

LEW'S NEWS

Volume 3, Issue 2, March 2003

Special reduced dues arranged for Pct. 3 deputies

A special reduced dues arrangement is being provided for Bexar County Precinct 3 deputies by the National Reserve Law Officers Association (NRLO) for those who wish to enjoy the increased insurance benefits.

Current membership benefits and insurance expire on April 1, 2003.

At the January 6, 2003 meeting, Constable Bob Lew and Chief Deputy Roger Terry announced that Pct. 3 would no longer make membership mandatory. They said a few deputies do not desire accident medical expense, death benefits, or weekly indemnity because those few do not work uniformed duties.

Since 1972, Pct. 3 has required 100% participation membership in the Reserve Law Officers Association of America so they would have the \$30,000.00 accidental medical expense coverage RLOAA benefits provided.

When RLOAA dissolved in November, 2002, all memberships were transferred to the National Reserve Law Officers Association. The change provided extra line of duty insurance benefits in addition to the \$30,000.00 accident medical expense coverage. The added benefits are \$30,000.00 death benefit and a \$200.00 a week indemnity for disabilities.

Regular dues in NRLO are \$43.00 per year for individuals, or \$37.00 for 100% groups; however, in a communication to Otto Vehle on 9 January 2003, NRLO Director Leon Schumacher wrote:

"As far as those requiring insurance, we'll charge the same rate as if they join as a group and will bill them individually at the group rate of \$37.00. For those who do not need the insurance, we will charge them \$20.00. On their Membership Renewal form we will indicate the group rate of \$37.00 for insurance, or \$20.00 for no insurance coverage."

Vehle applauded NRLO for the smooth transition of memberships from all across America between the two Associations. He said the agreement to allow this special dues structure for Precinct 3 deputies is evidence of the cooperative spirit being exhibited by NRLO by its desire to provide the highest degree of service at the lowest cost.

No action is required on the part of officers wishing to continue with the increased insurance protection until they receive a Membership Renewal form from NRLO. At that time they return the form with their dues payment.

**Items of interest about
Bexar County
Constable Precinct 3**

March, 2003

Bob Lew
Constable

Roger Terry
Chief Deputy



**Bexar County
Constable Precinct 3
8918 Tesoro Drive
Suite 301
San Antonio, Texas
78217**

Warrant sweep in April

An area-wide warrant sweep is planned for mid-April, and during the April 7 meeting, full details and assignments will be made.

Plans are to saturate the area with Precinct 3 deputies armed with warrants in an unprecedented concentration designed to round up and serve outstanding warrants on the largest number of persons possible.

Sharing knowledge

Terrorism is not just a New York City problem. Terrorists can base their operations anywhere in the country.

One of the best tools to combat terrorism is opening of the lines of communication and cooperation between law enforcement agencies. All law enforcement is in this together. The problem affects everybody.

Capital punishment executions down

Fifteen states and the federal government executed 66 prisoners in the year 2001, 19 fewer than in 2000, according to a study conducted by the Justice Department's Bureau of Justice Statistics. Also during 2001, 155 inmates received a death sentence, the fewest since 1973 when 44 were recorded.

MEETING

Monday, April 7, 2003

6:30 p.m.

News by and for
friends of
Bob Lew,
Constable,
Bexar County
Precinct 3

(Not printed at
public expense)

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

*"It is the duty
of all nations to
acknowledge
the Providence
of Almighty
God, to obey
His will, to be
grateful for His
benefits, and to
humbly implore
His protection
and favor."*

George Washington
October 3, 1789



Bexar County
Constable Pct. 3
8918 Tesoro Drive
Suite 301
San Antonio,
Texas 78217

LEW'S NEWS

Sharp decline in police deaths in '02; 14 female officers die

Deaths of law enforcement officers resumed a downward trend in the year after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks as better training, equipment and medical care helped save more lives.

There were 147 officers killed in 2002, the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund reported on Jan. 7. That was a sharp decline from 2001, when 230 lost their lives, including 72 responding to the attacks.

In general, deaths have declined since the 1970s, when an average of 220 officers died each year.

◆ Officers are trained better to handle potentially deadly situations, and departments now trade information about fatal encounters so that police know what maneuvers to avoid.

◆ Police have better equipment, including more powerful guns and bulletproof vests.

◆ Violent criminals are serving longer sentences.

◆ Medical care is better. Hospitals and doctors are better equipped to treat injured officers, and medical teams now accompany law enforcement officials when there is the possibility of a serious injury or death, such as when SWAT teams surround a building.

Texas had the most law enforcement fatalities last year with 15, followed by South Carolina, nine; California, eight; North Carolina, seven; and Maryland and New York, six apiece.

The most frequent cause of death was gunshot, with 55 deaths, followed by automobile accidents, which killed 44. A record-tying 14 female officers were killed.

The list of those killed includes two Beaufort County, S.C., sheriff's deputies, Cpl. Dyke "A.J." Coursen and Lance Cpl. Dana Lyle Tate, who were shot and killed Jan. 8 while responding to a domestic dispute.

In Adelphi, Md., on Aug. 29, two Prince George's County sheriff's deputies, Cpl. James V. Arnaud and Pvt. Elizabeth Magruder, were shot to death when they tried to take a man from his parents's home for psychiatric care.

Committee OKs concealed guns

WASHINGTON - Law enforcement officers would be allowed to carry concealed weapons into states that ban them under legislation approved March 13 by the Senate Judiciary Committee.

"By enabling qualified active duty and retired law enforcement officers to carry firearms, even if off-duty, more trained law enforcement officers will be on the street to enforce the law and to respond to crises," Judiciary Chairman Orrin Hatch, R-Utah said.

The bill -- approved by a 18-1 vote -- now goes to the full Senate. The legislation applies to retired as well as off-duty law enforcement officers who are in good standing.

The legislation does not trump state laws banning concealed weapons on private property, state or local government properties, installations, buildings, bases or parks.

Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., argued that having police officers carrying weapons into unfamiliar jurisdictions would "make conditions more dangerous for police officers and civilians, not less."

TO: