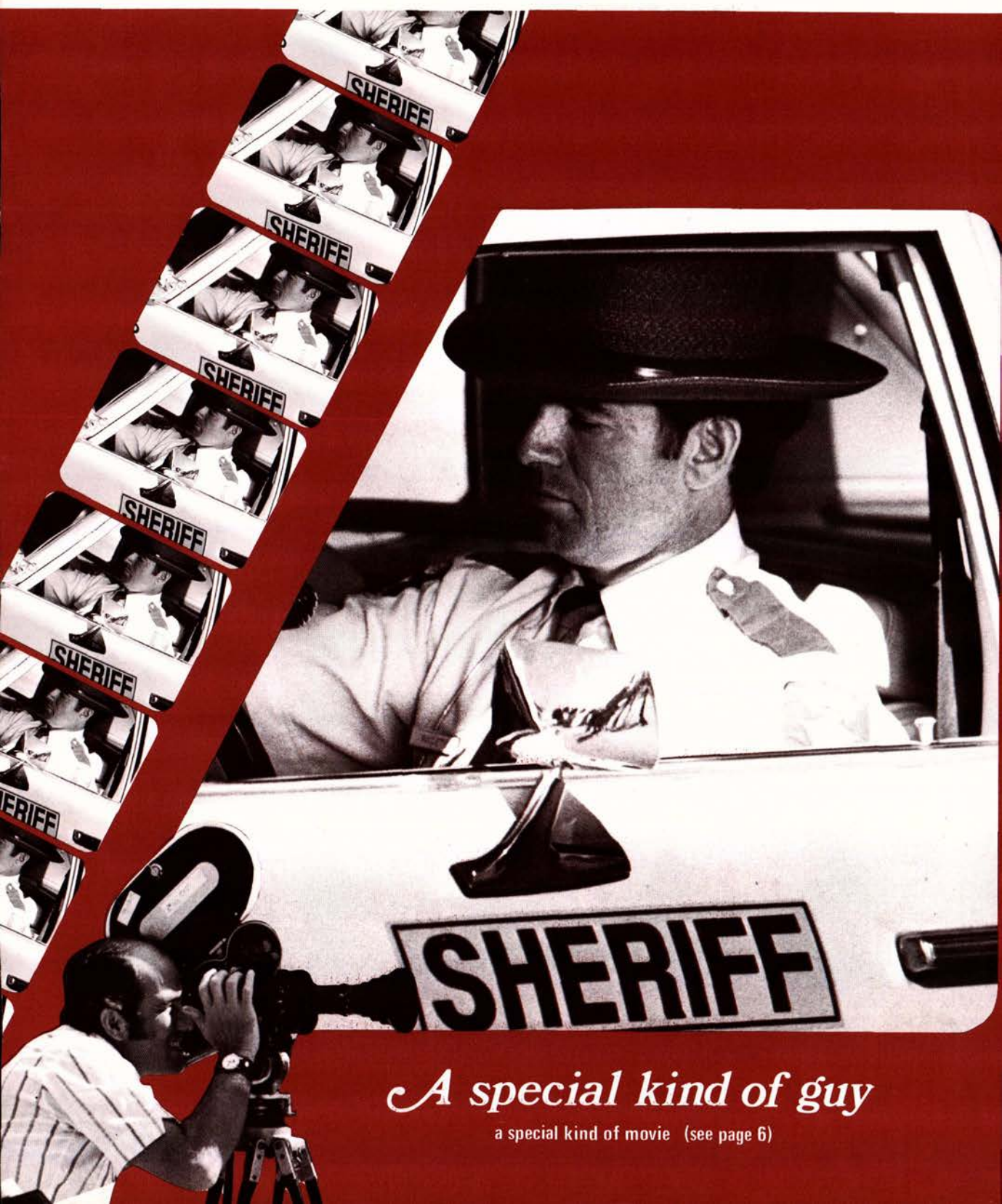


THE SHERIFF'S **STAR**

PUBLISHED BY THE FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION — FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE IN LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

FEBRUARY 1975



A special kind of guy

a special kind of movie (see page 6)

Sheriff Pat Hartley (left) and Sheriff Don Moreland.



Host Sheriff Frank Wanicka's helicopter was standing by for emergency use.



Host Sheriff Frank Wanicka (left) and Congressman L. A. "Skip" Bafalis at a luncheon meeting.

CONFERENCE REPORT

These and following pages present in words and pictures some of the highlights of the Annual Mid-Winter Conference of the Florida Sheriffs Association which was held in Fort Myers, January 22-24, with Lee County Sheriff Frank Wanicka as host, and neighboring Sheriffs Roy Lundy, Jack Bent and Earl Dyess as co-hosts.

SHERIFFS TAKE STRONG STAND FOR

Reorganization of Corrections

FORT MYERS --- Sheriffs attending the annual Mid-Winter Conference of the Florida Sheriffs Association here January 24 declared that the present fragmentation of corrections in Florida is posing a major obstacle to crime control and they demanded a full-scale reorganization.

Their sentiments were articulated in a position paper which was unanimously approved and sent to the governor, cabinet members, the Florida Legislature and other officials.

Here is the full text:

It does not take a crystal ball to see that Florida is being besieged by a mushrooming crime rate which has virtually defied control. But while person and property related offenses con-

tinue to rise, the organizational dilemma posed by the fragmentation of corrections in Florida poses almost as much of an obstacle to crime control as the apprehension of the offender.

To remedy this situation, our lawmakers must look to establishing a clear state policy on corrections, one which will cut through all the red tape and paper work which has inundated the present system to the point of suffocation.

Our responsibility to the millions of Floridians who ask only to live in the safety and security of their homes, businesses and pursuits demands nothing less than an accountable criminal justice system.

We see several key elements in reorienting the present state of affairs:

1. Transfer the Division of Corrections from its present location in the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services into a new Department of Corrections.
2. Seriously consider the relocation of the field staff of the Parole and Probation Commission into this new Department of Corrections.

THE SHERIFF'S
STAR

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Associate Editor, Al Hammock

Art Director, Frank J. Jones

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Florida Sheriffs Association President for 1975, Sheriff John Whitehead of Union County.



Sheriff Don Genung (right) attended his last conference as Sheriff of Pinellas County (he retires effective Mar. 31) and received a special tribute from outgoing Association President Sheriff Raymond Hamlin of Leon County.



Howard



Lambeth



Currie

Attorneys Walter O. Lambeth, Jr. and Walter S. Currie participated in a seminar on collective bargaining to answer the questions of sheriffs (right). Ray Howard, Chairman of the Florida Parole and Probation Commission, was also on hand to answer questions.



3. Transfer the delinquency programs of the Division of Youth Services from the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services to this new Corrections agency.

These three agencies have previously been more in competition for the dollar from state tax revenues than they have been united in the pursuit of common correctional goals. The massive Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services has failed to devote sufficient energies toward addressing the real issue of our times --- the safety and security of law-abiding people. We have seen for too long the bickering between institutional and parole authorities while dangerous offenders slip through the system to reenter the community and continue their life of crime.

In the opinion of law enforcement officers, the certainty of punishment is the greatest deterrent to crime.

4. If we are to have a Criminal Justice System, Sheriffs and corrections officials need to be linked in an informal but regular channel of communications. We would propose the creation of state-wide and local advisory bodies composed of judges, prosecutors, sheriffs and corrections officials to close the gaps in our corrections system and to make it responsive to the needs of our communities.
5. Sheriffs and other local officials need to be informed prior to the release of dangerous offenders. The absence of this has led to many recent unfortunate incidents which might have been prevented.
6. With three separately funded agencies handling corrections of crime in Florida, there is an enormous duplication of programs and personnel. Administrative costs and sheer overhead have steadily mounted. A single state agency approach could remedy this by introducing economies of a scale which could save precious dollars.

7. More than anything else, we need to pinpoint responsibility for the corrections system. Let's restate the philosophy of one former statesman who said "the buck stops here".
8. The management of Florida's parole and probation system is in need of drastic overhaul. Field supervisors cannot devote enough time to the supervision of serious cases because they are drowning in paper work and in handling petty misdemeanor cases.
9. Florida desperately needs more prisons to handle safely the nearly 12,000 inmates it now has. But present state procedures have delayed the opening of new institutions for some 44 months after approval has been given. Major overhaul of the contract and bidding system needs to be accomplished if our system is to meet the immediate challenge posed by crime. Waiting 44 months is too long. The threat to public safety is here and now.
10. We cannot expect offenders to reform their ways if upon release from prison they are isolated from the employment market. The state needs to look to new programs which give the offender some opportunity to search for a job but do not force him to rely upon a return to crime to support himself.
11. The indiscriminate release of offenders back into society often works a hardship upon both citizens and the offenders. Good behavior alone should not be the sole standard for release --- we need measurable performance from the offender and a real commitment to change. This approach would go a long way in taking both the uncertainty and arbitrariness out of the parole process, while giving the inmate a yardstick with which to measure his progress.



New Sheriffs Association officers were sworn in by Sheriff Don Genung. Left to right are: Sheriff Roy Lundy, Board of Directors; Sheriff Jack Bent, Vice President; Sheriff John Whitehead, President; and Sheriff Frank Wanicka, Secretary-Treasurer.

CONFERENCE REPORT

SHERIFFS CHEER WHEN

Barron lashes HRS



FORT MYERS---The Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services (HRS) was found guilty of bureaucracy in the first degree.

The speaker's podium became a whipping post.

And Sheriffs stood up and cheered when Senate President Dempsey Barron laid on 40 lashes.

The date was January 24; the occasion was a luncheon meeting at the Annual Mid-Winter Conference of the Florida Sheriffs Association. The Senate President, spotlighted as the principal speaker, was drumming up support for his efforts to reshape the mammoth state agency.

He said HRS was too big, too wasteful and too poorly organized.

"I want to unify what is now a non-system into one department and take it out of HRS," he explained. "The Division of Corrections, the field staff of the Parole and Probation Commission, and certain elements of the Division of Youth Services need to be consolidated. This will provide better service, less duplication, and effect cost savings.

"I need your support to bring this reorganization about," he said, and Sheriffs responded by informing him they had already unanimously approved a position paper which recommended the same kind of reorganization.

Reshaping HRS will not be an easy task, Barron went on to point out, because the agency itself can be expected to lobby intensively against the proposed changes.

Barron said in the last session there were 40 HRS employees lobbying, "one for each senator --- and they had them strategically located all over the capitol. Most of these lobbyists make over \$25,000 a year."

The Senate President received the loudest applause when he said that "Ollie Keller (head of HRS) doesn't believe in putting criminals in jail." This echoed Sheriffs' complaints that HRS has been preoccupied with rehabilitation programs for criminals, while failing to push construction of desperately needed prison facilities to protect society from dangerous hoodlums.

There was much nodding of heads in the audience when Barron pointed out that the legislature had authorized \$77,000,000 for prison construction in the last five years, and \$50,000,000 remains unspent. "This untenable delay is being looked at carefully," he added. He said he was aware the closing of overcrowded prisons three times in the last two years had placed a tremendous burden on law enforcement officials.

He also called for wise and frugal spending. "Florida commits more per capita to corrections than any other southeastern state except Georgia," he said, "yet, much of this funding is being lost in the bureaucratic haystack.

"Let me give you a quick, but dramatic, example of what I mean. The operational overhead of HRS is 15 per cent. An acceptable operational overhead would be about 7 per cent. Merely cutting the overhead of HRS back to 7 per cent would result in savings in excess of \$24 million a year. How many prison facilities, rehabilitation programs or additional law enforcement officers would these annual savings provide?



Sheriff Basil Gaines (left), Sheriff Ernest P. Murphy.



Commissioner William Troelstrup, Florida Department of Criminal Law Enforcement, (left) and Sheriff Jack Bent.



The Dean of all Florida Sheriffs, Maurice Linton, (right) of Taylor County, was honored for his 23 years of service as Sheriff and many years on the Sheriffs Association Board of Directors. Sheriff Raymond Hamlin did the honors.

"Let me give you another example: the average citizen spends \$485 annually for health care. You, as a taxpayer, pay \$630 annually for the health care of prisoners who are usually young, healthy and eat regular meals at your expense. HRS has requested \$880 per prisoner for the next year. Either the inmates are receiving much better care than you and I can afford or there is mismanagement of these funds."

The Senate President said our corrections systems have failed to achieve the goal of rehabilitation. "Study after study shows that no system of rehabilitation yet tried has had much effect on criminals. As enforcement officers, you know that two-thirds of all crimes are committed by repeaters."

Quoting Los Angeles Police Chief Edward Davis, Barron said, "We used to lock up criminals so the citizens could pursue happiness on the outside. Now, the criminal pursues happiness in the streets while the people are locked up behind bars in their homes."

He said he shared the Sheriffs' concern about this situation and an effort is being made to determine what the state legislature can do about it.

One action in this regard, he explained, was a questionnaire to all Sheriffs, police chiefs, county judges, state attorneys and public officials, with the following preliminary results:

---Most Sheriffs found that pre-sentence investigations by the Parole and Probation Commission and its field staff were well done.

---A majority of the Sheriffs feel that the Division of Corrections does a fair to poor job of assigning offenders to the most appropriate corrections facility.

---A whopping 96 per cent feel that the Parole Commission's actions in paroling prisoners was only fair to poor.

---Supervision of these offenders once released was ranked

only fair to poor by 75 per cent of the Sheriffs responding.

---A majority of Sheriffs ranked the service of the Division of Corrections as fair to poor on every count.

Senator Barron went on to quote some of the comments that were made "over and over again" by Sheriffs responding to the survey:

"We are releasing offenders too soon and are not strict enough on repeaters."

"We need more prison space."

"The Division of Youth Services people are too lenient, inexperienced, immature and bogged down in bureaucratic red tape."

"The Parole and Probation Commission and the Division of Youth Services personnel have too much power in determining the actual time served by prisoners."

As a result of these reactions, said Senator Barron, "We are beginning to know more about the problems."

This, he said, will lead to concrete, achievable goals such as: (1) making certain there are adequate prison facilities for those who need to be locked up and kept away from society; and (2) reorganizing the correctional system to provide better administration and, thus, better utilization of available funds.

THE 62nd ANNUAL CONFERENCE of the

☆ Florida Sheriffs Association ☆
will be held in

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

JULY 23 - 25, 1975

Sheriff Dale Carson will be the host.



Sheriff W. R. Taff (left) and Sheriff Jack Taylor.

State Senator Warren Henderson with his special deputy's badge.



Conference Co-Host Earl Dyess was on the fishing trip and caught a few fish he said compared in size with Lake Okeechobee catfish.

Conference Report

SHERIFFS URGE GOVERNOR TO

Ease prison crowding

TALLAHASSEE --- The Florida Sheriffs Association has urged Governor Reubin Askew to immediately open temporary facilities to relieve jail and prison overcrowding.

Sheriffs attending the Annual Mid-Winter Conference of the Association on January 24 voted unanimously to appeal to the Governor, and they drafted a message declaring that "in Florida, society's right to protection under the law is being blatantly violated."

Dangerous criminals are free to commit more crimes, the message added, "simply because there is insufficient space in which to incarcerate them."

Sheriff Raymond Hamlin, immediate past president of the Association, incorporated the Sheriffs' message in a letter mailed to the Governor on January 30.

The full text of the letter is attached.

Dear Governor Askew:

Sheriffs attending the Annual Mid-Winter Conference of the Florida Sheriffs Association, January 24, 1975, unanimously approved and asked me to forward to you the following statement urging you to take immediate steps to ease overcrowding in jails and prisons.

In Florida, society's right to protection under the law is being blatantly violated. Dangerous criminals are free to commit more crimes simply because there is insufficient space in which to incarcerate them.

The Sheriffs of Florida recognize the fact that a crisis now exists in the lack of housing for state prisoners. This situation calls for emergency measures in addition to long-range planning.

To provide relief at the earliest possible date, we strongly urge the Governor to take immediate steps to open temporary facilities for additional inmates. If necessary, he should waive the usual penal regulations concerning construction standards and utilize any vacant space in other governmental facilities, such as unoccupied portions of the Florida State Hospital at Chattahoochee, a vacant hospital in Hillsborough County, and unoccupied military bases, et cetera.

The people of this state are in no mood for bureaucratic delays. They fear for the safety of their lives and property because dangerous criminals are prematurely free on the street. They are forced to put up bars to keep lawbreakers out of their homes, when it is the lawbreakers who should be behind bars --- in prison. The people will not long endure such a state of siege without losing all confidence in their government.

The issue of prison space has become a factor in sentencing and release decisions. We cannot expect to eliminate all crime, nor can we expect to rehabilitate all offenders, but we can protect society from the devastation caused by criminals released too soon or never sentenced at all merely because there is insufficient space. Society's right to protection under the law must be reaffirmed --- now.

Criminals are dominating us

Appearing before the Judiciary-Criminal Committee of the Florida Senate, Leon County Sheriff Raymond Hamlin declared "we have reached the point where criminals are dominating the population of Florida, rather than the population of Florida dominating criminals."



Every institution in society shares the blame, he said, but within the criminal justice system law enforcement officers are the least responsible because "all we can do is catch criminals."

Hamlin, speaking as president of the Florida Sheriffs Association, said law enforcement officers could do a better job if their agencies were brought up to the proper manpower lev-

els. "We need men, training and equipment," he said.

"Prisons must also be built," Hamlin added, "so that the lack of space for incarceration of prisoners does not become a factor in the arresting, sentencing or confining of lawbreakers."

He said the Florida Parole and Probation Commission must be given adequate manpower to function effectively, and society must find ways to strengthen the foundations of family life. "Government agencies can't become parents," he added.

"We've got to stop fragmentation of law enforcement," said Hamlin. "We must give law enforcement officers the authority they need, and demand accountability."

"Somehow," he added, "we have got to respond to the needs of the people. They are afraid, and they think their officials are not listening."

BIG SHOES TO FILL

BUT BILL ROBERTS WILL



CLEARWATER --- On April 1, all the 17-year-old youngsters born and raised in Pinellas County will wake up to discover that they have a new Sheriff for the first time in their lives --- and that's no April Fool.

There are adults, too, whose memories cannot recall any other Sheriff than Don Genung, but Genung is retiring after almost 18 years as Sheriff (and some 30 years as a lawman) and Bill Roberts, his Chief Deputy, will become the new Sheriff by appointment of the Governor.

A newspaper in Pinellas County, in recognition of Sheriff Genung's stature as one of the outstanding lawmen in the nation, headlined an article about Roberts "What an Act to Follow!"

And it's true, because Genung has received just about every honor and accolade dear to the hearts of lawmen --- except perhaps sainthood.

But Roberts is no second-rater by a long shot. In his own quiet, competent way, he stands tall too, and he brings to his new position a set of impressive credentials that should give the people of Pinellas County much confidence and peace of mind.

The primary difference between Genung and Roberts is that Genung has been out front for almost 18 years and Roberts has been working in his shadow. That, however, is simply because the limelight normally falls on the Sheriff, and not because the man behind him is less talented.

In reality, Genung and Roberts have been the Smothers Brothers of law enforcement for the past 18 years with the exception that their bag is law enforcement instead of comedy. They have worked as a team, and it is reasonable to believe the elevation of Roberts to the high and lonely atmosphere of the "high sheriff's" desk will in no way alter the steady progress of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department.

A World War II Navy veteran, Roberts began his law enforcement career in 1950 when he joined the Largo, Fla., Police Department. He transferred to the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department in 1953, was placed in charge of the South Pinellas operation in 1956 and became Chief Deputy in 1958 when one of his fellow deputies, Don Genung, was appointed Sheriff to fill a vacancy created by the death of Sheriff Sid Saunders.

Roberts has attended a wide variety of law enforcement schools. He graduated from the FBI National Academy in 1961 and has attended several retraining sessions since. He has 250 hours in the Florida Institute of Law Enforcement and is a graduate of the Executive Development Police Management program. He has taken part in numerous short police courses and the Police Standards Council's Executive Management courses.

He is serving as chairman of the Pinellas Police Standards Council; has served as Secretary-Treasurer and Second Vice President of the FBI National Academy Graduates Association and will become President in August of this year. He has been police adviser to the Upper Pinellas Chapter of the American Red Cross.

He is a member of the National Sheriffs' Association, the Florida Peace Officers Association and the Florida Sheriffs Association.

He is 50 years old and he and his wife, Madelyn, have two daughters, Beverly and Barbara. Beverly, 28, is a senior in the University of Florida Law School, and Barbara, 22, is a housewife in Toledo, Ohio.

Manatee County Sheriff
Dick Weitzenfeld
on Camera.

A special kind of guy

For the first time in the 64-year history of the Florida Sheriffs Association there is a special kind of movie about your Sheriff and what he does for a living. It's entitled "A Special Kind of Guy", and it's unique because it manages to shoehorn into 28 minutes all the major facets of the Sheriff's job. At the same time it serves as a reminder that law enforcement officers are people with joys and fears, laughter and tears, just like the guy next door.

The new color-sound 16-millimeter film was previewed at the annual Mid-Winter Conference of the Florida Sheriffs Association, in Ft. Myers, January 24, and is now available for showing to schools, clubs and other groups throughout the state. To arrange for a showing, please contact your local Sheriff. There is no charge for using the film.

Sponsored by the Florida Sheriffs Association, "A Special Kind of Guy" was produced by Alan Hoffberger Advertising, Inc., of Sarasota. Ben Parker, whose career in movies and television spans 35 years, wrote the script and directed the shooting. John Patterson Studios, Winter Haven, provided production services, and John Patterson was the director of photography.

A number of Sheriffs served as technical advisers, approved the script, and assisted with the filming. A few of them appear in the movie, but the primary role of Will Marquette is portrayed by a professional actor, Peter Jahns, of Sarasota.

The movie was filmed in 12 days at 47 locations in six counties, and involved a cast of 268 people, most of them deputy sheriffs and auxiliary deputies.

Photos by John Twitchell



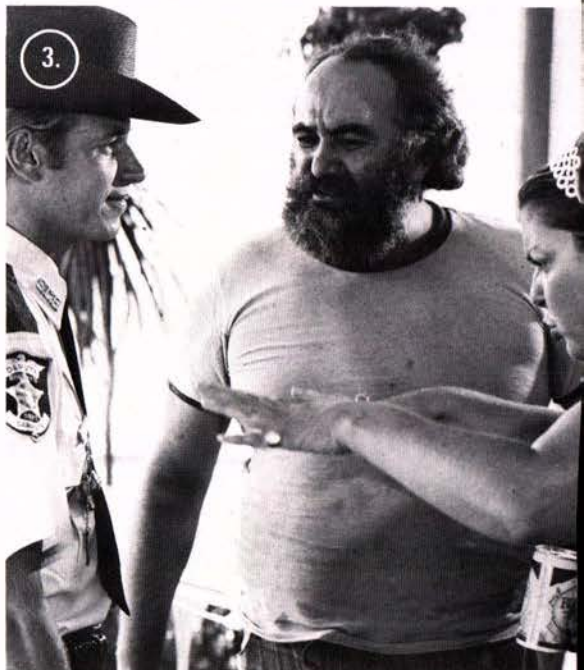


A special kind of guy (Continued from Page Seven)

1. Charlotte County Sheriff Jack Bent and his ambulance service appear in the film.

2. The Sheriff is executive officer of the county and circuit courts, and serving court papers is an important part of his job.

3. ...and then there are domestic arguments, with Deputy Sheriffs as referees.





Going over the script with Lee County Sheriff Frank Wanicka is writer-director Ben Parker (right). Parker has been involved with motion pictures since 1939, and has produced, directed and written film projects for Universal-International, Paramount, Columbia, United Artists and Republic Pictures. He has also directed and produced more than 180 separate programs for leading U.S. and Canadian television networks, including the "Gangbusters" film series for NBC. In 1965, he was the writer-director of a feature film, based upon a best-selling novel, "The Shepherd of the Hills", by Harold Bell Wright. He has also sired hundreds of documentary movies filmed throughout the world on educational, sociological and military subjects.

Sarasota County Sheriff Jim Hardcastle (photo below right) and Hillsborough County Sheriff Malcolm Beard (photo below left) also made their acting debuts.





Organizations and individuals who have given large gifts to the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund, Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch and the Florida Sheriffs Girls Villa become members of the Builders Club by giving \$100 or more. They qualify as Lifetime Honorary Members by giving \$1,000 or more.

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 Mrs. W. T. Ricketts, Dunedin
 Mrs. Harold Rinde, Lecanto
 Mr. and Mrs. A. Rodgeron, Sarasota
 Mr. and Mrs. Walter H. Rogers, Eastpoint
 Mrs. Mary Romera, Tampa
 Royal Crown Bottlers of Orlando, Inc.
 St. John's Men's Club, St. Petersburg
 Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Sahton, Golden Gate
 Mr. J. H. Sanford, Sarasota
 Mr. Alexander Scavnick, Lantana
 Mrs. O. B. Schilling, St. Petersburg
 Mrs. Louis Schonwald, Lighthouse Point
 Sellers Bag Company, Inc., Jacksonville
 Mr. and Mrs. James C. Seymour, Sr.,
 Clearwater
 Mr. Louie D. Sheppard, Englewood
 Mr. Bill Sinns, Orlando
 Mr. Dennis Sinns, Orlando
 Mr. Phillip M. Sinns, Orlando
 Mrs. J. Kenyon Smith, New Port Richey
 Mrs. Lillian E. Sproul, West Palm Beach
 Mrs. Doris Stebbins, Pinellas Park
 Mrs. R. F. Stoky, Miami Shores
 Mr. and Mrs. James W. Sweet, Winter Haven
 Mr. Orville L. Thompson, Bartow
 Mrs. Sarah M. Thompson, Oneco
 Mrs. Edward O. Thomson, Bradenton
 Mr. and Mrs. George S. Thurmond, Gulfport

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Turner, Largo
 VFW Auxiliary 9272, Seminole
 Voice of the Everglades C.B. Club, Inc.,
 Clewiston
 WQHL Radio, Live Oak
 Mrs. H. C. Ward, St. Petersburg
 Mrs. Cathlena R. Welch, Bradenton
 Mr. Harold Wells, St. Petersburg
 Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth M. West, Inverness
 Mrs. Jeanette White, Bradenton Beach
 Mr. Edward Henry Wilhelm, Winter Park
 Miss Julie Williams, Miami
 Mrs. Leo Williams, Bradenton
 Ms. Mary E. Willig, Clearwater
 Hazel Wise Bargain Store, Tampa
 Mr. and Mrs. G. Pierce Wood, Quincy
 Mr. John Woodard, Orlando
 Ms. Varion J. Young, Dade City



Fred L. Breedon Jr. (left), of Jacksonville, by Sheriff Dale Carson.

In recognition of large gifts to the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, Girls Villa and Youth Fund,

Florida Sheriffs Association Lifetime Honorary Memberships

have been presented to:



John J. Piazza (left), representing Exxon, by Hillsborough County Sheriff Malcolm Beard.



Fred Schiller (left), of Tampa, by Sheriff Malcolm Beard of Hillsborough County.



Engraving tool becomes an anti-crime weapon in the hands of Sheriff Bud Purdy. He's encouraging the public to engrave identifying numbers on valuable possessions so they can be quickly identified, if stolen.

BUD'S CRIME REMEDY —

Nip it in the bud

MIAMI — Sheriff "Bud" Purdy's concept of crime prevention is so broad it covers such seemingly "far out" things as nuts and bolts, screws and hinges.

But actually, screws, hinges and such aren't so far out when you're mounting a full-scale campaign to thwart, frustrate and immobilize burglars and armed robbers — and that is the Dade County Sheriff's apparent goal.

One important facet of his campaign is a Model Burglary Security Code Ordinance which he submitted to the Board of County Commissioners. This ordinance requires the use of approved locking devices on exterior doors; hardened inserts in dead bolts; non-exposed screws and non-removable hinge pins on certain doors; solid core wooden exterior doors in

rabbetted jambs; a specified thickness of metal in doors; vision panels or scopes in certain entrance doors; and special protection for vents, transoms, skylights and access scuttles.

The same ordinance also requires adequate lighting in open parking lots to discourage armed robbers, rapists and muggers.

In a related approach, Purdy announced he intends to encourage architectural schools to include crime prevention aspects of design in their curriculums; and to encourage insurance companies to develop rate structures that reflect crime prevention standards.

Many other programs and proposals fall under the Sheriff's crime prevention umbrella.

He sponsors "Officer Friendly" and Police-School Liaison Programs to cut juvenile offenses; and he develops lines of communication with the adult population through "Safe Streets", Community Relations and Ride-Along programs.

He's involved in the state-wide Operation Identification program which encourages homeowners to engrave identifying numbers on valuable appliances and other possessions so they can quickly be traced if they are stolen.

Coupled with these projects is a public information program that includes bi-lingual pamphlets, public speeches, movies, feature articles and a mobile display unit to demonstrate various methods of anti-burglary security.

A federal grant funded by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) gave Sheriff Purdy the wherewithal to send 12 members of his staff to the National Crime Prevention Institute at the University of Louisville.

This is expected to result in important services such as giving property owners on-site security evaluations. It will also enable the Sheriff to maintain files to study in depth the methods used by criminals, and the common security faults that encourage crimes against property, so that property owners seeking advice can be given pragmatic information.

Purdy, obviously, is no friend of burglars and their ilk — and his remedy for crime is "nip it in the bud".



Pot From The Sky

BARTOW — Polk County Sheriff Monroe Brannen inspects a Jeep load of high quality Columbian marijuana which apparently fell from the sky onto a Lakeland man's ranch. It was found when members of the Sheriff's Department Vice Squad and other deputies combed a six-square-mile area. They recovered more than 1,400 pounds stashed in burlap bags. The source was not immediately determined, but the record haul, valued at \$400 per pound, was believed to have been dropped from an airplane. (Photo by Dep. Dan Taylor)



Deputy Of The Year

BARTOW — Deputy Sheriff Ron Merritt, pictured here with his wife, Katherine, was selected as Polk County's "Deputy of the Year" for 1974, and received special recognition during the annual award dinner sponsored by the Polk County Association of Chambers of Commerce. He is a bailiff assigned to the county court and has been with the Sheriff's Department for approximately 3½ years.



Concealed Weapon

STARKE — The sawed-off automatic 12-gauge shotgun held by Bradford County Sheriff Dolph Reddish (right) and Deputy Glen Moore was once a full-size police riot gun. That was before it was stolen from a locked police car early in December, 1974. Later Deputy Moore found the sawed-off weapon strapped to the leg of an accused marijuana pusher.



Beauty With A Badge

PENSACOLA --- Terry Ann Browning, current holder of the Miss World USA title, may not be the most experienced deputy sheriff in Florida, but she's certainly one of the prettiest. Escambia County Sheriff Royal Untreiner (right) and Sgt. Mike Iannone inducted her as a deputy when she assisted them with local public safety activities.



Sheriff Bill Heidtman (right) accepts a generous Ranch-Villa donation from Steve Reeder, chairman of the Corvettes for Charity Show.

Corvettes for charity

PALM BEACH --- The South Florida Corvette Association, of Fort Lauderdale, and the Gold Coast Vette Club, of West Palm Beach, have a unique way of raising funds for the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch and the Florida Sheriffs Girls Villa --- and it works. Their gimmick is to hold a show featuring Chevrolet Corvettes, and to allow spectators to vote for their favorite entries after making a donation to the Ranch or Villa. The 1974 show --- second annual --- was held in the Palm Beach Mall and featured 44 Corvettes ranging from street models to custom models. Also on display were a patrol car and a motorcycle from the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office. Some 18 "Vette" owners took home trophies, and Sheriff Bill Heidtman walked off with a generous check for the Ranch and Villa.

FEBRUARY 1975

Just send us a letter

Ridiculous ideas never die. One such is the idea that if Sheriffs were appointed, rather than elected, there would be more stability in the Sheriffs' Departments.

The supposition is that appointed Sheriffs would be likely to stay in office longer than elected Sheriffs, and the staffs would not face the insecurity of changing bosses as often. It ain't so, and police chiefs (who are appointed officials) have proved it.

The Los Angeles Police Department was authorized recently to carry out a federally funded \$451,284 study to help the nation's cities develop better ways of selecting and keeping police chiefs.

Los Angeles Police Chief Edward M. Davis, who heads the evaluation committee for the study, said he was concerned about the high turnover among police chiefs. He said, although he has been chief only five years, he is the second-ranking chief in length of service in the nation's major cities.

In contrast to this there are three Florida Sheriffs who have served over 22 years, 12 who have served over 18 years, and 23 who have served over 10 years. The average service for all 67 Sheriffs is 8.2 years; and, since they are all at mid-point in their elected four-year terms, the average will jump to 10.2 years in 1977.

There have been times in the past when the average years of service for Sheriffs in this state was higher. Several former Sheriffs served more than 30 years. The record for tenure was set by the late Sheriff John P. Hall in Clay County. He served 36 years.

It makes us sad to see the federal government spending \$451,284 to find out why police chiefs get booted out of office so frequently. For just ten cents, the Los Angeles Police Chief could write to The Sheriff's Star and we could give him the obvious answer: If police chiefs were elected instead of appointed they would stay in office longer, their staffs would be blessed with security and stability, and the chiefs themselves would no longer be subject to the fickle political whims of the officials who appointed them.

Rape.

A Crime Against Women

Rape is the most serious, frightening and violent of all crimes against women. Victims find the experience painful, debasing and emotionally disturbing. The most important thing to remember is that the rapist frequently plans his crime by looking for the right chance and the easiest victim. Your best defense is to eliminate his opportunity to attack you.

Play it safe. Follow these precautions suggested by the HELP STOP CRIME program, which is sponsored by the Governor's Crime Prevention Committee. (For more information about the program, write to HELP STOP CRIME, 660 Apalachee Parkway, Tallahassee, Florida 32301.)

How to Avoid "Rape Situations" . . . While Walking.



HELP
STOP CRIME

Avoid walking alone, as much as possible. Your best defense is having other people nearby.

Avoid poorly lit streets, unpopulated areas, alleys, vacant lots and buildings.

After dark, carry a flashlight.

Keep your distance when you must walk past alley and business entrances or shrubbery.

Walk on the side of the street facing traffic. That way, you can see all automobiles approaching you.

Never accept a ride from a stranger. Never hitch-hike.

Carry a shrill whistle in your hand when walking. (Sporting goods stores carry suitable whistles.)

Keep alert. If a loiterer acts suspiciously, looks at you closely or follows you, head for bright lights and people and be ready to use your whistle.

Schedule shopping and other errands for daytime as much as possible.

How to Avoid "Rape Situations" . . . In Your Car.

Have the car key in hand when you leave your home or office to go to your car.

Before getting in, check the floor of the back seat for intruders.

Have house keys in hand before getting out of your car at home.

If you work late, don't go to your car alone if you can avoid it. Ask your employer to provide an escort or arrange to leave in a group.

Choose a parking lot or garage with an attendant if possible. Otherwise, park in well-lit areas and always lock the car.

Keep your car doors locked and windows up while driving.

Never pick up hitch-hikers—of either sex.

If you suspect your car is being followed, drive into a **busy, well-lit** business establishment and call your law enforcement agency.

Avoid stops at poorly-lit or out-of-the-way places, even for car service.

If you have car trouble, signal for help by raising the hood or tying a white handkerchief to the door handle. Remain inside car with doors locked until identified help arrives.

Should another motorist offer to help, roll down window only an inch and ask him to call police or sheriff's department.

Make sure you have enough gas for your entire trip before you start.

If you want to help the driver of a disabled vehicle, don't stop and get out of your car—report it and send help.

