

Ranchers Happy . . .

At Last They Have Their Own Telephone System

LIVE OAK—Located in a remote section of Suwannee County, the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch has been plagued by two problems during its first 10 years—inadequate roads and inadequate telephone service.

One of the problems was answered this year when North Florida Telephone Company installed a completely automatic telephone exchange at the Ranch which gives Ranchers a right-up-to-the-minute telephone system of their own.

For Ranch staff members this means quality telephone service, more trunk lines for incoming and outgoing calls, underground lines that preserve the scenic beauty of the Ranch and (now that “party lines” are no more) uninterrupted calls.

For the boys at the Ranch the big excitement is that they now have their own private pay telephone something they have wanted for a long time but limited trunk lines would not permit it.

You have to understand today’s teen-agers to realize how much a private telephone means.

Heated and air conditioned for constant temperature control, the new exchange is located on land



New telephone exchange building at the Boys Ranch with Ranch Administrator Harry Weaver (left) and F. H. Fissell, Branford landscape architect, in the foreground. The two men were discussing landscaping for another area of the Ranch when this picture was taken. North Florida Telephone Company will be responsible for landscaping and maintenance at the exchange building. (Photo by Dan Stainer.)

leased by the Ranch to the telephone company.

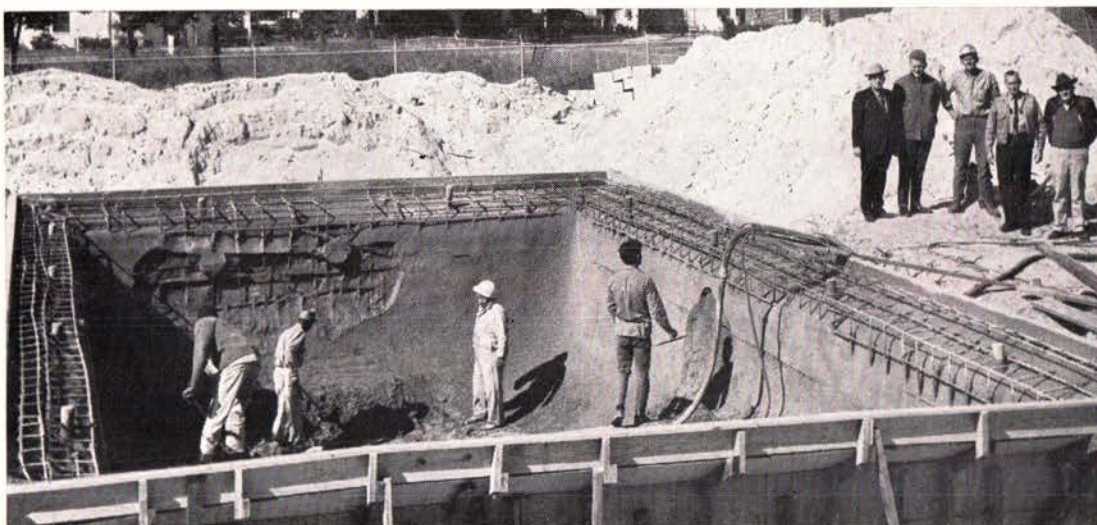
It will have a capacity of 100 telephones for the Ranch and will also serve the surrounding area.

One of the big advantages is that private lines will not cost any more for the Ranch than party lines did in the past.

The poor telephone service in the past was not the fault of the telephone company. The Ranch was small and there was no justification for the expense involved in providing adequate service.

Now the Ranch is larger—a small community in itself—and the telephone company has gone out of its way to remedy the situation.

Doc Keeps Promise to Junior Deputies



PANAMA CITY — When Bay County Junior Deputy Sheriffs acquired a new \$35,000 club house, their sponsor, Sheriff M. J. (Doc) Daffin, told them they would soon have a swimming pool too. This picture of the Junior Deputy pool under construction proves that the Sheriff wasn't just talking through his Stetson. Shown checking the progress are Sheriff Daffin; Bob and Fred Russell, owners of Panama Pools, Inc.; and Deputy Sheriffs John B. Sword and H. B. Hayes. The pool was built with donations of labor, materials and cash from public spirited citizens of Bay County. The same was true of the club house.

A
FLORIDA
FIRST

SHERIFFS GOING "ALL THE

"HALFWAY" HOUSE

"Halfway House" facilities near Tallahassee Municipal Airport are owned by the Florida Sheriffs Association and were formerly occupied by the Florida Law Enforcement Academy.

TALLAHASSEE—The Florida Sheriffs Association is cooperating closely with the State Division of Youth Services to establish another "first in Florida"—a state financed "halfway house" to rehabilitate young lawbreakers.

Located near the Tallahassee Municipal Airport in facilities owned by the Sheriffs Association, the new institution will be staffed and operated by the Division of Youth Services.

It will offer a community-based treatment center for youngsters from the state's training schools who are in desperate need of community placement—and hopefully it will be the pioneering forerunner of similar havens of hope in cities all over the state.

Dade County is already involved in a similar pilot project.

Division of Youth Services Director Oliver J. Keller said boys placed in the "halfway house" will be carefully screened and those with severe behavior problems will not be admitted.

"Hopefully," he said, "boys living at the 'Halfway House' will be involved in local activities. Those who can attend public schools in Leon County will do so. Those with severe academic problems will receive special instructions in the 'halfway house' classroom.

"The boys will have access to local recreation facilities," he added, explaining that in return for community interest in them they will be active in various community service programs.

The Sheriffs Association is involved in the project in several ways.

Association officials were active in the initial planning and worked out a lease-purchase agreement which allows the Division of Youth Services to apply rental payments of \$1,000 per month toward the appraised value of \$150,000 if it decides to eventually purchase instead of lease the facilities.

With the cooperation of the Association an internship program is being worked out which will enable Sheriffs, deputy sheriffs and other law enforcement officers to spend time at the "halfway house" in order to acquire a better understanding of delinquency problems and more proficiency in the handling of juveniles.

Furthermore, the Sheriffs Association has pledged to donate \$50,000 toward the purchase price of the property if the Division of Youth Services decides to buy it.

Director Keller described the "halfway house" as another "first" for the Sheriffs Association and "in keeping with the traditions of the Sheriffs' organization."

The "Halfway House" facilities were built by the Sheriffs Association in 1963 and were originally occupied by Florida Law Enforcement Academy.

They include a dormitory for 36, a classroom, an office, a combination dining room and recreation room, and an outdoor recreation area.

WAY" WITH—

OTHER "FIRSTS" BY FLORIDA'S SHERIFFS

THE FLORIDA SHERIFFS BOYS RANCH, a home for homeless boys (not a "reform school" or "correctional institution") established in 1957 as the first of its kind in the nation.

THE FLORIDA SHERIFFS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM to give college educations to outstanding students from the Florida School for Boys, an institution for young lawbreakers.

THE FLORIDA LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY, Florida's first state-wide in-service training facility for city, county, state and federal law enforcement officers. The Sheriffs Association provided the facilities and the Florida Sheriffs Bureau operated it.

THE FLORIDA SHERIFFS BUREAU, Florida's first state-wide crime fighting agency. It was created by the 1955 Legislature at the request of the Sheriffs Association. In 1967 the Legislature expanded it, gave it greater power and changed the name to Florida Bureau of Law Enforcement.

Poet Didn't Have Last Word

TALLAHASSEE—When Robert L. Andrews escaped from the Leon County Jail through a 12 by 13-inch hole, he left behind the following poem:

Steel walls do not a prison make,
Grits do not make food;
I call it chance, but you "mistake,"
A PREMEDITATED MOOD.
I cannot stand a world of walls,
They make a wretched soul,
Life slips by and freedom calls,
That's the reason for this hole.

The prisoner obviously had a way with words, but Sheriff Bill Joyce had the last word. Andrews was captured less than two hours after his escape and when his cell door clanged shut he was told to "stay put."

Former Sheriffs Die

The SHERIFF'S STAR received word belatedly of the deaths of two former Sheriffs.

One of them, W. Todd Tucker, of St. Petersburg, former Pinellas County Sheriff, was a past president and secretary of the Florida Sheriffs Association; and a past vice president of the National Sheriffs Association. He died October 30, 1967.

Former Flagler County (Bunnell) Sheriff William Henry Wells died December 22, 1967.

Something for the Boss

TALLAHASSEE — When the Florida Sheriffs Bureau was converted to the Florida Bureau of Law Enforcement, Former Sheriffs Bureau Director Ed Yarbrough received a framed plaque from his employees with the following inscription:

Y — is for Yourself, you never thought of:
A — is for the Action you displayed:
R — is for the Right you always sought for:
B — is for the Bureau image you portrayed:
R — is for the Record you earned with us,
O — is for the great Objectives that you set,
U — is for the Understanding you provided:
G — is for the Goodness, we won't forget:
H — is for Humility you showed from day to day:

Put them all together, you have
YARBROUGH,
a Man who Stands for
Courage, Honor and Fair Play.

BOYS RANCH

Round-Up

News about the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, a home for needy and worthy boys the Florida Sheriffs Association is operating on the Suwannee River near Live Oak, Florida.

In Memoriam

The following have made contributions to the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch Memorial Fund.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. May, Atlanta, Ga.; and Yoder Memorial Church, Howey-in-the-Hills; in memory of Mr. Perry L. Harrison, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Willis M. Baldrige, Summerland Key; Mr. and Mrs. Clair B. Gammon, Big Pine Key; Friends of Mr. Craig Pontin, Big Pine Key; Mr. and Mrs. Jack W. Carrigan, Big Pine Key; Mr. and Mrs. Louis R. Blatz, Big Pine Key; Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth D. Westenhavers, Big Pine Key; Mr. and Mrs. Stanley L. Montgomery, Big Pine Key; Mr. and Mrs. John D. Clarke, Big Pine Key; Mr. Walter McKee, Marathon; Capt. Cecil C. Marvin, Big Pine Key; Mr. and Mrs. Hugh B. Anderson, Delray Beach; Mr. Robert D. Weppeler and family, Fort Lee, New Jersey; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Castles, Jr., Big Pine Key; Mr. James Norris, Big Pine Key; Miss Donna Byram, Syracuse, New York; Mr. J. R. Matthews, Big Pine Key; Mr. Frederick W. Price, Big Pine Key; Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Robinson, Key West; and Mr. Arthur Berel, Jr., Tavernier; in memory of Mr. Craig Pontin.

Mrs. Connie Wettstein, Live Oak; and Mr. and Mrs. Sam S. Fann, Live Oak; in memory of Mrs. W. W. Townsend.

Mrs. Marie R. Campbell, St. Petersburg; and Mrs. Paul Sciaraffa, St. Petersburg; in memory of Lt. Charles E. Williams.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Walter Coughlin, Rockville, Md.; Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Taylor, Alexandria, Va.; Mr. and Mrs. E. Olsson, Jr., Woodbridge, Va.; Mr. and Mrs. John A. Clockadale, Alexandria, Va.; Mr. and Mrs. William M. McCord, Columbia, S. C.; Vice President and Mrs. Hubert H. Humphrey, Washington, D. C.; Mr. and Mrs. John J. Giuffre, Bowie, Md.; in memory of Patrick Thomas Wells.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl E. Duncan, Tavares; in memory of Mr. Karl Lehmann and Mr. Louis James Pappas.

Mrs. J. A. Boyd, Dunedin; in memory of Mrs. W. J. Roddey, Sr., and Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Blackburn.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard M. Goodspeed, Dunedin; in memory of Mrs. Maude Nussle and Mrs. Paul Flagg.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray E. Green, Sr., Tallahassee; in memory of Mr. James L. Graham, Jr., and Mr. A. E. Stripling.

Mr. and Mrs. Victor W. Fandrich and Mrs. Victor H. Fandrich, Auburn, New York; in memory of Mrs. Helen Bennett and Edwin Grouse.

Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Cannon, Live Oak; in memory of Kimball Bullock.

Mrs. Kathryn W. Browne, St. Petersburg; in memory of Mr. Stewart B. Browne.

Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Williams, Jr., Sebring; in memory of Mrs. Jane Bowden.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul S. Neeld, Leesburg; in memory of Mr. John A. Blount.

Mr. and Mrs. George Fehring, Boca Raton; in memory of Mrs. Ann Brown.

Mr. A. A. Wakeford, Clearwater; in memory of Mrs. Alberta Branson.

Mrs. Nick Brown, Tampa; in memory of Mr. Nick Brown.

Mrs. J. Nelson Banks, St. Petersburg; in memory of Mr. J. Nelson Banks.

Mrs. William Moulton, St. Petersburg; in memory of Ms. Anna Bernodet.

Mr. E. Odell Carlton, Wauchula; in memory of Sheriff Bob Buckles.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted O. Peterson, West Palm Beach; in memory of Mr. Herbert H. Bartell.

Mr. Benjamin F. Deming, Anna Maria; in memory of Mrs. Mary Deming.

Sunshine City Chapter R.S.E.S., St. Petersburg; in memory of Mr. James A. Duffy, Jr.



NO BARE FEET AT BOYS RANCH

TAMPA — The old spiritual "All God's Chillun' Got Shoes" has been changed to "All Boys Ranch Chillun Got Shoes," thanks to the efforts of Sheriff Malcolm Beard and James A. Smith, Manager of the Thom McAn Shoe Store, in Tampa. For the past two years they have sent enough shoes to the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch to give each of the 100 boys a new pair for Christmas. The picture shows Sheriff Beard loading the 1967 shipment.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Cox, Jr., Lake Alfred; in memory of Mr. H. W. Ellis.

Mr. William J. Braley, Tampa; in memory of Mr. Hervy H. Egner.

C. M. Rotureau, Leslie and Ruby, Tampa; in memory of Mr. T. Clifford Freeman.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold J. Yates, Englewood; in memory of Mr. Oswald A. Fonos.

Mr. and Mrs. Dexter McCaskill, Marianna; in memory of Mr. H. Guy Green.

Mr. and Mrs. William Bittgen, Palmetto; in memory of James C. Hickey.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Bryant, Sebring; in memory of Mrs. Effie M. Hainz.

Mr. John E. Carroll, Jr., Kissimmee; in memory of Mr. Otto Humble.

Mrs. Lora Seastedt, Clearwater; in memory of Mr. Gomer Johns.

Mr. S. L. Stevens, Jupiter; in memory of Mr. E. J. Langley.

Mrs. H. Barton Lewis, Clearwater; in memory of Mr. H. Barton Lewis.

Mr. W. E. Jenkins, Tampa; in memory of Mr. Alston McGahagin, Sr.

Miss Sophia C. Michaels, Gainesville; in memory of Nathan, Sonia, Sam and Elizabeth Michaels.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl J. Johnson, Orlando; in memory of Ruth Mauch.

Mrs. S. D. Boylston, Sarasota; in memory of Dr. Victor A. Pchellas.

Mr. John C. Lockwood, Atlanta, Ga.; in memory of Mr. William N. Ryerson.

Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Stucky, Clearwater; in memory of Mr. Eli Stucky.

Wilma and George Clark, Towson, Md.; in memory of Mrs. Nobie Simpson.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Elton Smith, Lake Wales; in memory of Lester Leon Shelton.

Mrs. Mary J. Schram, Venice; in memory of Mrs. John Mitchell.

Mr. Charles A. Keller, Clearwater Beach; in memory of Armand Tetrault.

Mr. Morris D. Jackson, Dunedin; in memory of Mr. John Tull.

Mr. Horace Drew, Tallahassee; in memory of Mr. Guy D. Wood.

Mrs. Wendell H. Wells, New Port Richey; in memory of Mr. Wendell H. Wells.

Mr. and Mrs. Aldo H. Loos, Enterprise; in memory of Col. Charles A. Weaver.

Mrs. Elizabeth D. Zachry, Vero Beach; in memory of Mr. David S. Zachry.

Sheriff Willis V. McCall, Tavares; in memory of Ms. Ruth F. Cochrane.

Mrs. Bertha I. Robertson, Ocala; in memory of J. D. Robertson, Jr.

The Memorial Fund will perpetuate the memory of deceased relatives and friends. It provided the financing for a Boys Ranch Chapel; and it will be used in the future for similar projects of enduring significance.

Please use the form below when mailing contributions to this fund.

Mail To:

Memorial Fund
Florida Sheriffs
Boys Ranch
P. O. Box 520
Live Oak, Florida

Enclosed find contribution of \$ _____

In memory of _____

Send acknowledgment to:

Name _____

Address _____

From (Donor's Name) _____

Address _____

Builders' Club

The following persons, organizations and business firms have been added to the roster of the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch Builders Club in recognition of donations valued at \$100 or more.

Robert M. Knight, D.D.S., Jacksonville.
 T. I. McIntosh, Jr., West Palm Beach.
 Mr. H. A. Laskey, Palm Beach.
 Mr. Frank T. Faulkner, Madeira Beach.
 Mrs. Fred Horne, Boca Raton.
 Women's Chamber of Commerce of the Greater Gulf Beaches, Madeira Beach.
 Mr. John Munroe, Palm Beach.
 Mrs. Celeste G. Sanford, West Palm Beach.
 Mr. Nick Perquin, Juno Beach.
 Country Casual, Inc., South Side Shop, Orlando.
 Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Waples, Jr., DeLand.
 Mr. Harold G. Marr, New Smyrna Beach.
 Mr. L. M. Thorndike, Ormond Beach.
 Hon. William R. Leonard, Holly Hill.
 Hon. Jim Reynolds, Ormond Beach.
 Mr. Charles S. Rosenbaum, DeBary.
 Mr. Donald A. Wasie, Fort Lauderdale.
 Mr. Robert T. Carlile, Deerfield Beach.
 Mr. Edwin S. Elwell, Fort Lauderdale.
 Mr. M. L. Harper, Gainesville.
 Mr. John R. Streeper, Howey-in-the-Hills.
 Mr. and Mrs. James A. Brown, Tallahassee.
 Mr. I. A. "Red" Gomez, Tallahassee.
 Mrs. Frank Radford Hope, Longboat Key.
 Mr. Lewis Hughes, Sarasota.
 Venice Hospital, Venice.
 Mr. Austin C. Smithers, Sarasota.
 Mrs. Wesley A. Sherberth, Kissimmee.
 Mr. Robert A. Roberts, Immokalee.
 Kepp's Men's Shop, Inc., Naples.
 Naples Senior High School, Naples.
 Telescope Folding Furniture Co., Inc., Granville New York.
 Mr. James H. Hodge, St. Petersburg.
 Mr. Sidney D. Legear, Clearwater.
 Sunshine Women's Chamber of Commerce, St. Petersburg.
 Mrs. E. A. Dunn, Jr., Tampa.
 Mr. E. F. Curtin, Miami.
 Mr. and Mrs. Theo Murrah, New Orleans, La.
 Capt. Alvin Krech, Miami Shores.
 Mr. C. H. Patton, Kendall.
 Mr. Frank A. Paver, North Miami.
 Mr. Samuel C. Levine, Miami Beach.
 Mr. Anthony J. Bittson, Miami Beach.
 Deputy Michael M. Wahl, Miami.
 Mr. Arthur Haupt, Miami Beach.
 Mr. Harold A. Weismann, Miami Shores.
 Mrs. Janet R. Martin, Miami.
 Mr. C. B. Kniskern, Jr., Miami.
 Mr. Charles Robert Lee, Coral Gables.
 Mrs. C. Y. Banfill, Miami.
 Mr. and Mrs. F. Rouse Smith, Miami Beach.
 Mr. Osmer S. Deming, Miami.
 Mr. Frank J. Tronconi, Avon, Connecticut.
 Mr. Francis E. Layton, Keswick, Virginia.
 Mr. Robert M. Post, New York, New York.
 Capt. George W. Bains, Jacksonville.
 Mr. J. E. Graves, Jr., Jacksonville.
 Mrs. Irving H. Larkin, Clearwater.
 Mr. Harold B. Law, Dunedin.
 Mr. Edmund W. Daley, Tierra Verde.
 Women's Service Circle, Dunedin.
 Miss Eveline D. Reynolds, St. Petersburg.
 Mr. Walter J. Petronis, Babson Park.
 Mr. Alphonse Roart, Riviera Beach.
 Mr. Horatio S. Shonnard, West Palm Beach.
 Mr. Harold E. Griffin, Lake Worth.
 Mr. Frank I. Anderson, Orlando.
 Mr. Weldon Donley, Orlando.
 Mr. John T. Atkins, Maitland.
 Mr. James Smith, Winter Park.
 Mr. Claude S. Speicher, Daytona Beach.
 Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Ferriss, DeLand.
 Mr. Joseph E. Gardner, Fort Lauderdale.
 Mr. C. A. Buchanan, Tavares.
 Mr. J. William Aylward, Ocala.
 Mr. Leroy E. Mitchell, Bradenton.
 Mr. Howard W. Morse, Palmetto.
 Mr. Benjamin F. Deming, Anna Maria.
 Mr. Donald N. Hovey, Sarasota.
 Mr. John Johns, Sarasota.
 Mr. John O. Bonnell, Fort Myers.
 Mr. Everett W. Jones, Fort Myers Beach.
 Mr. Frederick Fisher, Cocoa Beach.
 Titusville Rotary Club, Titusville.
 Mr. John A. Hewson, Melbourne.
 Mr. Leroy Bass, Kissimmee.
 Mr. Carl Lavorata, Sebring.
 Mr. and Mrs. Neill L. Ray, Live Oak.
 Mr. W. E. Duggan, Crestview.
 Zellner Brothers, Floral City.
 Mr. and Mrs. Roger L. Jones, Okeechobee.



Jamboree Gets Bigger and Better

TAMPA—Thousands stood in line for spaghetti, meatballs and free entertainment during the Second Annual Hillsborough County Jamboree sponsored by Sheriff Malcolm Beard for the benefit of the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch. Sheriff Beard, who is shown in the top photo (wearing glasses and wide brimmed hat) with Pinellas County Sheriff Don Genung (wearing glasses) and youngsters from the Ranch, said the 1967 benefit was more successful than the first one. Cooking preparations began before dawn, and the program ended in the evening with "Cookie" Arturo's death defying wire walking act.



\$1,000 FOR THE RANCH

Among the many generous gifts received by the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch during the Christmas season was a \$1,000 check presented by former Clay County Sheriff John P. Hall (left), a founder, first treasurer and long time supporter of the Ranch. The check was accepted with grateful appreciation by the present Boys Ranch treasurer, J. P. McMullen (right), of Live Oak. Mr. McMullen succeeded Sheriff Hall as Treasurer in the early days of the Ranch and is serving his 11th year on the Ranch Board of Trustees.

Emergency Patrol

FORT MYERS — Sheriff Flanders Thompson is the sponsor of a 50-man Citizens Emergency Patrol organized in Dunbar Heights.

The men have been issued white helmets, coveralls and nightsticks.

"They are doing this on their own time for the benefit of the community," Sheriff Thompson said. "They are not law enforcement officers and do not intend to be. Their purpose is to be prepared to serve in times of local or national emergency. They will be working with law enforcement officers," he added, "not only the sheriff's department, but with the city police and the Florida Highway Patrol."

Parting Gift

TITUSVILLE—A California man who sobered up in the Brevard County Jail after he was arrested for intoxication stopped at the front desk on his way out and left a \$10 donation for the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch.

He said he had been treated with such respect and courtesy and was so impressed with Sheriff Leigh Wilson's Department that he wanted to use this means of showing his appreciation.

The Straight Dope

We Hope . . .

In June we reprinted a Chicago Tribune editorial which said in part: "Sen. John J. Williams (R. Del.) reports that new labor department rules permit convicts to establish eligibility for unemployment benefits and to qualify for social security benefits. And a prisoner who gets a job with the federal government after he is released may count his years in prison in figuring his civil service retirement benefits."

Apparently, however, fringe benefits for federal prison convicts aren't quite that liberal.

The newspaper "Federal Times" quoted the U. S. Civil Service Commission as saying that "There has not been and there is not now any law, regulation or ruling which classifies time spent in prison as federal service."

Federal Times went on to state that federal prisons may provide "work furloughs" for certain prisoners expected to be released or paroled within six months; and such prisoners may be employed in nearby communities in labor shortage occupations while continuing as prisoners of the institutions.

It is possible, Federal Times added, for federal agencies to appoint a furloughed prisoner to a job in a labor shortage occupation for not more than one year provided prior approval is obtained from the Civil Service Commission.

This appointment may be extended, the newspaper said, "but no person is permitted to serve under this authority longer than one year beyond the date he is released from custody."

"The service performed under such appointment is not subject to the Civil Service Retirement Act.

"The service may be credited for retirement purposes only if the individual later serves in a position covered by the retirement law and meets the age and service requirements."

Holster Switch

CLEARWATER — No more "across-the-body" drawing of pistols for deputy sheriffs in Pinellas County—this was the word from Sheriff Don Genung.

Until recently it was customary for right-handed deputies to wear pistol and holster on the left side (vice versa for left handers) and reach across the body to draw.

Sheriff Genung said, however, that the latest technique calls for the holster and gun to be on the same side as the shooting hand.

\$10,000 Scholarship

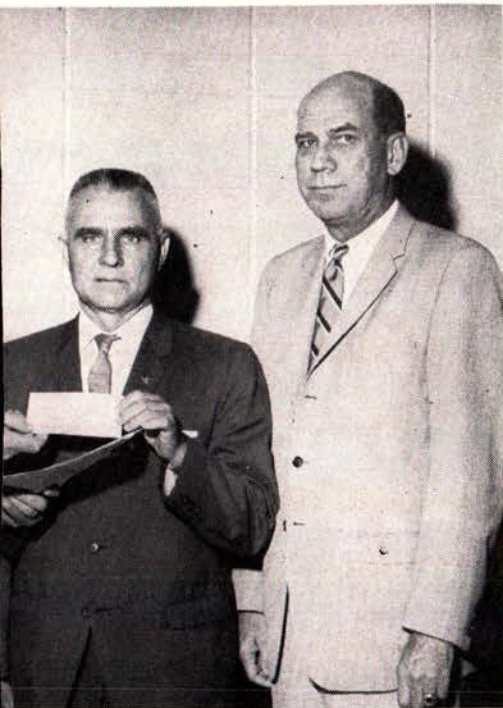


ABOVE — Major A. D. Tomasello (left) presents \$10,000 Scholarship Fund check to Polk County Sheriff Monroe Brannen, his "home town" sheriff who, until recently, was one of the few people who knew the identity of the anonymous Boys Ranch benefactor. The Major's daughter, Mrs. Joyce Freeman, and his son, William P. Tomasello, Bartow Attorney, are also pictured. They accompanied him to the Boys Ranch for the check presentation.



AT RIGHT — Volusia County Sheriff Rodney Thursby (right) expresses the appreciation of the Boys Ranch Trustees to Major Tomasello. Sheriff Thursby is Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Trustees.

p Fund Clears up Eight-Year Mystery at Boys Ranch



It's no secret any more.

Youngsters at the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch know the identity of the anonymous giver who has been putting cash in their Christmas stockings for the past eight years.

Year after year the money came to the Ranch mysteriously through Duval County Sheriff Dale Carson and each Christmas morning each boy found a \$5 bill in his stocking.

In 1960, the first Christmas after the Ranch went into operation, there were 20 boys and the cash gifts totaled \$100. When the enrollment grew to 100 boys the annual cash outlay jumped to \$500, but the money kept coming faithfully.

As the recent Christmas season drew near the anonymous giver reluctantly decided to reveal his identity because he wanted to establish a \$10,000 scholarship fund at the Ranch in memory of his wife.

He met with Ranch officials to work out details of the fund on December 15, and that's when the boys learned that their long time benefactor was Major A. D. Tomasello, of Bartow, Director of Public Relations for the Florida Trucking Association and dean of lobbyists in the Florida Legislature.

"The Major," as he is known throughout Florida, explained that the anonymous Christmas gifts were his wife's idea.

She passed away in 1966 and the Major, who had made provisions in his will for a Boys Ranch Scholarship Fund, decided to establish the fund now and call it

... and now

the boys

know who

has been

putting

those \$5

bills in

their

Christmas

stockings.

the Dodie Tomasello Memorial Educational Trust Fund.

The trust fund, which is the largest gift of its kind ever received at the Ranch, will help deserving boys—and not necessarily "straight-A students," according to the Major's specifications—to get college educations.

The donor revealed that, although the trust fund idea is of relatively recent origin, the chain

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DeMolays Brought Dinner — And Much More

It started out as a project to provide Christmas Dinner for the youngsters at the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch—and it ended up as

a state-wide outpouring of Christmas spirit that thrilled the boys at the Ranch and left staff members somewhat overwhelmed.

The project was organized by Florida's DeMolay Clubs — youth organization of the Masonic Lodge — last September and it was climaxed when the club members brought to the ranch a whole truck load of food, clothes and gifts.

Ranch Administrator Harry Weaver said "It's just amazing. We were expecting food for Christmas dinner, but they brought enough for four or five big meals, plus clothing and gifts worth hundreds and hundreds of dollars."

This, however, was just the beginning, according to the DeMolays' State Master Councilor, Leonard McCook, of Sanford. "We have adopted the Boys Ranch," he said, "and we expect to make this a yearly event."



Scenes like these were duplicated all over Florida when DeMolay chapters collected food, gifts and clothes for youngsters at the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch. The photo above shows DeMolay officials loading up for the trip to the Ranch. They are Rufus Campbell, Governor, Province One, Pensacola; Aaron Jordon, Chairman of the Advisory Council, Tallahassee Chapter; DeWayne Free, Supervisor of District Five, Tallahassee; and Don Watson, Deputy State Master Councilor, of Melbourne. In the lower photo Orange County Sheriff Dave Starr (right) and Edward Lunn, Governor of DeMolay Province No. 3, check over some of the items donated by DeMolay chapters in the Orlando area. (Upper Photo by Dan Stainer, Tallahassee. Lower photo by Gene Cook, Orange County Sheriff's Department, Orlando.)



FRATERNITY MEMBERS VISIT "ADOPTED" SONS AT BOYS RANCH

Pledges of Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity from the University of Florida had their picture taken with their "sons" during the fraternity's annual visit to the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch. ATU has "adopted" McGehee Cottage which houses the youngest boys at the Ranch; and the pledges during their recent visit played touch football with the Ranchers and helped them with their chores.



Deputy's Masquerade Pays Off For Ranch

GAINESVILLE—Deputy Sheriff Johnny Yarbrough's month-long disguise as a U.S. Mail truck driver paid off in two ways.

It foiled an attempt to hold up a mail truck and it made the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch \$500 richer.

Yarbrough, accompanied by a Federal Postal Inspector "riding shotgun", was driving a mail truck when two Gainesville men tried to rob it.

The would-be robbers used a battering ram on the front of their car to stop the truck at a lonely intersection and attempted to take Yarbrough captive.

Lt. Ron Stanley and other Alachua County Deputy Sheriffs closed in immediately, but Yarbrough had quickly disarmed his attacker and the Postal Inspector had made use of his shotgun to control the situation.

The incident occurred in January, 1967, and a \$500 reward issued after the holdup men were convicted in federal court was recently turned over to the Boys Ranch.

The top picture shows the robbers' car with battering ram attached.

The bottom picture shows Boys Ranch Administrator Harry Weaver (in white coat) accepting the reward money from Deputy Yarbrough, Deputy Stanley and Sheriff Joe Crevasse (left to right).



\$10,000 Scholarship Fund Clears Up 8-Year Mystery

(Continued from page 7)

of events that led up to it goes back almost a half-century to World War I.

He said his wartime service (He went in as a National Guard Sergeant and came out as an Infantry Major) brought him in contact with a chaplain by the name of August "Chappie" Gerhard, who was one of the few chaplains ever to receive the Distinguished Service Cross.

The Chaplain interested the Major in helping boys and he eventually became a supporter of Father Flanagan's Boys Town. This led to an interest in the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch and generous gifts in addition to the Scholarship fund and the anonymous "Christmas cash."

And, the chain of events is apparently going to continue, much to the delight of the Ranchers.

On Christmas morning, 1967, each boy found a \$5 bill in his stocking. The only difference was that this year the donor was no longer anonymous.



BENEFACTORS TAKE A LOOK AT BOYS RANCH CLINIC SITE

Construction of a new \$50,000 medical and dental clinic was just getting started at the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch when Mr. and Mrs. James P. Towey visited the site. The Toweys, who live in St. Petersburg, have a strong personal interest in the project because they are trustees of the James P. Towey Foundation which is building the clinic; and Mrs. Towey is also a trustee of the Boys Ranch. They are pictured talking to Ranchers Albert Williams (left) and Jim Barnhart.



IT TAKES A LOT OF WORK TO SAY "THANK YOU" 35,000 TIMES

Hundreds of man hours were required for staff members and boys to mail out Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch Christmas Seals as an expression of appreciation to some 35,000 Ranch supporters. The work started in November with the hand addressing of 35,000 envelopes. This picture was taken during the "folding, stuffing and sealing" stage of the project. After all the envelopes were sealed they had to be sorted according to zip code numbers and placed in mail bags ready for mailing.

Stamp of Approval

PUNTA GORDA—"Teen-Age Alert," a crime curbing program proposed by U. S. Congressman Paul Rogers, has been endorsed by Charlotte County Sheriff Jack Bent.

The program was originated in Broward County by Dr. David J. Lehman who got together some of his fellow physicians who volunteered to appear before school assemblies and talk about the dangers involved in using drugs and alcohol.

They didn't preach or threaten—just gave the students the facts so they could be better prepared to make their own decisions.

Policemen Contribute

SANFORD—The police in this Central Florida city believe in the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch.

Through the Sanford Police Benevolence Association they recently made a large cash contribution to the Ranch, and the Sheriffs Association is sincerely grateful.