The former ALCATRAZ FEDERAL PENITENTIARY, now a U.S. National Park Service property, experienced the so-called “Battle of Alcatraz” in May of 1946. This violent incident is one of many escape attempts, riots and/or sieges that have taken place in prisons or jails nationally -- and internationally -- over the past nine decades. Some of these riots involved the taking of hostages, several with tragic outcomes. See our Cover Story starting on page 4.

In other places:
- Pulau Senang Island, Singapore, July 12, 1963
- Kingston Penitentiary, Canada, April 14-18, 1971
- Fremantle Prison, Australia, January 4, 1988
- Chiang Mai Prison, Thailand, April 30, 2010
- Igoumenitsa Prison, Greece, May 1, 2010
- Uribana Prison, Venezuela, January 25, 2013
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**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.”**

**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.
Cover Story: Riots and Hostages

Yvonne Beseda and Julia Standley, who were among those taken hostage at the start of the 11-day “Carrasco Siege” at the Walls Unit in Huntsville, Texas in 1974. The women were shot to death by Frederico “Fred” Gomez Carrasco and his two accomplices during their escape attempt on the final day of the siege. See page 7 for this story.

Correctional Officer Robert Vallandingham, who was among those taken hostage during the 11-day riot at Southern Ohio Correctional Facility in 1993. Officer Vallandingham was murdered during the early days of the riot. His body was tossed outside the prison walls onto the grounds. See page 10 for this story.

Next Year:
PROJECT 2000 XXVIII in San Francisco, California*
Thursday, June 15- Sunday, June 18, 2017

*Opportunity for attendees to tour Alcatraz, pictured on our cover!
History does in fact repeat itself

On the cover and under the stunning photo of Alcatraz is a list of just a few of the prison riots and hostage situations that have taken place internationally. One such occurred in 1992 at Carandiru Penitentiary in Brazil, then the largest prison in Latin America. It was built to house 3,500 inmates but became horribly overcrowded and its population ballooned to 7,300. Because violence was ready to explode the facility was nicknamed “the Powder Keg.” A riot did in fact break out and although, thankfully, no officers were killed, 22 were wounded.

In Manchester, England a riot occurred at the Strangeways Prison on April 1, 1990 that quickly spread throughout the prison. When the riot and rooftop protest ended, one officer had died and 147 prison officers were injured.

We are sure that there were many prison riots and hostage situations way, way back; however, with this article we are only going back to 1929.

Some of the riots have a big story, such as Attica in 1971, the Carrasco Siege in 1974 and the San Quentin incident in 1971, but in reality they all have a story. Many, many lives have been lost and people seriously injured over the years. Riots also affect the entire community because in some cities like Attica (yes, Attica is a city) just about everyone is related in some way to everyone else.

We derived most of our information from the Internet so when reports say, “the longest hostage situation, the bloodiest riot, the longest trial,” it’s because at the time of that particular occurrence it was the longest, bloodiest, etc. incident. And the longest hostage situation was indeed in Arizona at the Morey Unit in January/February 2004. Riots and hostage situations often happen on holidays because usually there is less staff, as in the hostage taking in 1993 at Southern Ohio Correctional Facility that happened on Easter Sunday and lasted 11 days.

Just keep in mind that hundreds of thousands of dollars were spent to rebuild these institutions and some, well, just weren’t rebuilt – just closed. In the Oklahoma riot of 1973 the damage was estimated at $30 million – imagine what the cost would be today.

Many -- far too many -- Correctional staff are injured every single day across the country. If someone is assaulted at your jail, prison or parole office, please email CPOF and let us know. Our motto is “taking care of our own.”

In closing, watch your back and always watch your partner’s back as well. Stay safe!

-- Char

Note: Many of the riot descriptions that follow use the term “guard” when referring to a Correctional Officer as that was the common and accepted usage at the time the reporting of the incident took place.
Riots and Hostages

1929 - Colorado State Penitentiary

A 1929 riot at the Colorado State Penitentiary in Canon City left 13 dead. On October 3, a group of five convicts captured and disarmed several guards. As they took refuge in Cell house No. 3, another group of convicts set fire to the mess hall, two Cell houses and the chapel. After prison authorities blockaded Cell house No. 3, a convict threatened to kill the captive guards unless his group was set free. Warden William Crawford refused the demands. Instead, Crawford called for the National Guard and the police from Colorado Springs and Pueblo. When the inmate's ultimatum failed, he began shooting the guards. The Warden then attempted to dynamite the Cell house. When the blast failed to breach the wall, tear gas was thrown through the windows from the roof. In all, eight guards and the five prisoners died.

1946 - Alcatraz Federal Penitentiary, CA

The Battle of Alcatraz, which lasted from May 2 to May 4, 1946, was the result of an unsuccessful escape attempt at Alcatraz Federal Penitentiary. Two guards -- William A. Miller and Harold Stites -- were killed along with three inmates. Eleven guards and one uninvolved convict were also injured. Two of the surviving convicts were later executed for their roles.

1954 - Missouri State Penitentiary

In 1954, there was a major riot at the Missouri State Penitentiary. The Missouri State Highway Patrol, Missouri National Guard, and police departments from Jefferson City, St. Louis and Kansas City, Missouri were called in to help quell the riot. When it was all over, four inmates had been killed, 29 had been injured and there had been one attempted suicide. Four guards had been seriously injured. Several buildings had been burned, resulting in damages estimated at $5 million. No inmates were able to escape during the incident. Burnt buildings and other damage from the riot would remain visible for the next ten years.

1959 - Montana State Prison

A riot started on 16 April 1959 and was the longest and bloodiest riot at the facility. Instigated by a pair of inmates the riot would claim the lives of three people, wound several others, and maintain the facility under inmate control for thirty-six hours. It ended in the
early hours of 18 April 1959 when a brace of National Guard troops stormed the facility.

1971 & 2006* San Quentin State Prison, CA

The San Quentin Six were six inmates at San Quentin State Prison in the U.S. state of California who were accused of participating in an August 21, 1971 escape attempt that left six people dead, including George Jackson, founder of the Black Guerrilla Family prison gang.

Costing more than $2 million, their 16-month trial was the longest in the state's history at the time and was dubbed, “The Longest Trial” by Time magazine. Of the six defendants, one was convicted of murder, two were convicted of assault on prison guards, and three were acquitted of all charges.

During the escape, which sparked a riot on the cellblock, Jackson had a .32 caliber pistol allegedly smuggled into the prison by an attorney. During the riot caused by Jackson and two dozen other prisoners, three Corrections officers and two inmates were tortured and killed.

Those killed in the altercation were guards Paul E. Krasenes, Frank DeLeon and Jere P. Graham, as well as two inmates.

*See page 11 for 2006 incident.

1971 - Attica Correctional Facility, NY

At approximately 8:20 a.m. on Thursday, September 9, 1971, 5 Company lined up for roll call. Hearing rumors that one of their companions was to remain in his cell after being isolated for an incident involving an assault on a prison officer, a small group of 5 Company inmates protested that they too would be locked up and began walking back towards their cells.

The remainder of 5 Company continued toward breakfast. As the protesting group walked past the isolated inmate, they were able to free him from his cell. They then rejoined the rest of 5 Company and proceeded on their way to breakfast. A short time later, when the command staff discovered what had occurred, they changed the usual scheduling of the prisoners. Instead of going to the yard after breakfast as they usually did, the prisoners realized they were being led back to their cells. Complaints led to anger when the Correctional officer tried to calm the mob of prisoners. He was assaulted and the riot began.

The inmates quickly gained control of sections, D-yard, two tunnels and the central control room, referred to as “Times Square.” Inmates took hostage 42 officers and civilians, and produced a list of grievances demanding their conditions be met before their surrender.

When the uprising was over, at least 43 people were dead, including 10 Correctional officers and civilian employees, and 33 inmates.

1971 & 1973 - Idaho State Penitentiary

Two serious riots occurred in 1971 and 1973 over living conditions in the prison. The 416 resident inmates were moved to the newly built Idaho State Correctional Institution south of Boise and the Old Idaho Penitentiary was closed on December 3, 1973.
Riots and Hostages

1973 & 1985* - Oklahoma State Penitentiary

On July 27, 1973, trouble began in the prison's mess hall, reportedly by five inmates who, according to a prison spokesman, “were doped up on something.” It quickly spread through the rest of the facility. At the end of the riot, three days later, three inmates were dead, 12 buildings were burned, and 21 inmates and guards had been injured. Damage was estimated at $30 million.

*See page 8 for 1985 incident.

1974 - Huntsville Prison (Walls Unit) /Carrasco Siege, TX

From July 24 to August 3, 1974, Federico “Fred” Gomez Carrasco and two other inmates laid siege to the education/library building of the Walls Unit. “Fred” Carrasco, the most powerful heroin kingpin in South Texas, was serving a life sentence for the attempted murder of a police officer. He was also suspected in the murder of dozens of people in Mexico and Texas. Having smuggled pistols and ammunition into the prison, he and two other convicts took 11 prison workers and four inmates hostage.

At the precise moment that a one o’clock work bell sounded, Carrasco walked up a ramp to the third-story library and forced several prisoners out at gunpoint. When two guards tried to go up the ramp, Carrasco fired at them. His two accomplices, who were also armed, immediately joined him in the library. The prison Warden and the director of the Texas Department of Corrections immediately began negotiations with the convicts. FBI agents and Texas Rangers arrived to assist them, as the media descended on Huntsville.

Over the next several days the convicts made a number of demands, such as tailored suits, dress shoes, toothpaste, cologne, walkie-talkies and bulletproof helmets, all of which were provided promptly. With the approval of Texas Governor Dolph Briscoe, an armored getaway car was rolled into the prison courtyard. Carrasco claimed that they were planning to flee to Cuba and appeal to Fidel Castro.

After a grueling 11-day standoff, the convicts finally made their desperate escape attempt just before 10 PM on Saturday, August 3, 1974. They moved out of the library toward the waiting vehicle in a makeshift shield consisting of legal books taped to mobile blackboards that was later dubbed by the press the “Trojan Taco.” Inside the shield were the three convicts and four hostages, while eight other hostages ringed the exterior of the “taco.”

Acting on a prearranged plan, prison guards and Texas Rangers blasted the group with fire hoses. However, a rupture in the hose gave the convicts time to fatally shoot the two women hostages who had volunteered to join the convicts in the armored car. When prison officials returned fire, Carrasco committed suicide and one of his two accomplices was killed.

Syndicated columnist Cal Thomas, who was an onsite reporter for Houston’s KPRC-TV at the time, later wrote, “It is a tragedy that two hostages died. It is a miracle all the rest lived.”
Riots and Hostages

The two female hostages who died during the incident were Yvonne Beseda and Julia Standley.

**1980 - New Mexico State Penitentiary**

The Penitentiary of New Mexico Prison Riot, which took place on February 2 and 3, 1980, in the state's maximum security prison south of Santa Fe, was one of the most violent prison riots in the history of the American correctional system: 33 inmates died and more than 200 inmates were treated for injuries. None of the 12 officers taken hostage were killed, but seven were treated for injuries caused by beatings and rapes.

**1983 - Dick Connor Correctional Center, OK**

Connor was the site of a significant prison riot on August 29, 1983. A delay in an inmate count developed into a shift in the evening food service schedule, which in turn developed into food shortages. As inmates became more angry and belligerent they defied an attempt to lock down the facility, then four to five hundred prisoners started breaking windows, throwing rocks, and setting fires. By the time order was restored one inmate was dead from a bullet wound, two correctional officers had been injured, and three million dollars in damage had been done.

**1985 Oklahoma State Penitentiary**

On December 17, 1985, the inmates became disruptive, then gained control and took five employees as hostages on A and C units. Three of the hostages were seriously injured before their release the next day. The disturbance caused more than $375,000 in damage and two of the hostages were permanently disabled. After this incident, security was overhauled at the prison to reduce inmate movements, limit recreation, and institute a level-ranking system for inmates to improve safety.

**1985 - Indiana Reformatory (now known as Pendleton Correctional Facility) IN**

On February 1, 1985, a riot took place at the Pendleton Correctional Facility, then known as the Indiana Reformatory. An inmate was beaten by guards after he refused to vacate his cell during a weapons check, also called a shakedown. Tear gas was used in the cell-block. Two inmates rushed to the maximum restraint unit where the beating had taken place and scuffled with two correctional officers, stabbing both of the officers. The inmates proceeded to the infirmary where they attacked the officers in that area. They held staff hostage when they took over the J-Cellhouse. After the riot was over, inmates had stabbed seven correctional officers and held three employees hostage for 17 hours.

**1986 - West Virginia State Penitentiary**

January 1, 1986 was not only the beginning of a new year, but also the date of one of the most infamous riots in recent history. The West Virginia Penitentiary was then undergoing many changes and problems. Security had become extremely loose in all areas. Many of the locks on the cells had been picked and inmates roamed the halls freely. Bad plumbing and insects caused rapid spreading of various diseases. The prison was now holding more than 2,000 men and crowding became an issue once again. Another major contribution to the riot’s cause was the fact that it was a holiday.

At around 5:30 pm, twenty inmates, known as a group called the Avengers, stormed the mess hall as Captain Glassock was on duty. "Within seconds Captain Glassock, five other officers, and a food service worker were tackled and slammed to the floor. Inmates

(File Photo)
Former West Virginia Gov. Arch Moore, wearing raincoat, escorts a freed hostage from the West Virginia Penitentiary in Moundsville following a 42-hour riot in January 1986. Three inmates died in the uprising that included 17 people being taken hostage and then released unharmed.
put knives to their throats and handcuffed them with their own handcuffs.”

Even though several hostages were taken throughout the day, none of them were seriously injured. However, over the course of the two-day upheaval, three inmates were killed. “The inmates who initiated the riot were not prepared to take charge of it. The Avengers president was quickly agreed upon as best suited for the task of negotiating with authorities and presenting the demands to the media.”

Governor Moore, Jr. was sent to the penitentiary to converse with the inmates. This meeting set up a new list of rules and standards on which the prison would build. National and local news covered the story, as well as the inmates meeting with Governor Moore.

1987 US Penitentiary – Atlanta, GA

On November 10, 1987, the U.S. State Department announced that Cuba had agreed to reinstate a 1984 accord that would permit the repatriation of up to 2,500 Cuban nationals. Included would be Cubans who had fled in the 1980 Mariel boatlift but who, once released on “immigration parole,” had been convicted of a crime and were now detained in one of two Federal prisons. A State Department spokesman indicated that the Federal Bureau of Prisons was not notified of the pending agreement due to concerns about premature disclosure of the agreement. Three days after the announcement; the detainees seized control of the U.S. Penitentiary in Atlanta. Their principal demand was that they not be repatriated to Cuba. The uprising lasted 11 days, involved more than 100 hostages, and burned down a substantial portion of the facility.

During the riot, one Cuban inmate was killed by a Correctional Officer. According to a prison spokesman, the guard shot the inmate to protect a fellow guard.

The Atlanta FBI, led by Weldon L. Kennedy, was called in to handle the negotiations and gather intel. After the hostage situation was identified, Special Operations soldiers from Fort Bragg, NC, were sent to advise the civilian law enforcement authorities.

Following negotiations, the majority of inmates voted to a surrender agreement on December 4 and the remaining hostages were released.

Of particular concern to the Federal Bureau of Prisons during the riots was the whereabouts of inmate Thomas Silverstein, who at the time was serving a life sentence at USP Atlanta in an isolation cell, following the murder of Federal Prison Guard at USP Marion in October 1983. The Cubans ultimately were able to drug Silverstein, who was loose among the prisoner population during the riots, and turn him over to the Federal authorities while negotiations to terminate the riots were still ongoing.

The riot coincided with a similar riot at the Federal Detention Center in Oakdale, Louisiana.

1987 FDC – Oakdale, LA

Oakdale, LA, Nov. 22: USP Atlanta, GA 1987

More than 1,000 Cuban inmates, outraged at the prospect of being deported under a new immigration agreement, took over the Federal Detention Center, seized about 30 hostages and set fire to most of the prison.

This riot resulted in 13 people being hospitalized, although their injuries were not too serious.

1990 & 1991 - Southport Correctional Facility, NY

Southport became the scene of a riot on June 26, 1990, when fighting broke out among a group of approximately 250 inmates, eight of whom were injured in the melee, along with 19 members of the prison’s staff.

Another incident, this one involving the taking of four employees as hostages, followed on May 28, 1991. Prisoners and Correctional officers injured that day received care at nearby Arnot-Ogden Memorial Hospital and St. Joseph’s Hospital in Elmira, NY.

1990 & 1995 - Carl Robinson Correctional Institution, CT

Robinson was the scene of two escapes in 1990; an extensive prison riot in June 1990, when 300 to 400
Riots and Hostages

Connecticut 1990

inmates set fire to the mess hall and gymnasium; and a worse riot on July 12, 1995. Members of the “20 Love” gangs from Hartford and New Haven clashed with Bridgeport gangs over the use of washing machines. The fight escalated and resulted in two inmate deaths, 35 detainees injured, two Correctional officers injured, and all six of Robinson's dorm buildings under control of inmates for at least an hour. Overcrowding 1,075 prisoners into a facility built for 880 was identified as a contributing factor.

1993 - Southern Ohio Correctional Facility

On Easter Sunday, April 11, 1993, 450 Lucasville prisoners, including an unlikely alliance of the Aryan Brotherhood and Gangster Disciples, rioted and took over the facility for 11 days. The main causes apparently were serious overcrowding and mismanagement of the facility and discontent in the general population that the authorities were going to force Muslim prisoners to undergo tuberculosis vaccinations in violation of their religious beliefs. Investigations conducted after the riot found that the gangs were also collaborating to murder inmates accused of being informants. Nine inmates and one Corrections officer were killed.

During negotiations, the inmates did not feel they were being taken seriously, and there was discussion of killing a guard in retaliation. Though the group never reached a decision on the killing, one of the prisoners decided it was time to take action. According to the prosecution, Officer Robert Vallandingham, who had been taken hostage, was handcuffed and strangled with a dumbbell from the prison weight room. However, testimony by Dr. Richard Fardal, Franklin County Deputy Coroner, disputed the claim that Officer Vallandingham was killed by a weight, saying that there was “no injury to the voice box or the trachea” and that “Mr. Vallandingham died solely and exclusively as a result of ligature strangulation.” During those 11 days, representatives from the Sunni Muslims, Aryan Brotherhood, and Gangster Disciples met every day in an improvised leadership council.

1999 - St. Martin Parish Jail, LA

Five Cuban prisoners held a Louisiana jail Warden and three Correctional officers hostage after an uprising that began when at least one inmate pulled a homemade knife on a guard.

The hostages were taken captive for five days by Cuban detainees demanding they be allowed to leave the United States.

2004 - Arizona State Prison - Lewis

In early 2004, the Morey Unit of the Lewis complex was the site of the longest standoff between inmates and law enforcement officers in United States history. It was a 15-day ordeal, beginning January 18 and ending February 2. Three officers were taken hostage, two male and one female, by two inmates. The inmates sexually assaulted the female officer and a kitchen officer. The inmates were originally trying to escape, but their plan went awry, and the escape event turned into a hostage situation. Due to the efforts of the Department of Corrections Director, Dora Schriro, the situation finally ended.
Riots and Hostages

2006 - North County Correctional Facility, CA

North County Correctional Facility (NCCF) is a Los Angeles County jail, run by the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department. Located approximately 40 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles, it is one of four jails located within the Pitchess Detention Center (named after former Sheriff Peter J. Pitchess), in Castaic, California. On Saturday, February 4, 2006, a prison riot at the facility injured over 100 inmates. Nine were critically injured, and eight had minor injuries. One inmate was pronounced dead at the scene.

Numerous ambulances were summoned to the remote facility after fighting began and custody personnel deployed tear gas to quell the disturbance. No law enforcement personnel were injured in the riot.

According to deputies, the four-hour riot was sparked by racial tensions generated outside the prison between Mexican and African-American gang members.

2006 – San Quentin State Prison, CA

Twenty-three inmates and two Correctional officers were injured in a riot that broke out in a San Quentin State Prison dining hall on January 12, 2006.

The violence began about 7:00 pm, after about 260 inmates had taken their seats in a prison cafeteria, when a group of Latino inmates began assaulting other inmates.

Correctional officers quelled the uprising using pepper spray and batons. One officer suffered a sprained knee and another was struck in the head and chest.

One inmate was treated at an outside hospital for a fractured jaw and returned to prison at 3 am; another was stabbed; six inmates suffered wounds made by a slashing weapon; and 15 others had cuts and bruises.

2009 - California Institution for Men

A riot at a Southern California prison that left more than 200 injured and two buildings destroyed was triggered by an “ongoing racial street war” between Black and Hispanic gangs, Corrections officials said.

The August 8 fight erupted in a section of the California Institution for Men in Chino that houses newly arriving inmates from Southern California and ex-convicts returning to prison for parole violations.

Unaffiliated inmates joined the brawl after gang members began fighting, the gangs were continuing a smaller fight that began at the prison in May.

Officials had delayed revealing the cause of the riot to avoid jeopardizing their investigation. They decided to make their conclusion public while announcing that the Chino prison had ended its state of emergency and resumed a normal schedule.

Officials cited 222 inmates for rules violations that could lengthen their sentences. One of the inmates was accused of setting a fire that burned down a dormitory. In addition, prison investigators planned to ask the San Bernardino County district attorney to file criminal charges against 25 inmates for offenses that included attempted murder, conspiracy to commit murder and battery with a deadly weapon.

In all, 240 inmates were injured and two buildings destroyed.

The two dormitories were rebuilt at a cost of $5.2 million. Nearly 1,300 inmates were moved to other prisons after the riot.

2009 - Northpoint Training Center, KY

On the evening of August 21, 2009, 60 to 80 inmates were involved in a riot at the facility. Five buildings were set on fire, including the kitchen, medical, visiting, canteen and a multi-purpose building. By 10:30 pm that night, the prison’s Corrections Emergency Response Team had subdued the Inmates. Some inmates sustained minor injuries. Damage to the facility was so extensive that some of the 1,200 inmates at the prison were transported to other prisons. The prison had been on lockdown since August 18, when a black inmate and a white inmate were assaulted by 10-15 Hispanic inmates.
Riots and Hostages

2015 – Willacy Detention Center, U.S. Bureau of Prisons

This facility was within the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Prisons, and was managed by the contractor Management & Training Corporation.

It was the largest immigrant detention facility in the United States, but subsequently was used as a prison for repeat offenders who had been captured while crossing the border illegally.

On February 20, 2015, a riot broke out among the inmates. Using pipes as weapons, they were able to gain control of portions of the prison before officers were able to regain control on February 21. The riot left the prison uninhabitable. As a result, all 2,800 inmates were sent to other facilities.

2015 - Tecumseh State Correctional Institution, NE

Violence broke out at the prison, in the southeast corner of the state, on Sunday, May 11 about 2:30 p.m. Correctional staff saw about 40 inmates assembled in front of a housing unit. Two staff members who tried to disperse the group were assaulted by inmates. They were not seriously hurt and were able to return to work.

Inmates then took control of two housing units, including staff offices. Although they were not able to breach the units’ control centers, damage did include several fires, broken windows and security cameras, water damage, and a wall that was torn down.

A recreation staff member barricaded herself in the gymnasium and was later rescued. Staff regained control of Tecumseh State CI at about 1:00 am.

MEMORIAL DAY

I hope all of you enjoyed your Memorial weekend and spent time giving thanks to those that made the ultimate sacrifice so that we can stay a free nation.

I carefully watched the news and enjoyed looking at all the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the numerous parades as well. All the people, all the flowers, all the speeches and those that sang our National Anthem and “God Bless America” took my breath away.

If, like me, you visited a veterans cemetery this past Memorial Day, you saw a beautiful and awesome “sight to behold,” with each grave graced with an American flag.

Regarding memorials, our Nation’s capital is a wonderful city to visit and see beautiful monuments and memorials built to honor great Presidents of the past; to enjoy many outstanding national museums; and, of course, to visit sites and memorials dedicated to our fallen military service people. Of the latter, if and when you do visit Washington, D.C., take the time particularly to visit the World War II Memorial, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the Korean War Veterans Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery and the Tomb of the Unknowns.

CPOF would especially like to honor and recognize our Correctional staff that each year take time from their Correctional duties to serve our country abroad. If you email Char@cpof.org I would be happy to send them a copy of this magazine with our deepest appreciation.

God Bless all of you and **GOD BLESS AMERICA**.
Dear Christina and CPOF Staff,

Thank you very much! There are times in life when “thank you” seems inadequate! It doesn’t begin to express the deep-rooted appreciation, gratitude and love I feel for all who have supported my family and me through this cancer journey! My heart overflows with sheer joy and thanksgiving for all you’ve done to make each day brighter and easier to get through.

I feel as if God has dispatched angels from the CDCR Headquarters and its various programs to comfort me in time of need!

C/O L. Lynch and Family, Grover Beach, CA

Officer Linda Lynch is a Supporting Member at California Mens Colony. She was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2014. Her last day of work was December 23, 2014 and as of August 25, 2015 was hoping to be able to return to work in mid January 2016.

C/O Lynch is pictured here with her husband, Tony.

To the CPOF,

I lost my only child, Wesley Camiel Styers, on July 21, 2015 after my 40th birthday and just before his 19th. He was a victim of gun violence. Nothing can take the pain away, but knowing that there are organizations to support individuals through tragedies such as these gives a certain sense of relief. Thank you, CPOF, for your monetary support during this time of great loss.

Jolina Styers, CPHT
Ironwood State Prison Pharmacy, Ironwood, CA

Ms. Styers received a bereavement assistance check at the recommendation of Ms. Gale McKinney, a longtime Supporting Member and Volunteer for the CPOF.

C/O Billy Neely, retired from CDC, was a Supporting Member from 1993 to 2014. C/O Neely passed away from cancer in mid October 2015. His widow, Cari, received a bereavement assistance check. In this family photo are Cari; the Neelys’ sons, Anthony and CT; and Bill.

Mary Tamez was a teacher and Supporting Member at California Substance Abuse and Treatment Facility. She passed away from cancer on February 9, 2015. Her husband, Valente, received a bereavement assistance check, and is pictured here with Mary and their adult children.
November 9, 2015

Dear CPOF,

I received your letter and generous donation for the family of our fallen deputy, Cecilia Hoschet. Your heartfelt letter to Cece’s mother, Silvia, was very moving and honorable. I will make sure both get passed on personally to Silvia, as we are holding a Custody Division family fun day in honor of Cece, and her family will be in attendance.

On behalf of the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department and the family of Deputy Hoschet, I would like to thank you and the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation Board of Directors, for your generous donation to Silvia under the Catastrophic Assistant Program. Your support is a true reflection of your Foundation’s commitment as stated in your Mission Statement: “to promote and project a positive image of the Corrections profession, both internally and to the general public.” Your Foundation has indeed accomplished that. Please let us know if we can assist your organization in the future.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Jim McDonnell, Sheriff,
County of Los Angeles, California

Terri McDonald, Assistant Sheriff

Many thanks to Sheriff McDonnell and his Department for this gracious and much appreciated letter.

Deputy Sheriff Cecilia Hoschet lost her life in an incident of domestic violence.

CPOF:

Thank you very much for the money that you sent for Michael’s funeral expenses. It is greatly appreciated!

Sincerely,

Sandy and Jim Brislane

C/O Michael Brislane, a Supporting Member at CSP Solano, passed away on October 11, 2015. His parents (Sandy and Jim) were responsible for the funeral costs. Left: Michael Brislane, and daughters Lauren Brislane and Shawnee Brislane.

To Charleene and all involved,

Thanks very much for the generous donation during my illness with cancer!! “Currently in remission!!”

Sincerely,

Joni Frederick, Citrus Heights, CA

Office Technician Joni Frederick of Folsom State Prison was out of work from December 2014 through March 2015 recovering from a hysterectomy. She was also later diagnosed with colorectal cancer and began radiation on July 16, 2015. She lost another four months of work as a result.

C/O Yang Lee, a Supporting Member at San Quentin State Prison, was diagnosed with Stage IV colon cancer on August 19, 2015. Since then he was off work undergoing aggressive chemotherapy. He had had his colon removed in 2014 when he was first diagnosed with Stage III colon cancer. At that point his doctors thought they had gotten rid of it but when Officer Lee underwent his routine scan in August the doctors found the cancer had returned and was of category Stage IV. Pictured above: Officer Lee, his wife and an unidentified man.
December 11, 2015

Dear Charleene,

THANK YOU so much for the beautiful poem and the most generous check to offset some of the expenses we are faced with. It was a surprise and definitely needed. Robert’s passing was so sudden; he got up about two weeks before his passing and told me that he was sick and two weeks later, he passed away. We knew he had lung cancer but he never complained until that day.

I wasn’t expecting him to pass away and it’s been difficult. The poem you sent is very true and I know that I must let go and in time I will but for now my mind is in a fog. There is so much to do. With the help of God and friends like you and the CPOF family I will come out of the fog.

Robert absolutely loved CPOF and was committed to coming to the yearly conferences to do whatever he could. I’m more than willing to volunteer at next year’s conference. Just let me know what I can do and I will be there.

I want to THANK YOU and the CPOF Foundation once again for your kind words and your financial support to our family. You are an organization that takes care of its own.

Sincerely,
Katie M. Roe, Stockton, CA

Robert Roe, deceased November 28, 2015, became a Supporting Member in 1995. He retired on April 5, 2000, and continued as a Retired Supporting Member until his passing.

C/O Eric Sandt, a Supporting Member at California Correctional Institution, had a heart attack while at work on January 30, 2016. He had surgery and spent time recovering at Bakersfield Memorial Hospital.
He is pictured above (center) off duty with two friends.

We’d like to give a “shout out” to our very first Supporting Members, all in California where the CPOF Foundation was born. Many, of course, are now retired. We thank them all so much for believing in and wanting to support CPOF from the beginning. Truly, they are the Bricks of our Foundation!

AND, of course, the CPOF’s “Founding Fathers,” Glenn Mueller, Richard Waldo, Larry Corby, Sal Osuna, and Don Novey.

About the “shout out” to the right: If your name is on the list, please let us hear from you and tell us where you are now and how you’re doing!
C/O Roland Labrague of Marcy CF* (center) received an assistance check from CPOF Representative Jay West (left) in October 2015. C/O Labrague’s son, Alex, has had chronic issues with his digestive system since birth. At the time of this check presentation, Alex was receiving sustenance through a feeding tube. With Jay and C/O Labrague in this photo is the CPOF’s contact at Marcy CF, Joe Spina, who initiated the assistance request.

C/O Brock Leclair (center), a Supporting Member at Bare Hill CF, was involved in an ATV accident in August 2015 and suffered multiple serious injuries. He underwent his rehabilitation and other therapies at Chaplain Valley Physicians Hospital (CVPH). Also pictured with Officer Leclair and Jay West is Brock’s wife, Alishia.

C/O Neal Gruber (left), the CPOF’s contact at Lakeview CF, presented a check in October 2015 to C/O Ron Goodwill, a Supporting Member, whose wife Roxanne suffered serious burns while cooking at a church function. After six weeks in the hospital and several skin grafts, as of the time of this check presentation Roxanne was progressing well.

C/O Bruce Inglee, the CPOF’s contact at Washington CF, presented a check to Celina Winchip, daughter of Lieutenant Dave Winchip, who passed away in late August 2015 from cardiac arrest. Also in the picture (at left) is C/O Jill Field, a family friend.

Jay presented a check to C/O Pete Gravell of Franklin County Jail whose young daughter, Sophia, was diagnosed with MRSA pneumonia. Sophia was hospitalized in medical facilities in Burlington, Vermont and in Boston, Massachusetts for treatment and therapy. Also pictured are Pete’s wife, Sheena, and Lt. Scott Hudson, the CPOF’s contact at the Jail.

Jay presented an assistance check to C/O Dave Vilmar, a Supporting Member at Washington CF, who was diagnosed with Stage IV cancer. Sadly, Officer Vilmar died on December 6, 2015.

*CF = Correctional Facility
C/O Jim Drollette of Adirondack CF received an assistance check after being off work for seven months recovering from spinal surgery. He had just returned to light duty at the time of this photo. Also pictured is the CPOF’s contact at ADK, C/O Al Miner, and Superintendent Jeff Tedford.

Jay presented a check to Sergeant Greg Satterlee, a Supporting Member at Greene CF, who is battling kidney cancer. Also pictured is Greg’s son, Aiden.

As of May 1, 2016, we have 3,400 Supporting Members in the State of New York!

Here are four Upstate CF Correctional Staff who received CPOF assistance checks from Jay West. At left is C/O Brad Marshall who was diagnosed with cancer. His medical evaluation in late October 2015 gave him a very positive prognosis and, we are happy to report, Jay informed us that as of the spring of 2016 C/O Marshall was well on the way to a full recovery. Also pictured is Upstate CF contact C/O Brandy Smith.

Above center: C/O Heath Patterson who in late 2015 was receiving treatment for liver disease and was on the list for a liver transplant. Also pictured are Heath’s wife, Dawn, and their daughters, Brittany and Kayla.

Above right: C/O Todd Debyah (next to Jay), a Supporting Member whose son, Noah, had surgery to rebuild his palate. Also pictured are C/O Brandy Smith; Kai Smith (Brandy Smith’s son); Todd’s wife, Sherrie; and Noah.

Lower right: Lt. Jim Spinner, whose seven-year-old daughter, Cassidy, was being treated for kidney cancer. Also pictured are Jim’s wife, Lori, and C/O Brandy Smith.

NOTE: Upstate CF contact Brandy Smith is herself coping with a very serious medical condition. See page 19.

continued next page
Jay presented a check to C/O Wayne Simmons, a Supporting Member at Franklin CF, whose young daughter, Carley, received serious internal injuries after falling out of a tree. Also pictured are C/O Brandy Smith and Lieutenant. Jody Johnston, CPOF facility contacts.

Dear Ms. Labio:
Thank you so much for your condolences and the financial help extended to us by the CPO Foundation during this extremely difficult time. This financial assistance and kind words are so very much appreciated.

Jay West, NY Volunteer, and his wife have been very kind and helpful, extending their hand to us during this time. I don’t think your organization could have better or more caring people carrying out your mission. They truly are gems.

Again, thank you from the bottom of my heart for all your assistance.

Sincerely,
Kathy A. Vilmar, Glens Falls, NY
C/O David Vilmar, a Supporting Member at Washington CF, died on December 6, 2015 of cancer.

C/O Rick Goodspeed, a Supporting Member at Riverview CF, is medically retiring after having two strokes. Pictured above with Jay West and Rick are Rick’s wife, Karen, and CPOF’s contact at Riverview CF, C/O Don Dietschweiler.

C/O Amanda Giesler, a Supporting Member at Groveland CF, was in an off duty accident in August of 2015, resulting in a broken back. She had surgery to fuse her spine and underwent physical therapy for many months. C/O Giesler is pictured above with her husband and children.

Jay presented a check to C/O Scott Barcomb, a Supporting Member at Clinton CF, whose son, Andrew, has muscular dystrophy. Andrew fell out of his wheelchair in January 2016 and suffered a closed fracture of his right femur. He was hospitalized for some time at the University of Vermont’s medical facility.

Jay presented a check to C/O April Legacy, a Supporting Member at Bare Hill CF, who in January 2016 had a third surgery for her chronic left knee/leg issue. April has been off work since July 2015. She has had two surgeries on her left knee attempting to repair a torn ACL. Neither surgery was successful. As Jay said, “We wish April much luck on her medical journey.”
In late January 2016, Jay presented an assistance check to C/O Brandy Smith of Upstate CF. At the time, Brandy was recovering from her latest surgery in her battle with peritoneal mesothelioma. C/O Smith was first diagnosed in May of 2015. As our CPO Family readers know, Brandy is the CPOF’s contact at Upstate CF, and a very active and involved one at that. Per Jay, “Thoughts and prayers continue for her for a successful outcome.”

C/O Joe Spina, CPOF contact for Marcy CF, displays some CPOF apparel given to him for his outstanding effort in signing up over 100 new Supporting Members of CPOF from his facility. You are much appreciated, Joe. Keep up the good work!

C/O Ryan Lacount of Elmira CF has been off work since January 15, 2016 owing to an injury to his leg that required surgery. He will continue to be off duty for approximately six more months while his leg heals.

Dear Christina and Staff,
Thank you so very much for your condolences, and the very generous check for assistance. It was much needed and greatly appreciated.
Jay West was so helpful during this difficult time.
Best regards,
Lorraine VanTassell and Family
Beacon, NY
Terrance VanTassell, retired from the New York State Department of Correctional Services, passed away from pancreatic cancer on January 16, 2016. Terrance was first diagnosed in August of 2014, and had undergone several rounds of chemotherapy.

In late January 2016, Jay presented an assistance check to C/O Brandy Smith of Upstate CF. At the time, Brandy was recovering from her latest surgery in her battle with peritoneal mesothelioma. C/O Smith was first diagnosed in May of 2015. As our CPO Family readers know, Brandy is the CPOF’s contact at Upstate CF, and a very active and involved one at that. Per Jay, “Thoughts and prayers continue for her for a successful outcome.”

C/O Lawrence Genovese of Sullivan CF who lost his home and all of his family’s possessions in a fire in early February 2016. C/O Genovese is pictured here with his wife, Shannon, and their little daughter, Isabella.

Jay West presented a check to C/O Bruce Inglee, a Supporting Member at Washington CF whose wife, Jaya (also a C/O at Washington CF), was recently diagnosed with thyroid cancer.

Representatives Jay West and Dave Wedzina presented a bereavement check to Angela Natalie, whose husband, C/O Brian Natalie of Monroe County Jail, passed away from cancer in February 2016. Also pictured to Angela’s left are Sheriff O’Flynn, Undersheriff Forsyth and Facility Superintendent Harling.
To the CPO Foundation:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your assistance on behalf of Officer Jason Peters and Officer Mary Coleman. Thank you for supporting them and the rest of our correctional family when they are in need.

Words cannot express our appreciation for your thoughtfulness. Again, thank you for your exceptional service and support.

Sincerely,

Steven Sperry, Senior Warden, Joe F. Gurney Transfer Facility

C/O Jason Peters is a Supporting Member at Gurney Transfer Facility. Jason’s wife, Patricia, was in a car accident in October 2015 while traveling to work. She suffered a severe back injury and nerve damage, and has undergone physical therapy and been treated with multiple medications. Senior Warden Sperry recommended the Peters family for financial assistance, and is pictured here (at right) with Officer Peters and Assistant Warden Jessie Wicks.

C/O Mary Coleman’s one-year-old daughter Rosabella had a serious medical condition that required surgery in November 2015.

C/O III Christopher Kersee is a Supporting Member at Pack Unit. C/O Kersee lost his home and all his belongings in a fire in the fall of 2015. In this photo, Warden Robert Herrera presents Officer Kersee with a CPOF assistance check.

C/O IV Conway Bracken Jr., a Supporting Member at Goree Unit, was diagnosed with lung cancer and had to travel to a medical facility in The Woodlands for radiation and chemo treatments. At the recommendation of Warden Richard Gunnels, Officer Bracken received a CPOF check to help with extra expenses. He is pictured at left with Warden Gunnels.

C/O IV Chad Peek, a Supporting Member at Telford Unit, was in a car accident on June 16, 2015. He had a mini stroke on September 29, 2015, and then had jaw surgery on October 8, 2015. Due to all of these circumstances Officer Peek exhausted all of his time. He is pictured at right receiving a CPOF assistance check from Assistant Warden Javi Facio. We are very pleased to report that, per HRS III Lisa Hedgcock, Officer Peek was able to return to work in early 2016.

Dear Stephanie,

When it comes to people with big hearts, you can’t be beat.

It’s an understatement to say how overwhelmed I am by your generosity. It has been a tremendous assistance with all of my medical bills.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Sincerely,

Misti Sorenson, Huntsville, TX
Program Supervisor Misti Sorenson, a Supporting Member at TDCJ Administrative Review and Risk Management Division in Huntsville, underwent surgery on November 25, 2015 in Houston. She was off work recovering for about eight weeks.
Dear Ms. Barone,

On behalf of everyone here in the TDCJ Business and Finance Division, I want to express our heartfelt appreciation for your gift of assistance to Ms. Debbie Mathis. Your generosity will greatly help to offset her medical costs and travel costs related to receiving care.

We ask for everyone to join us in continued prayers for Debbie and her family during the coming months of medical treatments.

Sincerely,
Jerry McGinty, Chief Financial Officer
Accountant II Deborah Mathis, a Supporting Member in the Payroll Department of the TDCJ Business and Finance Division, was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2007. As of mid October 2015, she was still undergoing weekly chemo treatments at M. D. Anderson Medical Center in Houston.

Accountant II Deborah Mathis took a medical retirement on December 31, 2015.

Photo: CFO Jerry McGinty, Deborah Mathis and Accountant V Melanie Willis, who referred Accountant II Mathis for the assistance.

C/O IV Harley McGovern of Mountain View Unit, and her fiancé, moved in with Harley’s father to care for him while he was undergoing chemotherapy. During heavy rainstorms in October 2015 water flooded the home, causing significant damage to flooring, carpets and walls. All personal belonging were destroyed as well.

In addition, they lost two baby calves, chickens and one dog three days after the flood. C/O IV McGovern had to be hospitalized due to dehydration, nausea and vomiting. She is pictured above (center) with Sergeant Kathleen Sutton and Warden Melodye Nelson.

C/O V Mellissia Jones, a Supporting Member at Skyview Psychiatric Unit, and her family lost their home and everything they owned in a fire. She is pictured top left with Warden David Blackwell and Assistant Warden Calvin Tucker in this three-photo column of assists at Hodge and Skyview Units.

C/O III Hassan Karriem is a Supporting Member at Hodge MROP. His wife, Gloria, passed away at the young age of 26 due to heart failure. Officer Karriem is pictured center left with Major Charles Meador and Assistant Warden Calvin Tucker.

C/O V Sheri Fletcher was also a Supporting Member at Skyview Psychiatric Unit. Sheri passed away in October of 2015 from liver failure. Her husband, Randall, is pictured (second from right) with Major Ahmadrick Christopher, Warden David Blackwell and Major Charles Meador.

continued next page
Dear Stephanie,

On behalf of our employee, Desiree Goodwin, the Staff of the O.B. Ellis Unit and I wish to express our appreciation to the CPO Foundation for the assistance you provided this employee. The CPOF financial assistance will go a long way to helping this family. I know that Ms. Goodwin and her family appreciate your assistance.

It is a great encouragement to all of us to know that there is an organization in place whose primary mission is to assist Correctional Employees in times of need. Again, I cannot say enough about how much the help you have provided is appreciated. You really make a difference in the lives of many people at a time when it is needed most.

The O.B Ellis Unit will continue to support and promote the mission of the CPOF at every opportunity.

Sincerely,
Keith Gorsuch, Assistant Warden, O.B. Ellis Unit

C/O II Desiree Goodwin is a Supporting Member at Ellis Unit. Desiree’s daughter, Adrianne, was diagnosed with leukemia and was hospitalized for eight days in March 2015. Upon release from the hospital, Adrianne continued to receive treatments at Texas Children’s Hospital in Houston, a 170-mile round trip that created a financial hardship for Desiree. She is a single parent with another small child. Desiree is pictured at left with Assistant Warden Gorsuch.

Dear Ms. Barone,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and the CPO Foundation for the generous gift you gave to our family. I was very surprised when I returned to work after my husband’s illness and hospitalization when the Warden of my Unit presented me with a check. It was very much appreciated and was put to good use with various medications and hospital equipment that was not covered by insurance. To say that I work for the best institution in Texas would be an understatement. We are very blessed and grateful to you and the CPO family.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,
Deborah Kenemore, Early, TX

Administrative Assistant II Deborah Kenemore works at Havins Unit. Her husband, Darrell, underwent aortic valve replacement surgery at the end of September 2015. Darrell was hospitalized for several weeks at a medical facility in Dallas, 163 from the Kenemores’ home. AA II Kenemore is pictured here with Warden Wayne Brewer, who recommended her for an assistance check, and Chief of Classification Matt Hancock.

C/O IV Megan Jones of Beto Unit lost her home and all belongings in a fire in the fall of 2015. She is pictured above receiving a CPOF assistance check from Warden Jeffrey Catoe.

C/O Esther Taylor-Moore of Eastham Unit was diagnosed with Stage I uterine cancer in early November 2015 and underwent tests for kidney cancer. She had to travel to M. D. Anderson Medical Center, 115 miles each way from her home in Crockett, TX, for the tests. C/O Taylor-Moore is pictured at right with CPOF Texas Representative Cathy Stokes and Eastham Unit Warden Kevin Wheat.
Dear Ms. Barone,

I would like to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU for the assistance generously given to Officer Paul Hughes COV and his family. The Rufus Duncan Unit is a very small facility in the heart of East Texas where we are family, so when one of us is hurt or injured it affects us all.

Officer Hughes and his wife, Billie, were so grateful for the assistance and wanted me to express their gratitude and a heartfelt thank you to the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation.

Mr. Hughes continues to improve daily and the day I delivered the check was the first day he had eaten solid food in an entire month after his stroke. He is now making small steps with the assistance of a walker and rehab staff, but every day is an improvement.

Again, thank you and the CPOF for the generosity to correctional professionals nationwide. You are always there for us and we will never be able to show our true gratitude toward you and your staff!

Here is a picture of Officer Hughes and me. Again, thank you for what you do and God bless you and the entire Correctional Peace Officers Foundation.

Sincerely,
Garth A. Parker, Warden, Rufus H. Duncan Geriatric Facility

C/O V Hughes suffered a massive stroke on December 31, 2015.

Dear Ms. Barone,

Thank you and my fellow members of the CPOF for the financial assistance in my time of need. I sincerely appreciate the Foundation and since joining do not miss a chance to speak of the many positive results that can arise out of a dire situation.

Sincerely,
Ron West, Sandra, TX

C/O V Ronnie West is a Supporting Member at Garza West Unit. He was released from the hospital the week of October 26, 2015 and upon returning home found that his house had burned to the ground.

Warden Bryan Gordon recommended C/O West for an assistance check.

Dear Ms. Barone,

Thank you so much for the assistance check that Cathy Stokes presented to me! It is very much appreciated.

I also want to thank the CPO Foundation Board of Directors, Janet Dorsey and Cathy Stokes for all of the help and concern since my accident.

Sincerely,
Glenn T. Peck, Huntsville, TX

Maintenance Supervisor IV Glenn Peck is a Supporting Member at the Facilities Division of the TDCJ. MS IV Peck had to have surgery after suffering a broken femur in a hunting accident.

To the CPO Foundation,

My family and I would like to thank you for your help in this difficult time. There are no words to express the gratitude. You have no idea what you’ve done for me. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. My husband, Obie Washington, is with Jesus now in peace.

Carrie Washington, Galveston, TX

C/O Washington works at Hospital Galveston facility. Her husband passed away on December 27, 2015.

C/O Raul Gomez, Jr., a Supporting Member at Dominguez Unit, has had numerous medical problems. Because his many out of pocket medical expenses were causing him financial hardship, Sergeant Gil Arizmendi (far right) recommended Officer Gomez (center) for assistance. Also pictured are Warden Evelyn Castro, Mrs. Gomez and CPOF Texas Representative Eileen Kennedy.
Dear Kim Blakley,

Oh my goodness! The generosity of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation has been extraordinary. I could hardly believe my eyes when I opened up your letter to find such compassionate words and a check to help out during the holidays. I am speechless at the abundant amount of support the Foundation has provided. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

This year has been extremely difficult emotionally and financially. Losing Dale has rocked our world, but we haven’t let it destroy us. My focus has been on the positives…we are both winners. Dale gets to spend eternity in heaven with our Maker and I get to raise our six-year-old daughter and try to make a difference in her life every day. Good people surrounding us and supporting us has made all of the difference in our lives.

I sincerely, whole-heartedly thank you and CPOF once again for your unbelievable generosity and goodness, Kim.

Warmest regards,

Shyla Swisher, Canon City, CO

Sergeant John Jackson, a Supporting Member at Delta Correctional Facility had lung cancer. In December 2015, he began having to travel to Phoenix, Arizona (566 miles away) for treatments. Guy Edmonds recommended assistance for Sgt. Jackson with his considerable travel expenses. With Sgt. Jackson in this photo are Warden Steve Green and Captain Bill Hunt.

Here is a nice note that Captain Bill Hunt wrote to Guy Edmonds:

Guy,

I would like to extend my personal thanks to you and CPOF. Sgt. Jackson is facing an extremely difficult battle and I know the financial help CPOF extended to him helps alleviate some of those worries. ... I will try to let you know as he makes progress with his treatment.

Thank you again.

Captain Bill Hunt, CWP

We are saddened to report that Sergeant Jackson passed away on April 30, 2016.

To the CPO Foundation,

Thank you so much for your help and support. It is so much appreciated. Here’s a picture of us, and I hope to meet you all soon.

Thanks again,
Terry Neeley, Lakewood, CO

Terry is the husband of Re-entry Specialist Korie Smith of the Westminster Office of the Colorado DOC Division of Adult Parole. Korie passed away unexpectedly on October 31, 2015. Terry received a bereavement assistance check at the recommendation of Guy Edmonds, CPOF Representative in Colorado.

C/O I Victor Lucero of Canon Minimum Centers suffered a stroke in New Mexico while there on a family matter in January 2016. He had to be hospitalized in Roswell for almost a week. Upon returning to Colorado he continued to undergo treatments. Officer Lucero is pictured here with his CPOF assistance check.

Colorado Inmate Phone System Operator Yvonne Sargent (left) of Denver Women's Correctional Facility slipped and fell at work on November 4, 2014, injuring her shoulder and knee. Over the next 12 months she had surgery on both the injured shoulder and knee, and was able to return to work only very briefly during that time. In early December 2015 Yvonne received an assistance check at Guy Edmonds's request.
Dear Ms. Blakley,

It is with deepest gratitude that I thank you for your continued support of the staff at the Denver Complex. On too many occasions, we see our law enforcement Family struggle with the challenges that life sometimes sends our way and wonder what it is that we can do to try and alleviate the burden. CPOF has been the answer to that question over and over again.

So again . . . many . . . many thanks.

Sincerely,

David M. Johnson, Warden
Denver Complex

To the Directors of the CPOF:

I would like to thank you very much for your kind donations to help my son, Josiah Nathaniel. He suffers from epileptic seizures. He is two years old and has had seizures for close to a year. He has been “life flighted” twice, once to St. Jude Children’s Hospital in Denver and the other time to Children’s Memorial Hospital in Colorado Springs. The money donated by this great organization has been a great help dealing with some of the expenses.

So again . . . many . . . many thanks.

Sincerely,

C/O Atanacio Lucero, Chris and Josiah, Trinidad, CO

C/O Atanacio Lucero is a Supporting Member at Trinidad Correctional Facility. He is pictured upper left with his wife, Christina, and Josiah; and above right with Associate Warden Ed Caley.

C/O Renee Carter of Colorado State Penitentiary is pictured at left with her children. The family received a bereavement assistance check after the sudden death of Renee’s husband, Richard, on January 14, 2016.

Sergeant Steven Bell, a Supporting Member at Sterling Correctional Facility, had quadruple bypass surgery in mid November 2015. He was expected to be able to return to work at the end of February 2016.

Administrative Assistant III Josie Cornell of the Colorado DOC Adult Parole Division received a bereavement assistance check after her husband, John, died of a heart attack on December 13, 2015.

C/O I Faith Dzara of Trinidad Correctional Facility was killed in an incident of domestic violence in December 2015. Her parents, Fred and Penny Dzara, are pictured at right receiving a CPOF bereavement assistance check from Guy Edmonds.

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Dear CPO Foundation Board of Directors and CPOF Field Rep. Mr. Edmonds,

I cannot express the deep gratitude that I have towards the CPO Foundation and its Catastrophic Assistance Program. The financial assistance I received was a blessing and I am so appreciative. Also, working with Mr. Edmonds during the application process was so pleasant and he made the process so simple.

I never would have thought that having complications from a leg injury would change my financial status so quickly and unexpectedly. The funds from CPOF did relieve some of the financial pressure I was under. Thank you to the CPOF organization, the Board of Directors and to the CPOF Supporting Members for the financial assistance.

Sincerely,

Sandy Brownlee, Buena Vista, CO

RN Jean Oakes of SCI Albion had to undergo a complete hysterectomy followed by chemotherapy and radiation. She was off work for a considerable time as a result. Jean is pictured at left with her grandson, Brantley.

Mail Room Supervisor Tammie White is a Supporting Member at SCI Albion. Tammie’s husband, Lawrence, had open-heart surgery on October 22, 2015. Tammie had to take many weeks off work to care for Lawrence pre- and postsurgery. Accounting Assistant Dana Arington recommended Tammie for assistance with the extra expenses she incurred during this time. Tammie is pictured here, second from left, with Superintendent Nancy Giroux, Accountant Sandy Gorniak and Business Manager Tammy Turner.

Sergeant Carolyn Martin, a Supporting Member at Buena Vista Correctional Complex, received a CPOF check while she was off work for about three months due to various medical issues. With her in the photo above are Guy Edmonds and Warden Jason Lengerich.

Here is the lovely Christmas card we received from C/O III James Reed and his family. Sadly, Officer Reed passed away from a heart attack on February 9, 2016. He had been a Supporting Member at SCI Albion; wife Jennifer is also a Supporting Member. Following Officer Reed’s death, the CPOF provided the family with bereavement assistance.

RN Jean Oakes of SCI Albion had to undergo a complete hysterectomy followed by chemotherapy and radiation. She was off work for a considerable time as a result. Jean is pictured at left with her grandson, Brantley.

Dear CPO Foundation Board of Directors and CPOF Field Rep. Mr. Edmonds,

I cannot express the deep gratitude that I have towards the CPO Foundation and its Catastrophic Assistance Program. The financial assistance I received was a blessing and I am so appreciative. Also, working with Mr. Edmonds during the application process was so pleasant and he made the process so simple.

I never would have thought that having complications from a leg injury would change my financial status so quickly and unexpectedly. The funds from CPOF did relieve some of the financial pressure I was under. Thank you to the CPOF organization, the Board of Directors and to the CPOF Supporting Members for the financial assistance.

Sincerely,

Sandy Brownlee, Buena Vista, CO

CM I Sandy (Sandra) Brownlee of Buena Vista Correctional Complex crushed her leg in an accident and was hospitalized for 10 days receiving treatments. She was off work as of February 4, 2016, and her anticipated return to work date was unknown.
Nebraska

This is April Bulling-June and I am the Acting Associate Warden at the Tecumseh State Correctional Institution in Tecumseh, NE. I have been with the Nebraska Department of Corrections for ten and a half years, starting as a Correctional Officer at the Nebraska State Penitentiary in Lincoln.

Our Director, Scott Frakes, is from Washington State where the CPO Foundation is very well known for having assisted hundreds of their Staff including the family of C/O Jayme Biendl who was murdered in the line of duty in 2011. Correctional Sergeant Dan Weber of Oregon State Penitentiary is the CPO Foundation’s Representative in Western Oregon, and a while ago Dan made time to come to Nebraska to visit several of our institutions and share CPOF. What sparked my interest the most is the CPOF’s Catastrophic Assistance Program. I had never known of an organization that, with just a phone call, would assist a Correctional employee but that is just what happened. While Dan was here we submitted 12 Staff members who needed financial assistance. To say that I was surprised when checks arrived for these employees within two weeks is an understatement. Two of these Staff members are shown below. When they say a picture is worth a thousand words – well, two photos are definitely worth two thousand words.

In closing, thank you, Director Frakes, for bringing CPOF to Nebraska and thanks to you, Dan, for sharing CPOF with us in Nebraska Corrections.

Acting Associate Warden April Bulling-June is the CPO Foundation’s Representative in Nebraska.

In mid November 2015 Materials Specialist Kathleen Smith of Lincoln Correctional Center was being treated for Stage I LUE lymphedema as well as chest wall lymphedema. These were ongoing issues following her breast cancer treatment. Pictured above are Lincoln CC Associate Warden (at the time) Steve Weis, Kathleen Smith and Warden Mario Peart.

Corporal Michael Barone of Tecumseh State Correctional Institution was diagnosed with Stage IV chronic lymphatic leukemia in August of 2015. Michael passed away on January 16, 2016 while visiting his ailing father in California. His father passed away just a day or two after Michael’s death.

Lieutenant Ryan Lassley and TSCI Acting Associate Warden April Bulling-June recommended a bereavement assistance check for Michael’s widow, Kathleen, who herself was diagnosed with Stage IV ovarian cancer in January of 2015. Pictured above are Kathleen and Acting Associate Warden Bulling-June.
Kim,

Here is a photo of my kids receiving their CPOF Christmas gifts. It means a lot to be thought of by CPOF!

Katie Smith, Cotopaxi, CO
Mrs. Smith is the adult daughter of C/Sgt. Mary Ricard (near left photo), EOW 9/24/2012, who was honored at Project 2000 XXIV in Reno, Nevada in 2013.
Pictured (far left) are Kelvin, Jr.; Jessica; and Benjamin.

We can't thank you enough, Kim, for you and all the people of CPOF. The love and support is something we can never repay but know how very grateful we are.

You and the families that this Foundation is helping are in our most precious prayers.

It's sad to think that many more people will be, and are, joining us. But no greater gift can be given than CPOF gives.

We love you all!
Randy, Julie and David
Baszler and Baker Family

Mrs. Baszler (Julie) is the mother of C/O Amanda Baker (photo), EOW 2/16/2014, who was honored at Project 2000 XXVI in Jacksonville, Florida in 2015.

Christian, and I both want to thank you. You always go “above and beyond” in everything you do. You are so caring and compassionate, I can't even imagine the emotional energy you use every day helping so many people through the worst times of their lives. Thank you also for remembering that through the years we still need the support and love we get from CPOF. We love you all so much, and are especially thankful for you!

Kim Burgert

Christian is the son and Mrs. Burgert is the widow of Deputy Sheriff Christopher Burgert (photo at right), EOW 3/31/2004, who was honored at Project 2000 XVI in Portland, Oregon in 2005.

Dear Kim and CPOF family,

Thank you very much for the Christmas gift. I am even more thankful for my CPOF family that remembers me every year. You have no idea how much it means to me.

Much love to you all,
Christian Burgert
It’s always nice to hear from you. We’ll never forget your help and support in our time of grief and need.

Happy Holidays!
Fred and Delphine Washington

In memory of our son:

From the family of C/O Dennis Stemen (photo), EOW 7/5/1994, who was honored at Project 2000 VI in Washington, D.C. in 1995.

Kim,
Thanks for all the support you and Charleene have given the Biendl family. Everyone at the Foundation has been wonderful. Have a Merry Christmas and we love you all.

Jim Hamm and Family
Mr. Hamm is the father of C/O Jayme Biendl (photo), EOW 1/29/2011, who was honored at Project 2000 XXIII in Washington, D.C. in 2012.

Merry Christmas and Healthy New Year!
Happy things this year: Amanda and her husband just had a baby girl, Carrina Anne, and John and his wife are expecting a child in late May. All is well here and hope it is the same for you and yours.

Kathy Hart

And see another beautiful Christmas card from the James Reed family of Pennsylvania on page 26!
Rose Williams, CPOF Representative in Georgia, presented Correctional Officer Kerrie Bryant of Helms Facility with an assistance check from CPOF. C/O Bryant has had to have both hips replaced due to an old injury (2010) she sustained in a use-of-force confrontation with an inmate.

Correctional Officer Lauren Campbell, a Supporting Member at Smith State Prison, was in an auto accident and fractured her C2 vertebrae. She is pictured here receiving a CPOF assistance check from Deputy Warden of Security Kevin Sprayberry.

Ms. Christina Labio,
I would like to thank you and the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation for your monetary donation during the passing of my sister Stelphrina Barker. Your kindness will never be forgotten.

Mrs. Angela Stevens
Lieutenant Stelphrina Barker, a Supporting Member at Aaron Cohn RYDC, went out on medical leave in November 2014. She moved in with her caregiver, sister Angela Stevens, at the same time. She never returned to work before she passed away on August 16, 2015.

Jamie Hall, Deputy Warden/Administration, of Macon State Prison had neck and back surgery and exhausted all of her time. Rose Williams recommended CPOF assistance for her, and she is pictured here with Warden Gregory McLaughlin.

Clerk II Karen Larry, a Supporting Member at Macon State Prison, was diagnosed with severe COPD. She was unable to accomplish any moving activity without experiencing severe breathing difficulties. By mid October 2015 she had exhausted all of her time. Clerk II Larry is pictured here with Warden Gregory McLaughlin.

C/O Carol Fowler, also a Supporting Member at Macon State Prison, unfortunately passed away on January 26, 2016 due to complications from a reaction to a medically-prescribed drug she was taking. Officer Fowler is pictured at far left holding an award she once received. In the photo next to Carol’s are her parents, Connie and Wayne, with Warden Gregory McLaughlin.
Georgia

Dear Christina, CPOF Board of Directors, Rose Williams and members,

Thank you so very much for the financial support during this very difficult time for my family. You have certainly eased some of the burden. My family is very much blessed by your thoughtfulness.

Gina Seitz, Juliette, GA

*Mrs. Seitz is a contract employee at SOSTC. She was out of work for over two weeks in November of 2015 due to her husband suffering a subarachnoid hemorrhage and having to be in ICU for 10 days. Also during that time her mother was hospitalized and then sent home to receive hospice care. Rose Williams recommended the assistance to Mrs. Seitz.*

C/O Veronica Freeman, a Supporting Member at Burruss Correctional Training Center, had surgery for a right upper extremity injury on February 19, 2016. She had to wear a sling for six weeks and could not drive for one month following surgery. She had physical therapy two or three times a week during this time. We thank Officer Freeman for sending us this nice picture of her daughter, Myeasha, and herself.

C/O Charles Marcus, a Supporting Member at Jimmy Autry State Prison, went to a neurosurgeon in early February 2016 for an intracranial mass that turned out to be a malignant tumor. The mass affected his vision and motor skills. Officer Marcus underwent chemotherapy and gamma radiation treatments, involving his having to travel 60 miles one way five days a week.

Missouri

Dear Stephanie,

Thank you for your assistance and for the generous check. All of that check has helped with expenses for health coverage while out on disability. The generosity of the Foundation is gratefully appreciated. Thank you for your assistance and for your prayers.

Sincerely,

Judy Post, Sunrise Beach, MO

C/O Judy Post of Jefferson City Correctional Center was assaulted by an inmate on May 25, 2015. She was “life-flighted” to University Hospital where she spent a week in ICU. She suffered a broken nose and several fractures to her face.

To Stephanie Barone
Catastrophic Coordinator,

Please extend my sincere thanks to the CPO Foundation for the generous donation. I am very much appreciative of the work you do for everyone, including Corrections Employees. I have been with the Dept. of Corrections for 21 years. At this point I am not sure if I will be able to return to work but please know that your donation has helped me so much. I am in the process of healing and if possible and with a little luck I may return in January. When I do, I will certainly make sure that everyone knows about the CPO Foundation and how it helps everyone. Again, thank you so much for your help.

Much Appreciation

Elizabeth Sumpter, Case Manager II
Farmington Correctional Center

CCM II Elizabeth Sumpter underwent surgery to have her bladder removed and was projected to be off work from October 23, 2015 to January 4, 2016. She had been battling bladder cancer since mid 2013 and had not been responding well to treatment. CCM II Sumpter also underwent back surgery in 2014, requiring her to put treatment on hold and resulting in more cancer growth. She lost a year of work from mid July 2014 to July 2015. Katie Davits, AOSA, recommended CCM II Sumpter for assistance from the CPOF.
Hi,

Christine and I wanted to say thank you to Mike Seefeldt and to all of you for the assistance. We will use it to help pay medical bills and are very appreciative. Thank you Mike, Charleene, Codi, Rachel and CPOF.

Very respectfully,

Fred and Christine Cribbs, Hermiston, OR

Corporal Fred Cribbs is a Supporting Member at Two Rivers Correctional Institution. He was off work for a time early in the year due to issues related to an assault he suffered years ago in 2007. Also, Fred’s wife, Christine, was having medical problems and undergoing physical therapy during the same period of time. Michael Seefeldt, CPOF Representative for Eastern Oregon, recommended an assistance check for the couple, and Corporal Cribbs is pictured here with his check.

Executive Staff Support Robin Hoffman is a Supporting Member at Two Rivers CI. Robin’s husband, Greg, and son, Trevor, were in an ATV accident on February 1, 2016. Trevor was found conscious and sent to Portland for treatment; Greg was found unconscious and was hospitalized in critical condition. Sadly, Greg passed away on February 5, 2016. Robin Hoffman is pictured above with her CPOF bereavement assistance check. Also pictured is Supply Specialist II Becky Walchli.

Dear Codi,

Our family would like to express our sincere appreciation for the generous gift from the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation. It went a long way in easing the financial burden of our daughter’s passing.

Thank you very much!
Norm, Mary Solomon and Family (for our daughter, Erin Solomon)
Wilsonville, OR

ESS I Erin Solomon worked in the Diversity and Inclusion Office of the Oregon Department of Corrections. She passed away from a viral infection on December 31, 2015. Dan Weber, CPOF Representative for Western Oregon, recommended a bereavement assistance check for the Solomon family.

RN Jessamy Otteson is a Supporting Member at Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution. Jessamy’s husband, Benjamin, was involved in an extremely serious car accident on January 11, 2016. He was “life-flighted” to OHSU in Portland where he underwent three surgeries to repair fractures in his arm and two torn arteries. Benjamin was in the Trauma ICU for nine days, during which time Jessamy and the Otteson’s two children, Layla and Bodie, stayed in a nearby hotel. (Portland is about a three-and-a-half hour drive from the Otteson’s home in Pendleton.) RN Otteson, holding a CPOF assistance check, is pictured here with daughter Layla.
I had the distinct privilege of presenting Correctional Officer Joshua Zumwalt, a Supporting Member at Two Rivers Correctional Institution, and his wife, Tiffany, and daughter, Sophia, (pictured at right with their personal memorial to Max) with bereavement assistance from the CPO Foundation on May 3, 2016, following the sad passing of their infant son, Max (left).

Max was only a little over six months old. He died on April 28, 2016, following his ongoing battle with Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome, which resulted in Total Anomalous Pulmonary Veins. Max already had undergone several major heart surgeries.

Michael Seefeldt, CPOF Representative for Eastern Oregon

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**Announcing the 4th Annual CPO Foundation Charity Golf Tournament**

Where: Sun Willows Golf Course, Pasco, WA  
When: Saturday, August 20, 2016  
Cost: $300 per team

7:30 am - Registration  
8:00 am - Shotgun Start  
1:00 pm - Awards Banquet

Enjoy a program of 18 holes of golf, contests, challenges, food on the course, tee prizes, and silent auction!

**Contact:** Michael Seefeldt, CPOF  
Field Representative for Eastern Oregon  
541.701.8818 (cell)  
steelheader@charter.net

Sun Willows Golf Course is a Robert Muir Graves designed course.

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**Dear Codi,**

I truly am grateful to you, Superintendent Jeff Premo, CPOF Representative Dan Weber, and the CPOF Board of Directors, for your support, the assistance check, and your prayers for my situation. It truly is a bright spot in an otherwise grim situation to know that there are the fantastic people of this organization to lift you up when times can seem so low.

I have also received calls and words of concern and support from my fellow staff and administrators, up to and including Superintendent Jeff Premo and Director Colette Peters. The outpouring of concern and support from everyone has been no less than heartwarming and overwhelming, to say the least. Which leaves me at a loss for words to appropriately express my gratitude for it all. I am grateful beyond words, to the CPOF, my fellow staff, and administrators for all of the support sent my way.

Sincerely,

Charles Hallman, Salem, OR  
C/O Charles Hallman is a Supporting Member at Oregon State Penitentiary. Charles’ weapon accidentally discharged while he was on duty in the tower at OSP, resulting in a gunshot wound to his right leg.
Dear Stephanie Barone,

I thank you and the crew of the CPO Foundation for the financial support following Cathy’s passing. We were married for nearly 36 years. She will be very much missed. Though I received some help from work, family and friends, your donation will go towards some final bills of Cathy’s.

Cathy would be so proud of the support for our granddaughter, Veneda, and myself. I believe I feel grateful enough for all of us.

God bless you all.

Most sincerely,
D. Scott Jones, Smithfield, KY

C/O Jones works at Kentucky State Reformatory. His wife, Catherine, passed away on October 19, 2015 from organ failure. Administrative Specialist III Donna Dailey recommended assistance for C/O Jones with funeral expenses. C/O Jones is pictured at left receiving his CPOF assistance check from KSR Warden Aaron Smith. Please see, also at left, the very gracious note that Warden Smith sent to Stephanie Barone, CPOF Catastrophic Assistance Coordinator for Kentucky.

To Stephanie Barone,

I have received your letter and assistance that you sent Warden DeEdra Hart [to deliver to me] and thank you very much. The love and support I have felt at this time from my brothers and sisters of the corrections family overwhelm me and I find it hard to type a letter for the fog in my eyes. Enclosed is a photo from the memorial program of my “snuggle bear,” Jeremy Ismet Walker. The letter that you sent will be framed and enclosed in the cabinet I am building to house all of Jeremy’s trophies and certificates. He was an active and outgoing student at Bremen Elementary School, and avid in after-school sports programs and local community theatre. Jeremy’s sudden passing has devastated the local community and the counties surrounding Muhlenberg. I myself did not know how bright and shining his life light was on everyone until it was gone. It is very quiet in the house now that he is gone.

As my wife is originally from Adana, Turkey, Jeremy will be transported to Turkey and laid next to his great grandfather. Jeremy’s great grandfather was fond of Jeremy when he was a baby, and Jeremy always wanted to stay and live in Turkey whenever he visited his relatives there.

Again, from all of us here in the Walker family -- Michael, Betul, Melisa and Johnny -- thank you and the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation Board of Directors for your letter and assistance.

Michael Brian Walker, Bremen, KY

C/O Michael Walker works at Green River Correctional Complex. His son, Jeremy, was ten years old when he died suddenly on November 15, 2015 of apparent cardiac arrest. Warden DeEdra Hart recommended C/O Walker for bereavement assistance.
To: Correctional Peace Officers Foundation

Based on your slogan, “We Take Care of Our Own,” I joined the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation in February 2015 upon my initial employment with the Mississippi Department of Corrections. Never did I ever imagine that I would be posted in your magazine or receive such a blessing from such an outstanding organization. Today my heart is filled with joy and I am humbled to accept this gift of love. I am proud to be a part of such an outstanding and reputable organization. Thank you to my MDOC and CPOF Family.

C/O JaMorris Jenkins is a Supporting Member at Central Mississippi Correctional Facility. Officer Jenkins was shot in the back while sitting in his car at a stoplight. His doctors have not removed the bullet because doing so may cause more damage to his spine. As of late February 2016 Officer Jenkins had no feeling in one leg and very little in the other, and was in a wheelchair. Branch Director II Vanessa Lee, a CPOF Volunteer Representative in Mississippi, recommended assistance for Officer Jenkins; both are pictured in this photo.

Dear Ms. Barone:

I would like to apologize for being so long responding to the CPOF’s heartwarming and touching display of love for me during one of the most trying times of my life. I can assure you that it was not due to an act of negligence or unconcern on my part but I have been constantly ill and was scheduled for numerous appointments with medical specialists in various distant places within the State of Mississippi. The late First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt once said, “Those who bring sunshine into the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves.” I would like to let you know that you and all the lovely executive staff and people of the CPOF brought so much sunshine into my life. When I received your heartwarming letter and generous monetary gift, I can’t explain to you how much my spirit was lifted and how it encouraged me to remain strong and to keep pressing forward during such a difficult time. I truly thank you and the CPOF from the depths of my heart. Your kindness and thoughtfulness will always remind me that in the midst of cruel and evil people in the world, it is people like you and the members of the CPOF that assure me that love prevails over hate and goodness prevails over evil in the world. Once again, I sincerely thank you and the CPOF. I will forever treasure the touching display of love shown toward me at one of my darkest hours.

Sincerely,

Clarissa Williams, Lieutenant, Mississippi Department of Corrections

Lieutenant Williams, a Supporting Member at Mississippi State Penitentiary, was assaulted with a broom handle by an inmate on January 12, 2016. She sustained multiple injuries including wounds to her left hand that required seven stitches, a fractured nose, and injuries to her right eye and right shoulder. Warden Sonja Stanciel and CPOF Board Member Ed Barcliff recommended Lt. Williams for assistance.

Dear Ms. Barone,

I can’t express enough the profound gratitude my wife and I feel for the generous CPOF monetary gift during this difficult time of our lives. This check will assist in so many ways. I never knew the amount of money one would need immediately when a catastrophe occurs. This gift from CPOF is a Godsend. It is urgently needed and greatly appreciated.

Thank you so much for sending both this monetary support and your encouragement during our difficult time.

Ever so grateful,

Robert S. Harris, Branch Director I

Mississippi State Penitentiary, Parchman, MS

Branch Director I Harris, a Supporting Member, and his wife had to evacuate their home due to flooding from a severe rainstorm that swept through Clarksdale, MS on March 16, 2016. Warden Sonja Stanciel recommended Mr. Harris for assistance from the CPOF.
Connecticut

Memorial Dedication at MacDougall-Walker

After many months of planning, fund raising, and hard work, the Memorial to honor the fallen staff of the MacDougall-Walker Correctional Institution (MWCI) was officially unveiled on October 20, 2015.

Family, co-workers, friends and members of the department’s Executive Team gathered on a beautiful fall afternoon at a beautifully landscaped knoll halfway between the MacDougall and Walker buildings to dedicate a permanent memorial honoring the employees of the facility who have passed away.

During the 20 plus years that this facility has been in operation, there have been 22 staff members that have passed away during their employment at WMCI. The memorial was built in remembrance of them and their dedication to their duty and the citizens of our state.

“We will never lose sight of these remarkable individuals, each of whom made unique contributions to all of our lives,” said Warden Carol Chapdelaine during the dedication ceremony.

After Commissioner Scott Semple and Warden Chapdelaine unveiled the monument by removing the black shroud that covered it, the roll call of the departed was read. After each name was called out, a member of the honor guard replied, “Ma’am, absent ma’am.” - after which they laid a single rose at the base of the memorial.

Warden Chapdelaine was a driving force in the efforts to erect the memorial at MWCI. Along with her family, she even donated one of the two granite benches that are located on either side of the memorial.

This project was a year in the making with several fundraisers being held. A huge thank you goes to the following staff: Correction Officers Dana Michele, Kevin Rivenburgh, Walter Frechette, Brian Deane and Steve Prouty for their tireless efforts and utilizing their personal time from designing the memorial, gathering the donations to building the memorial.

Additional thanks to the rest of the MWCI staff who supported the many fundraisers and luncheons held throughout the year. Warden Chapdelaine also would like to thank everyone who contributed to make the beautiful memorial a reality.

-- Story originally published in the October 17 - November 24, 2015 issue of P.R.I.D.E., the Connecticut Department of Correction newsletter. Many thanks to Connecticut DOC PIO Andrius Banevicius, who wrote this article, for granting permission to reprint it and for sending the accompanying photographs.
Dear Ms. Blakley:

I am respectfully writing this letter to thank you on behalf of our family. In early November of 2015 we endured a terrible experience: we almost lost our son, Hector Nathaniel, a playful and smart 10-year-old little boy. He suffered a brain aneurysm, and was in critical condition at Yale New Haven Children Hospital.

After a month he was released to us, and is now at our home. I can only be grateful to God, and I believe that my son is a walking miracle. It is going to be a process for him to get back to his normal self, but with lots of love and support, he will get there.

We want to thank you for your generosity. The support from my Correctional family and friends has been overwhelming, and we will always be grateful for all the kindhearted people that have been there for us during this difficult time.

Sincerely,
Hamilton E. Castro, Meriden, CT

Hamilton Castro is a Lieutenant at Cheshire Correctional Institution. Hector’s brain aneurysm required emergency surgery, after which the boy was in a coma for several weeks. Hector emerged from the coma and spent considerable time in the hospital undergoing daily physical and speech therapy. Lt. Castro’s wife was at the hospital from the beginning, and Lt. Castro himself was commuting back and forth daily. The cost of commuting, parking, food, etc. caused a great hardship on the family, so that Captain Ned McCormick of the Connecticut DOC, District 1 Office, requested assistance for the family from CPOF. Lt. Castro sent us this nice photo of the family taken in October 2015.

Dear CPO Foundation,

I wanted to thank you all for all the support you have offered me the last few months. I am extremely humbled by your generosity during a very difficult time in my life. I have been a donating member to the CPO Foundation for the past several years and never fully understood what my donation was truly for till I found myself in a situation.

Three and a half years ago, I was diagnosed with a very rare disease that forever changed my life. Langerhans Cell Histiocytosis is an extremely rare disease that causes cancerous bone lesions that require chemotherapy. On top of finishing my first round of chemotherapy and radiation, two more separate bone lesions popped up, requiring two more separate rounds of chemotherapy and one round of radiation. I am happy to say that after my third round of chemotherapy, my last PET scan was CLEAR, hopefully ending my chemotherapy experiences! Again, thank you for your support. This truly is a wonderful Foundation I will gladly continue to donate to. And thank you to my brothers and sisters in blue who helped make this happen!

Sincerely,
Heather Angell, Woodbury, CT

C/O Angell is a Supporting Member at Garner C.I. C/O Steve Curran recommended her for assistance with the many extra expenses she incurred during her treatment sessions. C/O Angell is pictured here with Warden Henry Falcone.
Dear Ms. Labio:

At this time around Thanksgiving, we are all reminded of the blessings we receive every day. One of the greatest blessings is the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation and its generous gifts to correctional employees and their families.

Words do not seem enough to say how much we appreciate the Foundation’s support. It is truly a comfort to know when a need arises. The Foundation is there in our time of need.

On behalf of the Coastal Region of NC Department of Public Safety, please accept my sincere appreciation for your support and generosity of our employees.

Sincerely,
Annie Harvey, Region Director

Christina and Laura.
Thank you so much for the work that you do. The support that you provide for our staff is above and beyond. Here is the check presentation picture of Officer David Gavrinlenkowsky (we just call him Mr. G) and myself.

Thanks again,
Joe J. Solano III, Superintendent III
Hyde Correctional Institution, Swan Quarter, NC
C/O Gavrinlenkowsky’s wife, Diane, died on January 20, 2016 of liver failure at the age of 49.

Ms. Labio:

I am in receipt of the monetary assistance packet for Donald Ayers. Assistant Superintendent Valarie Wilcher-Ross and I presented Mr. Ayers with the packet on July 29, 2015 at his residence in Kinston, NC (see above photo).

I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the assistance the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation has been providing to staff and staff families in their time of need. I will continue to express to our staff the importance of supporting this worthwhile foundation.

Sincerely,
Larry Dail, Superintendent IV,
Craven Correctional Institution
C/O Donald Ayers, a Supporting Member at Craven CI, was assaulted by an inmate on June 22, 2015. He suffered injuries to his face including a severe injury to his eye that required multiple surgeries.

C/O Richard Smith, a Supporting Member at Lanesboro CI, passed away unexpectedly on November 24, 2015, possibly from a heart attack. C/O Smith was out on maternity leave with his wife, Argie. Laura Matthews, CPOF Representative for North Carolina, recommended Argie for a bereavement assistance check, and Argie sent us this composite photo that includes Da’Kernia, 18; Cre’Asia, 11; and Anz’Lee, six months.
Dear Ms. Labio:
I am writing this letter to express my sincere appreciation for the assistance the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation has been providing for staff and their families at Odom Correctional Institution in Jackson, North Carolina.
Within the last eighteen months, the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation assisted six employees or their families that were faced with various catastrophic circumstances.
I had the privilege to attend my first Project 2000 XXVI last year in Jacksonville, Florida; and I must say, words cannot express the honor and gratitude that I have for this Foundation.
I continue to express to my staff the importance of supporting this Foundation.
Sincerely,
Claudette Edwards
Superintendent III, Odom Correctional Institution

Dear Codi,
I would like to thank you for the financial assistance that I received from your organization. It is deeply appreciated. This has been a very difficult time for me, both emotionally and financially. The support of family, friends and co-workers during this time has been a tremendous help, and I feel very fortunate to work for the Department of Public Safety.
Sincerely,
Sheila Rich, Oakboro, NC
PA III Sheila Rich is employed at Brown Creek CI. Her husband, Kenneth, passed away unexpectedly on September 24, 2015.

Dear Mrs. Codi Loder,
I, Karen Manley could never put into words how thankful I am to you, Mr. Brian Wells, Mrs. Laura Matthews and all Supporting Members.
Losing my husband, John, so suddenly devastated me, and sent my life into a whirlwind. Besides dealing with the emotional side of things, like figuring out life without my other half, I was also burdened with figuring things out financially.
Your letter was so honest and heartfelt. It lifted my spirits and gave me hope when there was none. Your kind words and thoughtfulness got me through a moment, because that is how I now live -- one moment to the next -- and for that I am forever grateful.
Like angels, just when I was ready to give up, there the CPOF appeared. Gifted me a check -- someone you didn’t even know -- to lessen my burden. I can only pray that I can one day be a Godsend to someone as your Foundation has been to me. The Correctional Peace Officers Foundation will forever have my gratitude.
Sincerely,
Karen Manley, Wilmington, NC
C/O Karen Manley is employed at Pender CI. Her husband, John, passed away unexpectedly from septic shock in late September 2015.
Plumbing Foreman David Sweat is a Supporting Member at FCI Bastrop in Texas. His wife, Kim, has been diagnosed with breast cancer. She underwent chemotherapy treatments at M.D. Anderson Medical Center in Houston for several months. The CPOF assisted the Sweat family with the many extra expenses they incurred during this time. Pictured above are David, Kim and their two children, Macy and Levi.

Counselor Tammy Banks, a Supporting Member at FCC Forrest City in Arkansas, was diagnosed with breast cancer in January 2016. Her first treatment program involved traveling five days a week (a 175-mile round trip) for six and a half weeks to a medical facility. Counselor Banks is pictured at right with Annie Norman, CPOF Representative in Arkansas, and Warden C.V. Rivera.

Also at FCC Forrest City, Supporting Member C/O Terry Lovell and his family suffered extensive damage to their home and property after a tornado strike. Pictured at right are Annie Norman, Lieutenant Alfred Watson, C/O Lovell and William Vance of AFGE Local 0922.

Annie Norman has been volunteering for CPOF for over 10 years. She has referred and personally delivered assistance packets to over 100 FCC Forrest City staff in need. In addition, thanks to her love for helping others and CPOF she has helped increase the membership not only at her home institution but at several others. Thank you, Annie, for all your love and support!

Dear Ms. Blakely,

I want to sincerely thank you for the check and information I received. When I found out a while back about this program I immediately signed up, never dreaming that one day I would need it. I thought I would be helping other families. However, last Thursday I got a call no parent should get. I received news that someone had run a red light while texting and hit my son, Christopher. He passed away as soon as his car was struck.

Christopher [pictured below left] was a high school senior honor student who would leave high school half a day to take college classes. He had already signed up with the Air Force and as soon as he graduated high school was going to be sent to boot camp. He was so excited about serving his country. He had his future planned out. He was leaving college when the accident happened.

The packet I got from you means a lot. As soon as I get back to work I will be contributing more than I do now plus I will be more involved in getting others to join. Thank you so much. I love the poem. I don’t understand why my son was taken from me at the age of 17. He was the only child I had and I feel like everything was taken from me. God Bless You and all you do for everyone.

Angela Hubbard, Senior Officer, USP McCreary, Pine Knot, Kentucky

Senior Officer Hubbard is a Supporting Member. Christopher’s father, Cook Supervisor Glenn Hubbard, is employed at FCI Manchester in Kentucky.
Dear Kim,

This year (2015) has been very hard on my family and me. We started off on January 25, 2015 with Rocky having a massive heart attack and not knowing if he would make it or not. He was in the ICU for seven days, not even awake or speaking. Doctors keep telling me it was a waiting game and that we just had to see from day to day if he was going to be able to breathe on his own. Every day I was at the hospital at 6 am waiting for visiting hours to begin, and left there every evening after the last visiting hour was over. I never left that hospital during the day -- I just knew he was going to wake up and I was going to be there. Well, on Day Eight it was like all other days. I got to the hospital around 6 am and had been in the waiting room for about an hour when at 7 am the nurse came into the waiting room and hollered, “Patterson Family!” I jumped up and she told me Rocky was awake. I was so excited! I went to his room and he was sitting up in the bed. I just could not believe my eyes. He was awake and trying to talk. With my family’s faith in God and prayers from all my friends, the prayers were answered.

On October 20, 2015 Rocky went through another minor surgery to fix his heart problems but, unfortunately, on November 3, 2015 the Lord called him home. When it happened, Rocky was at work at his desk, just where he loved to be. Rocky loved his job as Trust Fund Supervisor. The Lord gave me eight more months with him and we made the best out of it. During that time Rocky and I went on several vacations and he had a blast.

I want to thank CPOF and you, Kim, for all the phone calls and the assistance check that we received for his hospital bills and assistance for my family during this hard time. It was such a blessing knowing I had a group like CPOF there for me. When I was at the funeral home making the arrangements they asked me if Rocky had been part of any organization that I would like to list. I said, yes, that he was a big part and believer in the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation. I asked them to put please make donations to the CPO Foundation in his memory.

In July my mother was diagnosed with breast cancer. My mother and I would like you to know how much we appreciated the check from CPOF. My mother’s journey has just begun and the assistance will help with the travel expenses we will have.

Thanks so much,

Angie Patterson
Health Information Technician
FCI Texarkana, Texas

*Angela has been the CPOF liaison at FCI Texarkana since 2003. She is a Supporting Member, as was Rocky.*

Here is a picture of the catastrophic assistance check presentation I made to Senior Officer Specialist Larry Sherrod, a Supporting Member at FCI Edgefield. Larry’s son, Thearrin, has been battling end stage renal disease and recently underwent a kidney transplant. Thearrin is not married and lives alone.

Once the transplant took place Larry had to travel to Charleston, NC (180 miles each way) to be there to help care for his son. He will be assisting with the aftercare while his son recovers from surgery.

--- Laura Phillips

continued next page
Federal News

C/O Kandyce Richard is a Supporting Member at FCC Oakdale in Louisiana. In the fall of 2015 she had an accident at work in which she injured her hand, breaking it in several places. She had surgery in October, after which she underwent a thrice-weekly physical therapy program requiring travel to a facility in Lake Charles. Officer Richard was off work for approximately three months. She received a CPOF assistance check to help with extra expenses, and is pictured here with HVAC Supervisor David Woodham, who recommended the assistance, and C/O Ronald Morris, AFGE Local 1007 President. Supervisor Woodham noted to Kim Blakley in an email, “We appreciate the help here at Oakdale.”

Senior Officer Dennie Still is a Supporting Member at FCI El Reno in Oklahoma. Dennie’s son, Gunnar, was born prematurely in early December 2015 and spent eight days in the NICU. The family incurred extensive out-of-pocket medical/travel expenses during Gunnar’s hospitalization. Officer Stills sent us these two cute photos of Gunnar, taken (as his shirt says) at his first Christmas.

To the CPOF Family,

Thank you for the monetary support with the passing of my wife, best friend and riding partner, Dana Mullens. Dana and I knew each other for over 15 years. When both of us became single, I started “chasing” her. It took me six years to finally “get” her! We began dating in June of 2015, got married on September 4, 2015, and then she passed away in her sleep on October 21, 2015.

Dana had heart and lung problems that couldn’t be repaired. At least God gave her to me for four months. We loved riding the Harley all over Oklahoma and Texas. This picture was taken in August 2015 as part of our engagement photos. Once again, thanks to the CPOF Family, my family and friends.

Respectfully,

Floyd Mullens, Sr., El Reno, OK

Maintenance Worker Supervisor Floyd Mullens is a Supporting Member at FCI El Reno in Oklahoma. He received a bereavement assistance check following Dana’s death.

In September of 2015, C/O Justin Nettles of FCI Estill in South Carolina died in a “4-wheeler” accident. Senior Office Specialist Louis Davis recommended a bereavement assistance check for Mrs. Nettles, pictured here with daughter, Raegan; CPOF Federal Representative Laura Phillips (far right); and Justin’s mother, Sherri.

This photo is of Senior Officer Specialist Michael Randolph of FCI Edgefield with his catastrophic assistance check. Specialist Randolph, a Supporting Member, was off work for several months being treated for blood clots in his lungs and left leg. With him is his three-year-old daughter, Isabella.
C/O Paul Chirico, a Supporting Member at the Rhode Island DOC Intake Service Center, was diagnosed with cancer in August 2015 and was in the hospital for almost a month in New Haven, Connecticut. After his release, Paul was traveling regularly from Cranston, RI to New Haven (100 miles one way) to receive treatments. He has been off work since August 24, 2015 and does not have an expected RTW date. On February 19, 2016, CPOF Rhode Island Representative Manny Leander reported that Paul’s recent medical scans showed the cancer had spread, and that he is continuing to travel to New Haven for treatments every week. Manny (on the right) is pictured here giving Paul an assistance check.

C/O Kenneth Watkinson, Jr., a Supporting Member at the Intake Service Center, was off duty on November 13, 2015. He went diving, and at some point a diver distress call was made. Officer Watkinson was pulled from the water but sadly did not survive. The CPOF provided bereavement assistance to the Watkinson family. Kenneth had been a member of the RIBCO bagpipe team.

Photos at right: Officer Watkinson’s burial.

C/O Bruce Hibbard was a Supporting Member at Maximum Security Facility. On October 20, 2015 Bruce was suffering from disorientation and taken to the hospital. It was found that he had a grapefruit-sized tumor in his brain. He underwent surgery at a hospital in Boston, Massachusetts on October 28, and was diagnosed with Glioblastoma. Despite having occupational and physical therapy, and chemotherapy and radiation treatments, Bruce lost his battle with this brain cancer and passed away on February 15, 2016. The middle photo above is of Bruce (center) with the assistance check he received in November 2015. With him are Captain Jeff Aceto and C/O Shawn Largy. The other two photos are of Officer Hibbard’s funeral service and burial. The CPOF provided the Hibbard family with bereavement assistance.

Dear Kim and the CPOF Board, I would like to say ‘thank you’ for reaching out to me and for the assistance during this difficult time. A special thanks to Manny Leander, our Rhode Island CPOF Rep, for his involvement with CPOF on my behalf and to those in the RIBCO office for their help and support.

Sincerely,
Paul Chirico
Dear Correctional Peace Officers Foundation,

I, Officer Bruce Denson, and family, would like to say thank you for your support during this difficult period of our lives. With your help we are one step closer to accomplishing our goal of just maintaining life. This year has been very demanding and has called for considerable efforts just to pay our bills and keep food on the table. So when we say thank you, we really mean it from the bottom of our hearts for the added peace of mind.

Sincerely yours,

Bruce Denson, Madison, FL

C/O Bruce Denson is a Supporting Member at Jefferson CI. Bruce's wife, Roshanda, was diagnosed with cancer in late 2014 and was unable to work for six months. The Densons incurred many expenses that created hardship for the family throughout most of 2015. Warden Chris Hodgson made the recommendation for assistance from the CPOF.

To: Stephanie Barone

On July 23, 2015 my wife, Melissa, lost her 2-½ year battle with ovarian cancer. She was first diagnosed while pregnant with our second child. During the course of her battle she endured numerous surgeries and chemotherapy, yet not once did her strength or faith waver. Throughout it all she maintained a positive attitude until the very end.

I will be forever grateful for the support and compassion the CPOF has provided to my family. It showed me that no matter what life throws at you there are still people out in the world that still believe in helping others. It is because of this that I am proud to be a member of such a great organization and I would strongly encourage others to join this organization as well.

With extreme gratitude,

Captain Kenneth Goins, Lee, FL

Captain Kenneth Goins is a Supporting Member at Madison CI. Warden Jim Freeman made the request for bereavement assistance.

In February 2016 Sergeant Larry Lindsey, a Supporting Member at Hamilton CI, lost his home and all possessions in a house fire. He is pictured here (second from right) receiving a CPOF assistance check. With Sergeant Lindsey are AWO Paul Kish, Colonel Scott Stewart and Major Paul Allen.

Sergeant Darlene Robinson-Arnold, a Supporting Member at Sumter CI, had to have a life-saving surgery in February 2016. Her insurance did not cover the full cost of the surgery and required Sergeant Robinson-Arnold's portion in advance. At the request of Sergeant Mary Schoenauer, the CPOF provided a check to help with this monetary need. Pictured left to right are Assistant Warden Lloyd Burke, Major Michael Pabis, Sergeant Robinson-Arnold, Sergeant Schoenauer and Darlene's husband, Sergeant Benjamin Arnold.

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I will be forever grateful for the support and compassion the CPOF has provided to my family. It showed me that no matter what life throws at you there are still people out in the world that still believe in helping others. It is because of this that I am proud to be a member of such a great organization and I would strongly encourage others to join this organization as well.

With extreme gratitude,

Captain Kenneth Goins, Lee, FL

Captain Kenneth Goins is a Supporting Member at Madison CI. Warden Jim Freeman made the request for bereavement assistance.
On August 3, 2015 Officer Harold Watkins of the Pima County Sheriff’s Office suffered a massive stroke. He was transferred to a rehabilitation center. At the recommendation of Richard Loud and Lieutenant/Programs Coordinator Mark Boyle, Officer Watkins received assistance from the CPOF. Pictured left to right are: CPOF Arizona Representative Liz Shaffer Smith, Mrs. Watkins, Officer Watkins (in the wheelchair) and Pima County Chief India Davis.

In 2015 Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office Detention Officer Frances Kane was diagnosed with cancer (possibly Stage IV). As of mid December the cancer had spread to her bones, resulting in her hips fracturing. Detention Officer John Pilling recommended assistance from the CPOF for Officer Kane, who is pictured at right with Lieutenant Wierschem and Captain Harmon.

Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office Detention Officer Kyle McKinney was off work and on leave without pay for a considerable time due to a severe spinal injury in September 2015. Sergeant James Sawyer recommended Officer McKinney for assistance from the CPOF.

Detention Officer Lisa Gardner suffered complications with her kidneys following a surgical procedure that required an extended stay in the hospital. As of early April 2016 her kidneys were functioning at 30% and it was unknown when she would return to work. As she was experiencing financial hardship due to the unplanned hospital stay as well as the surgery, she received a CPOF assistance check. Officer Gardner is pictured at right with Sergeant Deana Lopez.

C/O Mark Fernandez of ASPC Florence was off work for a considerable time due to hernia surgeries on September 23, 2015 and December 10, 2015. He and his family were living with his quadriplegic brother who has many medical issues. Mark was the sole income provider and getting only a partial paycheck during this time. Acknowledging his assistance check, Mark wrote, “Thank you, Kim and CPOF. You brought me to tears. This is a big blessing,” and sent this family photo taken at a mall in Ciudad Juarez in Mexico.

Administrative Assistant Karen Gustafson of the Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office suffered a severe foot injury that caused the foot to swell and become discolored. She underwent surgery to fix a fractured bone that was healing the wrong way. As of late March 2016 she had exhausted all of her time due to a previous illness and fell into “leave without pay” status. Detention Officer John Pilling recommended assistance for AA Gustafson, who is pictured above with Lieutenant Jen McGlone and Captain Irene Barron–Irby.
Dear Mr. Loud,

Thank you for visiting with me on February 3, 2016 and sharing some information on the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation.

The concern and assistance your organization provides to correctional employees across the nation is commendable. The Oklahoma Department of Corrections is grateful for the assistance provided to our employees and I look forward to working with you in the future.

If I can ever be of service, please contact me.

Very Respectfully,

Joe M. Allbaugh, Director, Oklahoma DOC

Thank you so much, Director Allbaugh, for your very gracious letter to Richard Loud. The CPOF greatly appreciates your strong support and offer of assistance in our efforts to help as many Corrections professionals in need as we possibly can.

CMA II Dale Courson is employed at Bill Johnson Correctional Center. His daughter, Megan, suffered from kidney failure and, sadly, passed away on February 17, 2016. Warden Janice Melton, a Supporting Member, recommended bereavement assistance for CMA Courson, who is pictured here receiving his CPOF check.

To the CPOF,

Thank you so much for the financial gift. It was an unexpected blessing that is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Kevin Stanley and Family, Boley, OK

Mr. Stanley is a Maintenance Technician at John Lilley Correctional Center. He was in a serious car accident on October 18, 2015, in which he broke several bones from ribs to ankles. He also suffered memory loss and was hospitalized for over a month. At the recommendation of Lieutenant Velvin Thomas, Mr. Stanley received a CPOF check to help with his many mounting expenses. Mr. Stanley had only returned to work on August 1, 2015 after having been out for seven months battling cancer.

To the CPO Foundation:

We want to thank you so very much for your support and wonderful letter. We have come to understand just how blessed we are throughout this journey! Thank you again!

Ed and Shannon Mayfield, Fairview, OK

Warden’s Assistant Charles Mayfield is a Supporting Member at James Crabtree Correctional Center. In the fall of 2015, Mr. Mayfield suffered a broken foot that required surgery. After the surgery the foot became infected and the infection spread throughout his body. The doctors had to amputate the foot as well as part of his leg. During all of this, his wife, Shannon, had to have gall bladder surgery. Warden Jason Bryant recommended assistance to the Mayfields, and we thank Charles for his kind and upbeat note.

CSO III Carl Sager is a Supporting Member at Oklahoma State Penitentiary. In the fall of 2015, Corporal Sager was undergoing treatments for cancer, regularly traveling two hours from his home to Oklahoma City. He was also taking chemotherapy pills. His treatments continued for the next several months, during which time he incurred considerable out of pocket costs. Warden Anita Trammell and Administrative Assistant Debbie Moore recommended assistance for Corporal Sager, who is pictured here with his wife, Sarah, and their children, Jenna and Tristan. As of May 2016, Corporal Sager was continuing to undergo treatments.

Here is a picture of Lt. James Nall, a Supporting Member, receiving his CPOF check from Warden Jason Bryant and Deputy Warden Casey Hamilton. Thank you again for all you have done for us at James Crabtree Correctional Center. Charles Mayfield, Warden’s Assistant

46 Lt. Nall and his family lost everything in a house fire.
Dear Ms. Labio,

My name is Melanie Johnson and I am an employee of the South Carolina Department of Corrections. In October I was one of the victims of the flood in South Carolina and my family and I lost almost everything we owned. However, because of people like you and your organization, the Correctional Peace Foundation, Inc. we have been able to start putting our lives back together. ...

In this season of giving I had to stop and thank you and your organization for your gift and to tell you what a blessing it was to my family.

May God continue to bless you. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Melanie Johnson

Human Services Coordinator

Melanie Johnson and her family suffered extensive damages to their home and lost most of their possessions due to the flooding that occurred in their area in October 2015.

Sergeant II Michael Robertson, a Supporting Member at Tyger River Correctional Institution, was referred for assistance by Gary Evans, CPOF Representative in South Carolina. Both of Michael’s children, Kaitlyn and Jacob, have serious illnesses and have undergone extensive surgeries that have caused an extreme financial hardship for the family. Pictured above: Kaitlyn and Jacob Robertson.

Dear Correctional Peace Officers Foundation,

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation for the gift of financial support. I was very grateful for the support from my family at the South Carolina Department of Corrections, and especially my colleagues at Lieber Correctional Institution. Your assistance helped make a difficult time in my life a little more manageable.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Wathen, RN
Head Nurse, Lieber Correctional Institution, Medical, Ridgeville, SC

Head Nurse Kirsten Wathen, a Supporting Member, had colitis that resulted in her having a colonectomy.

Program Director Audrey Leigh, a Supporting Member at Kirkland Reception and Evaluation Center, had surgery on September 22, 2015. She was off work recovering for a little over a month.

C/O Trina Jones, a Supporting Member at Camille Griffin Graham CI, received a CPOF assistance check after her home suffered damage from flooding in the area in January 2016.

Sergeant Ronnie Mack is a Supporting Member at Evans CI. In early February 2016 he and his family lost everything in an electrical fire that burned their house to the ground. Warden Willie Eagleton recommended assistance for Sgt. Mack to help with immediate needs following the fire.

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Arkansas

This is Annie Norman and I am the new CPOF Representative for the great state of Arkansas. I recently retired from the Federal Correctional Complex Forrest City, and when Char called and asked if I wanted to help CPOF in Arkansas, as a native Arkansan I couldn’t say no.

To Arkansas Correctional staff, I look forward to seeing you all as I tour the state. I firmly believe in the CPOF’s motto,

“Taking Care of our Own.”

Note: In the picture at right I am second from the left.

Ms. Blakley,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and CPO Foundation for the ever-so-generous donation. It could not have come at a better time. It helped to relieve some of the stress of my wonderful, caring wife, and provided very much needed assistance in traveling expenses and other necessities.

I have a long road to travel. This is a very life changing experience for both of us. Belonging to such a generous organization that is so caring makes me proud to be a member of the CPOF. Keep up the wonderful things that the Foundation does for Officers in need. You have no idea what a heaven-sent blessing you and the Foundation are for Officers and their families.

Once again, I would like to thank you and the CPO for being there for my wife and me in a time of dire need. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Sincerely,

Rodger and Kimberley Wadlow
Arkadelphia, AR

Administrative Analyst Rodger Wadkow, as noted, is a Supporting Member at Omega Technical Violator Center. He had been suffering from a serious illness that resulted in his leg having to be amputated below the knee. He was off work starting February 5, 2016 and as of mid April it was still unknown when or if he would be able to return to work. Rodger’s daily follow up physical therapy is in Little Rock, a 68-mile trip each way.

Recreational Supervisor Trawanda Wright of the East Arkansas Regional Unit lost everything in a house fire. Her two children and her mother live with her. HR Assistant Kimyata Randall recommended assistance for Ms. Wright, and she is pictured above receiving her CPOF check from Deputy Warden Joe Page. Also pictured are Major Jeffry Deen, CPOF Representative Annie Norman, Kimyata Randall and HR Manager Raja Rogers.

To: Kim Blakley,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and the CPO Foundation for thinking of our family during the holidays. We are forever grateful for your act of kindness.

It could not have come at a better time. You all most definitely put a smile on our faces.

Rebuilding has not been easy but with the help of people like you all and God on our side we’re definitely going to make it!

Thank so much,

Tracie Elliott & Family, Altheimer, AR

Corporal Tracie Elliott is a Supporting Member at the Maximum Security Unit. Tracie and her family lost their home in a fire in November 2015. Jada Lawrence, Executive Assistant to the Director of the Arkansas DOC, referred Corporal Elliott for assistance.
Illinois

Illinois State Employees Combined Appeal
CPOF code number: 911-0543
For those of you supporting CPOF through SECA – thank you. If you would like a few extra magazines to share with your co-workers, email: Alyssa@cpof.org.
If the campaign runs like last year, it will be approximately 9/19/16 through 11/18/16. Please check the SECA booklet if available and check to make sure the above code number for CPOF is correct.

Codi,
Thank you so much for the check. We appreciate it very much! I started back to work yesterday, November 12, 2015 and it will help a bunch until my pay gets back on track. I’m finished with chemo and hopefully will only need checkups every three months for life to keep the leukemia in remission.
Thanks again and God bless you!
Douglas Fisher and Family, Grantsburg, IL
C/O Douglas Fisher of Vienna Correctional Center in Vienna, Illinois was diagnosed with APL leukemia on January 2, 2015. He was hospitalized at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee where he stayed for a month. Officer Fisher then underwent chemotherapy daily for the next eight months. We are very happy to learn from his upbeat letter that he was able to return to work about two months earlier than predicted.

Kentucky continued from page 34

Sergeant Loren “Luke” Lewis is employed at Little Sandy Correctional Complex in Sandy Hook, Kentucky. He was diagnosed with liver cancer in the early spring of 2015 and underwent treatments at Midwestern Region Medical Center in Zion, Illinois (approx. 526 miles one way from his home). HR Specialist Brandi Vogel recommended Sergeant Lewis for assistance with his extra expenses, and he is pictured here receiving his CPOF check from Sergeant Josh Jarvis and Little Sandy CC Deputy Warden Danny McGraw.

JJS James Hill is a Supporting Member at IYC Harrisburg. He had open-heart surgery in mid December 2015, and was off work for two and a half months recovering. JJS Hill is pictured above with his CPOF assistance check. At left is Assistant Superintendent of Operations Don Rumsey and at right is Business Administrator Krista Hasty, the CPOF’s contact at IYC Harrisburg.

JJS Roy Turner is another Supporting Member at IYC Harrisburg. Roy’s house suffered severe damages in a fire on January 12, 2016. Roy is pictured above with his CPOF assistance check, flanked by Superintendent William Peyton at left and Business Administrator Krista Hasty.

Douglas Fisher and Family, Grantsburg, IL
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Illinois State Employees Combined Appeal
CPOF code number: 911-0543
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If the campaign runs like last year, it will be approximately 9/19/16 through 11/18/16. Please check the SECA booklet if available and check to make sure the above code number for CPOF is correct.

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JJS Roy Turner is another Supporting Member at IYC Harrisburg. Roy’s house suffered severe damages in a fire on January 12, 2016. Roy is pictured above with his CPOF assistance check, flanked by Superintendent William Peyton at left and Business Administrator Krista Hasty.
In the photo at left, Lieutenant Ronald Carter of St. Clair Correctional Facility is receiving a Catastrophic Assistance check from the CPOF’s Alabama Representative Carolyn Kelley. Lt. Carter was beaten and stabbed by more than 30 inmates on April 17, 2015. He was hospitalized for five days and was off work for many months. He has problems with his left eye, his liver and left shoulder.

Above right: C/O Gregory Michael of Limestone Correctional Facility was referred for assistance by Administrative Assistant Tracie Runions. Gregory’s wife, Brittany, had twin sons on December 3, 2015. Very sadly, baby Noah passed away at birth and baby Jackson passed away three days later.

On November 16, 2015 C/O Michael Koeneman of Palmer Correctional Center passed away due to a heart attack while on duty. In this photo, CPOF Alaska Representative Ned Entwisle presents a bereavement assistance check to Michael’s widow, Kathleen. Besides Kathleen, Michael leaves three children: Erik, John and Margaret.

C/O Teresa Pace (center) of Idaho Correctional Institution Orofino received a CPOF bereavement assistance check following the sudden death of her husband, Tim, on December 28, 2015. With Officer Pace are Warden Terema Carlin and Sergeant Kristi Lynch.

Probation/Parole Officer III Shawn Simmons of the Iowa DOC Probation and Parole 6th Judicial District was doing field work on September 15, 2015 when he had a medical episode (most likely a heart attack). He lost control of the vehicle he was operating and ended up in a ditch. PPO III was “life-flighted” from the scene and, sadly, was pronounced dead at St. Luke’s Hospital. Administrative Assistant Angela Brubaker recommended bereavement assistance for Shawn’s widow, Patricia, who is pictured at left with AA Brubaker.
Louisiana

To: The CPO Foundation  
I would like to personally thank the Foundation for assisting the family of Bridge City Center for Youth Juvenile Justice Specialist Myesha Webb in the tragic loss of Myesha. I, Otisstein Franklin, personally presented the CPOF check to Ms. Carolyn Webb, mother of JJS Webb, on December 29, 2015. With Ms. Webb was Myesha’s oldest son, D’Harius Webb, who celebrated his birthday on that same day.
JJS Otisstein Franklin  
CPOF Volunteer, Swanson Center for Youth  
Monroe, LA

JJS Myesha Webb died at the age of 31 of undetermined causes.

Montana

Dear Lisa Hunter,
On behalf of Dawson County Correction Facility, I would like to thank you for your help with the request of assistance for the family of the late Corporal Lee Marquart. Dawson County Correction Facility greatly appreciates the efforts of individuals, like yourself, for taking the time to share information about important organizations such as the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation, Inc.
Sincerely,
Tom Green, Warden
Dawson County Correction Facility

Ms. Hunter is the Professional Development Bureau Chief of the Montana Department of Corrections.
Corporal Lee Marquart was employed at Dawson County CF. He passed away unexpectedly in his sleep in late June 2015, and Ms. Hunter requested bereavement assistance from the CPOF for his widow, Jacquie.

Nevada

Dear Kim,
Thank you again for the generous check and the kind words. You have truly touched my heart. I just wanted to let you know how much I appreciated your kindness. Please thank Nickey Brooks and Tania Arguello for me, too. It has been such a hard, sad road. I miss my husband every day. Life will never be the same without him.
Thank you so much.
Patty Wiley, Dayton, NV

Patty is the widow of Lieutenant Jeffrey Wiley, formerly a Supporting Member at Northern Nevada Correctional Center. Jeffrey had been battling cancer for some time and we are sad to report that he passed away on December 11, 2015.

New Jersey

C/O Timothy Stewart is a Supporting Member at the Essex County Department of Public Safety. On September 3, 2015 he had spinal surgery to relieve pressure on his arm that resulted from an accidental fall in his home late last summer. He was off work for six months. The CPOF provided Officer Stewart with assistance with his medically-related expenses.

continued next page
Letters and Photos from States “All Over”

New Jersey (cont.)

SCO Greg Dubois is a Supporting Member at South Woods State Prison. While transporting inmates on January 21, 2016 Greg was involved in a car accident. He suffered serious injuries and was hospitalized at the AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center in Atlantic City. He received an assistance check to help him and his family while he was off work recovering. SCO Dubois is pictured here with his wife, Stephanie, and their sons, Tyler, Mason and Lincoln.

To the CPOF:
My name is Anderia Williams. I work at Bland Correctional Center. I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your generous gift. Words cannot express how much it meant to me.

Thank you so very much.
Anderia Williams, Bland, VA

Ms. Williams is a part-time secretary to the Chief of Security at Bland CC and had surgery on November 17, 2015. She was referred by Charles Bryant, Recreation Supervisor, for assistance during her recovery.

Washington

C/O Mark Shodahl of Airway Heights Corrections Center received an assistance check after he and his family were displaced from their home when a pine tree fell through it. He (and the family dogs) are pictured here with Officer Shodahl’s wife, Alison, and (right) CPOF Washington Representative Bridgett Bolinger, who recommended the assistance.
West Virginia

YOUR CURRENT ADDRESS: DO WE HAVE IT??

Was this magazine forwarded to you? Or, even though you’re a Supporting Member, does the copy you’re reading belong to a friend because you didn’t get your own in the mail? If you answered yes to either question, it means we don’t have your current and correct address! PLEASE email Alyssa Franchini -- alyssa@cpof.org -- at the CPOF’s Sacramento headquarters and give her your current address.

If you are planning to move and know what your new address will be, likewise email Alyssa with the new information. This applies even if all you’re doing is moving to a new unit in your apartment building.

THANK YOU for keeping us up to date on your current whereabouts, so that we can keep you up to date with the CPO Family and other CPO Foundation mailings.

Privatization Policy: It is the policy of the CPO Foundation that we do not recognize privatization in the field of Corrections. The CPO Foundation adheres to the policies of the Federal Government’s Department of Justice. These policies recognize only law enforcement officers within the public sector.

NOTE: The CPO Foundation is not a political action group or committee of any kind, nor is it affiliated with any political action group or committee of any kind, nor is it involved in any collective bargaining issues with any employee groups, associations and/or administrations whatsoever.

Letters and Photos from States “All Over”

Mr. Wagoner,

Thank you so much for all your support during this difficult time. We appreciate the monetary support to help pay for expenses. Thank You!

Alan, Melanie, Aidan and Adam Davis, Pennsboro, WV

C/O Andrew Davis of North Central Regional Jail was killed in an auto accident on September 27, 2015. He was only 20 years old. His mother, Melanie Davis, received a bereavement assistance check at the request of West Virginia Representative Ray Wagoner.

C/O II Nathan Roberts of Tygarts Regional Jail responded to an Officer Assist call and fell, landing on his right elbow and shattering it into seven pieces. He underwent emergency surgery to repair the multiple fractures. Officer Roberts is pictured above (second from right) receiving a CPOF check from Administrator S. Villers. Also pictured are Captain M. Smith and Ms. A. Currance of the HR Department.

Stephanie,

I would like to thank you and the CPOF Board. OA II Teresa Davis was placed in financial constraints due to her illness and hospital stay, and you all went “beyond the call” with the quick response to her cry for help. I feel that this assistance will lessen the stress level she was placed in by worrying about how she was going to meet her living expenses without a paycheck coming in. This is why I believe in the CPOF Foundation’s motto, “TAKING CARE OF OUR OWN.” Again, thank you so much.

Sincerely,

Sarah Swearingen, ACA Accreditation Project Manager
Martinsburg Correctional Center

OA II Teresa Davis of Martinsburg CC was off work starting April 18, 2016 and admitted to the hospital a week later due to breathing problems. She had tests to determine if she had a blockage preventing sufficient oxygen from reaching her brain. As of early May 2016 OA II Davis was on LWOP status.

C/O II Teresa Davis of Martinsburg CC was off work starting April 18, 2016 and admitted to the hospital a week later due to breathing problems. She had tests to determine if she had a blockage preventing sufficient oxygen from reaching her brain. As of early May 2016 OA II Davis was on LWOP status.
LIFETIME SPONSORS
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.

Lifetime Corporate/Organization Sponsors

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• Fraternal Order of Police Labor Committee, Department of Correction, Washington, D.C.
  • Global Tel*Link
• Benton Unit, Benton, AR
• Grimes Unit, Newport, AR
• Cummins Unit, Grady, AR
• Tucker Unit, Tucker, AR
• Mule Creek State Prison, Ione, CA
• Wasco State Prison, Wasco, CA
• Heman G. Stark School (YTS), Chino, CA
• Central California Women’s Facility, Chowchilla, CA
• California Medical Facility, Vacaville, CA
• California Rehabilitation Center, Norco, CA
• Calipatria State Prison, Calipatria, CA
• 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
• Baker Correctional Institution, Sanderson, FL
• Hamilton Correctional Institution, Jasper, FL
• Columbia Correctional Institution, Lake City, FL
  • Mississippi State Penitentiary, MS
  • Attica Correctional Facility, NY
• Livingston Correctional Facility, NY
• Chillicothe Correctional Institution, OH
• Snake River Correctional Institution, Ontario, OR
• Coffee Creek Correctional Facility, OR
• Oregon State Penitentiary, OR
• Two Rivers Correctional Institution, OR
• Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution, OR
• Powder River Correctional Institution, OR

To find out how to become a Lifetime Sponsor, visit our website: cpof.org
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**Lifetime Sponsors from Correctional Facilities (cont.)**
- Oregon State Correctional Institution, OR
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  - Philadelphia Prison System, PA
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- Beta I Unit
- Boyd Unit
- Briscoe Unit
- Byrd Unit
- Choice Moore Transfer Facility
  - Clemens Unit
  - Clements Unit
  - Coffield Unit
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  - Connally Unit
  - Dalhart Unit
  - Daniel Unit
  - Darrington Unit
- Dominguez State Jail
- Duncan Unit
- Eastham Unit
- Ellis I Unit
- Estelle Unit
- Ferguson Unit
- Formby State Jail
- Garza East Transfer Facility
- Garza West Transfer Facility
  - Gist State Jail
- Glossbrenner SAFPF
- Goodman Transfer Facility
- Goree Unit
- Gurney Transfer Facility
  - Halbert Unit
  - Havins Unit
- Hightower Unit
- Hilltop Unit
- Hobby Unit
- Holliday Transfer Facility
  - Hughes Unit
- Huntsville IPO
- Huntsville Pardon & Parole Office
  - Huntsville Unit
  - Hutchins State Jail
  - Jester I SAFPF
  - Jester III Unit
  - Johnston SAFPF
- Laundry & Food Service Division
  - Lewis Unit
  - Lopez State Jail
  - Luther Unit
  - Lychner State Jail
  - McConnell Unit
  - Michael Unit
- Middleton Transfer Facility
- Montford Psychiatric Unit
- Mountain View Unit
  - Murray Unit
  - Neal Unit
  - Pack Unit
- Plane State Jail
- Polunsky Unit
- Powledge Unit
- Ramsey Unit
- Region I Director’s Office
- Region II Director’s Office
- Roach Unit
- Robertson Unit
- Rudd Transfer Facility
- Sanchez State Jail
  - Sayle SAFPF
  - Segovia Unit
  - Smith Unit
  - Stevenson Unit
  - Stiles Unit
  - Stringfellow Unit
- TDCJ Correctional Training
- TDCJ Department of Classification and Records Staff Development
  - Telford Unit
  - Terrell Unit
  - Torres Unit
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**Lifetime Individual Sponsors**
- Mrs. Lucile G. Plane
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  - In honor of SSG Jason A. Reeves
  - Mr. Eric Spierer
- Mr. Dan M. Reynolds and Family
- John and Carey Mendiboure
- Ms. Pamela Omelson

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**Important Information regarding Lifetime Facility Sponsors:**

A Correctional Facility desiring to be a Lifetime Sponsor of the CPO Foundation is to raise the $5000 required by **holding fundraising events on its own**, i.e., events are to be organized and conducted by Staff of the Facility itself and not by outside entities that are not affiliated with the Facility.

A Lifetime Facility Sponsorship **does not equal or replace Supporting Membership** in the CPO Foundation by an individual Correctional Officer or Corrections Professional employed at the Facility in question.
This is Glenn Mueller, Chairman of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation (CPOF). Although I worked at both California Medical Facility and Mule Creek State Prison, I spent the majority of my career at Folsom State Prison, retiring from the California Department of Corrections in January of 2000 after 31 years of state service.

As I proofed and read this magazine I recalled the hundreds, if not thousands, of assaults that have been made on staff and, yes, I remember what took place at San Quentin and Attica in 1971. And in 1993 the CPOF Board of Directors traveled to Ohio after the Lucasville riot and visited all the survivors and their families.

We always hope and pray that another hostage-taking incident or riot won’t take place but the cover story says it all. Riots and hostage situations do continue to happen.

For anyone who works at a prison the absolute worst case scenario is inmates starting a riot. When a facility is filled to the brim with violent criminals, it’s scary to think about them banding together to wreak havoc. With that said, once you walk through the gates always be alert and never let your guard down.