



In this issue

- ⇒ State Conference, October 7-10.
- ⇒ New Forum Section
- ⇒ NASCAR fundraiser
- ⇒ Around the State
- ⇒ Legislative Report
- ⇒ From the Executive Director
- ⇒ From the State Trustee
- ⇒ Around the Web
- ⇒ True Blue Departments
- ⇒ Law Enforcement History

Next State Board Meeting:

The next state board meeting is scheduled for **October 8**, at the State Conference.

State Conference October 7-10, 2004

The 2004 South Carolina FOP Convention will be held in Myrtle Beach from October 7 - 10, 2004 at the Crown Reef Hotel located at 2913 S. Ocean Blvd. in Myrtle Beach. There will be dinner at Benjamin's and a Conference gift included. The Room rate will also include a complimentary breakfast. There will be a Hospitality Room every night at the Hotel Conference Room. The State holds its convention every other year. Coastal Carolina Lodge 12 has been chosen by the State Executive Board to host this year's convention. Lodge 12 hosted the last convention and the membership reported being well pleased with the accommodations.



www.scfop.org

As in previous years, several State office holders seeking election will be invited to speak before the membership. Our State Sgt. at Arms and Coastal Carolina Lodge President Bob Carr will be coordinating the accommodations and events. State Offices are up for election at every State Conference. As of this writing, the following persons have announced to seek State Office: Jerry Wright (Midlands Lodge 1) – Re-election for President, Jimmy Mixson (Berkeley Lodge 19) – Election to Vice President, Todd Cox (Coastal Carolina Lodge 12) - Election to Vice President, David McClure (Midlands Lodge 1) – Re-election to Secretary, Dan Isgett (Tri-County Lodge 3) – Election to Treasurer, Bob Carr (Coastal Carolina Lodge 12) – Election to 2nd Vice President, Dru Patterson – (Charleston Metropolitan Lodge 5) – election to 2nd Vice President, Naomi Morris – (Charleston Metropolitan Lodge 5) – Election to Sgt. At Arms, Sherri Rowan – (Charleston Metropolitan Lodge 5) – Election to Sgt. At Arms, David Lee – (Tri-County Lodge 3) Election to Chaplain.

New Forum Section on the State Website

In an effort to better inform our membership and the public about the activities of the state lodge and local lodges, a forum section has been added to the State Website at forum.scfop.org. Members will be allowed to discuss legislative issues and the latest Law Enforcement news as well as view posts from the lodges across the state. Members can also post information under the "Good of the Order" section. Frequently check the site to stay up to date with information on the latest happenings across the state. It is vital to our continued prosperity to be able to communicate effectively.

Nextel and NASCAR have offered us the ability to have a "Bucket Drive" similar to the Firemen's Boot's in intersection style fund raiser at the Charlotte Motor Speedway at the Charlotte Race scheduled for October 16th 2004. We need at least 100 people to man the buckets and all the proceeds will go to the FOP Foundation. We will man the buckets before and after the race. T-shirts will be done for our members to wear so they can be identified. We will have free tickets to the race for each volunteer to include their ticket and one other free ticket for a significant other. Contact Jerry Wright at jwright@newberrycounty.net if you would like to volunteer.



Midlands Lodge 1

Midlands Lodge # 1 has recently lost two of our long time members Charlie Stribling and Gonzer Lee Hunter to natural causes/illness. It is unfortunate; however, as the membership ages our losses will continue. We will continue to offer a life insurance policy to our members to help in these times of need. We have realized the importance of recruiting new (and younger) members to continue our good work and welcome all suggestions from other lodges that obtain and retain large memberships. We treasure our close relationship with our number one charity-Special Olympics-and continue to support them with events such as Cops & Lobsters. We will also take our dialysis patients and their families shopping again this Christmas.

Two of our members will be seeking re-election to the State Board-Jerry Wright for President and David McClure for Secretary. We are proud that our Lodge has been represented on the state board for many years!

Tri-County Lodge 3

Our lodge continues to grow and we currently have 439 active members. We are continuing our "Movie Pass" drawing for members who sponsor active members. We have added a new membership effort with a "Glock Giveaway." Each person who sponsors a member and the new member will be eligible in the drawing. The winner will be drawn at the February meeting.

Thanks in large part to the support of our fellow lodges, our Distressed Officer Fund Golf tournament was a success. We raised \$4100 for the fund. Through the tournament, we were able to form a partnership with a local radio station, CAT Country 107.5 who is committed to assisting with our Distressed Officer Fund. They have arranged an evening with Country Music Star Mark Chestnut on September 27th to raise money for the fund. Our renovations to our lodge are almost complete. We have completed the patch boarder, the ladies room has been remodeled and we have had a sounds system installed. Our lodge has agreed to budget \$2500 a quarter to provide Academy approved training to local officers to be held at our lodge. Our president, Dan Isgett has obtained the support of the lodge to run for State Treasurer and Lodge Chaplin David Lee has also obtained support to run for State Chaplin. We will participate in the Law Enforcement Day at the mall with balloons, stickers and a PowerPoint presentation on a large screen.

We will be sending 18 members to the State Conference. We are looking to having a good time with our brothers and sisters across the state.

Our lodge also mourns the loss of James Shealy, a founding member of our lodge.

Charleston Metropolitan Lodge 5

Lodge Five mourns the loss of Sgt. Scott "Spike" Holmes who recently died after being involved in an accident while riding his motorcycle on Folly Road. Thanks are to be given to Andy Savage and Associates as well as The Charleston Police Department for making funeral arrangements.

The lodge also hosted a prayer Mass at St. Joseph's Catholic Church for Brother Dan Riccio's son, LCPL Nicholas Riccio USMC who was wounded in battle in Iraq. Thanks to Father Gabriel Smith, lodge Chaplain and parishioners for an inspiring service.

On September 10, 2004, hospitality was sponsored for The International Police Association Region #14 who held their annual conference in Charleston. Brother Art Alloy, President of IPA Region #14 is also a loyal FOP member and serves as the Treasurer of Greenville FOP Lodge #17.

Our annual Christmas Party and Awards Banquet are being held at The Town and Country Inn on Saturday 11 December, 2004. Open bar, seafood bar, buffet dinner including fish and prime rib, live entertainment/band, door prizes and in house raffle for prizes is provided for \$25 a person. Tickets are \$25 per person, limited to 100 people, first come first served. Contact David Fair, Tom Bendure for tickets. Call 843-973-7434.

CSRA Lodge 6

Since the March state board meeting, our lodge has been involved, and busy with several projects in our area, for our members. We put together a family out door Bar-B-Q Picnic at the Aiken State Park, which was held on June 19th, and invited all of our members and their families, all of the surrounding counties of Edgefield, Aiken, Barnwell, Allendale, and Bamberg, law enforcement departments and agencies, to come out with us and bring their families, to enjoy a day out and away from the business, for all they could eat, play and have fun, and get to meet and mingle with other officers and families.

We also had handout information about the FOP on hand, and our State Executive Director, Mike Loftis, joined us and brought more information with him, as well. Our head count prior to the day of this event was to be 110-125 people showing up. Only 30, ended up, showing up, so we had a lot of food left over, some of which we gave to others picnicking in the area, in order to keep from just throwing it away. The remaining food that was not opened, and is still usable, I have donated it to my church for our upcoming Vacation Bible School event to be held August 1st thru the 6th, 2004, consisting of canned goods, bread products, and hot dogs. We held our lodge elections this past Tuesday night, the 13th of July, at which time the following were elected to serve as Officer's for the next two years; myself as President, Rodney

Cooper as Vice-President, Jimmy Latimer as Secretary/Treasurer, Cordell Addison as 2nd Vice-President, Victor Hitt as Sgt. at Arms, and Scott Harper as Chaplin. Our swearing in ceremony will take place sometime this coming week, due to me not being unable to locate my FOP Ritual Book for the meeting night's ceremony. Brother Loftis has been good enough to supply me with a copy of the ceremony, from his book, until I can get a replacement ordered. As I have explained to my new Board members, this will be an ongoing and continuing Board that will have a hands-on effect of everything, for all of our future lodge events, and that I expect input from each and every Board member, for the betterment of our lodge, and our members, benefits.

Our next Board/Lodge meeting will be on Thursday, August 19th, at the Golden Corral Restaurant on Whiskey Road, in Aiken, with the Board meeting starting at 5:30 pm, and the Lodge meeting starting at 7:00 pm. Anyone that wishes to attend is welcome to join us, and we will pay for their meal.

Anderson Lodge 10

Anderson County Lodge 10 continues to grow. We stand at 250 active members as of this writing. We are also pleased to announce that we have 90 members participating in the legal defense program. With the passing of HR 218 we are working on putting together a qualifying day for our retired members who need to meet this requirement. We assisted one of our members, Solveig Henriksen, who lost all here belonging in a fire at her apartment. We plan on sending 11 members to the State Conference at Myrtle Beach in October. Lodge 10 meetings are held on the second Monday of each month. If your in the area drop by and eat and fellowship with us starting around 6:00PM. Hope everyone has had a great summer and remember: BE SAFE OUT THERE.

Coastal Carolina Lodge 12

Lodge #12 is sad to report the passing of Brother George Merritt, who died unexpectedly on September 7th. Brother Merritt was a Detective with the Horry County Police Department and a Member of Lodge #12. George will be deeply missed by his brothers and sisters of Lodge #12, as well as the citizens of Horry County, whom he proudly and tirelessly served for many years. On a happier note, the annual FOP/Robert Dorman Memorial Golf Classic was held on August 21st at Myrtlewood Golf Club. We again had a full field of participants, all of whom enjoyed a day of golf, beverages, and dinner catered by Carrabba's. Nearly \$4,000 was raised this year, and will be used to fund our scholarship fund for worthy Criminal Justice students at Horry-Georgetown Technical College. Lodge #12 extends its sincere gratitude to all participants and sponsors, without whom the event would not exist. With the passing of Labor Day, football season is again upon us. Lodge #12 has again purchased 12 season tickets to Coastal Carolina University Football. These tickets will be donated to local

youth organizations, in an effort to continue fostering a closer bond with the children of our community. Fundraising for the Horry County Law Enforcement Memorial continues. Engraved bricks may be purchased for only \$100, while corporate sponsorships are \$1,000. All donations are welcomed, and are entirely tax deductible. On September 23, six members of Lodge #12 will be traveling to Providence, Rhode Island to participate in a golf tournament to honor our fallen brother, Joe McGarry. The Rhode Island Emerald Society has organized the event, and will donate half of the proceeds to Lodge #12. In turn, we will use these funds to establish a scholarship fund at Coastal Carolina University, to be used by active law enforcement officers wishing to continue their education. The members of Lodge #12 have been working diligently in the area of recruitment. In the last two months 24 new members have been voted in to our lodge. Our goal of 300 members by the end of the year is well in reach, and appears likely to be surpassed. Lodge #12 has been working hard preparing to host the State Conference, scheduled for October 7-10 at the Crown Reef Resort in Myrtle Beach. Several important items are on the agenda for the two days of business. The South Carolina FOP Member of the Year will be awarded during the conference. Awards will also be presented to the State Senator of the Year and State Representative of the Year. Every candidate from South Carolina seeking a seat in the US Senate and the US Congress has been invited to address the conference, as a part of our endorsement process. Elections will be held for all State Lodge Executive Board positions. Lodge #12 proudly supports our own Todd Cox, who has announced his candidacy for State Lodge Vice President, and Bob Carr, who has announced his candidacy for State Lodge 2nd Vice President. We encourage each Delegate to support these two candidates, and cast their votes accordingly. We look forward to seeing each of you in Myrtle Beach in October. May God keep you safe in all that you do.

Greenville County Lodge 17

We continue to work on increasing our membership. Our Kids ID Program is still very active; our goal is to eventually get parents of every elementary school aged child a Kids ID. Through actual local experience these do help us locate missing kids.

In October and November we will have nominations and elections for the offices of: Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Treasurer, and State Trustee. We are also sponsoring a cruise with the International Police Association Region 14; please see our web-site at <http://www.gcfop.org> for details. The remaining meetings of this lodge for this year will be held at Prime Sirloin on Woodruff Road, 1830hrs on the 4th Monday of each month. Our holiday party (December meeting) will be announced soon.

Berkeley Lodge 19

I am proud to say that Berkeley County Lodge 19 is doing very well at this time. We are growing in our community by leaps and bounds. Our membership is holding strong and we are adding new members each month. I think what makes us special with our members is we put them first. As far as our community involvement we are the main sponsor for the Rosco Reading Program. This is a reading program where they carry dog's into the schools. The children gain points from reading books. When they reach 10 points, Rosco comes in and brings treats. The children and the school system love this program.

As for lodge business our building project has had some

delays do to bad weather over the summer. Our goal is to start on our new building by the first of the year.

Thanks to alot of members staying on top of things our fundraising is doing outstanding. We are looking forward to the upcoming State Conference in Myrtle Beach this year. Thanks to fundraising we are able to send 12 members this year. I think we will all have a good time.

Berkeley County Lodge 19 meets the third Tuesday of each month at the Berkeley County Training Center. Our meal starts at 6:30pm. We welcome you to come and visit with us anytime.

True Blue

The State Lodge has designated those Agencies with 100% membership as True Blue departments. Listed below are agencies are the True Blue agencies:

- Charleston City Police Department
- Berkeley County Sheriff's Office
- Hanahan Police Department
- Bonneau Police Department
- Jamestown Police Department
- Blacksburg Police Department
- Ridgeville Police Department
- Charleston County Aviation Authority Police Department

These will be included in each issue.



Lodge Meetings

Please take the time to attend your local lodge meetings. Your input is very valuable to the lodge. The FOP is membership driven. What is voted on at lodge meetings sets the direction for the lodge. To be effective, many points of you should be heard and new ideas brought forth. These are the lodges and the nights they meet.

Visit our website at www.scfop.org for more information about meetings and times in your area.

Midlands	#1	3 rd Monday
Tri-County	#3	2 nd Monday
Charleston	#5	1 st Monday
CSRA	#6	Varies
Foothills	#9	3 rd Tuesday
Anderson	#10	2 nd Monday
Coastal	#12	4 th Thursday
York	#15	1 st Tuesday
Lowcountry	#16	3 rd Monday
Greenville	#17	4 th Monday
Berkeley	#19	3 rd Tuesday
Cherokee	#20	3 rd Tuesday
Twin Lakes	#24	2 nd Thursday
Pee Dee	#25	4 th Thursday

South Carolina Law Enforcement History

Donald Hilt, a retired police officer and member of Midlands Lodge #1, is putting together a book of South Carolina Law Enforcement history. He is looking for law enforcement photographs and stories for his book. He can be reached at 204 Cobbleview Dr. Lexington, SC 29072 ph- 803-356-7030. If you would prefer to email a picture, you may email pictures to: ldanccso@comcast.net. The photographs will be then given to Donald. South Carolina has a rich law enforcement history but the documentation is very limited. Please help preserve the stories and photos of our heroes of the past and presnt before they are all lost.

From the Executive Director
Mike Loftis

Since the passing of hr218 there has been questions concerning qualification to carry. I am going to touch on a few points but i suggest that you get a complete copy of the bill and study it for yourself. First who qualifies: all qualified law enforcement who is employed by a governmental agency. These officers also must carry an identification packet which includes photographic identification issued by the governmental agency for which the individual is employed as a law enforcement officer.

As it pertains to retirees: qualified retired law enforcement officers means an individual who has retired in good standing from service with a public agency as a law enforcement officer for an aggregate of 15 years or more or due to a service-connected disability. Also the retiree must every 12 months at the expense of the individual meet the state in which they reside standards for training and qualifications for active law enforcement officers to carry firearms. A certification must be issued by the state that the individual resides in that they have indeed met the standards for firearms training. This certification and a photographic identification from the agency from which the officer retired must be carried at all times while carrying concealed firearm.

From the National Trustee
Darrell Lewis

We are deeply saddened to inform you that National Secretary Jerry Atnip lost his battle with cancer on Sunday, August 29, at approximately 12:15 a.m. Jerry was buried on Saturday, September 4, at Woodlawn Memorial Park in Nashville, Tennessee. Please keep Jerry's family in your thoughts and prayers. Any cards or letters of sympathy may be sent to Jerry's wife, Shirley, and his sons, Matt and Michael, in care of the Grand Lodge. National Sergeant at Arms, Patrick Yoes was elected by the National trustees to fill out the term for Atnip. Patrick will serve at the National Secretary until the 2005 National Conference.

Over the course of the past four years, President George W. Bush has gone to great lengths to enhance the law enforcement profession, officer safety, and the security of our nation. For these and countless other reasons, the Fraternal Order of Police unanimously endorsed the reelection of President Bush at the National Board Meeting in Albuquerque, NM. Each state sent out ballots to decide which candidate the Grand Lodge would support. I am proud to say that president Bush was an overwhelming favorite in South Carolina ballots. Now is the time for us to come together and support the president.

From the Web Guy www.SCFOP.org
John Blackmon

The web site provides straight forward information to the general public and prospective members about our organization and why it is South Carolina's Best Law Enforcement Organization. Members are also kept abreast of breaking news and important legislation that affects the law enforcement community. This year has brought amazing growth and tremendous support to our web site. No one could have imagined the number of "hits" generated by www.scfop.org this year would top one million. With the substantiation of our membership, that number has become a reality. To provide the tools and services demanded by the membership, the web site has grown into a complete online community. The recent addition of a first class message board style forum enables members to express thoughts and opinions on recent happenings and legislative topics. A section of the forum has been designated for each lodge to use as a contrivance to inform local memberships and other lodges of important events and reports. The online news network has over 1000 articles concerning law enforcement, legislation and officer safety issues impacting South Carolina FOP members. Each article has a rating service to allow members to express the importance of each article. The weekly email newsletter has over 500 subscribers and supplies the latest news, historical fallen officers, upcoming events, and recent forum postings. Members may join by providing their name and email on the web site. We invite all members to explore the web site and be apart of the growth of the new online community designed to be the voice of the South Carolina Fraternal Order of Police.