
CPO FAMILY

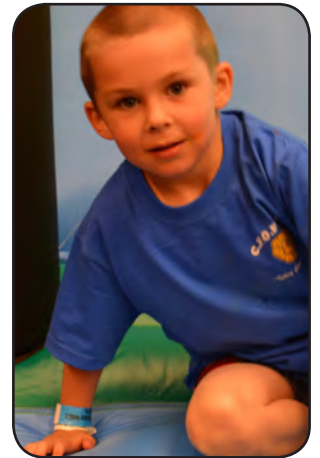
Autumn 2015

A Publication of The CPO Foundation

Vol. 25, No. 2

PROJECT 2000 XXVI

June 18-21, 2015, Jacksonville, Florida



Cover:

*An "Overall Look" at
Project 2000 XXVI*

Inside:

Honored Officers
Honored Families
Honor Guards
Kids & Teens
Assault Survivors
Additional photos
and more!



CPO FAMILY

The Correctional Peace Officers Foundation
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BACK COVER:
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PLAN TO ATTEND!!
PROJECT 2000 XXVII
in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Thursday, June 9 - Sunday, June 12, 2016

PROJECT 2000 XXVI

June 18-21, 2015 ~ Jacksonville, Florida

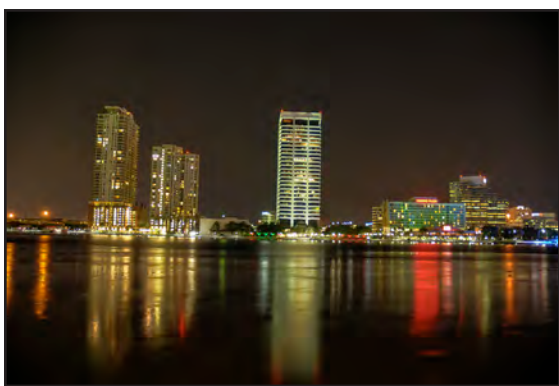
We were pleased to welcome over 700 Corrections Professionals, families, friends and guests to **Project 2000 XXVI** in Jacksonville, Florida June 18-21. That number swelled impressively to over 800 at the Friday, June 19 Memorial Ceremony at Metropolitan Park by the attendance of many local and area Corrections and other law enforcement Officers, Administrators and dignitaries.

At right is the list of those Corrections Professionals who were honored at the **Project 2000 XXVI** Memorial Ceremony. Descriptions of the incidents that led to their deaths in the line of duty are on pages 7-12.

We give many thanks and much appreciation to the CPOF National Honor Guard and all the Honor Guards from across the nation who participated in the Ceremony. We also extend our appreciation to EVERYONE at the Ceremony for enduring the very high heat that Mother Nature unfortunately decided to “bestow” upon us, and promise to ask her to be more kind next year in Pittsburgh!



The Wall of Honor separate panel with the photographs of the Project 2000 XXVI honorees. Note: Photographs could not be located for three of the Fallen Officers from the past.



Nighttime view of the St. John River and buildings on the opposite shore, taken from the Project 2000 XXVI host hotel, the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville.

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

Thursday --

- *The Annual Welcome Buffet Dinner*

Friday --

- *The Annual Memorial Luncheon (follows immediately after the Memorial Ceremony)*
- *Kids & Teens Lunch*
- *Seminar: Homegrown Violent Extremists*
- *Youth Counseling Session*
- *“Picnic” (that had to be held indoors because of thunderstorms!)*

Saturday --

- *Seminar: Contraband Cell Phones*
- *Seminar: Women in Corrections*
- *“Time for You” Informal Session for Fallen Family members*
- *The Annual Recognition Luncheon*
- *Kids & Teens Lunch*
- *Seminar: Gangs in Prisons*
- *Special Session for Survivors of Assaults and their family members*
- *Pizza and Ice Cream Sundae Party for Kids 12 and under*
- *“Teen Night Out”*

Sunday --

- *The Annual “Closing Event” Buffet Breakfast, featuring the Project Kids & Teens “Songfest”*

The Corrections Professionals of
PROJECT 2000 XXVI

Honored on Friday, June 19, 2015 in Jacksonville, Florida



Correctional Officer V Christopher Davis
Correctional Officer V Eligio Garcia Jr.
Western Region Transportation
Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Texas
EOW: January 14, 2015



Correctional Officers Christopher Davis (left) and Eligio Garcia Jr. (right) were killed in a prison bus crash. The bus was transporting 10 inmates from a transfer facility in Abilene, Texas to the Rogelio Sanchez State Jail in El Paso, Texas. The bus hit a patch of ice on an overpass, causing it to slide off the highway and down an embankment. The bus then struck a passing train and was dragged along the tracks, breaking apart.

Officer Davis and Officer Garcia, along with eight inmates, suffered fatal injuries at the scene. One other Officer, Correctional Officer Jason Self, was transported to the hospital in critical condition.

Officer Davis had served with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice for 17 years. He is survived by his wife Donna; stepson Darrell; parents Perry and Ruthanne Davis; and brother and sister-in-law Bruce and Barbara Davis.

Officer Garcia had served with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice for 22 years. He is survived by two daughters, 12-year-old Larson Avery and 10-year-old Ansleigh Grace; his parents Eligio R. and Belia Garcia; two sisters Lillian Wheeler and Yolanda Stapp; and two brothers Jamie Garcia and Michael Garcia.



Correctional Officer Danny Luxtrum
High Desert State Prison
Nevada Department of Corrections, Nevada
EOW: November 25, 2014

On October 17, 2013 Correctional Officer Luxtrum was bitten on the neck by a brown recluse spider while working the Gatehouse Post. The bite area immediately became red and swollen. The incident was reported to the Lieutenant on duty.

The Lieutenant took still pictures and wrote a report, and medical staff looked at the bite and told Officer Luxtrum it was not necessary for him to go for outside medical help so he remained on post until the end of his shift.

Over the course of the next 12+ months, Officer Luxtrum suffered a relentless series of infections, MRSA, sepsis, strokes and serious heart complications that eventually, on November 25, 2014, resulted in his death.

Officer Danny Luxtrum had served with the Nevada Department of Corrections for two years. He is survived by his wife Michelle, 22-year-old daughter Alexandra and 18-year-old son Danny II.

cont.

The Corrections Professionals of
PROJECT 2000 XXVI

Honored on Friday, June 19, 2015 in Jacksonville, Florida

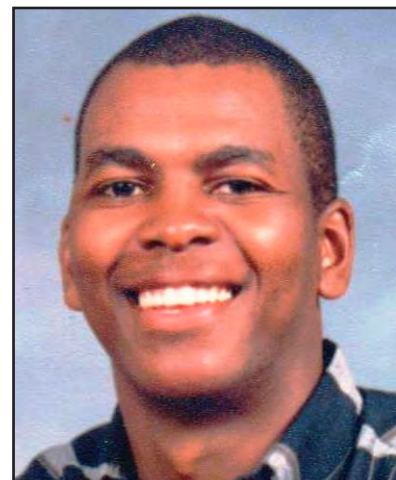


Correctional Officer Da'Jhaun Gaitors
Valdosta State Prison
Georgia Department of Corrections, Georgia
EOW: October 22, 2014

Correctional Officer Da'Jhaun Gaitors and Correctional Officer Coriya Hill were en route to Valdosta State Prison after working an overtime shift at Ware State Prison. Their department van collided with a tractor-trailer truck, spun around in the road, struck the rear tires of the tractor-trailer, went off the road and overturned in a ditch. Officer Gaitors was killed when she was ejected from the vehicle. Officer Hill was airlifted to a Florida hospital where she was treated for serious injuries and later released.

Officer Gaitors had served with the Georgia Department of Corrections for just over a year. She is survived by her father Charles, sister Destiny and uncle Elverett.

Transport Officer Terry Burden
Autry State Prison
Georgia Department of Corrections, Georgia
EOW: September 10, 2014



On September 10, 2014 Transport Officer Terry Burden returned his transport vehicle carrying inmates to the Institution Sallyport. As Sergeant James Alva was inspecting the vehicle Officer Burden stated in a low voice "I feel like I am about to pass out." Sgt. Alva called main control and advised that he needed an ambulance at the back gate for Officer Burden. Sgt. Alva and Sgt. Rasheen Washington pulled Officer Burden out of the transport vehicle when he lost consciousness. They placed him on the ground and monitored his breathing until EMS arrived.

Officer Burden was taken to a hospital where he passed away. Transport Officer Terry Burden had served with the Georgia Department of Corrections for 15 years. He is survived by his wife Debrah, 23-year-old daughter Latereka, 21-year-old daughter Chanereka, 16-year-old daughter Deambreka, and two-year-old grandson Kaiden.



Kids' "goody-filled" Travel Bags; two of our young teens enjoying a moment; the Kids & Teens Sunday "group sing."

The Corrections Professionals of
PROJECT 2000 XXVI

Honored on Friday, June 19, 2015 in Jacksonville, Florida

Correctional Officer Amanda Baker
Scotts Bluff County Detention Center, Nebraska
EOW: February 16, 2014



Correctional Officer Amanda Baker succumbed to injuries sustained two days earlier when she was attacked by a 15-year-old inmate in the Scotts Bluff County Juvenile Detention Center. The inmate, who was awaiting trial on an armed robbery charge, had been plotting an escape and called for assistance in his cell. When Officer Baker arrived, the inmate jumped on her back and strangled her. A second inmate was charged with helping to plot the attack and escape. Officer Baker was transported to Regional West Medical Center where she was pronounced brain dead. She was kept on life support so her organs could be harvested and donated.

Officer Baker had served with the Scotts Bluff County Detention Center for just over one-and-a-half years. She is survived by her seven-year-old son David; her mother and stepfather Julie and Randy; and brothers Isaiah and Noah.



Correctional Officer Calvin Winn
High Desert State Prison
California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, California
EOW: May 2, 2012

On May 26, 2010 Correctional Officer Calvin Winn suffered bilateral knee and right ankle injuries due to a fall down a flight of stairs while responding to a body alarm. He had to medically retire in January 2012 due to these injuries. On May 2, 2012 Officer Winn passed away due to complications from his industrial injuries.

Officer Calvin Winn had served with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for 10 years. He is survived by his mother Linda; wife Cheryl; two sons Kyle and Tyler; and daughter Livi.



CPOF NHG Officer Maria Chandler and Volunteer Linda Dizmon with the Ceremonial Bell; Mandy Donaldson; the City of NY DOC Pipe Band.

cont.

The Corrections Professionals of
PROJECT 2000 XXVI
FROM THE PAST

Honored on Friday, June 19, 2015 in Jacksonville, Florida



Lieutenant Carol Moore
New Haven Correctional Center
Connecticut Department of Corrections, Connecticut
EOW: August 19, 1996

On August 19, 1996 Major and Chief of Security James Dzurenda received information from Institution Intelligence Staff that a significant amount of illegal drugs had been smuggled into the institution by a local gang called "The Elm City Boys." At the beginning of the second shift, Major Dzurenda briefed the Shift Commander, Captain Diane Sienkiewicz, of the information received. Captain Sienkiewicz organized a plan to be led by the Shift Supervisor,

Lieutenant Carol Moore, to conduct a shakedown of B-right Corridor that housed the majority of the "Elm City Boys" gang members.

At 10:40 p.m. Lt. Moore entered B-right Corridor with a group of Correctional Officers to strip search and escort all the gang members into a common recreation area in order to conduct a thorough Unit shakedown in search of narcotics.

While supervising the search, Lt. Moore collapsed to the floor. A medical code was called by Officer Frederick Woods. Medical staff responded immediately to administer first response care. The New Haven Fire Department and ambulance arrived within minutes to take over life-saving measures as Lt. Moore stopped breathing and no pulse could be detected. Lt. Moore had suffered an aneurysm and was pronounced dead. Lieutenant Moore had served with the Connecticut Department of Corrections for 10 years. She was survived by her parents, who have since passed away.



Juvenile Detention Officer Robert J. Heavey
Morris County Juvenile Detention Center, New Jersey
EOW: January 19, 1995

Juvenile Detention Officer/Counselor Robert Heavey died as a result of injuries sustained 16 days earlier when he was assaulted by an inmate at the Morris County Juvenile Detention Center.

On January 3, Officer Heavey and several other Officers were attempting to break up a large fight in the detention center's day room when Officer Heavey was punched twice in the head by one of the inmates. He was transported to the local hospital, treated for a large bruise and swelling to his left eye, and later released.

He returned to the hospital the following day to undergo surgery to his eye socket, which had been fractured. While waiting for the surgery to begin his condition deteriorated and he lost consciousness. He remained in a coma until passing away from his injuries.

Officer Heavey had served as a part-time Juvenile Detention Officer for 18 months. He is survived by his wife and his parents.

The Corrections Professionals of
PROJECT 2000 XXVI
 FROM THE PAST

Honored on Friday, June 19, 2015 in Jacksonville, Florida

Detail Officer Frank Scott
Youth Offender Correctional Facility
Georgia Department of Corrections, Georgia
EOW: September 18, 1980



Detail Officer Frank Scott was killed in a prison bus crash while supervising an outside work detail. During a break, several inmates sabotaged the vehicle's brake lines. As a result, once the bus was back on the road it crashed and Officer Scott was killed.

Georgia's *Frank Scott State Prison* was named in honor of Officer Scott.



Correctional Officer Dan Harrison
Georgia State Prison
Georgia Department of Corrections, Georgia
EOW: July 23, 1978

Correctional Officer Dan Harrison was stabbed and beaten to death at Georgia State Prison.

He was going to the aid of another Officer who was being attacked during a prisoner riot. Officer Harrison was stabbed a total of 61 times and was beaten so badly that nearly every bone in his body was broken.

Officer Harrison had been employed with the Georgia Department of Corrections for ten months. He is survived by his wife Alicia; three children

Andrea, Cindy and Chad; twin sister Anne; sisters Evi Jean, Pauline and Sharon; brother Randy; and several grandchildren.

A life-size statue in memory of Officer Harrison was unveiled in front of Georgia State Prison on November 21, 2003.



The Folsom Prison Big House Prison Museum Table; CPOF NHG Bugler Gil Arizmendi III; Camie Gould and Charlene Corby.

cont.

The Corrections Professionals of
PROJECT 2000 XXVI
FROM THE PAST

Honored on Friday, June 19, 2015 in Jacksonville, Florida



Assistant Director Donald Boyd Smith
Correctional Officer Richard H. Rogers
Georgia State Prison
Georgia Department of Corrections, Georgia
EOW: March 29, 1970

Assistant Director Donald Smith and Correctional Officer Richard Rogers were shot and killed inside of the Parker Elementary School in Sumner, Georgia while attempting to apprehend an escapee from Georgia State Prison.

The prison Trusty had escaped four days earlier while working inside of the Assistant Warden's home. He was able to gain control of a handgun inside of the home and then took the Assistant Warden's wife hostage before stealing several more firearms. He forced the hostage to drive him over 100 miles before letting her go. She immediately alerted local authorities and a massive search for the man was initiated.

Officers from Georgia State Prison were sent to Sumner to lead the search. Assistant Director Smith and Officer Rogers were part of a group of four Officers who located fresh tracks near the elementary school that they found to be unlocked. As they began to search the school the escapee suddenly emerged from the principal's office and opened fire with a shotgun, killing Assistant Director Smith and Officer Rogers. One of the other two Officers was wounded as they retreated and called for assistance.

The escapee then barricaded himself inside the school's auditorium. He was shot and killed when he opened fire on approaching Officers.

Assistant Director Smith had served at Georgia State Prison for nine years. He is survived by his son Troy (who later retired from the GA DOC); daughter and son-in-law LaDonna and James Cowart; grandchildren Jessica, Trey, Evan and Clay.

Officer Rogers had served at Georgia State Prison for six years. He was survived by his wife, son, daughter and parents. His father was the Superintendent of a State Prison Farm on which Officer Rogers was born and raised.



The Wall of Honor: Six panels that display the photographs of all of the Corrections Professionals that the CPO Foundation has honored or recognized at Project 2000 Memorial Ceremonies since 1990.

The photographs shown separately at the top of the middle panel of the first three-panel section of the Wall are those of the New York State Corrections Officers and Staff who were killed during the Attica Prison Riot in September 1971 .

HEARTFELT THANKS to All of these wonderful
people, facilities, groups, organizations and entities for their
generous donations made at Project 2000 XXVI!

<i>AFGE-Local 817, FMC Lexington, KY *</i>	\$500.00
<i>City of New York Department of Correction Pipe Band **</i>	\$1,000.00
<i>Correction Captains Association, Inc.</i>	\$2,000.00
<i>AFGE Council of Prison Locals 33 *</i>	\$5,000.00
<i>Ms. Gloria Hultz</i>	\$200.00
<i>House of Correction, Philadelphia Prison System ±</i>	\$5,000.00
<i>House of Correction, Philadelphia Prison System ±±</i>	\$3,000.00
<i>Oregon State Correctional Institution ±</i>	\$5,000.00
<i>Pelican Bay State Prison, CA §</i>	\$1,700.00
<i>PBA Local 105, Trenton, NJ *</i>	\$2,500.00

- * *Current Lifetime Sponsor additional donation*
- ** *Donation for the “Kids & Teens Room”*
- ± *New Lifetime Sponsor*
- ±± *New Lifetime Sponsor additional donation for the “Kids & Teens Room”*
- § *Toward a Lifetime Sponsorship*



Far left: The Missing Officer’s Table. Left: The Project 2000 XXVI Memorial Wreath. Below: Metropolitan Park, site of the Project 2000 XXVI Memorial Ceremony.



The Honored Families of Project 2000 XXVI



*Family Members of Correctional Officer V
Christopher Davis, Texas*



*Family Members of Correctional Officer
Danny Luxtrum, Nevada*



*Family Members of Correctional Officer
Da’Jhaun Gaitors, Georgia*



*CPOF Georgia Representative Rose Williams
accepted the plaque and flag on behalf of the family of
Transport Officer Terry Burden, Georgia*



*Family Members of Correctional Officer
Amanda Baker, Nebraska*



*Family Members of Correctional Officer
Calvin Winn, California*

The Honored Families of Project 2000 XXVI



New Haven Correctional Center Warden José Feliciano accepted the plaque and flag on behalf of the family of Lieutenant Carol Moore, Connecticut



New Jersey DOC Assistant Commissioner Darcella Sessomes and Past Fallen Family member Brenda Smith accepted the plaque and flag on behalf of the family of Juvenile Detention Officer Robert J. Heavey, New Jersey



CPOF Georgia Representative Rose Williams accepted the plaque and flag on behalf of the family of Detail Officer Frank Scott, Georgia



Family Members of Correctional Officer Dan Harrison, Georgia



Family Members of Assistant Director Donald Boyd Smith, Georgia



Each Honored Family received a set of three mounted shell casings from the Rifle Volley fired at the Memorial Ceremony.

Honor Guards of Project 2000 XXVI



Honor Guards of Project 2000 XXVI



continued

Honor Guards of Project 2000 XXVI



Honor Guards of Project 2000 XXVI



continued

Honor Guards of Project 2000 XXVI



PROJECT 2000 XXVI Correspondence

From: Officer Edwin Gonzalez-Lebron
Ceremonial Commander, Walk of Remembrance [WOR] Memorial, Washington DOC
WSRU

On June 19, 2015 at the CPOF National Memorial Ceremony held in Jacksonville, Florida, I presented a Certificate of Recognition and pins to the CPOF National Honor Guard on behalf of the Walk of Remembrance Memorial for their participation and support during the Jayme Biendl Memorial Service held back in 2011. It was a difficult task for me to command such a large contingent of Law Enforcement Officers during those difficult days, and teams such as the CPOF and many others that were present in Florida made my task more bearable with their commitment to team spirit. Without any question, Honor Guards transcend country, agency and make-up; we are the same with one mandate: to Honor, Serve and Never to Forget.

Below is my humble thank you to the CPOF **Project 2000 XXVI** National Memorial Ceremony attendees and to the National CPOF HONOR GUARD.

Good evening, families, Honor Guards and the Correctional Officer corps represented here today. My name is Edwin Gonzalez and I am a Correctional Officer with the state of Washington.

Today I am here representing those that went before me in our state and whose names are inscribed on the WOR memorial. Thank you, Commander Dizmon, and the CPOF for giving me this opportunity to address all present here today.

Our profession, whether behind the walls, on a tower or rendering honors to our brothers and sisters, is a silent one. We serve the families with the utmost respect and honor and in a small way show our gratitude for the ultimate cost they, our fallen heroes, had to pay.



Funeral Ceremony for Monroe CC, WA Officer Jayme Biendl, with CPOF National Honor Guard members at right.

It was a cold January back in 2011 when we lost one of our own, Officer Jayme Biendl. Commander Dizmon and Larry Corby were there early in the morning soon after, and I will never forget their words, "Anything you need, whenever you need it, we are here until it is done, and after." The CPOF has remained true to those words.

Today it is my honor to thank the CPOF National Honor Guard in a small way for all that they have done. We as Honor Guards don't expect rewards or pats on the back. We do what we do because it's the right thing to do. Our duty, our mission, is that it is up to us never to forget.

Dear Theresa Stevens,

I want to thank you and Guy Edmonds for inviting me to attend **Project 2000 XXVI** in Jacksonville, Florida. I had seen the pictures in the magazine about **Projects** but really did not fully grasp just how beautifully put together it was. From the moment I stepped off the plane I was greeted by CPOF members who wanted to ensure everything about my experience was positive. I was moved to tears many times during the different presentations that were given throughout the **Project 2000 XXVI**. Seeing the many different Honor Guards marching in at the Friday ceremony in the park was breathtaking. Every one of the Honor Guards was so sharp! Having the opportunity to visit with individuals from around the country was such a neat experience. Oh, and then the Pipe Band! WOW is all I can say about their performances.

Thank you again for the invitation and such a wonderful experience. I came away from **Project 2000 XXVI** with such pride in being a member of both the Correctional Profession and the CPOF.

Sincerely,

Rosalie Marquez, Custody Control Supervisor
Trinidad Correctional Facility, CO

**Survivors of Assaults, Catastrophic Assistance Recipients
and Bravery "Above and Beyond the Call of Duty" Recipients**

At the Project 2000 Recognition Luncheon each year, we recognize Corrections Professionals who have survived savage inmate assaults; Correctional Officers and Families who have triumphed over devastating catastrophic occurrences in their lives; and Corrections Professionals who have acted "above and beyond the call of duty" on or off the job, thus bringing particular credit to themselves, their institutions and the profession as a whole.
We are proud here to present this year's "Recognition Honorees."

Catastrophic Assistance Recipients



Correctional Officer
Steven Lamanda,
Sumter CI, FL



Medical Technician Lindsay
Joyce, FCI Jesup, GA



Correctional Officer
Joseph Bucaro (and son
Jace), Zephyrhills CI, FL

Survivors of Assaults



Sergeant Anthony Bria and Sergeant
Leonard Murray, Allred Unit, TX



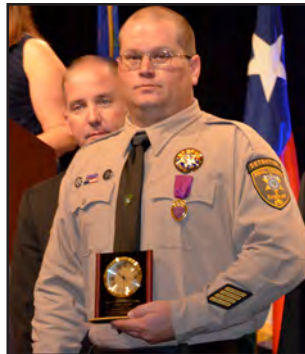
Correctional
Officer Mike
Quick, Elmira
CF, NY



Probation & Parole
Officer Brian Melvin,
District II, Probation &
Paroles,
Kentucky DOC, KY



Correctional Officer Jerry Barger
and Correctional Officer Joshua
Keihl, SCI Forest, PA



Detention Officer Larry
Stone, Pinal County
Sheriff's Office, AZ



Director of Treatment
Lynn Chernesky, Souza
Baranowski CC, MA

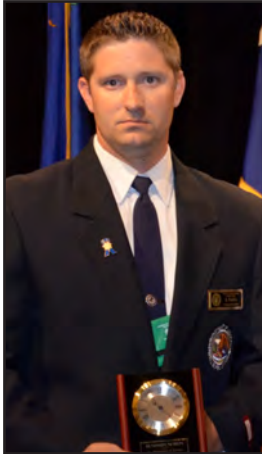


Lieutenant Samuel Laridon and
Correctional Officer Travis Yoder,
FCI Sheridan, OR



Correctional Officer
Edwin Faulkner,
Lanesboro CI, NC

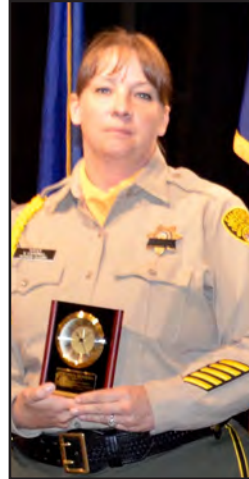
**Survivors of Assaults, Catastrophic Assistance Recipients
and Bravery “Above and Beyond the Call of Duty” Recipients**



Correctional Officer
Benjamin Noblin, FCI
Marianna, FL



Correctional Officer
James Ambrose,
Orleans CF, NY



Correctional Officer
Veronica Renteria,
North Kern SP, CA



Correctional Officer Chris
Collins, USP Lee, VA



Correctional Administrator
David Mitchell,
Lanesboro CI, NC



Cook Supervisor
Joanne Smith,
Kentucky SP, KY



Correctional Officer V
Jason Self, Western
Regional Transportation,
TX



Correctional Officer Dustin Davis,
Correctional Officer Ryan Cook and
(far right) AC Cook Tammy
Kolowinski-Kimball, WSP, WA
(Near background: CPOF Board
Member Sal Osuna)

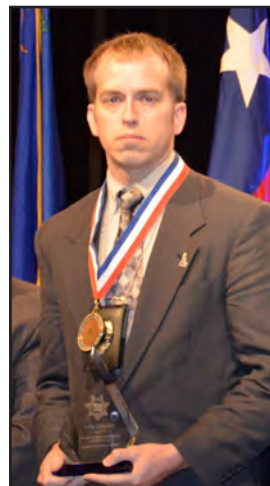
Bravery “Above and Beyond the Call of Duty”



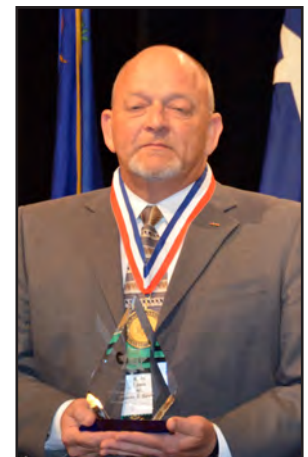
Lieutenant John Mendibourne and
Lieutenant Michael Tuntakit,
Avenal SP, CA
(Near background: CPOF Board
Member Don Dease)



Training Coordinator &
Lieutenant Timothy
Edmonds, Colorado
Territorial CF, CO



Sr. Probation & Parole
Officer Clinton Hoiland,
Idaho DOC, ID



Training Instructor Alvin
Laws, Pitt County, NC

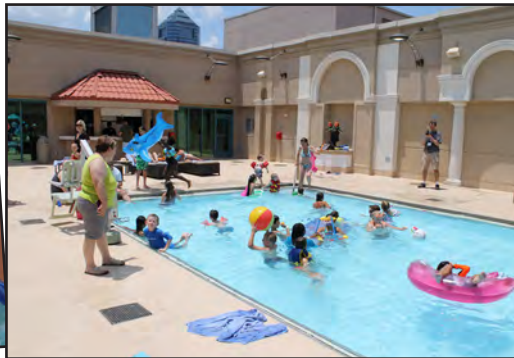
PROJECT 2000 XXVI KIDS & TEENS



Kids just want to have fun -- and they certainly do, in so many ways, in the "Kids & Teens Room." Open to all **Project** attendees' kids and young people, they play and learn, share experiences and make new friends as well as "reacquaint" with friends from past years. And -- there's always the fun of practicing together for their traditional and hugely popular performance at the Sunday Farewell Breakfast (photo at lower left).



PROJECT 2000 XXVI KIDS & TEENS



Afternoon pool parties at the host hotel on Friday, and usually Saturday as well (as this year), never lose their popularity. Neither do giant inflatable sharks, pre- or post-swim party naps or visits to the Kids' & Teens' Room by CPOF Alaska Rep Ned Entwistle who sports a genuine "Santa" beard.



Saturday is "Teen Night Out" at every **Project** gathering. This year the fun took place at Adventure Landing where the "go-kart" action proved to be a winner. Below and lower left: The kids enter the banquet room and take the stage for their Group Sing at the Sunday Farewell Breakfast.



Another "Overall Look" at Project 2000 XXVI



RIBCO Honors Larry Corby

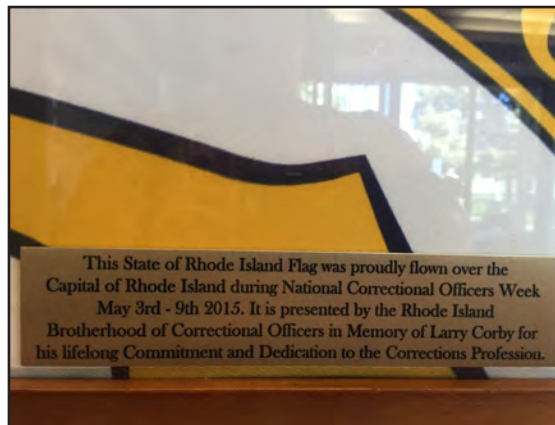
by Ken Rivard

During Project 2000 XXVI in Jacksonville, Florida, Rhode Island Brotherhood of Correctional Officer's President Richard Ferruccio; John Lavery, Vice President; and Manny Leander, Grievance Coordinator who is also the RI CPOF Volunteer Representative, presented Charleene Corby an encased Rhode Island State Flag that was proudly flown over the Rhode Island State Capital during National Correctional Officers Week in memory of Larry Corby. The presentation was made at the Sunday Farewell Breakfast.

Larry was one of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation's five founding Board Members who sadly passed away March 18, 2014 after a short battle with glioblastoma, a rare aggressive cancer of the brain. Larry was a true advocate for those in corrections and had a passion for assisting the surviving



John Lavery, Camie Corby Gould, Manny Leander, Charleene Corby and Richard Ferruccio. Below: Wording on the brass plate attached to the flag case.



The Correctional Peace Officers Foundation family and especially the Corby Family would like to thank those at RIBCO for remembering and honoring one of their own!

families of those killed in the line of duty, especially the children. Larry worked for the California Department of Corrections for over 30 years, starting at Folsom State Prison and retired as a Captain in 2000. Larry was also Secretary for CCPOA [California Correctional Peace Officers Association] for 11 years, a trailblazer, passionate, funny, a Marine and veteran of the Vietnam War, a truly great man and a true friend.

One of Larry's favorite sayings was, "A hundred years from now it will not matter what my bank account was, the sort of house I lived in, or the type of car I drove...but the world may be different because I was important in the life of a child."

Charleene Corby received a nice tribute from San Quentin State Prison in California. Presenting Charleene with a special display case were Sergeant Angela Lujan, Correctional Officer James Pace and Lieutenant Roy Hilliard Jr. Sergeant Lujan and Lieutenant Hilliard are members of the CPOF National Honor Guard Team, and Officer Pace is a member of the San Quentin State Prison Honor Guard Team.

The case, topped by a folded American flag, contains several San Quentin medallions, CPOF and San Quentin State Prison challenge coins, and a Southern Steel key of the kind still used to this day at San Quentin State Prison to open and close jail cell doors.



Why I Volunteer

by Charlie Bennett



When one reaches my age there aren't a great many things and organizations that one still believes are good, true and worthwhile. Which leads to the question of why I am volunteering my time and energy to an organization called: the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation (CPOF).

First, a little history: Over 30 years ago, five correctional line Staff during one of their many discussions realized that for people to be working and sometimes dying in a profession they all loved, the only option left for their families was to either file bankruptcy or apply for welfare. They decided there had to be a better way.

Thus they created a charitable organization called CPOF, an organization where members could make tax-free contributions to help others in their times of need. At first it was a death in the line of duty benefit, the amount of which has been increased twice over the years since then. The Foundation has also added an important benefit called the Catastrophic Assistance Program, which helps members and their families in times of, yes, a catastrophe, emergency or other dire need.

This year so far I have attended each of CCPOA's Board Meetings and its Convention. I also visited the following institutions: CCWF, VSP, DVI, CHCF and SCC. I would like to thank the Administrations, Chapter Presidents and Staff for their hospitality and help during Connie Summers' and my visits.

Since the inception of this organization, it has disbursed more than 16 million dollars to help employees and their families. To answer my earlier question, I volunteer for this Foundation because I truly believe in it and I see the services it provides to a very deserving group of people on a daily basis.

To maintain its current level of efficacy, the CPOF must continue to convince employees of the value of its services, and recruit on an ongoing basis.

To anyone who reads this, I say please get involved and become a Supporting Member. If you are already a Supporting Member, please think about increasing your donation. Tomorrow, or any time, you yourself may have a great need. Thank you for spending this time with me.

From Connie's Heart

Summer is over and fall is here. Realizing time is effortless and waits for no one. CPOF is taking care of our own, and steadily undertaking numerous catastrophic illnesses, losses and disasters by the day.



We are nationally the only support team helping our Correctional brothers and sisters get through hardships with ease.

I have seen plenty with my own eyes, I have listened with my own ears, and I have embraced with my heart.

Through the heartbreaks and losses, I have realized to let things go that can no longer be fixed. However, be strong and leave a light burning for something special that can be.

"If God sends us on strong paths, we are provided with strong shoes!" (So true.)

I am so very thankful for the warmth and kindness to all who have supported CPOF this year, especially at the institutions and other events.

We welcome any comments or feedback from our CPOF members and all CDCR staff on ways to improve our organization. Promote what you love.

Connie Summers
California Field Representative

To: The Correctional Peace Officers Foundation

RE: Officer Gregory Wallace
High Desert State Prison, Susanville CA

In 2012 I was injured on the job and spent months on and off of work while undergoing various procedures, surgical interventions and long term pain management. Over the course of the next three years, I exhausted all pay, leave and benefits due to my injury. In June of 2015 while awaiting a decision on an industrial disability retirement, my savings were also completely exhausted. This left my family with only my wife's income that was not enough to meet our monthly financial obligations. As a husband and father of five children, three of them teenage girls still living at home, I was out of options. In addition to being injured I was overwhelmed by the financial, emotional and physical stress of being unable to work and provide for my family. I had been donating to the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation for the entirety of my nine year career and had been amazed by the incredible assistance they offered families in need, yet I never thought that I would become one of those families in need. Within a couple of weeks of contacting the CPOF I received a financial assistance check that made it possible for my family to meet our financial obligations for that month and I received follow up assistance the following month which helped meet our needs until I was ultimately medically retired and began receiving a monthly retirement benefit.

On behalf of my wife and three daughters I would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation and to all of their patient and helpful staff that made surviving a severe economic hardship possible. Thank you for all that you do for families in need, for all you provided in our time of need and the continued service to the entire Correctional Peace Officer family across the nation. You were an answered prayer in a time of need. God Bless.

Greg Wallace and Family,
Correctional Officer (Ret.)
High Desert State Prison, Susanville, CA.



Parole Agent Frank Meza had been a Supporting Member since mid 1997. He was diagnosed with liver cancer on June 18, 2015. While out of town his symptoms manifested themselves and he was admitted into the ICU in a hospital about six hours' drive from his home in Selma, California. His family traveled to be with him, as the doctors gave them the shocking news that Frank had only a day or two to live. Sadly, that prognosis proved to be true. Frank died on July 24, 2015.

This is a family photo taken on the occasion of daughter Daisy's graduation from college. Pictured are Frank, Daisy, son Jorge and Frank's wife Ana.

Dear CPO Foundation Directors; Mr. Ron Davis, Warden; Connie Summers, CPOF Field Representative; Supporting Members; and Codi Loder, Catastrophic Assistance Coordinator,

I want to express my utmost appreciation and huge thank-you for your generous catastrophic assistance on the passing of my beloved husband, James D. Thomas. It was very much needed at this most financially burdensome, stressful and grieving time. God bless you all,

Sincerely,

Jennifer Thomas, Elk Grove, CA

Correctional Officer James Thomas worked at San Quentin State Prison. He passed away on July 15, 2015 from cardiac arrest.

continued next page

California

Dear Theresa Stevens,

Words cannot express our deepest appreciation for the kindness shown toward our family in the loss of our son and brother Sharrod. His absence has left a void in our hearts, and our lives as we once knew have forever changed.

Please extend our sincere thanks to the CPO Foundation Board of Directors; Warden Brian Williams and Sergeant Sean Brooks of Southern Desert Correctional Center, Nevada; Associate Warden Timothy Filson and Lieutenant Keith McKeehan of High Desert State Prison, Nevada; and CPO Foundation Representative Connie Summers for the monetary gift. It was a great blessing to us!

Theresa, I want to thank you specifically for your kind words of encouragement, the poem and especially for your understanding heart and warm hugs at a time when I really needed them.

May God bless all of you.

Marilyn Calhoun, Bakersfield, CA

Marilyn is the mother of Sr. Correctional Officer Sharrod Hightower, Jr. who had worked at Southern Desert Correctional Center in Nevada. Officer Hightower was killed by a drunk driver on July 12, 2015. He had tendered his resignation from the Nevada DOC, as he had been accepted by the CDCR which would relocate him closer to his family in Bakersfield, CA. Officer Hightower had intended to attend the CDCR's August Academy class.

Mrs. Calhoun herself is a health care services administrator with the CDCR. Officer Hightower's stepfather Tim Calhoun is a Food Services Supervisor at Wasco State Prison and his sister Lydia Cruzan is a Sergeant at Wasco. For more on this story and photographs of Officer Hightower's Memorial Service that took place on July 25, 2015, go to "Nevada" on page 46.

Dear Codi,

My family and I would like to thank you for the CPO Foundation's help and support during our time of need in this difficult time. (However), although it has been a crazy year things will get better.

Words cannot describe how much I appreciate all the help the Foundation has given our family.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Elizabeth Rodriguez, Visalia, CA

Elizabeth's husband, Correctional Officer Daniel Rodriguez, was a Supporting Member at Avenal State Prison. He passed away from cancer in July 2015.

A Remembrance: Correctional Officer Albert W. Patch California Medical Facility EOW: August 17, 1980

On August 17, 2015 a special memorial ceremony was held at California Medical Facility in honor of Correctional Officer Albert (Al) Patch who was killed in the line of duty on August 17, 1980. Officer Patch, 44 years old at the time and a 16-year veteran of the California Department of Corrections, was stabbed by an inmate who himself had just been stabbed and was chasing his attacker.

The event pamphlet read, "Today we remember Correctional Officer Albert W. Patch, who made the ultimate sacrifice in law enforcement 35 years ago. We also pay a very special tribute to the surviving family members who have been left behind. Together, we mourn him as an individual of unmistakable integrity and unshakable character. He gave much and asked little, and his memory has not faded."

Present at the ceremony were Dr. Jeffrey Beard, Secretary, and Mr. Scott Kernan, Undersecretary, of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; Ms. Anna Ramirez-Palmer, Retired CMF Warden; Mr. Joe Cueva; and the CDCR Statewide Transportation Honor Guard. CMF Chief Deputy Warden Daniel Cueva was Master of Ceremonies and Warden Robert W. Fox provided the introduction.

After Dr. Beard, Mr. Kernan, Ms. Ramirez-Palmer and Mr. Cueva had each addressed the attendees, and following a moment of silence and prayer conducted by Chaplain Keith Knauf, a Memorial Stone and Plaque dedicated to Officer Patch were unveiled (see photo).

CEO Charleene Corby and Theresa Stevens of the CPO Foundation also attended this ceremony.



Nebraska

I want to take this opportunity to thank the many Correctional Officers and Correctional Staff I met while in Nebraska sharing the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation (CPOF).

Director [Scott] Frakes, I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to come and tour your state facilities. As of Friday, October 23, I had 80 completed Supporting Membership applications, and was told that there are more applications heading to you. Before too long I am sure we will receive enough completed applications to reach our goal of a payroll deduction slot in Nebraska.



The bonus of the trip was that while I was at Community Corrections Center in Omaha they were having a Wardens meeting and I was able to make a presentation. Not too often are you truly in the right place at the right time, but this was one of those times. I know all Nebraska Wardens will be receiving a copy of this *CPO Family* magazine, and with that said, Wardens, please remember to choose one outstanding person at your facility to be your contact for the CPO Foundation. You can email the name of this contact person to char@cpof.org – thank you.

In closing, I would also like to thank April Bulling-June from Central Office, Lieutenant Garcia from NCCW, Mallori Graf from NCYF and Monica Edwards from NSP, all of whom want to step up and assist CPOF in “Taking Care of Our Own” in Nebraska.

Dan Weber, CPOF Representative for West Oregon

October 29, 2015

Dear Dan:

On behalf of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation (CPOF) Board of Directors and myself, I want to thank you for reaching out to our Correctional Brothers and Sisters in Nebraska. From your report, it sounds as if you met several good contacts.

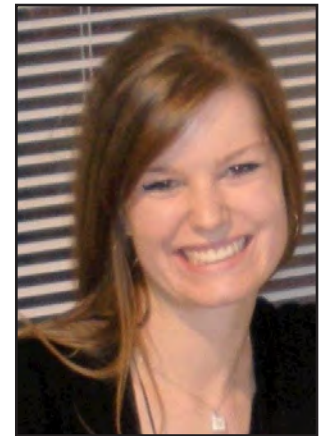
I would also like to thank Director Frakes who came from Washington State, a state where CPOF has assisted many Correctional Officers and their families. One such assistance sadly occurred in January of 2011 when C/O Jayme Biendl was murdered in the line of duty at Washington State Reformatory. Correctional Administrators like Mr. Frakes are appreciated. I've been told that CPOF is one of the best resources Administrators have to "Take Care of their Own."

Dan, I am personally gratified that while you were Nebraska you were notified of four catastrophic cases: a Food Service employee from NCYF in a terrible motorcycle accident, a Corporal also from NCYF whose young daughter had a stroke, a Maintenance employee from Omaha whose daughter was involved in a rollover car accident and will require months of care, and a Corporal from NSP who was assaulted on the job.

In closing, I also want to thank your Superintendent, Mr. Jeff Premo (again), for allowing you the time to assist CPOF. As I have said many times, it's all about teamwork and, Dan, you and Mr. Premo are team players, thank you.

CHAR

Utah



My name is Christy House. My sister, my mom and I became active with the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation (CPOF) after the passing of our father and husband. My dad was Lt. Fred House of Utah State Corrections. He oversaw the K-9 unit and was a member of the SWAT team. He was murdered in the line of duty in 1988.

We attended CPOF's annual **Project 2000** events many times over the past years assisting however we could; my sister and me helping with the children of fallen officers and my mom helping with the families.

I want to make a difference in Utah for Correctional Officers, but I need your help to secure a payroll deduction slot in our state. Please become a member of CPOF. Correctional Officers and Correctional Staff are invited to support CPOF. The minimum contribution is only \$5.00 a month -- \$2.50 a paycheck. Help me make our goal! I can be reached at 801.598.4472 and my email address is christine@echristy.com.

Thank you!

ARIZONA



Above: CPOF Representative Richard Loud; and Detention Officer Nicholas Poor and Lieutenant Jason Reynolds of the Lower Buckeye Jail in Maricopa County, Arizona. Officer Poor was one of four Detention Officers injured on April 8, 2015 in an assault by an 18-year-old inmate in the mental health unit of the jail. The inmate was in an unauthorized area of the housing pod and told to return to his cell by Officers Scott Beaty and Greg Miller. Instead of complying, the inmate attacked Officers Beaty and Miller, and then also attacked Officer José Noriega and Officer Poor when they responded to assist with the situation. The CPOF provided assistance checks to all four Detention Officers.

Below: A thank-you note from FTO José Noriega:
Dear Ms. Theresa Stevens,

My name is José Noriega and I am with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office Special Response Team. The SRT is a specialized section that has been delegated the responsibility of providing security and safety services to the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office jail facilities.

I would like to take this opportunity to say how grateful I am of the generosity that the CPO Foundation has shown not only to me but to the other three Officers involved in the incident on April 8, 2015 at the Lower Buckeye Jail. Words cannot express my gratitude to your organization. Thank you!

*Sincerely,
FTO José Noriega*

Hello, Arizona,

This is Liz Shaffer Smith, your Arizona Representative. I just completed the Maricopa County Combined Charitable Campaign (MCCCC) and the Employees Combined Appeal Program (ECAP) in Pima County. This is a very exciting time of year for me, as I get to visit each and every one of you in your jail. Also, this is our first official year with Pima County. I want to thank Captain Wayne Harmon (MCSO), Lieutenant Jason Reynolds (MCSO), Lieutenant John Pilling (MCSO), Chief India Davis (Pima County), and Sergeant Brian Hunt (Pima County) for allowing me to visit your jails and talk with you staff. I also want to thank each and every one of you for your support, as you know we could not do what we do without you. Detention/correctional families throughout the country thank you as well.

As I continue my visits to the Department of Corrections facilities for the State Employees Charitable Campaign (SECC) I often hear, "Oh, it's that time of year again," and that is correct -- it *is* the time of year you can support Corrections families throughout the country through SECC. I want to take a moment to recognize ASPC Winslow Warden Berry Larson, C/O III Brenda Ewing and Staff. For the past two years ASPC Winslow has been the highest contributing complex within the Department of Corrections.

Over the past 36 months CPOF has had the great pleasure of assisting 97 Arizona DOC Officers and their families through the Catastrophic Assistance Program. Thank you again, Winslow Complex, and all of the Supporting Members throughout the Department of Corrections. Your support means so much!

A reminder for when you are making your contribution: If there is a box for you to check to authorize releasing your information to us, please do so as we want to make sure you receive your copy of the CPO Family magazine. If for some reason you missed the campaign in your county and would still like to be a Supporting Member, I can help. Contact me at lizcpof@yahoo.com

Once again, it was great to see all of you, and I am looking forward to seeing you again soon.

Liz

To The Correctional Peace Officers Foundation:

My family and I would like to thank you for your generosity and support during this challenging time in our lives. We have a long road ahead of us but having a Foundation like this to help with expenses is amazing. Thank you for all that you do.

Melody Nyswaner & Family, Buckeye, AZ

Melody is the wife of IPS Robert Nyswaner of ASPC Lewis. In August 2015 Robert was transporting an inmate work crew when his bus hit the side of an overturned semi. He suffered injuries to his brain, severe facial injuries, multiple rib fractures, a punctured lung and soft tissue injuries. He was in the ICU at Maricopa Medical Center for a time in an induced coma.

Washington

September 5, 2015

Dear Char,

I appreciated the opportunity to work **Project** this year. It is such an honor to be part of such a wonderful family. I really enjoyed working the children's donation table. I am working on getting some donated items for next year. I think that I will also make a couple of blankets to donate.

We have a new Superintendent here at Airway Heights Correction Center. Superintendent James Key and our Captain, Barbara Arnett, are very supportive of CPOF.

I have been working with our Emergency Operations Unit with all of the fires that we have had here in Washington. Thankfully we have not had any staff members lose their homes.



We do have an Airway Heights CC Officer who was in a terrible motorcycle accident on September 3. Corrections Officer 2 John Marckini suffered

multiple injuries and fractures, including a skull fracture that caused brain bleeding and required surgery. He is on leave recovering and we do not yet know when he will be able to return to work. I requested and received assistance for Officer Marckini while he is off work, and was pleased to personally present him with his CPOF check. The photo above is of John, his wife Tammy and myself.

Also here at Airway Heights CC, the wife of Corrections Officer 2 Glenn Vaughan passed away on September 4 from breast cancer. I requested a bereavement assistance check for Officer Vaughan and, as with Officer Marckini, presented it to him personally. He is pictured with me in the photo at the top of the right hand column.

I am looking forward to the Membership Drive that is coming up next month. I really hope that we get a lot of new members. I don't know everything about

being a CPOF Representative, but I will do my best to make you all proud.

As to Randy [Bridgett's husband], it was very hard for us to find out that the Hep-C was back. [Note: Randy Bolinger had a liver transplant in 2011.] The doctor said that they would not be able to treat him again until next year. This has been really hard for Randy. He has felt bad for so many years and since the treatment he has had energy and strength that he has not felt for so very long. He needs to embrace how he feels now and we will just deal with it day to day. The doctor says that he may feel good and have great energy for some time and it may last until the next treatment. We will just trust in God's plan.

I look forward to always being part of the CPOF family and working hard for the Foundation. I think that when I retire, I want to be even more involved. I just really love what CPOF stands for and how they really do take care of their own.

Be safe and God bless,

Bridgett Bolinger, Corrections Officer 2
Airway Heights Correction Center
Airway Heights, WA



Randy and Bridgett Bolinger

NEW YORK



C/O Neal Gruber (far left), CPOF contact at Lakeview CF, presented a CPOF check to C/O Mike Riddle whose wife Billie Jo suffered a cardiac arrest in early 2015. Per Jay West, CPOF's New York State Representative, Billie Jo at the time of this check presentation was reported to be "on a path to a full recovery." At far right is C/O Bryon Langan, also a CPOF contact at Lakeview.



CPOF Contact for Orleans CF C/O Kenny Gold (right) presented a check to C/O Mark Schlagger who had brain tumor surgery. Speaking for all, Jay West says, "We wish Mark much success on his journey to a full recovery."



In late May 2015 Neal and Byron made a CPOF check presentation to C/O Garrett Wicks, a Supporting Member at Lakeview CF, and his fiancée Angela Lintz (also a DOCCS employee) whose two sons have been battling cystic fibrosis since birth. Earlier in the year the boys spent a long period of time in Children's Hospital in Buffalo, NY. At the time of this presentation, both children were back home and doing much better.



Left: Jay West presented a check to C/O Tony Velez, a Supporting Member at Taconic CF, whose wife Wanda passed away in April 2015 from an apparent heart attack. Wanda had suffered for some time from a neurological illness that confined her to a wheelchair. Also pictured is their son Anthony.

Right: In mid May 2015 Jay West presented a check to C/O David Jock of Bare Hill CF whose daughter Mikenzie suffered severe burns as a result of a grease fire accident. She had had several skin grafts and at the time of this presentation was home recovering.



C/O Michelle Freeman of Shawangunk CF holds a check presented to her by Jay West to help with the many extra expenses she accrued as a result of her medical issues. Also pictured is Michelle's spouse Vilma, and the three "Cutie-Pies" (as Jay fondly calls them) are Isabella, Jonah and Trysten. The CPOF will keep this family in our thoughts and prayers.

NEW YORK



C/O Wilfredo Torres of Coxsackie CF suffered multiple fractures of his right leg in January 2015 that required three surgeries with more to follow. He is in the process of medically retiring.



C/O Ron Belrose of Bare Hill CF suffered a stroke in June. Per Jay: "It is good to report that his rehabilitation is progressing well!" At right is Ron's fiancée Roxanne.



Jay West presented a check to C/O Gerald Sawyer, a Supporting Member at Ogdensburg CF, whose wife Debbie was in the midst of serious medical issues.



C/O Josh Lalonde of Adirondack CF suffered numerous injuries in an ATV accident in June. Josh told Jay that after several surgeries he was scheduled to return to work in September.



Jay presented a check to C/O Chris LaShomb of Clinton CF who lost his house and all possessions to a fire in July.



The CPO Foundation was pleased to support Marcy Correctional Facility's 12th Annual David A. Smith Memorial Golf Tournament held on Friday, August 21, 2015 at Crestwood Golf Club. Hosted by the Marcy CF Employee Benefit Committee (EBC), this outing funds an annual scholarship that is awarded to a dependant child of a Marcy CF employee. The CPOF sponsored a hole and donated money for the purchase of door prizes. C/O Joseph Spina of the EBC kindly sent us this photo of our hole sign along with his thank-you note.



Jay West presented a check to C/O Ursula Laban (center) of Coxsackie CF to help with the many extra expenses she accrued while being treated for her medical issues. Also pictured is C/O Loretta Myer, CPOF contact at Coxsackie CF, who initiated the assistance request.

TEXAS



Stephanie,

On behalf of Correctional Officer III, Angela Stafford, Warden Blackwell and the staff of the Skyview/Hodge Complex, thank you and the CPOF for the generous donation made to Ms. Stafford in the loss of her home to fire. It meant so incredibly much to her. She was overwhelmed by the kindness shown to her.

This picture shows members of our Administration presenting the check to Officer Stafford, who is a Supporting Member. From left to right are: Assistant Warden Calvin Tucker, Lieutenant Kenneth Berry, Officer Stafford, Captain Greg Rocka and Assistant Warden James Stanley.

Once again, from the bottom of our hearts, thank you.
Wendy Smelley, Warden's Secretary
Skyview/Hodge Complex, TX

Dear Director Glenn Mueller,

On July 25, 2015 a memorial service was held for Officer Timothy Davison, who was killed by an offender at the Barry B. Telford Unit earlier this month.

I want to take a moment to express my sincere appreciation to you for allowing your staff to attend. Their presence was very humbling and unforgettable. The professionalism and dignity they displayed to honor Mr. Davison was overwhelming.

This tragic death will always be a reminder of how dangerous this profession is. The support of one another, even across the nation, is what motivates us to move forward and persevere.

Thank you and God bless,
William Stephens, Director
Correctional Institutions Division
Texas Department of Criminal Justice

Director Stephens refers to the CPO Foundation National Honor Guard Team that attended Officer Davison's memorial service. Glenn Mueller, our Board Chairman, expressed his thanks for Director Stephens' gracious letter.

October 19, 2015:

Dear Char,

We have 34 Wardens from all over the country flying in today for our program beginning tonight. I know that Eileen Kennedy will do a great job representing CPOF at our reception and dinner at Eastham.

Pat Caruso, Richard Stalder and Pat Keohane (with NAAWS) are our facilitators for the program.

Doug Dretke, Executive Director

Correctional Management Institute of Texas

George J. Beto Criminal Justice Center

Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX

October 26, 2015:

I spent 26 years with TDCJ and retired from the agency in 2006. I was the Correctional Institutions (prisons) Division Director when I retired.

The Wardens program was great - thanks so very much for your support.

Doug



Dear Ms. Barone,

The Hughes Unit staff and I would to express our thanks for the check you so kindly provided to CO V David Rogers. This assistance is very beneficial to Officer Rogers and his family, who lost their home to a fire in August.

Thank you again for all the prayers and support.

Sincerely,

John Werner, Warden II, Alfred Hughes Unit

Thank you, Warden Werner! Warden Werner is pictured here presenting Officer Rogers with his CPOF check.



Correctional Officer II Andrea Keller of Robertson Unit received a CPOF bereavement assistance check when her husband, Charles, died from multiple organ failure on July 25, 2015. Officer Keller is pictured here with Robertson Unit Warden Ronald Fox (left) and Sergeant A.J. Hoyt, who requested the assistance on Officer Keller's behalf.



CPOF check presentation to Administrative Assistant IV Sheryl Champine of the TDCJ Classification and Records Division. In May 2015 A/A IV Champine's 20-year-old son Christian was on his way home from completing his first year of college when he was killed in an auto accident. Pictured are Supervisor Justin Taylor, Chairman of Classification and Records Kelly Enloe, A/A IV Sheryl Champine and CPOF Texas Representative Cathy Stokes.

Cathy Stokes had the pleasure of presenting a Lifetime Facility Sponsor Plaque and Jacket to Joni White, Assistant Director of Classification Records, and Michael Upshaw, Deputy Director of Support Operations, of the TDCJ Classification and Records Division. We are very proud that there are 83 Lifetime Facility Sponsors of the CPO Foundation within the TDCJ (see page 53).



Laundry Manager Michael Drews, a Supporting Member at the Hobby Unit, was in an automobile accident on January 30, 2015 and was out of work for many months. In the photo at left, Mr. Drews is receiving a CPOF check from Warden II Vikki Wright, who recommended the assistance. Mr. Davis's wife, Lynette, is also pictured, as is Assistant Warden Jack Markum.



Pictured: Wynne Unit Assistant Warden Troy Selman, Correctional Officer III Catherine Hoot and Food Service Captain Robert Williams. Supporting Member C/O Hoot's house, barn, garage and property sustained severe damage from a tornado that swept through east Texas in May 2015: eves were blown off the house; the barn roof was blown off; a tree fell on the garage roof and seven trees were blown down.



Manager IV Joe Miles of the TDCJ Information Technology Division was badly burned in a fire. He is pictured here with Cathy Stokes; his daughter, Chesney Gunnels, who is a Sergeant at Estelle Unit; and his great-granddaughter Telsee Preston.

Cathy Stokes, Andrea Busa and Ferguson Unit Warden Charles Vondra are pictured here as Mrs. Busa received a CPOF bereavement assistance check upon the death of her husband, Sergeant Billy Busa. Sgt. Busa suffered a stroke on September 8, 2015 and underwent two surgeries that unfortunately were not successful. Sgt. Busa died one week later on September 15, 2015.



Florida



CPOF Florida Representative Gerard Van Der Ham presented an assistance check to Officer Steven Lamanda, a Supporting Member at Sumter CI, on June 24, 2015. Officer Lamanda's wife Jennifer had a below-the-knee amputation as a result of multiple sclerosis and is under continuous treatment. The assistance provided will help with out-of-pocket medical and day-to-day expenses. The Lamanda family attended **Project 2000 XXVI** in Jacksonville, Florida, and was recognized at the luncheon on Saturday, June 20, 2015 (see page 20). Pictured from left to right: Gerard Van Der Ham, AWP Rhonda Flowers, Officer Steven Lamanda, Warden Jimmy Johnson and Major Richard Haas.



Here is a photo of John Williams, Jennifer Lamanda, Warden Freeman and Gerard. They stopped by Warden Freeman's office at Baker CI to introduce Jennifer prior to going to the Academy at Baker. Jennifer was a recipient of Catastrophic Assistance in 2014 and was honored at "Project Jax." Jennifer was happy to speak to the class about her experience with CPOF and all the help she and her family received. She said that she was honored she was invited, and offered to speak any time she is needed. She enjoyed helping out and meeting everyone. Warden Freeman spoke with the class as well. -- *Kathy Van Der Ham*



Gerard Van Der Ham and John Williams visited Everglades CI on July 14. They met with Recruiting Sergeant T. Dawson and Training Instructor Marion Parnell Jr. and talked about recruiting. This photo is of Staff Development and Training Instructor Marion Parnell Jr. speaking to the next graduating class of recruits at Everglades CI prior to Gerard and John's presentation. Recruiting Sgt. T. Dawson mentioned that she enjoyed **Project 2000 XXVI** and said that she will try to do off-site fundraisers for the HG team so they can attend Project next year in Pittsburgh. -- *Kathy Van Der Ham*

At right: John, Jennifer Lamanda, Warden H. Greg Drake of Columbia CI and Gerard. A plaque was presented to Warden Drake for display at the institution in honor and memory of Ruben Thomas III, EOW 3/18/2012.



Gerard and John attended a staff meeting at Hardee CI in July 2015 to discuss membership. Pictured: Classification Supervisor Susan Waller, AWP Larry Olson, Warden Travis Lamb, Major Johnny Morales, Gerard, John and APO Tony Knight.

Below right: Clerk Typist Krisen Haines of Hardee CI received an assistance check when her daughter Amber-Rose had a third open heart surgery in August. Husband Dale Haines, Warden Travis Lamb, APO Tony Knight and Gerard Van Der Ham are also pictured.



North Carolina

Ms. Labio:

I am in receipt of the monetary assistance packet for Joseph DeMatty and presented it to him on June 3, 2015 at the hospital in Fayetteville, NC.

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

While Lieutenant DeMatty was out of work due to knee problems he had a massive heart attack. The medication he was taking caused severe circulation problems in his legs, resulting in both legs having to be amputated at the knee.



Sergeant Gary McKinney of Marion CI was violently assaulted by nine inmates. They kicked and punched him repeatedly in the head and neck. The attack was determined to be a gang-related incident.



Office Assistant Mary Ann Spencer of the North Carolina Department of Public Safety (NCDPS) Central Office received a catastrophic assistance check after her house sustained considerable damage in a fire. Pictured left to right are Joni Penny, Population Management Director; NDCPS Director of Prisons George Solomon, both of the Central Office; and Ms. Spencer.



Division II, District 10 Probation/Parole Officer Julia Stickney (at left in this photo) was conducting a post release hearing on an offender at Wake County Jail. After the hearing concluded, PPO Stickney opened the door to get a Detention Officer to serve as an escort. At that point the offender assaulted PPO Stickney, knocking her to the floor. Wake County Jail Officers immediately came to PPO Stickney's assistance and subdued the offender.

COLORADO



Lieutenant Ronald Armstrong of Buena Vista Correctional Center had surgery to replace his thoracic aorta and a valve in his heart. He is pictured here (center) receiving a CPOF assistance check from CPOF Colorado Representative Guy Edmonds. Also pictured (left) is BVCC Warden Jason Lengerich.

Dear Ms. Stevens,

I would like to thank you and CPOF for the assistance provided to me after I had severe complications from surgery and was in the hospital and out of work for a period of time.

Also, I am so impressed and appreciative for all Guy Edmonds does for the Colorado Staff. Guy was the first one to call when I came back to work and wanted to schedule a time to come see me and present my assistance check. I have witnessed him many times present checks to assist staff at Colorado Territorial Correctional Facility and bring a little glimmer of hope into their lives.

Thank you again for your support!

Cindi A Selvage, Canon City, CO

Program Assistant I Cindi Selvage is a Supporting Member at CTCF. The complications she suffered following surgery affected several vital organs. She is pictured above right with Warden Dave Zupan and Guy Edmonds.



C/O II Dale Swisher, a Supporting Member at Fremont Correctional Facility, was first diagnosed in the fall of 2006 with an inoperable brain tumor. He was able to continue to work, however, until December 22, 2014. On April 29, 2015, his doctors predicted C/O Swisher's likely demise in July 2015. Dale in fact passed away in late August 2015. Pictured above: Lieutenant Ronald Price, Dale's widow Shyla and Guy Edmonds.

Dear Correctional Peace Officers Foundations and Guy Edmonds,

What an amazing organization the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation is! The compassion that has been shown to us by the CPOF family and the Colorado DOC family is amazing.

Although Dale's passing was imminent, it is still very hard to comprehend that he is no longer with us. Our loss will be felt for a very long time. The words to adequately say thank you are beyond me at this point. We have found a friend in Guy Edmonds and the Foundation through acts of kindness, support and assistance checks that have helped to ease some of the financial burdens that we are facing.

It is with a grateful heart that we write this thank you. Many blessings to your organization.

Sincerely,

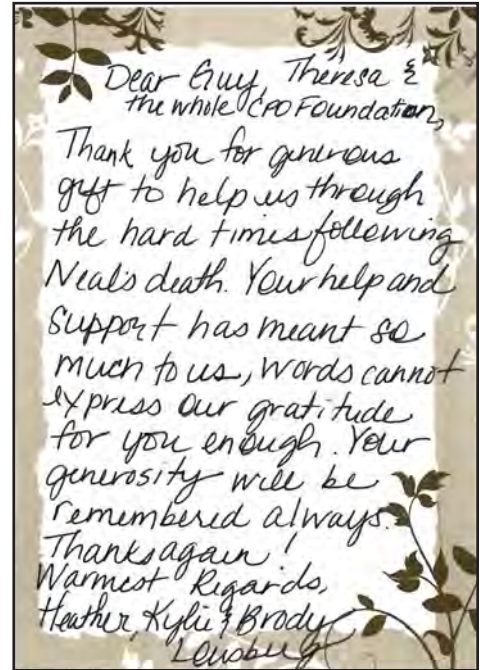
Shyla and Calie Swisher, Canon City, CO

Correctional Officer IV George Goure, a Supporting Member at La Vista Correctional Facility, was diagnosed with prostate cancer in January 2015. He went on intermittent FMLA and had surgery in mid February. Sadly, Officer Goure lost his battle and passed away on June 17, 2015.





Parole Officer Neal Lousberg of Colorado State Prison suffered a fatal heart attack while running with his wife Heather on February 16, 2015. Heather is pictured at left receiving a CPO Foundation bereavement assistance check. Also pictured is one of the Lousbergs's children, Brody, and Guy Edmonds. At right is Heather's note of thanks for the CPOF's support and help.



Correctional Officer III Anthony Tafoya, a Supporting Member at Canon Minimum Centers, had surgery for kidney cancer on May 18, 2015. He received a CPOF check to help with expenses while he was on FMLA.

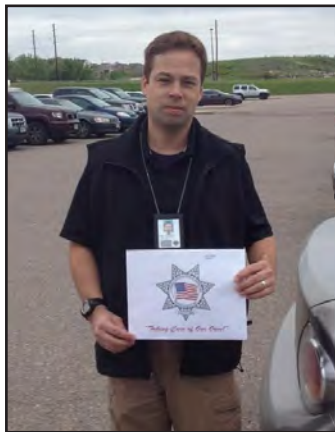
Correctional Officer III Kaysee Maltbie, a Supporting Member at the Denver Reception and Diagnostic Center, had spinal surgery on May 5, 2015 for lumbar disc herniation. She also has an autoimmune disorder. She was off work until early June 2015. She is pictured here receiving a CPOF assistance check from Guy Edmonds.



Guy,

I am sorry it has taken me so long to write and let you know how grateful I am for everything you have done for me and my family. We are so lucky to be a part of such a great organization. We cannot thank you enough for everything that you did. God bless you and your family and the wonderful organization that you work with.

Deb Morris, Pueblo, CO
Correctional Officer II Deborah Morris is a Supporting Member at La Vista CF. Officer Morris received a CPOF bereavement assistance check after her husband Clyde passed away from bone cancer in mid May 2016.



Parole Officer Jon Gaskins, a Supporting Member at DRDC, received CPOF assistance when his entire family of six became seriously ill all at the same time, resulting in many extra expenses.



Supervisor I George Butero Jr., a Supporting Member at Colorado Territorial Correctional Facility, is pictured above with Associate Warden Siobhan Burtlow and Guy Edmonds. Supervisor Butero received a bereavement assistance check after the death of his wife Eloisa from ovarian and breast cancer on May 7, 2015.

Pennsylvania



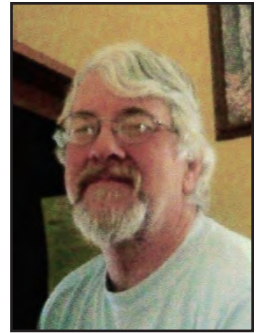
Theresa,

Here is the presentation photo for Sergeant Charles Colegrove. From left to right: Deputy Superintendent Lonnie Oliver, Lt. Sammuel Harker, Sgt. Colegrove and Superintendent James Eckard.

Lt. Sammuel Harker, Critical Incident Manager
SCI Huntingdon, PA

Sgt. Charles Colegrove and Lt. Sammuel Harker are both Supporting Members at SCI Huntingdon. Sgt. Colegrove's daughter, Gabriella (Gabby), was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia on May 12, 2015. She was admitted to Pittsburgh Children's Hospital on that day and stayed until May 25. She will need to make weekly trips to the hospital for two years for chemo treatments.

On Feb. 20, 2015, Officer Scott McFall, a Supporting Member at Berks County Jail, died unexpectedly of a heart attack while driving home from his shift. He leaves his fiancée, Dawn Stief, and six children.



Dear Wendy,

In this photo, Corrections Officer Chadee Phillip (center) is receiving the check from the CPOF that you graciously sent to us. He was very grateful and appreciative. Also pictured is our Warden, Janine Quigley, and Chief Deputy Warden Jeffrey Smith.

Thank you again!

Dawn Lutz, Berks County Jail System, Leesport, PA
Officer Phillip's apartment complex caught fire and all belongings were lost. Officer Phillip was temporarily displaced and, at Pennsylvania Representative Wendy Baur's recommendation, received an assistance check to help until he found new lodgings.



Corrections Officer Eric Cavallucci of SCI Rockview was off duty and out for a run when he was struck and killed by a truck. Here is a note from his fiancée, Tera Weber:

To the CPO Foundation,

Eric was walking home on the evening of January 20, 2015. As he crossed the road he was struck by a pickup truck. Eric traveled about ten to 15 feet before coming to a final rest,

lying face down in a front yard. He passed away later that night due to the severity of his injuries.

Eric was 44 years old. He had served in the United States Marine Corps and had served over 18 years with the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections.

Thank you for your support during this time. My daughter, Ava, and I truly appreciate everything you have done for us.

Sincerely,
Tera Weber



Correctional Officer Chris Treaster of SCI Smithfield had surgery on September 29, 2015 to remove a mass from his kidney. Chris also had surgery earlier this year on his lower back. Thank you, CPOF, for your assistance.

Jamie Ardrey, SCI Smithfield
We wish Officer Treaster well with his recovery. Jamie Ardrey is the CPOF's volunteer contact at SCI Smithfield.

Georgia



Correctional Officer Peter Dawson, a Supporting Member at Autry State Prison, was rushed by ambulance to the Archibald Hospital on May 28, 2015 where he had open heart surgery. He was off work for three months while recovering. CPOF's Georgia Representative Rose Williams recommended Officer Dawson for assistance, and he is pictured here, second from the left, with his check.



Chief Parole Officer Derek Singleton of the Adult Parole and Probation suffered a brain aneurysm in late spring 2015. He was in hospice care for two months and, sadly, passed away on August 12, 2015. He is pictured above with his wife, Sherrie, and son, Nicholas.

The Georgia Department of Corrections Honor Guard Team proudly participated in **Project 2000 XXVI**. Center: CPOF Georgia Representative Rose Williams and Commissioner Homer Bryson.



Dear Codi Loder,

To you; the CPO Foundation Board of Directors; Mrs. Angela Grant, Warden; Rose Williams, CPOF Field Representative; and all Supporting Members, I, Lieutenant Valerie Daughtry, would like to take this opportunity to say it means so much when Correctional Officers know there is someone who cares about the well-being of one of their own. Words cannot express how I really feel, but God knows.

I would like to say thank you for the monetary donation. Most of all I would like to thank you for your thoughts and prayers.

Again, thank you for *Taking Care of Our Own* all over the nation!!

Sincerely,

Valerie Daughtry, Bonaire, GA

Lieutenant Daughtry of Pulaski State Prison in Hawkinsville, Georgia was assaulted by an inmate on June 11, 2015. She was punched in the face several times. We send her our best wishes for a full recovery.



Account Paraprofessional Cherelle Wiggs of Augusta Transitional Center in Atlanta, Georgia received a CPOF check when she had to take considerable time off work to care for her husband, Calvin, who had to have two heart surgeries within a two-month period. Cherelle is pictured here with ATC Superintendent Scott Wilkes, who recommended her for the assistance.



Sergeant James McCrystal Sr., a Supporting Member at Phillips State Prison, was killed in a car accident on July 14, 2015. His widow, Theresa, is pictured above receiving a CPOF bereavement assistance check from Warden Ahmed Holt.

Federal News



Dennis with close friend Randy Martin, Ret.-FCI Pekin and Past NCR-RVP.

Electronics Technician Dennis Shea Jr., a longtime Supporting Member at FCI Pekin in Illinois, unexpectedly passed away on June 12, 2015 from heart failure. He was very well liked and respected, and had a beautiful family. CPOF's Federal Representative, Kim Blakley, knew Dennis well, having first connected with him and his wife, Jessica, on the sad occasion of the loss of their two-year-old daughter in an accident in mid 2004. Here, Kim's thoughts:



Dennis Shea Jr.

"Dennis was a past president for Local 701 and even up until the week of his passing was sharing his knowledge of the union and helping others. And if you knew Dennis, you knew he also loved anything spooky and weird! He perfected the art of scaring people and loved it so much that on Halloween he ran the 'Dungeon of Darkness Haunted Attraction.'



Dennis in "spooky and weird" mode

"I know those of us who were at the last North Central Regional Caucus are all thankful we had the chance to see Dennis, talk to him and see his BIG smile one more time. As with any loss, we are left wishing we had had just a little more time, one more conversation, one more smile, one more hug. But I am sure Dennis is looking down on all of us as he is reunited with his daughter and saying, 'Don't cry for me, I am with you still.'

"Dennis' legacy is definitely found in his love for his family, his MANY, MANY friends, his humor and, again, his BIG smile. He may be gone but he will never be forgotten."



The Dennis Shea Jr. Family

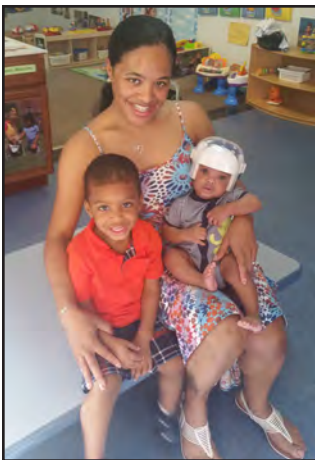


To the CPOF,

On July 12, 2015 I was involved in a motorcycle accident. I suffered a spinal cord injury, three fractured ribs, a fractured shoulder and fractures in my neck. I am the Assistant Trust Fund Supervisor at the Federal Prison in Lompoc, CA. I want to thank the CPO Foundation for providing financial support to my family and me.

Christopher Fritts, Lompoc, CA

We wish Supervisor Fritts all the best with his recovery.



Education Technician Jenell Roberts, a Supporting Member at FMC Butner in North Carolina, is pictured at left with her sons, Elijah and Xavier. On July 7, 2015, four-month-old Xavier had endoscopic surgery to correct premature fusion of the suture at the top of his head. Ed Tech Roberts had to be off work for three months to care for Xavier and take him to doctor's appointments. The CPO Foundation was pleased to help Jenell with her many medical expenses.

Sr. Correctional Officer Matthew King is a Supporting Member at USP Lee in Virginia. He is pictured at right with his son Isaac and daughter Madison.

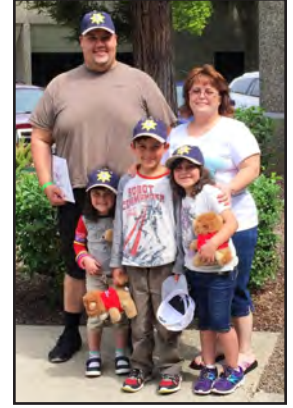
Madison was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer that causes tumors to grow on her nerve tissue. She is undergoing chemotherapy and other treatments, some requiring seeing a specialist in Ohio. The CPO Foundation has assisted Sr. C/O King with the many expenses he

has incurred as a result of Madison's hospitalizations and treatments. Our best wishes to Madison for success in the management of her cancer.

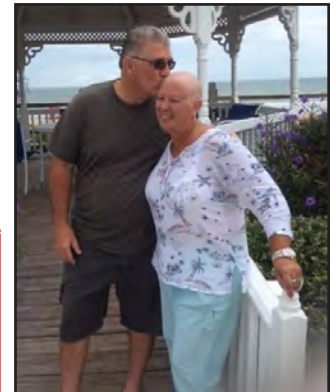




Education Specialist Gabriel Andaluz is a Supporting Member at FCI Herlong in California. His wife, Megan, had complications with her last pregnancy and delivery, and had to have surgery at UC Davis Medical Center, a four-hour drive from the family's home. Megan and baby Alana spent several days in the ICU, and Gabriel and the couple's other four children had to stay in a hotel during that time. CPOF assisted with extra expenses, and we are happy to report that Megan and Alana were released from the ICU before too long and are doing well. At left, the entire family: Gabriel, Megan, Isaac, Naomi, Joan, Maria and Alana; at right, Gabriel, three of the kids, and the CPOF's Federal Catastrophic Assistance Coordinator, Kim Blakley.



Correctional Officer Michael Schreiner and his wife, Cynthia, are both strong Supporting Members at FCC Coleman in Florida. In June 2015, Cynthia was diagnosed with breast cancer. She has had surgery, and her chemotherapy program involves visits to a facility in Tampa every three weeks for the rest of the year. As with many of our Officers in such situations, the CPOF helped the Schreiners with their considerable out-of-pocket, medically related expenses. Michael and Cynthia are pictured at right.



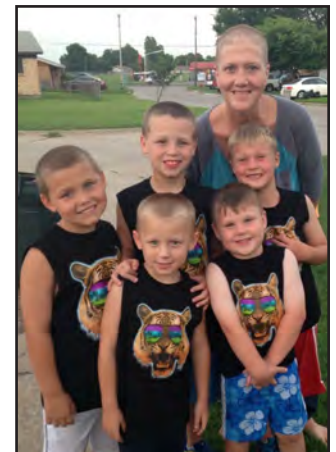
Lieutenant Eric Fontenot is a Supporting Member at FCC Oakdale in Louisiana. His wife, Victoria, had open-heart surgery earlier this year at a Houston medical facility that is over 200 miles from the Fontenots' home. The CPOF provided help with medical/travel expenses. The Fontenot family is pictured at left.

To the CPO Foundation,

On behalf of my wife, Christina Marie Hoff, I want to say thank you for your generosity and support in a time when we greatly need and appreciate it. We received the check and the nice words of encouragement and we want to let you know that your hard work and efforts are so greatly appreciated and needed in this day and age. God will richly bless you all in his timing and we send blessings to you with our deepest gratitude.

Dale Hoff and Family, Bethany, OK

Dale Hoff is a Sr. Officer Specialist at FCI El Reno in Oklahoma. At right is his wife, Tina, with sons and nephews named in the caption beneath the photo. Tina was diagnosed with Stage III ovarian cancer in early July 2015. She underwent surgery, followed by nine weeks of chemotherapy.



Front center: Warren Smith (nephew), Back left: Jackson Smith (nephew), Back center: Zachery Smith (nephew), Front right: Myels Hoff (son, 4), Back right: Jarin Hoff (son, 6).



Drug Treatment Specialist Tamera Anderson-Hanna, a Supporting Member at FCI Miami in Florida, was diagnosed with breast cancer early this year. She has undergone multiple surgeries and treatments. She received assistance from the CPOF to help with her many out-of-pocket medical expenses. DTS Anderson-Hanna is pictured at left with CPOF Regional Federal Representative Laura Phillips (on the left), who recommended the assistance.

Oregon

Why do I love CPOF?

My name is Jessica Andersen. I love CPOF for so many reasons. I believe in this organization with my whole heart. CPOF helps people and families when they need it the most. The help is genuine and given with real care and concern from the hearts of all the representatives and volunteers. It truly makes a difference in the lives of those who have had some kind of traumatic event happen to them or their families. I have personally seen CPOF help families at Deer Ridge Correctional Institution in Madras, Oregon where I work, and had the honor of being able to be a part of this awesome process. Meeting with the families, talking with them and then being able to support them has been so special for me. These experiences have created some lasting friendships along the way as well.

I have met some truly amazing people through this organization. And whenever I have the opportunity to share what CPOF is with new employees, or when the opportunity arises outside of my job, I do so because I just believe in the Foundation so much.

Dear Theresa,

It is with much gratitude that I write this letter. After a catastrophic fire to my family home, we went from a comfortable & secure state to literally having nothing but the shirts on our backs.

I like to consider myself as self-sufficient & prepared - but as I learned after the fire, nothing, especially the insurance company moves quickly. It was such a blessing to know that my co-workers, family & friends & C.P.O.F. immediately offered assistance & support while we were waiting for the bureaucracy of the insurance company to shift into gear.

I can honestly say that this has been the most traumatic & humbling ordeal that my family has had to face and we are grateful for the assistance & generosity you have given to us. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Respectfully,

Richard L. O'Brien, RN, BSN, Medical Services Manager
Columbia River Correctional Institution



Oregon State Prison Correctional Officer Russell Vineyard and his wife sadly lost their newborn baby, Killian, one day after his birth.

Officer Vineyard was a very new hire, and CPOF Representative for western Oregon Dan Weber (on the left) recommended bereavement assistance.

Correctional Officer Steve Bruning, a Supporting Member at Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution, received a CPOF check to assist with extra expenses after his daughter, Alexis,



was born with several life-threatening conditions. Michael Seefeldt, CPOF Representative for eastern Oregon (on the right), presented Officer Bruning with the check on May 1, 2015, and stated, "I am happy to report that Alexis has been improving and is getting stronger with every day."

Mrs. Bruning is a Registered Nurse, also employed at EOCI and also a Supporting Member.

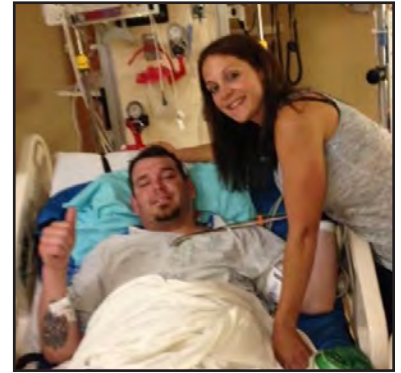
Nurse Manager Richard O'Brien of Columbia River CI and his family lost their home in a fire in May 2015. His wife, Robin, has MS and the O'Briens had just had work done to the house to accommodate her logistical needs. The O'Briens have five children.



Office Specialist II Lori Abbott of Two Rivers CI received a CPOF check after using up all of her time to care for her husband, James. James has been unable to work since May of 2013 owing to a variety of serious medical problems.



Correctional Captain Victor Rodriguez was a Supporting Member at Snake River CI. He passed away from a heart attack on May 22, 2015. He is pictured at left with his family. The family received a bereavement assistance check.



Correctional Officer Kristi Clack, a Supporting Member at Oregon State Penitentiary, is pictured at right with her husband, James, also a Supporting Member. C/O Clack received assistance for extra expenses when James was hospitalized after suffering a brain aneurysm, followed by surgery, in mid May 2015.



It is with sincere and heartfelt thanks from Shutter Creek Correctional Institution in North Bend, Oregon that we thank CPOF for the outstanding response and assistance to our Staff [Correctional Officer] Ms. Susan Sauter recently. Ms. Sauter has a grandson, (Mighty Mason Mergal), who is suffering from cancer. We have been trying to raise money to help the family make the multiple journeys to Eugene, Oregon for treatment and follow-up. Mason has been battling hard for over a couple of years, and now his family will be able to afford the trips than he needs to continue the treatment. Thank you from Ms. Sauter, her family, and from Mighty Mason!!!! Thank you, Theresa Stevens, Catastrophic Assistance Coordinator!

Sincerely,

Sonny Rider, Institution Security Manager, Shutter Creek Correctional Institution

We wish Mighty Mason all the best with his treatment program, and thank Security Manager Rider very much for his upbeat letter. It is he in the photo at left presenting Ms. Sauter with her CPOF assistance check. We also love the message on MM's shirt!



Correctional Officer Oscar Martinez of Snake River CI was hospitalized for 15 days due to a compromised immune system that caused muscle deterioration and affected his ability to walk, talk and swallow. Corporal Vallery Klitch, CPOF volunteer at SRCI, presented Officer Martinez with an assistance check at the request of Michael Seefeldt. Pictured are Captain Jamie Herrera, Captain Joe Woodland, Officer Martinez, Captain Matthew Turner, Captain Randy Gilbertson and Assistant Superintendent Jason Bell.



CPOF Board of Directors,

I have donated to the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation, Inc. (CPOF) for about the past seven years even though I am one of the many that live paycheck-to-paycheck. In April I got hurt at work. As a result of the treatment requirements, I wasn't allowed to have inmate contact, which meant I couldn't go back to work right away. It took almost four months for me to finally be released to return. I had been trying really hard to get by on two-thirds of my pay – the amount paid by workman's comp. It was a struggle and every month I had to keep track of which bill wasn't getting paid to remember for the following month.

I was in a very bad financial situation with no solution in sight when I turned to the CPOF for assistance. They were able to give me a helping hand to get some of my debt back within my control, which alleviated some of the stress and allowed me to feel like I would be able to breathe again. I am very, very thankful they were able to help me during my time of financial hardship and will continue to donate every month.

Sincerely,

Samantha Kossa, Wilsonville, OR

We thank Office Specialist II Kossa for her heartfelt letter, and are very pleased to have assisted her.

Nevada



Senior Correctional Officer Sharrod E. Hightower Jr.

Senior Correctional Officer Sharrod E. Hightower Jr. of Southern Desert Correctional Center was killed in an auto accident caused by an impaired driver on Sunday, July 12, 2015. Several other vehicles were involved.

SDCC Sr. Officer Hightower was an exceptional Staff member who cared about his fellow Officers. He took the time to reach out and provide training to new staff members and became a mentor to many others. Sr. Officer Hightower was well respected by his peers and supervisors alike, and will be sorely missed. We lost a great person, co-worker and family member; but most of all a friend. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family during this difficult time.

On July 25, 2015 a connection between Nevada and California was made during the "Celebration of Life" memorial service for Sr.

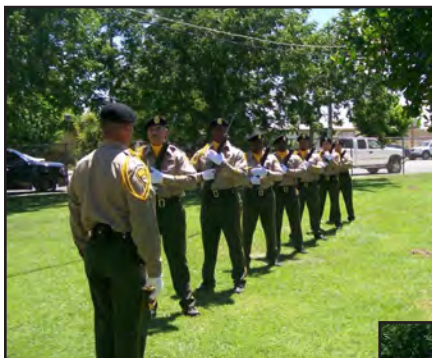
Officer Hightower at the People's Missionary Baptist Church in Bakersfield, California. Theresa Stevens, CPO Foundation Catastrophic Assistance Coordinator for Nevada, and Connie Summers, CPO Foundation California Field Representative, attended. The Nevada DOC Honor Guard, CDCR's Kern Valley State Prison Honor Guard Rifle Team and the Bakersfield, California Police Department Honor Guard were present. In addition, Uniformed Staff were in abundance in the form of NDOC Officers who traveled from Las Vegas, Nevada to Bakersfield, California to see their brother laid to rest.

Honor Guard Commanders Lieutenant Keith McKeehan, NDOC, and Captain David Stebbins, Kern Valley State Prison, provided an honorable farewell that Sr. Officer Hightower's family will never forget.

-- Lt. Keith McKeehan, High Desert State Prison, Nevada



SDCC Warden Brian Williams with the Nevada DOC Honor Guard



Above: Kern Valley State Prison, CA, Rifle Team that fired the 21-gun volley at Sr. Officer Hightower's memorial service. Right: Nevada DOC, Kern Valley SP and Bakersfield, CA Honor Guards



Correctional Officer Jessica Sellers, a Supporting Member at High Desert State Prison, was involved in an inmate altercation on July 1, 2013. She suffered severe injuries to her back and was able to work a total of only 19 days since July 1, 2013 to April 7, 2015. As of the publication of this issue of the *CPO Family*, unfortunately Officer Sellers still had not

been able to return to work. She is pictured here with Lieutenant Keith McKeehan who recommended Officer Sellers for assistance from the CPO Foundation.

We continue to keep Officer Sellers in our thoughts and prayers.

Senior Correctional Officer Daniel Tedesco, also a Supporting Member at High Desert State Prison, injured his back in a fall while at work on October 14, 2014. He has been off work since then. He is pictured here with Lt. McKeehan with his CPO Foundation assistance check.



Kentucky

Greetings from Kentucky!

My name is Kim Potter-Blair and I was recently asked to join the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation (CPOF) Board of Directors and I proudly accepted.

I began my Kentucky Correctional career in 1998 as a Correctional Officer. In April of 2008 I was appointed to Deputy Commissioner. It was in this position that I had the opportunity to be introduced to CPOF. This organization has helped the Kentucky Department of Corrections in so many ways, which always brings me to "Taking Care of Our Own".

In June of 2008, Commissioner LaDonna Thompson and I attended CPOF's four-day Annual Memorial event in Washington, D.C. It was there that I observed and experienced the camaraderie among Correctional Professionals from all over the United States and Canada assisting spouses, children, parents and other family members who had lost loved ones in the line of duty. It was then that I knew I wanted to be a part.

At my first CPOF board meeting, I learned that while all of the states represented in CPOF have many Correctional staff, the ratio of CPOF Supporting Members is relatively low in comparison to that total number of Correctional staff. I knew that we, the members of CPOF, had a lot of work to do to increase not only membership but to also increase true, heartfelt support for the Organization. Kentucky CPOF Field Representative Wayne Bowdry has attended our Annual Kentucky Council on Crime & Delinquency (KCCD) Conference, visited prisons, and displayed the dedication that is needed. But we in Kentucky, like the other states, see that we -- Wayne Bowdry, Commissioner Thompson and I -- still have work to do in sharing CPOF with Kentucky Correctional staff.

In closing, I'd like to mention that my husband Myron Blair, Casemanager within the Federal Bureau of Prisons, has been a Supporting Member for several years. I am truly blessed to have been introduced to this organization, and will continue to support and represent it to the best of my ability.



Good afternoon, Stephanie,

I wanted to update you on Captain Jeff Darnall. Captain Darnall had taken a partial retirement at 15 years of service due to his health issues and retired from Kentucky DOC effective January 30, 2015. I have attached a picture of our plaque presentation to him today during our lunch. The WKCC staff was thrilled to see that he was well enough today to spend a little time with us! Captain Darnall just recently informed us that he has been placed on the heart transplant list and hopes to hear something soon. Please keep Captain Darnall and his son Brady in your thoughts and prayers.

Thank you for the support of Captain Darnall and the staff at WKCC.

DeEdra Hart, Deputy Warden

Western Kentucky Correctional Complex, Fredonia, KY
We assisted Captain Jeff Darnall, a Supporting Member at WKCC, in July 2014 with medical/travel expenses, as he had to travel to Nashville, TN (approximately 221 miles round trip) to receive medical treatments. We assisted him again at Christmas 2014.



Hi, Stephanie and Wayne. Hope all is well. As Warden of Northpoint, I want to extend my gratitude and many thanks to CPOF Field Representative Wayne Bowdry and all that make up the CPOF. CPOF has always been here for

my staff and didn't fail to do so again with Nurse Katie

Edmonds. Katie donated a kidney to our own Lt. Steve Taylor. Attached is a photo (above) of Wayne presenting Lt. Taylor's CPOF assistance package to NTC Capt. Daniel Napier for delivery to Lt. Taylor, and a photo (right) of myself presenting her CPOF assistance package to Nurse Edmonds. Thanks again for all you do. God Bless.

Don Bottom, Warden
Northpoint Training Center,
Danville, KY





NIKKI R. HALEY, Governor
BRYAN P. STIRLING, Director

October 14, 2015

Charlene Corby, Chief Executive Officer
Correctional Peace Officers Foundation
PO Box 348390
Sacramento, CA 95834

Dear Ms. Corby:

First, let me thank you for your concern for the correctional staff here at the South Carolina Department of Corrections. It is truly comforting to know that the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation is available to help our staff in our time of needs. We are picking up the pieces here in South Carolina after being hit extremely hard last week with flooding across the state. Many areas of the state was devastated, and some of our staff lost their homes and family during this crisis.

I have reached out to each institution and Division within SCDC to determine who of our staff were in the most need. I have enclosed a listing of their names and contact information for your review. Whereas there were many who suffered losses, this list contains only those who lost their homes to the flood, and in one case, our officer lost his wife who drown during the event in flood water.

I would like to directly request assistance for these employees from CPOF. Individual institutions may submit to CPOF requests for employees who had losses but still have their home. We have many who are struggling currently to get back to normalcy.

Again, thank you for your kind heart and willingness to help those affected by the floods. Thank you for caring about the correctional staff here in South Carolina. Should you require any additional information regarding this request, please contact Sandy Barrett, Deputy Director for Programs and Services. She will assist you with whatever is needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bryan P. Stirling". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Bryan P. Stirling

BPS/sb/mdl

Attachment

cc: Mr. Gary Evans, South Carolina Field Representative (CPOF)
Ms. Sandra Barrett, Deputy Director (Programs and Services)

South Carolina



Good morning, Christina,

Here is the photo [left] of Officer Tia Habersham receiving her CPOF check from Chief Deputy Willis Beatty and Sergeant Lisa Kinsey (left), her immediate supervisor. Officer Habersham was

over the moon and very thankful for it.

The other photo is of Officer Michael Forrester, his wife Amy and Chief Deputy Beatty, as presenter.

I cannot express enough of our gratitude for the support in which the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation has stepped up to assist these two Officers in their time of need.

As I told Gary Evans, our Field Representative, I have been in Corrections over 20 years now and it really never occurred to me this organization was out



there. I was really excited when I met Gary to bring this message home to our facility, the Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center. It has been a "win, win" situation for all our staff. Please pass along our "Thanks" to all concerned!

Timothy L. Smith, Major
Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center
North Charleston, SC

Detention Officer Habersham lost everything in an apartment fire on April 30, 2015.

Officer Forrester suffered a stroke at work on May 6, 2015.

I would like to thank the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation for the monetary gift to help with my hospital bills, etc. This was a welcome surprise for my family. I appreciate each and every one that helped in this process.

May God bless you all.

Vernell Dow, Camden, SC

Administrative Specialist Dow is a Supporting Member at Lee Correctional Institution. Vernell was off work for three months due to emergency gall bladder surgery. Her husband also was off work caring for her during her recovery.

Idaho



In early 2015 Correctional Officer Rodney Hatmaker of Idaho Correctional Institution in Orofino had an attack of pancreatitis and was first admitted to Clearwater Hospital. He was

then life-flighted to Sacred Heart Hospital in Spokane, WA and admitted to the ICU. His wife and children went to Spokane for five nights to be with him. He is pictured here receiving a CPOF check from Sergeant Kristi Lynch, a Supporting Member at ICIO who recommended Officer Hatmaker for assistance.

Officer Dale Schmidt of Idaho State Correctional Institution died on Jan. 27, 2015 from natural causes. He was only 49 years old and left his wife and three teen-aged children. His widow, Shawna, is pictured here receiving a CPOF bereavement assistance check presented by referring parties Corporal Larry Payne and Deputy Warden and Supporting Member Leroy Peneka.



Rhode Island

When Natural Disasters Strike...



Officer Yeadon, a Supporting Member, receiving his CPOF assistance check from Manny Leander

On Tuesday, August 4, 2015 in the early morning hours what forecasters called “microbursts” struck Rhode Island, mainly affecting the Cranston, Warwick and West Warwick areas. The entire storm lasted approximately half an hour but brought with it very heavy rain, lightning and wind gusts over 70 mph.

The storm knocked out power for over 121,000 Rhode Island residents (more than Super Storm Sandy), causing trees to be plucked from the ground at their roots



The Yeadons' badly damaged house, with the trunk of a huge uprooted tree in the foreground



The Yeadons' bedroom where Missy had been sleeping just moments before a tree crashed through the wall

and landing on homes and vehicles, blocking roadways and taking down power lines.

Little did Correctional Officer Matt Yeadon know as he left for work that his home and sleeping wife, Missy, were in the storm's path.

Shortly after Officer Yeadon reported for work he received a call that he needed to come home:



Another huge tree uprooted by the storm

the storm had caused trees to fall on Officer Yeadon's home and vehicle, causing major damage. One tree crashed right into the master bedroom where Missy had been sleeping. Thankfully she made it out all right and sustained only minor scratches.



One of the Yeadons' vehicles after the storm

With quick notification from CPOF's RI Representative, Manny Leander, we were able to get assistance to the Yeadon family within a few days. We know they have a long rebuilding process ahead, and they will continue to be in our thoughts.

-- Kim Blakley, CPOF Catastrophic Assistance Coordinator for Rhode Island

Letter from Oklahoma

ROBERT PATTON
DIRECTOR



MARY FALLIN
GOVERNOR

STATE OF OKLAHOMA
OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
SOUTHWEST DISTRICT OFFICE

September 3, 2015

Ms. Theresa Stevens, Catastrophic Assistance Coordinator
Correctional Peace Officer's Foundation
P.O. Box 348390
Sacramento, CA 95834-8390

Ms. Ann Tandy, Oklahoma Field Representative
Correctional Peace Officer's Foundation
P.O. Box 348390
Sacramento, CA 95834-8390

RE: Assistance for Correctional Peace Officer's Foundation Member Dwayne Janis

Dear Ms. Stevens,

I would like to say "Thank You" for your support and assistance for Southwest District Community Corrections Supervisor Dwayne Janis and his family. Mr. Janis was very humbled and appreciative by your organization as well as support from fellow Oklahoma correctional employees.

I am proud to be a supporter and member of the Correctional Peace Officer's Foundation and your slogan "Taking Care of Our Own" is evident by your concern and generosity. Again, please know that your organization is appreciated and your support couldn't have went to a nicer family in a critical time of need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff W. Woody".

Jeff W. Woody, District Supervisor
Southwest District Community Corrections
602 SW Highland Ave.
Lawton, OK 73501-8252

602 SW HIGHLAND AVENUE • LAWTON, OKLAHOMA 73501-8252
(580) 248-9146 • FAX (580) 248-7617
www.ok.gov/doc

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 Kim Blakley -- kim@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 Kim 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.

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

- AFGE - Council of Prison Locals - 33
- AFGE - Local 171, FTC Oklahoma City/FCI El Reno, OK
 - AFGE - Local 506, FCC Coleman, FL
 - AFGE - Local 720, FCC Terre Haute, IN
 - AFGE - Local 817, FMC Lexington, KY
 - AFGE - Local 1405, USP Lee, VA
 - AFGE Local 3969, FCC Victorville, CA
 - AFGE - Local 3979, FCI Sheridan, OR
 - American Correctional Association
 - ARAMARK
 - Arizona Corrections Association
- Association of Oregon Corrections Employees
 - CenturyLink
 - Dome Building, Regional Office, Oregon Department of Corrections, OR
- Florida Council on Crime and Delinquency
 - FDGlobal
- Fraternal Order of Police Labor Committee, Department of Correction, Washington, D.C.
 - Global Tel*Link
- HKS, Inc.
- Johnson Controls
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- Nevada Corrections Association
- New York State Correctional Officers & Police Benevolent Association (NYSCOPBA)
 - Norix Group, Inc.
 - Norment Security Group
- PBA Local 105, Trenton, NJ
- Retired Chapter of CCPOA
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 - Sierra Steel Company
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 - Zoom-A-Lube of Chester, VA

Lifetime Sponsors from Correctional Facilities

- 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 Womens' 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

LIFETIME SPONSORS of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation

Lifetime Sponsors from Correctional Facilities (cont.)

- Oregon State Correctional Institution, OR
- Warner Creek Correctional Facility, OR
- Philadelphia Prison System, PA
- Curran Fromhold Correctional Facility, PA
- House of Correction, Philadelphia Prison System, PA

Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) Lifetime Sponsors

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allred Unit • Beta I Unit • Boyd Unit • Briscoe Unit • Byrd Unit • Choice Moore Transfer Facility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clemens Unit • Clements Unit • Coffield Unit • Cole State Jail • Connally Unit • Dalhart Unit • Daniel Unit • Darrington Unit • Dominguez State Jail <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duncan Unit • Eastham Unit • Ellis I Unit • Estelle Unit • Ferguson Unit • Formby State Jail • Garza East Transfer Facility • Garza West Transfer Facility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gist State Jail • Glossbrenner SAFPF • Goodman Transfer Facility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goree Unit • Gurney Transfer Facility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Halbert Unit • Havins Unit • Hightower Unit | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hilltop Unit • Hobby Unit • Holliday Transfer Facility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hughes Unit • Huntsville IPO • Huntsville Pardon & Parole Office <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huntsville Unit • Hutchins State Jail <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jester I SAFPF • Jester III Unit • Johnston SAFPF • Laundry & Food Service Division <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lewis Unit • Lopez State Jail <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luther Unit • Lychner State Jail <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • McConnell Unit • Michael Unit • Middleton Transfer Facility • Montford Psychiatric Unit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mountain View Unit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Murray Unit • Neal Unit • Pack Unit • Plane State Jail • Polunsky Unit • Powledge Unit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ramsey Unit • Region I Director's Office • Region II Director's Office | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roach Unit • Robertson Unit • Rudd Transfer Facility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanchez State Jail <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sayle SAFPF • Segovia Unit • Smith Unit • Stevenson Unit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stiles Unit • Stringfellow Unit • TDCJ Correctional Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TDCJ Department of Classification and Records Staff Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telford Unit • Terrell Unit • Torres Unit • Travis County State Jail <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vance Unit • Wallace Unit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ware Unit • Wheeler SAFPF • Woodman State Jail <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wynne Unit |
|--|--|--|

Lifetime Individual Sponsors

- Mrs. Lucile G. Plane
- The Autobee Family and Ms. Yolanda Floyd
- David & Ruthie Reeves
In honor of SSG Jason A. Reeves
 - Mr. Eric Spierer
- Mr. Dan M. Reynolds and Family
- John and Carey Mendiboure
- Ms. Pamela Omelson

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.

The Attica Prison Preservation Foundation Building



On a fittingly cold and rainy September 13, 2015 we opened the Attica Prison Preservation Foundation Building. Our little facility is located directly across the street from, and bears a resemblance to, her big brother, Attica Correctional Facility. A lot of people came through that opening weekend. We are still in the process of compiling and cataloging the treasure trove



of artifacts amassed thus far. For now, we are open Wednesday and Saturday from 1:00pm to 5:00pm. We will have a website



soon.

The mission of the Attica Prison Preservation Foundation was twofold: to preserve the long and rich history of one of America's most storied and infamous prisons, and to honor our fallen brothers along with the brave men and women, past and present, who work behind the Attica CF walls every day. Due to the tireless efforts of Dave Wedzina (pictured at right, second photo down), Pat Galloway and many others, I believe we have accomplished this dual mission.



Much like the building of Attica, the construction of the Attica Prison

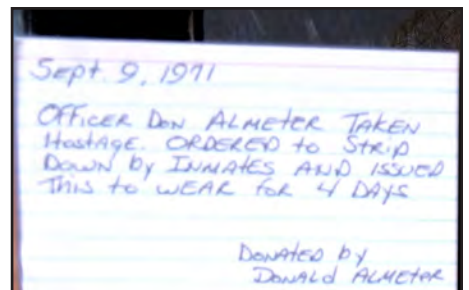
Preservation Foundation Building was a daunting three-year task, rife with hiccups and setbacks. However, our dreams have come to fruition and would not have done so without the help of the CPOF and our friends at the Folsom Prison Museum. There are no words to express our heartfelt gratitude. On behalf of the staff of Attica CF and the Attica Prison Preservation Foundation, I thank you all for once again helping us in **TAKING CARE OF OUR OWN**. Hope to see you all soon. **STAY SAFE!**



Jim Griffin, Corrections Officer Attica CF, Attica, NY Officer Griffin (pictured top right) is the CPOF's contact at Attica CF. A "Gold Club+" Supporting Member for many years, Jim is a tireless worker every year at Project 2000.



Recently he has taken on the additional great responsibility of erecting the Project 2000 "Wall of Honor" (see pages 2 & 12 of this issue). Donny Almeter, former Attica Riot hostage, is now a CPOF Florida Rep. He is pictured at right, third photo down.



A Storied Life in Corrections

by Retired Correctional Lieutenant Jim Brown

Sometimes life gives us a sign that we are doing the right thing.

As a member of the National Big House Prison Museum Board, and the Operations Manager at the Folsom State Prison Museum, I have many opportunities to visit with Corrections professionals in our search for artifacts, exhibit ideas, and the personal stories that tell the history of the profession in America.

I recently had the opportunity to visit the San Quentin State Prison Museum with one of that institution's heroes, retired Associate Warden Dick Nelson, who was there on behalf of the grandson of Sergeant Jere Graham, who was killed in the line of duty on August 21, 1971. The grandson had contacted Mr. Nelson looking for some personal items belonging to Sgt. Graham that had been returned by the Marin County Courthouse. Two other San Quentin officers were killed on August 21, 1971, Officer Paul Krasenes and Officer Frank DeLeon.

For those who don't know, 1971 was the deadliest year for the Corrections profession in this country, and San Quentin was the scene of one escape attempt that year that killed six people -- and nearly took down an institution.

Nelson was a lieutenant when his heroic actions on Aug. 21, 1971, during George Jackson's "Grand Revolution" escape attempt, quite possibly saved the lives of thousands that dreadful day. With about 3,500 inmates out on the yard, a split-second decision was the only thing that was going to keep that incident from erupting into a catastrophic event. Without Nelson's quick thinking, who knows how many lives we might have lost that day? Soon, you'll be able to read Nelson's first-hand account about that bloody incident in a book he is writing about his life in Corrections.

When we arrived at San Quentin, we were met by San Quentin Museum Curator Jeff Craemer, Correctional Lt. D. McGraw, and Correctional Sgt. A. Lujan. Throughout our visit in the Museum, several young Correctional Officers would come in to hear what Nelson was talking about. In each case, Nelson would stop what he was saying, stand up, extend his hand, and introduce himself. The young officers told him they just wanted to stop by to pay their respects to

him for what he did in 1971 to prevent more staff from being murdered that grim day.

I was surprised and proud at how many people came up to Nelson to shake his hand and thank him for his courage that day. It really did my heart good to see these younger, newer officers approach him to let him know how much they respect his professionalism.

Just as we were leaving San Quentin, I noticed an elderly man walking toward us from the East Gate. I asked Nelson if he knew the man, and he said it was "Smitty," an officer he had worked with years ago who retired from San Quentin as a lieutenant. As they shook hands, Smitty told him someone had phoned him to say Nelson was at the Museum. "I just wanted to come by and tell you hello and thank you," Smitty said. And with that, he turned, walked back to the East Gate, and exited.

As more of us retire and move away from the profession, it's nice to have the opportunity to catch up with some of Corrections' best and to meet the next generation of Corrections' heroes. The strength of the profession lies in its officers recognizing and honoring the history that is behind the badge we all wear. History is a true teachable moment, and Associate Warden Nelson is very much a professional educator. He has taught me so much about preserving our Correctional history so that the public and future staff can learn what it means to work in Corrections.

The National Big House Prison Museum is a project of the Old Guard Foundation, Inc. nonprofit organization. We are always on the search for Corrections artifacts and generous donors who would like to get in on the ground floor of this amazing adventure. Already we have acquired a "treasure trove" of items donated by Dick Nelson; Carl Larson, Retired Director of the California Department of Corrections, and Captain Larry Corby, Retired, California Department of Corrections.

To learn more about how you can support the National Big House Prison Museum project, please visit our website, www.bighouseprisonmuseum.org, or email ogalumni@yahoo.com

See back cover for more.

Retired Correctional Lt. Jim Brown has 32 years of service in Corrections, and is a well-respected authority on his home institution, the 135-year-old Folsom State Prison. The author of two books on Corrections, Jim has been the Operations Manager of the Retired Correctional Peace Officers Museum at Folsom State Prison since 1999. He is closely involved with the San Quentin Museum Association and is credited with helping to open the Attica Prison Museum in New York. Jim is Vice CEO of the Old Guard Foundation, Inc., and sits on the CPOF National Board.



Architect's rendering of the front entrance to the planned National Big House Prison Museum. This Museum will be built in phases on property located near the California State Prison at Folsom.

The first phase will be approximately 6,000 square feet in size and will include conference rooms, classrooms, exhibits, secure storage, a gift shop, and workshops for artifact preservation and repair.

As mentioned on the previous page, we are always in search of artifacts. Once we receive the items we will photograph and categorize them, and then put them on display.

The National Big House Prison Museum Committee members believe that it is very important to preserve the past for current and future Correctional Officers and Staff.