DO SOMETHING AMAZING
By Jeff Roorda, SLPOA Business Manager

Cops have gotten a bad rap for a long time, especially since Ferguson and all of the other highly publicized confrontations with citizens that have turned out badly. One of the biggest criticisms has been this notion that law enforcement isn’t engaged with the people they serve.

I’m not telling you anything new. You hear it every day, “the police need to improve their relations with the community, blah, blah, blah.” As if the only thing that we’re missing in this urban policing setting or any other jurisdiction around the nation is better police-community relations.

Never mind the proliferation of gun violence, drug addiction, broken homes, and failing schools. Never mind the decline in employment, mental health services, morality, or a sense of community. Forget about the fact that cops are increasingly on the receiving end of violence and unfair criticism while at the same time facing a crisis in attrition, understaffing, and uncompetitive wages.

All we need is for cops to do more to engage with people who have been told by politicians, the media and protesters to hate the police for the last three years. That’ll fix everything.

Yeah, right.

The truth is, nobody in government does more to engage the community than the men and women in blue who patrol it. There are a number of neighborhoods in St. Louis and in urban wastelands all over this country where the only representatives of government who dare to step foot in these deserts of hopelessness are cops.

And, as cops, you do more than step foot into these bleak, dreary places. You engage those communities every day in every way.

You are touching lives in an important way when you respond to that call for help, whether it’s multiple shots fired with bodies strewn on the pavement or a simple dispute between two neighbors. You make a daily difference in the lives of people who have absolutely, positively no place else to turn.

Many a day, you go home with some victim’s blood on your uniform as evidence that you were there, engaging with inhabitants of a forgotten bastion, neglected by the very same politicians who now demand that you do more “community policing.” Who else dares to brave these neighborhoods? How many times have you or one of the cops you work with, charged into a burning building because even the fire department is slower to answer the call in the ghetto than the cops who are right there, in the trenches, hearing the shrill cry for help?

You save lives through your community engagement. You should be proud of that. It’s important. It’s a special thing you do.

But it’s not only the big, heroic things you do as cops that are special. There are the even more frequent gestures that are small and less discernible but every bit as special. You settle things down in troubled neighborhoods just by driving through them. You can’t see it in your review mirror but your mere presence stabilizes some pretty unstable, chaotic places. A simple smile or a wave to a kid who hasn’t formed an opinion about the police and is un-yet tainted by the rantings of cop-haters makes a huge difference in their formative views of the world. Then, there is the essence of professionalism that you evoke when you engage with the public on so many levels which impresses upon them in a lasting way, the nobility and grace of this profession.

And there are those extra special moments – the moments when you do something truly amazing – something like buying a cup of coffee for a fellow who’s down on his luck, or volunteering to coach for an inner city sports league, or something as seemingly insignificant as stopping to talk to a kid that you know could go either direction. Just being a role model to that kid or even giving him your cell number and telling him you’re there to help when he feels he’s at a crossroads has a butterfly effect that sweeps across a sea of distrust and antipathy.

Those seemingly insignificant interventions may feel forgettable in the grand scheme of things but they are the moments when you touch a life in a way that the recipient of your act of kindness – of community engagement – will never forget. Do not be sparing in your kindness.

It is the one nugget of truth to all of the heaping criticism of police that the profession has endured for the last few years...we can do more to engage the community, more to touch lives.

There’s no specialized unit or DOJ grant application or trendy new program that can accomplish that. It starts and ends with you. You make that decision when you turn the corner and see an opportunity to make a difference – big or small – in someone’s life. You and you alone

Continued on page 17
“In memory of the Saint Louis Police Officers who have made the Ultimate Sacrifice”

DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL

GENDARME

GENDARME is printed monthly.

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314-232-2303

Guidelines for Letters to the Editor: All letters to the editor must be signed and verifiable by phone or personal contact. Freedom of expression is guaranteed within the bounds of good taste and the limits of available space. Upon receipt, the author’s name may be withheld from publication and confidentiality assured. The Gendarme takes no responsibility for the content of the letters in this section.

The Gendarme newspaper is the official publication of the St. Louis Police Officers Association and is published in St. Louis. However, opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the SLPOA or the St. Louis Police Department.

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“BE CAREFUL OUT THERE!”

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
April 26, May 31
7 p.m.

VETERAN’S MEETING
April 12, May 10
11:30 a.m.

POLICE WIVES MEETING
April 12, May 10
7 p.m.
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT
ED CLARK

RETIREMENT OF PRESIDENT JOE STEIGER

By now I am sure everyone has heard that President Joe Steiger has retired and is starting a second career. Joe devoted the better part of his career to various roles within the Saint Louis Police Officers Association. While serving on the SLPOA Board, I have been fortunate to witness Joe as a leader who has worked tirelessly for the betterment of our members. We all owe him a heartfelt thank you for his selfless service to the POA. Joe’s email account of Joe.steiger@slpoa.org will remain active for anyone wishing to send him a congratulatory note.

FOP DAY ON THE HILL

The Missouri FOP Day on the Hill is scheduled for Tuesday, April 4th. Transportation will be provided from the POA hall to FOP Office in Jefferson City where we will meet our brother and sister officers from around the State, before traveling to the Capital.

We are hoping for a strong showing of support from our members in Jefferson City, as we are facing several pieces of legislation, which would be harmful to our organization and our members. HB 251 (Paycheck Protection) and SB 210 (Modifications of public employee collective bargaining) are progressing through the legislature and if passed, would cripple our bargaining efforts. The National FOP have called these two pieces of legislation the worst in the nation for Police Officers.

Please make every effort to attend the Day on the Hill. You may RSVP with the POA Office 314-353-3200 or with FOP Trustee Mike Herzberg at Mike.Herzberg@slpoa.org.

PROPOSITION A

During the upcoming General Election on April 4th voters will be asked to decide on an Amendment to the City Charter, which would eliminate the Office of Recorder of Deeds and consolidate its responsibilities with the Office of the Assessor. Any realized cost savings will be used to purchase and maintain police body-worn cameras. We are asking for a “NO” vote on Proposition A. As we have stated many times before, body cameras are a luxury we cannot afford. The community members we are hearing from are demanding more policeman and safer streets, not body cameras.

On top of battling a vicious crime problem that has labeled us one of the most violent cities in the nation, our department has struggled with recruitment and retention of our officers for some time. Currently, we are more than one hundred officers short of our authorized strength and continue to operate at unsafe staffing levels.

While I don’t know what the answer to the crime problem is, I do know that body cameras are not going to fix it. We are in crisis mode and a good start to addressing the excessive crime problem would be more officers on our streets! Our members are devoted to ensuring the safety of our residents and the many visitors our city hosts each year. However, we are in desperate need of additional Officers, as well as true leaders continued on page 9
CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES
16-02

Front Row (L to R): Dustin Hoskins, Nicolas Hayden, Katlyn Alix, Chief Sam Dotson, Brittnee Sanders, Uzoma Onwumere

Second Row (L to R): Carrianne Noga, Sean Martini, Brian Hayes, Kristin Checcoli

Third Row (L to R): Joshua Kamper, Tamarris Bohannon, Joshua Hall, Austin King, Joshua McBee

Fourth Row (L to R): Thearn Clements, Benjamin Celic, Matthew James, Jonathan Selbert, Joseph Schmitt, Blake Moe


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FAREWELL, JOE STEIGER

It’s a word we use often any more. Really, it is just a compound word that combines the two root words “fare” and “well.” Most compound words like “farewell” date back to Middle English when many two word phrases that had been used in combination for a long time, we’re amalgamated into one. That’s when words like “bedroom” emerged. The more common “bedchamber” took form in the fourteenth century then gave way in the sixteenth century to the now familiar word “bedroom” because rooms designed for sleeping were a common feature of homes in that period. Because furnished rooms where a family congregated to use as its living space are a relatively recent phenomenon that were not so common during the Middle English period, “living room” is not considered acceptable English and instead appears as “living room” when written. That’s not to say that new compounds aren’t embraced in our language all the time but, they tend to derive from new trends or technologies that have recently taken hold, like “laptop” for instance.

We combine words in many ways in the English language. The most common way is the contraction. Words like “can’t,” “you’re,” or “she’ll” are used routinely both in prose and in conversation. As a writer, I delight in using double contractions combining three words like “wouldn’t” or “oughtn’t.” My daughter tells me all the time that they’re not real words — that they’re pseudowords — so I use them frequently in texts just to drive her crazy, although I’ve used them whether she’s liked them or not.

Evermore delightful are triple compounds that mashup three words like “albeit,” “herefore,” or “notwithstanding.” I revel in using words like these as a writer because they tend to catch the reader’s eye, which is what a wordsmith endeavors to do, insomuch as it can be done with some degree of subtlety.

But, when trying to find the right word to sendoff a friend and colleague like Joe Steiger, “farewell” seems to fit perfectly. As I said, it compounds the word “fare” (as in “how did you fare” meaning “how did you do”) with the word “well” (as in “I did well” meaning “I did good”). So when you break the word down to its component parts, it simply means “do good.”

That’s fine advice for anyone, isn’t it? Do good.

In a way, it’s a wasted salutation for a guy like Joe because we all know that he will do good. He always has. As a police officer, a husband, a father, a friend and as a longtime board member and president of the St. Louis Police Officers Association, we could always, without fail, expect that Joe would at every opportunity, try to do good.

I don’t just mean good as in superlative, although Joe did excel at everything he did both with the police department and the Association. I mean good as in positive. Joe has always been an optimistic leader who believed he could do good. That shone bright in a profession that is full of some pretty jaded, pessimistic people. It’s easy to get rundred by this line of work. You witness some pretty awful things and you really do see people at their worst. That makes most cops pretty cynical. But Joe didn’t let that affect him. He always came to every situation with a can-do attitude.

His positivity will be missed but in many ways, it was infectious and his contemporaries on the executive board are no doubt heavily influenced by Joe’s legacy of pragmatism, hopefulness, and an enduring confidence that we can always make things better for the members we represent.

Likewise, he’ll be missed at work. Because I’m older than Joe and I’ve been out of law enforcement for quite a while, our career paths as police officers never crossed so I never had an opportunity to work a case with him. But, without exception, everyone describes Joe as a great cop and a terrific detective — as, like I want to say, plainclothesman (see what I did there?).

Joe will no doubt excel in his new role working as an investigator for the St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office although I’m certain he will miss the roar of the sirens and the thrill of stopping the culprits on the bad guy. But, he’ll still be helping to put scofflaws behind bars in his new job.

So, Joe, farewell and do good.

You may not wear the badge anymore but there is one compound word that will always describe you: Policeman.

By Jeff Rooda, Business Manager
St. Louis Police Officers Association
Jeff.roorda@slpoa.org
(314) 353-3200
Visit us at the web at www.slpoa.org.

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FADE OUTS
The following officers resigned during the month of February

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DSN</th>
<th>Assigned</th>
<th>Effective</th>
<th>Appointed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11335</td>
<td>02/28/2017</td>
<td>04/06/2015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11003</td>
<td>02/11/2017</td>
<td>06/05/2011</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11339</td>
<td>02/17/2017</td>
<td>04/08/2015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11442</td>
<td>02/07/2017</td>
<td>12/14/2015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11515</td>
<td>10/02/2017</td>
<td>09/06/2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following officers retired during the month of February

| SGT David Bonnerberger | 04/21/2017 | 10/11/1993 |
| Lt. Stephen P. Dodge | 04/28/2017 | 01/10/1994 |
| PO David L. Ellisson | 03/30/2017 | 04/03/1990 |

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WILLIAM GABRIEL JAMES W. McCARTNEY CHRISTOPHER A. WAGNER MICHAEL A. CHEHVIAL
TURNKEY JARDEE J. CARTER

Birth: September 29, 1920
Death: January 10, 2017

Turnkey Jardee J. Carter, DSN 6627, started his career with the Saint Louis Metropolitan Police Department as a civilian working at the police garage on Laclede Avenue as a Motor Service Attendant on 07/17/1967. On 02/26/1968 he received his commission as a Turnkey and was transferred to police headquarters at 1200 Clark Avenue and worked in the Prisoner Processing Division. Officer Carter remained there until he retired on 01/16/1987 having served 19.5 years of faithful and dedicated service to the department. Officer Carter was a veteran of World War II and served in the United States Army and achieved the rank of Sergeant.

CARTER, JARDEE J.
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Saturday Feb 18, Basic Rifle
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Saturday March 18, White light / Night fighter (4 hr) LE / Military
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ST. LOUIS POLICE OFFICERS
ASSOCIATION OPPOSES MISLEADING
BALLOT INITIATIVE

St. Louis, Missouri (March 13, 2017) – The St. Louis Police Officers Association (SLPOA) announced today that it is strongly encouraging a "no" vote on Proposition A, the April ballot initiative amending the city charter to eliminate the Recorder of Deeds office and requiring the savings to fund police body cameras. The police union that represents over one thousand St. Louis officers called the initiative misleading and misdirected.

The union said that the estimates of over one million in savings are greatly exaggerated while the costs of a body camera program have been grossly understated. SLPOA Business Manager and spokesman, Jeff Roorda, projects that savings are closer to $150,000 which doesn’t even scratch the surface of a body camera program that is certain to cost the City at least $5 million in hardware, software, data storage, and additional staffing. Roorda called the initiative a “fraud” on the people of St. Louis that is sure to be challenged in court over its inflated cost saving figures and its attempt to eliminate an office required by state statute.

More importantly though, Roorda called the proposal a case of mislaid priorities. “We are dealing with a crisis today in St. Louis because we are unable to maintain minimum staffing levels for our police department. We are over one hundred officer down currently and frankly we could use another one-hundred-and-fifty more than the current authorized strength. We are bleeding experienced police officers because St. Louis is nearly $8,000 behind the regional average in police pay. That manpower short-fall translates into slow response times and an inability to stem the tide of deadly violence that plagues the bloody streets of St. Louis. Body cameras are a luxury. More officers is a necessity. The city leaders need to concentrate on what's crucial to the safety and survival of this city,” Roorda said.

Roorda noted that the attrition in the city police department is only going to get worse if something isn’t done soon. "I have to wonder where the priorities are. St. Louis County has a multi-million dollar tax increase on the ballot in April that is pledged toward significant police raises and additional officers while the city is trifling with a ballot measure that produces a few thousand dollars for body cams and no money to increase salaries or expand the size of the police force. You think things are bad now? You will lose hundreds of irreplaceable city cops to St. Louis County if Prop P passes. St. Louis City is going to look like Detroit if we hemorrhage that kind of manpower." Roorda concluded, “this is a dangerous game we’re playing and the people of St. Louis and the businesses that keep it vibrant deserve better.”

Roorda said that the union is asking every voter in St. Louis to cast a resounding no vote on Proposition A.

VOTE NO ON PROP A

EMERALD SOCIETY OF MISSOURI

2nd Annual Mouse Race
April 14th
7 p.m.
St. Louis City Police Association Hall
3710 Hampton, St. Louis, MO 63109

$25 per person or $200 per table
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Limited Tickets will be available at the door
The St. Louis Police Veterans’ Association is very fortunate to have members who volunteer and whose work and help at the SLPVA’s Cook Outs and monthly meetings make them a success. We are also very fortunate to have members who work in the background invisible to most members and who do so with little recognition from their fellow members. At our February meeting we honored one of those behind the scenes volunteers, Jack Folluo.

JACK FOLLUO

Jack Folluo has delivered the SLPVA banner to funeral homes to honor members when they passed away. Jack has been quietly doing this important honor, delivering the SLPVA banner, to his fellow members for 17 years. He’s delivered the SLPVA banner in good weather and bad, on short notice, and often he had to re-arrange his personal schedule to accomplish the delivery.

Jack has devoted many hours over the last 17 years to the SLPVA and until last month his good work was hardly noticed. At our February 8th meeting Jack retired from delivering the SLPVA banner to members’ funerals, Jack’s good work on behalf of the SLPVA for the last 17 years was acclaimed by the members at the meeting. They voted to award Jack a Lifetime Membership in the SLPVA. The 91 members and officers present gave Jack a round of applause and a standing ovation.

OTHER VOLUNTEERS

I also wish to mention that Joe Burgoon stepped forward and has been delivering the SLPVA banner to the funeral homes of deceased members who live north of I-64 for about 2 years and he also deserves recognition and appreciation for his good work. And to complete the circle, I want to acknowledge that George Weindel has volunteered to immediately succeed Jack Folluo as the I-64 south deliverer of the SLPVA banner. We appreciate George doing so.

MEETING DATES

April 12 @ SLPLOA Hall
May 10 @ Lemay Park
June 14 @ SLPLOA Hall
July 12 @ SLPLOA Hall

April 12th, June 14th and July 12th are regular monthly meetings at the SLPLOA Hall. May 10th is our Spring Cook Out in Lemay Park.

Minutes of the February 8, 2017 St. Louis Police Veterans’ Association

The 460th meeting of the St. Louis Police Veterans was called to order at 11:30. President George Ratermann led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chris Zarbo read the opening prayer.

All officers were present.

President Ratermann stated we received three applications for membership, David Elson, Melvin Sheets and Rick Hegney. A motion was made by Wil Grove, seconded by Herman Ubben to accept the applications. Motion passed by voice vote.

President Ratermann acknowledged Jack Folluo for his 17 years of delivering flags to deceased members at the funeral homes. George Weindel will take over that position. A motion was made by Jim Wurm, seconded by Wil Grove to make Jack Folluo a life time member of the organization. Motion passed on a voice vote and Jack received a thunderous ovation from the members.

President Ratermann introduced SLPLOA Attorney Brian Milligan, who addressed the membership on the changes to the new MO state gun laws. After which, he answered questions from the membership.

Secretary’s Report: A motion was made by Herman Ubben, seconded by Ralph Harper to accept the minutes as printed, Motion passed on voice vote.

Treasurer’s Report: A motion was made by Wil Grove, seconded by Ralph Harper to accept the minutes as printed, Motion passed on a voice vote.

Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer Terry Shoemaker gave the monthly report. A motion was made by Wil Grove, seconded by Jim Wurm to accept the report subject to audit. Motion passed on a voice vote.

President Ratermann stated the following non-members had passed away, Roy Kessler, Robert Porter and Jardee Carter.

Old Business: None

New Business: Herman Ubben again thanked the membership for their donation of soap for the needy. And, stated the SLPVA had donated over 4000 bars since donations were started.

President Ratermann stated the SLPVA election will be in March for all positions. Anyone interested is welcome to run. They will take office on April 1st.

Tony Pona stated we had 91 members in attendance, Nine Prizes and 2 donated by Cathy Chapman were awarded.

A motion was made by Rich Chapman, seconded by Wil Grove to adjourn. Motion passed on a voice vote, The meeting adjourned at 12:02 PM.

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that inspire the men and women of the department. I believe a beneficial way to add new officers and hold on to the experienced officers, is to increase our pay to at least the average for the region. Currently, we lag almost ten thousand dollars below the regional average for compensation.

In closing, I ask that everyone take a moment to remember Detective Bret Cassity who passed away in April of last year. Earlier this month, Detective Cassity’s peers on the fourth floor selected him as Investigative Services, Bureau of Enforcement, Detective of the Year, 2016.

Ed Clark, President
Saint Louis Police Officers Association
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April 29th & 30th, 2017

100% PAYBACK OF ALL MONEY COLLECTED!

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  Now Open to Family Friends of Police
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- Professional guides and members
  of their family cannot enter

Tournament meeting will be held at
ALPINE LODGE
Friday, April 28, 2017, 5:00 pm

Lodge Reservations contact:
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- Missouri Conservation rules apply
- Largemouth, Smallmouth and
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:
Ray Menard at 314-740-5033

We Pay for
Big Bass
Saturday & Sunday
March 21, 2017

Jeff Roorda
St. Louis Police Officers Association
3710 Hampton Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63109

Dear Jeff:

I want to share an update on contract negotiations with our union teammates at our Bridgeton warehouse.

Schnucks has reached a collective bargaining agreement with Teamsters Local 688 – almost four months in advance of the expiration of their contract in July.

Highlights of the five-year contract include:

- An early retirement incentive (buyout) for up to 50 teammates
- Increases in company-paid healthcare benefits contributions over the term
- Increases in company-paid retiree healthcare contributions over the term
- Maintenance of company-paid pension fund contributions
- $150,000 with a new dollar-for-dollar match by the company up to 4 percent

Local 688 also agreed to end its boycott of Schnucks locations that was launched last year, and to withdraw all grievances and labor charges associated with the Company’s warehouse transition.

This is an important contract in the face of fierce and increasing competitive pressures from nearly 600 nonunion stores.

This is great news for our Local 688 teammates, our community, and all of us. You and other unions play a big role in our ability to make St. Louis a stronger and better community in every way. We look forward to your membership’s support of our union teammates as they continue their commitment to serve our customers’ needs every day.

We are now focused more than ever on providing the exceptional shopping experience, quality and affordable prices our customers expect from us every day. It is important that we all get out and spend our dollars with union retailers.

We look forward to our continued relationship with you.

Sincerely,

Todd R. Schruck
Chairman and CEO
Schnuck Markets, Inc.

SCHNUCK MARKETS, INC., 11420 LACKLAND RD., P.O. BOX 46928, ST. LOUIS, MO 63146-0928 (314) 994-9900

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McCulloch Law Group
Joseph G. McCulloch
Attorney at Law
Joe@McCullochLawGroup.com

814 First Capitol Drive, St. Charles, MO 63301
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We are acknowledging the untimely passing of our
FIRST RESPONDER BROTHER,
MARINE VETERAN,
BRIAN DOLAN,
who has always had our backs, whether domestic or international.
Our proceeds made on this day will benefit his two children and Back Stopper’s.

MOTORCYCLE & CLASSIC CAR RIDE
MAY 7, 2017

at Tesson Station Bar - 7928 S. Broadway

Registration: 09:00 - 10:30 • Departure Time: 11:00

FIRST STOP: Shady Jack’s Saloon - 1432 N. Broadway
SECOND STOP: The Bluff’s Bar and Grill – 1205 State Hwy M

Returning to Tesson Station
BBQ, Drinks, Live Music & Raffles.
If not riding, please, still join us.
We will have $10.00 cover charge, for those not riding, which will include a pork steak dinner.

$25.00 a bike/vehicle and $30.00 with occupants
(Includes dinner at Tesson Station Bar at end of ride).

Event Organizers: Leo Rice, Steve Burle, Greg Elking

UNTIL YOU WALK IN THEIR SHOES...
THE FOLLY OF POLICING
By Rev. Clarence E. Hines

And when they had crucified him the police officers divided his garments by casting lots (shooting dice). Then the officers sat down and kept watch over him there (Matthew 27:35-36 - ESV).

Ah, the "war stories" and "cop tales". Most of us have heard some pretty good ones over the years. Over the course of our careers, we will undoubtedly hear some of legendary status. Perhaps the most famous one is the legend of "MeMo" the monster. Not sure if it actually happened, but several officers over the years assured me it did.

It's probably safe to say that it is virtually impossible to work in law enforcement for any number of years without being the main character in a few war stories yourself. I can think of a few from the initial Housing Unit that made me laugh uncontrollably whenever I think about them.

When I think about the folly of policing, I think about some of the "war stories" I've heard over the years. I have learned that most of the "cop tales" and "war stories" were probably not that funny as the initial incidents were happening. In fact, I think one of the qualities of a good "war story" or "cop tale" is there has to be a corresponding combination of shock, awe, and folly attached to it. In other words, all things being equal, most reasonable people would find the incident and actions of those involved to be foolish.

There is one such incident in the pages of scripture that epitomizes the folly of policing. In this incident, a very popular local celebrity receives the death penalty by crucifixion and is tasked with carrying his cross to its resting place on Calvary. I'm sure the officers on duty that day probably perceived the incident as another routine assignment based on their limited information at the time. In spite of the heinous nature of certain incidents, as far as police culture is concerned, these incidents become very routine to us. The officers on duty that day would have had no way of knowing that this local celebrity was actually God incarnate in the person of Jesus Christ, who was about to sacrifice his life to fix what was broken in the world. They knew of his claims and even mocked him for them, but we certainly can't blame the officers for not believing, especially considering the followers of Jesus didn't even really believe at the time.

At any rate, the scripture tells us that the officers engaged in a dice game to determine how the clothing of the Jesus was going to be divided between them. Wow! Talk about war stories. "Hey guys remember when Officer's John and Doe gambled for the clothes of that guy Jesus who claimed he was God?" The roll call room erupts in laughter!

Before we judge those officers or any officer for their involvement in any incident of folly, perhaps we need to consider a few points for further reflection.

Incidents that lead to "war stories" are never meant to promote laughter at the expense of others. The best way to see them is the lighter side of policing. Officers never set out to create "war stories" and "cop tales". They inevitably just happen. As in the story above, although foolish, sometimes officers have quirky ways of dealing with real or perceived traumatic situations and circumstances.

As far as telling "war stories", I have learned that "war stories" actually help us to make sense out of our dangerous and often uncertain existence, that at times leaves officers wrestling with anxiety and fear. I believe war stories and cop tales can help to facilitate camaraderie and promote healing through laughter.

Folly or no folly, there is a part of this story that still needs to be told. The local celebrity, who proved to be the God he claimed to be, even as he hung there, suffering in silence, was well aware of the dice game of shame going on nearby for his clothing. He had every reason to be bitter and resentful at the officers, but even before they actually began to gamble for his clothing, Jesus asked the father in heaven to forgive them, because they didn't understand what they were doing (Luke 23:34). Hopefully you can get a sense of the immense love of God for you and the grace and mercy that is always available to the law enforcement community.

I just want to encourage you today that God understands the quirky ways of the law enforcement community and the mechanisms of folly we sometimes use to help us cope with the many difficult situations we face. In his ongoing heavenly ministry, I want you to know that Jesus continues to pray and intercede for you (Heb 7:25). My prayer is that you would acknowledge and believe in him and thank him by faith for continuing to take care of us, his ambassadors of justice.

Lords Blessings,
Rev. Clarence E. Hines
Police Chaplain (SGT SLMPD RET)
cehines777@yahoo.com
459-2741

Reprinted from previous issue

St. Louis Policemen's Credit Union
Call 444-5392

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We want your loan business and hope we earn repeat business with our honest efforts to make the loan process work to benefit you. Credit Life or disability is available on all loans and Gap insurance on your auto is only $299. Each is a very affordable way to protect yourself from unforeseen circumstances.

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First District Officer
REMEMBERING THOSE WHO HAVE MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE

Police Officer
CLAude Smith

End of Watch:
APRIL 23, 1974

Just before 8:00pm on April 23, 1974, off-duty Police Officer Claude Smith was shot and killed in a Vaughn Housing Project building at 1101 North Eighteenth Street. Wearing civilian clothes and a wig to disguise his appearance, Officer Smith was helping a friend, an off-duty deputy sheriff, search for a woman wanted for bond forfeiture.

While the deputy sheriff watched for her outside the building, Officer Smith waited in the eighth floor breezeway for the woman to return to her apartment. Officer Smith asked those he encountered if they had seen her. Keith Scott, an 18 year old who lived on the sixth floor, heard that a child molester was in the building and worried about his two younger brothers who were playing on the eighth floor. He went to his apartment, grabbed a pistol, and then ran to the eighth floor where he saw Officer Smith. Although Officer Smith identified himself as a police officer, Scott shot him in the chest.

Scott, unemployed and with no previous criminal record, was arrested in his apartment about 11:30PM that evening. He confessed to the shooting and was charged with first degree murder. He was convicted of second degree murder and sentenced to thirty—five years in prison. Scott, paroled on July 24, 1987, was returned to prison on March 29, 1993 and released again on March 16, 1995.

Officer Smith recently had been named Outstanding Officer of the Year in the Ninth District. In 1972 he was shot in the left shoulder while working a second job as a security guard in a downtown clothing store. Despite being wounded, he captured one of the suspects.

He received an additional award fro the Overtime Foot Patrol Program for making 39 arrests in just 90 working days. His arrests resulted in 26 warrants being issued. Twenty-eight year old Officer Smith, known as “C.C.”, had been on the force since June of 1967 and was assigned to the Ninth District. He was survived by his wife and a six month old son.

*Biographical information extracted from In the Line of Duty: St. Louis Police Officers Who Made the Ultimate Sacrifice-Second Edition by Barbara Miksicek and Kristiana Carnaghi.

STEPHEN W. THURMER
Attorney at Law
SLPFA Approved Legal Counsel

1900 Locust, Suite 302
St. Louis, MO 63103
(314) 421-3100 - Office
(314) 607-1599 - Cell
Email: thurmer@sbcglobal.net

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DO SOMETHING
AMAZING

Continued from page 1

decide whether you keep driving or whether you stop and do something amazing. If you do, there will be no medals, no glory. If you don’t, you won’t get fired and no one will ever know that you passed up the opportunity to do something amazing.

Nobody, that is, but you.

So do something amazing, not because post-Ferguson “reformers” demand it, but because you are an amazing person who has answered an awesome calling.

By Jeff Roorda,
Business Manager
St. Louis Police Officers Association
Jeff.roorda@slpoa.org
(314)353-3200

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THIS IS THE ST. LOUIS POLICE FOUNDATION CALL BOX!

Call directly to ask for the things you need to do your job better and more safely!

SUPPORT REPORT
The St. Louis Police Foundation has provided funds to purchase the following:

- 73 Vehicle Upgrades to Chevy Suburbans
- Remington 870 Shotguns for Patrol Officers
- 40 Patrol Titles
- Entry Tool Kits for SWAT teams and Special Units
- 7 License Plate Recognition Systems
- 4 All-Terrain Vehicles
- 6Tail-Lights
- Catered Holiday Meals for On-Duty Officers
- Accidental Death Insurance Benefit for All Officers On and Off Duty

These Items valued at over $585,000 and there is so much more.

More than $8,500,000 raised since 2007!

Any police officer can make a request at www.stlouispolicefoundation.org. Let us know what you need to continue to be St. Louis’ finest!

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MISSOURI LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

IMPORTANT LAW ENFORCEMENT NOTIFICATION

DATE: March 1, 2017
TO: Law Enforcement Executives, Commanders, Supervisors, Officers, and Deputies:
FROM: Sheldon Lineback, Mo. Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation President
RE: Missouri Law Enforcement Memorial Services

The 2017 Missouri Law Enforcement Candle Light Vigil will be held on May 5, 2017 at the Law Enforcement Memorial located on the river side of the Capitol. The Vigil will begin at 8:00 p.m.

The 2017 Missouri Law Enforcement Memorial Service will be held on May 6, 2017 at the Law Enforcement Memorial located on the river side of the Capitol. The service will begin at 10 a.m.

Please mark these dates on your calendars and make every attempt to attend one or both of these important services. Your attendance is important to properly honor our brothers and sisters that gave the ultimate sacrifice in protecting the homeland and serving the citizens of Missouri.

This document also serves as a notice for pre-determine agencies that will be presenting wreaths during the May 6th service. Please fill out the bottom of the notification and fax it to 573-632-4211 or email to fopclark@gmail.com. If you have questions regarding the event call 573-632-4209. Special lodging rates have been arranged at Capitol Plaza Hotel (573-635-1234) and overflow at the Baymont 573-636-5231 (MAKE RESERVATION NOW AS LODGING IS LIMITED due to other events occurring in Jefferson City during this time.

Agency: ____________________________
Last Name: ________________________
Rank: ______________________________
First Name: ________________________
Phone Number: ____________________
YES OR NO ________________________

(agency) will be bringing a wreath.

Members:
Fraternal Order of Police MO Sheriffs Assn.
MO Police Chiefs Assn MO Dept. of Corrections
MO Dept. of Public Safety MO Peace Officers Assn.
MO State Troopers Assn.

Former SLMPD Officers SIPOA Approved Legal Counsel

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Office 314.621.0622 Brian P. Millikan
Fax 866-640-0289 bmillikan@millikanwright.com

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In Support of the St. Louis Police Officers’ Association

Thanks for a Job Well Done!
We Appreciate all you do to keep us safe!

Dave McNutt, Owner
Adam McNutt, President
Ted Hyllie, Vice President (retired Major, St. Louis County PD)
### APRIL 2017

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WE WANT YOU!
COME JOIN OUR FAMILY!
A FAMILY FRIENDLY MOTORCYCLE CLUB
FOR ACTIVE & RETIRED LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONALS

The Blue Knights are a benevolent organization with the goal of promoting safe motorcycle riding & raising monies to support charities in our area. We do this through the sponsoring of rides and other events. We also enjoy just the brother/sisterhood of riding, whether it be to go eat somewhere or just ride. We hold regular monthly meetings and if interested, I would invite you to attend a meeting to see what we are all about. If you have any questions feel free to contact me directly or any of the club officers. There is a six month grace period if you don’t own a motorcycle upon joining.

Monthly Meetings
Club meetings are the third Tuesday of each month at Hassler’s Pub & Grill, 11804 Tesson Ferry Rd, St Louis, MO 63128. Meeting time is 6:30 pm with a group ride following the meeting.

With The Blue Knights® - “there are no strangers, only friends we haven’t met.”

The 2017 Missouri Law Enforcement Candle Light Vigil will be held on May 5, 2017 at the Law Enforcement Memorial located on the river side of the Capitol. The Vigil will begin at 8:00 p.m.

The 2017 Missouri Law Enforcement Memorial Service will be held on May 6, 2017 at the Law Enforcement Memorial located on the river side of the Capitol. The service will begin at 10 a.m.