18 Honored at
PROJECT 2000 XXV
Seattle, Washington ~ June 5-8, 2014

Senior Officer
Eric Williams
EOW: February 25, 2013

Executive Director
Tom Clements
EOW: March 19, 2013

Lieutenant
Osvaldo Albarati
EOW: February 26, 2013

Correctional Sergeant
Ruben Thomas III
EOW: March 18, 2012
Agent Mayra Ramirez-Barreto  
EOW: January 10, 2013

Correctional Officer  
Eliezer Colon-Claussells  
EOW: January 10, 2013

Correctional Officer  
Gilbert Cortez and K9 Officer Mattie  
EOW: March 25, 2013

Correctional Officer  
Brandon Kountz  
EOW: March 31, 2013

Mental Health Psychiatric Social Worker  
Malcolm Lee, Jr.  
EOW: May 31, 2013

Correctional Officer  
Agostino “Gus” Fare  
EOW: June 12, 2013
AVO IV Sergeant
Michael Makiya
EOW: June 15, 2013

Materials Handler
Supervisor
Michael Baskett
EOW: November 26, 2013

Lieutenant Brian Feldt
EOW: December 23, 2013

Correctional Deputy
Jeremy Meyst
EOW: December 24, 2013

Probation/Parole Officer II
Daniel Jones
EOW: July 27, 2007

Lieutenant
Frank Rankin, Jr.
EOW: January 30, 1960
Corrections Officer/
Petty Officer 2nd Class
Navy Master at Arms
Dave Morgan
EOW: August 10, 2013

Staff Sergeant
Jonathan Schmidt
U.S. Army
192nd Ordnance Battalion
EOW: September 1, 2012

Nohema and Marisa Cortez with the picture of their husband and father with his K9 partner Mattie. At right, the caption under the photo.

Aiden Schmidt reaches up to the photo of his father, Staff Sergeant Jonathan Schmidt (top right of this page). Below, Honor Guards line up before marching in formation onto the field at the Memorial Ceremony.
To the Oregon DOC Team,

Last month, we had the pleasure of attending Project 2000 XXV – the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation (CPOF) annual four-day gathering for correctional employees and families.

For those of you who may not know, the CPOF <http://cpof.org/> is a national, non-profit charity for correctional employees and families. It provides a death benefit to the surviving families of employees who have lost their lives in the line of duty. The Foundation also has an extensive Catastrophic Assistance Program to assist correctional employees and their families in times of emergency, crisis, or extreme need. To date, they have assisted over 28,700 Correctional Officers and families nationwide; in Oregon, the number is around 400.

Project 2000 also includes a recognition luncheon during which the Foundation recognizes several individuals who have been helped through the Catastrophic Assistance Program. One such person this year was Extradition Officer Nicole Kellogg, whose young son was diagnosed with Hunter’s Syndrome (a very rare progressive genetic disorder that will affect him cognitively and physically for the rest of his life). The Foundation provided assistance over the holiday season, giving them a very special Christmas.

Also recognized at this luncheon are individuals who have responded to emergency situations with bravery above and beyond the call of duty. The Foundation commended DRCI Correctional Officers Dave Dalton and Troy McClintock for their heroic assistance in saving the life of a young man – and his dog – that were in a horrific traffic accident on U.S. Highway 26 in August of 2012.

Another of our own, Corporal Dan Weber from Oregon State Penitentiary (OSP), is the CPOF National Honor Guard <http://cpof.org/honor-guard/the-cpof-national-honor-guard/> Transportation Coordinator. The families of the fallen officers and staff are honored at the Project 2000 yearly event. Cpl. Weber and his team of terrific men and women carefully plan each step of this event, providing a uniformed escort to meet and greet them at the airport, standing by their side through every formal function, and ensuring a safe return to the airport at the end of the weekend. In addition, a formal ceremonial salute was led and performed by our Honor Guard with all states involved, acknowledging family members’ ultimate sacrifice.

We were honored to take part in this year’s Project 2000 event. It truly is amazing to witness what this organization does in support of correctional employees and their families all across the country. They provide assistance for the spouses, children, and other beneficiaries of those who have lost their lives in pursuit of their chosen profession; they promote and protect a positive image of the corrections profession; and they provide additional benefits for members, including academic scholarships <http://cpof.org/scholarship-program/> and hospice assistance. If you are interested in becoming a member, please click for an application <http://cpof.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/membership_application_OR.pdf>.

Sincerely,
Colette S. Peters
Director

Mitch Morrow
Deputy Director
To request catastrophic assistance for a Correctional Officer or Staff at your prison, jail or office, email: char@cpof.org. Please provide your full name, institution, rank and cell phone number (or other phone number where you can be reached). Thank you for assisting us in “Taking Care of our Own.”

**Field Representatives**

Wayne Harmon                      Maricopa County, AZ Representative
Connie Summers                    California Representative
Charlie Bennett                   California Representative
Guy Edmonds                      Colorado Representative
Kim Blakley                      Federal Representative
Barry Fredieu                    Federal Representative
Laura Phillips                   Federal Representative
John Williams                    Florida Representative
Terrasa Wood                     Florida Representative
Donald Almeler                  Florida Representative
Gary Van Der Ham                Florida Representative
Rose Williams                   Georgia Representative
Roger Sherman                   Hawaii Representative
Adrain Brewer                  Indiana Representative
Wayne Bowdry                    Kentucky Representative
Paul Glavin                     Michigan Representative
Fred Immer                      Mississippi Representative
Vanessa Lee                      Mississippi Representative
Ora Starks                      Missouri Representative
Keith Bentz                     Montana Representative
Rae Forseth                     Montana Representative
Lisa Hunter                     Nevada Representative
Tania Arguello                  Nevada Representative
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David Wedzina                 North New York Representative
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Laura Matthews                 North Carolina Representative
Ricky Anderson                 North Carolina Representative
Sarah Haynes                   Ohio Representative
Ann Tandy                      Arkansas & Oklahoma Representative
Dan Weber                       West Oregon Representative
Michael Seefeldt               East Oregon Representative
Wendy Baur                     Pennsylvania Representative
Jim Giles                       Philadelphia Prison System
Larry Bottner                  New Jersey Representative
Bill Daliz                      Rhode Island Representative
Manuel Leander                 South Carolina Representative
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Cheryl Thorpe                  Texas Representative
Debbie Herklotz               Texas Representative
Cathy Stokes                   Texas Representative
Joe Ponder                     Utah Representative
Carol Manning                 West Virginia & Virginia Representative
Ray Wagoner                   West Washington Representative
Darren Feiler                  East Washington Representative
Bridgett Bolinger             Wisconsin Representative
Evelyn Schultz               Wyoming Representative
Sharon Crerar                 Wyoming Representative

**Note:** Many Representatives bring the CPO Foundation to one or more other States in addition to their home State.

The Correctional Peace Officers Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt charity registered with the Internal Revenue Service under IRC 501(c)(3), 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi), ID number 68-0023302.

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On attending Project 2000 XXV -- by Oregon DOC Director Colette Peters

AMAZING!
-- by Char

BACK COVER: The Oregon DOC Honor Guard

Autumn 2014
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Vol. 24, No. 2

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THIS YEAR’S HONOREES

NEXT YEAR:
PROJECT 2000 XXVI
Thursday, June 18- Sunday, June 21, 2015
Jacksonville, Florida

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-- by Char

BACK COVER: The Oregon DOC Honor Guard
Once again, we welcomed over 700 Corrections Professionals, families, friends and guests to Project 2000 XXV, with nearly 800 in attendance at the Friday, June 6 Memorial Ceremony held at Bellevue Downtown Park. On the next six pages are the photographs of the 18 Corrections Professionals (and one K9 Officer) who were honored at the Ceremony, with brief descriptions of the incidents that led to their deaths in the line of duty. As is always the case at the CPOF’s annual Memorial Ceremony, tears were shed and emotions ran deep, yet many of the families, close friends and colleagues of the Fallen expressed later that they also felt great pride and a renewal of strength from attending the Ceremony and seeing their loved ones honored with such dignity, professionalism and caring. We give many thanks and much appreciation to the CPOF National Honor Guard and all the Honor Guards from across the nation who participated for making the Ceremony so impressive and memorable an event.

The Annual National Memorial Ceremony is the highlight of every Project 2000 gathering. Here is the complete list of the events and activities of Project 2000 XXV:

**Thursday --**
- The Annual Welcome Buffet Dinner

**Friday --**
- The Annual Memorial Luncheon (follows immediately after the Memorial Ceremony)
- Kids & Teens Lunch
- Seminar: Gangs in Prisons
- Youth Counseling Session

**Saturday --**
- Seminar: An Officer is Down
- Seminar: Women in Corrections
- “Time for You” Informal Session for Fallen Family members
- The Annual Recognition Luncheon
- Kids & Teens Outing & Lunch
- Seminar: Afghanistan: A Civilian’s Perspective
- Seminar: Contraband Cell Phones
- Special Session for Survivors of Assaults, and their Spouses
- Pizza and Ice Cream Sundae Party & Movie Night for Kids 12 and under
- “Teen Night Out”

**Sunday --**
- The Annual “Closing Event” Buffet Breakfast, featuring the Project Kids & Teens “Songfest”
Senior Officer Eric Williams  
USP Canaan, Pennsylvania, Federal Bureau of Prisons  
EOW: February 25, 2013  

Senior Officer Eric Williams was stabbed to death by an inmate inside the housing unit at USP Canaan. Around 10:00 pm Officer Williams was locking down his housing unit on the upper range of the unit when an inmate came up behind him and started stabbing him in the neck, head and back. The inmate then threw Officer Williams down the steps to the lower range and continued to stab Officer Williams repeatedly.  

Officer Williams had served with the Federal Bureau of Prisons for 18 months. He is survived by his parents, Don and Jean; brothers, Mark and Kyle; and sister, Lauren.

Lieutenant Osvaldo Albarati  
MDC Guaynabo, Puerto Rico, Federal Bureau of Prisons  
EOW: February 26, 2013  

Lieutenant Osvaldo Albarati was murdered by unknown individuals who saw Lt. Albarati and the SIS (Special Investigation Section) team as a threat to their drug trafficking organization.  

Lieutenant Albarati had served with the Federal Bureau of Prisons for 11 years. He is survived by his wife, Helen; son, Osvaldo; and daughters, Shainezca and Shyrene.
Correctional Officer Gilbert Cortez and K9 Officer Mattie
California Rehabilitation Center
California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
EOW: March 25, 2013

Correctional Officer Gilbert Cortez was part of a convoy of state Corrections K9 Unit Officers who were en route to inspect the La Cima Fire Camp in a rural part of San Diego County. His marked vehicle veered off the roadway and overturned. Officer Cortez was transported to a local fire station but died before a helicopter could reach him. His partner K9 Mattie died at the scene.

Officer Cortez had served with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for 23 years and was assigned to the Southern Regional K-9 Unit. He is survived by his wife, Nohema; daughter, Marisa; and son, Andy.

K9 Officer Mattie had served with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for one and a half years.

Correctional Officer Brandon Kountz
USP Beaumont, Texas, Federal Bureau of Prisons
EOW: March 31, 2013

Correctional Officer Kountz, along with other Correctional Staff, was in the Staff Lounge awaiting the clearing of count and the start of the evening meal. A body alarm was sounded and Officer Kountz and other Staff members responded to the unit. Officer Kountz and Staff placed the inmates back in their cells and returned to the Staff Lounge to await the start of the evening meal. A few minutes later Officer Kountz lost consciousness and fell to the floor. Medical Staff arrived and began CPR on Officer Kountz. They continued until an ambulance arrived. Officer Kountz was taken to the hospital and later pronounced dead.

Officer Kountz had served with the Federal Bureau of Prisons for 11 months. He is survived by his wife, Jennifer, who is a Teacher at USP Beaumont.

Executive Director Tom Clements
Colorado Department of Corrections
EOW: March 19, 2013

Executive Director Tom Clements was murdered at his home by a former inmate. Two days earlier, the subject had murdered a pizza deliveryman in Denver, Colorado and stolen the man’s uniform and pizza carrier. On the night that Director Clements was murdered, the subject rang the door bell and when Director Clements answered the door he was fatally shot.

Director Clements had served with the Colorado Department of Corrections for two years. He had previously served with the Missouri Department of Corrections for over 30 years. He is survived by his wife, Lisa; and two adult daughters, Sara and Rachel.
Mental Health Psychiatric Social Worker Malcolm Lee, Jr.
Oahu Community Correctional Center
State of Hawaii Department of Public Safety
EOW: May 31, 2013

Social Worker Malcolm Lee and another Officer intervened when a fight broke out between two female inmates. Worker Lee was hit repeatedly by the inmate he was trying to restrain. During the struggle both landed on the ground and the inmate continued to hit Worker Lee. After the unit was locked down and Staff responded, they found that Worker Lee had become unresponsive. Worker Lee died from a heart attack.

Worker Malcolm Lee Jr. is survived by his wife, Amy; sons, Malcolm III, Micah and Keanu; daughter, Kahealanie; parents, Malcolm Sr. and Andrea (Malcolm Sr. is a retired Chief of Security for the Department); brother, Stephen, who also works at the same institution; and sister, Laurie-Ann.

Correctional Officer Agostino “Gus” Fare
Gloucester County Department of Correctional Services, New Jersey
EOW: June 12, 2013

Correctional Officer Agostino Fare and Officer Y. Ricks were en route to Cumberland County Jail to pick up an inmate. Officer Fare was driving the Department transport van when he seemed to suffer a seizure and lost consciousness. Officer Ricks was able to reach over and throw the van in park. He radioed for help, flagged down a passing vehicle and began CPR. Officer Fare died from Hypertensive Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular disease.

He is survived by his wife, Brandy; daughters, Victoria and Emily; and his parents, brother and sister.

ACO IV Sergeant Michael Makiya
Oahu Community Correctional Center
State of Hawaii Department of Public Safety
EOW: June 15, 2013

Sergeant Michael Makiya was working the Central Control Unit. At approximately 8:00 pm there was an incident inside a housing unit and Sergeant Makiya made a call for backup. Once Staff responded and addressed the situation a call was made to “stand down.” When Sergeant Makiya did not respond to the “stand down” call, Staff went to Central Control to check on him. Sergeant Makiya was found to be unresponsive and was taken to the hospital where he died from a heart attack.

Sergeant Makiya had served the Hawaii Department of Public Safety for over 30 years. He is survived by his wife, Janice; and two adult step-children, Doreen and Darren.
Materials Handler Supervisor Michael Baskett  
FMC Butner, North Carolina, Federal Bureau of Prisons  
EOW: November 26, 2013

Materials Handler Supervisor Michael Baskett was struck by a motorized delivery cart while supervising inmates on the loading dock at the Food Service warehouse. The cart struck him, pinning him underneath. Several Officers and inmates immediately moved the cart off of him and began CPR, but were unable to revive him. He died at the scene.

Supervisor Baskett had served with the Federal Bureau of Prisons for 18 years. He had previously served with the North Carolina Department of Corrections for nine years. He is survived by his wife, Martha; two children, Yulanda and Michael Jr.; and two step-children, Edward and Crystal.

Lieutenant Brian Feldt  
USP Big Sandy, Kentucky, Federal Bureau of Prisons  
EOW: December 23, 2013

On December 20, 2013, Lieutenant Brian Feldt was responding to a call for assistance due to a fight involving multiple inmates with weapons inside a housing unit. During the response Lieutenant Feldt was injured. He suffered a torn Achilles tendon and was sent to an outside medical facility for treatment. Three days later on December 23, Lieutenant Feldt passed away from a blood clot.

Lieutenant Feldt had served with the Federal Bureau of Prisons for 16-1/2 years. He is survived by his wife, Kelly; and sons, Timothy and Bradley.

Correctional Deputy Jeremy Meyst  
Tulare County Sheriff’s Office, California  
EOW: December 24, 2013

Correctional Deputy Jeremy Meyst was transporting two prisoners from the Porterville substation to the main jail in Visalia when he was killed in a single vehicle crash on Road 204 shortly after 2:30 am. Deputy Meyst was ejected from the transport van when it overturned.

Deputy Meyst had served with the Tulare County Sheriff’s Office for nine years. He is survived by his wife, Sarah; sons, Joshua and Eric; and mother, Judith.
Corrections Sergeant Ruben Thomas III  
Columbia Correctional Institution, Florida Department of Corrections  
EOW: March 18, 2012*

At approximately 10:00 pm Sergeant Thomas was checking on an inmate in one of the prison’s dorms when the inmate attacked Sergeant Thomas, stabbing him in the neck. The inmate then struck another Officer in the eye with a sock filled with a heavy item. Sergeant Thomas was transported to the hospital where he succumbed to his wounds.

Sergeant Thomas had served with the Florida Department of Corrections for six years. He is survived by his fiancée, Leeann; daughter, Emma; and son Elias (who was born after Sergeant Thomas’ death); his mother and step-father, Paula and Randy; sisters, Savannah and Haley; and brother, Jacob.

*Owing to conflicting trial dates in June 2013, Sergeant Thomas’ family members were unable to attend Project 2000 XXIV held in Reno, Nevada last year. Therefore, after consulting with the Thomas family the CPOF Board of Directors decided to honor Sergeant Thomas at the 2014 Annual National Memorial Ceremony.

The Corrections Professionals honored from the Past

Probation / Parole Officer II Daniel Jones  
Eighth Judicial District, Department of Correctional Services  
Iowa Department of Corrections  
EOW: July 27, 2007

Probation/Parole Officer II Daniel Jones was killed when his vehicle was struck head-on by another car. Officer Jones was traveling to his office after visiting the Poweshiek County Jail when an oncoming car crossed the center line and struck his vehicle.

Officer Jones had served with the Iowa Department of Corrections for 18 years. He is survived by his wife, Nancy; daughter, Sara; sons, Dane and Cody; mother, Sally; and brothers, David and Don.

Lieutenant Frank Rankin, Jr.  
Yreka Work Camp, California Department of Corrections  
EOW: January 30, 1960

Lieutenant Frank Rankin Jr. drowned in the Klamath River as he and an inmate from the Yreka Work Camp in Siskiyou County attempted to string an aerial TV antenna across the river.

The two were using a guide rope to pull their boat across the turbulent river. The bow of the boat went under the water, which caused the boat to immediately capsize. Lieutenant Rankin and the inmate were both thrown into the water. Lt. Rankin was washed downstream and his body was recovered several weeks later.

Lieutenant Rankin had served with the California Department of Corrections for 12 years. He is survived by his son, Frank III; and daughter, Candace.
Honored from the Military

Corrections Officer Dave Morgan
Petty Officer 2nd Class
Navy Master at Arms, Naval Security Force, Rochester, New York
SCI Dallas, Pennsylvania
EOW: August 10, 2013

Corrections Officer/Petty Officer 2nd Class Dave Morgan was serving in Kuwait when he was critically injured in a crash on November 19, 2009. Officer Morgan and his partner, Petty Officer 2nd Class Brian Patton, were in a fully marked military police vehicle responding to a call when their vehicle was struck head-on at high speed by a civilian vehicle. Petty Officer Patton died at the scene.*

Officer Morgan suffered a traumatic brain injury and died almost four years later on August 10, 2013.

Officer Morgan had served two tours of duty in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. He is survived by his daughter, Ariana; his parents, three sisters and one brother.

*Corrections Officer/Petty Officer 2nd Class Brian Patton was honored at Project XXI in Buffalo, New York on June 25, 2010.

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Staff Sergeant Jonathan Schmidt, U.S. Army
192nd Ordnance Battalion, 52nd Ordnance Group,
20th Support Command (CBRNE)
Fort Bragg, North Carolina
EOW: September 1, 2012

Staff Sergeant Jonathan Schmidt was assigned to 192nd Ordnance Battalion, 52nd Ordnance Group, 20th Support Command (CBRNE - Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and high yield Explosives), Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Staff Sergeant Schmidt was an explosive ordnance disposal expert who had been deployed to both Iraq and Afghanistan.

Staff Sergeant Schmidt died in Batur Village, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when enemy forces attacked his unit with small arms fire.

Staff Sergeant Schmidt is survived by his wife, Natalie; son, Aiden; and mothers, Leann and Tammy. (Leann is a Safety Manager at the Federal Medical Center in Devens, Massachusetts).
**HEARTFELT THANKS** to All of these wonderful people, facilities, groups, organizations and entities for their generous donations made at Project 2000 XXV!

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<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Donation</th>
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<tr>
<td>AFGE-Local 817, FMC Lexington, KY*</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of New York Department of Correction Pipe Band**</td>
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<td>Correction Captains Association, Inc.</td>
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<td>AFGE Council of Prison Locals 33*</td>
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<td>Warden Freddie Butler, Hamilton Aged &amp; Infirmed Facility, AL</td>
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<td>TDCJ Department of Classification and Records §§</td>
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<td>TDCJ Region II 2014 Spring Classic Golf Tournament</td>
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* Current Lifetime Sponsor additional donation
** Donation for the “Kids & Teens Room”
± New Lifetime Sponsor
± ± Current Lifetime Sponsor additional donation for the “Kids & Teens Room”
§ Toward a Lifetime Sponsorship
 §§ $5,000 for New Lifetime Sponsorship and $2,000 for the “Kids & Teens Room”

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Top left: The Catastrophic Assistance Program Wall.  
Left: The 2014 CPOF Staff, Representatives and Volunteers. Above: National Director Don Dease “makes good” on a $5 bet.*  
Top right: Kids and Teens with their homemade American flags. Right: At the Memorial Ceremony.  
* See page 29
The Honored Families of Project 2000 XXV

The Family of Correctional Officer Eliezer Colon-Claussells, PR

The Family of Senior Officer Eric Williams, PA

The Family of Lieutenant Osvaldo Albarati, PR

The Family of Executive Director Tom Clements, CO

The Family of Correctional Officer Gilbert Cortez, CA
(Officer Cortez’ son Andy is holding the Plaque honoring Officer Cortez’ K9 partner Mattie, who died in the same vehicle accident that took Officer Cortez’ life.)

The Family of Correctional Officer Brandon Kountz, TX

The Family of Mental Health Psychiatric Social Worker Malcolm Lee, Jr., HI
The Honored Families of Project 2000 XXV

The Family of Correctional Officer Agostino “Gus” Fare, NJ

The Family of ACO IV Sergeant Michael Makiya, HI

The Family of Materials Handler Supervisor Michael Baskett, NC

The Family of Lieutenant Brian Feldt, KY

The Family of Correctional Deputy Jeremy Meyst, CA

The Family of Correctional Sergeant Ruben Thomas III, FL

The Family of Probation/Parole Officer II Daniel Jones, IA
The Honored Families of Project 2000 XXV

The Family of Lieutenant Frank Rankin, Jr., CA
PA Volunteers accepting the plaque and flags on behalf of the Family of Corrections Officer / Petty Officer 2nd Class Dave Morgan, PA
The Family of Staff Sergeant Jonathan Schmidt, NC

Top: The Family Room; Honored Families arrive with uniformed escorts at the Memorial Ceremony. Middle: At the Memorial Ceremony; Honored Families are escorted to the Thursday Welcome Buffet Dinner; Mrs. Nancy Jones, widow of Probation/Parole Officer II Daniel Jones, speaks at the Sunday Closing Buffet Breakfast. Right: Each Honored Family received a set of three mounted shell casings from the Rifle Volley fired at the Memorial Ceremony. Pictured are Mr. and Mrs. Don and Jean Williams, parents of Senior Officer Eric Williams.
Honor Guards of Project 2000 XXV

[Images of honor guards]
Honor Guards of Project 2000 XXV
At the Project 2000 Recognition Luncheon each year, we recognize Corrections Professionals who have survived savage inmate assaults; Correctional Officers and Families who have triumphed over devastating catastrophic occurrences in their lives; and Corrections Professionals who have acted “above and beyond the call of duty” on or off the job, thus bringing particular credit to themselves, their institutions and the profession as a whole.

We are proud to present this year’s “Recognition Honorees” on this and the next two pages.

Correctional Counselor Elvira Harris accepting for Correctional Officer Tom Dennie (CA)

Detention Sergeant Gregory Down, Jr. (AZ)

Extradition Officer Nicole Kellogg (OR)

Chief of Security Aboutanaa Elhabti with his wife Sebrina (OK)

Walker County, Alabama Jail Administrator Trent McClusky was cited at the Recognition Luncheon for his outstanding dedication to service. He has been a Supporting Member since 1993.

Correctional Officer Robin Shelton (NC)

Lieutenant Tony Holsey (GA)

Counselor Melissa Wilson (WV)
Survivors of Assaults, Catastrophic Assistance Recipients and Bravery “Above and Beyond the Call of Duty” Recipients

Detention Officer Rachel Harris (AZ)

Correctional Officer Michael Nye (SC)

Correctional Officer Cory Barron (LA)

Correctional Officer Ernest Morgan (FL)

Correctional Officer Mark Zammuk (GA)

Sergeant Clarence Lawrence, Jr. (SC)

Correctional Officer Samuel Ponce, Correctional Officer Isabel Benitez, Correctional Officer Pablo DeOchoa, Correctional Officer Brenda Magallanes, and Correctional Officer Shawn Shelby (CA)

For information on the situations leading to these Recognitions, visit our website cpof.org.

Note: If no information for a particular situation is on the website it is because the recognized individual did not submit a signed Authorization and Release Form.
Survivors of Assaults, Catastrophic Assistance Recipients and Bravery “Above and Beyond the Call of Duty” Recipients

Correctional Officer Tim Raffray (LA)  Correctional Officer William Brewer (FL)

Probation and Parole Officer Stephen Hunter (NC)  Correctional Officer Dave Dalton and Correctional Officer Troy McClintock (OR)

CENTER, second photo from right: Airman Dylan Boone (US Navy) and Sergeant Quinn McGinnis (CA); center far right: Road Squad Officer David Peterson (NC). Right: Corrections Officer Ernie Emminger (left) and Corrections Officer Bradley Walters (right) (NY)
Speakers of Project 2000 XXV

Mr. Kevin Murphy, VP, US Deputy Wardens Association

Mr. Scott Frakes, Deputy Director of Prisons, Washington Department of Corrections

Mr. James Montgomery, Chief of Police, Bellevue, WA

Mr. Bernard Warner, Secretary, Washington Department of Corrections

Mr. James Gondles, Jr., Executive Director, American Correctional Association

Mr. Craig Floyd, Chairman & CEO, National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund

Mr. Michael Stainer, Director, Division of Adult Institutions, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

Captain Jim Giles, State Correctional Institution-Mahanoy, PA
Mr. Angel Medina, Assistant Director of Prison Operations, Colorado Department of Corrections

Mr. Michael Meserve, Council of Prison Locals 33, Western Region Vice President, Federal Bureau of Prisons

Mr. Michael Crews, Secretary, Florida Department of Corrections

Mr. Michael Thompson, Commissioner, Oklahoma Department of Public Safety

Mr. Joseph Prater, Deputy Commissioner, North Carolina Department of Public Safety

Mr. Phil Glover, Council of Prison Locals 33, Northeast Region Vice President, Federal Bureau of Prisons

Mr. James Freeman, Warden, Baker Correctional Institution, FL, who welcomed everyone to come to Jacksonville, FL next year for Project 2000 XXVI
Our “Project Kids and Teens” are, as Mrs. Gump famously said, like a box of chocolates: “You never know what…” Well, you know the rest. Actually, we do know what we’re “gonna get” in general, in that every year we have a group of really nice young people who, whether needing or giving comfort to one another, are caring, friendly and considerate. What’s different every year is the total number of kids and teens, the age range, where the kids come from and, of course, what their personal experiences have been with the loss of a beloved family member in the line of duty. Sometimes we have lots of babies and tots; sometimes we have a “mob scene” at Saturday’s combination pizza/make-your-own ice cream sundae/movie night for the 12-and-under crowd; sometimes we need just a couple of mini-vans for “Teen Night Out” and other times we need to charter a bus.

This year, we had 60 in the Kids’ & Teens’ Room, including, as always, a few returnees who once were newly bereaved themselves. These now-teenaged kids are so helpful to the new arrivals, as they have had time to learn how to cope with their grief and can give the new kids the kind of encouragement and support that only those who have suffered the same terrible loss can provide.

Something special that hasn’t happened before is that this year’s group consisted of kids and teens from as far away as Hawaii to the west and Puerto Rico to the southeast of the contiguous USA -- a wonderful cultural mix for all to experience and enjoy.

Mandy Donaldson, whose father Bill was murdered in January of 1990 when Mandy was just four years old, has been in charge of the Kids’ & Teens’ Room for quite a few years now. That’s Mandy in red on the opposite page in the picture second from the top on the left side. She is ably assisted by a core staff of faithful volunteers: Gail McKinney; Gail’s daughter Koli; and Jim Giles and his daughter Olivia (see “yellow shirts” photo above). Other volunteers help out at intervals over the four-day period of Project, and Mandy makes sure that there are plenty of chaperones at all times.

The Kids’ & Teens’ Room is set up with different activity centers such as the arts and crafts table, electronic games corner, tots’ and toddlers’ area and a “teen table.” Yet, as indicated above, there is plenty of interaction among the various age groups, and, with the exception of Saturday
night, all the kids and teens share the scheduled meals and planned excursions.

Events this year included the regularly scheduled group counseling session (see photo at lower right on page 28) conducted by one of the CPO Foundation’s Chaplains, Mr. Gary Evans (also the Foundation’s Representative in South Carolina); an all-day trip to Seattle’s Woodland Park Zoo that included a picnic lunch; and, on Saturday night, the above-mentioned pizza/ice cream/movie night (‘Frozen’ was the feature film) for the younger kids and, for the teenagers, dinner in downtown Seattle at the Hard Rock Café followed by a trip to the top of the Space Needle.

Other activities were practice sessions conducted by Mandy for the “Group Sing” that takes place every year at the Farewell Breakfast on Sunday morning (see photo at lower right), and the drawing of individual American flags, also displayed at the Sunday breakfast (see photo on page 15). These flags inspire more creative “variations on the theme” than you might imagine!

We hope you enjoy the pictures of the kids and teens on these two pages and scattered here and there throughout the first half of this magazine. And if you’re planning to join us next year in Jacksonville for Project 2000 XXVI (yes, please do!), maybe you’d like to devote a few hours to the “Project Kids and Teens!” You’ll have a good time, and your participation will be greatly appreciated.

*from page 15: At the Thursday Welcome Buffet, when each of the kids and teens received rolling-wheel carry-ons crammed to overflowing with toys, games, stuffed animals and many other fun items (see photo at top left on page 28), National Director Don Dease promised to give $5.00 to anyone who, after taking every item out of the carry-on and checking them out, could successfully pack everything back in. The winner: Kahealanie Lee, daughter of Mental Health Psychiatric Social Worker Malcolm Lee, Jr., EOW 5/31/13 (see page 11).

The carry-ons and all their contents are generously donated every year by the U.S. Deputy Wardens Association, of which Mr. Kevin Murphy is Vice President. Mr. Murphy has the pleasure of handing out each carry-on at the Thursday Welcome Buffet, as can be seen in the photo at top left on page 26. And, yes, that’s Mr. Dease again applauding on stage in the background.
Dear Charleene, Don and Dick:

I was so impressed and appreciative of all you do for the Correctional Officers and Families throughout the United States. Your organization gives true meaning to the word “family.” I am so grateful for you inviting me to the Project XXV conference of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation to honor those Correctional Staff who were killed or wounded and their families.

Having been in Corrections for over 46 years I have attended many conferences, but never have I been more impressed than at yours. Your devotion to those families and children will always be remembered by me.

The photo gallery honoring the Men and Women who gave their lives was such a wonderful tribute to their memory. Many on your gallery I knew and worked with over the years. I recall many situations with them, and thought to myself, thank God for remembering them.

Again, thanks for all you do and if I can ever be of assistance in any way, feel free to call on me.

Sincerely,
Patrick W. Keohane, Ret.
Federal Bureau of Prisons, Nixa, Missouri
We thank Mr. Keohane very much for his gracious and much-appreciated letter.

Hello,

On behalf of Sergeant Clarence Lawrence, Jr. and Aretha Clark (McCormick Correctional Institution, McCormick, South Carolina), we would like to extend our appreciation for a wonderful event in Seattle, Washington. It was an excellent experience and we are truly grateful that we had the opportunity to join you all.

Thank you very much for all you did to assist us.
Aretha Clark
Sergeant Lawrence was honored as an Assault Survivor at the Recognition Luncheon; Ms. Clark was his guest.

To Michael Seefeldt:

Michael, we thank you for everything you did. You are forever in our hearts and prayers. If you ever get to the Napa Valley, please look us up

Eric & Sandra Clay

Michael Seefeldt wrote back:

It was a pleasure and my privilege meeting you and your family at Project 2000 XXV. I hope you all made it home safely and I hope Project was a positive, healing and rewarding experience for you.

God bless,
Michael

Mr. and Mrs. Clay are the godparents of Correctional Officer Brandon Kountz, EOW 3/31/13, who was honored at Project 2000 XXV this year.

Michael Seefeldt, CPOF Representative in Eastern Oregon, was their escort.

Dear Officer Seefeldt,

Thank you for all that you do to represent ODOC and all you do for CPOF.

I appreciated being able to participate in Project 2000 this year. As a member of CPOF, I am grateful to now fully understand its magnitude.

Sincerely,
Colette Peters, Director
Oregon Department of Corrections

Charleene,

I just wanted to express how sorry I am for the loss of your husband. After only three months, I know from my own experience that Larry’s passing is still an open wound for you. I also wanted to express my gratitude to both of you for having poured your hearts into CPOF. I have never witnessed such an outpouring of love, honor and respect as I did at the four-day memorial event. It was such an incredible time for my family, and I know that I will be back.

It’s very clear to me that Larry was an extraordinary man, and I wish I could have met him. But I am certain that his legacy will live on and burn brightly through you and your CPOF family. Thanks so much for all you do.

Godspeed to healing your broken heart.

Respectfully,
Nancy P. Jones, Oskaloosa, Iowa

Mrs. Jones is the widow of Probation/Parole Officer II Daniel Jones, EOW 7/27/07, who was honored at Project 2000 XXV this year.
Excerpt from a Memo to Washington Correctional Staff from Mr. Stephen Sinclair, Assistant Secretary, Prisons Division, Washington DOC:

Just as I was getting ready to hit send on an update touting the wonderful work of our honor guard and staff who participated in the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation (CPOF) national conference, which took place June 5-8, I learned of the staff assault at Washington State Penitentiary. In corrections we learn to be resilient and take the good with the bad, the lemons with the lemonade.

Four of our staff members were injured that Saturday morning during the incident, which placed parts of the facility on restricted movement. First and foremost, my thoughts are with the injured staff and their coworkers. Assaults, even though they occur in one unit, have an impact across the entire facility. Lockdowns and restricted movement add an extra layer of responsibility to the daily work.

We track the rate of violent infractions in the department as one way to measure the level of security within our facilities. While overall the rate of violent infractions has been on the decline, incidents such as the one over the weekend are a reminder that we must keep focused on our strategies to reduce violent behavior. Engaging in evidence-based programs, participating in Operation Place Safety, and continuing our safety concerns and suggestions process are all ways we contribute to the safety of our prisons.

Taking care of each other is another key piece of safety. Reflecting back to the CPOF event, this organization has provided support to countless Washington DOC staff members and their families through its Catastrophic Assistance Fund. The CPOF’s motto is “Taking Care of Our Own,” which formalizes in a foundation something you already do every day, but even more so when times are tough.

I would be remiss not to mention the fine work of the 24 members of our honor guard teams who took part in the CPOF conference’s memorial service, honoring those who have died in the line of duty. Our honor guard is made up of top-notch professionals and they once again represented us well. Participants represented Airway Heights, Coyote Ridge, Monroe, WCC, WCCW and the Penitentiary. Correctional Officer Roland Pascua from Monroe’s Reformatory was part of the six-person honor guard team that greeted family members of the deceased at the airport. Part of the CPOF’s goal is to promote a positive image of correctional professionals, and our DOC staff did an outstanding job of contributing to this effort.

Thank you so much, Assistant Secretary Sinclair, for your very thoughtful letter. We, too, were extremely pleased to see the outstanding participation of Washington Honor Guards at our June 6 Memorial Ceremony.

Kim,

I thought I would connect with you on our outing to Seattle, Washington in June. My name is Margo Davidson and I came with Kim Burgert and grandson. I just had to tell you how much CPOF meant to me, even after 10 years. I felt cared for and because everyone was in the same position, we all understood. We could cry as well as laugh and feel right at home. Our correctional officers are brave and are heroes. I thank you, Charleene and everyone else who make this possible every year. I will hopefully be there next June. I also can’t put into words what it meant for you folks to honor me for Christopher that Saturday. I was so touched it took my breath away. I will never forget that moment.

Sincerely,

Margo Davidson

Note from Kim Blakley, CPOF Federal Coordinator/Research Analyst:

“A nice email from Christopher Burgert’s mother. First time she ever attended a Project and we did a nice little flag case/gun shell box presentation to her.”

Deputy Sheriff Christopher Burgert, EOW 3/31/04, was honored at Project 2000 XVI in 2005.

We sincerely thank and appreciate ALL who wrote about their “Project experience!”
Dear Board Members, Col Dignon and Office Staff,

Each year when Gerard returns from Project we watch the video, and he tells me all about the events. He has always wanted me to attend and experience it firsthand, and I’m glad I did this year! Project was very moving and emotional more times than not.

Being there in person made it so real, and when I saw the first family walk down at the Memorial on Friday, I thought to myself, this could have been me and our daughter. I don’t think I have ever been so thankful and so sad all at the same time. I then said to myself what a wonderful way to honor all of these fallen officers and to let their families and loved ones know that there are people who are truly committed to help ease their burden, and help them during bad times.

Then the Prayer breakfast, I don’t think there were many dry eyes, especially after the children sang, and the testimonies. CPOF truly does “Take Care of Their Own” and there are not enough adjectives for me to use to thank each of you for the work that you do each day to make this all possible.

I met some amazing folks, and made some new friendships. It didn’t matter if I was in line for coffee, waiting on an elevator, or just walking around, everyone was pretty much amazed at everything! All the conversations were about how well organized Project was. It was like a well-oiled machine, and it was amazing to me the massive amount of work that goes into an event of this size. I was so impressed how everyone worked together. I wouldn’t think there would be any down time at Headquarters with the day-to-day operations along with working on the next Project. So, thank you again for all that you do!!!

I know how much Gerard believes in, and cares for this organization, and his commitment to it, and we have set a goal to have as many institutions in Florida represented at Project next year in Jacksonville. I know once someone attends, and experiences what I did, they will be touched, and will truly understand all of the amazing work that CPOF does each and every day for Corrections families.

To each of you, thank you for your dedication, and commitment to all in the Corrections profession.

Sincerely,
Kathy

Thank you, Kathy, for your wonderful letter. You make us feel proud and humble at the same time. Readers: Kathy is the wife of Gerard Van Der Ham, one of four CPOF Representatives in Florida. We hope that many others who attended Project 2000 XXV had an equally positive, meaningful and memorable experience.
June 10, 2014

Ms. Charleen Corby, CEO
Correctional Peace Officers Foundation, Inc.
1346 North Market Boulevard
Sacramento, California 95834

Dear Ms. Corby:

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt appreciation and recognize the outstanding service your organization has extended to the Connecticut Department of Correction over the past 12 months. During that time period our agency has suffered several staff tragedies.

The Correctional Peace Officers Foundation has always been there to support the families of the affected staff member.

Having just returned from attending the 2014 CPO Annual Memorial Ceremony, I was able to witness firsthand the positive effects of the good work that your organization is responsible for.

Again, thank you for all that you do.

Sincerely,

James E. Dzurenda
Commissioner

Note: Commissioner Dzurenda thanked the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation (CPOF) for the many Connecticut Correctional Staff we have assisted.

One I would like to mention and who was referred to us by C/O Steve Curran is C/O Joseph Ouellet of Corrigan/Radgowski CC. Officer Ouellet and his wife Jessie were on a motorcycle ride when Joseph hit something in the road, lost control and was thrown into the guardrail. Jessie tried to help and called 911 but sadly C/O Ouellet died at the scene.

Theresa Stevens
Connecticut Catastrophic Coordinator

Readers: In late August Mr. Dzurenda accepted the position of First Deputy Commissioner of the City of New York Department of Correction, effective October 6, 2014. We wish him well in this new endeavor.
Retired Correctional Officer Ruben Jordan, a former Supporting Member, was diagnosed with ALS ("Lou Gehrig's Disease") on December 7, 2011. As is inevitable with this incurable disease, he eventually became paralyzed to the point of being able to work his wheelchair only with his fingers. The CPO Foundation provided Officer Jordan with an assistance check in April 2013 to help with some of the out-of-pocket medical expenses he incurred.

We are saddened to report that Officer Jordan died on June 30, 2014. Our condolences to the Jordan family, who received a CPOF check to assist with funeral and related expenses. Officer Jordan is pictured here (second from left) with his son Marcus (left), daughter Melissa and son Michael in a photo taken before his diagnosis. As can be seen by their uniforms, Marcus and Michael are both Correctional Officers; both work at California State Prison-Sacramento and are Supporting Members.

The photo above right is of Officer Jordan and his wife Jennifer.

Dear Christina Labio,

Thank you, CPOF, for the check. This will help out with the unexpected medical costs from my injury. On March 28, 2014 I was riding my mountain bike on the beautiful trails in Susanville and I crashed pretty badly. I broke my neck and had to be, first, found and then rescued. Well, this small community knows how to come together and get it done. My wife and stepdaughter went into action and contacted the Susanville Area Bicycle Association (SABA). They knew the trails, found me, and guided Mountain Lifeflight to a landing spot nearby. My brothers and sisters at High Desert State Prison have been very helpful and supportive, and I look forward to returning to work.

On May 3 I had surgery and that went well. So, given time to heal I should be fine.

A great big thank you to everyone!

Correctional Officer Jon Mossinger, High Desert State Prison, Susanville, CA

P.S. I'll be back out on the trails soon.

We are so pleased that Officer Mossinger's surgery went well, and are sure that his colleagues at HDSP will be very happy to welcome him back to work. Here is a picture of Officer Mossinger, a Supporting Member, and his bike!

Dear Christina and CPO Foundation, Inc.,

Thank you so much for your thoughts and prayers, and the check. We are truly grateful to know Abraham and our family are being supported through this most difficult time in our lives. Abraham is only 40 and was very sad to medically retire. He enjoyed working as a Correctional Officer at Corcoran 1 for seven years. At the age of 39 he was diagnosed with stomach cancer. He went through chemotherapy, a major surgery, more chemotherapy and radiation.

After 14 months he returned to work on January 6, 2014 but soon had to go back into the hospital. The doctor in Stanford stated that the cancer had returned and is terminal.* Abraham has been in a lot of pain but he is trying his best to remain positive.

Sincerely,

Angela Hernandez, Visalia, CA

* We are very sad to report that Abraham passed away not long after Christina received this letter.
Hello, all. Here are photos from the 8th Annual Chicano Correctional Workers Association (CCWA) San Diego Chapter Softball Tournament that was held August 2, 2014 in Chula Vista, California. I attended the event on behalf of the CPO Foundation and, along with my wife, I set up a table and handed out information about the Foundation to attendees of the event.

Paul Soto, CPO Foundation Board National Director
*Mrs. Soto is second from the left in the photo below.*

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**Montana**

**Guy Edmonds reports:**

First of all, let me thank you for the opportunity to represent CPOF in Montana at the Montana Correctional Association (MCA) conference. It was great to work with Theresa Stevens from the CPOF home office in Sacramento. To work with someone who shares a deep regard and respect for the organization was fantastic.

We were welcomed by the MCA host committee and they continually referred to the amount of support they have received from us. While the numbers may have been low, the warm reception by all we visited with was evident and they made us feel much appreciated.

To visit and speak with past recipients of assistance is always humbling. These individuals “sell” the organization to their co-workers and make our jobs so much easier.

I hope I was able to share the information about us in a professional manner. Being able to show the Northwest video during the banquet was incredible. I hope we did not steal the thunder from Montana State Prison (MSP) AW Prisons Tom Wilson, who was the keynote speaker for the evening. His response of “Where do I sign up?” was touching to say the least.

We referred him to Montana CPOF Representative Lisa Hunter for a membership application. Also, MSP Warden Leroy Kirkegard told us that at a golf tournament they recently completed they raised approximately $300.00 that will be donated to CPOF.

Lisa Hunter is recognized by her co-workers, supervisors and subordinates as the contact for CPOF within the State. She and others we spoke with were excited about the prospect of me returning to visit some of the facilities to assist with membership. Lisa is fantastic and has a deep understanding and appreciation of the benefits of CPOF. She is an amazing lady who deeply cares about others.

The committee looks forward to our involvement with the MCA. The verbal invitation was extended for next year and they promise to keep us informed of the dates and location.

*Guy Edmonds is the CPOF Representative in Colorado. However, like many of our Field Representatives, Guy also goes to other states in his general part of the country as needed to represent and share information about the Foundation.*

*Theresa Stevens is the CPOF Administrative Assistant. She goes wherever Char wishes her to on the CPOF’s behalf.*
Dear CPOF Friends,

My family and I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for your kind expression of love and concern following the passing of our son and brother Trent. Your generosity will be art of a lasting tribute to honor his memory.

Trent was well known for helping anyone in need with his kind heart and giving spirit. He would be humbled to know that an organization with those same qualities would acknowledge his memory.

Johnny and Cindy Sikes, and Lindsey Sikes Daley, Hagan, GA

“Johnny” is Deputy Director/Operations Johnny Sikes of Georgia DOC Facilities Operations. Trent Sikes, Johnny and Cindy’s son and Lindsey’s brother, was killed in an auto accident on November 24, 2013. Deputy Director Sikes is pictured at right receiving a bereavement assistance check from CPOF Georgia Representative Rose Williams.

Dear Ms. Williams,

Sergeant Latrell Cox was thankful for the support she received from CPOF during the time she was out on leave. Thank You.

Brenda Adams, HR Transactions Technician
McEver Probation Detention Center, Perry, GA

Sergeant Cox was off work for an extended time owing to prolonged illness. She is pictured at left receiving a CPOF assistance check from Superintendent Clinton Perry, Jr.

Hi, Ms. Williams,

Here is a photo of Warden Brooks L. Benton and Evelyn Postell. Ms. Postell is the widow of Charlie Postell who passed away on March 16, 2014. She received a bereavement assistance check from the CPOF and her husband’s badge mounted on a plaque.

Thanks,
Ted Hilley, Personnel Representative
Whitworth Women’s Facility, GA

Correctional Officer Postell was a Supporting Member at Whitworth Women’s Facility. He passed away from cancer.

Correctional Officer II Terence (Terri) Jackson lost her house and all its contents in a fire. Officer Jackson is pictured at left receiving a CPOF Foundation assistance check from Georgia Representative Rose Williams.
South Carolina DOC Training Academy Information Resource
Consultant I Sandra Wilson, a Supporting Member, was diagnosed with breast cancer in April 2013. In mid June 2014, she had just finished her latest round of chemotherapy and radiation and needed help with some of the many medical bills that are due. Gary Evans, CPO Foundation Representative in South Carolina, recommended an assistance check for Ms. Wilson and is pictured here (at far left) with Assistant Division Director for Training Wayne McCabe, Ms. Wilson and Training Director Tessie Smith.

Ms. Jannita Gaston of the South Carolina DOC Division of Classification is pictured at right with Gary Evans receiving a CPOF check. Jannita’s husband John was cooking for the homeless on December 30, 2013 when he suffered second and third degree burns from a propane heater. The family requested assistance with travel and other expenses incurred during trips to and from the Augusta Burn Center earlier this year.

Administrative Assistant Luvivian Moore of Watkins Prerelease Center was out of work for over three months due to surgery and subsequent recovery. She was on leave without pay for about eight weeks of that time period. Gary Evans recommended Ms. Moore for assistance, and is pictured at left giving Ms. Moore her CPOF check.

Lieutenant Jamey Lewis (center), a Supporting Member and Instructor at the SCDC Training Academy, received a bereavement assistance check after the sudden death of his son, Jamey Desean Lewis. Also pictured with Lieutenant Lewis and Gary Evans is Wayne McCabe, Assistant Division Director for Training at the Academy.

Major Mancel Boggs, a Supporting Member at Wateree River Correctional Institution, was diagnosed with Stage IV terminal pancreatic cancer. He is traveling to and from MUSC in Charleston and to Columbia for doctor’s appointments. He is pictured at left with Gary Evans receiving a CPOF assistance check to help with expenses incurred by these many trips.
New York CPOF Representative Jay West has been as busy as ever, doing what he loves to do best: Presenting assistance checks to New York Officers and Families in times of need. Here are seven of his latest pictures and notes.
Additionally, Lieutenant Joe Bradley of Southport Correctional Facility in Elmira, NY, sent us photos of two assistance check presentations that he made in his capacity as CPOF contact at Southport CF.

C/O Steve Doolittle of Shawangunk Correctional Facility received a check to assist him with his various medical expenses associated with a stroke he suffered in 2013. He is surrounded by some of his brother C/Os from the facility. Many thanks to CPOF contact at Shawangunk CF, C/O Bill McCue, for initiating the assistance paperwork.

Theresa Decker, wife of C/O Brian Decker of Greene Correctional Facility, is pictured here receiving an assistance check from Jay (far left). Theresa has undergone many treatments in her battle with cancer and is receiving a very positive prognosis from her medical staff. Also pictured are Brian and the Deckers’ grandson Brian. The CPOF wishes Theresa well in her continuing recovery.

Check presentation to Sergeant Eric Eisenschmidt, Union Representative, to be forwarded to C/O Jim Burch. Both Jim’s wife Nicole and his daughter Chloe are battling cancer. Also pictured are C/O Jesse Thompson, Union Representative; Washington Correctional Facility Superintendent Tim Sheehan; and Captain Rob Ball. We all will continue to hold the Burch family in our thoughts and prayers.

Jay presented a check to C/O Lourdes Nieves of Taconic Correctional Facility who lost her husband Robert late last year to cancer. Also, at far left is Co-Representative Ellie West presenting a check to CPOF contact at Taconic CF, C/O Tony Velez, on behalf of C/O Mildred Barreto whose husband is fighting cancer. In the middle is Taconic CF Superintendent Patty Nelson. The CPOF will keep all concerned in our thoughts and prayers.
Retired C/O Brinsley Arthurton of Greene Correctional Facility is battling cancer. While a contact for the CPOF at Greene CF, C/O Arthurton signed up over 200 Correctional Staff as new Supporting Members to our organization. We are all extremely grateful for C/O Arthurton’s efforts and will keep him in our thoughts and prayers.

Jay presented a check to C/O Shawn Winch of Adirondack Correctional Facility who suffered serious injuries in an ATV accident late last year. He underwent many surgeries and months later he is back at work full time. Also pictured are Adirondack CF Superintendent Jeff Tedford and CPOF contact at Adirondack C/O Al Minor.

Check presentation to Rene Lamora whose husband, C/O John Lamora of Clinton Correctional Facility, passed away at work from a heart attack in May. Officer Lamora had been a Supporting Member. Also in this photo is their beautiful daughter Savannah. We will keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

Lieutenant Joe Bradley presented a CPOF assistance check to Officer Angelo Mastrantonio of Southport Correctional Facility in Elmira. Angelo is currently fighting a courageous battle against cancer and is receiving treatment in Rochester, New York (approximately 130 miles from Elmira). From left to right are: Deputy Superintendent for Security Jamie Lamanna, Captain Tony Rocchi, Officer Angelo Mastrantonio and Lieutenant Joe Bradley.

Also with Deputy Superintendent Lamanna and Captain Rocchi present, Lieutenant Joe Bradley presented a CPOF check to Sergeant Bill Ellis of Southport CF. Bill’s wife contracted Guillain-Barre Syndrome, a neurological disease that attacks the immune system, and was hospitalized in Rochester.
May a Month of Honor

By Terrasa Wood

May is the month we Remember and Honor our Fallen, and give thanks to all those who serve by protecting our Nation, States, Communities and, most of all, our Families.

Each year in May across the Nation, Organizations, State Agencies and Communities come together to HONOR their fallen Heroes. This year I was able to attend three of these events: The Bradford/Union Law Enforcement Memorial, the Florida FOP Memorial and the Florida Department of Corrections Wreath Laying Ceremony.

I was honored to be asked by the Bradford/Union Memorial committee to help with the family room at the Memorial planned for May 1st. What a feeling of awe as we welcomed all those families, young and old, who had lost a loved one in the Line of Duty in Bradford and Union Counties.

Once all the families arrived, we began our walk to the Memorial site. Each family was given a Carnation with thanks from the CPOF. While walking with the families I was humbled at the hundreds of Correctional Officers, Law Enforcement, friends and families that were standing at attention, honoring the families as they walked to their seats. As the speakers spoke their words of thanks, tears fell, smiles were shown and memories were gleaming in the eyes of all.

At the conclusion of a 21-gun volley and the playing of “Taps,” the survivors of those who were lost in Bradford County were escorted to the Memorial Plaque with their loved one’s name and EOW date, along with a beautiful Palm Tree.

There is one Palm Tree that I will pass each day that means the world to me, and that is the one for Jerome Williams, son of my mentor Retired Correctional Officer Sergeant and CPOF Representative John Williams (pictured at left with Jerome’s Palm Tree and Memorial Stone). Jerome Williams, EOW July 26, 1995, was killed outside a Sonny’s Restaurant in Starke, Florida, while going to the aid of one of his Basic Recruit classmates who was being attacked.

On May 4 and 5, 2014, we CPOF Representatives attended the Florida FOP Memorial in Tallahassee. We were humbled and honored to be among the hundreds of families from all areas of Law Enforcement from the great State of Florida who had lost loved ones doing what God gave them a gift to do: Protecting and Serving the Public. On Sunday evening, families and friends from across the State joined on the Capitol Lawn for a Candlelight Vigil and Reading of names of the Fallen.
On May 6, 2014, John Williams, Gerard Van Der Ham and I attended the annual Florida Department of Corrections Fallen Officers Wreath Laying Ceremony at Wakulla Correctional Institution. Wakulla Correctional Institution is home to the Florida Department of Corrections State Fallen Officers Memorial Wall (pictured at left).

With many in attendance, Florida DOC Deputy Secretary Timothy Cannon and Secretary Mike Crews each spoke on the importance of remembering our Fallen Officers and their Families, and to also remember those that are still protecting the Public each day.

With the laying of the wreath on the Fallen Officers Memorial Wall, a 21-gun rifle volley and the playing of “Taps,” the ceremony concluded.

The following day we all gathered outside the hotel where we lined up and began our walk to the Capitol. On the parade route there were shop owners with signs saying “thank you.” Officers from all over the State were standing at attention, saluting the families as they walked by.

Every year I am overwhelmed at the presence of leadership from all the agencies that have lost someone in their respective fields.

It was such a privilege to present a Correctional Peace Officers Foundation scholarship check to Lauren Jennings, the daughter of Sergeant Patricia Jennings who is employed at Baker Correctional Institution. I would also like to thank Warden Jim Freeman, A.W. Jennifer Haas and Colonel Jeff Howell for helping with the scholarship presentation.

Pictured left to right: Colonel J. Howell, Assistant Warden Jennifer Haas, Sergeant Patricia Jennings, Lauren Jennings, Warden Jim Freeman and myself, Florida Representative Terrasa Wood.

Supporting Member Francis Williams of the Putnam County Sheriffs Office was diagnosed with congestive heart failure. As of late April 2014 he was waiting for a pacemaker. The CPO Foundation assisted him with medical/travel and other out-of-pocket expenses.

Pictured above: CPOF Florida Field Representative John Williams, C/O Francis Williams and Putnam County Sheriff Jeff Hardy.
CTO Kenneth Natho and C/O III Karilyn Natho, both Supporting Members at Wynne Unit and Ellis Unit, respectively, lost their son Kerstan when he was electrocuted in an accident at his place of work in Odessa, Texas. They received a bereavement assistance check presented by Cathy Stokes, CPOF Texas Field Representative, who is pictured here (at right) with Kenneth and Karilyn. Per Cathy, “This was a hard one for me. I’ve known them for 35 years and knew their son all of his life.”

Correctional Officer III Melodie Peveto, a Supporting Member at Estelle Unit, received an assistance check to help with travel-related expenses she incurred while visiting her husband James in a hospital in College Station. Pictured above are Captain Crow, C/O III Peveto and Cathy Stokes.

We were delighted to present Correctional Officer II Henry Green with the generous check from your Foundation. Here [right] is a picture of C/O Green accepting his check from Assistant Warden Brian Smith.

Thank you,
Kristal Alcorn, Warden’s Secretary, Pam Lychner State Jail
C/O II Henry Green, a Supporting Member at Pam Lychner State Jail, sadly lost his 18-year-old daughter, Charity, on April 2, 2014 when she was killed in an auto accident.

Clerk II Judith Worthington, a Supporting Member at TDCJ Pardons and Paroles, received a bereavement assistance check after the death of her husband Charles. She is pictured here, second from left, with Sergeant Donald Genwright, HRS III Tina Kelly and Cathy Stokes.

Correctional Officer III Mikki Erickson, a Supporting Member at Beto Unit, had a CAT scan that revealed a mass on her left lung that required further study and doctor visits to determine its nature. She received a CPOF assistance check to help with medical bills and expenses incurred by her trips to and from the doctor. C/O III Erickson is pictured above with Beto Unit Assistant Warden Stuart Calhoun.
Dear Ms. Barone,

The Hughes Unit Staff and I would like to express our thanks for the assistance check you so kindly provided to Lieutenant Porter Bills. The assistance is very beneficial to his family.

Here is a photograph of me when I presented the check to Lieutenant Bills, who is being hugged by his seven-year-old grandson.

Sincerely,
Kenneth Dean, Warden II, Hughes Unit

Lieutenant Bills has lymphoma and is undergoing chemotherapy treatments.

Ms. Barone,

This is a picture of Correctional Officer Krystal Carr with her CPOF assistance check.

On behalf of Officer Carr, Warden Baker and the SV/HD staff, thank you for the donation. Your continued support of our employees during these difficult times means so much.

Thank you,
Wendy Smelley, Warden’s Secretary, Skyview/Hodge Complex

C/O Krystal Carr’s husband Kelvin broke his back and pelvis. As of late May, Kelvin had been hospitalized at Trinity Mother Frances Rehab since March 19, 2014 and was expected to be in the hospital for two to three more weeks. This required Officer Carr to assist in medical decision-making and his care. Also, she needed to be home with him for approximately two or three months after his release to provide Kelvin with in-home care.

Wyoming

My name is Sharon Crerar. I learned of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation after the line-of-duty murder of my husband Steve in 1995. Our two daughters were 26 and 29 at the time of their father’s murder, and as mothers have made sure their children know about their grandfather and his dedication to his profession.

I have been the CPO Foundation’s Representative in Wyoming for many years now.

This picture is of me with my daughters, Shelly Lewis on the left and Tracy Eckhardt on the right. It was taken on the day of the last Heroes’ Mile Walk and 5K Race, an annual event sponsored by Cheyenne Fire and Rescue. It is dedicated to all Wyoming law enforcement, including firemen, who have died in the line of duty. Their pictures are placed on easels along the Heroes’ Mile Walk that starts and ends at the State Capitol building. All proceeds go to a local charity. Incidentally, my brother is a retired fireman and I also have a nephew who is a fireman in Cheyenne.

It is sad that events like the Heroes’ Mile Walk take place to honor line-of-duty deaths but, on the other hand, we all are very pleased they are held and that our loved ones are respected and always remembered. Rest in peace, my dear husband, Lieutenant Steve M. Crerar, Fremont County Sheriff’s Office, EOW April 30, 1995.
Dear Laura,

Here is the photo of the presentation to Officer Charles Dean Cassida of the CPOF assistance check. He was tearfully appreciative and words couldn't express his gratitude. This will go a long way toward his expenses for his treatment of cancer.

Also the Employee Activity Committee did a breakfast for Officer Cassida that raised $1,900.00.

Thank all of you from CPOF. What a great organization.

Mike Ball, Correctional Administrator I
Avery/Mitchell Correctional Institution, NC

Correctional Officer Cassida, a Supporting Member at Avery/Mitchell CI, has colon cancer and underwent six weeks of chemotherapay in combination with radiation. Pictured left to right are Avery/Mitchell CI Administrator I Mike Ball, Officer Cassida and Assistant Superintendent Penland.

At right is a photo of C/O Heather Warnig, a CPOF Supporting Member who works at Alexander Correctional Institute. She is battling breast cancer but continues to work while taking chemotherapy.

Upon completion of chemotherapy C/O Warnig will undergo surgery. As pictured here, an assistance check was presented to her on August 15, 2014 by W.T. Hargrave, Operations Manager for the North Carolina Department of Public Safety, Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice. -- Laura Matthews

Here is a photo of the check presentation to Officer Nicholas Terrigno. Pictured are: Warden Carlton Joyner, Officer Terrigno and Deputy Warden Stephen Waddell. Officer Terrigno was very appreciative of the assistance provided and expressed his thanks!

Carlton Joyner, Warden, Central Prison, Raleigh, NC

C/O Terrigno, a Supporting Member, was stabbed in the lower chin and mouth by an inmate with a homemade shank.

I have had the privilege to serve as the North Carolina Field Representative since October of 2013, after retiring from N.C. Probation/Parole. Through the unwavering support of N.C. Commissioner David Guice and Deputy Commissioner Joe Prater, CPOF was afforded payroll deduction beginning in January of 2014. We now have 1600 members on payroll deduction. To date, we have assisted 147 N.C. Correctional families.

Sixteen N.C. Correction Professionals attended Project 2000 XXV in Seattle. C/O Shelton (Central Prison) and Sgt. Diamond (Lanesboro) were honored as Assault Survivors. C/O Peterson (Avery/Mitchell), C/O Sessions (Lanesboro) and PPO Hunter (District 17) were recognized as going “Above and Beyond” in their duties.

Project was a humbling experience for all those in attendance from N.C. We are especially grateful to Commissioner Guice for sending six members of our Honor Guard Team to Project. Their presence and participation afforded us the opportunity to show our North Carolina pride and professionalism on a national platform.

I am very excited that Ricky Anderson, retired Deputy Director of Prisons in N.C., came on board as a N.C. Field Rep. in mid August. Ricky and I are looking forward to working together and continuing to serve the Correction Professionals of our great State.

Laura Matthews, CPOF NC Representative
On June 15, 2014 the family of Correctional Officer José Rey lost their home in a fire and ensuing explosion. While the family was able to escape harm, they lost all of their possessions. CPOF Colorado Representative Guy Edmonds was contacted and began the process of acquiring assistance for José and his family. On June 23, Guy, with the assistance of Associate Warden Colin Carson, provided an assistance check and several bags of food items on behalf of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation to C/O Rey, who is a Supporting Member.

A/W Carson shared information about the outpouring of support for the family, which include several upcoming events such as a bake sale and a statewide dress down day with all benefits going to the family. A/W Carson expressed his gratitude for the Team at Arkansas Valley Correctional Facility in providing support and assistance to the family in many different capacities.

Correctional Officer I Anthony Gifford of Sterling Correctional Facility drowned in the South Platte River on May 29, 2014. His widow Carrie received a bereavement check from the CPO Foundation to help with funeral expenses. Pictured here are (back): Captain Robert Keisel, Associate Warden John Chapdelaine and Warden James Falk. Front: Carrie with sons Logan and Shawn. (The little girl is a family friend.)

Business Manager Elaine Holmes of Colorado Territorial Correctional Facility is pictured above with Guy Edmonds and Elaine’s husband Jerry. In early March, Elaine’s 23-year-old stepson was hit by a train and lost both legs in this terrible accident. Elaine and Jerry traveled from Canon City to Denver, where they stayed for a time, to help their son in his recovery. Their CPOF assistance check was to help with the travel and lodging expenses they incurred.

Correctional Officer Harry Atwood, a Supporting Member at San Carlos Correctional Facility, was diagnosed with liver and bone cancer in early September of 2013. His first diagnosis of colon cancer occurred in late 2008. Officer Atwood had been undergoing a lengthy chemotherapy program at a cancer center in Denver. Sadly, he recently passed away. His widow Colleen is pictured here with Guy, who presented her with a bereavement check, the Atwoods’ son Ciaran, and San Carlos CF Warden Laurie Tafoya.

Note: We printed a letter from Officer Atwood in the last issue of the CPO Family. It was accompanied by a wonderful family photograph. We are deeply saddened to learn of his death.
From Laura Phillips:

Hi, Kim. Attached is the email and picture from Susan Walters thanking CPOF for the check. It was very much appreciated. She wanted you to be able to see the babies. Thanks again for everything y’all do!

Laura, Thank you so much for all your assistance, and the financial assistance of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation! We would also like to thank Local 3981 for their financial support!

Enclosed is a photo of Randy Sumner, Treasurer of Local 3981; Karen Collins, Teacher; and Scott Hoyle, 2nd VP and Chief Steward of Local 3981 from FCI Jesup in Georgia with Ada (left) and Sam (right). Karen is holding the CPO Foundation’s very generous check.

Our family is very blessed to have people like all of you in our lives. Thank you so much!

Sincerely,

Susan Walters, Deputy Director, Glynco Staff Training Academy, Bureau of Prisons

Teacher Karen Collins and Deputy Director Susan Walters had twins on February 14, 2014 born several months prematurely. Karen had had complications early in the pregnancy and was on total bed rest from December until the babies’ birth. The babies were in a NICU for almost four months but are now home.

C/O Andrew Dewitt, a Supporting Member at FCI Sheridan in Oregon is pictured at right with his wife and their daughter Anna. Anna was diagnosed with rare brain disorder and was being seen by a specialist for several months. In mid June 2014 the Dewitts were planning a trip to the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Texas to consult with doctors there about treatment options for Anna.

C/O Bryan Baker, a Supporting Member at FCI Memphis in Tennessee, was diagnosed with Burkitt’s Lymphoma in November 2013. He was hospitalized several times and underwent treatments, incurring extensive out-of-pocket bills. Sadly, Officer Baker passed away from complications on March 4, 2014. Here are two photos of Officer Baker, his wife Tonia and their daughter Raven, both at happy family times.

Recreation Specialist Brian Griffin of FCI Manchester in Kentucky was hunting with two friends when a hunter in another hunting group nearby accidentally shot Brian and one of the friends. They were both life-flighted out. Sadly, Brian did not survive. He is pictured above with his wife Whitney and children Presley and Hadleigh.
Assistant Food Service Administrator Kenneth Cauley Sr., a Supporting Member at FCC Forrest City in Arkansas, is pictured at right with his son Kenneth. Young Kenneth, who was attending college in Kentucky, became very ill this past spring from exposure to mold in his dorm room. He was hospitalized several times for treatment of his severe symptoms. AFSA Cauley and his wife made multiple trips to and from the hospital during their son’s stays.

C/O Donald Walkenshaw, a Supporting Member at FCI Sheridan in Oregon, was diagnosed in November 2013 with hepatitis C, genotype 4 and State II liver fibrosis. He has been undergoing treatments that involve multiple trips to Salem. He is pictured at left with his wife Tammy.

C/O Jeremy Partridge, a Supporting Member at FCC Beaumont in Texas, was riding his motorcycle when he lost control and crashed. He was life-flighted to a hospital where brain surgery was attempted but without success. He succumbed to his injuries and passed away. Pictured at right are Chris Bertrand, VP Local 1010 (far left); Anthony Simon, President Local 1010 (center); and Officer Partridge’s family.

Case Manager Coordinator Randy Bacon is a Supporting Member at FCC Victorville in California. His wife Susan is battling cancer and had undergone 33 rounds of radiation as of mid May 2014. Randy and Susan are pictured here with family and friends.

Kim,

I wanted to drop a line to let you know that the [Project 2000 XXV] ceremony and accompanying events in Seattle were everything you said they would be. We were touched by so much there, and the honor given to Eric, Osvaldo and others was uplifting.

We will be going to Florida in September and hope to see you there. We are going to Washington, D.C. at the end of the month by ourselves, with the backing of Eric Young, and will continue to fight. The Eric Williams Corrections Officers Protection Act is now a bipartisan bill that will hit the floor soon, I hope.

We keep in touch with Terry Rivera and Helen Albarati. They are now like family to us, as are you.

Thanks for everything you do.

Don and Jean Williams, Nanticoke, PA

Mr. and Mrs. Williams are the parents of Sr. Officer Eric Williams of USP Canaan, PA, EOW 2/25/13. Eric Young is the President of the Council of Prison Locals-33. Terry Rivera is the mother of José Rivera, EOW 6/20/08. Helen Albarati is the widow of Lt. Osvaldo Albarati, EOW 2/26/13. (See page 9 of this issue.)
Christina and Wendy: I want to thank you and the CPO Foundation for the support you gave Officer Rodger Weyandt after he lost his 23-year-old son Dustin in a swimming accident. I could not present him with his check because I was off work but Sergeant Brian Kovac did it for me. Here are two pictures. The first one is Dustin and the second is Sgt. Kovac and Officer Weyandt.

Thank you again,
Jamie Ardrey, SCI Smithfield, PA
**Corrections Officer Jamie Ardrey is the CPO Foundation’s volunteer contact at SCI Smithfield.**

Here is a picture of myself presenting Bobby Moore a check from the CPOF. Bobby lost part of his finger in an accident at work. Thank you for your help. I really appreciate it.

Thanks,
Jamie Ardrey
**Corrections Officer Moore is a Supporting Member at SCI Smithfield.**

At the end of 2013 we held a CPO Foundation membership drive for the employees of Lancaster County Prison. Wendy Baur came to our facility to introduce the staff to CPOF, explain their mission and the benefits they provide to Correctional employees. A payroll slot was approved to make it easy to make monthly donations. In less than a year, CPOF came to the aid of three of our employees and their families who needed assistance.

The first incident occurred before anyone from our jail was even a member. During a midnight shift one of our Officers, Heather Archer, received a phone call while she was on duty, hearing the terrible news that her house was on fire as her three children were at home sleeping. Before the smoke cleared CPOF was in action and the wheels were turning to provide financial assistance, ensuring that that Officer and her family would be able to celebrate Christmas. Pictured at above right are myself, Tammy Moyer; Wendy Baur; and Officer Heather Archer.

The Foundation also assisted the family of a Facilities Management Mechanic, Andy Kotrick, who after dedicating almost 30 years of his life to the jail lost his battle with lung and bone cancer. Pictured below left is Facilities Management Supervisor Darren Martin, Andy’s boss, presenting Andy’s widow Patricia with the CPOF’s check for financial support to help her get through the first few difficult weeks. The CPOF also came to the assistance of an Officer who was injured and unable to work for a short period.

I am truly amazed by the support this organization offers, assisting those who work in a thankless environment doing a job that 99% of our population would never consider doing. They have created the feeling of “family” and showed us that we are not alone. They stand true to their motto “Taking Care of Our Own” and we are honored to be a part of such an extraordinary group of people.

Tammy Moyer, Director of Administration, Lancaster County Prison, PA
The Correctional Peace Officers’ Foundation (CPOF) always relies on you to be our “eyes and ears” at your facilities and jails.

Glenn Mueller, Chairman of the CPOF, often says we would rather have 10 calls about an Officer or Correctional Staff member needing assistance than not to receive any calls at all. We also appreciate calls letting us know when an Officer has gone above and beyond the call of duty. Oregon Department of Corrections Director Colette Peters on page 5 mentions this when she talks about the CPOF’s Saturday Recognition Luncheon each year at Project 2000.

Captain Lori Telleria was one individual who went above and beyond the call of duty not by committing a particular, one-time act of remarkable bravery or courage, but by how she conducted herself every day in the performance of her chosen profession.

The letter below from Correctional Unit Supervisor Reed Leisinger is very much appreciated. I apologize for editing Supervisor Leisinger’s letter somewhat, so that not all of the wonderful things Captain Telleria did for staff are included -- but you all will certainly get the picture of the quality and effectiveness of her leadership and dedication.

-- Charleene Corby

WASHINGTON

STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
OFFICE OF CORRECTIONAL OPERATIONS
Coyote Ridge Corrections Center

“The passing of a legend”

Lori J. Telleria - or as everyone knew her, “The Captain”

09-21-1956 – 07-04-2014

When people talk about great leaders in the state of Washington there is a name that stands out -- that name is Lori J. Telleria -- or as many called her, “The Captain.” Lori lost her battle with cancer on the 4th of July 2014. Many would say it was fitting for Lori to “go out with a bang” and even to the bitter end that is exactly what she did.

Lori began her career at Clallam Bay CC in December of 1985 as a cook, working right beside some of the toughest inmates in Washington State. She was a calm, level-headed worker who treated everybody she came in contact with in a respectful and cheerful way. This is the reason she had the respect of everyone she encountered.

In 1992 she transferred to Coyote Ridge CC with her husband Joe and daughter Lucia. She was very valuable in the opening of the new prison. In 1994 Lori put aside her culinary skills and took on a position as acting Lieutenant that subsequently became permanent. In 1998 she promoted to Captain.

Lori’s leadership skills were outstanding, mentoring many people over her 30 years of service and helping them just long enough until they had the confidence to ease into supervisory ranks themselves.

There are volumes we could say about Lori Telleria. She was kind, consistent, loving, respectful and firm. Lori also helped many people in her career by referring numerous Correctional workers to the CPOF, an organization she was very proud of. In the end, Lori told me that she just wanted to be remembered as someone who was good to others and helped out her staff. I am proud to say that is exactly what she did. We are all so proud of our “Captain” and will miss her dearly.

-- Reed P. Leisinger, Correctional Unit Supervisor, Coyote Ridge Corrections Center
Theresa,

Here is a picture of the presentation of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation check to the McFeeters family after the death of one of Sergeant Rick McFeeters’ brothers, James. From left to right are: Mack Alford CC Deputy Warden Art Lightle; Chief of Security Lewis Layton; father Jack McFeeters; mother Geneva McFeeters; brother, Kenneth; and Mack Alford CC Warden Jerry Chrisman.

Trent Bourland, Warden’s Assistant
Mack Alford Correctional Center, OK
Sergeant Rick McFeeters is a Supporting Member at Mack Alford CC. His brother, James, was found dead in his home in California, evidently as a result of foul play. He had no insurance. The CPO Foundation gave the McFeeters family a check to assist with funeral expenses.

Theresa,

Here is a photo of Warden Kameron Harvanek presenting Sergeant James Holt with the check from CPOF today (7/9/14).

Once again, thank you so much, Theresa, for all you do for John Lilley Correctional Center! We have been blessed many times from you all and it’s very much appreciated!! :)

God bless you and the CPO Foundation!!!!

Pam Collins, Warden’s Secretary
John Lilley Correctional Center, OK
Sergeant James Holt is a Supporting Member at John Lilley CC. His wife Benita had to have her right leg amputated just below the knee on April 24, 2014. Septic shock set in and Benita underwent two additional surgeries in late June to try to treat the infection. The CPO Foundation provided Sergeant Holt with a check to assist with the many travel and related expenses he has incurred as a result of his wife’s ongoing serious medical problems.

Sergeant David Edelman is a CPOF Supporting Member, CERT Training Coordinator at Lexington Correction Center and Assistant Commander of the Oklahoma Honor Guard Team. (In the photo at left he is in the center, next to the Missing Officer Table.) His 17-year-old daughter Ashlynn suffered very serious problems after having her wisdom teeth removed, the worst of which was the fact that one of the teeth was lodged in a cyst in her mouth. Surgery was required, and in the photo at right Ashlynn is shown recovering with her CPOF Leo Lion. Once home, she was planning to get ready for her first church mission trip to the Dominican Republic. We wish her all the best and hope that hugging Leo helped lift her spirits!
Correctional Officer II David Holder of ASPC Lewis was assaulted by an inmate on February 3, 2014. He suffered severe injuries to his face and shoulder. As CPOF Arizona Representative Liz Shaffer-Smith said when sending in this photograph of Officer Holder with his CPOF assistance check, “David has had surgery on his face. They put a metal plate in place of the cheekbone that was broken. He is still having shoulder problems and (as of March 12) is waiting to find out if he will need surgery on that as well.”

Correctional Officer II Desiree Knighton of ASPC-Lewis was assaulted by an inmate on March 6, 2014. The inmate hit her over the head with a sock filled with rocks. Officer Knighton suffered a laceration over her left eye, a broken nose and a collapsed eye socket. During the assault she also strained one of her arms. She is pictured here with her husband Darryl holding her CPOF assistance check. Per Arizona CPOF Representative Liz Shaffer-Smith, “She looks amazing!! She still has no vision in her left eye but overall is in good spirits!!”

Hello. Here is a photo of the presentation of the assistance package to Rita Belanger. She was very grateful and appreciative. Thank you for your support of our staff.

Sincerely,

James O’Neil, Warden, ASPC-Phoenix

Sergeant Roland Belanger, Rita’s husband, suffered a stroke on April 8, 2014. While in the hospital he had another, “smaller” stroke, lost his vision and developed pneumonia. He slipped into unconsciousness and, sadly, passed away on April 14. The CPO Foundation provided Rita with a check to help with funeral expenses.

To the CPO Foundation

I want to thank you for the support and the financial assistance. It was a big surprise to me. It also made my day better. May God bless you and the Organization to continue the wonderful work you are doing.

Once again, “Thank You.”

Sincerely,

C/O III Linda G. Lewis

Correctional Officer Lewis of ASPC-Lewis was assaulted by an inmate on January 15, 2014. She suffered facial bruising, a black eye, a knot on her head and a strained right arm.
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of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation

*We proudly present our Lifetime Sponsors and thank them all very much for their belief in the mission and goals of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation.*

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- AFGE - Local 817, FMC Lexington, KY
- AFGE - Local 1405, USP Lee, VA
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- Central California Womens’ Facility, Chowchilla, CA
- California Medical Facility, Vacaville, CA
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- High Desert State Prison, Susanville, CA
- Valley State Prison for Women, Chowchilla, CA
- California Substance Abuse Treatment Facility and State Prison, Corcoran, CA
- California State Prison, Corcoran, CA
- Sumter Correctional Institution, Bushnell, FL
- Central Florida Reception Center, Orlando, FL
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  - Hutchins State Jail
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  - Johnston SAFPF
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  - Lewis Unit
  - Lopez State Jail
  - Luther Unit
- Lychner State Jail
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  - Robertson Unit
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  In honor of SSG Jason A. Reeves
- Mr. Eric Spierer
- Mr. Dan M. Reynolds and Family

I had the privilege on August 14, 2014 to present Superintendent Jeri Taylor of Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution (EOCI) with a Correctional Peace Officers Foundation Gold Jacket in recognition of the facility’s Lifetime Sponsorship (photo at right).

The Lifetime Sponsorship was donated in the name of EOCI by Corporal Dan Weber and Sergeant Michael Van Patten of Oregon State Penitentiary. Corporal Weber is the CPOF Honor Guard Transportation Coordinator and Treasurer of the Association of Oregon Corrections Employees, while Sergeant Van Patten is President of the Association of Oregon Corrections Employees. Because EOCI is located in Eastern Oregon, I had the honor of making the presentation to Superintendent Taylor.

EOCI is planning a nice display case for the jacket and sponsorship plaque.

Thanks,
Michael Seefeldt, Oregon Field Representative

To find out how to become a Lifetime Sponsor, visit our website: cpof.org
My name is Paul Soto and I recently retired after 27 years in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. I have also been a Supporting Member of CPOF for 27 years, first becoming a member at the Academy.

After retiring from California Correctional Institution (CCI) I immediately contacted Char Corby and said I would like to volunteer “a little” for CPOF. Anyone that knows Char knows “little” is not in her vocabulary. Thus I have been working with California Representative Connie Summers as much as I can.

A short time ago when I was asked to become a CPOF Board of Director I proudly accepted.

On Sunday, July 13, 2014 Connie and I attended a safetyheroes.org fundraiser for the Injured Marine “Semper Fi Fund” in Orange County, California at the Anaheim City National Grove.

The event was well attended with over 300 people present representing many Southern California Police and Fire Department agencies. I presented a donation on behalf of the CPO Foundation to “Semper Fi Fund” Representative Kerry Ann Ellington who was very pleased that we participated in the event.

A video was shown that featured some of the Marines who have been assisted by the “Semper Fi Fund” in the past; a few were in attendance, too. Ted Nugent was also present. He spoke to the crowd and performed for the attendees after the event.

-- Paul Soto, CPO Foundation National Director
If there were one word to describe Barbara Burchfield it would be AMAZING! If you had the opportunity to meet and work with Barbara over her 25 years with the Correctional Peace Officers’ Foundation (CPOF) you are a blessed individual. Barbara passed away on May 30, 2014 after years of medical issues, the last being a diagnosis of MS.

Again, Barbara was amazing for CPOF. In the beginning she and I would be “on the road” promoting CPOF. All the uniformed staff ALWAYS liked meeting Barbara, especially those that had worked with her husband Sergeant Hal Burchfield. Hal had worked at Folsom State Prison and Sierra Conservation Center before losing his life at San Quentin State Prison in June of 1985.

As most of you know I lost my husband Larry on March 18 of this year. I remember all the stories Barbara told me after Hal’s passing and I sincerely have to thank her for being a main resource about all the “stuff” one has to get through following a spouse’s death. She helped prepare me for the daunting days I had ahead with paperwork and, yes, so many questions.

Barbara was also very helpful to our Correctional spouses who lost a loved one in the line of duty. Kim Blakley, who took over Barbara’s position, was grateful for the detailed notes Barbara kept. You always need a lot of love and assistance when you have lost a loved one in the line of duty and even outside the line of duty, like me.

Barbara is survived by five children: sons, Cameron, JC and Jessie, and daughters, Wendy and Marjorie; as well as two sisters, Dorothy (Russ) and Mary (Pat); one brother, Jim (Debbie); many nieces and nephews; and countless Correctional friends.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank ALL of you for the emails, phone calls and beautiful, beautiful cards I received after Larry’s passing. I often find myself re-reading the cards and appreciating the wonderful, handwritten, loving sentiments. Larry had worked for the California Department of Corrections for over 30 years and touched many lives. He was a “founding father” of CPOF and loved this organization very much. I am proud to carry on his vision!

Larry was also very active and supportive of CCPOA, serving as State Secretary for 11 years. After his retirement he remained active with CCPOA, serving as Secretary of the Retired Chapter.

Although Larry retired in 2000, over 14 years ago, I would like to sincerely thank CDCR Secretary Jeffrey Beard, Ph.D., for sending a memo statewide acknowledging Larry’s passing and ordering the flying of the flag at half staff at CDCR headquarters in Sacramento. This tribute meant a great deal to the Corby family and is a gesture that we will always treasure.

I am blessed to have a wonderful daughter, Camie, and son, Jarrod; and four beautiful grandchildren to help me through this next “journey of life,” as well as my friends (oh, my special, special friends) and the wonderful Board of Directors. I, like many, never thought I would need CPOF, but it just goes to show that someday we all likely will need help — proving again that CPOF truly does “Take Care of Their Own.” Special love and thanks to Don Novey, Jim Gomez, Commander Steve Dizmon and the CPOF National Honor Guard for making Larry’s service so memorable.

Larry always said, “Pictures are memories.” I have a lot of such memories, both in actual pictures I can look at and the pictures that I cherish and see in my mind. Again, my thanks to all of you for your great kindness and compassion.

-- Charleene Corby
The Oregon DOC Honor Guard represents a service to our employees and their families during significant occasions. The Honor Guard also places our agency on display during ceremonial events, including parades, posting of colors at statewide functions, and out-of-state public safety gatherings, to name only a few. This nationally recognized group of very dedicated and highly committed individuals provides a standard of professionalism for our agency that we all should attempt to emulate.

Michelle Whitney Dodson from OSP is the administrator and oversees logistical issues and approvals, and is the department liaison for the Honor Guard. She follows in her father’s footsteps, as Captain John Whitney was instrumental in the creation of the Honor Guard in 1992.

Captain Lance Albert from EOCI is the Honor Guard Commander and oversees operational functions for the Honor Guard. Commander Albert has excelled in his service with the Honor Guard for 16 years – serving as eastside Honor Guard squad leader from 2000 to 2007, and commander since then. He is a retired infantry first sergeant army paratrooper “airborne” and has served several combat tours in Afghanistan and Iraq.

The Honor Guard provides a great service to DOC employees and the State of Oregon. You may contact Ms. Dodson or Captain Albert with any questions or concerns you may have.

Oregon Honor Guard photo, sent by Michael Seefeldt: Brad Cain, Powder River Correctional Facility Superintendent, in center with Oregon DOC Director Colette Peters.