



Region One Flash – Volume 5, No. 10 December, 2007

***Texas Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association – Region One
P. O. Box 741515, Houston, Texas 77274-1515***

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The Region One meeting for December will be on Saturday, December 8, 2007 in Humble at 10:00 A.M at the Humble Chamber of Commerce Building, 110 West Main Street. Going north on US 59 – Eastex Freeway – past the exit for Bush Intercontinental Airport, take the FM 1960 Exit (the last exit before Main St.) and go to Main Street and turn right to 110. Program is to be announced. Come early for refreshments and fellowship. This is Humble’s first year in Region One and the first year to host a meeting. **Please plan to attend.**

Please make plans to attend as many Region One meetings as possible. Exciting things can happen in Region One and in Texas if we all participate. Attendance at meetings and participation in activities is the lifeblood of any organization. Please make an extra effort.

There was a proposed amendment to the bylaws published to be approved in December. According to our bylaws, it takes a 2/3 approval to adopt. That means 12 member associations must approve. Please attend the December meeting so we will have enough member associations present to adopt.

Members in good standing are Alvin, Angleton, Brenham, Deer Park, Dickinson, Galveston, Galveston County Sheriff, Houston, Humble, Lake Jackson, Liberty County, Montgomery County Sheriff, Pearland, Richmond, Sugar Land, Texas City, Webster, Individual Harris County Sheriff Margaret Hooper and Individual Harris County Constable Larry Stegent.

Schedule for 2007:

January 13 – Webster

February 10 – Lake Jackson

March 10 – Houston

April 14 - Dickinson

May 19 – Pearland (Note change to 3rd Saturday)

June 9 - Pearland

July 14 - Brenham

August 11 – Sugar Land

September 8 – Montgomery County

October 13 – Texas City

November 10 - Angleton

December 8 - Humble

Schedule for 2008:

January 12 - Webster
February 9 – Lake Jackson
March 8 - Angleton
April 12 - Dickinson
May 10 -
June 14 - Pearland

July 12 –
August 9 –
September 13 – Montgomery County Sheriff
October 11 –
November 8 –
December 13 -

Following is the proposed amendment to the bylaws on Article 12 which has previously been published but not approved. . This will be voted on at the December meeting.

ARTICLE 12 - AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

Amendments to Bylaws

12.1 These Bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed. New Bylaws **or amendments** may be adopted by a two-thirds majority of the Member Associations **present**. At least 30 days notice, ~~in writing~~ **by electronic means or by written notice**, shall be given to all member associations of an intention to alter, amend or repeal these Bylaws.

If you have not paid your Association’s dues of \$30.00 for 2007, it’s not too late. You may pay at the December meeting or mail to Georgie Benavides, 522 Cole Ave. W., Webster. Texas 77598. Individual memberships are available for \$10.00 a year. We will also be taking dues payments for 2008 of \$30.00.

Region One now has a Kroger Share Card which, when used at a Kroger store, will give a percentage of your purchases to Region One where it will be deposited in the scholarship fund. If you do not have one, you can get one from Tom Lane at the meetings or call him at 713-771-0016 and he will send you one. There was an accumulated balance in this account at the last notification of \$46.03. This is an excellent and painless way to add to the scholarship fund. Keep in mind that you must show this card at each purchase.

Region One Officers and Directors always welcome suggestions about how to make the Region One meetings better and more interesting. Call any of them with your suggestions.

Treasurer’s Report (submitted by Georgie Benavides):

Balance 9-30-07	\$2.056.53
No receipts or disbursements	
Balance 10-31-07	<u>\$2,056.53</u>
Balance in Scholarship Fund at 9-30-07	\$1.737.62
Receipts:	
Proceeds from raffle	<u>200.00</u>
Balance in Scholarship fund at 10-31-07	<u>\$1,937.62</u>
Note: Accrued balance in Kroger Share Program	<u>\$46.03</u>
(Will be paid when balance reaches \$100.00)	

WEB SITES

There is a lot of information on the convention and state web sites. The state convention web site, <http://tcpaaconvention.org>, gives information on the 2008 convention in Wichita Falls. The Texas CPAAA state web site, <http://TexasCPAAA.org>, gives a lot of information that CPA Alumni members will find interesting and helpful. My e-mail for state-related website matters is Leo@TexasCPAAA.org

Leo Waltz, Webster CPAAA, TCPAA Web Master

The web site for the National CPAA is www.nationalcpaa.org. There you will find information about the national convention and other national news and information on how to join the national organization. The national convention for 2008 will be in Baton Rouge on April 30-May 2, 2008. The 2009 convention will be in Anchorage, Alaska. PLAN AHEAD!

November Meeting. The November meeting was in Angleton on November 10th. The speaker was Sergeant Quenton Rush who gave an interesting and informative presentation on Forensic Art; the art of drawing police sketches from witness' descriptions. An additional \$60.00 was collected before the raffle was held and will be deposited in the scholarship fund in November. The picture frame was won by Rita Nicolaidis from Texas City and the statue was won by Carroll Bagley of Liberty County. The bylaws amendments previously presented were voted on and approved. It was pointed out that the election held in October was a month early and violated our bylaws which call for an election by written ballot and candidates were accepted by acclamation. A new election was held by written ballot. Co-chair of the 2009 convention Dave Miller of Pearland, reported that plans were proceeding for the convention and a date and location should be finalized soon. There were 26 members present representing 11 alumni associations. The usual excellent breakfast was furnished by the folks at Angleton and we salute and thank them with a tip of the Region One cap.

IF YOU HAVE A FUNCTION COMING UP, OR HAVE SOMETHING THAT WOULD BE OF INTEREST TO REGION ONE MEMBERS, SUBMIT IT AND IT WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE FLASH. SEND TO CHARL.BILL@YAHOO.COM.

When you sign in at a meeting, please print your name. There were four names on the sign in sheet for Brenham in July, for example, that were unreadable and they didn't get credit for attending.

ALUMNI NEWS

You will note that only three alumni chapters submitted their news electronically. Your alumni news is important and we want you to share it with all of the Region One members who receive the newsletter and distribute it to their members. In orders to get your news published, you MUST send it to the secretary and the FLASH as soon as possible after the meeting in which it was presented. No later than a week after the meeting. Send to robertduby@sbcglobal.net and to charl.bill@yahoo.com via e-mail. You can send your news in for publication even if you weren't able to attend the meeting and present it there.

Angleton. Coushatta trip was November 5. The trip was great and there may be another trip in the spring. Christmas on the Square is November 30-December 1 and is one of our biggest fund-raisers. We will sell and serve sausage-on-a-stick. We will also have the trailer we purchased from FEMA on display. Class 18 is going well. Graduation will be December 11. We are still selling memorial pavers. One paver for \$55; two for \$100. All pavers after that are \$45 each. We are about to start our Blue Santa program.

Brenham. November 5th was our "big" fundraiser for the year. We had a Sirloin Steak drive thru at the Community Hall. Members sold 1127 tickets and fortunately lots of people showed up to help fill plates and get them delivered to the cars. Almost \$2,500.00 was deposited into our fund to purchase an all terrain vehicle for the police department. At the general meeting on November 12th, four new Board members were elected. Joining the Board are Frances Poston, Chuck Wood, Shawna Goerlitz and Jean Winters. We will have a booth on December 1st downtown at the Holiday Homecoming celebration and the COPS will help with the 5K run and the parade on the same day. We hope everyone has a Safe and Happy Christmas! *Reported by Chris Pieper*

Galveston County Sheriff. The island chapter of the Galveston County Citizen Sheriff's Academy Alumni Association recently presented Sheriff Gene Leonard with a \$1,000.00 check for the newly launched CHILD project. This system helps investigate, identify, and locate missing children and adults through Iris Recognition Biometric Technology. The Galveston County Sheriff's Office is the first in Texas to install the Children's Identification and Location Database (CHILD) Project. *Courtesy The Police News*

Montgomery County Sheriff. I would like to ask that each of you please remember one of our alumni members, Rita Crosby and her daughter's family in your prayers. Rita lost her grandson, Brandon Smitherman age 21 who was serving in Iraq. He had talked to his mother the night before he died and was looking forward to coming home in January. He was to also make a surprised visit home Christmas to see his mother, sister, new niece and grandmother. Rita our prayers are with you. Nov. 17th we will help with the annual 'Lighting of the Doves' at The Woodlands Mall. Nov. 20th our 2007 Class will graduate. *Reported by Jeanette Graff*

State merchandise is now on sale at the Region One meetings. See Tom Lane for shirts, patches, etc.

If anyone has any ideas for obtaining funds for the scholarship fund, please contact one of the officers or directors. It was suggested at the February meeting that each Alumni Association member of Region One that could afford it, donate \$100.00 to the Scholarship Fund.

82% of all statistics are made up on the spot.

If you have ever experienced a near miss where you could have been killed, as we have, you will appreciate the following philosophical statement that we read in a novel recently. "Death passed us by with a wink and a nod and promised to come calling another day".

If my body was a car.....

This is the time I'd be thinking about trading it in for a new model.

I've got bumps, dents and scratches in my finish, and my paint job is getting a bit dull.

My headlights are out of focus and it's especially hard to see things up close.

My traction is not as graceful as it once was.

I slip and slide, and skid and bump into things in the best of weather.

My whitewalls are stained with varicose veins.

It takes me hours to reach my maximum speed.

My fuel rate burns inefficiently.

But here's the worst of it – Almost every time I sneeze, cough or sputter, either my radiator leaks or my Exhaust backfires!

Contributed by Tom Lane

Some thoughts:

Blessed are the flexible for they shall not be bent out of shape.

Silence is often misinterpreted, but never misquoted.

He who dies with the most toys is still dead.

No matter the storm, there's always a rainbow waiting.

CC: Snail mail: (If you are receiving this by snail mail and have an e-mail address, **please send it to us at charl.bill@yahoo.com**. We are converting as much as possible to electronic mail to save on postage and assure rapid notifications).

Tom Lane – Houston

Rita Crosby – Montgomery County Sheriff

Evelyn Phillips – Liberty

Vickie Butler – Tomball

Robert Bertrand – Matagorda County

Debi Hyde - Alvin

Lynn Bryant – League City

Charles Wilson - Pasadena

Edalia August - Beaumont

Mildred Deal – Liberty County