



Region One Flash – Volume 5, No. 4, June 2007

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

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Vice President – Calvin Walker, Dickinson (281-339-1107)

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Directors – Leo Waltz, Webster (281-316-2255); Delores Gant, Pearland (281-997-1015); Richard Melvin, Dickinson (281-337-8623)

The June meeting will be on Saturday, June 9, 2007 at 10:00 A.M. at the Pearland Police Department, 2703 Veterans Drive, Pearland. Going East on Highway 518 from Highway 288, take West Walnut Street and turn right on Veterans Drive. Going West on Highway 518 from I-45, turn left on Highway 35, right on West Walnut and left on Veterans Drive. Going South or North on Highway 35, take West Walnut Drive in a Westerly direction to Veterans Drive and turn South. If you get lost, call 281-652-1100. Come early for refreshments.

Please make plans to attend as many Region One meetings in 2007 as possible. Exciting things can happen in Region One and in Texas if we all participate. Our May meeting was sparsely attended due to the change from the second Saturday which resulted in conflicts with some of our more faithful organizations. Attendance at meetings and participation in activities is the lifeblood of any organization. Please make an extra effort.

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

Schedule for 2007:

January 13 - Webster

February 10 – Lake Jackson

March 10 – Houston

April 14 - Dickinson

May 19 – Pearland

June 9 - Pearland

July 14 - Brenham

August 11 - Sugar Land

September 8 – Montgomery County

October 13 – Texas City

November 10 - Angleton

December 8 –

Region One dues for 2007 are due. You may pay your dues for 2007 of \$30.00 at the June meeting or mail to Georgie Benavides, 522 W. Cole St., Webster. Texas 77598. Individual memberships are available for \$10.00 a year.

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.

MAY MEETING. Region One met on May 19th in Pearland. Sheri Teller of the Galveston Convention and Visitors Bureau spoke on the possibility of a TCPAA Convention in Galveston in 2009. Since it is too late to formulate a proposal for the convention in Austin in July, it was decided to explore the possibility of one in 2010 with those present enthusiastically in favor. It was announced that Delores Gant was chosen Pearland's Alumni of the Year. **Congratulations, Delores!** A motion was approved to have a table at the convention in July in Austin to be used by Region One and any members in good standing which choose to do so. Thanks to Pearland for their cordial welcome and excellent refreshments. They hosted Region One for two successive weeks! **Hats off!!**

Have you made your hotel reservations and sent in your registration for the state convention in July?

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 3-31-07	\$2,536.98
Receipts:	
Refund of Bank Charge	3.00
Dues	80.00
Disbursements:	
Post Office Box Rent for 1 year	(72.00)
Bank Charges	(9.00)
Balance 4-30-07	<u>\$2,538.98</u>
Balance in Scholarship Fund at 3-31-07	\$1,236.38
No receipts or disbursements	
Balance 4-30-07	<u>\$1,236.38</u>
Notes:	
Accumulated Balance in Kroger Share Fund	\$ 1.28

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 2007 convention in Austin. 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.

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..

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

ALUMNI NEWS:

Brenham. May was another busy month for our association. Graduation was held for Class 21 on May 7th at the Blinn College Student Center. A fajita dinner with all the trimmings was followed by a slide show presentation of the participants during their 12 weeks of class. Each of the 25 graduates received a certificate from Chief Glen Fowler and Cpl. Tommie Nettle. The class also made several presentations. Also on May 7th Brenham High School had its scholarship awards program for graduating seniors. The CPAAA presented a \$500 scholarship to Josh Vandever who will be pursuing a career in law enforcement. May 11 and 12th was the Maifest and the COPS worked the parades and security at the main parking lot both days. They also worked Project Graduation at the high school following graduation on May 26. COP training for new members was held on May 15, 21st and the 22nd. Goody bags containing snacks and drinks were given to the police officers for Police Week. On June 30th our organization along with the fire department is once again hosting the Guns and Hoses Blood Drive and we'd love to have you there. The time is 9 to 3 at the Fireman's Training Center in Brenham.

Reported by Chris Pieper

Since we had Alumni news from only one member (Brenham), we thought we would include the following which has nothing to do with Region One, but does have to do with law enforcement and we found it to be interesting reading. If you want your Alumni news in the Flash, you must send it to the Flash or to the secretary in time to be included in the minutes.

From the Rocky Mountain News, 5-29-07, by Marilyn Robinson and contributed by Edie Goodwin, Houston Class 30.

“NEVER SAY NEVER” SAYS 57 YEAR OLD STATE PATROL ACADEMY GRADUATE

Many of his friends are dreaming of retirement. But not Lee Oly. Oly, 57, graduated recently from the Colorado State Patrol Academy at Golden and began a new career as a state trooper. He's believed to be the academy's oldest graduate. Oly is no stranger to law enforcement. He was a state trooper for 12 1/2 years in Alaska, where troopers handle burglaries, homicides, domestic violence and other crimes, rather than concentrating on traffic enforcement and accident investigations, as in Colorado. He served as academy commander in Alaska and would like someday to be an instructor at the Colorado State Patrol Academy. "Right now, I'm concentrating on being a good trooper," said Oly, who is assigned to the Colorado Springs area. Oly, who was 56 when he started his training here, sailed through the rigorous 22-week academy in Colorado, graduating first in his class and serving as class president. "I asked for no quarter, and they gave none," he said. A dedicated runner who works out daily, he had no difficulty keeping up with the younger recruits. "I've run the Boston Marathon three times, and I'm in pretty good shape," he said. Oly has had a varied career, including military service, running a small business and teaching. He left Alaska and came to Colorado as part of a deal with his wife, Cathy, who has relatives here. "Our agreement was she followed me all over Alaska, so I followed her here," Oly said. "It was my turn." When he was selected for the Colorado State Patrol, it was "sort of the caramel on the ice cream," he said. His age didn't come up in the application process. "We don't want to discriminate or discourage anyone who may be an asset to our department, no matter what their age is," said Sgt. Jeff Goodwin, a patrol spokesman. "I think it's kind of neat when you can wrap up a career in your 50s and you want to go into law enforcement and make a difference." His advice: "Never say never - give it a shot if that's what you want." Oly is not the only older CSP recruit. Master Trooper Ron Watkins, a CSP spokesman, joined the patrol in 1976, when he was 35. He's the oldest uniformed officer on the patrol, and he's still going strong. "To be honest, I feel like I'm still 35," he said. A recruiter for the patrol for many years, he says older recruits are good candidates. "Once we got them, they stayed with it. They knew where they wanted to be." The State Patrol has no mandatory retirement age. Galvin Proffer, 53, is in the academy now. He was in the computer

business for many years until, as he puts it, "the technology business went down the tubes" in 2002. His dad had been a police officer in California, and he decided to switch careers. He ended up as a police officer at the Aurora campus and eventually was selected for the State Patrol Academy. Now he's set to be on the road with the patrol in Adams County. "It's very challenging," he said of the academy. But being older, he said, has its advantages, including more experience dealing with the public. Policies on age vary in law enforcement. Federal agencies have stricter policies. The FBI has a maximum age of 37 to enter the academy and mandates retirement at 57. The Denver Police Department has a minimum age of 21 and no maximum age to join but requires retirement at 65. The Jefferson County Sheriff's Department has no mandatory retirement age. Neither does the Douglas County Sheriff's Department. "As long as they can meet the standards, they're good to go," said Deputy Cocha Heyden, a Douglas County spokeswoman. But there is one potential problem, said Sgt. Eric Wittman, in charge of recruiting for the Aurora Police Department. "You continue to get older, but the crooks stay young. They can run and fight and pose a much more serious adversary."

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.

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
Rita Nicolaidis – Texas City