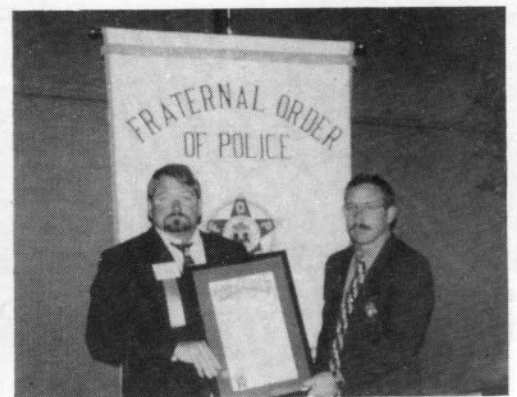
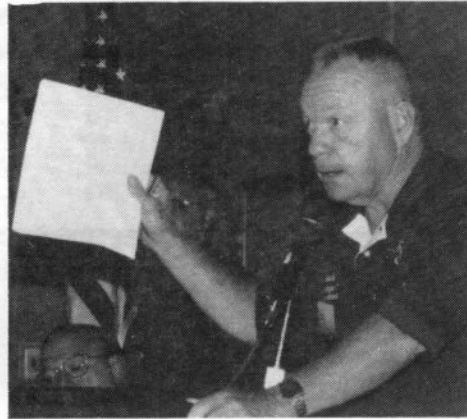


# THE WATCHFUL EYE

Official Publication of the Ga State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police

Vol.10, Number 2  
October, 2000

## WHAT A CONFERENCE!



**THE WATCHFUL EYE** is the official publication of the Georgia State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police. Send all inquires to Georgia State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police, P.O. 91220 East Point, Ga. 30364

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# THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you for allowing me to serve you for another term. I consider it a true honor and privilege. My goals and objectives are the same as before. Have a strong legislative program, public awareness of who we are and what we do, increase membership, and assist and strengthen the local lodges.

We start these two years with a chance to do something important. **VOTE!** The presidential race is pretty much even. The members nation-

wide voted overwhelmingly to endorse Gov. George Bush. Even against the recommendations of the endorsement committee. Our message to the candidates is that we are an important group to deal with. Not only do people listen to the FOP but we control 291,000 votes. The rule of thumb is that we can influence a minimum of four additional votes. That will be our message when Gov. George Bush wins. Make sure that you vote and encourage everyone you can to do the same. Maybe we will have a President that will listen to us.

## SECRETARY/ TREASURER

I would like to thank the brothers and sisters at the State Conference who reelected me for another term as your Secretary/Treasurer. It is a privilege to work for you in helping the Fraternal Order of Police become a great organization. If you or your lodge needs assistance please do not hesitate to call the office. We are here for you.

We have already started planning for the next conference which will be held at Jekyll Island in 2002. Your lodge secretary should be receiving information shortly on the upcoming National Conference to be held in Pheonix City, Az. in August of 2001.

The State still has a large amount of the Watch Out for Our Kids bumper stickers and fingerprint kits. If you need these items please let us know and we will ship them to you.

The Georgia F.O.P. web site is up and running and the address is: [georgiafop.org](http://georgiafop.org)



Steve Bollinger and Dan Scoggins presents bulletproof vests to Chief Oscar Spires, Jr. of Norman Park P.D.



Charlotte Scoggins and Felicia Pasko at the COPS host hotel in Washington D.C.

# Legislative Committee

David Stone, Chairman

First and most importantly, I would like to express my deep appreciation for allowing me to be your Second Vice President for the next two years. I will make every effort to uphold the highest standards of this organization as I perform my duties. We are very fortunate to have a very strong and forward thinking Executive Board in place who will make a great start for the F.O.P. in Georgia in this new millennium.

My primary responsibility will continue to be that of Legislative Committee Chairman. I have been assured by President Bollinger that this will be my main focus. Those of you who attended the State Conference where introduced to Sid Miles, former Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Public Safety. At press time, we are working on

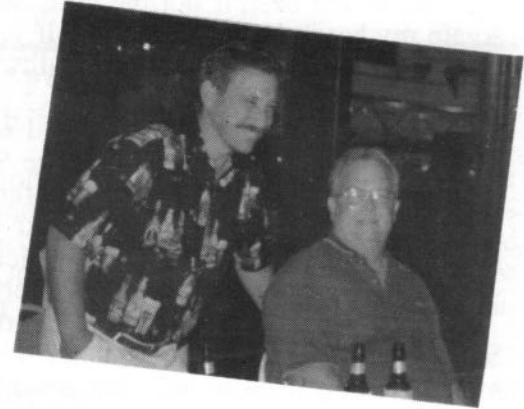
a contract with Mr. Miles to be our lobbyist in the Georgia General Assembly next year. I believe that he will be a tremendous asset to us at the Capitol and you will see the F.O.P. as an active participant in Georgia politics. However, we must not expect him to do all the work alone. It will be even more important now for each of you across the state to do your part. Get out and meet your city, county and state representatives. Let them know who you are, who you represent, and what you expect from them. Election time is upon us and there is no better time to meet politicians than now.

The special election to fill the unexpired term of the late Senator Paul Coverdell will be in the November general election. The State Lodge will be making an endorsement in this race. Questionnaires have been sent to Senator Zell Miller and Mr. Mack Mattingly, the two viable candidates in this race. After these questions are returned, copies will be

sent to each Lodge for you to make your choice. Time is going to be short, so I will be asking for a very fast turn around on this, so **PLEASE BE PREPARED!**

As I have mentioned, the general election is less that 2 months away. I urge each local Lodge to make endorsements for good, pro law enforcement candidates in your areas. This is the true meaning of "grassroots" and it starts with you. After you make these endorsement, don't forget to recommend them to family and friends and let the public know your local Lodge supports them.

Finally, let me remind each of you that another important issue will be on the November ballot. This is an amendment to the Public Safety Indemnity Act and will guarantee you a full salary if you are injured on duty and temporary disabled for up to 12 months. This appears as amendment #3 on the ballot. This is for you. Please urge all your friends and family to vote in favor of this amendment.



# Chairman of the State Trustees

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

A note of thanks to the Savannah Lodge for such a great time at the State Convention. A lot of work and effort on their part. Also special thanks to Marlin, Bonnie, Sarge Orr, and Bobbie for the wonderful accommodations. I felt that we really accomplished a lot of work and had a great time in the process. The convention saw a lot of new faces and participation. It was good to see such enthusiasm. I hope all the new people came away with a better understanding of what this great organization is and it's dedication toward helping all officers and their communities.

With regards to my own campaign, I wish to thank all of the many supporters and friends that helped me obtain this office. I pledge to all of you my commitment toward making our lodge stronger and more viable. I will be conducting an inventory of the State lodge assets shortly. I also plan to be traveling to each and every lodge personally, to see what we can do for you and establish a strong Board of State Trustees. President Bolinger has appointed me as Chairman of the Membership and Expansion Committee. My goal will be to increase membership and participation in our Legal Defense plan. I believe that this program is a win, win deal for everyone, the officer and the lodge.

Dave Palmer

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## Inner Guard

Greetings,

I would like to thank the entire membership for having the faith and trust to reelect me to the State Board, at the most recent Conference in Savannah. I assure each and everyone of you that I will do my best to represent you and your voice on the Board.

While we're on the topic of the recently completed State Conference in Savannah, I would like to say that this was one of the best, if not the best, State Conference that I've attended in my 20 plus years of going to them. Again my hat is off to all of you. If you failed to attend you missed quiet a Conference, the hotel was nice, the food was excellent and the hospitality shown by all the people from Lodge #7 was outstanding. Larry, Jack, Sarge you're great hosts.

Before I get down off my pulpit, I would like to address something that was of great concern to me and that was the failure of all the local lodge State Trustees to attend the State Conference. First of all, we need you there to attend the meetings and conferences to do the business of the State Lodge. Without you there, we as a State Board, cannot know what your wants and needs are from us. If you are not already aware, the State Lodge will pay for you to attend which includes hotel, travel and per diem. You cannot lose, so the next time you receive notice make the extra effort to attend.

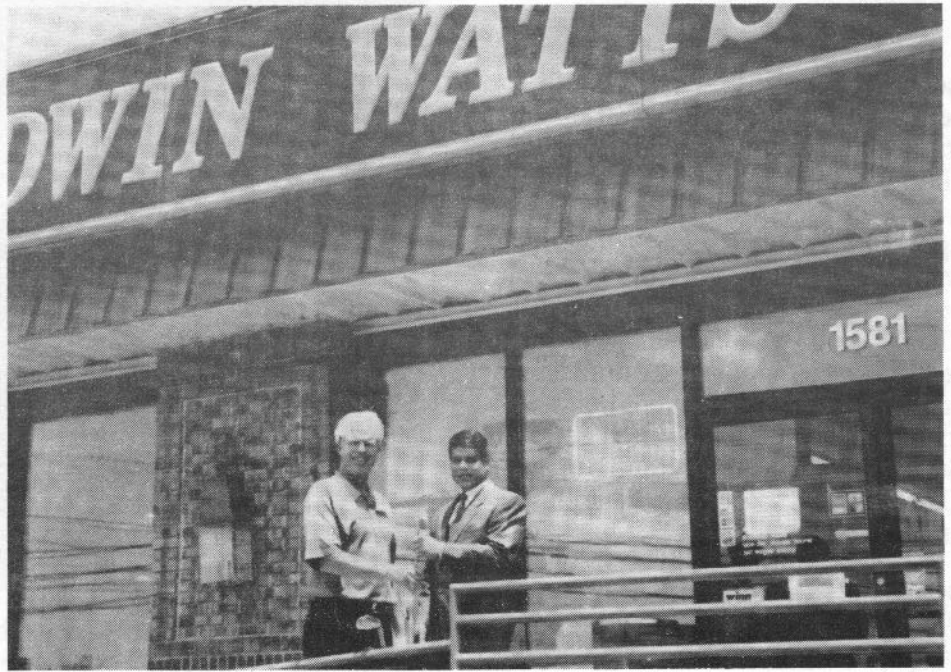
The next few months are very important to all of us in the F.O.P. November brings planning for the upcoming Shop With A Cop program that each of our Lodges have during the holiday season and also November is the month that we need to have finalized our Legislative Agenda for the 2001 session. David Stone is very busy putting together some ideas but I'm sure he would like some input from you. He should have the entire Legislative plan available by the Fall Board Meeting and he will present it at that time, that will allow plenty of time for you to contact your local legislators to let them know where you stand on the issues.

Remember, the FOP is you and we need for you to continue to get the name of the FOP out to the public. Shop With A Cop is one of the major programs that will help you do that. I will be forwarding each Lodge a fact inquiry sheet next month and I hope that you will help me put together some figures on all the community programs that all the Lodges in the State of Georgia are involved in. These figures I receive from each lodge will enable Donna Fleishman, our Public Relations person, to get the word out just how many citizens we service. When you receive this survey, PLEASE, send it back to the State Lodge office or myself. In the meantime, stay safe and I look forward to seeing you in the near future.

Billy Mull

# Kermit Sanders Lodge #13

Mr. Ron Hilger of Edwin Watts Golf on Cobb Pkwy in Marietta recently recognized Brother Jorge Mestre for his courage and commitment to the Cobb community. On July 23, 1999, Officer Mestre responded to a neighborhood disturbance call in Austell. Officer Mestre was subsequently fired upon, and was struck seven times by the gunfire. The suspect then barricaded himself inside his mother's residence. Sadly, Brother Steve Reeves and Brother Steve Gilner were subsequently shot and killed while attempting a hostage rescue of the mother. After a lengthy stint on desk duty and many hours of physical therapy, Brother Mestre has returned to full duty. He is currently assigned as a detective in the crimes against childrens unit.



Mr. Hilger presented Brother Mestre with a full set of Ping I3 irons and a Ping golf bag. Mr. Hilger's gift is not only generous, but he was thoughtful enough to have Brother Mestre's name engraved on the clubs. We in Lodge #13 look forward to spending many future happy days with Brother Mestre on the links with his new clubs. Hopefully they won't improve his play too much!

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## GOVERNOR BARNES DECLARES 'ZERO TOLERANCE' FOR DRUNK, DRUGGED DRIVERS IN LARGEST ANTI-DUI CAMPAIGN IN STATE'S HISTORY

ATLANTA, GA, June 28, 2000 – The deadliest roadway hazards are impaired drivers. Nearly 500 people die every year in Georgia as a result of vehicle crashes involving alcohol and drugs, according to the Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS). In a highly-publicized effort to significantly decrease incidents of alcohol and drug-related highway death and injury, the GOHS on July 1, will launch "Operation Zero Tolerance: You Drink & Drive. You Lose," a 15-month sobriety checkpoint and public information campaign with law enforcement agencies throughout the state.

According to Yvonne McBride, GOHS director, the program will raise public awareness about drunk and drugged driving, arresting offenders and accumulating data on incidents of impaired driving in the state.

"More than 400 law enforcement agencies across Georgia have been enlisted to participate in this effort," says McBride. "Checkpoints will involve officers from the Department of Public Safety and local law enforcement agencies of nearly all the state's cities and counties. Each has made a commitment to the success of this life-saving initiative."

"Operation Zero Tolerance: You Drink & Drive. You Lose" is funded by a grant from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration through its Targets of Opportunity State Demonstration Programs for reducing alcohol impaired driving. Georgia is one of only five states nationwide to receive the grant. Funds for allied efforts were also awarded to MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) and the Georgia Sheriff's Association.

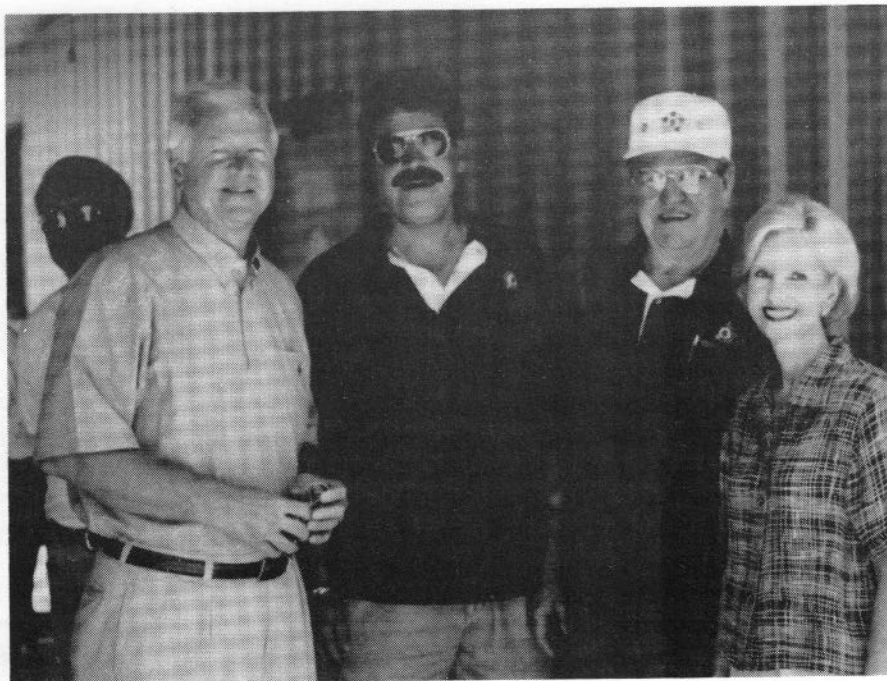
During the 15-month program, drivers will be systematically stopped at checkpoints across the state, beginning the July 4th holiday weekend – a time of year of a high concentration of drunk and drugged driving and highway crashes. McBride says that drivers who are stopped will receive information about the dangers of drunk and drugged driving and may be subject to alcohol and drug screenings.

## W.L. "Sparky" O'Cain Lodge #3

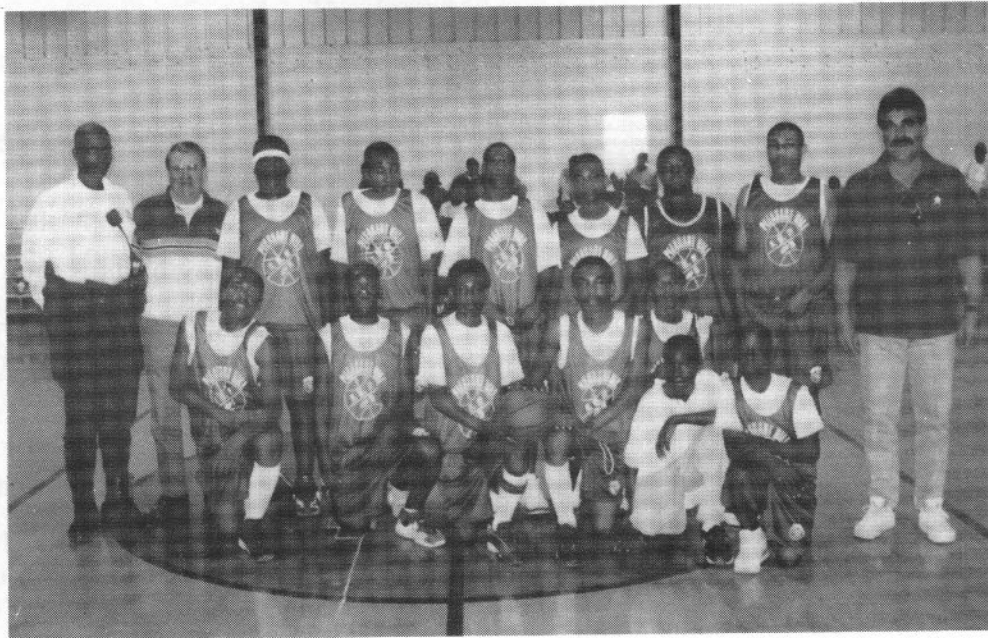
In June, Lodge #3 held a political barbecue rally at our beautiful new lodge building for all local, state and federal candidates running for office. This is an event which we intend to sponsor at all upcoming elections. Attending were candidates for the school board, water board, the offices of Sheriff and Coroner as well as seats for the County Commission and State Senate. We were honored to have as our distinguish guests, State Senator Niki Randall and Congressman Saxby Chambliss and his wife.

Also attending were State FOP President, Steve Bollinger. Lodge #10 State Trustee, David Palmer. Fulton County Lodge President, Howard Billingslea and Fulton County Lodge State Trustee, Greg Winds. We extend a special thanks to these brothers for taking time to attend our rally.

One of our members, a Past President of our Lodge and retired Deputy Police Chief, Charlie Bishop, is running for a seat on the Bibb County Commission. He faces another challenger in November. We certainly wish Brother Bishop good luck in this endeavor. Another member, Jerry Modena, defeated current Bibb County Sheriff and FOP member, Robbie Johnson. Brother Modena will take office January 1, 2001. We congratulate Brother Modena on being elected in a hard run-off election. We wish Brother Johnson well in his retirement. We thank him for his support during his term as Bibb County Sheriff, and we look forward to his continued support.



left to right, Congressman Saxby Chambliss, Lodge President Danny Thigpin, Vice President Tommy Clinard and Mrs. Chambliss.



FOP Basketball team won second place in their division. The team is made up of kids who live in a high crime neighborhood and was coached by Officer Cornelius Pendleton (far left), who works this area as a bike patrol officer. Also shown is Vice President Tommy Clinard, (second from left) and President Danny Thigpin, (far right).

# Frank W. Mobley Lodge #7

As always our lodge has been very productive this year. At Christmas we had our party for the S.T.E.P.S. program. This program of Savannah deals with the severely handicapped children and with our Santa events and the only way you could see their happiness is through their eyes. Sgt. Orr is the head of this program, and our lodge donated \$10,000 again this year to help run the S.T.E.P.S. program through the summer.

We also had our Christmas party for the underprivileged children in our area along with our lodge members children. Our Auxiliary and lodge got together and had a Christmas party for the oldest.

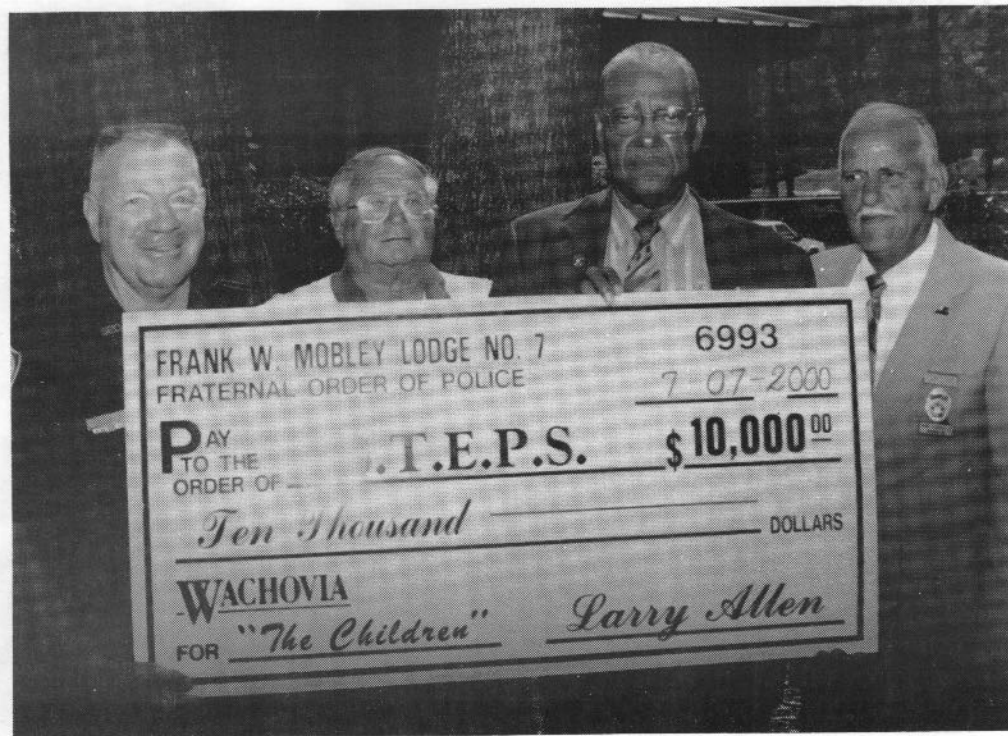
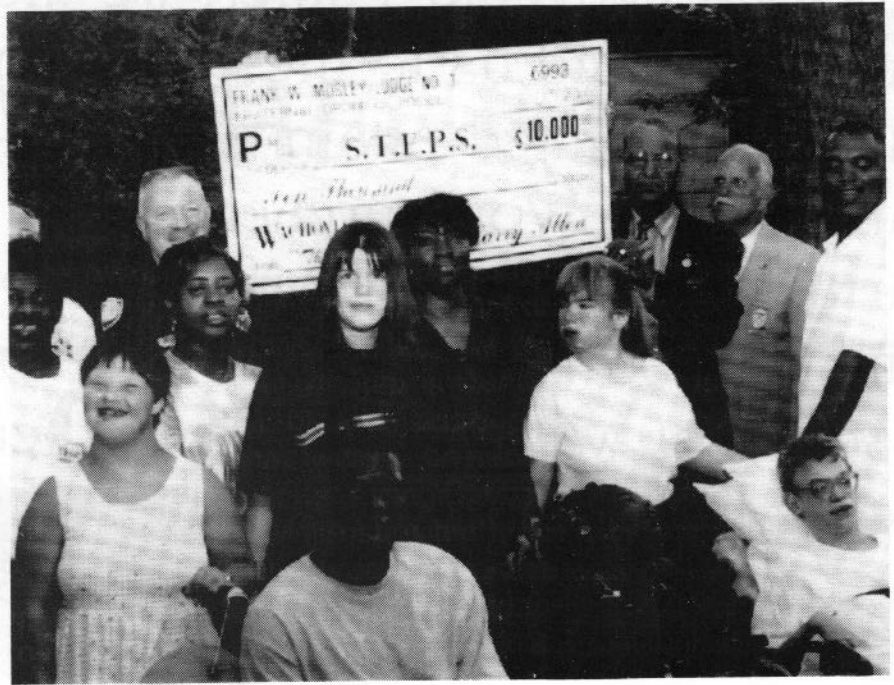
Shop with a Cop was done again at K-Mart and 160 children participated, we are getting bigger and better.

Our golf tournament was headed up by Brother Larry Allen. This is a memorial golf tournament and we were able to raise more money to be put into our special account for a Slain Officers Family if a need arises.

We had several fingerprinting events this year, our largest was at the Civic Center Home Show, a three day event. We fingerprinted over 400 kids with one of our local TV Stations taking pictures.

We only had three of our members and family go to Washington D.C. for the memorial service this year. They canceled the vigil because of rain, but rescheduled for Saturday and the candlelight vigil with the blue laser light was still awesome. Words can't describe the memorial service on the Capitol lawn when our officer's walked with a survivor family. If you have never been and get a chance to go then go.

Brother Willis and Brother Walker are very active in establishing a C.O.P.S. Chapter in Savannah. The 100 club for survivors is 100 businesses each donating \$100.00 each for a total of \$10,000 to be invested and used for survivors if needed.



Gracious heavenly Father, we thank You that You have sustained us to the end of this week. Now we hunger to be fed again with Your spiritual sustenance, Your Word preached and Your Sacrament partaken in the fellowship of Your church. Prepare our hearts that what we do in worship is the essence of what we will do in heaven forever. Increase in us the longing that realization brings and then fulfill it in Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

God Bless

*R.E. Sarge Orr*

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