

Region One Flash Volume 12, No. 1 January, 2014

Texas Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association Region One 524 Louisiana Avenue #15, Bacliff, Texas 77518-2106



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President – Calvin Walker, Dickinson (281-339-1107) Vice President – Richard Melvin, Dickinson (281-337-8623) Secretary – Jeanne Canales, Sugar Land (832-493-9732) Treasurer – Delores Gant, Pearland (281-997-1015) Directors – Leo Waltz, Webster (281-316-2255); Charles Billingsley, Houston (713-729-1546); Robert "Bob" Milke , Sugar Land (281-617-6488) Non-Sworn TCPAAA State Delegate – Billy Boehlke, Galveston Sheriff - Sworn TCPAAA State Delegate – Jeff Tippit, La Porte Police Department.

January 7, 2014

The Region One meeting for January will be on Saturday, January 11, 2014 in Angleton at 10:00 A.M in the Training Room at the Angleton Police Department, 104 Canaan Drive, Angleton. Take Highway 288 South to the first Angleton exit (288-B). Coming into Angleton you will see Wal-Mart on the right and Kroger on the left. That light is Canaan. Turn left on Canaan and the Police Department is on the right next to the post office. For those coming in from Hwy 35, they can turn right (west) onto Hwy 523 to Hwy 288B turn left (south) to Cannan, turn left, then right into Angleton PD. The phone number is 979-849-2383. Come early for refreshments and fellowship. Please invite your Liaison Officer.

The February Meeting will be in Galveston.

EMERGENCY NOTE - THE EDITOR HAS BEEN HAVING COMPUTER PROBLEMS AND WAS NOT ABLE TO RECOVER SOME SUBMISSIONS FOR THIS REPORT. IF YOU SUBMITTED MATERIAL FOR PUBLICATION AND IT IS NOT INCLUDED HEREIN, PLEASE RESUBMIT AND IT WILL BE PUBLISHED.

Officer and Director Nominees to be installed in January:

President – Sandi Miller of Pearland Vice President – William (Dave) Davis of La Porte Secretary – Richard Melvin of Dickinson Treasurer – Barbara Cook of La Marque Director – Leo Waltz of Webster Note: Directors Charles Billingsley of Houston and Robert "Bob" Milke of Sugar Land not up for reelection.

Committees Audit Deb Smith, Chair, 713-254-4292; debsmith519@att.net Phillip Ferguson, 281-917-3044; Pferguson@Comcast.net Georgie Benavides 281-332-6390 **ByLaws** Charles Billingsley Chair, 713-729-1546; Charl.Bill@Yahoo.Com Membership: Charles Billingsley Chair, 713-729-1546; Charl.Bill@Yahoo.Com Phillip Ferguson, 281-917-3044; Pferguson@Comcast.net Merchandise Sales: Karen Jarrette, Chair, 281-793-9955; Karen.Jarrett@Brandt.Co Richard Melvin, Chair, 281-489-8623; memvin@gmail.com Nominations: Billy Boehlke, 409-925-2043; Bbelkey@peoples.com Jeanne Canales, Chair, 713-447-3773; jrcanales@sbcglobal.net Scheduling: Canales, Chair, 713-447-3773; Scholarship: Jeanne jrcanales@sbcglobal.net Dottie Duby, 979-419-2383; Dottie.duby@yahoo.com Evalyn Phillips, 936-377-3891.

Want a good idea for a 2014 New Years Resolution? How about attending as many Region One Meetings as you can?

Please set aside the second Saturday of each month to come to the Region One meetings. It's only once a month. There's networking, fellowship, an interesting program good eats and finding out what is going on in Region One, the state, and what your fellow alumni associations are doing.

Meeting Schedule for 2014:

January 11 - Angleton February 8 – Galveston City March 8 - Pearland April 12 - Dickinson May 10 -Webster June 14 - Beaumont Tri-Agency

July 12 – No Meeting-Convention August 9 - LaPorte Sept. 13 – Montgomery Sheriff October 11 – League City November 8 – Texas City December 13 – No Meeting

Meeting Schedule for 2015:

January 10- Angleton February 14 – March 14 -April 11- Dickinson May 9 -June 13 - July 11 – No Meeting-Convention August 8 -Sept. 12 – Montgomery Sheriff October 10 – League City November 14 – Texas City December 12 – No Meeting

ALUMNI NEWS

Send news via e-mail to charl.bill@yahoo.com for the Flash. You can send your news in for publication even if you aren't able to attend the meeting and present it there. <u>Submissions are due by</u> the 25th. We would like to know what is going on in your alumni association, but if you don't send it in, we won't know.

November Meeting. The November Meeting was in Texas City on November 9th. The meeting was held in La Marque at the First Methodist Church. After the meeting was called to order, the prayer was led by Cpl. Adolph "Corky" Velasco; the pledges to the USA and Texas flags were led by Calvin Walker. The welcome was by James Luhn, Acting VP of Texas City. The program was given by Captain Brian Goettschius, founder of the TV Series "Forensic Files" and one of the programs was shown and discussed by Captain Goettschius. Members were introduced and the usual business meeting was conducted. The only birthday was Billy Boehlke who also gave the convention and state reports.

Nominations were made for 2014 officers and one director as above.

A suggestion was made by James Lunn that a mini workshop be scheduled to assist CPAAAs in administrative tasks.

Thanks to Richard Melvin for conducting the nomination portion while, at the same time, acting as secretary. Thanks to Texas City for the hospitality and good food. *From the minutes by Richard Melvin*

Keep in your hearts and prayers all Region One's members who are presently fighting serious illnesses. We wish them a speedy recovery.

SEE EMERGENCY NOTE ON PAGE 1.

<u>Galveston</u>. At the start of December, some of us attended the decorating the **Tree of Angels** at Galveston County Justice Center, 59th Street. Texas City CPAAA members were greeting people and passing out angel ornaments to family members. They served us hot chocolate and cookies after the dedication.



Galveston Municipal Police Association (GMPA) sponsors the Christmas Parade on The Stand every year. Krewe de Blue is shown below in photos.





The Masons offered us the use of their recently renovated and impressive **Masonic Lodge**, on the corner of Church and 21st Street. About fifty of our Alumni came to our December Meeting: a Holiday Social. We all brought a covered dish or drinks. We had so much delicious food, including desserts, that it is no surprise that many people went back for seconds.

Promotional videos. Sgt Sims and Ben Green set up our new logo display backdrop and Mary Jean Sargent brought the video cam recorder. They asked some new members to talk on camera about why they liked the Citizens Police Academy Classes. These may be used during presentations by GPD.

Sgt Sims gave our Board members the much cherished Commander's Coin, we held officer elections, and surprised Sgt Sims with a gift of 630 photos documenting Alumni activities for the last two years. **Tom Linton** was our special guest with no duties, just enjoy. Sgt Sims recognized him for writing informative articles about the GPD, CPA, and our Alumni Association. As an aside, you might know Tom Linton by the **"Who Needs Sherlock Homes**?" article published by the Galveston County Daily News this Fall. "Some of the things that wash up on the beach are best left alone. Others, when inspected, turn out to be intriguing." A story about a camera he found on the beach here and tracking down the owner in Colorado.

Santa Hustle. These photos were taken during the Santa Hustle race, Sunday, December 22, 2013. That's Sgt Sims and Alumnus Liz Rogers standing on the corner with other racers.

Galveston (Continued)



One of our goals this year was to put together a slide show of digital photos to display at exhibits, and at our meetings. A lot of hours went into reducing twelve hundred photos to seven hundred. Mission accomplished: our archive is established. Members can download any images they want. You'll see what we mean when you come to **February's Region 1 meeting** hosted by us and the program will be organized by the Krewe de Blue.

<u>Galvestoncpaaa.com</u>. We have set up as a trial, a Google Calendar embedded on a new page for **COP car Reservations**. [An updated training for driving the COP car is scheduled for January 11th]. Several slide shows were created on Photo Gallery pages, one in particular for the May 16[°] 2013 Awards given to officers responsible for Life Saving Acts: please view at http://www.galvestoncpaaa.com/awards.html.

Lastly, January 18^{th.} we'll march along with Alumni in the Krewe de Blue in the **Martin Luther King Parade**. We'll also prepare for **Region 1 TCPAAA Meeting** – February 8.



Reported by Rita Cummings

Galveston County Sheriff. The GCCSAAA has been busy the past two months. We held a Pancake Breakfast fundraiser in November and raised \$893 for the Scholarship fund. We offer scholarships to children of the employees of the Galveston County Sheriff's Office. Our Deputy Claus program provided toys for approximately 225 children in the county who would otherwise receive no gifts. We provided at least 3 gifts per child for children in the family ages 0-12. Deputy Claus is a team effort between deputies, school counselors and CSA members. It touches the heart of anyone working the event. *Reported by Vicki Franzke*

2014 TEXAS CPAAA STATE CONVENTION AND LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING. JULY 27 – JULY 29

Hello everyone!

Preparations for the 22th Annual Convention are coming along great and we will have a preliminary class schedule coming out before the end of January. Classes are arranged and High Profile Speakers are being confirmed now. Friendly reminder to get your Convention Registration form mailed in as soon as possible and don't forget to make your Hotel Reservations, please. Go to www.TCPAAconvention.org to get the registration form and to see additional information.

San Marcos Embassy Suites and Conference Center

Members, if you have not made your room reservation with *the San Marcos Embassy Suites* yet, please do. Remember you are reserving the room but you are not paying for it until the day the event starts, this is a huge help to our Hosts. A special room rate of \$129.00 plus tax per night has been arranged with the San Marcos Embassy Suites. Remember the room rate includes free parking and a full breakfast each morning. To ensure you get the special rate tell the hotel you are with the TCPAAA Convention 2014. You can call them at 1-512-392-6450 or 1-800-362-2779. Reservations must be made by July 6, 2014 in order to receive the special convention rate. *Registrants are responsible for hotel reservations and cancellations*.

Points of interest to plan ahead:

- o Exhibit Hall display
- o Awards Nominations
- o Delegate Alternate Form

On behalf of the Texas CPAAA and our hosts San Marcos CPAAA and SMPD we look forward to the upcoming Convention 2014.

We wish everyone a very prosperous and Happy New Year!

Dorris Murdock, TCPAAA VP- Conventions, 972 989-2661, Dorris@TexasCPAAA.org, www.TexasCPAAA.org

La Porte. August 2013

- MADD recognized the LPCPAAA for their work in 2013 and prior years with LPPD & Harris County No Refusal Night programs aimed at reducing DWI offences. A certificate of recognition was presented during the Region One meeting hosted by the LPCPAAA.
- Volunteers collected, cleaned and displayed donated items for our **annual LPCPAAA Garage Sale** which grossed over \$1000 for the Blue Santa program.

September 2013

• **Participated in the LP Health & Safety Fair** to encourage enlistment into the January 2014 CPA class, promote the LPCPAAA, and gather donations toward our Blue Santa program. Volunteers staffed the booth throughout the day and conducted a raffle to benefit Blue Santa.

October 2013

- National Night Out was again a great success. Weather initially created a scare but the skies parted and the party went on as planned. In addition to over 200 citizens attending neighborhood-centered outreach efforts, nearly 500 citizens visited the Porte Department's open house at the Herbert Freeman Police facility. Open house attractions included guided tours of the police department, courtesy of the police department's dedicated Citizen Police Academy volunteer staff and Youth Explorer Post. Other volunteers took to the streets in the C.O.P. vehicle to visit and photograph local block parties with the Chief of Police, Ken Adcox and PAR officer Yvonne Stanley.
- Law Enforcement Appreciation Day was a day to recognize and serve our heroes of La Porte! Volunteers served up a variety of chili, chicken pot pie, and other treats in thanks to the men and women of the LP Police Department. Volunteers took an extra step and worked with local elementary schools to send a special word of thanks through oversized tri-posters from the children of LP. It was heartwarming to read a note of thanks from a child and his mother who had been helped by an officer during an accident along with all the other notes of thanks, encouragement, handprints and special hello's to officers.
- **Citizens On Patrol training and recertification** took place on October 10. An additional seven (7) volunteers were certified to join the team, brining the current active members to 23. Modifications were made to the program to encourage stronger participation and greater use of the vehicle throughout each month.
- Weather was a bit more cooperative this year as volunteers assisted with traffic control during the **Haunted Crematorium for the LP Project Graduation**. Volunteers helped direct zombies, bumble bees, and others through the haunted crematorium for several nights, helping raise over \$1600 for project graduation.

November 2013

- Another CPA Graduation!! Past graduates and volunteers gathered to support the latest graduates of the CPA and encourage them to join the LPCPAAA. Many of the graduates have been actively volunteers since joining the CPA class earlier in the year.
- Volunteers coordinated during the week of Thanksgiving with local businesses to **set Blue Santa Toy Distribution boxes** in over twenty (20) different locations across town and in city buildings.

December 2013

- Christmas on Main Street Volunteers called in Blue Santa and his Elf Team to help recruit for January's Basic CPA Class (starting Jan. 21) and expand the mission of the Blue Santa Program. After leading the Main St. Parade, Blue Santa (CPA Volunteer) and the C.O.P. Volunteers joined other volunteers at the LPCPAAA booth to promote the CPA program and provide a photo opt with Blue Santa for families. Although it was a cold and chilly night, nothing could damper the spirits of the volunteers!
- Blue Santa program Thanks to hard work by our volunteers and many donations from businesses and citizens of La Porte throughout the year, we were about to exceed the 2013 budget and purchase enough toys to provide every child at the Neighborhood Center (and several beyond) a gift they might not otherwise received. In addition, there were enough toys to support the center's "King's Day" program on January 6th! A special shout out to Walmart on Spencer and East Blvd. for setting us up with a great discount and a wonderful cashier, Lilly.

A dedicated team of volunteers kept busy throughout the week prior to Christmas, collecting toy donation boxes around town, and **wrapping over 1000 gifts**.

On Wednesday, December 18th we **SHOPPED TILL WE DROPPED**! Blue Santa and his Elf team were escorted to the local Walmart in the LPPD SWAT vehicle for a special hour long shopping trip. Volunteers worked feverishly to fill the list of needed toys to ensure every child on the list received a special gift. Once the task was complete, the

La Porte (Continued)

toys were transported back to Santa's special storage location where they were quickly wrapped the following day.

The final act of preparation took place late into the night on Friday when our volunteers worked tirelessly to stage the gymnasium for distribution and decorate a photo opt area for Santa, complete with a decorated tree. On Saturday, December 21st Blue Santa and his team of Elf volunteers arrived early to deliver the gift of Christmas to over 200 families and 500+ children. Like magic, the smiles busted through as each parent and child received the unexpected surprise of not only a wrapped gift, but also a small stuffed animal/toy, a board game and in some cases a sports ball too. "Thank You!" was a phrase heard repeatedly throughout the day to each of our volunteers and this was enough to remind us why we love to volunteer and give back to our community. January 2014

• A vote was taken in December to move our January meeting from the 2nd to the 9th in hopes of avoiding conflict with the close date to New Year's celebrations and vacations. A run off election will take place for 1st VP position and then the new officers will be installed by Assistant Chief R. Parker.







Visit our Facebook page at LA PORTE CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION to read full details about each event and view photo albums for each event. Photo albums are also available on our webpage at <u>www.lpcpaaa.org</u>

La Porte (Continued)



Reported by Deb Hathorn

Houston.

The HCPAAA held a Raffle to benefit the HPD Academy Campus Improvement Project. The prize was A DAY WITH SWAT!! You could either purchase a raffle ticket or purchase the day for \$500. 12 winners had lunch and spent a fun and exhilarating 6 hours with SWAT on November 7th. Activities included Firearms Training, Pistol and Rifle, 100 yard sniper shot, Covert searching in the shoot house, Dynamic entry and Hostage rescue, Search camera and lowlight tactics, and Repelling. Special thanks to Mike and Jeanette Einkauf (class 44) for organizing the entire event.



SWAT members and participants. Photo courtesy of Rena Photography.

The proceeds will purchase a gazebo for the campus grounds. Previous fundraising efforts provided two outdoor message boards, 4 decorative window screens for the cadet lounge area and privacy window screens for the student library.

Once again, the 28th Annual La Comida (Food) Drive was a rousing success raising over \$58,000. The Comida Drive is a joint effort between HPD, Pepsi, Fiesta Stores, and the HCPAAA. Over 3,500 boxes of food were packed and then distributed by the members of the participating churches and the officers from HPD. The collections were done at 14 Fiesta stores and the packaging was done at the Pepsi Warehouse. We can't thank Fiesta and Pepsi enough for their support and contributions.

HCPAAA members donated a significant amount of new toys for Houston Police Officers to distribute through their Blue Santa program. The toys were collected at our Annual Holiday Party which was held in the upstairs ballroom of Theo's Restaurant. It was a great evening topped off by our guest speaker, Dana Tyson, Sunny 99.1 Radio Celebrity. Dana is a huge supporter of law enforcement and those who support them. She especially couldn't wait to sit on Santa's lap. *Reported by Andrea Schmauss and Mike Weingart*

Houston.



WITNESS PROTECTION CRUISE:

Carnival has extended the 25.00 deposit until Jan 6th and the 2nd deposit of \$200.00 until Jan 31st. We still have several outside cabins left, so don't wait

You don't have to be hiding out to go on this cruise. All Citizen Police Academy Alumni members and police officers are encouraged to go and please invite a neighbor, friend or even a relative if you dare. We are going to have a blast and would love to have you all there.

Everything has been set up with Dickinson Travel. You may contact them by phone 281 337-5693, gwen@dickinsontravel.net to get started.

The payment schedule is as follows; December 20, 2013 \$25.00 per person down payment due

January 6, 2014\$200.00per person dueMarch 3, 2014remainder of the balance due

Leaving out of Galveston Texas Date of departure 5/5/14 5 days Yes the "Triumph" Balcony - \$608 ea. Ocean view - \$478 ea. Inside - \$428 ea. So far we will have an \$50 dollar cabin credit. With 50 cabins we will receive a free cocktail party. For every 8 cabins we will receive one person free (\$428) that will be divided between all of us, no one goes for free. This is for all Citizens Police Academy Alumni members their friends and family. I am working on getting everyone a discount for parking. The only requirement is you must have a good time! There is a reciprocal agreement with the National CPAA that they may publish articles from the FLASH in the national newsletter. In order for news from a particular Region One Alumni Organization to be printed, there has to be at least one member that is a member of the national organization. See the web site for info on joining.

Boring but Important!

The following items have been in the Flash almost every issue and the reason we keep repeating them is because they are important, so pay attention if they apply to or affect you.

Don't miss a communication! If you change your e-mail address and don't notify us causing delivery of the Flash to be denied, you are dropped from our e-mail list. Be sure to notify us at Charl.Bill@Yahoo.com immediately if your e-mail address changes or if you don't get a Flash each month. If you use a spam filter, be sure that your computer will accept the FLASH.

When you sign in at a meeting, <u>please print your name and e-mail address legibly</u>. There are always names on the sign in sheet that are unreadable and you don't get credit for attending or put on the e-mail list if your e-mail is unreadable.

WEB SITES AND ADDRESSES:

The Texas CPAAA state web site is *http://TexasCPAAA.org*. Dues are \$10.00 per year (included in Convention Registration). The Texas CPAAA now has a newsletter posted on this web site. Region One is a link on the Texas CPAAA state web site. The Region One Newsletter is posted on this site.

The Texas CPAAA Convention Web Site is <u>www.TCPAAconvention.org</u>. The convention for 2014 will be in San Marcos; and 2015 will be in El Paso.

The Web Master's e-mail is Leo@TexasCPAAA.org.

The web site for the National CPAA is *www.nationalcpaa.org*. Dues are \$35.00 per year. The National Newsletter is posted on their web site. The 2014 Convention will be in Tucson, Arizona.



The local news station was interviewing an 80-year-old lady because she had just gotten married for the fourth time. The interviewer asked her questions about her life, about what it felt like to be marrying again at 80, and then about her new husband's occupation.

"He's a funeral director," she answered.

"Interesting," the newsman thought... He then asked her if she wouldn't mind telling him a little about her first three husbands and what they did for a living.

She paused for a few moments, needing time to reflect on all those years. After a short time, a smile came to her face and she answered proudly, explaining that she had first married a banker when she was in her 20's, then a circus ringmaster when in her 40's, and a preacher when in her 60's, and now – in her 80's – a funeral director.

The interviewer looked at her, quite astonished, and asked why she had married four men with such diverse careers.

"I married one for the money, two for the show, three to get ready, and four to go."

