

The Sheriff's Star



The Editor Couldn't Resist — See Cover Story Inside

AUGUST, 1963

**OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION
FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE IN LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT**



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The Sheriff's Star

★ AUGUST 1963 ★

Volume 7 ★ No. 6

PUBLISHED BY

THE FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION

AND DEDICATED TO THE ADVANCEMENT
 OF GOOD LAW ENFORCEMENT IN FLORIDA

The Story Behind the Cover

The Editor Couldn't Resist

In his search for something appropriate to grace the August cover, the editor of THE STAR went through almost 50 photographs taken at the 50th Annual Conference of the Florida Sheriffs Association by Rupert Chastain, official photographer.

There were many pictures recording the serious side of the state-wide meeting — important dignitaries, featured speakers, solemn presentations — but the ones that really caught his jaundiced eye were pictures of 13-month-old Alison Hewett in a miniature deputy sheriff's uniform; and Miss Gayle Brazil, Miss Clearwater of 1963, "arresting" Sheriffs Association President George Watts.

These pictures had nothing to do with the serious side of the Conference; they will do nothing to create a better public image for the Sheriffs of Florida; in fact there's really no excuse for running them on the cover except that doggone it there are some impulses a mere male can't resist.

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Crime Bulletin Sets Speed Record

Hearty congratulations are due The Sheriff's Crime Bulletin and its editor, Mrs. Bertha Catts, for fast apprehension of an AWOL soldier wanted at Ft. Benning, Ga., for an alleged attempt to kill his wife.

Mrs. Catts printed a picture of the wanted man, Paul F. Merrick, 33, in bulletin No. 837, issued July 19, and noted that his teeth were noticeably bad and dark in color.

The next day—get this—the next day a copy of the Crime Bulletin was received at the personnel office of a large department store in St. Petersburg and an employee spotted Merrick as a man who had recently applied for work under an assumed name and had been given a temporary job pending a check of references. His bad teeth provided the prime clue.

The store's security office called Sheriff Don Genung (so hot was the tip that it got there before the Sheriff had had an opportunity to open his copy of the Crime Bulletin) and Genung promptly sent Deputy Sheriffs Herman

Vincent and George Kearns to the store to question the suspect.

Under questioning Merrick admitted his identity and told the officers he had beat his wife, the mother of four children, with a claw hammer. Apparently he thought he had killed her because when the officers told him he was under arrest for AWOL and attempted murder, he replied "Is that all?"

Genung voiced high praise for the alert employees at the department store and for the Crime Bulletin.

The Bulletin is published twice weekly, and sometimes oftener, by the Florida Sheriffs Bureau as a medium for exchange of information about wanted persons, stolen goods and similar matters. It goes to Sheriffs and other enforcement officers in Florida and elsewhere; and is also sent to the security officers of many large department stores.

It is the Bulletin's business to catch criminals, and it does so frequently, but the apprehension of Merrick when the ink was barely dry sets a record for speed that will be difficult to top.

Juries Rule on Gun Battle

TALLAHASSEE—A grand jury and a coroner's jury have both ruled that Leon County Sheriff Bill Joyce and his deputies were justified in killing a 92-year-old Negro man during a mission of mercy that unexpectedly erupted into a blazing gun battle.

This settled, officially, any questions that might have been raised and it also wrote the final chapter in a case that clearly illustrates the great burden of responsibility law enforcement officers bear—and the risks they face day-by-day even during the most routine assignments.

The scene was set for the gun battle when Revell Preston requested that the sheriff's department check on his elderly uncle, Richard Williams, who lived alone about 7 miles west of Tallahassee.

He explained that the old man hadn't been seen for several days, the house was boarded up and relatives feared that he might be seriously ill or otherwise in need of assistance.

Deputy Sheriff Pete Tola was dispatched to go to Williams' shack with Preston, and when they arrived they were unable to get any response although they pounded on the door and yelled.

Finally, Deputy Tola forced the door open and a shotgun blast came from inside, without warning, striking Preston. Tola helped Preston to get away from the shack and radioed for assistance.

Deputy Sheriff Grady Smith arrived at the scene and worked his way up to the house. He saw a shotgun sticking through a crack in a boarded window and grabbed the barrel. As he did, Williams stuck a pistol through the crack and shot him in the hand.

Sheriff Joyce and other deputies arrived at the scene and proceeded for several hours to try to get Williams to come out. Tear gas was tried, without success, and then the Sheriff ordered his deputies to surround the shack.

As they were moving into position, Williams fired a shotgun blast that struck Tola on the head and right side. Deputy Eddie Boone went to his assistance and another blast struck both him and Tola.

At this point Sheriff Joyce ordered his deputies to open fire and they sent a barrage into the shack with pistols, rifles and shotguns.

A little later, Deputies Jack Dawkins and Jack Goodman slipped into the house and found Williams mortally wounded.

All of the Deputies and Preston recovered from their wounds after receiving hospital treatment.

It was a narrow escape for the deputies, one that will make them more cautious than ever on routine missions of mercy.

IN MEMORIAM



LIVE OAK—A sudden heart attack on August 5, 1963, took the life of Suwannee County Sheriff Hugh Lewis, veteran enforcement officer and one of the founders of the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch.

Born in Madison, Florida, October 13, 1908, he was employed by the State Road Department for 23 years, was elected Sheriff in 1952, and was currently serving his third four-year term.

He was a member of the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch Trustees and the Florida Sheriffs Association Board of Directors.

Live Reports

By Mike Iannone

PENSACOLA—In accordance with his policy to keep the public well informed, Sheriff William E. "Bill" Davis has negotiated with a local radio station to broadcast two live reports daily from the Sheriff's office.

The news department of Radio Station WBSR records a phone-beeper-system report at 7:30 in the morning and again at 4:30 p.m. The reports are prepared by the dispatcher on duty and are recorded by different members of the department.

Heads Peace Officers

MIAMI BEACH — The Florida Peace Officers Association, at its annual convention here July 11, elected Special Agent C. Roma Trulock, of the Florida Sheriffs Bureau, as its president.

Trulock, who is stationed in Orlando, succeeds John Alge, Chief of Police at Riviera Beach.

"Public Apathy is the Real Villain"

So said Sheriff Ross E. Boyer in a report on the serious problems now facing the Florida Sheriffs Bureau. His report, which was presented at the 50th Annual Conference of the Florida Sheriffs Association, July 11, is printed here in full.

It is economic tragedy that the war against the criminal army in the United States costs us over 22-billion dollars a year. The horror of the accompanying injuries, deaths and pain is too great to comprehend. It is a calamity that this enemy's crimes, nationwide, are annually increasing FIVE times more rapidly than is our population.

Think of that — FIVE times more rapidly!

Here in Florida, an average month, according to the latest Uniform Crime Reports, brings us the following:

- 39 murders
- 33 forcible rapes
- 312 robberies
- 486 aggravated assaults
- 3,136 burglaries
- 1,490 larcenies over \$50
- 722 auto thefts

Shocking? Yes, but these are only the seven crimes used as a yardstick in the National Crime Index. If we define a serious crime as one involving personal injury or loss of more than \$50—the same standard as used in reporting Florida automobile accidents—it is amazing to find that we probably have far more serious crimes than automobile accidents each year.

Think of that, too—more serious crimes than automobile accidents!

A Desperate Situation

This is a desperate situation—an intolerable situation. It calls for concerted action by all law-abiding citizens and organizations and by every level and branch of government.

This is far from being a problem concerning law enforcement administrators only. There are deep and far-reaching moral, educational, judicial, religious, sociological and other aspects involved.

Law enforcement officers cannot correct the absurd court decisions that could destroy our society. They cannot

prevent parole authorities from turning mad-dog killers loose on an innocent public. They are powerless to see that parents instill proper values into their children.

Enforcement Is Their Job

Law enforcement officials can only make every effort to enforce the law, within the constantly-narrowing limitations allowed them, in the most efficient possible manner. And local law enforcement groups always have been and always will be both the shock troops and the ground-holding infantry in this part of the battle against the criminal horde.

Just eight years ago, Florida took its most significant step forward in recognizing and bolstering this first line of defense against the mounting crime rate. It was then that the legislature—on the urging of the Florida Sheriffs Association—passed a law creating the Florida Sheriffs Bureau.

This unique agency, having no jurisdiction of its own, was designed by the sheriffs to increase law enforcement efficiency—while preserving the democratic essential of keeping the involved officials locally—responsible.

The Bureau is controlled by a board consisting of the governor, as chairman; the state attorney general; and five sheriffs, appointed for staggered terms.

Proud to Be a Board Member

I am extremely proud that I am now one of the sheriff-members of this board.

The staff is headed by a director, Don McLeod, a former sheriff of Marion County, who has held this position since operations began on October 1, 1955.

I might insert that on that memorable date, Don and the present assistant

director, Ross Anderson, were the entire staff. There is a rumor that for several months these two high-level officials flipped a coin every morning to see who would sweep up that day.

Today, the Bureau staff consists of 68 persons. It has a professionally-staffed crime laboratory, the equal in personnel and equipment of any its size in the country. It maintains a central records and identification section ready with quick "one-stop" service in giving criminal information from its vast files by telephone, teletype or TWX.

Many Services Available

There is a criminal intelligence unit constantly working to amass and disseminate information on known criminals believed to be operating in the state. A training and research unit provides schooling for local officers—and will operate the new law enforcement academy you have been hearing so much about.

A highly-successful Sheriffs Crime Bulletin is published twice a week and distributed to every enforcement agency in the state and many elsewhere. This is the first statewide medium for exchange of crime and criminal information in Florida.

All of these and many other services are available to all local agencies in Florida. Where technical services have been used, courtroom testimony by qualified experts is available at no local cost.

For Florida sheriffs, on a request basis, there are eleven skilled special agents distributed throughout the state. Four are polygraph—lie detector—examiners with portable equipment. The remaining seven are highly-trained investigators of special value in giving assistance and coordinating activities in criminal investigations involving more than one county.

Mobile Crime Unit

In addition, within reasonable distances of Bureau headquarters in Tallahassee, the services of a fully-equipped mobile crime unit are available. A trained technician immediately rolls this unit to a crime scene and methodically and scientifically gathers every shred of evidence for laboratory processing and possible later courtroom presentation.

Let me tell you of a couple of experiences with the Bureau staff.

Several years ago in Sarasota County, we had a particularly vicious crime. An entire ranch family, mother, husband and two small children, was wiped out by a maddened killer who shot them down one-by-one in their own home.

Help in a Hurry

I needed technical help and needed it badly, so I hollered to Don McLeod. Almost immediately, he had moved the bulk of the crime laboratory staff into my county, notwithstanding their heavy workload at headquarters.

For days, they performed examinations of blood, cartridge cases, bullets, suspect guns, and other possible evidence, giving me professional assistance and immediate opinions that would have been available in no other way.

Later, as our local investigation went farther and farther afield and put an almost intolerable strain on my limited staff, I asked for investigative assistance.

Since the investigators work, of necessity, on a first-come first-served basis, I had to wait my turn. However, over a year ago, a special agent was assigned to assist us. His work—and he is still working on the case—has been tireless, painstaking and of the highest professional caliber. The report of his activities and findings is now somewhere near the size of the Encyclopedia Britannica, and still growing.

I wish that I could say that this effort had solved the case. It has not. But I can say that my people in Sarasota County have had the benefit of as fine an investigative effort as is available anywhere in the country.

Hit-and-Run Case

In another instance, just a couple of weeks ago, we had a hit-and-run accident, resulting in the death of a young boy who was struck while riding his bicycle.

We immediately sent the evidence to the crime laboratory, where it arrived late in the afternoon. The technicians there went right to work on it and labored far into the night. They started again early the next morning, and before noon I had the results of their examinations.



ROSS E. BOYER
Sheriff of Sarasota County
Member of Florida Sheriffs
Bureau Administrative Board

From microscopic scrapings, they were able to tell me the exact shade and manufacturer's chart number of the paint on the suspect automobile—and from this, they were able to verify the make and model of the car. As a bonus, they threw in certain other things we could look for in our search for the perpetrator's car.

Rapid and Dedicated

Here again, this rapid and dedicated service provided us with assistance available nowhere else.

I should like to go on and on talking about the fine people and the wonderful work of this organization.

I cannot, because everything is not as rosy with the Bureau as I may have made it appear. In the next two years it faces problems perhaps even more critical than those it had in its very early, struggling existence. These problems affect everyone of us here by affecting the law enforcement that provides basic and essential protection of our lives and property. And I must tell you of them.

Here's the Problem

Being a state agency, the Bureau functions on a biennial budget. It has just concluded one two-year budget period and entered another, based on an appropriation by the legislature.

To oversimplify only slightly, the Bureau had an approximate 50-per cent increase in its over-all workload during the past two years. In the next two, another — compounded now — 50-per cent increase is anticipated.

It asked the legislature for 40 new employees. The economy-minded joint

sub-committees of the house and senate recommended 24 of these.

When the final appropriations bill came out, NOT ONE of these new positions was included, despite pleas that present personnel was having to work, in many instances, nights, weekends and holidays just to stay up with the current workload, to say nothing of what would happen in the near future.

21,000 Man-Hours Behind

The Bureau operates 13 automobiles, of which two are virtually headed for the junkyard. These two and one more are all that can be replaced in this biennium. These cars amass tremendous mileage and often have to be driven at high speeds by the agents, not because they want to, but because you and I need their services in a hurry.

In the particular critical area of fingerprint technicians—they work in a section now 21,000-MAN-HOURS behind in its work—only a very small cost-of-living raise was possible. Yet this is the section that has the greatest employee turnover of all, brought on by other agencies luring away trained personnel with higher salaries.

And this is just a random sampling of the situation.

One of the secrets of the Bureau's success has been its **balanced** program of assistance to local law enforcement.

Its real strength lies in this concept. The closely coordinated and interlinked operations of its essential units creates an effective organization, each unit supplementing and strengthening each other unit in forging a powerful weapon of assistance in the war on crime.

Isn't It a Shame?

But unless Don McLeod can perform a near-miracle of juggling during the next two years, this carefully conceived program is going to become woefully unbalanced, as some activities are curtailed or abandoned.

Isn't it a shame that this already highly-effective organization — with an even greater potential — should now have these problems?

It would be easy to make the legislature the whipping-boy for the Bureau's troubles. Just as it would be easy to blame the county commissions, alone, every time they try to trim an over-worked sheriff's budget. Of the city councils, by themselves, when they cut off badly needed municipal policemen from a harassed chief's request.

Public Apathy the Villain

But let's go back to the shocking statistics I quoted at the beginning. Is it any wonder that law enforcement agencies come last when an entire nation

(Continued on Page 10)

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.

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 to the Ranch valued at \$100 or more.

James G. Pulliam, Minneola
Ernest Moczik, Naples
Bassett's Dairy, Monticello
Robert S. Hill, Stuart
Mr. and Mrs. P. Eric Watson, Chiefland
John H. Wilcox, Key West
Lancer Productions, Inc., Hollywood, California
Mrs. Louis J. Stinson, Hartford, Connecticut
James Hodnett, Jr., Dade City
Harry Powell, Sebring
Beecher O. Kelso, Fort Myers
B. J. Beck, Venice
Vincent T. Hamlin, Sarasota
Mrs. Bryan W. Henry, Tallahassee
Col. Leroy E. Allen, Sorrento
Rev. L. E. May, Spencer, West Virginia
Bill Green, Gainesville
"Pop" Sterling's Men and Boys' Shop, Fort Lauderdale
Escambia High School, Pensacola
Steward and Steward, Orlando
W. T. Grant Co., Store No. 51, Orlando
Mr. and Mrs. John C. Hall, Lakeland
Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Tomasello, Bartow
Ray E. Freeman, Clearwater
A. E. Stolze, St. Petersburg
Tom Pallaria, Largo
Guy S. Osborn, Clearwater
Lake Como Club, Tampa
Frank B. Garcia, Jacksonville
Central Florida Square Dancers Association, Leesburg
Mrs. Clara L. Clark, Clearwater
Tampa Food Brokers Association, Tampa
Dr. Elbert J. Soskis, Tampa
Gertrude G. Webb, Delray Beach
Mr. Paul E. Holstun, Jacksonville
Dr. Claude K. Whatley, Jr., Kissimmee
Mr. W. J. Rees, Williston
Miss Esther A. Johnson, St. Petersburg

Up to Capacity

Enrollment has reached an all-time high of 58 at the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, filling it to capacity; and there is a growing waiting list of boys who have applied for admission.

A new cafetorium, which Ranch officials plan to build as soon as sufficient funds are available, will help to relieve the present lack of facilities. It will replace the temporary dining hall which is now in use and allow it to be converted into a residence cottage for 20 more boys.

A committee headed by Col. Robert Pentland Jr., of Hollywood, is preparing to launch a state-wide drive to raise funds for the cafetorium.



INMATES ENTERTAIN
Using the porch of the canteen as a stage, The Rambling Harmonaires, an orchestra composed of inmates from the Bronson State Road Camp, entertained youngsters at the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch. They were accompanied by Buren Brice (left), a trustee of the Boys Ranch, and Capt. Hale, head man at the prison camp, who are pictured enjoying a picnic supper which the inmates shared with the young Ranchers.

More Brothers

In order to preserve family ties, the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch frequently admits two or three brothers, from the same family.

The three Swisher brothers, from Bradenton, are the most recent to be enrolled in this category. They are the second set of three brothers, and there is a set of twins and several other sets of two brothers on the roster.

Attend Workshop

All of the houseparents at the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch—the married couples who are directly in charge of the boys—attended a one-week workshop dealing with problems involved in group child care.

The Workshop was sponsored by the Florida State Department of Welfare and the Florida Child Care Association, of which the Boys Ranch is a member.

Free Dental Care

The Duval County Dental Society, with headquarters in Jacksonville, is continuing its policy of providing free dental service for the youngsters at the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch.

Harry Weaver, Ranch Administrator, said this top quality service is worth thousands of dollars and means a great deal to the health and welfare of the boys.

One of the youngsters will be fitted with braces on his teeth and will make frequent trips to the dentists for examination and adjustment during the next two years. This single case would have cost the Ranch hundreds of dollars without the help of the Dental Society.

Budding Politician

LIVE OAK — Seems there is a budding politician at the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch. Mike Edwards was elected president of the Sophomore Class at Suwannee High School for the 1963-64 school term.

Youngsters at the Ranch attend public schools at Live Oak.

Mike is the younger brother of Wally Edwards, first Rancher to graduate from high school. Wally will start his college career at North Florida Junior College, Madison, in September.

New Movie Available

A new movie depicting life at the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch is now ready for showing throughout the state and will be made available to service clubs and other organizations.

To make arrangements to have it shown before any organization, get in touch with your sheriff or with Harry Weaver, Administrator, Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, Route 3, Live Oak, Florida.



FORT MYERS — LOYAL SUPPORTER — Beecher O. Kelso (left), a loyal supporter of the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, receives a Boys Ranch Builder Club certificate from Lee County Sheriff Flanders G. Thompson.

AUGUST, 1963



HOW TIME FLIES — It seems only yesterday that there was just a handful of youngsters at the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch. Now the enrollment is crowding 60 and we have eight fine looking eighth grade graduates. They are (front, from left) Steven Leinfus, Raymond Coryell, Jerry Willard, Sunny Evans; (back row) Jerry Stacey, Larry Stacey, Billy Joe Spears and Jerry Turner.

In Memoriam

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

Mr. and Mrs. H. E. C. Hawkins, St. Augustine; Mrs. Trig Thordarson, St. Augustine; Mr. and Mrs. Elmo Capo, Marathon; in memory of Mrs. Hattie D. Sterchi. Ray A. Spooner, Clearwater; Herbert R. Loehr, Clearwater; in memory of Mr. Charles Everett Hopper.

Mr. Thomas D. Hurlburt, Mount Dora; Mrs. William Prinz (family), Mount Dora; in memory of Mr. William Prinz.

The W. T. Suber, Jr., Family, Gretna; Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Hiers, Sr., Havana; in memory of Mr. Lee Drew Haire.

Sarasota Lodge No. 1519, B.P.O.E., Sarasota; Philippi Shores Trailer Court, Sarasota; in memory of Mr. Alfred Benner.

Mr. James B. Grant, Sanford; in memory of Sheriff Luther Hobby's Father.

Mr. Don McLeod, Tallahassee; in memory of Mr. John A. Madigan, Sr.

Mr. Edwin H. Stiteler, Jr., Dade City; in memory of Norman D. McCarthy and Robert Curtis Mason.

Elizabeth P. Harper and William P. Harper, St. Petersburg; in memory of Charles H. Harper.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter A. Roberts, Tallahassee; in memory of Mr. John Robert Wilson.

Sheriff and Mrs. R. M. Buckels, Kissimmee; in memory of Mr. Harold B. Goodell and Mrs. Ada Roberta Steffee.

Mrs. Hazel C. Hetrick, Dade City; in memory of Aaron Lee Creel.

Mr. and Mrs. Sydney O. Chase, Sanford; in memory of Mr. W. C. Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger L. Jones, Okeechobee; in memory of Miss Aline Scarborough.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Diaz, Tampa; in memory of H. G. Hawkins.

Mount Home Woman's Club, Hendersonville, N. C.; in memory of Edward Durant. Maj. Felle W. Clark, Tallahassee; Mr. D. D. McCaskill, Marianna; in memory of Aaron Creel and Allen Finch.

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Boltin, Dade City; in memory of A. S. Herlong.

Sheriff and Mrs. Ed Blackburn, Jr., Tampa; in memory of Mr. C. C. Vega, Sr.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph B. Cramer, Sarasota; in memory of Mr. Reginald Sweeting's father.

Miss Esther A. Johnson, St. Petersburg; in memory of her Brother Mr. George V. Johnson.

Mr. and Mrs. Randolph O. Downie, Clearwater; in memory of Mrs. Annie Miller.

Mr. and Mrs. Homer Hooks, Leesburg; in memory of Mrs. Boyce A. Williams.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl W. Hopper, Clearwater; in memory of Mrs. Jessie Spooner.

Dr. and Mrs. Sumner Quimby, Bradenton; in memory of Paul Ford.

The Harbor Bluffs Shopping Center, Largo; in memory of Mrs. Ruth Lucille Short.

Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Herring, Madison; in memory of Lester Register.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Bowen, Jr., Chipley; in memory of Olin G. Shivers.

Mrs. A. V. Shafer, Summerfield; in memory of Mr. Albert Virgin Shafer.

Sheriff and Mrs. Willis V. McCall, Tavares; in memory of R. H. McKinney, H. Pryor Jones, Eugene E. Drawdy, Hugh Geiger, Mr. A. S. Herlong.

The Memorial Fund will perpetuate the memory of deceased relatives and friends by providing the financing for a Boys Ranch Chapel.

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

Mail To:

Memorial Fund
Florida Sheriffs
Boys Ranch
P. O. Box 649
Live Oak, Florida

Enclosed find contribution of \$ _____

In memory of _____

Send acknowledgment to:

Name _____

Address _____

From (Donor's Name) _____

Address _____

The Band

SHERIFF DON GENUNG BLEW HIS WHISTLE



... and the F

CLEARWATER—President George Watts rapped the gavel to open the 50th Annual Conference of the Florida Sheriffs Association at the Jack Tar Harrison Hotel, and the audience settled back with an air of patient resignation.

Sheriffs, wives and guests were anticipating the usual routine—some dull welcome speeches and other amenities that normally accompany the cranking up of a state convention—but they were in for a big surprise.

When Host Sheriff Don Genung got to his feet, instead of making a welcome speech he blew a shrill blast on his police whistle, the double doors at the side of the meeting room swung open, and in marched 25 members of the Clearwater High School Band lustily playing "When the Saints Come Marching in."

Gifts for Everyone

Sitting up in amazement, the folks in the audience broke into delighted smiles and started slapping their hands while the band circled the room.

Close on the heels of the bandmen came 18 of Sheriff Genung's uniformed women deputies, their arms loaded with gayly wrapped boxes of candy which they distributed through the audience.

After this rousing sendoff—the likes of which the Sheriffs Association had never seen in its half-century

of existence—the conference moved on through a three-day program that was generally conceded to be the best ever.

Emphasis on Youth

The emphasis was on youth during the first day, July 10. In the morning there were meetings of the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch Trustees, and allied committees, dealing with ways and means to keep the Ranch going and growing. The Trustees heard a report that although enrollment had reached an all-time high of 58 boys, the waiting list was growing steadily and new facilities would have to be provided as soon as possible.

A luncheon which followed these meetings featured a speech by Wally Edwards who at 18 is about to become the first Rancher to enter college. He told how the Ranch had turned his dark future into a bright one, and, when he concluded his talk the audience gave him a standing ovation.

Also highlighted on the luncheon program were a new movie about the Boys Ranch and a movie entitled "Never So Tall" depicting the activities of Sheriff Doug Hendry's Junior Deputy Sheriff League.

Tour of Pinellas Jail

A tour of the recently expanded and improved Pinellas County Jail, one of the outstanding jails in the na-



By all standards, the 50th Annual Conference of the Florida Sheriffs Association was the most successful in our history.

Came Marching In . . .



est Is History

tion; and a barbecue at Leverock's Oyster Bar, in Pinellas Park, completed the day's activities. Business sessions the following day included reports by:

—Association Attorney John A. Madigan Jr., on Association Bills passed during the 1963 session of the Florida Legislature with special emphasis on the "High Hazard Retirement Bill" which recognizes the risks Sheriffs and Deputies face in their daily work and gives them increased retirement benefits.

The Latest Brainchild

—Special Agent Emory Williams, of the Florida Sheriffs Bureau, on the Sheriffs Association's latest brainchild: The Florida Law Enforcement Academy, a training center for city, state and county officers which is ex-

pected to be under construction in Tallahassee before summer's end.

—Sheriff Ross E. Boyer on the ever expanding anti-crime activities of the Florida Sheriffs Bureau; and the program of the Medic-Alert Foundation for the protection of persons who might receive harmful treatment in emergencies due to allergies or special medical conditions.

—Harry Weaver, Administrator of the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, on the steady progress being made in the care of needy and underprivileged boys.

Challenge of Communism

One of the most timely events on the program was an address by Special Agent Charles D. Brennan, of the FBI, on "The Challenge of Communism".

He said this challenge has a special significance for

(Continued on Next Page)



Special Agent Charles D. Brennan, (left), of the FBI, chats with Sheriff Dale Carson, former FBI agent, before presenting a luncheon address on "The Challenge of Communism."



Sheriff Flanders Thompson (center) presented lifetime Sheriffs Association memberships to Florida Sheriffs Bureau Director Don McLeod (left) and State Senator John M. Spottswood. Both are former Sheriffs and both were honored for outstanding services rendered to the Association.



Sheriff Bill Taff (right) and Sheriff Clyde Williams discuss communications equipment with Gerry Williams (left), General Electric Company representative.



Sheriff Don Genung (standing) shows the Pinellas County Jail chapel to Sheriffs and Conference guests.



John Evans (right), administrative assistant to Gov. Farris Bryant, presents an appreciation award to Sheriff George Watts in recognition of the support the Sheriffs Association has given to the Governor's Program for Cold War Education.



Wally Edwards, soon to become the first boy from the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch to enter college, addresses a luncheon audience while Harry Weaver, Boys Ranch administrator, listens attentively.

Clearwater Conference Best We've Ever Held

(Continued from Preceding Page)

those in the field of law enforcement because communism strikes at the "fundamental and basic concept on which law enforcement is based—the rule of law."

"Under communism," he added, "power—and not law—is decisive. Using the power concept, communists are embarked on a course in world affairs which aims ultimately at the total enslavement of mankind."

"As a nation," Brennan said, "we have demonstrated both the willingness and the ability to cope with communist efforts to subvert us internally. More important, we have been able to do so within the framework of the law—thus protecting our security while preserving our freedoms."

"But," he warned, "we must never grow apathetic about the threat which communist activities represent here at home."

Academy Financing Settled

During a meeting of the Sheriffs Association's Board of Directors final arrangements were completed for financing the Florida Law Enforcement Academy. This will involve borrowing approximately \$60,000 to build the first classroom-office-dormitory unit which is expected to cost about \$115,000 fully equipped.

The Academy will be built on a 10-acre site the Sheriffs Association has purchased near the Tallahassee Municipal Airport. Water service has been extended to the building site, and construction is expected to begin in the near future.

Meeting Sites Selected

Other action taken during the second day of the conference included selection of Jacksonville as the site of the Association's Mid-Winter Conference, in January, 1964; and Dade County (Miami-Miami Beach) as the site of the 51st Annual Conference, in June or July, 1964.

A banquet, followed by entertainment which headlined Decca Recording Artist Lenny Dee, climaxed the day's activities.

Slain Deputies Honored

On the final day of the conference, July 12, the Sheriffs Association announced resolutions extending sympathy to the survivors of two Jackson County Deputy Sheriffs who lost their lives in the line of duty, July 4.

The Deputies, Alan Finch and Aaron Creel, were gunned down by Melvin Allen Weaver, a prisoner they were guarding in a hospital in Marianna, Florida. Also killed in the shooting fray was an innocent bystander.

Weaver was later slain by Georgia Trooper Robert Benson after a widespread manhunt cornered him at Americus, Ga.

A similar resolution of sympathy was addressed to the survivors of the late Criminal Court of Record Judge Ben C. Willard, of Miami, who was described as a good and faithful friend of law enforcement.

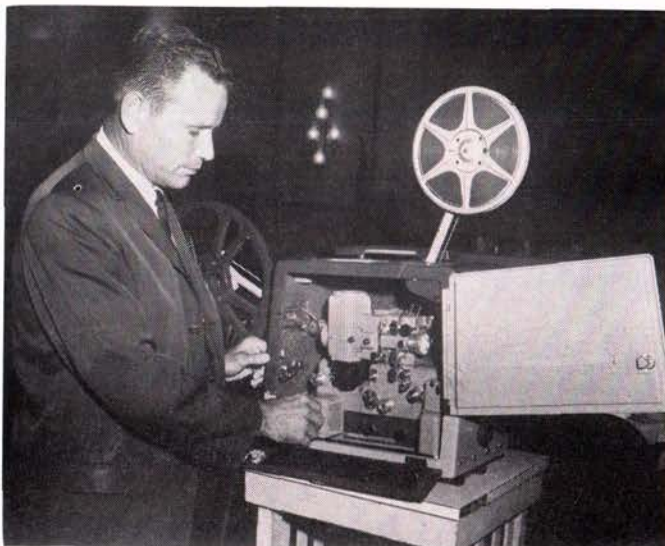
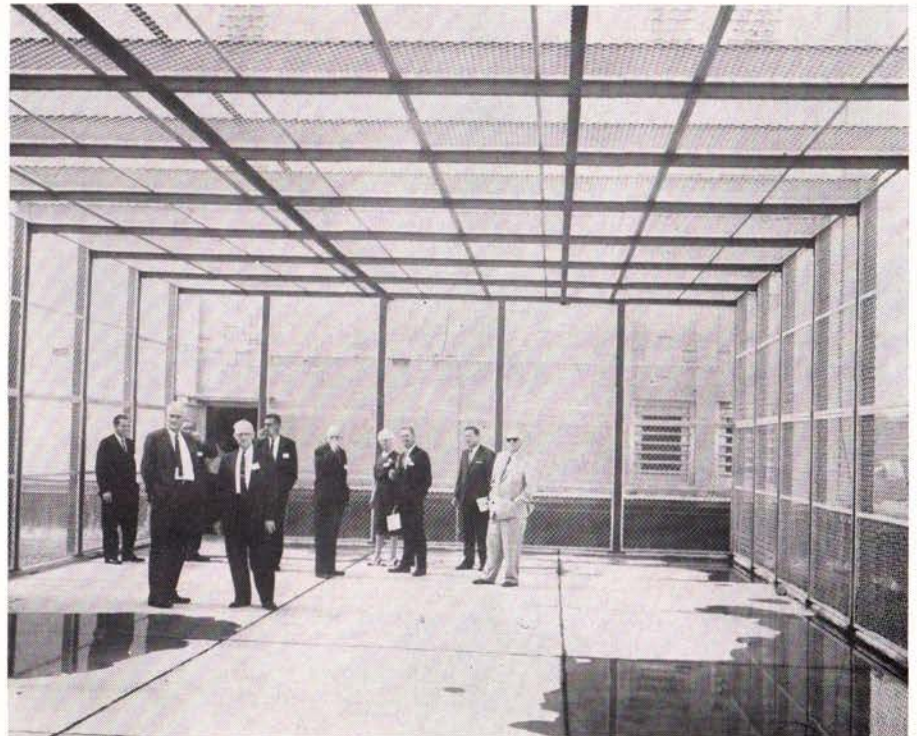


In the pictures above (from left): Decca Recording Artist Lenny Dee entertains banquet audience; Florida Sheriffs Association Attorney John A. Madigan Jr. introduces guests at the opening session and Sheriff Ross E. Boyer (right) accepts a gift clock presented by Engel's Uniform Co., of Orlando. Shown presenting the clock is Roger Simmons, Jr.

A Plug for Rupert

All photographs of the Clearwater Conference were taken by Deputy Sheriff Rupert Chastain, of St. Augustine, whose services were made available through the courtesy of St. John's County Sheriff L. O. Davis Jr. Good job, as usual, Rupert.

In the picture at right, Sheriffs and guests are inspecting the screened recreation area provided for juveniles in the newly expanded and improved Pinellas County Jail.



Sheriff Doug Hendry prepares to show a sound movie entitled "Never So Tall" depicting the activities of his Junior Deputy Sheriffs League.



Mrs. Celia Adkinson King, former Sheriff of Walton County, was one of the distinguished guests. She is shown here with H. A. (Andy) Anderson, the present Sheriff of Walton County.

Nation's Sheriffs Elect Boyer Sergeant-at-Arms

PORTLAND, Oregon—The National Sheriffs Association, at its 23rd Annual Conference here July 17, elected Sarasota County (Fla.) Sheriff Ross E. Boyer as its Sergeant-at-Arms.

Long active in the National Association, Boyer moved up to his new post from the Board of Governors. He is a past president of the Florida Sheriffs Association and a past member of its board of directors. He is currently serving as a member of the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch Board of Trustees; and as a member of the Florida Sheriff's Bureau's Administrative Board.

In addition to Sheriff Boyer and his wife, the Florida delegation to the National Conference included:

Pinellas County Sheriff Don Genung, who participated in a panel discussion on "The Future of the Office of Sheriff," and told the nation's sheriffs about the Florida Law Enforcement Academy, his own Junior Deputy Sheriff program and other Florida projects.

Putnam County Sheriff E. W. (Walt) Pellicer who placed third in a National Sheriffs Calf Roping Contest that was dominated by western Sheriffs.

Duval County Sheriff Dale Carson who was one of the featured speakers in

a National Jail Conference panel discussion on methods of handling mass arrests such as those that have occurred in connection with racial demonstrations.

And Carl Stauffer, Field Secretary of the Florida Sheriffs Association, who accepted a plaque designating THE SHERIFF'S STAR as the outstanding sheriff's journal in the nation. He is the editor of THE STAR.

The plaque was presented at a banquet, July 17, by Charles J. Hahn, Executive Secretary of the National Association. Presiding at the banquet was Sheriff William M. Lennox, of Philadelphia, who was elected president for the coming year.

In accepting the award, Stauffer stated that THE SHERIFF'S STAR was merely a reflection of the outstanding job Florida's Sheriffs are doing, and therefore much of the credit for its excellent rating belonged to them.

"I am proud to be associated with these men," he said, "and to share with them the honor of this fine award."



TALLAHASSEE — SECRETARY OF THE DAY — Florida Sheriffs Association Attorney John A. Madigan Jr. and his secretary, Mrs. Phil Walker, were equally pleased when she was named "Secretary of the Day" by Radio Station WRFB. This honor also pleased, but came as no surprise to, Sheriffs Association officials who had long been aware of Mrs. Walker's efficiency and talents. For many years she has handled many vital but unsung chores such as preparing Sheriffs Association legislative bills, typing volumes of correspondence, filing and expediting all sorts of legal records for the Sheriffs Association, the Florida Sheriffs Bureau, the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch and the Florida Law enforcement Academy; to mention only a few of her duties.

Bad Bill

Bites the Dust

BRISTOL — Liberty County Sheriff L. C. Rankin was successful in getting the courts to throw out a 1963 law fathered by State Senator Luther Tucker which would have placed him back on the antiquated fee system and limited his expenditures to \$20,000 a year.

The limit on expenditures, if it had passed the court test, would have handcuffed law enforcement in Liberty County because it was insufficient for the sheriff to run his office, pay all expenses and all salaries, including his own.

After the ill-conceived bill became law without the Governor's signature, Sheriff Rankin filed a petition for a declaratory judgment in circuit court, naming the Liberty County Commissioners as defendants.

He was represented by Attorney Lewis Hall; the County Commissioners were represented by Attorney Donald Tucker, son of the Senator; and the Florida Sheriffs Association, which was allowed to enter the case as a "Friend of the Court," was represented by the Association's Attorney, John A. Madigan Jr.



NEW TRUSTEE
JACKSONVILLE — Duval County Sheriff Dale Carson (right) presents an honorary lifetime membership in the Florida Sheriffs Association to A. D. Davis, chain store executive, for valuable assistance rendered to the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch — particularly in upgrading the beef herd. Mr. Davis was recently named a trustee of the Ranch and he is also a member of a state-wide committee appointed to raise funds for a new cafetorium at the Ranch.

Public Apathy is the Real Villain

(Continued from Page 3)

flatly closes its eyes to a threat that may be even greater than the threat of Communism?

Public apathy is the real villain—the uncaring ally of the murderers, robbers and rapists.

I was thinking the other night that if we could only capture the public's interest in the devastations of crime as it's captured otherwise, this thing could be solved in short order.

Just suppose we could arouse the same public concern that is aroused over integration and segregation, over Kennedy and Goldwater, over Cuba, and — yes — even over Christine

Keeler and Doctor Ward. The fight would be half-won right then. There would be a tremendous scramble to furnish law enforcement the weapons it needs.

Strangely enough, we could if we only tried. We ARE the public, and the public's representatives in various fields. Each of us could do something to express his concern.

I am going to. I am going to spend a great deal of my time stumping for the Florida Sheriffs Bureau in the next two years—I KNOW the good it can accomplish for us locally.

What will YOU be doing in the war against crime during that time?

Day of Terror Adds Two Deputies to "Killed in Action" Roster

MARIANNA—Year by year the list continues to grow of law enforcement men killed in the line of duty.

Latest to gain this brave, but tragic distinction are two Jackson County deputy sheriffs—Allen Finch and Aaron Creel—who were gunned down July 4 by a prisoner they were guarding in a hospital.

The prisoner, Melvin Allen Weaver, 23, shot the two deputies and a bystander in his murderous break for freedom, then died with a gun in his hand while digging a foxhole to fight off pursuers.

Weaver, under a life sentence for robbery, took hostages in two states, battled officers and ended his crazed rampage only when a high-powered rifle bullet cut him down near Americus, Ga.

As the desperate fugitive was dying, his last hostage, a 14-year-old boy, took

one of Weaver's pistols and emptied it into the man.

Weaver, sentenced for robbing a service station in Marianna, had set fire to a mattress in his cell at the Jackson County Jail the night before the shooting. He and three other prisoners were then taken to a hospital because they had suffered from smoke and burns, and the two deputies were guarding them.

Early in the morning, July 4, Deputy Finch went with Weaver to the bathroom and was overpowered by the six-foot, 200-pound prisoner. Wrestling Finch's gun away, Weaver shot the deputy in the abdomen.

Then Weaver walked into the hospital room where Deputy Creel was guarding the other prisoners. He shot Creel twice in the face and head then took the deputy's gun.

Hearing the gunfire, Hubert Mayo,

of Marianna, came out of the room of his ailing father whom he was visiting. Weaver killed Mayo with a shot in the back of the head.

Leaving three dead or dying men behind him, Weaver abducted a family of three, the Richard Sangarees and their daughter, and forced them to drive him into Georgia in their car.

He released the Sangarees unharmed near Donaldsonville, Ga., but kept their car as Georgia officers pursued him in a mad chase.

At Smithville, Ga., Weaver raced up to a schoolyard and seized three boys. When the police arrived, he threatened to shoot the boys unless his pursuers surrendered their guns and powerful police car. They had no other choice.

Taking one boy, Charles Richard Hale, 14, as hostage, Weaver continued his flight, shouting over the police car radio that he would kill the boy if officers came any closer.

Near Americus, Ga., Weaver drove up to a farm house, tried unsuccessfully to break in and ran into a pecan grove still clutching the boy.

He was frantically trying to dig a foxhole for cover when Georgia Trooper Robert Benson, shooting 200 yards through a hedge, got him with a rifle bullet. Weaver sagged to his knees, a bullet hole near his heart.

The frightened Hale youngster grabbed one of the dying man's pistols and emptied it into him, writing the finish to a day of terror.

Civil Service Materializing

CLEARWATER — Initial steps have been taken to put into effect the 1963 state law sponsored by Sheriff Don Genung to give Pinellas County Deputy Sheriffs civil service.

Under the provisions of the law, Sheriff Genung appointed Archer Clifton Stephens, a Clearwater oil distributor, as the first member of the three-man Civil Service Board.

A second member of the board, Lawrence D. Humes, recently retired director of civil service for the City of St. Petersburg was selected by employees of the Sheriff's Department. The routine for this was that the employees elected a five-man committee and then the committee selected the board member.

The first two members of the board will select the third member, and the board will then establish a permanent headquarters. After this has been done, Sheriff Genung will certify a list of eligible employees to the board and civil service will become a reality.

RANCHERS BECOME STOCKHOLDERS

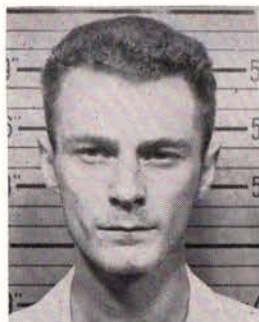
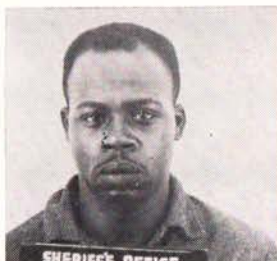
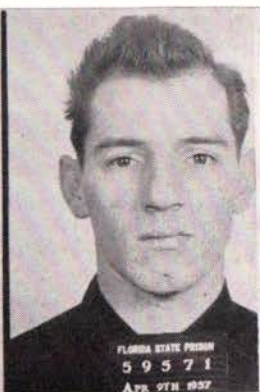
FORT LAUDERDALE — Rodney M. Stockton (right), pictured with his wife, decided he would like to have the youngsters at the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch in business with him, so he gave them 100 shares of stock in his firm, Aloe Creme Laboratories. Shown accepting the stock and 26 cartons of Aloe Creme Sun-tan Lotion and other products are Broward County Sheriff Allen B. Michell and his deputy, Otto Hettelheimer (left). "This is a noble work that each of us in this community should get behind," said Mr. Stockton. "I wish it were possible for me and the Aloe Creme Company to make a greater contribution."



STILL STRIKES OUT
GAINESVILLE — Chalk up another win in Sheriff Joe Crevasse's war on moonshiners. He is shown here (left) with Chief Deputy Lu Hindery preparing to dismantle a big moonshine still he put out of business on the shore of Little Sante Fe Lake.

WANTED PERSONS

As compiled by the
Florida Sheriffs Bureau
Don McLeod, Director



William E. Tobias

White male, date and place of birth 6-21-31, Long Beach, N. J. 5 feet, 10 inches tall, weighs 160 pounds, blond hair, blue eyes. FBI #163 953A. FPC: 22, M/L, IU/IU, OIO/OOO, 14. Has Alabama DL #1544433, last known to be driving Avis Rental car, a blue 1963 Olds "88" hardtop, 4-door, 1963 Florida Lic. 9E-146. Gave place of employment as "S. S. Food Center, Fort Walton Beach, Fla." Warrants on file charge, Auto Theft and Worthless Checks. If apprehended notify Sheriff Davis, Pensacola, Florida or the Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.

Henry Wayne Lambert

White male, date of birth 10-27-34, 5 feet 5 1/4 inches tall, weighs 147 pounds, short stocky build, medium dark brown hair, brown eyes; cut scar left side of chin, cut scar upper left arm, dimple tip end of chin. Clerical worker. FBI #791 245A, FPC: 5, O/I, 13/17, U/T-r, 13. Warrant issued, charge Breaking and Entering, with intent to commit Grand Larceny. Will extradite. If apprehended notify Sheriff Davis, Pensacola, Florida or the Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.

Lee Roy Kelley

White male, date and place of birth 12-2-40, Pontiac, Mich., 5 feet, 9 1/2 inches tall, weighs 140 pounds, brown hair, blue eyes; cut scar back of right hand. FBI #432651C. Warrants issued, charge B&E and one count of Grand Larceny. Subject was in custody in Wayne County, Mich., but released before local warrant served. Has been

Willie Lee Thomas

Colored male, date and place of birth 2-23-36, Eufaula, Ala., 5 feet, 8 inches tall, weighs 140 pounds, black hair, brown eyes; scar left side of face and nose. FBI #841 762C. FPC: 13, M/M,

1/2, U/U, IOI/IOI, 18. Subject is an avid gambler. Wanted on charge Escape from Lee County jail. If apprehended notify Sheriff Thompson, Fort Myers, Fla., or the Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.



Franklin T. Allen

Nickname "Ted", white male, date and place of birth 4-22-43, Portsmouth, Va., 6 feet, 3 inches tall, weighs 165 pounds, slim build, brown hair, blue eyes, scar between eyes on forehead,

scar middle finger right hand. Occupation: Produce clerk. FPC: 21, O/L, 25/19. Wt/W, 16. Wanted for Violation of Probation. If apprehended notify Sheriff Starr, Orlando, Fla., or the Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.

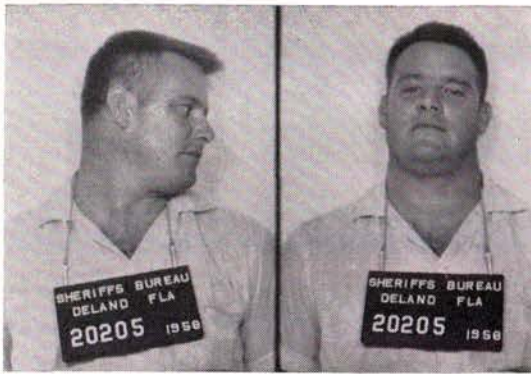


seen in Jacksonville and Tampa area since release. Will extradite if necessary. If apprehended no-

tify Police Dept., Lake Worth, Fla., or the Florida Sheriff's Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.

Juanita Williams

Alias Juanita Johnson, Juanita Reddick, colored female, date and place of birth 12-25-33, Jacksonville, Fla., 5 feet, 3 inches tall, weighs 142 pounds, black hair, brown eyes, brown complexion; 1 inch scar inside left upper arm, curved scar right eyebrow, scar left side of neck. Capias issued, charge Assault to Murder 2nd degree. (Estimated a \$1,000.00 surety bond). FBI stop has not been placed and subject will not be extradited. If apprehended in Florida notify Sheriff Blackburn, Tampa, Fla., or the Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.



Herbert Turner



Walter William Payne



Joseph Melvin Latson

Colored male, date of birth 11-24-33, 6 feet, 2 inches tall, weighs 155 pounds, dark brown complexion, maroon eyes. He is believed to be driving a 1960 Buick, white, with black top, 1963 Florida license 15W-rest unknown, or a white and red car, make and license # unknown. May be accompanied by a black male and black female. Warrants issued charge Grand Larceny, in Ocala, and will be issued Clearwater on charges B&E of Auto and "Jugging". If apprehended notify Police Dept., Ocala, Fla., Sheriff Genung, Clearwater, Fla., of the Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.

Payne described as white male, date and place of birth 6-28-14, Birmingham, Ala., 5 feet, 7 1/2 inches tall, weighs 150 pounds, grey hair, brown eyes, FBI #994 620. FPC: 1/1, T/T, 16/12. Turner described as white male, date and place of birth, 3-9-38, Orlando, Fla., 5 feet, 9 inches tall, weighs 210 pounds, brown hair, brown eyes, FBI #808 965C. FPC: 6/21, T/U, r/t, I/I. Warrants issued, charge First Degree Murder, will extradite. If apprehended notify Sheriff Thursby, DeLand, Fla., or the Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.



Anthony Romano

Also known as *Anthony Basil*, *Anthony Castellano*, *Basil Anthony* and numerous variations of these names, white male allegedly born 5-18-27, Brooklyn, N. Y., 5 feet, 7 inches tall, weighs 160 pounds, black hair, brown eyes, generally wears glasses. Reportedly quick tempered and emotionally unstable, may be danger-



Claude Hammond

With aliases, *C. A. HAMMONDS*, *WILLIAM FAULKNER*, *JACK FOLEY*, *RAY COOPER*, "CURLY" *HAMMONDS*, white male, date of birth 1-21-21, 5 feet, 8 inches tall, weighs 178 pounds, blonde curly hair, blue eyes, occupa-

tion-electrician. Subject believed to be in the Miami area and may be working as an electrician. Warrants issued, charges Forgery, Worthless Checks and Auto Theft. If apprehended notify Sheriff Daffin, Panama City, Fla., or the Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.



Lee Crow Martin

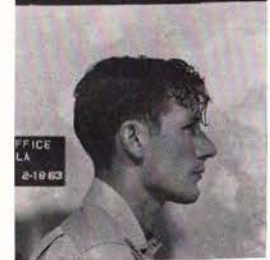
Alias *Joe HART*, white male, date and place of birth 9-17-30, New Britain, Conn., 6 feet, 3 inches tall, weighs 165 pounds, slender build, dark brown hair, blue eyes. FPC: 15, M/M, 1/1, U/R, III/III, 6. Former address Cincinnati, Ohio. Wanted for Escape from Plantation Key 6-11-63 where he was serving 18 months sentence

County Jail on four counts Worthless Checks. If apprehended notify Sheriff Haskins, Key West, or Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.



Evelyn Hickman

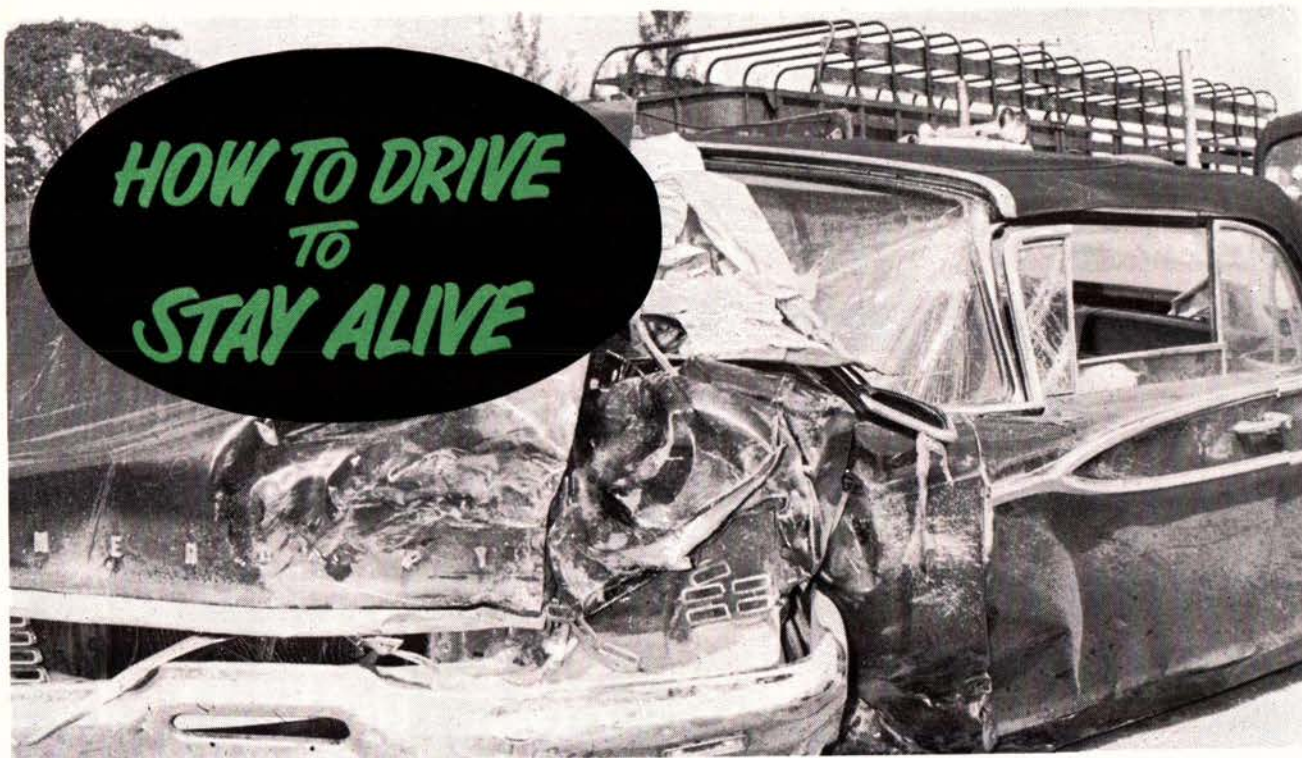
White female, date of birth 11-20-42, 5 feet, 3 inches tall, weighs 115 pounds, brown hair, grey eyes. Has worked as a secretary and a waitress. Was seen in Lakeland about June 1, 1963. Last seen as a passenger in a black and white 1956 Buick Century convertible 1963 Florida license



Roger Lee Masden

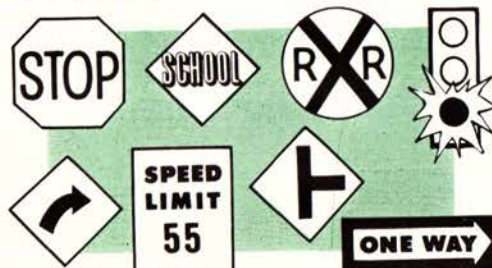
White male, date of birth 2-6-38, 5 feet, 11 inches tall, weighs 160 pounds, brown hair, blue eyes. Warrant held by Constable District #1, Tampa charging Removing Property Under Lien. Subject estreated \$1,000.00 fugitive surety bond on 3-21-63. Wanted by State of Virginia on Bigamy charge. He was last known to be operating a 1955 Plymouth 4-door, dark green bottom, light green top, left front door light green all over. If apprehended notify Sheriff Blackburn, Tampa, Fla., or the Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.

1W-1128. Wanted in Polk County on charge Embezzlement, capias issued. Also wanted in Orange County for Violation of Probation, and believed wanted in other areas for Worthless Checks. If apprehended notify Sheriff Brannen, Bartow, Fla., or Sheriff Starr, Orlando, Fla., or the Florida Sheriffs Bureau, Tallahassee, Florida.



Safe drivers always believe in and obey signs. Wherever traffic signs and laws are obeyed, accidents go down. Traffic control signs and signals are placed in specific locations where special regulations apply or where certain hazards are not clearly evident. They also provide information on directions, routes, and destinations. The signs have standard shapes and colors that give drivers an indication of what is ahead before he is close enough to read the wording. An eight-sided sign means "Stop." Diamond-shaped signs warn drivers to "Slow Down" for dangerous situations. Triangular signs mean "Yield" right-of-way and a round sign warns of railroad crossing. Square or rectangular signs give information on regulations and directions.

OBEY TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES AND SIGNALS



"Stop" signs mean just what they say! They are placed where they are to save your life. The same applies to "warning" signs. When you see a diamond-shaped warning sign you will slow down if you use common sense, for they tell you that a dangerous situation exists ahead.

Disregarding stop-signs and stop-and-go signals is one of the greatest causes of accidents.

NO. 8 IN A SERIES OF SAFETY MESSAGES



Presented in the interest of Highway Safety by the Florida Sheriffs Association, in cooperation with J. Edwin Larson, chairman, Citizen's Advisory Committee on Highway Safety.



LARSON

Speed is number one in *fatal* accidents and number two in *all* accidents. And it doesn't always mean exceeding the stated limit. Nearly two-thirds of Florida's traffic accidents occur at speeds *under* 50 miles per hour and more than half the accidents occur at speeds of 30 miles per hour or less.

This safety message is being distributed to high school driver training students all over Florida through the cooperation of State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Thomas D. Bailey and Florida's investor-owned electric utility companies.