CPAAA General Meeting

Grace Union Church

August 14, 2025

Refreshments served at 6:30 pm; General Meeting Call to Order at 7:00 pm by Larry McDaniel, President. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Members present: Larry McDaniel, Joe Buffa, Noma Fogelbach, Janis McCracken, Elfriede Faulstich, Kathleen Luepke, Karen Hernandez, Carol Pritchett, Dennis Doerge, Bob Slama and Dale Flanakin.

**Third Precinct Report**

Lt. McGuire reported that vehicle larcenies and car thefts are always up over the summer. He issued a reminder to all to lock your car doors and remove all valuables from your car. The School Resource Officers (SROs) assist the day shift over the summer, but are getting ready to go back to their school duties when the students return. Affton School District decided to add an SRO to be shared by two elementary schools. Officer Ashley Meyer is getting prepared for this new role.

Lt. McGuire also shared information about the pin sticker program. This program has been in effect for about 1.5 - 2 years. The precincts provide stickers that can be put on vehicles or near your front door to alert arriving officers of what may be going on within the vehicle/home. He showed several examples:

YELLOW: Death

GREY: Service Animal

RED: Autism

GREEN: Vision Impaired

PURPLE: Alzheimer’s / Dementia

BLUE: Diabetic

PINK: Epilepsy

WHITE: Non-Verbal

Visit your local precinct to pick these up.

**Fourth Precinct Report**

Lt. Noonan from the 4th precinct updated us on crime in South County. He noted that crime in the 3rd and 4th precincts mimic each other. They do expect that car thefts will go down as summer ends. He also updated us on the homicide that took place on Union. It was cleared when two juveniles were taken into custody– one from St. Charles and one from North City. He also gave praise to Officer Carl Crimi (Officer-of-the-Quarter back in the first quarter of 2025) for partnering with the Special Operations Unit, the Intelligence Unit and the Drug Unit to combat car thefts and break-ins. They identified a juvenile and spoke to his parents, who were uncooperative. They followed him, but did not pursue him. When they had the opportunity, they took him into custody. Also, that same evening, an individual aimed a laser at the police helicopter. This was investigated and culminated with the arrest of a suspect.

**Officer-of-the-Quarter Presentations (Third Quarter, 2025)**

Third Precinct: Lt. McGuire introduced Officer Kent Hileman as the 3rd precinct’s Officer-of-the-Quarter. He has been with the department for approximately 1.5 years. He has former military experience and brings a calm, cool presence as well as leadership and experience to the department. He recently made several arrests and issued several summonses. Because he works the daytime shift, he has really had to search for his arrests. Captain Means, Lt McGuire and his supervisor are all really proud of him. A warm welcome was given to his family who joined him this evening. Larry McDaniel presented Officer Hileman with a plaque and a $100 check.

Fourth Precinct: Officer Jenisha Jones was presented the Officer-of-the-Quarter award for the 4th precinct. She has been with the department for approximately 3 years. Officer Jones is a CIT Officer. She works the business beat (South Lindbergh and the Mall.) In the last quarter, she responded to 327 radio calls, made 77 self-initiated calls, 7 felony arrests and 13 misdemeanor arrests. Larry McDaniel presented Officer Jones with a plaque and a $100 check.

**Introductions**

The Neighborhood Police Officers for the 3rd and 4th precincts were introduced to the membership.

Officer Matt Kappler - 4th precinct (His favorite color is blue.)

Officer Daniel Rehagen - 4th precinct (With department for 13 years)

Officer Laura Vineyard - 4th precinct (With the department for 14 years)

Officer Cecilia Young (C.C.) – 3rd precinct (With department for 5 years)

**Questions from the Membership**

In response to questions from the membership, Lt. McGuire noted that the department remains short staffed. They have seen an increase in the number of applicants at headquarters. The third precinct has several new officers going through field training now (which takes three full months,) so help is coming. We are determined to maintain our standards and hire the right people.

There was a question regarding expired temp. tags and license plates. This is a traffic violation. The police do issue tickets for these, but there is not much else they can do. It will certainly help when you will have to pay taxes/licensing before you drive off the lot. This measure has been passed and will go into effect soon.

They do patrol and ticket for speeding as much as possible. They do gather data and analyze it to determine where there are problem areas. Keep in mind that a car may look like it is going faster than it may be. To build relationships and build trust within the community, there are times when they make traffic stops but do not issue a formal ticket.

Regarding red light violations – they must see the infraction to ticket for it. Red light cameras cannot be used because you cannot prove who the driver is. Some lights have been put on delay to help avoid crashes.

When they find a minor who is driving a golf cart on the road, they follow up with their parents. If you notice this after hours, please notify the precinct so they can patrol and possibly issue curfew tickets.

**Program / Guest Speaker**

We were pleased to welcome Officer Simon from Highway Safety to our meeting. He has been with the department for 13 years and in the Highway Safety Department for a little over three years. He is one of six members in this unit. There should be eight people in this unit, but they have been down 2 people for several years. Two officers are on nights only and concentrate heavily on DWIs. Just between these two guys, over 300 DWI arrests were made in one year. The other 4 officers switch between day and night shifts every two weeks. Their day shift is from 7:00am - 5:00pm and their night shift runs 5:00pm - 3:00am.

Their division is partially funded by MODOT who pays for ½ of their salaries and for all of their vehicles and equipment, which includes both marked and unmarked vehicles. They do not answer calls for service. They patrol anywhere in St. Louis County, mostly on highways and larger roads. They concentrate on moving violations, with about 95% of their stops being for speeding. It is quite common for them to see speeding of over 100/mph. Their primary goals are to get people to slow down, drive safely and reduce accidents. They watch for seat belt violations, patrol work zones and proactively stop suspected DWI drivers. MODOT has recently funded a new program called HMV (Hazardous Moving Violations), which pays officers to spend additional time (even on their days off) to combat serious moving violations.

They have radar mounted in their car, one in the front and one in the back. They also have handheld laser guns which can be pointed at specific vehicles. Officer Simon passed a laser gun through the crowd so they could see it up close. He also brought a PBT (portable breath test.) This is another tool they can use in their investigation of a driver’s impairment. Suspected impaired drivers are asked to take this test. We’re happy if they say they will, but if they refuse, their license is revoked for one year. This information is just for reporting; it is not admissible in court. The Officers’ vehicles are equipped with Breath Test devices as well. Every time a test is administered, it must be documented. Officers must keep their breath test devices clean, calibrated and working properly. Ther results are often questioned in court.

DWI drivers are taken to jail, photographed, fingerprinted and then released. Their cars are often towed so they do not have access to them when they are released. Yes, there have been incidents when the same person has been arrested twice in the same night!

Applause and many thanks were given to Officer Simon.

**New Business**

A warm welcome was extended to Dagmar and Nick Graham who joined our group after their recent graduation from the Citizen’s Police Academy in the 7th precinct.

A moment of silence was held to honor the passing of Al Faulstich, a CPAAA member since 2010. An announcement was made inviting all to attend his memorial service on Monday, August 18th at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church.

Our fundraising bar-b-que was held at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church on Saturday, July 19th. Elfriede Faulstich and Karen Hernandez extended a huge thank you to all the volunteers. They presented two checks to our treasurer: $2,000 for the bar-b-que and $301 from the bake sale. Elfriede also noted that she had t-shirts for anyone who worked at the bar-b-que and had not yet received one.

The next monthly bar-b-que at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church will be held on Saturday, August 16th. All are encouraged to support them.

An Audit Committee and a Nominating Committee are being formed. Janis McCracken agreed to chair the Nominating Committee. If anyone is interested in participating in these committees, please let Larry McDaniel know.

Karen Hernandez reported that she sent a sympathy card to Elfriede Faulstich as well as several thinking-of-you cards. Members were encouraged to let Karen know if you know of anyone in our membership that could use a pick me up.

The CPAAA Christmas Party will be held on Thursday, December 4th at Andre’s South. The cash bar will open at 6:30pm followed by dinner at 7:00pm. Tickets for this event will be $17 and will be sold at our November meeting. We will also honor the Officers-of-the-Year at this event.

Our plaques/engraving for our Officers-of-the-Quarter and Officers-of-the-Year awards are being moved to a new vendor: Fran Ann Engraving.

Jim Fesler manages our website and asked about the section on volunteer pins. Is it old information. Should it be removed? Volunteer pins went away during Covid because we were not helping with events. Many would like this practice to be resumed. We will investigate what it will take to resume this practice.

The 3rd precinct will be participating in Special Olympic t-shirt sales on the weekend of September 5th. Officer C.C. Young will let Karten Hernandez know if they will need volunteers to help with this event.

Bikes for Badges will be taking place on September 28th. CPAAA volunteers will help with registration from 8:30 - 10:30am that morning. This is a motorcycle ride to the Vietnam Wall in Perryville. All proceeds support Backstoppers.

**Old Business**

As the minutes from our last meeting can be found on our website at [www.cpaaasouth.com](http://www.cpaaasouth.com), the prior minutes were not reviewed.

Membership report: Our current membership stands at 126 members.

Merchandise report: There are a few shirts available at the table in the back of the room, or you can order online.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 13th. We’re hoping for a great turnout as we will have a lot going on that evening, including elections, selling Christmas party tickets and collecting dues for 2026. We hope to see everyone then.

The meeting concluded at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janis McCracken, Recording Secretary