

Carolina C.O.P.S.

(Carolina Concerns of Police Survivors)
1839 Tara Trail
Lancaster, South Carolina 29720



www.carolinacops.org
www.facebook.com/CarolinaCOPS

Volume 1-16

January 2016

IN MEMORIAL



Officer Gregory Alia
Forest Acres Police Department
End of Watch: September 30, 2015

Police Officer Gregory Alia was shot and killed when he and another officer responded to a suspicious person call at the Richland Mall shortly before 9:00 am. During the subsequent struggle, the suspect produced a gun and shot Officer Alia.

Officer Alia is survived by his wife, an 11-month old son, parents, and two sisters.

IN MEMORIAL



Officer Stacy Lynn Case
Columbia Police Department
End of Watch: November 7, 2015

Police Officer Stacy Lynn Case was killed in a vehicle crash while responding to a suspected suicide call.

Officer Case is survived by her mother, step-father, two brothers, and one step-brother.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2016—12 NOON
F.O.P. Lodge #3
5827 Campbell Street
Hanahan, South Carolina



Join us for our winter meeting in Hanahan. Lunch will be furnished by the F.O.P. Lodge #3. All survivors are cordially invited to attend. Please let Lois Rao know how many in your family will be attending so the F.O.P. can plan their meal. Phone: 803-320-2252; email: srao@comporium.net.

Deadline for reservations: 5:00 p.m., Monday, February 15, 2016.

CAROLINA C.O.P.S. ANNUAL MEETING

March 12, 2016—12 Noon
Virginia Wingard Memorial
United Methodist Church
1500 Broad River Road
Columbia, SC 29210

The meeting will begin with a covered dish luncheon. Carolina C.O.P.S. will provide fried chicken, drinks and paper products. You may bring veggies, salads, or desserts.

All officers and Board members will be up for election or re-election at this meeting. You will be mailed a formal notice of the meeting shortly, together with an outline of the procedure for running for one of the officer positions.

Please note: One requirement for running for office is that you must attend the Chapter meeting preceding the Annual Meeting, which would be the February 20, 2016 meeting in Hanahan.

**CAROLINA C.O.P.S.
OFFICERS AND
BOARD MEMBERS**

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Treasurer**

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Newsletter editor:
Beverly Coates



From Lois

Dear Friends,

Spring will soon arrive and that means the cold months of winter will be behind us! In another month or so, it will be time for spring flowers and a rebirth of Mother Nature.

I would like to mention a few things for your information. Our second Law Enforcement Appreciation Day was observed on Saturday, January 9, 2016. Citizens across South Carolina and the country showed their appreciation of law enforcement in various ways. As survivors, we know just how important and special the men and women in blue are to all of us!

Our chapter's winter meeting will be held on Saturday, February 20, 2016, at the FOP Lodge #3, 5817 Campbell Street, Hanahan, SC 29410. The Lodge will host Carolina C.O.P.S. for lunch. So please send me an email to secure your place at the table! My email address is listed in the left column on this page.

The months ahead will be busy for law enforcement and all survivors both here in South Carolina and across our great country. A number of memorial services will be held throughout our state. Our South Carolina State Memorial Service will be held on Wednesday, May 4, at 11:00 am. The service is held at the Criminal Justice Academy in Columbia. Additional memorial services will be listed in our April newsletter and posted on our website and Facebook page.

National Police Week is held annually in Washington, DC, during the week of May 15. During this time, thousands of police officers from across the United States will gather in our nation's Capital to honor the officers killed in the line of duty during 2015. Beginning in January, National C.O.P.S. is mailing packets of information to law enforcement survivors. These packets include registration forms. This same information is on their website, www.nationalcops.org. Carolina C.O.P.S. representatives will be traveling to NPW to offer support for our South Carolina survivors.

Also in the summer months, Carolina C.O.P.S. will host their annual summer event. Details of this event will be mailed to our survivors as well as posted on our website, www.carolinacops.org, and our Facebook page, Carolina COPS.

We continue to hold South Carolina's newest survivors in our thoughts and prayers. For all survivors, I hope the days ahead will bring peace, and that memories of your officer bring you comfort and a smile to your face!

Hugs,

Lois

MISSION STATEMENT

Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc. provides resources to assist in the rebuilding of the lives of surviving families and affected co-workers of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty as determined by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Public Safety Officers' Benefit (PSOB), National Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial Fund (NLEOMF), or Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) criteria. Furthermore, C.O.P.S. provides training to law enforcement agencies on survivor victimization issues and educates the public of the need to support the law enforcement profession and its survivors.



C.O.P.S. FAMILY NEWS



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, BILLY DALE !



L to r.: Tommy Pope; Lancaster Deputy Doug Barfield, Mom Myra McCants, Lancaster Co. Sheriff Barry Faile, Ben Elder

Friends and family of Billy Dale McCants gave him a surprise 44th birthday party on Wednesday, October 7, 2015, at Fairfield Nursing Home in Ridgeway, where he now resides due to severe brain trauma resulting from an automobile accident 27 years ago. He is the surviving brother of York County Deputy Brent McCants, EOW September 25, 1992.

TRIAL NOTES



At a hearing on November 18, 2015, Tommy Queen Thompson was denied parole for the murder of SC Highway Patrol Trooper Ben Strickland, EOW May 31, 1974.

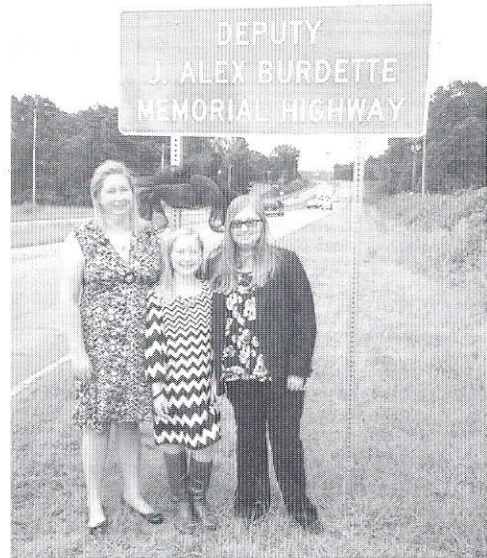
ROAD DEDICATION



Family of Patrolman Peeples

At a ceremony on December 2, 2015, the interchange located at the juncture of Interstate 95 and South Carolina Highway 61 in Colleton County was named "SCHP Patrolman First Class Willie E. Peeples Memorial Interchange". On June 8, 1979 Patrolman Peeples was shot while pursuing a motorcycle driver for speeding. He died of his wounds the next day.

ROAD DEDICATION



At a ceremony on September 28, 2015 an 11-mile stretch of South Carolina Hwy. 81 South was dedicated to the memory of Anderson County Deputy J. Alex Burdette, EOW March 12, 2005. The section of Hwy. 81 S. extends from the intersection of Masters Blvd to the South end of the Town of Iva and includes the Town of Starr and the Town of Iva.

Pictured above are Nicole Burdette, surviving wife, and Karlee and Kaylee Burdette, surviving children.

CONGRATULATIONS!



On August 19, 2015, Ryan Guerry graduated from FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI) having completed all requirements of the National Emergency Management Basic Academy. Ryan is the surviving son of Georgetown Asst. Chief Spencer Guerry, EOW March 9, 1994.

THEY GAVE

January—April

- Aiken County Sheriff's Office**
Charles Freeman 3-6-1990
Henry H. Howard 4-25-1925
- Aiken Dept. of Public Safety**
H. M. Harvey 1-26-1978
Sandra Rogers 1-28-2012
- Aiken Police Department**
Rufus H. Rodgers 4-22-1950
- Anderson County Sheriff's Office**
J. Alex Burdette 3-12-2005
James R. Wilson 4-11-1926
James E. Tillotson 4-29-1957
- Anderson Police Department**
Willis E. Sanders 4-15-1947
Charles Sheppard 4-20-1975
- Bamberg Police Department**
John B. King 2-4-1903
- Beaufort County Sheriff's Office**
Benjamin P. Carden 1-6-1925
Dyke Coursen 1-8-2002
Dana L. Tate 1-8-2002
Russell R. Bell 4-17-1990
- Bonneau Police Department**
John F. Dennis 2-3-1957
- Branchville Police Department**
Walter S. Dukes 1-16-1944
- Camden Police Department**
Robert Latta 1-22-1919
- Cayce Dept. of Public Safety**
W. J. Illingworth 2-28-1991
- Charleston Police Department**
Dennis E. LaPage 1-19-2002
Charles A. Snider 3-2-1979
Roger Myers 4-5-2004
John J. Bean, Jr. 4-20-1899
- Charleston County Police Dept.**
William P. Messer 3-12-1976
Leon W. Gooding 3-27-1948
- Clarendon County Sheriff's Office**
Walter Floyd 3-1-2002
Jesse L. Mallett 4-28-1979
- Clio Police Department**
Julian Branch 4-25-1976
- Columbia Police Department**
Dale E. Barkley 1-27-1981
- Cottageville Police Department**
Jerry W. Shelton 3-25-1989
- Dorchester Co. Sheriff's Office**
Gary D. Blackwood 2-7-1988
Phillip Michael Deese 3-9-2007
K-9 Sonja 3-9-2007
- Dillon Co. Sheriff's Office**
Carroll J. Taylor 4-11-1986
John C. Williamson 4-11-1986
- Easley Police Department**
Walter C. Holcombe 3-7-1921
- Estill Police Department**
K. L. Gohagan 1-3-1938
- Florence County Sheriff's Office**
Joseph C. Rodgers 4-9-1997
- Forest Acres Police Department**
Richey O. Finch 2-21-1974
- Georgetown Police Department**
C. Spencer Guerry 3-9-1994
- Greer Police Department**
William Z. Foster 1-1-1904
- Greenville County Sheriff's Office**
Rufus L. Looper III 2-1-1975
Antonio J. Sapinoso 4-2-2003
Eli Pittman 4-30-1906
- Greenville Police Department**
Oliver S. Gunnels 2-17-1911
William F. Chasteen 2-21-1971
A. F. Lackey 3-4-1925
James P. Tucker 4-13-1904
- Greenwood Co. Sheriff's Office**
Otis Grier 4-2-1987
- Greenwood Police Department**
Alvis B. Phillips 3-18-1956
- Hardeeville Police Department**
Mark Jones 2-27-2005
- Hartsville Police Department**
Ulysses Dobson 4-20-1953
- Jasper County Sheriff's Office**
Clarence W. Floyd 1-18-1962
- Kershaw County Sheriff's Office**
Ernest C. Potter 2-21-1974
Theodore Turner 4-29-1971
- Laurens Police Department**
M. H. Stone 1-28-1909
- Laurens County Sheriff's Office**
Willie J. Blakely 3-30-1980
- Leesville Police Department**
J. W. Lundy 2-16-1988
- Lexington Co. Magistrate's Office**
James Earle Price 2-7-1925
- McColl Police Department**
David H. Hyatt 3-23-1931
- Moncks Corner Police Department**
Lonnie Wells 3-25-2007
Marcus Stiles 3-26-2007
- Myrtle Beach Police Department**
Henry H. Scarborough 3-7-1949
- North Charleston Police Department**
Robert A. Way 2-18-1985
- Oconee Co. Sheriff's Office**
William F. Shuck III 2-7-2010
- Olanta Police Department**
Robert F. Sexton 4-27-1976
- Orangeburg Co. Sheriff's Office**
Gary Farey 1-20-1944
Thomas Prezzy 4-12-1999
- Orangeburg Dept. of Public Safety**
Thomas C. Harrison 1-15-1993
- Pickens Co. Sheriff's Office**
Russell S. Masters 1-1-1954
Buddy J. Duncan 2-2-1983
- Richland County Sheriff's Office**
John M. Dial 4-17-1992
- SC ABC Commission**
Garnett E. Dabney 3-31-1968
- SC Dept. of Corrections**
Joe Byrd 3-12-1936
- SC Highway Patrol**
Kenneth McNeill 1-2-1937
Norris Nettles 1-4-1942
John Riddle 1-15-1961
James D. Haynes 2-1-2008
Walter Bell 2-4-1939
Jacob Ham, Jr. 2-8-1998
Hansford M. Reeves 2-15-1934
Hardy M. Godbold 2-28-1992
Fulton H. Anthony 3-10-1973
Kevin Cusack 3-27-2010
David T. Bailey 4-5-2000
Robert P. Perry, Jr. 4-15-1987
Michael A. Chappell 4-17-1995
Randall L. Hester 4-20-1994

THEIR ALL

January—April

SC Law Enforcement Division
William L. Laval, Jr. 1-12-1955

SC Public Service Authority
Frank Glover 102802010

SC State Constable
James H. Howard 1-31-1924
James P. Farmer 2-22-1908
Robert Hayne Pepper 3-30-1894
James R. Cooler 3-30-1913

SC Wildlife Dept./SC DNR
Charles McNeill 1-3-1974
Doyle H. Hill 1-15-1976
G. Don Peeler 2-26-1989

Spartanburg Co. Magistrate's Office
Melton J. Shields 2-18-1930

Spartanburg Co. Sheriff's Office
Kevin Carper 2-27-2007

Spartanburg Police Department
Thomas F. Abrams 1-7-1962

St. Matthews Police Department
Capers Wannamaker 3-19-2011

St. Stephens Police Department
Joshua L. Milligan 1-6-1990

Sumter Co. Sheriff's Office
Robert 1-21-1911
Charles B. Kubala 2-26-1996
William M. Strange 4-6-1937

Sumter Police Department
Charles R. Nesbitt, Jr. 1-21-2011

Timmonsville Police Department
Lucius Jennerette 4-25-1954

U.S. Marshall's Office
Van Buren Hendrix 2-12-1877
Christopher Corbin 3-8-1909
William Corbin 3-8-1909
Rufus Springs 4-19-1878

West Columbia Police Department
Daniel Cogburn 4-12-1983

Officers who died in other states
but whose survivors live
in South Carolina

Alaska State Police
Gabriel Rich 5-1-2014

Athens (AL) Police Department
Larry Russell 1-2-2004

Braintree (MA) Police Department
Ernest J. DeCross 3-1-1991

Buncombe Co. (NC) Sheriff's Office
Jeffrey Todd Hewitt 4-4-2004

Charlotte/Mechlenburg Police Dept
Jeffrey Ryan Shelton 4-12-2007

Connecticut State Police
James Savage 1-22-1986

Johnson City (NY) Police Dept
David Smith 3-31-2014.

Johnston (NC) Co. Sheriff's Office
Michael Ray Jackson 2-0-1995

Leflore Co. (MS) Sheriff's Office
Melvin P. Brown, Jr. 4-18-1994

Long Beach (CA) Police Dept.
Edward Roy Davenport 2-4-2003

Metro Dade (FL) Police Department
Richard Wentlandt 3-15-1997

New Jersey Dept. of Corrections
Wayne Clark 1-10-2006

New York Police Dept.
Rodney Andrews 3-10-2003

New York State Police
Nathaniel Burroughs 2-27-1997

Richmond Co. (GA) Sheriff's Office
Kenneth Burton 1-4-2004

Vance Co. (NC) Sheriff's Office
Brandon Coker 4-25-2009

Villa Rica (GA) Police Dept.
Robbie Bishop 1-20-1999

**Washington (DC) Metropolitan
Police Dept.**
Brian Gibson 2-5-1997

SYMPATHY TO



The family of Rev. J. C. Sorrow who died Sunday, December 27, 2015. Rev. Sorrow was the surviving father of Greenville Police Officer Russell Sorrow, EOW September 19, 1996.

Thank You

Thank you to the following who have made contributions to Carolina C.O.P.S. since our last newsletter:

CJA Basic Law Class 638
CJA Basic Law Class 640
Charleston County Motorcycle Squad
Mr. and Mrs. Greg Matuskovic in memory of their son,
Charleston County Deputy Joseph Matuskovic
Wayne Kyzer in honor and appreciation of Irmo
Police Department
John and Beth Hutto, Jr.
Palmetto Patriot Riders
Otto and Joanne Schumacher
Bridgette Niepoth

Payroll Deduction:
Beaufort Police Department
Clarendon County Sheriff's Office
Manning Police Department
Lancaster Police Department
Lancaster County Sheriff's Office

Through United Way:
Greenville Police Department

CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

At the Christmas Luncheon Lois Rao, President of Carolina C.O.P.S., presented Certificates of

Anderson F.O.P. Lodge #10
Charleston County Sheriff's Office Motorcycle Unit

From Manning:

- Agent Owned Realty
- Hampton Inn of Manning
- Kent Law Firm
- McDonald's of Manning
- Palmetto Patriots
- The City of Manning
- The Manning Times



Mr. Bobby Baker, Editor, and Mr. [Name obscured] accept the Certificate for The Manning Times.



Charleston County Sheriff Al Cannon, accepts the Certificate on behalf of the Charleston County Sheriff's Office Motorcycle Unit



Members of the Palmetto Patriots accept the Certificate expressing appreciation for their continued support.



The South Carolina F.O.P. held its annual Candlelight Memorial Service on November 3, 2015 at the Law Enforcement Memorial on the State House grounds. Names of three officers who died in 2014 were added to the monument as well as the names of 21 officers who died in prior years.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

May 11-17, 2016
Washington, DC

Wednesday, May 11, 2016:
Early Arrival Day

Thursday, May 12, 2016:
Official Arrival Day
12:30 p.m. Law Enforcement United Arrival Ceremony
2:00 p.m. Police Unity Tour Arrival Ceremony

Friday, May 13, 2016:
8:00 p.m. Annual Candlelight Vigil at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial

Saturday, May 14, 2016:
Day 1 - C.O.P.S. Kids/Teens activities
Day 1 - National Police Survivors Conference

Sunday, May 15, 2016
11:00 a.m. 35th Annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service on Capitol Lawn

Monday, May 16, 2016
Day 2 - C.O.P.S. Kids/Teens activities
Day 2 - National Police Survivors Conference

Tuesday, May 17, 2016
Official Departure Day

BLESSED ARE THE
PEACEMAKERS

National C.O.P.S. Hands-On Programs

PARENTS RETREAT C.O.P.S.



(l to r) Sal Rao, Lois Rao, Beverly Coates, Mike Whitfield, Mary Ann Deese, Harold Deese, Melita Whitfield.

Sal and Lois are the surviving parents of SC Highway Patrol (ACE Team) Sr. Trooper Michael Rao, EOW 6-12-2002; Beverly is the surviving mother of SChP Highway Patrol (ACE Team) Trooper Mark Coates, EOW 11-20-1992; Mike and Melita are the surviving parents of Greenville Co. Deputy Marcus Whitfield, EOW 8-13-1999; and Mary Ann and Harold are the surviving parents of Summerville Officer Michael Deese, EOW 3-9-2007.

SPOUSES RETREAT



(l to r) Lin Pope, Tonya Smith, Misty Nicholson.

Lin is the surviving spouse of Cincinnati, OH, Police Officer Daniel Pope, EOW 12-5-1997. (Lin now lives in Beaufort.) Tonya is the surviving spouse of Clarendon County Investigator Holmes Smith, EOW 11-5-2014, and Misty is the surviving spouse of SC Highway Patrol Trooper Eric Nicholson, EOW 12-6-2010.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON THANKS!

Thanks to the following for their assistance with the Christmas Luncheon:

Director Harrell and the SC Criminal Justice Academy
Lexington County Sgt. Jeff Flanders and Miss Gertrude Carlisle Harmon

Hal Schumacher—special visitor!

Citizens and business of Manning and Clarendon County who donated fifty poinsettias

We also want to thank officers from the following law enforcement agencies who attended the Luncheon:

- SC Department of Public Safety
- SC Highway Patrol
- Beaufort County Sheriff's Office
- Beaufort Police Department
- Charleston County Sheriff's Office
- Forest Acres Police Department
- Greenville County Sheriff's Office
- Lancaster County Sheriff's Office
- Lexington County Sheriff's Office
- Manning Police Department
- Sumter Police Department
- SC Law Enforcement Assistance Program

DONATION FROM POLICE MOTORCYCLE COMPETITION



L. to r.: Attorney Curtis Bostick, Capt. Jim Woods, Lois Rao, DFC Brent Roy, Beverly Coates, Sgt. Mike Burrell

Lois Rao, President of Carolina C.O.P.S. and Beverly Coates, Carolina C.O.P.S. Board Member, accept a donation representing part of the proceeds of the Palmetto Police Motorcycle Skills Competition. The donation was presented by Capt. Jim Woods, Sgt. Mike Burrell, and DFC Brent Roy, of the Charleston County Sheriff's Office, and Attorney Curtis Bostick who sponsors the Charleston County Motor Squad. The Competition was held in North Charleston on June 17-20, 2015.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON
December 5, 2015

