A Message from the President

By Chris Cunnie

I suppose that all of us experience significant milestones 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 suddenness 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 POA.

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

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 Kiwan, 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.

City Attorney-Elect Dennis Herrera

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

2001: A Year like No Other

By Chris Cunnie, SFPOA President

2001: A Year like No Other

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2001: A Year like No Other

By Chris Cunnie, SFPOA President
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 2:01 PM in the conference room of Ingleside Station.

Pledge Of Allegiance: Led by President Dave Fontana.

Roll Call Of Officers: President Fontana, Vice President Crotat ex- cept Ed Morgan, Secretary Sturken, and Treasurer Sturken. Also present were past Presidents Robert Ford and 900 shares of Honeywell. The represen-
tatives from Bank of America did not attend this meeting. We had the meet-
ing at the Bank of America on California St. on November 8th, 4:30pm

Minutes Of The October Meeting: Motion Jeffery and seconded by Secretary Sturken. Motion approved as published. Motion carried.

Bills: Treasurer Sturken presented the usual bills. Motion by Jeffery, secon ded by Secretary Sturken. Motion carried.

Report Of Trustees: The represen-
tatives from employee Joelle Phillips did not attend this meeting. We had the meet-
ing at the Bank of America on California St. on November 8th, 4:30pm

Treasurer-Jim Sturken. Trustees- Rob-

senators from Bank of America did not
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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

A fter 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 regrettfully pass on the duties. Our current Post Secretary is Ed Struckman, who will do an excellent job. I would like to take this opportu-
nity to thank all of you over the years who gave me positive feedback, and those of you that mailed me items of interest. Your many kindnesses were greatly appreciated.

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

On 21 December members of the post will be visiting the veteran's hos pital at Fort Milley. Every year we go to visit the old veterans that will be spending Christmas at Post San Francisco. 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' Associa tion and from the San Francisco Deputy Sheriffs Association, we will be able to increase the number of veter ans we visit. When I see the smiling

Editorial: "Weep not that the world changes — did it keep a stable, changeless state, it were cause indeed to weep." — William Cullen Bryant, 1824

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Country singer Lee Greenwood was on tour in 1983 when he heard that Korean Air Lines Flight 007, car rying several U.S. citizens, had been shot down by the Soviet Union. Angered by the atrocity, he took pen to scratch paper and composed “God Bless the USA.” The song was released the following year.

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 me morial services. “God Bless the USA” went platinum after its original release in 1984 and experienced a second wave of popularity following the Persian Gulf War.

Since the start of Operation Endur ing Freedom, sales have been brisk for Greenwood’s “American Patriot” album, a 1992 compilation of “God Bless the USA” and other patriotic songs. In December, before the album’s release, Greenwood was named the “American Patriot” sold only 235 copies. For the week ending October 7, the album sold 59,000 copies.

In bowling alleys and church din ners all across the state, some 20,000 followers have said they want to see

continued on page 16

The San Francisco Police Officers’ Association

POA Journal

U.S.P.O. 8882 320

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ADVERTISING: David Dommer 415/863-7550

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ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: Editor, POA Journal, 510 7th St., San Francisco, CA 94101. POA Journal is the official newspaper of the San Francisco Police Officers’ Association for unsolicited material.

The POA Journal is the official newspaper of the San Francisco Police Officers’ Association. However, opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the POA or the San Francisco Police Department. Contributions are welcome from members and others interested in issues of concern to police officers. Members or readers submitting letters or articles to the editor are requested to observe these simple rules:

• Address letters to the Editor, POA Journal, 510 7th St., San Francisco, CA 94101.

• Letters must be accompanied by the writer’s name and address. The name, but not the street address, will be published with the letter.

• Unsigned letters and articles will not be used.

• Opinions are assured freedom of expression within necessary limits of space and good taste.

• The editor reserves the right to edit material to fit available space.

• Articles should be typed, double-spaced.

Call the Secretary to join at (415) 731-4765, or write to us at P.O. Box 22046, SF 94112.
By Al Cascio

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@acolam.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. Sheriff's Office and is now a member of the San Carlos Police Department... Dan Rodriquez (Retired S.F.P.D., Homicide) of their son Garrett Tanner Lud, 7 lbs. 10.8 oz. 23 inches on November 20, 2001.

Corner Cup:

Richard Cairns, Auto Detail, collapsed in the Police Gym while playing basketball. He was reported 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...

Moving:

Maggie Ortelle, Field Operations Bureau, 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 Records. The CD is only $3.99, and all proceeds from the sales go directly to Mayor Giuliani's Twin Towers Fund.

The power of the spoken word, especially when sung, is a tremendous way especially when sung, is a tremendous way.

From Our Family To Yours – The Falzon Grandchildren

Wish You A Happy Holiday Season!!

Kevin & Frankie & Davey

Christina & Bridget & Matthew & Caroline

Stephanie & Catherine

GOD BLESS AMERICA!

December 2001
Page 3
POA Journal
The Embassy Suites Hotel in Burlingame hosted the SFPOA semiannual pre-retirement seminar (October 15, 16 & 17). Members and their spouses/patners gathered 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 group health and nutrition, taxation, essential planning, and critical psychological issues presented by respected speakers.

This seminar is now titled "The Gino Maronetti 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 Chief Ross Lawton 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 site assistance.

The seat of honor, which is reserved for the most senior member in attendance, was given to Officer Ron 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 when speaking about retirement, 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 Collin, Alex and Shannon Fagan, John and Sandra Fovou, Paul and Angie Kendall, Ross and Bunny Laffin, Dan and Laurie Lawson, Sam and Angela Martin, Ed and Clorinda Springer, and Dave and Nadine Seyehiro.

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 Faulkwood exclaimed that he loved riding a motorcycle and giving out tickets. Tom Cunnane pointed out that the SPD 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 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 so well funded. He noted: "There's money somewhere!"

Comments from the attendees on the day centered on "health and wellness." One attendee stated: "I would have voted 'no' at creation."

Comments from the attendees on the day centered on "health and wellness." One attendee stated: "I would have voted 'no' at creation."

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's health care is, especially for the group covered under the new rules, changes can be made once distribution has begun.

Next Seminar

The next retirement planning seminar is scheduled for April 23-24, 2003. 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 have already contacted the Retirement System for their retirement dates. The seminar fills up quickly so don't delay.
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 promotion 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 and obtain an executive position. This new system will replace the SFPOA's 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, benefits, retirement 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 every 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 14 year old daughter named Brandon and a 12 year old daughter named Brittany.

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 also worked at Mission Station, Central Station, Northern Station, and the H & R Section. I have also worked with Munu, Housing, Vice, GTF, and the Narcotics unit on numerous occasions, I have worked as an E.T.O., and worked with the Operation Dream Christmas toy drive.

I am an active O.E.F. 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.

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 of a family in a Police Protection, and for the past 4-1/2 years, Southern Station.

I am currently an E.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 mentor.

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 S.F.P.D. 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 police 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, the Narcotics Overtime, and the sacrifices one has to make (overtime) in order to make it work.

I am proud to wear the SFPOA 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 current 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 entitled to, and to ensure that we continue to strive to stay competitive and or exceed other agencies.

Serving you

Cunnin 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 1:00 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 will be addressing those matters in the coming weeks, with personal visits to each station and unit.

Chris Cunnin
President, SFPOA

Jack Minkel
Treasurer, SFPOA

Gary Delagnes
Vice President, SFPOA

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

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 Officer’s Report or a “patent” 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 on or before the one-year limitation period.

The POA argued that the 0CC letter provided to the officer within one year is the Officer’s Report and a “patent” of preliminary findings in its current form. The court agreed because the allegations were based on reports of incidents that occurred more than one year before the 0CC received a complaint.

The 0CC’s letter notifying the officer of the investigation is not a final determination that the Department and Commission proceeded beyond the one-year limitation period. The 0CC and the Police Department also argued that the multi-jurisdictional exception applied.

The POA argued that the “multi-jurisdictional exception” was not applicable because the 0CC and the Police Department did not cooperate in the investigation. They argued that they could not receive a final determination from the 0CC because the department had not been given the opportunity to investigate the case.

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 also ruled that the multi-jurisdictional exception does not apply because the OCC and the Police Department did not cooperate in the investigation.

The POA filed motions to dismiss the disciplinary cases after the 0CC and the Police Department failed to cooperate. 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 also ruled that the multi-jurisdictional exception does not apply because the OCC and the Police Department did not cooperate in the investigation.

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 for a 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 ruled that the multi-jurisdictional exception applied.

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 for a 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 ruled 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.

If the nine-time International Sharp Shooting Champion trusts us with his eyes, you can too.

At ARIS, experience is our expertise. That’s why Police Officer Mark Cobb, the nine-time International Sharp Shooting Champion, chose an ARIS doctor when he decided on laser eye surgery. And, since ARIS understands how important good eyesight is, we have found we can now receive laser eye surgery at a great price. Call to schedule an appointment with Dr. Dan Goodman (listed in Best Doctors in America) or with Dr. Ning Peters at our San Francisco location.

Special offer for SFPD — $2995 for both eyes. That’s a savings of $2005.

Wishing the SFPD/SPOA
Safe and Happy Holidays!

THE GARDEN PROJECT
Pier 28, Second Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
415-243-8558
By Gary Delagnes

The “Cunnie Team” is a Cut Above
By Inspector David W. Tassei
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 model 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 be well for us 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.
"In The Spirit of Thanksgiving"

**SFPoa Sponsors Thanksgiving Meal**

By Jennifer Forrest

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 Tinker (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 job in serving our special guests: Miriam, Juan, Carlos, and Fausto. Special thanks to Chris Carne, 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!

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**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 your time is your own. You do not have to make decisions for other people, and you will never be questioned about the costs 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 Carne, 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 Complaint 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 in negotiations for another contract with the Mayor’s representatives shortly, and your new POA building will be breaking ground right around the corner. There are still some other projects in addition to the hundreds of administrative requests that come before Chris and his Executive Board have such an excellent relationship with Chief Lau’s command staff and the Mayor’s Office. These are just some of the many 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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**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 to 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 of 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 because He has the authority to break the power of sin over us who believe in Him and promises us the gift of eternal life. Yet, 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 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 defender” 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 parents that attended.

My daughter, Laura, and Yvonne are busy with plans of marriage in the spring. Laura has been our bodies in the tree 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, and I’m sure it will be a great time. Yvonne 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 worries 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.

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There continues to be a substantial amount of confusion regarding the validity of the International Drivers License in California. Also called an IDP (International Driving Permit), the IDP was created in 1968 by the United Nations Conference on Road Traffic and is used in more than 150 countries. The State of California does not recognize the IDP as a valid driver’s license, but does allow non-resident drivers to drive in this state as long as the IDP is accompanied by a valid out-of-country driver’s license. In essence, all the IDP is, is a translation of the foreign drivers license in the tongue of the visited country. For that reason, a person who is a resident of the USA must present a valid license from their home state if they are visiting California, either with or without an IDP. An IDP is never a valid license in California for a California resident. You should also be aware that any schmuck can obtain an IDP over the internet with no proof of a valid license. Any California resident who is detained and found to be driving on an International Driver’s License is in violation of 12500a CVC. (You should also run them by name for a California Drivers License, as many suspended drivers try to sneak-by with an IDP.)

A Message from the Treasurer
POA Accomplishments
Humbled by WTC Events

By Rene LaPrevotte, Co. K

POA Accomplishments
Humbled by WTC Events

By Jack Minkel

December is a good time to look back and assess the accomplishments of the past year. Setting aside the horrific tragedies of September, I am quite satisfied with the results of 2001. It was less than five years ago that I assumed the responsibilities of Treasurer. At the time, our books showed that we were $700,000 in the red. We re-organized, tightened our belts, and managed to run that deficit into a comfortable financial position. It was that retooling that provided us with the incredible opportunities of the last year and a half.

Now that the POA is solvent and on firm financial legs, we have moved forward with some important association business that had been sitting on the back burner.

Now that the POA is solvent and on firm financial legs, we have moved forward with some important association business that had been sitting on the back burner.

January is the kick-off for our campaign to upgrade our pension, and we anticipate that it will be a costly and prolonged effort to achieve the 90% retirement package. The good news is that if we don’t soon tear it down, it will be the culmination of months of planning, and it will mark a major accomplishment for me and the rest of the Connie team. Just as with the pension upgrade campaign, the new building will be built without any assessment — entirely with funds set aside for the project over the last couple of years.

I can’t put into words what the WTC terror attacks has meant to all of us. It was such a sad, low point for America and for police and firefighters across our nation. If it thought it would work, I would gladly pay our treasury surplus to avoid an attack like that. Of course, that will never dissuade lunatics and hate-mongers from committing senseless acts of murder and destruction.

Having said that, I am still glad of what we accomplished and gained over the last year. A huge, sweeping contract, a calculated charter campaign, and a new building. Looking back, I have to say it was a good year at the POA.

Happy holidays to all, and to your friends and families.

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POA Journal
Page 9
August 11th, 2001, Bayview Station. Off-duty Officer, Raymond Koenig and his partner, Sergeant Julian Wong, received a call that a man had been injured. The suspect, a man named Officer Hawercamp, had beenattacked by a woman in his car. The woman had apparently been beaten and was now in the street. The officers responded to the scene and proceeded to the officer's home to assist with the arrest. The suspect was quickly identified and taken into custody without incident. The investigation is ongoing.

August 12th, 2001 Tenderloin Station. In the early morning hours, Sgt. Ed Garcia was at Mason and O'Farrell streets when he heard shots being fired. He immediately responded to the scene and located a victim who had been shot. The victim was transported to the hospital and is expected to recover.

August 27th, 2001 Ingleside and Taraval. Through information gathering, the officers 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 a meeting to see the car in hopes of completing the transaction. When the parolee arrived, he was accompanied by two other individuals. The officers were able to take the parolee into custody without incident. The investigation is ongoing.

September 3rd, 2001 Southern Station. Officers James Custer, Allan Holloway, 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 searched the area and found the suspect standing in a nearby 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, and Officer Havercamp had to use force to complete the arrest. The suspect was transported to the hospital and charged with assault and battery.

The officers' swift response to this incident is commendable. The police officers were able to quickly identify the suspect and bring him to justice, despite the suspect's violent behavior. The investigation is ongoing to determine the apparent reason for the suspect's actions.

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

By Tom Shawyer, POA Secretary

POA Board of Directors’ Meeting
POA Building, November 28, 2001

1300: Meeting Convened

Motion: N. Gittens (ADMIN)
Motion: B. Olcomendy (Narc)
Motion: J. Zachos (Co. D)

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

Motion: That the Q-80 Captain Job Announcement be approved by the SFPOA Board of Directors.
Move: B. Olcomendy (Narc)
Second: D. Sorgie (Co. G)

Motion unanimously passed by voice vote.

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 can live with confidence.

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 Detault

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, plastic, or cash.

Cash is the easiest for small purchases, while checks and cards 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 — the good old days!

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 "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, steal your identity — and use these to create counterfeit checks with your account number and fake ID with the right info — yours!

Bank cards, on the other hand, can use Electronic Transaction Authorization. Merchant transfers the transaction 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 your 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 account number. Because your address, telephone number and DMV number are not on each credit slip, identity thieves have much less opportunity than with 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 worldwide. Once you report the card stolen, the bank becomes the victim, since the card is accepted with a valid signature. The bank will pay the merchants for all the purchases made by the crook which were authorized by their card network and in error. Neither the merchants nor the bank will ever hassle you about the purchases made by the crook which were authorized by their card network and in error.

Stolen Checkbook. Reporting your checkbook stolen, 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. This is another matter.

Banks are 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 by mail. Don't keep your checks in your wallet. Don't leave checks to be mailed 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!

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" for any checks used fraudulently and return the form to your bank. And that's where the 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 to 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 assign an "affidavit of forgery" number to a collection agency to go after you.

Many smaller merchants do not have a check verification service, because they have no way of knowing your checks are stolen, until days after they "bounce".

The crook 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 entire system is a joke.

Merchants might be able to instantly determine the status of your checks, but many don't have this service. They are in competition, so they don't share information with each other. Some merchants may contact you, asking for payment, assuming that you're the one who passed the check. Merchants may even assign an "affidavit of forgery" number to a collection agency to go after you.

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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 View-Mender Ingleside Neighbors In Action newsletter. By Regina Blosser

has 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 NSF 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 "there 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 is 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.

Hmmn, 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 talk directly with OMI residents in solving not only crime but quality of life issues in our neighborhood.

As many of you may have heard by now, Captain Yalon is going to implement a neighborhood policing program in the area. He says he will do his best to keep the streets and neighborhoods safe.

Officer Cohen is telling this story each 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.

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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!

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!

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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: Policewomen's Endowment Association, NYPD, 7825 Fifth Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11209

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POA Journal December 2001
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 Mulken (Co. H). Before we were performing their Special Operations Division's routine bus transportation training by transporting the SFPD women to the front door of the Delancey Street Restaurant. Our members gathered on the wrap-around balcony with the beautiful 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 in their support and guidance. Chief Lau helped coordinate both the restaurant and the training. Assistant Chief Sande-

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 Sand- ers helped with words of encouragement to the police department members.

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 ev- er, historical rendition depicting Santa’s reindeer, every single one of them, from Rudolph to Blitzen, had to be a girl. We shouldn’t know. 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.

YOU GO GIRLS!!!

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

SFPD Women Attend Health Issues Luncheon

The emcees were the Behavioral Science Unit's, Sergeant Mary Dunningen and Intern Jody Greenhalgh. They intro-duced the first speakers.—Lieuten-ant Al Cascato, 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.
Traffic Law Update

Briefed by Mike Paganini,
Airport Bureau

People v. Paul Mortimer White
Fourth Appellate District
CCourt #E0239989F
Filed: November 15, 2001

Question:
Does a license plate that is partially obscured by a trailer hitch ball violate Vehicle Code section 5201, which requires that license plates be clearly visible?

Answer:
Yes

Background:
On October 12, 2000, a San Bernar-
dino County deputy stopped a driver'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 on the rear license plate. The deputy testified that he believed the tow ball blocked the rear license plate. The deputy stated that he was incapable of seeing the middle numeral on the plate, and the truck's rear bumper blocked the deputy's view of the middle numeral of the rear license plate.

Discussion:
The traffic law at issue in this case is Vehicle Code section 5201, which provides that personal property, that is, license plates must be at all times...

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Waterloo's five Sullivan brothers on Iowa's commemorative U.S. quarter. James W. Miller in peri...

Officer James Guelff
A Local Hero

By Marty Laser
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 rais-
ing $250,000 for the police officers...

Office of Allison have amassed that many signatures since beginning the project in January. The brothers, Francis, Joseph, Madison and Albert Sullivan, who grew up on Adams Street in Waterloo, died after their ship, the light cruiser...
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 terrorism attacks occurring on our home soil just gave us pause.

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 Franciscans 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 NTPF Survivor Trust Fund at the San Francisco Police Credit Union. Chris still did not have an accurate count of how many officers 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 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 make sure 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...
Sgt. Joe Keenan (right) presents a plaque of appreciation to Sergeant Marty Halloran.

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

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

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

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

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.

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.

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.

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

Members of the NYPD who were killed in the WTC.

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

COLLAGE PHOTOS BY PATRICK BURKE
BRIAN DANKER
BOB GUINAN

Destroyed vehicles at Staten Island site.
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 Tomliska (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 (HOU), 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 HOU/Bureau. I would also like to acknowledge the members of Mission Station who with the gentle persuasion of Carrie Lucas raised over $33,700.00. 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 their dedication. I would also like to thank Geralyn Kavanagh, Mike Costello, Damien Fahey, Brian Olcomendy, Ricky Guerero, Jon Kasper, Gary Delanges, 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 13th. 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 their efforts.

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 SPF 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 $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 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 barriers 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 remnants 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, hard hat, heavy duty gloves, personal respirator and most important — ear plugs. 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 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 extra few days to visit and volunteer. After a while, I came up with "Hey, I'm closer to home then you think — born and raised on Staten Island." To which, most replied — "No, sh—, well, alright, thanks for being here." One guy saw me hunch 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 a part of a much larger family — the one in blue.
Armanino. Retired Lieutenant Dan Hallisy who is now employed by Tho-
mas Weisel Partners in the financial district helped organize efforts with his
brothers in New York. Unfortunately to help were young and old, rich and
poor and all of us had to leave our normal walk of life. The common denomina-
tor was their care, concern, and com-
passion for those who made the ul-
timate sacrifice. The generosity of our
members and the community that we
were nothing less than over-
whelming.

By the beginning of November the
fund was over $200,000 strong so pho-
to journalist was in New York in order to present checks to the
NYPD and NY Port Authority. Chris
also arranged for the presence of directors and I was hoping to present
these checks on the second month anniversary at the NTC Patrolmen’s Boots
at some point. It just so happened to
be within the department about this trip
and before I knew it 20 officers had returned to the boots some support for our law enforcement
brothers in New York. Unfortunately Chris
was unable to make the 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 expres-
son of the PBA’s commitment.

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 es-
corted, by the NY Port Authority, to St Patricks Cathedral. In New York
there was here that we represented the SPD in class “A” uniforms at the
funeral of a FDNY Fireman who was recorded
dead several days earlier at the rubble
of the WTC. Before and after this funeral
we received a lot of double takes at our uniforms. It was a somber day and
surprised about the distance that we trav-
elled but all were happy to have been
there.

On 11-09-01 the entire delegation was
descended back into Manhattan by Of-
ficeman Sean Vareen of the NYPO Benevo-
ence. Chris Armanino was able to make
arrangements on September 11th and barely escaped
with his life. Sean told us chilling sto-
ries of his experience and he rattle the most seasoned officer. Sean is
a true living hero of the NYPO. We
arrived at the NYT PBA and were brought directly to President Patrick
Lynch’s office, which overlooks the East River and the Brooklyn Bridge. It
was a moving experience to meet the Deputy Chief Thomas Dale and NYPD
Sergeant Joe Keenan. I first read a let-
ter from President Cunnie to President
Lynch, which expressed condolences
from the members of the FDNY. Then
presented a check for $85,000.00 made out to the NYPD PBA in
memory of the 23 NYFD officers who were killed. This check was added to the
amount of $135,000.00 made out to the Port Authority PD was presented
to DC Dale in memory of the 31
Officer from Port Authority that died in the attacks. A third check in the amount
of $10,000.00 was made out to the NYFD PBA and was presented to the PBA
in memory of the 49 officers that were killed. Joe Keenan is a very well
established widows and orphan’s club that serves the police and fire members of the
NYPD then presented these gentle-
man with commemorative wall clocks
from the POA as a sign of unity be-
tween our organizations. These clocks
Displayed the SPD patch in the cen-
table were neatly set for the lunch
crew and I could see pots and pans
in the stove in kitchen probably still containing the special of the day
for that September 11th. What I was
that everything was covered in heavy gray dust and the chairs and
Table was wiped clean as-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 inside the site ev-
ery New York officer that we came in contact with was given a memorial T-
sseed from $3,500.00 was sent sent to the Court Administration Fami-
lies Assistance Fund in memory of the
3 officers killed from their agency.

The NYPD and the PBA were overwhelmed.

The had heard about some of our fund-
raising efforts but they had no idea of the
tremendous outpouring from our members and
our community.

The Joe Keenan then took us out to
Staten Island where the temporary mosque was established on September 12.
This site was a very special place being open non-stop day and night since the
attacks. NYPD Crime Scene Investiga-
tion was operating on this site along with the FBI and this site must have been
as large as 5 football fields. Stand-
ing on this high ground we could see
the vast amount of debris and thank
for all their hard work.

As I took a closer look at these shoes I
prised to see us so far from home but
and before I knew it 20 officers had
contact with was given a memorial T-
shirt to one of these buckets was a pile of
burnt and mangled personal items (i.e.
with any additional funds raised will
be used in any way possible to pro-
the cost of the memorial T-shirts. All
other costs (i.e. photo
trials) with the Community Services account at
the POA. There was no overhead or admin-
fee. Any donations can be made by check or credit card online.

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 of-
roles in the POA’s fundraising effort and unfortunately no one could have done
it on his own. If I failed to men-
sure your support then I apologize. But even with the current law enforcement
community in New York,
would be remiss if I did not men-
tion 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
 valuable when the delegation made the	rip. For those of you who have
ever dealt with him then you know
something special about this man. Since I was never able to get a word in
eed to do the same for him. John Lynch was clearly moved and could
not thank us enough on behalf of the
affected agencies in Washington DC. This will take place at the Peace Officer
Memorial Week in May 2002.

The Joe Keenan was clearly moved and could

something from a nuclear holocaust or a scene from a sci-fi movie. Half the

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 for the trip on behalf of Chris Cunnie and
all POA members. As I told President Lynch at the PBA “Pat, as we approach the sec-
cond month anniversary of these att-
cacks we want you and the members of the
NYPD and NY Port Authority. Chris
was over the 10,000 miles away, the
members of the San Francisco Police
Department will not forget. Nor will
the NYC Port Authority or the FDNY for the first and
second decade anniver-
sary.

Upon returning to San Francisco additional checks were drafted and
sent back to New York to aid the fami-
lies of the remaining officers that were killed in the attacks. $10,500.00 was
sent to the Court Administration Fami-
lies Assistance Fund in memory of the
3 officers killed from their agency.

$3,500.00 was also sent to the FBI
AA/Lenard Harton Family Fund and the
USCSS/Ella Miller Family Fund in memory of the 3 officers killed from the
Secret Service agent killed at the WTC.

When the columns were all added up $99,597.77 was either de-
sired or sent to funds established for fallen New York officers. When you
include the $11,997.77 that remains from the 2001 anniversary at the
members of the POA and the Bay Area Community raised $258,597.77 so our
total is $358,195.54. The last $9,000 out of the NYPD Survivor Trust Fund
was to cover the cost of the memorial
T-shirts. All other costs (i.e. photo
trials) with the Community Services account at
the POA. There was no overhead or admin-
fee. Any donations can be made by check or credit card online.

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not thank us enough on behalf of the
affected agencies in Washington DC. This will take place at the Peace Officer
Memorial Week in May 2002.
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 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 smoking rubble of the World Trade Center. An eerie silence would take place in an area that was continuously a buzz when a body would be removed from the pile. The body was 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. 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 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.

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 Kelty, FOB

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

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 a heavy case 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 throw in 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 would head for the building where the potential explosion occurred. The mechanics of this haven't been worked out yet, but we are waiting to catch 6,000 or so people who took the fireman's uniform to con- fess by alternately between interrogating and grieving firemen and sympathy for his getting the recognition that he so deservingly lived in. 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 confirmed dead would be carried by the department as a homicide, and every person missing will be carried as a missing person. Although I am not a cop, police do seem to embarrass themselves. They never shoot anyone. It is all saving people, looking good, and driving around in cool red trucks.

At ground zero. At first, I thought that would be a plum assignment. I had forgotten, for a moment, the giant smoke cloud billowing up five flights and had a heart attack. I was transferred downtown. I was transferred to the precinct in which the Trade Center had stood. Ordinarily this would be a plum assignment.

A former San Francisco Assistant District Attorney (1979-1997)
wanted to find his mugger, he said, "bastard." He was yelling although we knew that the majority of New York and the rest of 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 must sometimes deviate from the straight and narrow, so that I am 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 ticketing 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 this 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.

December 2001
POA Journal
Page 25
Open Letter to
Our Fellow Officers
Across the Nation and
Right here at "Ground Zero"

Almost three months have passed since the terroristic 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 those 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 efforts. We also owe a special debt of gratitude to our brothers and sister law enforcement officers from across the nation, who have worked so hard, even risking their lives, in the rescue and recovery task in helping to parse our ruined 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

An Officer’s Thoughts
This Holiday Season

By Dennis Schardt

Airport Bureau

Awakening that morning to a very dark day, watching in horror 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.

Team come often as many courageous stories unfold, we now have 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!
St. Emydius Elementary School: A Jewel in San Francisco's Educational Community

By Ray Shine

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 St. Emydius, the school administration is to create an environment where their students are free to explore and develop to 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 educational 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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Premium education still to be had at SF neighborhood school
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 SFPO has made over the last fifteen years. You also left us with thought provoking examples of how the POA has helped to make SFPO stronger and more responsive to Officers' needs through stress units, legal counsel, and community involvement to narrow few.

We now better understand the role and importance of the POA to the SFPO, 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,
Lanie Mohamed
Coro Fellow 2001-02
Coro Northern California

Marty Halloran, Chair
S.F. Police Officer's Association
Scholarship Committee
510 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. Sadowsky

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 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,
Louise Alessandra
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 $2,000.00 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.

On behalf of Project Open Hand volunteers fan out across San Francisco and Alameda County to deliver more than 1,000 bags of 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 deliver a range of services 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

Thank you very much for the five hundred-dollar scholarship to Tendeloin 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. Thank you 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
Tendeloin Neighborhood Development Associate
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 for 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,

tommy Gutierrez Mattas
Secretary
San Francisco 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. McClie Golf Tournament. Your generosity has helped make this tournament a success and has given us the ability to offer 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. Attracted 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 who 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 $26 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 Crew, the Executive Director Golf & Tennis Committee and the boys, thank you very much for your generous $20 cash donation to the Hanna Boys Center.

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9th Annual Golf Classic & 1st Annual Tennis Tournament which was held on Monday, September 27, 2004. Thank you for 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 continued support.

Sincerely,

D. Scott Sturgis
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 uniforms for the children and families served by Edgewood Center for Children and Families.

Thank you for your thoughtful generosity during the holiday season.

Sincerely,

Nancy Rubin
Chief Executive Officer
Edgewood Center for Children and Families

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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 Fee of mind 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 is wonderful to know that we have friends like you who care enough to help us.

Sincerely,

Robert Trevorrow
Executive Director
San Francisco Senior Center

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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 — something from the ongoing work for law enforcement in the wake of the attacks of September 11 to a focus discussion among some of the nation’s major chiefs on the Wall Street Journal.

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

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Surviving a Hotel Fire

By Captain RH Kaufman, Los Angeles County Fire Department

Smoke, being warmer, will start accumulating at the ceiling and work its way down. If 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 level. A smoldering mattress (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. Open the door and drop your luggage. AT THAT VERY MOMENT, you're trying to find and go on down the hallway to check your exit. You MAY NEVER get another chance. Do you know which exits are on your hands and knees (or stom- ach) and STAY THERE as you make your way out. Those who don't probably won't get far.

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 disoriented in a smoky atmosphere. If you're on the wrong side of the hall-way, you might crawl right into the burning area. 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. Read the smoke in front of you.

When you reach the exit and begin to descend, it is very important that you WALK down and hang onto the stairwell. If you're on the wrong side of the hall, you're using the smoke to see, and you end up on and stay out of everyone's way. Smoke will sometimes get into the exit stairwell. If you're on the 20th floor, by the time you descend, 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 often try to get everything in their way. Hang on and keep heading up towards the roof. When you reach the roof, prop the door with some- thing. This is the ONLY time you will be able to 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). You have a look out. If you have a window open, keep out the smoke. With your ice ledge? How high up are you? Get a good mental picture of what's outside, in and behind your door. This is the ONLY time you will be able to leave a door open. Any smoke in the stairwell may now vent itself to the atmosphere and you won't be locked out.

You must be aggressive and fight back. Smoke will sometimes get into the exit stairwell. If you're on the 20th floor, by the time you descend, 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 often try to get everything in their way. Hang on and keep heading up towards the roof. When you reach the roof, prop the door with some- thing. This is the ONLY time you will be able to leave a door open. Any smoke in the stairwell may now vent itself to the atmosphere and you won't be locked out.

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- door in your room. Does it open? Does it have a latch, a lock? Does it slide? New 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, in and behind your door. This is the ONLY time you will be able to leave a door open. Any smoke in the stairwell may now vent itself to the atmosphere and you won't be locked out.

You should wake up to smoke in your room and the door is too hot to open. The door is completely charged with smoke, don't panic. Many people have defended them- selves quite nicely in their room and can stay. You will want to do is open the window to vent the smoke. Don't break the window, if there is smoke on the outside, and you have no window to close, it will enter your room and you will be trapped. The broken window, if your like a sculptor's scalpel. Besides, if you break your window with a chair, you could hit a fire- man in the head. Be careful.

If there is fresh air outside, leave the window open, 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 you get to a safe spot, don't let some- one know you're in there. Flip on the bathroom vent. Fill the bath with wa- ter. Get a towel around the room, fill it with water and leave it where the fire department can find it. (If you're under fire fighting.) Wet some sheets or tow- els and stuff the cracks of your door to keep out the smoke. With your ice bucket, bail out water from the bath onto the door to keep it cool. Feel the walls— if they are hot, bail water onto them. If you want to open the door, you must be aggressive and fight back. You should close the door behind you, and lock it when you leave and lock it when you leave.

In all states, elevators by law cannot be considered safe. Do not use them in any building. If you open the door to the hallway, it will not close back and it will take longer than the smoke to stack. Smoke will sometimes get into the exit stairwell. If you're on the 20th floor, by the time you descend, 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 often try to get everything in their way. Hang on and keep heading up towards the roof. When you reach the roof, prop the door with some- thing. This is the ONLY time you will be able to leave a door open. Any smoke in the stairwell may now vent itself to the atmosphere and you won't be locked out.

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December 2001

POA Journal

Page 30

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- Holiday Special!
She Did It
This article is reprinted from the December 2001 issue of American Police Beat.

After years of struggle, a police officer’s 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 neighborhood of Racine, Burney wanted to bring reading to a new generation of young people 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 from an unexpected source.

To complete the necessary renovations, the center opened. This past June, Burney’s dream of a real center comes true.

In the end she received thousands of books, and read them in the basement. 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.”
**PET CORNER**

By Deborah Braden

Background Investigations

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**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.

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Call 707-588-3400 to purchase tickets
$22 Adults $18 Students/Seniors $12 Children under 12

Discounts for orders of 10 or more tickets! Call 415-346-7805

Call 415-759-8123 for general information

**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 meritious 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 numerous 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.
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.

The Jr. 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 Regional.

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

The Jr. Midget Cheer Squad consisted of thirteen members ranging in age from 13 to 15. This squad place 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.

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who steadfastly headed for his vehicle

ing that the trophy was safe and sound

car and immediately locked it think-

ers carefully handed it to Pablo Ossio

ers during an

pen again. Unfortunately, their care-

(former commish), the Mission play-

had been ingeniously removed from

year. The culprits had an easier time

wasn't quite the forethought required

head back to the banquet, and then

ntry in a safe place and went about my busi-

nanced that the softball trophies couldn't

realized my good fortune in locating

Realizing that even though the TTF

vested by the league all days except Fri-

ized by the league all days except Fri-

St. Mary's Gym that is now being uti-

n察看 at a championship game, I real-

quickly put the recovered goods

was hit by a stroke of luck.

were removed cleanly from the table.

were first place trophies and

rers at the banquet. He didn't even hear

hoped as bits and pieces of the plot as

take an even closer look, and

Herman left the trophy on one of the

tables, yelled out to Dom Panina to

mentary Bud Clinton and I were detailed

were both stations that their tro-

rized at my good fortune in locating

was nearly good enough to even have a


now missing from their

for the goods. It wasn't until

theft didn't have anything to do with it.

a few hours before their scheduled meet-

after the theft wasn't even real-

tested for their own trophy once softball season

theft wasn't even realized.

realized my good fortune in locating

wasn't to be as the culprits followed

Before my part-

were missing from their

mission was just about to make an 852

manager Dave

northern Manager Dave

Had Herman left the trophy on one of the

tables, yelled out to Dom Panina to

nother trophies were being displayed.

wasn't quite the forethought required

itor Shihadeh solves the case

a few hours for their scheduled meet-

to socialize as the second place award

r wasn't quite the forethought required

mission was just about to make an 852


Herman's instructions and continued to

As far as Northern's trophy, there

ers carefully handed it to Pablo Ossio

who steadfastly headed for his vehicle

and went about my business


and would be eventually displayed

proved 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


and 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 Olocomendy and I quickly

assured both stations that their tro-

phies 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

Olocomendy will issue a commenda-

tion at a later date. He will also be con-

sidering sanctions against the TTF Rats

ball club for next season. I'll keep you

informed in this column.

In the meantime, department bask-

etball 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, South-

ern Station, Northern Station, FBI,

SFPD #1, SFPD #2, Narcotics/Vice, SF

CHP, and SF DPT. The B-Division will

consist of: Bayview Station, Park Sta-

tion, Ingleside Station, Tenderloin Sta-

tion, 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

dual.

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 uti-

lized by the league all days except Fri-

days. 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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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 security at the Airport. Their spirit of cooperation and professional 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 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 Paezetti 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 support the surviving families of those gallant men and women peace police officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice

When you file your "California State Income Tax Return - 2001" simply indicate a contribution in the amount of at least $3.00.

Our Law enforcement survivors are depending on you.

December 2001

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.
God Bless you for making San Francisco a better place to live. Have a safe Holiday Season!

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