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Monthly News From COPS Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc.

September 2006

Concerns of Police Survivors Mourns Loss of Officers in Indiana

Former Chief Gary Martin, Lake County (IN) Sheriff's Office, and Lt. Gary Dudley, Indiana State Police died on August 22, 2006, while participating in "Indiana Cops Riding for COPS", an 1,100-mile bicycle trek being conducted to raise money for the Indiana Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors. "August 22, 2006, was the darkest day in COPS' 22-year history," said COPS Executive Director Suzie Sawyer at funerals for both officers. "They were both men who believed in the 'call of duty', and they died going above and beyond that call."

Law enforcement survivors from Indiana attended the funerals in record numbers. "There were many survivors who were privileged to know Gary Dudley personally," said Indiana COPS Co-President Emily Beal-Nelis. "He'd lie on the floor and play with our kids. He was that kind of man."

"Gary Martin was exceptionally well respected as an officer and was also tremendously supportive of Indiana COPS," she continued. "We have lost two heroes."

COPS National President Jean Hill, of Houston, TX, and Executive Director Sawyer of Camdenton, MO, attended both funerals. "COPS representatives needed to be in Indiana for these funerals," said President Hill. "They died serving our organization and now our organization will be there to support their families as they begin their devastating journey of grief."

Fall Hands-On Programs

COPS' Surviving Siblings Retreat will be September 8-11 at the YMCA Trout Lodge in Missouri with 64 registered survivors.

Spouses Weekend is scheduled for September 22-25 with 80 registered survivors. Although the registration deadline has passed, COPS can accommodate registrations that are received within the next week. This retreat is also held at the YMCA Trout Lodge.

The registration deadline for Parents' Retreat is September 6. Currently, 85 survivors are registered to attend. Historically, this retreat fills to capacity. Surviving parents are encouraged to register before the deadline. This retreat will be at the Windermere Conference Center near Camdenton, MO, October 6-9.

In-Law's Retreat 2006 will be at the YMCA Trout Lodge October 20-23. The registration deadline is

September 22. This retreat is for the parents- and siblings-in-law of the fallen officer (parents and siblings of the surviving spouse). Currently, 7 survivors are registered to attend.

Streamlight, Inc. is once again providing three travel assistance checks per retreat. If a survivor would like to attend a retreat, but travel costs are a hardship, an application for Travel Assistance should be submitted along with the registration. Registration and travel assistance request forms can be found at www.nationalcops.org/forms.htm

COPS WALK 2006 Participation Deadline is TODAY

COPS WALK 2006, a fundraising event for COPS, is sponsored and coordinated by the United States Secret Service Employee Recreation Association (USSS-ERA). According to Executive Director Kam Fynn, 42 registrations have been received. The maximum participants that can be accommodated is 50. If you want to help COPS while challenging yourself and spending time with other survivors, supporters, and friends, this is “the last call” to submit your registration. Send an email to ussera@verizon.net **NOW!** The USSS-ERA covers participants’ costs for meals and lodging; however, travel to and from Washington, DC, is the participant’s responsibility.

Participants will travel into Dulles International Airport on October 13. The actual COPS WALK 2006 will be October 14-15. Participants will walk 25 miles along the scenic and historic C&O Canal Towpath from Virginia through Maryland and into West Virginia. Each participant is required to raise a minimum of \$1,000 on behalf of COPS through donations from individuals, businesses, and organizations. Information is provided to participants to help them meet this goal.

To help meet the additional costs of the 2006 hands-on programs, COPS would like to see each participant raise \$2,000. If you’d like to sponsor a participating walker, or make a general contribution in honor of those accepting this physical challenge, contact the COPS National Office at cops@nationalcops.org or simply drop a donation into an envelop and mail to COPS, P. O. Box 3199, Camdenton, MO 65020. Note in the “memo” line of the check that it is for the “COPS Walk”.

Dates/Locations Announced for 2007 “The Traumas of Law Enforcement” Trainings

COPS’ highly-acclaimed “The Traumas of Law Enforcement”, a three-day training for law enforcement, will be presented in 7 locations in 2007. These three-day sessions provide law enforcement agencies with the tools needed to develop general orders addressing traumatic issues and to sensitize them to emotional support needs of a fallen officer’s surviving families.

Other topics covered include notification of survivors, funeral protocols, the need for emotional debriefings following critical incidents, law enforcement suicide, officer disability, traumatized officers, the effects of officer deaths on the co-workers, appropriate methods for working with survivors after the funeral, and the importance of support for officers still in that profession. Information on how to obtain continuing education units for the class will be available at the training site.

This training is recommended for Chiefs, Superintendents, Sheriffs, Chaplains, Dispatchers, Benefits Assistance Officers, Planning and Research officers, Employee Assistance employees, Liaison Officers, Special Operations Divisions, Victim Assistance personnel, or any law enforcement officers.

These trainings will be presented in the following locations: Sacramento, CA, January 8-10; Orlando, FL, January 22-24; Jackson, MS, February 5-7; Dover, DE, February 26-28; Lexington, KY, March 5-7; Santa Fe, NM, March 12-14; Lansing, MI, March 19-21. There is no charge for the training, but registration is mandatory. Registration information will be mailed in October to over 55,000 law enforcement contacts nationwide. This email newsletter will also announce when the information becomes available on the COPS website. COPS expects to train nearly 750 personnel at the 2007 “The Traumas of Law Enforcement” sessions.

American Hero's 4-Person Scramble to Benefit COPS

Dogwood Hills Golf Club, located at the beautiful Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri, will host their first annual American Hero's 4-Person Scramble on Monday, October 9, 2006, with a portion of the proceeds going to COPS. Entry deadline is Monday, October 2. For more information, email

sales@dogwoodhillsresort.com, or phone K.C. Kirtley at 573-348-1735. COPS is hoping that some of the parents from the Parents' Retreat, which will conclude that morning, will bring their golf clubs and stay to golf for COPS.

Indy Race Car Auction to Benefit COPS



A 1994 Renard that was driven by Brad Murphey in the 1996 running of the Indianapolis 500 will be auctioned at the 6th Annual Classic and Antique Car Auction October 5-7 at Giant Center in Hershey Park, PA. All proceeds from the sale will benefit COPS. The present owner, who wishes to remain anonymous, donated the car to COPS, and Hershey Auction Company is waiving the normal 20 percent selling fee. Although the race car has no engine (a trial engine was installed for the Indy 500), experts tell COPS that the car

has great collectible value.

COPS thanks this anonymous donor, Hershey Auction, and retired US Marshal Jay Frey who has served as "the middle man" for this donation to COPS.

COPS Cruise in 2007

The Carnival Liberty, the newest ship in the Carnival fleet, will set sail from Ft. Lauderdale, FL, on March 3, 2007, for an 8-day cruise of the Eastern Caribbean. Stops include San Juan, St. Thomas/St. John, Antigua, Tortola/Virgin Gorda, Nassau and return to Ft. Lauderdale. Only 45 cabins are available, so act quickly to make your reservations. Rates per person range from \$719 to \$1,219 depending on cabin and number of occupants. Contact John Pires at Corporate Travel at 1-800-203-6543. Deposit of \$150 per person is required within 7 days of making reservations. Final payment will be due in December. December 15, 2006, is the final date to book this cruise.

Mid-Atlantic Police Motorcycle Safety Competition

The 27th Annual Mid-Atlantic Police Motorcycle Safety Competition will be September 14-16 at WalMart Super Center in Fredricksburg, VA. There is also a raffle for a new Harley. Proceeds benefit "C.O.P.S. Kids/Teens". For information, visit www.mapmrc.com.

COPSstore News

Visit www.COPSstore.com for COPS and National Police Week merchandise. For a limited time, COPS ringer t-shirts are \$5.99 and custom Italian charms are 30% to 50% off our regular prices. With the fall weather approaching, it is also time to stock up on long sleeve t-shirts and COPS embroidered sweatshirts. Bookmark the [COPSstore](http://www.COPSstore.com) website, as new specials are added weekly.



Concerns of Police Survivors has been awarded the "Best in America" seal of approval from Independent Charities of America. The Independent Charities Seal of Excellence is awarded to the members of Independent Charities of America and Local Independent Charities of America that have, upon rigorous independent review, been able to certify, document, and demonstrate on an annual basis that they meet the highest standards of public accountability, program effectiveness, and cost effectiveness. These standards include those required by the US Government for inclusion in the Combined Federal Campaign, probably the most exclusive fund drive in the world. Of the 1,000,000 charities operating in the United States today, it is estimated that fewer than 50,000, or 5 percent, meet or exceed these standards, and, of those, fewer than 2,000 have been awarded this Seal. Visit

www.independentcharities.org



Charity Navigator has named Concerns of Police Survivors a Four Star Charity - "Exceeds industry standards and outperforms most charities in its Cause." Visit www.charitynavigator.org.