Officer Cunnie:

Thank you for your generous contribution of \$200 from the S.F. Police Officers' Association in support of our programs for children and adults with physical, developmental and emotional disabilities.

Your organization helps many worthy organizations in our community and you have been a friend of the Center for decades. May God bless all the members of your association which does so much to

protect our city.

Again, on behalf of our Founder and Director, Janet Pomeroy and the 2,000 weekly participants of the Center, thank you for this gift.

Sincerely,
Ola Kupka
Director of Development
RCH Inc.

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your recent gift of \$200.00 to Project Open Hand. Your help truly makes a difference in the lives of men, women, and children living with AIDS and other critical illnesses.

Every day of the year, Project Open Hand volunteers fan out across San Francisco and Alameda County to deliver more than 1,000 hot nutritious meals and hundreds of grocery bags. Five days a week, volunteers fill custom grocery bags with items selected by our walk-in grocery center clients. People from all walks of life give their time to work in every aspect of Project Open Hand, making possible the fulfillment of our mission, providing *Meals with Love* to people living with HIV/AIDS, the critically ill and Seniors.

With this tremendous volunteer support, we are able to direct your gifts mainly to covering our enormous food costs and direct client service expenses. You can be assured, therefore, that your help has the greatest possible impact.

Thank you!

Very truly yours,
Bob Brenneman
Director of Development and
Marketing
Project Open Hand

Dear Chris:

Thank you for your recent gift to Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Center! Your support, as always, is truly appreciated and valued.

By investing in TNDC, you're helping thousands of people who are struggling with low-income. You are helping them to attain affordable housing. You are giving them access to services, which include a network of social workers, a job training and employment program, and an after-school center for kids. In addition, you're helping us serve many who are elderly and others who have debilitating illnesses such as cancer or AIDS.

It is with your support that such necessary services are possible. Thanks again for your generosity and contribution to a better and more diverse San Francisco. By working together, we continue to make a difference!

Sincerely,
Judy K. Wong
Fund Development Associate
Tenderloin Neighborhood
Development Associate

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Dear Mr. Chris Cunnie:

On behalf of the San Francisco Neighborhood Church Governing Board, I would like to thank the San Francisco Police Officers' Association for the \$500 contribution. Support from community organizations and many individuals have helped further our services to children, youth and their families.

Again, thank you for your generous assistance.

God bless you!

Sincerely,
Sonya Gutierrez Matias
Secretary
SF Neighborhood Church
Governing Board
San Francisco's Neighborhood
Church of the Christian and
Missionary Alliance



Dear Sir or Madam:

I want to take this opportunity to thank your firm for being a sponsor of the 2nd Annual Arthur J. McArdle Golf Tournament. Your generosity has helped make this tournament a success and has given us the ability to offer ten (10) \$500 scholarships in the year 2002. The purpose of these scholarships is to further the education and understanding of Surveying. It is our hope that through these scholarships, members of Operating Engineers Local Union #3 or their siblings can learn more about surveying and surveying related fields.

Attached is a copy of the application for a scholarship grant and with your continued support we hope to have more scholarships in the following years. If you have any employees that qualify for the scholarship program, please give them a copy of the application. This is an ideal way to attend a college or university and have some of the costs deferred. This money can be used to take a variety of survey related classes and the participants can apply again next year.

All portions of the sponsorship fee is tax deductible and \$28 of the golfing fee is also tax deductible. Please use our EIN number of 94-3382378 when reporting your deduction to the IRS.

Thank you again for your support in making this scholarship fund a reality.

Very truly yours
Floyd Harley
Administrator

Northern California Surveyors Joint
Apprenticeship Committee



Dear Chris,

On behalf of Executive Director Father John Crews, the Executive Director, the Golf & Tennis Committee and the boys, thank you very much for your generous \$20 cash donation to the Hanna Boys Center

9th Annual Golf Classic & 1st Annual Tennis Tournament which was held on Monday, September 24, 2001.

Thanks to your generous contribution, this year's tournament was an overwhelming success! The Center relies on the generous donations from people like you, which allow us to continue our mission and offer hope to the boys and their families.

As a special way of recognizing your donation, your name is listed in our Golf Program, which was distributed to over 300 participants of the golf and tennis tournaments.

Your support helped make this tournament another success and provide a Hanna boy with a second chance at happiness. We are genuinely grateful for your continuing support.

Sincerely,
D. Scott Singer
Chief of Operations and
2001 Golf Classic Coordinator

Codie Welsh
Public Relations and
Events Coordinator



Dear Chris Cunnie—

Please accept my heartfelt gratitude for your generous holiday donation of \$100 received in November 2001. Your generosity will enable us to purchase food, gift certificates and/or gifts for the children and families served by Edgewood Center for Children and Families.

Thank you for your thoughtfulness during the holiday season.

Sincerely,
Nancy Rubin
Chief Executive Officer
Edgewood Center for Children and
Families



Editor —

Greetings from American Police Beat. Enclosed is our December issue, hot off the press. Check out page 57.

As usual there's a lot of good reading here — everything from the ongoing work for law enforcement in the wake of the attacks of September 11 to a forum discussion among some of the nation's major chiefs that starts on page 22.

There are also words of thanks from the members of the NYPD and the Port Authority P.D. to all those who expressed their sympathies in our November issue. Your union ran a full-page tribute ad in November.

All of us at American Police Beat wish you and your family and friends a healthy, happy and safe holiday season.

Warm regards,
Cynthia Brown
Publisher



Chris —

I can't thank you and the membership of the P.O.A. enough for your generous donation to the San Francisco Irish Piper's Band. The benefit dance at the Irish Cultural Center had over seven hundred and fifty patrons, and the band was able to raise approximately fifty-four thousand dollars. Most of our uniforms are over forty years old, and are worn and not serviceable. With these funds we will be able to purchase new uniforms, and some much needed musical equipment. The entire benefit was a total success, but without your support, and that of numerous other members of the P.O.A., this would not have occurred. Again, I cannot say enough thanks to you, Marty Halloran, Val Kirwan, Pat Burke, Diarmuid Philpott, Joe McFadden, and all the other members who came and supported our cause.

Yours,
John Carlin



Dear Mr. Cunnie:

Thank you for your organization's generous contribution of \$500 to the San Francisco Senior Center. It will help offset the loss of income due to the cancellation of Fleet Weekend and the Blue Angels air show.

Your donation will help us continue to offer quality services, classes, programs, and a supportive family for all of the older adults in the San Francisco Bay Area. With your help we can continue to be a safe haven where our seniors can seek comfort and help.

Thank you again for helping us through this time of need. It's wonderful to know that we have friends like you who care enough to help us.

Sincerely,
Robert Trevorrow
Executive Director
San Francisco Senior Center



Dear Chris,

Thank you for your donation of \$200 to the Channel Islands Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society Annual Campaign. Enclosed, please find some information about our local Chapter. We would be

pleased to provide you with any additional information about MS, our Chapter programs, and research updates.

Your donation will help to support the many direct services that our Chapter provides: support groups, workshops and symposiums, exercise, yoga and adaptive aquatic programs, peer counseling, respite care and medical equipment assistance, and information and referral, as well as fund important research projects.

With your help, we are winning the battle against multiple sclerosis. Again, on behalf of our Board of Trustees, staff, and the clients we serve, thank you for your generous donation and ongoing support.

With best wishes,
Joan Young
Chapter President
National Multiple Sclerosis Society



Editor —

Being a retired mail carrier, I was rather disturbed with Mr. Al Casciato's article on junk mail.

Mr. Casciato tells you who to write to limit your junk mail.

The Post Office calls junk mail Bulk Business Mail. The elimination of BBM would be the end of the Post Office. Modern technology and competition has cut into first class mail and parcel post.

So, if you want to see seven million jobs to be eliminated, please get rid of your "junk" mail.

Robert Kucich
San Francisco

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Surviving a Hotel Fire

By Captain RH Kauffman,
Los Angeles County Fire Department
Excerpts from the
California Narcotic Officer
Submitted to the Journal
by Rene LaPrevotte

Have you ever been in a hotel during a fire? It's a frightening experience, and you should start thinking about it. Hotels have no excuse for being ill prepared, but believe me, you cannot depend on the staff in case of a fire. History has shown some hotels won't even call the fire department. I have been a firefighter in Los Angeles for over 10 years and have seen many people die needlessly in building fires. It's sad because most could have saved themselves.

Fire is not likely to chase you down and burn you to death. It's the bi-products that will kill you. Super heated fire gases (smoke) and panic will almost always be the cause of death. This is very important. You must know how to avoid smoke and panic to survive a hotel fire. With this in mind, here are a few tips:

Where there is smoke, there is not necessarily fire. A smoldering mattress, for instance, will produce great amounts of smoke. Air conditioning and air exchange systems will sometimes pick up smoke from one room and carry it out to other rooms or floors. You should keep that in mind because 70% of the hotel fires are caused by smoking and matches. In any case, your prime objective should be to leave at the first sign of smoke.

Smoke, being warmer, will start accumulating at the ceiling and work its way down. When you have smoke in the building, it's too late to start looking for "exit" signs. The fresh air you want to breathe is at or near the floor. Get on your hands and knees (or stomach) and STAY THERE as you make your way out. Those who don't probably won't get far.

Learn where the exits are

The elevator drops you at the 12th floor and you start looking for your room. You open the door and drop your luggage. AT THAT VERY MOMENT, turn around and go back into the hallway to check your exit. You may NEVER get another chance. Develop the HABIT of checking for your exit after you drop your luggage. If there are two of you sharing a room, BOTH of you locate your exit. As you arrive back at your room, take a look once more. Get a good mental picture of what everything looks like. Do you think you could get to the exit with a "blindfold" on?

Should you have to leave your room during the night, it is important to close the door behind you. This is very effective in keeping out fire and will minimize smoke damage to your belongings. Some doors take hours to bum through. They are excellent "fire stops" so close every door you go through. If you find smoke in the exit stairwell, you can bet people are leaving the doors open as they enter.

Always take your key with you. Get into the habit of putting the key in the same place every time you stay in a hotel. Since every hotel has nightstands, that's an excellent location. It's close to the bed so you can grab it when you leave without wasting time looking for it. It's important you close your door as you leave, and it's equally as important that you don't lock yourself out. You may find conditions in the hallway untenable, and want to return to your room.

Let's suppose you wake up to smoke in your room. Grab your key off the

nightstand, roll off the bed and head for the door on your hands and knees. Even if you could tolerate the smoke by standing. DON'T. You'll want to save your eyes and lungs for as long as possible. BEFORE you open the door, feel it with the palm of your hand. If the door or knob is quite hot, don't open it. The fire could be just outside. With the palm of your hand still on the door (in case you need to slam it shut), slowly open the door and peek into the hallway to "assess conditions."

As you make your way to the exit, stay against the wall on the side where the exit is. It is very easy to get lost or disorientated in a smoky atmosphere. If you're on the wrong side of the hallway, you might crawl right on by the exit. If you're in the middle of the hall, people who are running will trip over you. Stay on the same side as the exit, and count doors as you go.

When you reach the exit and begin to descend, it is very important that you WALK down and hang onto the handrail as you go. Don't take this point lightly. The people who will be running will knock you down and you might not be able to get up. Just hang on and stay out of everyone's way. Smoke will sometimes get into the exit stairway. If it's a tall building, this smoke may not rise very high before it cools and becomes heavy. This is called "stacking." If your room is on the 20th floor, for instance, you could enter the stairway and find it clear. As you descend you could encounter smoke that has "stacked." Do not try to "run through it." people die that way. Turn around and walk up. People going down will run over anything in their way. Hang on and keep heading up towards the roof. When you reach the roof, prop the door with something. This is the ONLY time you will leave a door open. Any smoke in the stairwell may now vent itself to the atmosphere and you won't be locked out.

Now find the windward side of the building (the wet finger method is quite reliable), have a seat and wait until they find you. Roofs have proved to be a safe secondary exit and refuge area. Stay put. Firemen will always make a thorough search of the building looking for bodies. Live ones are nice to find

you'll want to do is open the window to vent the smoke. Don't break the window glass. If there is smoke outside, and you have no window to close, it will enter your room and you will be trapped. The broken glass from the window will cut like a surgeon's scalpel. Besides, if you breakout your window with a chair, you could hit a fireman on the street below.

If there is fresh air outside, leave the window open, but keep an eye on it. You must be aggressive and fight back.

Here are some things you can do in any order you choose

If the room phone works, let someone know you're in there. Flip on the bathroom vent. Fill the bath with water. (Don't get in — the water is for fire fighting.) Wet some sheets or towels and stuff the cracks of your door to keep out the smoke. With your ice bucket, bail the water from the bath onto the door to keep it cool. Feel the walls—if they are hot, bail water onto them too. You can put your mattress up against the door and block it in place with the dresser. Keep it wet—keep everything wet.

A wet towel tied around your nose and mouth is an effective filter if you fold it in a triangle and put the corner in your mouth. If you swing a wet towel around the room, it will help clear the smoke. If there is a fire outside the window, pull down the curtains and move everything combustible away from the window. Bail water all around the window.

There isn't an elevator made that can be used as a "safe" exit. In all states, elevators by law cannot be considered an "exit." They are complicated devices with a mind of their own. If you have any idea that there might be smoke or fire in your hotel, avoid the elevator like the plague.

It's important I say something about jumping because so many people do it. Most are killed or injured in the process. If you're any higher than the 3rd floor, the chances are you won't survive the fall. You would probably be better off fighting the fire. Nearby buildings seem closer than they really are and many have died trying to jump to a building that looked five feet away, but was actually 15 feet away.

Panic is what causes most people to jump. There was a fire in Brazil a few years ago where 40 people jumped from windows and all 40 died. Ironically, 36 of those jumped after the fire was out. Many people have survived by staying put whilst those around them jumped to their death.

Believe it or not most hotels will not call the fire department until they verify whether or not there really is a fire and try to put it out themselves. Should you call the reception to report a fire, they will always send the bellhop, security guard, or anyone else that's not busy to investigate.

Should you want to report a fire or smell of smoke, ask the hotel operator for an outside line for a local call. Call the fire department and tell them your room number in case you need to be rescued. Don't let hotel "policy" intimidate you into doing otherwise.

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Familiarize yourself with your room

See if your bathroom has a vent. Should you decide to remain in your room, turn it on to help remove the smoke. Take a good look at the window in your room. Does it open? Does it have a latch, a lock? Does it slide? Now open the window (if it works) and look outside. What do you see? A sign, ledges? How high up are you? Get a good mental picture of what's outside, it may come in handy.

Should you wake up to smoke in your room and the door is too hot to open or the hallway is completely charged with smoke, don't panic. Many people have defended themselves quite nicely in their room and so can you. One of the first things



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She Did It

This article is reprinted from the December 2001 issue of American Police Beat

After years of struggle, a police officers dream of starting a reading center comes true.

It began several years ago as a dream of Racine, Wisconsin, Police Officer Julia Burney — a dream of a place where inner city children could learn to love books: a community reading center. This past June, Burney's dream came true as the "Cops 'N Kids Reading Center" opened its doors to children on the first day of summer vacation.

Like most fairy tale endings, this one had some twists and turns along the way — some strokes of luck and a few setbacks. And, like most happy endings, it came about only after lots of hard work and only with help from some expected (and a few unexpected) sources.

Burney herself grew up in a large family where books were a luxury, a home where books were placed on top of the refrigerator to ensure that they weren't damaged by any of the 12 children.

But Burney loved to read, and she would climb on a chair, take down the books, and read them in the basement. Reading, she believes, made all the difference in helping her work her way out of poverty.

As a police officer patrolling the inner city neighbor-hoods of Racine, Burney wanted to, bring reading to a new generation of poor youngsters so that it could make a difference in their lives as well. But she had no idea how. Then came her dream about a reading center.

Just two days later, Burney answered a police call at a dark warehouse and found it filled with children's books. It turned out that the books had minor flaws and were slated to be thrown away. Burney asked if she and her fellow officers could take a few boxes, but in the end she received thousands of books.

Thus began the Cops 'N Kids program. As Burney and her fellow officers made their rounds in the commu-



nity, they gave books to children when they made traffic stops or visited homes. Soon children began looking for them and asking for books.

Speaking at the International Reading Association's annual convention in May, Burney described a call she made to one home where the adults were drinking on the porch and yelling. In the midst of the commotion, a little boy came up and tugged on her leg. "Do you have Winnie the Pooh?" he asked.

This led to an "APB" of sorts, with officers searching for a Pooh book among their supplies. In the end, Burney went back to the station and got a copy. When she returned, the little boy was still sitting in the same chair on the porch, waiting excitedly for her arrival. That's how important a book was for some of these children.

Center stage

With the support of local businesses, schools, and civic groups, Burney and her fellow officers delivered literally thousands of books to children within the first couple of years of the Cops 'N Kids program.

However, Burney's dream of a real reading center continued. She had found an ideal site — a vacant three

story brick building in downtown Racine that had been abandoned for more than 20 years.

The owner, George Seater, agreed to donate the building for use as a reading center. However, it took approximately three years to complete the necessary renovations.

The entire community backed the project. Racine firefighters and police officers volunteered their time to rip out floors and drywall. Local electricians spent many days replacing the wiring.

Donations to support the work poured in from throughout the community, and a segment on *The Today Show* brought support from people throughout the United States and beyond who were moved by Burney's story.

Then Oprah Winfrey invited Burney to appear on her show. On national television, Winfrey announced that Burney was the recipient of a \$100,000 "Use Your Life" award as part of Oprah's Angel Network. The money helped Burney finish the renovations to the Cops 'N Kids Reading Center.

During a return visit to the show some months later, Burney learned that computers and furniture also were being donated to the center. Barnes & Noble agreed to provide books for the front window display and to supply books for a children's book club.

Neighbors, friends, and public officials took part in a community block party celebrating the opening of the center in June.

A crew from *The Today Show* filmed the scene for a segment that aired a couple of weeks later.

Newly retired from the police force after more than 20 years of service, Burney is now devoting all her time and energy to the Cops 'N Kids Reading Center. She says, "I've never been happier in my life, because I know I'm part of giving children books and making a difference in their lives."

"It's everything I dreamed and more," Burney said, on the day the center opened.

Passionate appeal

Burney believes in showing her emotions, and during her presentation at the IRA Annual Convention, she laughed (and sometimes cried) as she told the story of the Cops 'N Kids program and showed segments from *The Today Show* and *The Oprah Winfrey Show*. Several people in the audience cried as Burney described the difference that books were making in the lives of youngsters in Racine.

Burney said that the Cops 'N Kids program is simple to operate, and variations are now operating in Minnesota, Texas, Florida, and New Jersey.

"Go to your police chief," Burney urged. "Wherever there are children living in poverty, there are no books. It's considered a luxury. I want you to go back to where YOU come from and be a part of getting books into children's hands."

Reprinted from *Reading Today*, the official publication of the International Reading Association.

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PET CORNER

By Deborah Braden
Background Investigations



Holiday Checklist For Your Pets

Do not let your pets eat, drink or chew:

- Caffeine — Chocolate, coffee products, etc.
- Sugar — Cake, candy, etc.
- Turkey or chicken bones
- Onions or rhubarb
- Liquor
- Pine needles or Christmas tree water
- Ribbon or tinsel icicles
- Christmas lights
- Holiday plants — Mistletoe, poinsettias, etc.

Widows & Orphans

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

war he returned home and worked as a bottler for Lucky Lager Brewing Company. He also worked at the U.S. Mint. He entered the Police Academy in 1947. His first assignment was Mission Station. He then made the "big lights" of Central. Upon being promoted to Sgt. he was assigned to Park, followed by Mission, Ingleside, Northern and Richmond. He made Lt. and was moved to Southern where he retired in 1981. He was awarded two first grade merit awards, one for his involvement in a gun battle with a robbery suspect and another for the arrest a murder suspect. He was also awarded a Silver medal of Valor for the arrest of a robbery suspect and numer-

ous Captains Commendations. He loved a good drink, a good meal and a good laugh.

Good Of The Association: Remember to keep us informed on any address changes or beneficiary changes. It's easy, just call our number and we will take care of it. 681-3660.

Adjournment: President Fontana had a moment of silence for our departed members and those in the Military serving our Country. He then set the next meeting for Wednesday December 19, 2001 at 2 PM in the conference room of Ingleside Station.

Fraternally,
Mark Hurley, Secretary.



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Photos by Margie Holman
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PAL CORNER

Four San Francisco Police Activities League cheerleading teams participated in the Pop Warner Pacific Northwest Regional Cheerleading Competition held at the University of Reno in Reno, Nevada on November 23, 2001. Three of the four cheerleading teams advanced to compete at the Pop Warner National Cheerleading and Dance Team competitions to be held at Disney World in Orlando, Florida during the week of December 3, 2001.

The Jr. Pee Wee Cheer participants range in ages 8 to 11. This will be the third year in a row that this group has qualified to compete at the Nationals. On November 11, 2001, they performed at the Fairmont Hotel for a fund-raising event. On November 23rd, this group won first place in their division at the cheerleading regionals.

The Midget Dance Team consists of members between the ages of 12 and 15. This team is the defending national 2000 Midget Dance champion. It won first place at the regional competition and will defend its National title in December in Florida. This year, the group gave tribute to the legendary bandleader Cab Calloway and wore colorful Zoot suits during part of their performance. They received a standing ovation at the Pacific Northwest Regionals.

The Jr. Midget Dance Team consists of participant ages 11 to 13. This is the first time that San Francisco PAL entered a Jr. Midget Division team in the dance competition.

The Midget Cheer Squad consisted of thirteen members ranging in age from 13 to 15. This squad placed third and although they missed advancing to the nationals, they gave a terrific performance at the regionals in Reno, Nevada.

The Mascots were also invited to give an exhibition performance. They performed to "America" by Ray Charles in honor of the September 11 tragedy. They were the only other group beside the San Francisco PAL Midget Dance team to receive a standing ovation during the regional competition. GO PAL SEAHAWKS.

Judo

Wanted: Youth ages 7 to 16 to learn the sport of Judo. Qualified instructors who are 4th Degree Black Belts train youngsters at the PAL Gym located at 3309 26th Street, San Francisco. For more information, call the San Francisco PAL at 415-401-4666.

PAL Teams Honored at Say Hey Foundation "Night of Heroes" Gala and Auction

On the evening of Saturday, November 10, 2001, The San Francisco Seahawks football team and Junior Pee Wee Cheerleading Squad were honored at the Willie Mays Say Hey Foundation "Night of Heroes" Gala and Auction held at the Fairmont Hotel. The members of the cheerleading squad also performed their routine "A Heroes Welcome" for an audience of 500 that included Former President Bill Clinton and a host of sports legends that included Willie Mays, Barry Bonds, Willie McCovey, Reggie Jackson, Ronnie Lott, Joe Morgan and many others. The cheerleaders' dynamic performance received a resounding ovation from the entire audience.

SFPD Juvenile Division representatives Sergeant Colleen Fatooh, Inspector Joe Clemons, Officer John Webb, Officer Rafael Labutan and Retired Inspector Bruce Frediani accompanied the football players, cheerleaders, their coaches and chaperones from Hamilton Rec Center to the gala. One of the highlights of the evening was the opportunity for the teams to meet and be photographed with Former President Clinton, Barry Bonds, Willie Mays, and Financier Walter Shorenstein. Later in the evening the teams enjoyed dinner and entertainment from Huey Lewis and the News, Linda Ronstadt and Aaron Neville. Presentations were made by Former President Clinton, Willie Mays, and Barry Bonds, followed by the auction which was conducted by Rob Schneider and Ronnie Lott. The teams also had the opportunity to mix with the sports and entertainment celebrities, shake hands and get autographs. It was an exciting evening for the



John Webb, Jr., Sergeant Colleen Fatooh, Former President Clinton, Officer John Webb, and Inspector Joe Clemons.

teams, coaches and chaperones and for the police officers fortunate enough to accompany them.

The San Francisco Seahawks football program is part of the San Francisco Police Activities League, a non-profit organization that provides an opportunity for youth to represent the City of San Francisco in the Redwood Empire Jr. Football Conference. The team is a member of the national Pop Warner organization. The Junior Cheerleading Squad, consisting of participants aged 8-11 years, is also part of PAL and is also affiliated with Pop Warner. The cheerleaders are the first Pop Warner Squad from San Francisco to advance to National contention and have won first place in the Redwood Empire Conference Cheerleading Competition. They advanced to the Pacific Northwest Regional, which took place in Reno, Nevada at the end of November. Both teams are based in

the Western Addition and are part of programs that have provided thousands of young men and women the opportunity to participate in organized athletic competitions for both football and cheerleading under PAL auspices.

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Sports



Nick's Notes

By Nick Shihadeh,
POA Journal Sports Editor

CHECK IT OUT: Note the picture of me holding stolen/recovered softball trophies that had been ingeniously removed from the possessions of Mission and Northern Station personnel who had attended the Softball Banquet earlier this year. The culprits had an easier time snagging Northern's second place trophy than they did Mission's first place one. Mission had it done to them in past championship years and tried to be very careful in not letting it happen again. Unfortunately, their carefulness didn't pan out.

This is what happened: after receiving their first place trophy during an exciting presentation by softball commissioner Brian Olcomendy and me (former commish), the Mission players carefully handed it to Pablo Ossio who steadfastly headed for his vehicle parked outside. Ossio placed it in his car and immediately locked it thinking that the trophy was safe and sound

and would be eventually displayed proudly back at the station. Well, it wasn't to be as the culprits followed Ossio out there without his notice, waited for him to leave the vehicle and head back to the banquet, and then proceeded to successfully "slim jim" his car for the goods. It wasn't until much later in the evening that the theft was even realized.

As far as Northern's trophy, there wasn't quite the forethought required to obtain it. Northern Manager Dave Herman left the trophy on one of the tables, yelled out to Dom Panina to keep an eye on it, and then headed home for the evening. Panina had his back turned with a cocktail in his hand and was yapping away to others at the banquet. He didn't even hear Herman's instructions and continued to socialize as the second place award was removed cleanly from the table. Northern must have really savored this trophy as the theft wasn't even realized until a few days after the event.

Brian Olcomendy and I quickly assured both stations that their trophies would eventually be found and returned. It was a good thing we did as Ossio was just about to make an 852 report on his car. Unfortunately the



Officer Shihadeh solves the case

investigation didn't go as well as had hoped as bits and pieces of the plot as well as important possible clues were received slowly, and the investigation would run into one dead end after another. It wasn't until recently that I was hit by a stroke of luck.

It was mid November that my partner Bud Clinton and I were detailed from Park Station to the Tenderloin for a few hours for their scheduled meeting with Commander Rick Bruce (it sure didn't feel like a stroke of luck for me at the time). While touring the new station upon first arrival I noticed a ledge where a basketball trophy and other trophies were being displayed. Closer inspection revealed that the other trophies were softball trophies. Thinking that even though the TTF Rats softball team has been somewhat competitive over the years but not nearly good enough to even have a crack at a championship game, I realized that the softball trophies couldn't possibly belong to them. I climbed a ladder, took an even closer look, and realized my good fortune in locating the stolen trophies—it only took me five months to crack the case.

I quickly put the recovered goods in a safe place and went about my business in the Tenderloin for that few hours. It wasn't until a little later when the meeting had been adjourned that Tenderloin personnel started filing

into the business office. I wondered how long it would take for someone to notice.

It was team manager Mark Obrochta who immediately observed that the trophies were now missing from their possession. He was quoted as saying, "Where are the trophies Shihadeh? I didn't have anything to do with it. Really I didn't. But, where are they?" All I could respond with was that they were in a safe place, would be returned to their proper owners, and that the Rats would somehow have to earn their own trophy once softball season arrives again.

Be advised that after my excellent work on this case, commissioner Olcomendy will issue a commendation at a later date. He will also be considering sanctions against the TTF Rats ball club for next season. I'll keep you informed in this column.

In the meantime, department basketball is getting started this month with the league once again being run by Jerry Darcy. In the A-Division the teams will be: Central Station, Southern Station, Northern Station, FBI, SFFD #1, SFFD #2, Narcotics/Vice, SF CHP, and SF DPT. The B-Division will consist of: Bayview Station, Park Station, Ingleside Station, Tenderloin Station, Narcotics #2, The Inspectors, CHP #2/Airport, and Daly City PD. This year only the top four teams in each division will make the playoffs and there will be no inter-division play.

Commissioner Darcy would like to keep those league fees coming in and would also like everyone to note the St. Mary's Gym that is now being utilized by the league all days except Fridays. It is a good facility and is located at Justin Drive and Murray St. (off of the Alemany Exit when on the 280 freeway). Use your street guide or call Ingleside station for specific directions. Otherwise, good luck in the b-ball league. That's all for this month... Happy Holidays and So See Ya next month...

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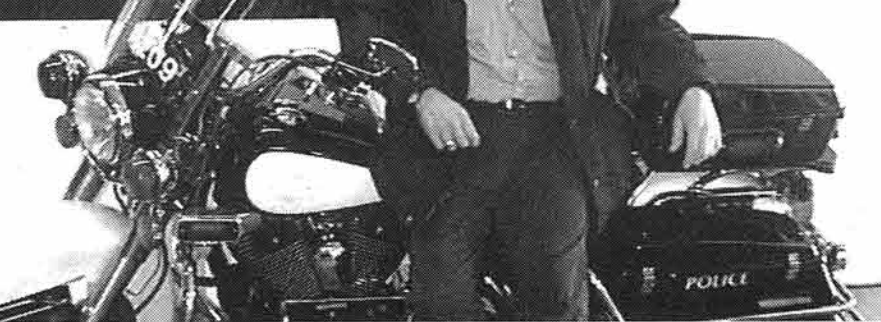
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The following tribute to the National Guard is reprinted from "In Plane View," the newsletter of the department Airport Bureau. It was submitted to the Journal by Commander Sylvia Harper.

A Salute to the Guard

By Lieutenant Dennis Schardt
Airport Bureau

On Thursday, October 18th the San Francisco Police Department's Airport Bureau gave a patriotic send off and recognition for a job well done to the National Guard contingent that was being rotated out. This unit of the



Guard was the very first to be stationed at SFO after the September 11th attacks and did an outstanding job of helping to enhance the safety and security at the Airport. Their spirit of cooperation and professionalism was a tribute to the armed services. All the members of the various units that made up this contingent are full time National Guard and are highly dedicated soldiers. Some of them will very likely be re-deployed to Operation Enduring Freedom.

The brief ceremony included a visual screen presentation by Officer Bob Aitchison with many pictures of the Guard in action with patriotic songs playing in the background. Commander Sylvia Harper

and Deputy Chief Rick Bruce presented members of the Guard with certificates of appreciation and Department patches. Captain Daren Runion, incoming commander Major Rene Horton and Joint Task Force Commander, Colonel William Wade thanked the S.F.P.D. and presented the Airport Bureau with a plaque showing the Guard's "Task Force Aerosafe - Team SFO" logo and patches of the various units assigned to the task force. The highlight of the ceremony was when incoming Tactical Operations Officer, Lieutenant Robert Paoletti sang Lee Greenwood's "I'm Proud to be an American" acapela. The master of ceremonies, Captain Martel, then invited Colonel Wade to cut the cake with both the S.F.P.D.'s patch and the Guard's logo on it.

The S.F.P.D. Airport Bureau salutes



the Guard for a job well done and wish them well in their future deployments. God Bless America and the National Guard.



Bulletin

San Francisco Police Officers' Association
510 7th Street, San Francisco, CA

California Peace Officers' Memorial Foundation
2495 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 555 • Sacramento, CA 95833-2935
www.camemorial.org • camemorial@prodigy.net

They Laid Down Their Lives in the Line of Duty They Deserve Your Support

The beautiful bronze and granite "California Peace Officers' Memorial" located on the State Capitol grounds in Sacramento contains the names of more than 1,300 courageous peace officers who have laid down their lives in the line of duty protecting and serving their fellow Californians, dating back to early statehood.

Governor Gray Davis, in an overt expression of support for these heroes and their surviving families, signed into law Senate Bill 123 authored by Senator Burton. This law allows taxpayers to make voluntary contributions on their personal state income tax returns to the "California Peace Officers' Memorial Foundation Fund." The process is simple. No checks to write and no solicitors. The taxpayer merely executes a check off on his or her State Franchise Tax Board Form in the amount of at least \$3.00.

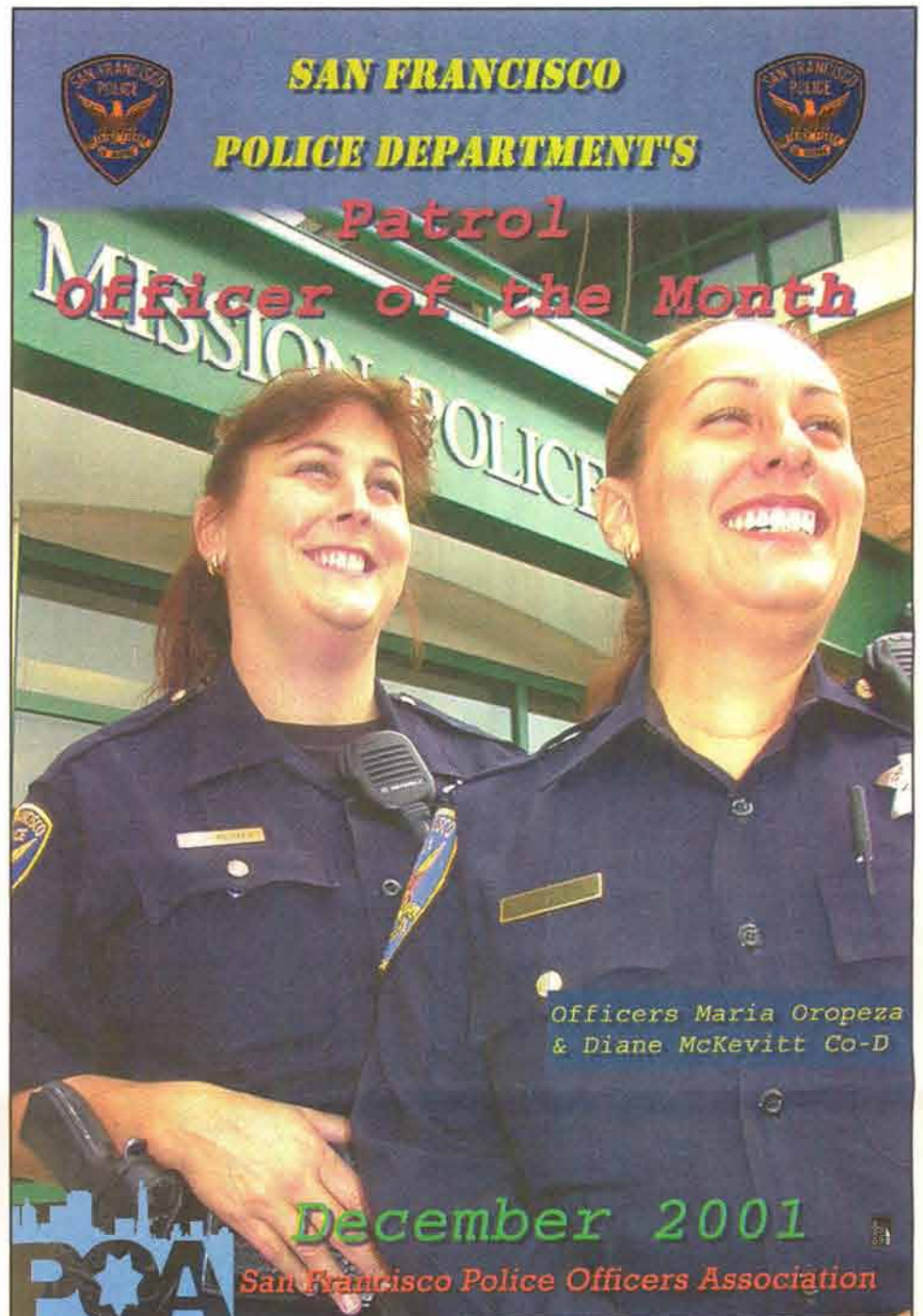
Importantly, the law specifies that all contributions must be used to maintain the "California Peace Officers' Memorial," and for activities in support of the surviving families of those gallant men and women peace officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

When you file your "California State Income Tax Return" in the coming year, you can help in a most meaningful way.

On "Line 59 - California Peace Officers' Memorial Foundation Fund" of your "California Resident Income Tax Return - 2001" simply indicate a contribution in the amount of at least \$3.00.

Our Law enforcement survivors are depending on you.

Patrol Officers Of The Month



By Ray Shine,
Editor

Seeking to publicly acknowledge the hard work and dedication of uniformed police officers, Deputy Chief Rick Bruce implemented the San Francisco Police Department's Patrol Officer of the Month, a program that recognizes individuals who personify the admirable qualities common in all San Francisco street cops. Commander Greg Suhr is continuing this important tribute to San Francisco's officers assigned to Field Operations.

Each month, Commander Suhr will ask a district captain to nominate one of their uniformed officers for this special recognition. The selection of a single officer, or team of officers, for this honor will prove to be an unenviable task. It will, after all, be very difficult to single out one or two officers from among so many, all of whom are as focused on their duty; every one as unassuming as the next; all as worthy and deserving.

The San Francisco Police Officers' Association applauds Commander Suhr and the Administration for recognizing the uniformed patrol officer who comprise "the backbone of the Department."

The Association also congratulates Officers Maria Oropeza and Diane McKevitt of Mission Station, for being chosen as the December 2001 Patrol Officers of the Month. As with all such honorees, the selection of Diane and Maria serves to exemplify the strength of character, compassion, and commitment to community that is embodied in all of the men and women of the SFPD.

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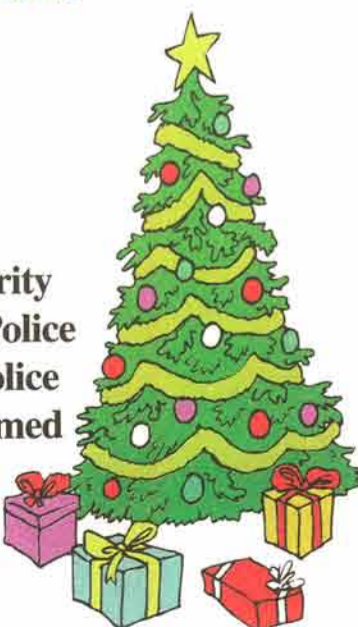
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