



*Region One Flash –
Volume 6, No. 12 December, 2008*

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



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President – Calvin Walker, Dickinson (281-339-1107) Vice President – Carroll Bagley, Liberty County (936-334-3398)
Secretary – Dottie Duby, Angleton (979-849-4661) Treasurer – Georgie Benavides, Webster (281-332-6390)
Directors – Leo Waltz, Webster (281-316-2255); Delores Gant, Pearland (281-997-1015); Richard Melvin, Dickinson (281-337-8623)
Past President – Tom Lane, Houston (713-771-0016)



***Happy Holidays!!**
Wishing everyone a safe and joyful holiday season.
Whatever your persuasion, have a safe and eventful
Holiday Season, while remembering the victims of
Ike and remembering our men and women in
danger in foreign places.*

The December Region One Meeting will be in Montgomery County on Saturday, December 13, 2008 at 10:00 A.M. at the Clint Peoples Training Academy, #1 Criminal Justice Drive. Take I-45 North to North Loop 336 Exit #88. (Be sure you go to North 336; there is a South 336 before you get to North 336). Turn right (East) on 336 to First Street and turn right on First Street. Continue on First Street till you cross the railroad tracks (the road will wind to your left and cross over the railroad tracks where you will come to a stop sign) and continue on Hillbig Road (you will pass the drivers license office) to Criminal Justice Drive and turn right on Criminal Justice Drive. The Clint Peoples Training Academy is at the end of Criminal Justice Drive. Thomas Bach's cell phone is 936-443-6535 in case you get lost.

We received the following note from Charlotte Thomas, Secretary of the state CPAAA organization. We offer it without comment since we don't have any further details.

“SAN MARCOS, HAYS COUNTY, AND TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY HAVE AGREED TO HOST OUR 2009 CONVENTION IN SAN MARCOS DUE TO THE EMERGENCY SITUATION CAUSED BY HURRICANE IKE”.

Please make plans to attend as many Region One meetings as possible. Exciting things are happening in Region One and in Texas. Attendance at meetings and participation in activities is the lifeblood of any organization. Please make an extra effort.

Members in good standing. Alvin, Angleton, Brenham, Dickinson, Galveston, Galveston Sheriff, Harris County Constable Precinct 4, Houston, Humble, Kemah, Lake Jackson, League City, Liberty County, Montgomery County, Pasadena, Pearland, Richmond, Santa Fe, Sugar Land, Texas City and Webster. Your Association's dues are \$30.00 for 2008. You may pay at the December meeting or mail to Georgie Benavides, 522 Cole Ave. W., Webster, Texas 77598-4902. Individual memberships are available for \$10.00 a year. If you haven't paid your 2008 dues, you will not be in good standing and will not be eligible to vote.

Schedule for 2009:

January 10 - Angleton
February 14 - Lake Jackson
March 14 - Houston
April 11 - Dickinson
May 9 - Santa Fe
June 13 - Pearland

July 11 -
August 8 - Sugar Land
September 12 - Montgomery County
October 10 - Brenham
November 14 - Texas City
December 12 -

UPCOMING EVENTS

Send your upcoming events to Charl.Bill@Yahoo.com and they will be published.

Treasurer's Report (submitted by Georgie Benavides):

This is a corrected report for October. (Flash's goof, not Georgie's)

Balance 9-30-08	\$1,736.16
No Receipts or Disbursements	
Balance 10-31-08	<u>\$1,736.16</u>
Scholarship Fund:	
Balance 9-30-08	\$2,391.37
Receipts:	
Interest	4.51
Sale of Pins and Patches	<u>58.00</u>
Balance 10-31-08	<u>\$2,453.88</u>

Thank You from Nelda Harles, Dickinson Police Chaplain, Member of Dickinson DCPAAA.

Thank you for your concern and assistance after the perils of Hurricane IKE. My home in Shoreacres was destroyed. We still do not have electricity and are not allowed to GO HOME. However, today the Inspector is arriving to determine if we can/cannot rebuild. Please keep the community of SHOREACRES in your prayers. Thank you, Nelda and Family.

November Meeting. The meeting was on November 8th in Texas City. The speaker was Officer Charles Totty of the Texas City Police Department who gave an interesting talk about Ike in Texas City and the after effects.

With the interruption of Hurricane Ike, a nominating committee was not appointed at the August meeting. In accordance with Article 6.7, Common Accord, of the bylaws, and after discussion, Charles Billingsley made a motion to nominate the present officers and director of position two with the exception of the secretary to serve another term and that they be elected by acclamation if there were no further nominations from the floor. An amendment to the motion was made by Evelyn Phillips to include Mildred Deal as a nominee for Secretary and the amendment was accepted by Billingsley. After a call for nominations from the floor which there were none, the motion passed. Congratulations to Mildred Deal on her election as secretary.

Slots were filled for meeting host for 10 months in 2009. Thanks to Texas City for their hospitality and the excellent refreshments.

OUR THANKS AND GRATITUDE TO DOTTIE DUBY FOR HER SERVICE AS SECRETARY FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS.

ALUMNI NEWS

Send news to robertduby@sbcglobal.net and to charl.bill@yahoo.com via e-mail. You can send your news in for publication even if you aren't able to attend the meeting and present it there. 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.

Angleton. We are having a gun raffle as a fund raiser. A Glock 40 caliber, model 32, handgun. Ticket price is \$2.00 each or 6 for \$10.00. Drawing will be December 19. More pavers are being laid in the memorial outside the police station. Pavers can still be purchased at \$55.00 each. The ACPAAA has purchased a video camera to film the CPA classes. Class 19 is going well. There are only a few classes left. The participation from the attendees and the CPA alumni has been great. It is time for the Blue Star Officer of the Year award. This event is sponsored by Dr. Chris Pangen. Officer Quenton Rush was elected to be the recipient this year. The ACPAAA will have a fund raiser at Wal-Mart on Saturday, December 13. We will be selling sausage-on-a-stick. We had our C.O.P. car in the Brazoria Heritage Foundation Veterans Day Parade on November 11. Our Blue Santa program is in full swing. The response from the business' and community has been wonderful.

Brenham. November 2nd was our big fundraiser for the year. We had a drive thru Sirloin Steak dinner and sold over 1200 tickets. It was a huge success. On November 6th the City of Brenham had the ground breaking ceremony at the site of the new Brenham Police Department. Everyone is looking forward to this new construction and hope to see it completed in 2009. The COPS were recognized by the Brenham City Council at an Appreciation dinner for volunteers on November 13. **Seasons greeting from Brenham!**

Reported by Chris Pieper

Harris County Precinct 4 Constable. Harris County Pct. 4 Constables CPAAA volunteers assisted with a STEER clear Safe Drivers Program class session held on Saturday morning, November 22, 2008. The class session is mandatory for teen drivers under Court Order who have been caught driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Teens are instructed on the hazards of impaired driving utilizing the 'Fatal Vision Goggles' along with an interactive driving challenge demonstrating the consequences of risky driving behavior.

Reported by Larry Stegent

Houston. The HCPAAA will once again be assisting H.P.D. with collecting monetary donations & food, as well as, packing and distribution for the departments' annual holiday 'COMIDA' Food Drive during the month of December. The Houston Police Departments 'COMIDA' Food Drive began in December 1985 and now provides food for more than 3500 families in Houston during the Christmas holidays. HCPAAA members volunteered with Houston Striders, Inc. on October 26th for the Assist the Officer Houston Half Marathon & Relay event sponsored by Koala Health & Wellness Centers & Luke's Locker. HCPAAA will be contributing to the H.P.D. Blue Santa Program again this year. HCPAAA members donate new toys for Houston Police Officers to distribute to less fortunate children in their patrol beats.

Reported by Larry Stegent

Lake Jackson. A Disabled Parking Marathon was held Friday and Saturday, November 13 & 14. Thirty-one citations were written. Our November general meeting had guest speaker Andrea Schmauss, Regional Council Leadership Chair. Alumni of the year Roy McKneely was recognized at the meeting. Child ID is being done in area schools. October 28 through November 18, students getting their picture and ID totaled 32 students at Bess Brannan school in Lake Jackson, 49 at T. W. Ogg school in Clute, 58 at Elizabeth Ney in Lake Jackson, and 63 at Velasco Elementary in Freeport. Two more schools are scheduled for December. A retirement party was held November 18 at the Lake Jackson Civic Center for Assistant Chief Dunlap, LJCPAAA liaison who will retire November 30 after 28 years of service and tireless support of the LJCPAAA. The alumni assisted the police department and the city with the retirement party which was held on November 18. COPS patrolled during the Festival of Lights on November 22 that was held at the Lake Jackson Civic Center. Lighting of the City of Lake Jackson occurred and was followed by a parade at 7pm.

Reported by Joyce Beeson

Montgomery County Sheriff. November. September we were unable to have our Region One meeting for everyone due to the visit from Ike. We were also unable to have our regular monthly meeting due to this unwanted guest and that our officers had to live in the Training Center for 2 weeks while they were on call. We are getting started on our new Fund Raiser. October we were able to start back with our CPA classes. We had 31 people registered for our class, but due to the storm we lost one. We are very glad that his wife wanted to stay with the class and finish. We are very proud of her wanting to go forward with the decision that her and her husband had wanted to do. October is also the month that we help with annual C.A.S.T. for kids day. It has been postponed due to Ike and the fact that he destroyed the Marina. The plan, right now, is that they are trying to find another place on the lake and go forward. November 22nd we will be helping at the Parking Garage in The Woodlands again. The Town Center has asked us to also take care of another Parking Garage for them.

December. Nov 17th: at our regular meeting we welcomed several of the class that is ready to graduate. They were also invited to help us with the annual Lighting of the Doves in The Woodlands. Nov 20th: was graduation for our Aug 2008 CPA class. We had 27 people to graduate. One of our class members was picked to present Sheriff Tommy Gage with a plaque of their class photo. Two awards was presented by Sgt. Herring to Mike Manning and Jeanette Graff for their dedication to the CPA classes. Nov 22nd: We worked the Lighting of the Doves. We had a good turn out of alumni members plus several from our graduating class. Everyone had fun. We collected \$4000.00 from working the parking garage and the parking lot. The Town Center gave us 50% for the alumni. Our next CPA classes will start Feb 19th and May 20th, 2009

Reported by Jeanette Graff

If you have stories to tell about Hurricane Ike, either individual, alumni association or area, other Region One members would like to hear them. Submit Ike stories to Charl.Bill@Yahoo.com and they will be published in the Flash.

HONOR ROLL OF 2011 GALVESTON CONVENTION VOLUNTEERS

Although the Convention has been postponed until 2011, we will still take names of volunteers. We realize that circumstances may change and no one will be faulted if they cannot volunteer even though they signed up. So don't let that hold you back. **Sign up now so when we get there we can get off to a running start.** It will be here before you know it. Following is a list of the committees and those signed up which makes up the honor roll. You can see that some of the committees don't have any names. If your name is not listed, you can change that by sending an e-mail to Charles Billingsley (volunteer coordinator) at Charl.Bill@Yahoo.com. If you don't have access to e-mail, you can call Charles Billingsley at 713-729-1546. Please copy e-mails to Dave Miller at sdmillers@yahoo.com.

Registration and Bags

Calvin Walker, Dickinson, 281-339-1107, cowboy@hal-pc.org
Jody Thomas, Pearland, 281-412-7004, joltt1357@hotmail.com
Carolyn Suderman, Dickinson, 281-337-3456, csud1@comcast.net
Fred Watt, Jr., Pearland, 713-436-7699, fred.watt@cityofhouston.net

Room Monitors and Prizes

Jeanne Canales, Sugar Land, 713-447-3773, jrcanales@sbcglobal.net
Norma DeWeese, Angleton, 979-848-0871, normadeweese@sbcglobal.net

Class Speakers and Topics

Tammy Harper, Galveston, 713-724-3250, tharper@yahoo.com
Carol Cowan, Galveston, 409-692-7744

Audio and Video

Meals and Ticket Takers

Guest Speakers

Ben Hernandez, Dickinson and TCPAAA, 281-837-3368

Open and Closing Ceremonies and Speakers

Sponsors

Officer Certification (T-Close)

Thomas Bach, Montgomery County Sheriff, 936-443-6535, tommyray1935@yahoo.com
Rita Crosby, Montgomery County Sheriff, 936-264-2338

Decorations (Meals, Opening and Closing Ceremonies)

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.

If anyone has any ideas for obtaining funds for the **scholarship fund**, please contact one of the officers or directors.

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..*

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.

When you sign in at a meeting, please print your name. There are always names on the sign in sheet that are unreadable and you don't get credit for attending.

WEB SITES AND ADDRESSES.

The state convention web site is <http://tcpaaconvention.org>.

The Texas CPAAA state web site is <http://TexasCPAAA.org>. Dues are \$10.00 per year.

The web site for the National CPAA is www.nationalcpaa.org. Dues are \$25.00 per year.

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

The address for the 2011 Convention is Convention 2011, P.O. Drawer V, Dickinson, Texas 77539-2022. The co-chairs for the convention (for which we are eternally thankful and grateful) are Charles Suderman, Dickinson, csud2@comcast.net and David Miller, Pearland, sdmillers@yahoo.com.

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.

That wasn't so bad, was it?

A DIFFERENT CHRISTMAS POEM

The embers glowed softly, and in their dim light,
I gazed round the room and I cherished the sight.
My wife was asleep, her head on my chest,
My daughter beside me, angelic in rest.

Outside the snow fell, a blanket of white,
transforming the yard to a winter delight.
The sparkling lights in the tree I believe,
completed the magic that was Christmas Eve.

My eyelids were heavy, my breathing was deep,
Secure and surrounded by love I would sleep.
In perfect contentment, or so it would seem,
So I slumbered, perhaps I started to dream.

The sound wasn't loud, and it wasn't too near,
But I opened my eyes when it tickled my ear.
Perhaps just a cough, I didn't quite know,
Then the sure sound of footsteps outside in the snow.

My soul gave a tremble, I struggled to hear,
And I crept to the door just to see who was near.
Standing out in the cold and the dark of the night,
a lone figure stood, his face weary and tight.

A soldier, I puzzled, some twenty years old,
Perhaps a Marine, huddled here in the cold.
Alone in the dark, he looked up and smiled,
standing watch over me, and my wife and my child.

"What are you doing?" I asked without fear,
"Come in this moment, it's freezing out here!
Put down your pack, brush the snow from your sleeve,
You should be at home on a cold Christmas Eve!"

For barely a moment I saw his eyes shift,
Away from the cold and the snow blown in drifts.
To the window that danced with a warm fire's light.
Then he sighed and he said "Its really all right,
I'm out here by choice. I'm here every night."

"It's my duty to stand at the front of the line,
That separates you from the darkest of times.
No one had to ask or beg or implore me,
I'm proud to stand here like my fathers before me.

My Gramps died at 'Pearl on a day in December,"
Then he sighed, "That's a Christmas 'Gram always remembers."
My dad stood his watch in the jungles of 'Nam',
And now it is my turn and so, here I am.
I've not seen my own son in more than a while,
But my wife sends me pictures, he's sure got her smile.

Then he bent and he carefully pulled from his bag,
The red, white, and blue... an American flag.

"I can live through the cold and the being alone,
Away from my family, my house and my home.
I can stand at my post through the rain and the sleet,
I can sleep in a foxhole with little to eat.
I can carry the weight of killing another,
Or lay down my life with my sister and brother.
Who stand at the front against any and all,
To ensure for all time that this flag will not fall."

"So go back inside," he said, "harbor no fright,
Your family is waiting and I'll be all right."
"But isn't there something I can do, at the least,
"Give you money," I asked, "or prepare you a feast?"
It seems all too little for all that you've done,
For being away from your wife and your son."

Then his eye welled a tear that held no regret,
"Just tell us you love us, and never forget.
To fight for our rights back at home while we're gone,
To stand your own watch, no matter how long.
For when we come home, either standing or dead,
To know you remember we fought and we bled.
Is payment enough, and with that we will trust,
That we mattered to you as you mattered to us.