



Region One Flash – Volume 6, No. 5 May, 2008

*Texas Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association – Region One
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The May Region One Meeting will be in Pearland at 10:00 A.M. on Saturday, May 10, 2008 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 left. If you get lost, call 281-652-1100. Pearland has graciously agreed to host the May meeting in addition to hosting the June meeting so Region One can get the latest update on the 2009 convention in Galveston which will be the program. There will be light refreshments only. *Thanks, Pearland.*

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.

It's not too late!! The 2008 TCPAAA State Convention is on July 9-12, 2008 in Wichita Falls. The convention web site, www.TCPAAconvention.org, has the registration form including the hotel info. Make your plans, register now and make your hotel reservations. Some of the entertainment will be furnished by the Bellamy Brothers.

2008 Airborne Law Enforcement Association Conference

The Houston Police Department will host the 2008 Airborne Law Enforcement Association Conference at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, July 14th – July 19th. Officer Robert Saenz, H.P.D. Helicopter Patrol Division and volunteer coordinator for the conference has requested volunteers to function as Classroom and Hall Monitors in the restricted areas of the convention where the training seminars will be held. We need to recruit Alumni members who can commit at least one 8-hour day. This will be a very educational and beneficial experience. **The Houston Alumni are inviting any member of a Region One Association that desires to do so to participate in this informative and interesting event.** Volunteers are needed for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, July 16th, 17th and 18th. You must commit to at least one 8 hour day. If you are interested, contact Charles Billingsley at Charl.Bill@Yahoo.com or phone 713-729-1546.

It was mentioned at the April meeting that Region One will be hosting a reception at the 2008 convention in Wichita Falls in July. Volunteers are needed to help with this endeavor, and more importantly, a leader is needed to supervise this reception. Anyone who can help or is willing to be the leader should contact Dave Miller at sdmillers@yahoo.com or Charles Suderman at csud2@comcast.net. This is an urgent request since the convention is in July.

Brenham. March 8th found the CPAAA members in downtown Brenham at the Home and Garden Show. A booth was set up for fingerprinting of children and as a fundraiser. There were lots of small children downtown for the Easter Egg Hunt and the Pet Parade and quite a few made it to our booth to be fingerprinted. We also sold tickets for a Quilt Raffle that we are having May 10th. It was a beautiful and busy day! The CPAAA had a "Giant" garage sale on April 12th that brought in over \$1000.00 and we will be having a bake sale on May 10th also. Class 22 has just completed 12 weeks of learning with lots of hands on experiences. According to the class some of the most fun nights were traffic stops, building search and going to the range. Graduation was held at the Blinn student center on April 23rd where 25 persons received their certificates of completion and a fajita meal was provided by the Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association. A new COP Class starts on May 14. Current COP's completed a bicycle training class and have been assigned 2 bicycles for patrol duties at festivals and in the downtown area. Our next general meeting is on May 12 and we will have Rep. Lois Kolkhorst as a speaker.

Reported by Chris Pieper

Houston. We presented our award to the Officer of the Year on April 17th To Lieutenant Richard Rekieta of the Burglary and Theft Division, recognizing his accomplishments in over 30 years service to HPD. We were fortunate to have members of the HPD Command Staff and the HPD Honor Guard participate in the ceremony. CPA Class 39 with 31 members graduated on May 1st with a majority joining the Alumni Association. Houston volunteers will be participating in Police week at the HPD Academy on May 12th thru 16th. HPD entertains elementary and junior high students during that week.

Reported by Charles Billingsley

Sugar Land. We have Class Graduation #41 on Friday, the 24th. Warrant call out on Tuesday, the 29th. Next board meeting Tuesday, May 6th. Next general meeting Tuesday, May 13th. The trading card committee is still working on the fundraiser and getting sponsorships at \$100.00 for the police officers. We now have 17 sponsors committed. Ralph Twiss is our new treasurer. A great big thanks to Deb Smith for the years she served as treasurer. She will be very much involved with the CAST program and the SLCPAAA. We will be having an election in May for a new board member because Linda Hull will be retiring from that area but very much involved in the CAST program and the SLCPAAA.

Reported by Jeanne Canales

WHO SAYS REDNECKS ARE DUMB?

"Hello, is this the sheriff's office?" "Yes. What can I do for you?" "I'm calling to report 'bout my neighbor Virgil Smith. He's hidin' marijuana inside his firewood! Don't quite know how he gets it inside them logs, but he's hidin' it there." "Thank you very much for the call, sir."

The next day, the sheriff's deputies descend on Virgil's house. They search the shed where the firewood is kept. Using axes, they bust open every piece of wood, but find no marijuana. They sneer at Virgil and leave. Shortly, the phone rings at Virgil's house. "Hey, Virgil! This here's Floyd. Did the sheriff come?" "Yeah!" "Did they chop your firewood?" "Yep!" "Happy birthday, buddy!"

Contributed by Billie Richey, Houston

May 11th is Mother's Day. This is a tribute to mothers everywhere.

Mother's Choices

We keep our thermostats at fifty-nine so we can give our children gifts we really can't afford.

We buy bruised, overripe fruit from the distressed produce and donate the savings to our churches.

We buy our own clothes at thrift shops but select grandchildren's presents from the nicest shop in town.

We eat the same boring dinner every day because we won't cook for ourselves but produce a feast for guests.

We never say we need help when we do, but do without, not wanting to burden those whose burdens we carried.

Some of us break out of these patterns and realize we have rights and choices to care for ourselves too.

But it is hard to forget early teaching.

Even after all these years, we put ourselves last.

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.

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.

TCPAAA DUES. . If you are not going to attend the 2008 convention in Wichita Falls, your annual state membership dues (\$10) are now due. Membership application forms can be found on the state web site. Send to Texas Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association, 815-A Brazos #208, Austin, TX 78701-9996.

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>.

The web site for the National CPAA is www.nationalcpaa.org.

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

The address for the 2009 Convention is Convention 2009, P.O. Drawer V, Dickinson, Texas 77539-2022.

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.

Region One 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.

That wasn't so bad, was it?

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
Ralph Balzano – Kemah

Debi Hyde - Alvin
Lynn Bryant – League City
Charles Wilson - Pasadena
Robert Bertrand – Matagorda County
Craig Lauck – Galveston

We don't like short newsletters. This one could have been a couple of pages longer if everyone would send in their news or anything Region One readers would be interested in. We need news!.