

Serving the Survivors in 38 Counties for Over 16 Years



# Greater Houston Concerns of Police Survivors



Volume 3

July - September 2011

**GHC.O.P.S.**

**Meeting Location**

**Houston Police Officers' Union**

**1600 State Street  
Houston, TX 77007**

**832-200-3455**

**Next meeting:**

**August 7 at 2:00PM**

**Support Meeting**

## Remembering the Fallen



On May 29, 2011, **Houston Police Officer Kevin Will** was struck and killed by a drunk driver as he investigated a hit-and-run accident involving a motorcyclist. The driver of the vehicle which struck Officer Will drove around barriers and emergency vehicles that were blocking the closed free-way. It was later discovered that the driver of the car was living in the United States illegally. Officer Will had served with the Houston Police Department for almost two years.

He is survived by his wife, Alisha Michel Will who is pregnant with Kevin Scott Will Jr., and step-children Abby and Alex. Officer Will is also survived by his parents, Harold and Donna Will, brother, Todd, and many other family members.

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**Deputy Charles Van Meter** of the Brazoria County Sheriff's Office was killed in an automobile accident June 26 in Manvel, Texas. Deputy Van Meter had just finished work and was getting a ride home when the patrol car and a truck crashed. Deputy Van Meter died from the injuries sustained in the accident. Deputy Van Meter was a graduate of Pearland High and one semester away from graduating from the University of Houston. He completed SWAT training and was assigned to the Sheriff's Emergency Response Team in addition to his job as a Peace Officer. Charles is survived by a sister, Amanda Morris, and a host of close family members and friends.



### Mission Statement

Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc. provides resources to assist in the rebuilding of the lives of surviving families and affected co-workers of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty as determined by Federal criteria. Furthermore, C.O.P.S. provides training to law enforcement agencies on survivor victimization issues and educates the public of the need to support the law enforcement profession and its survivors.



**Police Officer Bryan Hebert** was killed on July 8 when his patrol car was intentionally struck by another vehicle during a pursuit. Other officers had initiated the pursuit of a man wanted for assaulting his mother and grandmother. Officer Hebert had stopped his patrol car on Dowlen Road and was removing a reflective vest and stop sticks from his trunk when the suspect veered from the travel lane and struck his patrol car head-on. The collision knocked the patrol car into Officer Hebert, who was still standing behind it.

Officer Hebert was transported to the hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. The driver of the vehicle is facing capital murder charges in connection with Officer Hebert's death. Officer Hebert had served with the Beaumont Police Department for 10 years. He is survived by his parents, sister, and grandparents.

### President's Message

As we move into the summer months, and all the memorials are behind us and are but a vivid memory of how our lives can change in a split second, it is time for families to enjoy spending time together. I remember when my children were young, one of our favorite things to do was to go camping and fishing. Shane always loved the outdoors and it was no surprise to me when he became a Texas Game Warden. After becoming a Game Warden, he would go on to reprimand me for all the small fish we caught and kept way back then. At the time, however, he thought it was cool and enjoyed eating the very small catfish we caught.



C.O.P.S. offers several retreats over the next several months, and I highly recommend that you consider attending the retreat specifically designed for you. These retreats bring you together with others who have walked in your shoes, and give you the ability to make new lifelong friendships. Also, for the children of officers killed in the line of duty, there is a week long kids camp in July. These children get the opportunity to meet other children who have lost a parent, helping them realize that they are not alone in their journey.

As always, the Greater Houston C.O.P.S. board is ready, willing and able to assist you in any way. Please feel free to call upon us at any time.

Cheryl Railsback, President

## Chapter News

- **Jena Kincaid** graduated with honors from the University of Texas in Austin with a Bachelors degree in Special Education. Jena is the daughter of **Nancy and Sgt. Kent Kincaid** of the Houston Police Department. (E.O.W 5/23/98). Jena has assisted with Kids Camp activities and has attended many of the National Police Week activities in Washington DC.
- **Jessica Ginn** graduated May 2011 from Sam Houston State University with a Bachelors degree. Jessica is now working as a Junior Landman Clerk with Quantum Oil and Gas Exploration in Houston. Jessica is the daughter of **Ginny and Jeffery Dean Ginn** of the Pasadena Police Department. (E.O.W. 7/10/1991)
- **Jillian Ginn** will graduate with a Bachelor degree from Sam Houston State University in August 2011 in Mass Communication with a focus in Public Relations. Jillian is the daughter of **Ginny and Jeffery Dean Ginn** of the Pasadena Police Department. (E.O.W. 7/10/1991).
- **Whitney Hill** graduated as Magna Cum Laude from Klein Collins High School. She will attend the University of Texas in Austin studying in the Fine Arts Department. Whitney is the daughter of **Cathy and Barry Hill (E.O.W. 12/4/2000.)**
- **The Texas School of Business– Criminal Justice Department**, dedicated its new Fire Arms Simulator in memory of **Harris County Deputy Sheriff Barry Hill (EOW 12/4/2000).**
- Congratulations to **Janet and Bill Green** on the arrival of their first grandbaby. Proud parents, **Michelle and Ryan Wallace**, welcomed **Greenlei Grace Wallace** on February 13, 2011. Greenlei weighed in at 7 pounds 11 ounces and was 24 1/4 inches long. She will be loved by many and we can't wait to meet her.
- Congratulations to **Ron Bennett**, father of **Deputy Shane Bennett**, (E.O.W. 6/12/2002) to be the Chairman of the Memorial Committees for GHC.O.P.S. Ron will contact agencies and notify GHC.O.P.S. when Memorials will be held.

A person means something different to everyone in their lives. They are the same person internally, of course – they possess the same characteristics or personality traits, the same morals and beliefs – but they carry a different title and responsibility with each and every person they encounter. A man does not treat his wife the same way as his children, or talk to a co-worker the same way he would speak to a parent. A wife will see him as a lover; a child will think of him as a caregiver; a parent will see him as a precious gift of life.

These various hats that the man wears (metaphorically speaking, of course) do not make him any less loved or important to the person who views him in that way – he is merely taking on the various roles needed of him because, as we all discover, life demands it of him.

As he takes on these different roles, various kinds of love develop within him as well. The people in his life, those whom he touches, also develop a different sort of love for him. These kinds of love will extend beyond genetics and blood into a place where fate has casted him, where he meets his soul mate and makes some of the greatest friends life could ever give him.

The different kinds of love for this man play an important part in how they grieve for him, too, when the time comes for him to take his last breath and pass away from this world. His mother will feel the pangs of losing a son, a part of her own flesh and blood, and his wife will mourn the death of a lover, her second half and best friend. His children, on the other hand, will experience the sadness of losing a role model who cared and provided for them no matter the circumstance, and a sibling will have to say goodbye to a lifelong companion who, despite all the arguments and fights, meant more to them than they could ever admit.

All of these people cared for him differently as he lived, but the thing is that they *cared*. They loved him with every fiber of their being, and their love will extend beyond death. No matter how hard they try, the man will never escape their memory and thoughts – he drew himself in their minds with bold pen, never to be erased by other people or new experiences, and he will live on through their words and actions, refusing to be forgotten.

It doesn't matter which hat he wore for them or which responsibilities he took on for them because, in the end, he loved them all too, and that's really all that matters. They should celebrate the life he lived without letting those differences disrupt the feelings they had for him, uniting to share in the love they possessed and learning to love each other too.

Walking through this journey together, remember you are never alone,  
Cathy J Hill, Mountain Region Trustee



### ***Our Sincere Thanks***

- **Harris County Employees** for showing support through payroll deductions.
- **Harris County Deputies' Organization** for monthly support to GHC.O.P.S.
- **Houston Police Department– Airport Division** at Bush Airport, for assisting Survivors traveling to Washington DC for the National Police Week activities. They also provided a wonderful brunch before escorting the Survivors to their flights.
- **HPOU** for their continued support and generosity.
- **Texas Municipal Police Association** for donations for the Texas State Memorial.
- **Virginia Lane** in memory of **Sgt. Mike Lane's** birthday.

### **Mark your Calendars ~ PLEASE SEE WEBSITE CALENDAR FOR ADDITIONAL DATES NOT LISTED HERE**

- **August 7, 2011:** GHC.O.P.S. Support meeting- 2:00 PM-HPOU-1600 State Street-Houston
- **Sept. 9-12, 2011:** Siblings Retreat– Potosi, Missouri \*\*\*
- **Sept. 17, 2011:** GHC.O.P.S. Board meeting– 11:00 AM– Railsback home
- **Sept. 17, 2011:** GHC.O.P.S. President's Pot Luck Dinner– 2:00 PM– The Railsback's home
- **October 9, 2011:** GHC.O.P.S. Support meeting-2:00 PM-HPOU– 1600 State Street-Houston
- **October 14-17, 2011:** In Law's Retreat Potosi, Missouri \*\*\*
- **October 28-31, 2011:** Parent's Retreat—Arkansas \*\*\*
- **November 4-7, 2011:** Co-Worker's Retreat—Potosi, Missouri \*\*\*
- **December 4, 2011:** Barry Hill Celebration
- **December 2011:** GHC.O.P.S. Christmas Party ~ TBD

\*\*\* ***Denotes National events***



**Remembering Our Officers**

<b><u>Officer</u></b>	<b><u>Agency</u></b>	<b><u>End Of Watch</u></b>
Robert Goode	Columbus Police Department	7/28/1868
Clarence Brooks	Wharton County Sheriff's Office	7/04/1884
H.D. Parsons	Texas Department Criminal Justice	7/26/1898
Patrick Kelly	Galveston County Sheriff's Office	7/20/1891
Walter Stansbury	Beaumont Police Department	7/23/1903
Martin Mayo	Galveston Police Department	7/28/1905
James Elliot	Texas Department of Criminal Justice	7/17/1908
Henry McCain	Wharton County Sheriff's Office	7/19/1908
Otto Heyne	Wharton County Sheriff's Office	7/31/1908
Walter Kibbe	Victoria County Sheriff's Office	7/24/1911
Carl Bisbee	Nueces County Constable's Office	7/05/1925
R.R. Bledsoe	Nueces County Constable's Office	7/05/1925
Will Rader	Texas Department of Criminal Justice	7/22/1926
R.O.Wells	Houston Police Department	7/30/1927
Henry Ward	Texas Department of Criminal Justice	7/27/1928
Jim Sneed	Texas Department of Criminal Justice	7/16/1931
Frank Marchesi	Galveston Police Department	7/21/1942
Theron Shofner	Harris County Sheriff's Office	7/14/1948
James Willis	Houston Police Department	7/01/1964
Arnold Knippel	Columbus Police Department	7/08/1968
W.C. Simmons	Texas City Police Department	7/13/1974
John Brown	Texas Department Criminal Justice	7/18/1977
Joe Westbrook	Harris County Sheriff's Office	7/01/1979
Albert Garza	Harris County Sheriff's Office	7/30/1979
Gordon Jensen	Galena Park Police Department	7/16/1980
William Croning	San Jacinto County Sheriff's Office	7/01/1981
Edward Claude	Jasper County Sheriff's Office	7/09/1982
James Donald Harris	Houston Police Department	7/13/1982
Ruben Almanza	Corpus Christi Police Department	7/27/1984
Ronald Slockett	Sugar Land Police Department	7/04/1987
Wesley Alford	Grimes County Sheriff's Office	7/19/1987
Elston M. Howard	Houston Police Department	7/19/1988
Clark H. Henry	Harris County Sheriff's Office	7/25/1988
Jeffery Dean Ginn	Pasadena Police Department	7/10/1991
Charles Billeck	Corrigan Police Department	7/10/1992
Byron Scott Egelski	Michigan State Police	7/11/1994
Douglas Noll	Harris County Sheriff's Office	7/22/1996
Oscar Hill IV	Harris County Sheriff's Office	7/22/2000
Justin Todd Wollam	Anchorage Police Department	7/09/2001
Roberto Nieto	Eagle Lake Police Department	7/24/2002
John Bennett	Texas Department of Criminal Justice	7/17/2003
John David Garcia	Montgomery County Sheriff's Office	7/17/2003

<b><u>Officer</u></b>	<b><u>Agency</u></b>	<b><u>End of Watch</u></b>
Duke G. Aaron	Maryland Transit Administration	7/20/2004
Edwin Hernandez	Suffolk County Police Department	7/27/2004
Nehemiah Pickens	Harris County Sheriff's Office	7/05/2005
David Warren McGuinn	Maryland State Division of Correction	7/25/2006
Shane T. Detwiler	Chamber's County Sheriff's Office	7/13/2009
Thomas Nolan	Nueces County Sheriff's Office	8/15/1860
Thomas Garvey	Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office	8/16/1889
Louis Ahlers	Victoria Police Department	8/08/1893
Larkin Hope	Colorado County Sheriff's Office	8/03/1898
John Cain	Houston Police Department	8/03/1911
Charles Claiborne	Texas Department Criminal Justice	8/09/1915
Walter Vandorn	Texas Department Criminal Justice	8/12/1916
Rufus Daniels	Houston Police Department	8/23/1917
E.G. Meinke	Houston Police Department	8/23/1917
Horace Moody	Houston Police Department	8/23/1917
Ross Patton	Houston Police Department	8/23/1917
Ira Rainy	Houston Police Department	8/23/1917
Ben Harris	Port Arthur Police Department	8/16/1923
J. Clark Etheridge	Houston Police Department	8/23/1924
James Cook	Brazoria County Sheriff's Office	8/26/1925
Thomas Beyett	Montgomery County Constable's Office	8/06/1931
J.R. McCall	Texas Department Criminal Justice	8/27/1933
James Godwin Jr.	Orange Police Department	8/11/1935
John Greer	Texas Department Criminal Justice	8/27/1938
Howard Hammond	Houston Police Department	8/18/1946
Peter Lantermo	Refugio County Sheriff's Office	8/01/1951
Robert Schultea	Houston Police Department	8/25/1956
John Suttle	Houston Police Department	8/03/1959
Donald Knowlton	Harris County Sheriff's Office	8/22/1960
Samuel Beall	San Patricio County Sheriff's Office	8/27/1960
Charles McDaniel	Houston Police Department	8/04/1963
Paul Emerson Sr.	Port Arthur Police Department	8/03/1967
John Sartain	Corpus Christi Police Department	8/20/1971
Francis Wright	Houston Police Department	8/02/1975
Lewis Hall	Port Arthur Police Department	8/06/1976
Jon Farrar	Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office	8/05/1977
James Wier	Harris County Sheriff's Office	8/18/1978
Charles Baker	Houston Police Department	8/16/1979
Kathleen C. Schaefer	Houston Police Department	8/18/1982

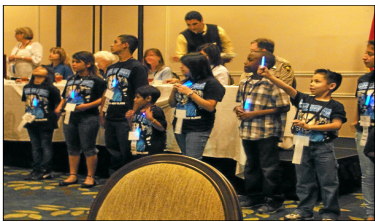
<u>Officer</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>End of Watch</u>
Robert John	Galveston Police Department	8/16/1990
Patrick Roberts Jr.	Brazoria County Sheriff's Office	8/17/1990
Bill Himstedt	Texas Department Criminal Justice	8/07/1998
Michael Charles Pauling	Texas Parks & Wildlife Department	8/02/2001
Michael Benjamin Meyer	Yuma Police Department	8/13/2001
James Victor Amaid	Prince George's County Sheriff's Office	8/29/2002
Wesley Warren Wagstaff	Texas Parks & Wildlife Department	8/05/2003
Issac Veal	Honolulu Police Department	8/16/2004
Evan Frederick Schneider	Montana State Police	8/26/2008
Jesse T. Hamilton	Pasadena Police Department	8/21/2009
Thomas Shaw	Nueces County Sheriff's Office	9/10/1877
William Patterson	Beaumont Police Department	9/25/1881
Adolph Howe	Galveston Police Department	9/08/1900
F.L. Richards	Galveston Police Department	9/08/1900
Samuel Tovrea	Galveston Police Department	9/08/1900
Charles Wolfe	Galveston Police Department	9/08/1900
Hill Cates	Huntsville Police Department	9/29/1901
Ed Smith	Port Arthur Police Department	9/24/1902
Frank Brugh	Jackson County Sheriff's Office	9/13/1903
George Wharton	Jackson County Sheriff's Office	9/13/1903
James Reed	Harris County Sheriff's Office	9/06/1905
Ottawa Douglas	Jefferson County Sheriff's Office	9/05/1913
Tom Willis	San Patricio County Sheriff's Office	9/26/1915
L.B. Prater	Corpus Christi Police Department	9/14/1919
Joe Snow	Brazoria County Sheriff's Office	9/15/1920
Dewitt Oliver	Texas Department Criminal Justice	9/17/1921
W. Emory Hicks	Harris County Constable's Office	9/14/1923
Clarence Brammer	Beaumont Police Department	9/19/1923
E.C. Chavez	Houston Police Department	9/17/1925
Edmond Hardin	Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office	9/16/1927
Sidney Sims	Texas Department Criminal Justice	9/29/1928
Ed Jones	Houston Police Department	9/13/1929
Edward Fitzgerald	Houston Police Department	9/30/1930
Willie Phares	Houston Police Department	9/30/1930
Henry Taylor	Brenham Police Department	9/14/1940
Leo Busby	Harris County Sheriff's Office	9/10/1953
Fred Peebles	Harris County Sheriff's Office	9/23/1965
Ronnie Dodds	Lavaca County Sheriff's Office	9/28/1969
Robert Arrington	Texas Department Criminal Justice	9/17/1971
George May	Texas Department Criminal Justice	9/17/1971
David Huerta	Houston Police Department	9/19/1973
Patrick Hunt	Beaumont Police Department	9/08/1977
Bobby Paulk	Baytown Police Department	9/09/1977
Ed Holcomb Jr.	Conroe Police Department	9/14/1982

<u>Officer</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>End of Watch</u>
William Moss	Houston Airport Police Department	9/12/1983
Fernando Robles Sr.	Victoria Police Department	9/20/1983
Reginald F. Norwood	Harris County Sheriff's Office	9/03/1985
Joseph Bock	Corpus Christi Police Department	9/09/1987
Richard Blackwell	Harris County Sheriff's Office	9/06/1989
Michael A. McNew	St. Louis Police Department	9/09/1989
Mark Phebus	Texas Department Public Safety	9/17/1990
Jeffery Sanford	Harris County Sheriff's Office	9/14/1991
Micheal Eakin III	Harris County Constables Office	9/26/1998
Jerry Stowe	Houston Police Department	9/20/2000
Maria Frances Mignano	Oregon State Police	9/04/2001
Clyde Frazier Jr.	New York Office of Tax Enforcement	9/11/2001
Conrad Sudario Gernale	Beaumont Police Department	9/06/2002
Michael Christopher Waters	W Memphis Police Department	9/11/2003
James Michael Lane	Beaumont Police Department	9/16/2004
Christopher Jerome Sobieski	Prairie View Police Department	9/26/2004
Denny Floyd Gallaway Jr.	San Jacinto County Constable's Office	9/15/2005
Jeffery Bickman	Washington Parish Sheriff's Office	9/20/2005
Rodney Joseph Johnson	Houston Police Department	9/21/2006
Mario Moreno	San Antonio Police Department	9/21/2007
Susan Louise Canfield	Texas Department Criminal Justice	9/24/2007
Tommy L. Keen	Harris County Sheriff's Office	9/15/2008

**OUT AND ABOUT WITH OUR CHAPTER**



Beaumont Police Memorial



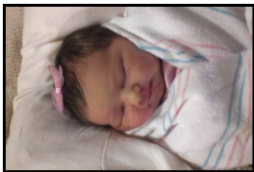
2011 C.O.P.S. Survivors' Luncheon



Houston PD Airport Police



Odell McDuffie Family in DC



Greenlei Grace Wallace



Sue & Jim Wass in DC

**Your contributions to the newsletter are welcomed.** If you have an upcoming graduation, wedding, or baby news, please share the information with us. Contact Carol Lane at: [calane1888@att.net](mailto:calane1888@att.net) with the details.

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*Reaching out to the Survivors and Co-workers of Law Enforcement Heroes in 38 counties*

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