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Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association

February 2022 - South Chapter Newsletter

Kim Hummert, Newsletter Editor

Dear CPAAA Members,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the past president, Michelle Beech, for her service leading the South Chapter of CPAAA during a year that we were also dealing with a pandemic. Also, I would like to thank the current board for placing their trust in me to lead this organization for this upcoming year. I would be remised not to include all of our wonderful volunteers and members of the Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association who voted me into this position at our last general meeting.

One of my goals for this upcoming year is to be your point person or liaison to both the 3rd and 4th Precincts. If you have a topic that you would like to be discussed, feel free to contact me and we will see if we can get it into the program somehow.

The beginning of 2022 is not looking very well as it pertains to the Covid issues that St. Louis is dealing with. To keep everyone safe, it has been decided that the February General Meeting needs to be canceled. We will see everyone at our next meeting, May 12th.

If you would like to contact me, my email address is daleflanakin@gmail.com

Stay safe and healthy,
Dale Flanakin
President of CPAAA South Chapter



2022 CPAAA MEMBERSHIP DUES

- **Deadline has been extended to February 10, 2022** ●

We have returned to our regular Annual Dues of \$15.00.

Thank you to those who have paid their 2022 dues.
If you have not paid, please do so before the new deadline!

Please make check payable to CPAAA

Mail to: CPAAA Membership Chair

**Joan Edleson
5542 Remington Villas Ct.
St. Louis, MO 63129-3649**

If any of your info (address, phone, or email) has changed,
please include that info with your check. Your membership card will be mailed to you.



From the 3rd Precinct

Hello All,

With the colder weather, we have seen an uptick in "warmup thefts", which involves residents starting their vehicles and leaving them running in the driveway. The suspects usually arrive on foot or get dropped off by another vehicle, which typically is also stolen, and jump into the warming vehicle before fleeing the area together. Of approximately 16 stolen vehicles so far in the month of January 2022, approximately 6 were "warmup thefts". Additionally, of the 16 stolen vehicles, 10 were unlocked and had the keys inside the vehicle.

We are also continuing to experience a wave of vehicle larcenies along the business corridor on South Lindbergh Boulevard and various neighborhoods along Interstate 55. The suspects again arrive in a stolen vehicle and either check door handles for unlocked vehicles, or shatter windows to the vehicles. The suspects are usually looking for large amounts of cash, credit cards, or firearms. So far in January 2022, we have had five firearms stolen from vehicles, only two of which were locked.

Midnight officers continue to provide extra patrol to businesses and neighborhoods overnight in an attempt to deter thefts, but the suspects and any suspicious vehicles usually flee from officers at a high rate of speed whenever traffic stops are attempted. The Auto Crime Unit, the Special Response Unit (SRU), and additional units are working with detectives from the St. Louis City Police Department in an attempt to identify and arrest the groups responsible for some of the thefts over the past few months.

Recent thefts of catalytic converters appear to have decreased, possibly due to the cold weather or suspects being arrested. However, they have trended up and down over the last few months.

It's the season again and I know we sound like a broken record, but please lock your vehicles and don't leave any valuables in plain view. Please remove your garage door openers from vehicles parked outside... this only creates another way to gain access to your home. Our Officers are doing a good job with patrols but we need your help also.

Lastly, the Police Department, as well as the rest of you, have been dealing with all of the Covid related issues that have affected us. We all need to be careful and protect our families and ourselves. Looking forward to when we can get this all behind us and return to normal or close to normal as possible.

Sergeant Raymond Absolon
and the Officers of the Affton/Southwest Precinct



From the 4th Precinct

Hello All,

It has been a busy few months in the 4th Precinct. While some crimes have really dropped, others have greatly increased. Fortunately, our violent crimes are down but Larcenies from vehicles, Auto Theft, and Catalytic Converter Thefts are significantly up. We have joined a multi-jurisdictional task force to deal with these crimes to include ourselves, St. Louis City, and various Federal agencies. This has led to multiple arrests but with the volume of people committing these crimes the cases continue. Please be aware that these individuals have continued to be seen armed. Most of our arrests have been with armed individuals. Several of these have been very close calls with the officers barely avoiding serious injuries. Remember if they will fight with us, they will fight with you. Be the best witness you can be and call 9-1-1. Do not confront them.

As far as COVID goes, we have had many officers out but fortunately very few cases, if any, have been severe. We have changed a lot of procedures to reduce face-to-face encounters on calls that can be handled over the phone.

We hope that all members of the CPAAA are well and taking care of themselves. We hope to see you all soon and get back to some semblance of normalcy!!

Sergeant Zac Sigler
and the Officers of the South County Precinct

Special Thanks
to

Jean Larkin
with the help of
Joan Edleson, Dale Flanakin
and Kathleen Luepke

for updating our CPAAA Trifold.
It was finished and printed just in time to hand out to all of the Christmas Party attendees.

We will distribute what we have left to as many members as possible.



CPAAA MERCHANDISE



If you would like to order CPAAA Merchandise, we have a new local vendor, **Dot the I Embroidery**.

Please visit our website for more information.

www.cpaaasouth.com

(click on MORE and select MERCHANDISE) to download order form and instructions.



A huge shout out to **PRETZEL PRETZEL** for donating pretzels to our Precincts!



3rd Precinct



Member Spotlight

Linda grew up in the Maplewood area where she attended grade school and high school. After high school, she was a Key Punch operator for Sunnen Products. She then went to Bible College in Chicago for two years where she also did work as a Key Punch data entry and receptionist.

She has lived in the South County area since 1989. She met her husband Earl (who is also a member) in Waterloo, Illinois where they lived for a time. They moved into Walden Ridge Subdivision twenty two years ago. Linda volunteered to help with Neighborhood Watch and then went onto Citizens Police Academy and loved all aspects of the Academy. It gave her insight to all the scenarios of police work, which is why she ultimately joined CPAAA.

Linda says she loves being involved with the St. Louis County Police. She has volunteered many hours over her years in CPAAA and was our Treasurer from 2013 to 2016.

She hopes we can get back to where we used to be in our organization before Covid-19. She misses the members, the fellowship, making new friends and seeing old friends. She loves helping our Law Enforcement. Thank you, Linda, for your loyalty to CPAAA!

If you are interested in being in the Member Spotlight, please contact Kathleen Luepke.



4th Precinct

A very special **THANK YOU** to our **CPAAA Elves** for organizing and delivering Pretzels and Sweet Treats to the 3rd and 4th Precincts on Christmas Eve.

Visit Our Website

www.cpaaasouth.com

Our website gives you up-to-date information regarding the dates of our upcoming events and volunteer opportunities. As we are apprised of events and the need for volunteers, we will send an e-blast as well as post the information on the website. You can also see newsletters, minutes, photos & other CPAAA information. Also, be sure to check out each precinct's Facebook page!

Thank you, Jim Fesler, for taking care of our CPAAA website!



If you are volunteering to work at an event, please contact our volunteer coordinator.

Linda Gartner - Text 314-330-4455 or Email lgartner0312@gmail.com

Linda will return texts and emails in the order which she received them.

Many thanks to Karen Hernandez for 15 years of service as our Volunteer Coordinator and to Linda Gartner for stepping in to take over this position.



A big **THANK YOU** to **Barb Hehmeyer** and **Barb Puckett** and their Christmas Party Committee for all the work they did to make it a fantastic evening!

Also, Thank You to **Marci Potter** for coming up with the creative sing-a-long songs and to **Sgt. Zac Sigler, Dale Flanakin** and **Larry McDaniel** for leading our fun songs...See you next year!