



WISCONSIN COUNTY POLICE ASSOCIATION LTD

Issue 1 Volume 8

September 2008

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Executive Director's Message



As I reviewed this edition of the newsletter I again notice that there is a lot of "Bob Wierenga, Executive Director WCPA" captions in most of the pictures. Some could say it is because he is full of himself. Others might say it is because he is out there working for us. I would hope that those who know me are saying it's because he is out there working on our behalf. I especially hope that is the way the board of directors of the WCPA feel. By the time you read this they will have made a decision on my future as Executive Director of the WCPA. It is hard to believe that 5 years have already gone by. Allow me to share a few thoughts on those five years.

There are a couple of questions I ask myself. Content? Satisfied? A little more than five years ago we had about 300 members and no money. We were relatively an unknown organization, in spite of being around since 1944. Today we are over 2,000 members strong, have a good bank account, and are being recognized in every part of the state. In spite of those accomplishments, in five short years, I would have to say that I am not satisfied. Few of us are.

We leave one department for another thinking we will like it better. It doesn't take long before we are griping and complaining about the place we came to, sometimes wishing we could go back from where we came from. Some of us take promotions to better ourselves, only to find our self going back to the division we came from. As a canine handler I am acutely aware of men and women who thought they wanted to be a canine handler in the worst way. Then they see the next "big step" or find out it entails more than they want to give, and they are gone.

I recently read that "As a child we say, 'if only I were a teenager.' As a teen we say 'If only I were an adult.' As an adult, 'If only I was married.' As a spouse, 'If only I had kids.' As a parent, 'If only my kids were grown.' In an empty house, 'If only my kids would visit.' As a retiree, with stiff joints and fading vision, 'If only I were a kid again.'"

We are not usually satisfied, and I am not. While I believe that I have done what has been asked of me, I also believe there is much more we can do as an organization and a better job I can do as Executive Director. I look forward to that challenge.

On the other hand I am fully content in my life. I was on the golf course the other day and shot an 84 and had my first "eagle" ever on a short par 4! My cancer seems to be manageable and I am hoping for a clean bill of health next month. My daughters came home last weekend and we had a great time together. Pat and I continue to enjoy each other and look forward to the future, wherever it may take us. I don't feel the aches and stiffness of age, and the most important part of my life, my faith, remains strong. With all that going for me how could I not be content in life.

Bob Wierenga
Executive Director, WCPA



Dale Veto Recovery

by Kevin Hughes, Dane County Deputy Sheriff's Association

The question that lingers in the subconscious of every cop often remains untouched for a career. For others, it can become a reality in an instant.

"It was by the book," a fellow deputy who witnessed the incident later reported. Dale Veto, a veteran Dane County Deputy Sheriff has always loved being a cop. In a matter of seconds on a fateful day at the end of March, he was nearly killed by a fifteen-year-old driving a stolen car in a pursuit. Just after deploying road spikes, Deputy Veto was struck by the fleeing vehicle traveling at least 65 miles per hour. The results for Deputy Veto were horrific: both of his legs were crushed and his shoulder was broken by the violent impact of the fast-moving vehicle. Although it remains unclear whether the episode was an intentional act, alternative witnesses identified three distinct paths that could have been taken by the suspect to avoid striking Deputy Veto.

The legal aspect of the case was quickly settled and the suspect will walk out of a juvenile institution in just two years and then face extended supervision on the adult charges that were included in the plea agreement. That's the price he was assigned to pay for striking a law enforcement officer who received devastating injuries while simply doing his job. Two years is an awfully simple sentence when compared to the exposure the defendant faced had he been charged and prosecuted in a fashion Deputy Veto and his counterparts believe was appropriate.

The sentence handed down to Dale is not so simple. He is presently confined to a wheelchair, has endured hospital stays and numerous surgeries - most likely with at least one more in the future - and faces countless hours of physical therapy. He must endure the emotional highs

and lows associated with recovery and its setbacks and he must find the strength to overcome these obstacles. In spite of everything, Dale remains a dedicated cop who has the will to succeed and holds onto the hope that someday he will rejoin the ranks of his fellow deputies.

But Dale's ordeal continues beyond the healing. The family's budget is being taxed. A reduced income and out of pocket expenses are quickly compounding the situation. As part of Dale's physical therapy, he must travel almost two house several days a week at a low reimbursement rate.

Add the impact of this tragedy on his wife, eight-year old daughter, extended family and friends and there is no comparison between what occurred in the courtroom and the results of what occurred on a highway in March. Where is the justice?

When the sentence of the suspect was announced, the Dane County deputy Sheriff's Association responded with a media release questioning the judgment of the architects of the plea agreement. The essence of the statement asked when the judicial system does not protect the protectors, who can we expect to do so? The answer is now very clear: we will.

Our goal is to restore the stability in a fellow officers life. Whatever support you or your association can offer Dale and his family will be very much appreciated.



Dale Veto is a member of the Wisconsin County Police Association. The board of directors voted to make a contribution to the Dale Veto Recovery Fund. Executive Director Bob Wierenga traveled to Madison and presented the check to Greg Leatherberry, board member of the Dane County Deputy Sheriff's Association.

Please send your contributions to:
Dale P. Veto Recovery Fund
Farmers and Merchants State Bank
P.O. Box 96
Waterloo, WI 53594.

Wisconsin Special Olympics

The Wisconsin County Police Association has been proud supporters of the Wisconsin Special Olympics for several years. The mission of Special Olympics Wisconsin is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with cognitive disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in the sharing of gifts, skill, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

This year nearly 10,000 athletes will be served. Their average age is 29. Approximately 14,500 volunteers will give 350,000 hours of their time to serve these proud athletes. The athletes will put in a total of 500,000 training hours and be coached by 1,129 certified coaches. They will participate in 78 competitions across the state. 27,000 awards will be given annually.

For more information on Special Olympics on how your local organization can help visit: www.specialolympicswisconsin.org

WCPA presents \$1,000 contribution to Special Olympics Wisconsin. Pictured are Dennis Alldridge, President of Special Olympics Wisconsin and Bob Wierenga Executive Director, WCPA



CONTRIBUTIONS

Each year the Wisconsin County Police Associations' board of directors chooses local membership organizations for a cash donation. These donations are given so that the local organization can give back to their community in whatever way they wish. This year the Green Lake County Sheriff's Department, Brown County Deputy Sheriff's Association and the Racine County Deputy Sheriff's Association were each presented with a \$500.00 donation. Over the years many worthy causes have been supported by these donations. Some of the past recipients include: Walworth County Deputy Sheriff's Association, Kewaunee County Sheriff's Department, Jefferson County Deputy Sheriff's Association, Pepin County Sheriff's Department, Pierce County Sheriff's Department, Adams County Sheriff's Department and Monroe County Deputy Sheriff's Association.



Green Lake County sheriff Mark Podoll receives a check for \$500.00 from Bob Wierenga WCPA Executive Director. Green Lake County recently resurrected their Canine Program with a drug detection dog. The \$500.00 contribution was used to offset and help fund the K9 program. Sheriff Podoll stated that the new dog, and handler, were performing quite well, and that he was excited to have the program up and running again.



Bob Wierenga, K9 handler for the Walworth County Sheriff's Department, and Executive Director of the WCPA presents \$500.00 to members of the Brown County K9 unit. Accepting the donation is Trevor Bilgo, Brown County Deputy Sheriff's Association board member. With them (left to right) is Tony Tasch and his K9 partner, Bob Wierenga, Trevor Bilgo, Joe Fischer and Tim Newtols and his K9 partner. As of this printing there has not been a decision on how the donation would be used.

Kyle Poleman, President of the Racine County Deputy Sheriff's Association accepts donation from the WCPA. WCPA Executive Director Bob Wierenga makes the presentation.



Members of the Racine County Deputy Sheriff's Association were on hand for the donation of \$500.00 from the WCPA. As of this printing it had not been decided on how the RCDSA were going to use the donation.



Annual WCPA Meeting

Every December we hold our annual membership meeting. Each year at this meeting the association studies, discusses, and adopts legislative resolutions. As these issues come forward, in the form of legislative bills, they are supported or opposed depending on the impact they have on county law enforcement. In addition to legislative issues we review our audit, and hold elections every other year. If you are not able to attend this meeting your input is welcomed. Please forward any comments to info@wcpawi.com

**WISCONSIN COUNTY POLICE ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING
DECEMBER 3, 2008
11:00AM - 1:00PM
HOLIDAY INN CONVENTION CENTER
STEVENS POINT, WI**

This is the official notification of the Wisconsin County Police Association annual meeting

W.E.M.A. Notice

The Wisconsin County Police Association, Ltd. has partnered with the Wisconsin Emergency Management Association (WEMA) to co-sponsor their 2008 conference. WEMA members include county, municipal and tribal emergency management directors; county, municipal and tribal elected/administrative officials, first responders, businesses, as well as others with an interest in Emergency Management. Many of the projects that WEMA members are responsible for, such as pre-planning, hazard mitigation, and incident management, directly effect many county law enforcement officers every day.

2008 WI Emergency Management Association (WEMA) Annual Conference

Oct. 27 - Oct. 29, 2008, at the Sheraton-Madison
"Anatomy of a Disaster: Planning for and Responding to Long-term Power Outage"

Contact WEMA President Ben Schliesman at
262-605-7904 or BSchliesman1@wi.rr.com
www.wema.us

Scholarships

Each year the board of directors, of the WCPA, disperses funds to our scholarship recipients. For the first time since the inception of this program the board had to go to a competitive process to decide the 10 recipients. This was due to receiving 12 applications for the funds available. The WCPA sets \$5,000 aside for scholarships every year. The minimum award is \$500.00. The following young men and women were selected. A more detailed bio will appear on the web site and the next newsletter.

Kristen Vander Molen
Ciera Banaszynski
Erica Barth
Holly Berkovitz
Nathan Poleman
Brooke Sanborn
Aaron Seipel
Bradley Flannery
Teila Martin
Nathan Mocadlo

Dane County
Walworth County
Brown County
Kewaunee County
Racine County
Brown County
Pepin County
Brown County
Door County
Waupaca County

GOOD LUCK SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

WISCONSIN COUNTY POLICE ASSOCIATION • BOARD MEETING • HOLIDAY INN, STEVENS POINT, WI • June 4, 2008

Attendee's are Rick Olig, Bob Wierenga, Kevin Kinnard, Dan Greenwood, John Strese, Chris Gulbrand, Tim Gould, Kim Seipel and Teri Wegner.

The meeting called to order at 09:06 am by Chris Gulbrand.

Secretary Minutes- Motion made by Tim Gould and 2nd by Kim Seipel to accept the minutes as corrected. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report by Rick Olig as emailed.

Discussion took place regarding hiring full time employees do to the fundraisers for what pay back to Frank about 85%. Discussion about the 85-15 split that the fundraiser brings in.

A question about Broydrick's bill being different each month was brought up by Dan Greenwood. Possible reasons were the number of copies made and the telephone bills.

Kim Seipel brought up the bill from Central Printing has up'd the cost. The bill received from Central Printing for \$1684.00 did not list any details of the costs. Motion made to by John Strese and 2nd by Kevin Kinnard and was accepted and carried.

Legislative Report by Ramie Leonard via telephone.

Any legislation that didn't pass will need to be re-introduced in January 2009. AB52

exception for law enforcement dogs. Ab498 taser. SB 509 move over slow down is a big issue. CCW for retired law enforcement was again talked about.

JB VanHalen-no liability HR218. We need to send out questionnaire to the candidates. Toss out the core issues. Immigration.

Executive Director -Bob Wierenga Report

Racine Co was presented with the \$500 contribution. They were surprised with the gift and very pleased. Green Lake Co also has been presented with the money and follows up still needs to be down.

OVWI legislation on highways to pertain to snowmobiles and boating events a movement to post the events on the driving records.

Stiffer penalties for multiple OWI's.

Membership

Eau Claire County picked up the Sheriff's deputies but also need to pick up the civilian jail employees. Bob needs to get Dodge and Winnebago Counties aboard as members.

There are 1990 members at this time. The website provides security to the member's only page.

Old Business

Have not gotten anywhere with Florence and Manitowoc Counties as of yet as to memberships commitments.

New Business

It was brought up to donate money to help Dale Veto, Dane Co Deputy, injured in the line of duty. Motion to give \$500 to Dale Veto, 1st by Tim Gould and 2nd by Teri Wegner. Discussion about donating to deputies or members injured on duty. Motion carried. To be presented by July 1, 2008.

Rick Olig brought up the question how to we clean up our records. Discussion on retention issue will take place at the September, 2008 meeting.

Scholarships were decided that we set a side \$5000 maximum with a \$500 minimum per individual who is to receive the scholarships. Motion made to use the grade point scale to determine who is to receive a scholarship. Motion to accept made by Tim Gould and 2nd by John Strese. We had a total of 12 scholarship applicants and we took the lowest two grade points out to only give 10 scholarship recipients.

September 3, 2008 will be our next board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:13 pm.

Teri L. Wegner, Secretary
Wisconsin County Police Association

WCPA LEGISLATIVE REPORT

"UNDER THE DOME"

Ramie Zelenkova

The summer months bring a certain type of "peace" to Madison. All of the students have gone home, and for the most part, so have our legislators. The city and capital are full of tourist and life slows down. While the change in pace is welcomed there are still things happening.

Barron County Sheriff Tom Richie recently resigned as Sheriff. Governor Doyle appointed Chris Fitzgerald as Sheriff. Sheriff Fitzgerald previously was a member of the Rice Lake Police Department. While there he served as an Investigator, Public Information Officer and a member of the Emergency Response Team and Drug Unit. In his appointment of Fitzgerald Governor Doyle stated "Chris Fitzgerald has demonstrated the best qualities of law enforcement. He has great support and respect from the citizens of Barron County, and I am confident that he will serve the county with honor."

State Senator Spencer Coggs

announced that he will seek additional funding from the State for local witness protection programs after learning that federal funding ended. Milwaukee County Sheriff David Clarke stated that his department couldn't afford to fund the program with local tax dollars. Many of our counties are in the same position due to the insufficiency of funds available.

The Wisconsin Narcotics Officers Association recently recognized a number of people who were involved with two high profile investigations. Investigators from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, Dodge County Sheriff's Department, DCI and the DEA worked jointly to dismantle a large cocaine drug trafficking organization. Detectives Adam Frederick and Laura Pauli, from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, as well as Deputy Kevin Day from the Dodge County Sheriff's Department were recognized for their involvement in "Operation White Water."

As fall approaches we will begin making plans for the upcoming elections and legislative session. That "peace" will



soon be gone and we will be running "full steam ahead." The association looks to make candidate endorsements in the coming days. While the association invites candidates to respond to our questionnaire, in order for it to make sound decisions, we also seek membership input. If you have strong feelings, input, or knowledge on a candidate in your district please forward that information to us as at info@wcpawi.com That information along with other resources will help us make the right choices.



RICK OLIG

Welcome to the Wisconsin County Police Association newsletter. Since I have been your elected Treasurer for almost a year, this is a good time to introduce myself to you. I began my Law Enforcement Career with the Fond du Lac County Sheriff's Office in February 1981. I have served as a Communications Officer, Corrections Officer, Patrol Deputy, Sergeant and currently, Lieutenant. I serve as the 1st shift Shift Commander responsible for 1st Shift Patrol, TRaCs and Computer programs, Fleet Management, Policy Development, Civil Process, School Resource Officers, Community Services and Crash Team Coordinator. I am a graduate of the 193rd class of the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command.

Many of you may have met me as I travel around the state coordinating Civil Process meetings and training as well as the annual Civil Process Training with Assistant AG Dave Perlman. I am also been involved in the statewide Traffic Incident Management Enhancement program as well as many other traffic safety initiatives.

On a personal note, I reside in Fond du Lac and enjoy spending time with my 10 year old daughter. I am the Vice President of the Exchange Club of Fond du Lac, I also enjoy travelling, working on computers, landscaping and home repair in my spare time. I look forward to continuing to serve as your Treasurer and meeting as many of you as possible. If there is anything I can assist you with, please contact me at rick.olig@fdlco.wi.gov

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Delavan, WI 53115

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Registration Membership

If you received this newsletter you are already a member of the WCPA Ltd. Please feel free to pass this on to a non-member when you are done with it. If you are not a member of the Wisconsin County Police Association, all you have to do is fill out this application. Membership is open to any employee of a Wisconsin Sheriff's Department. Your application entitles you to a lifetime membership as long as you are employed. There are no membership dues!

Name _____
DOB _____
Home Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
County of Employment _____
Beneficiary (for life insurance) _____
Email _____

Mail to: Wisconsin County Police Association, Ltd.
P.O. Box 764, Delavan, WI 53115

Please help us clean up our act...

Take a moment and review the mailing information contained on your mailing address below. Use this space to make any corrections, changes, additions, deletions, verify suite or apartment number, add telephone number or e-mail address if you wish. If the information below is correct, no action is necessary. If you make any changes, simply detach this card and return the card to us. If you have questions, contact us at 262-728-2233 or info@wcpawi.com

Membership Application

Wisconsin County Police Association, Ltd.