

DC-COPS News

Washington D.C. Chapter Concerns of Police Survivors

Spring 2009

A Message from the President:

Hello DC-COPS family. I hope this finds you well as we move into the warmer days of spring. Thank you for taking the time to read through this important newsletter – it's full of useful information about our Survivors' Breakfast, National Police Week, C.O.P.S.' 25th Anniversary Banquet, the popular annual golf tournament for DC-COPS, and much more. The most significant pieces of information to discuss with you are our two upcoming membership meetings and the board elections.

First of all, one thing we don't do enough is offer our gratitude for all the amazing hard-working volunteers who organize or help with our events and serve DC-COPS. I also want to recognize everyone who provides us with financial support throughout the year, no matter how large or small the donation.

It's time to talk about a topic very dear to our hearts: DC-COPS. Our organization is at a major crossroads as it moves into its second decade. I cannot stress enough how pivotal our upcoming member meetings and board elections are. In June 2009, every board position with DC-COPS is going to be open to the membership. Each board position carries a two-year term and because of our organization's by-laws (and other reasons), none of us current directors can run for our positions again. That's a crucial detail. I want to be open and honest with you: Although our mission is focused on survivor support, we are an incorporated 501(c)(3) organization, which means we have business obligations and by-laws to follow. This is

where the board comes in. Therefore, our organization cannot exist, practically and technically, without a board of directors, especially without a president.

What a great and proud moment for our members to 'step up to the plate' and become part of the board! It's been an honor for me to serve our survivors for more than seven years – four of those years as president. Many of our survivors, including the organization's founders, faithfully have served on the board over the past ten years. I can't imagine the metropolitan area without the Washington DC Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors. I'm hoping to see the continuation of DC-COPS with a new energetic board of directors. You can read details about our two upcoming membership meetings and board position descriptions in this newsletter. Please note the membership form that's included in this mailing for you to fill out, which will help us with the essential task of keeping our database up-to-date and making voting easier. More information can be found on the form.

There were many other things I wanted to share with you in my message, but I felt this was most important. Therefore, please take the time to read through this newsletter, which has the 'scoop' on a lot of other great things going on in our community. Thank you for caring about DC-COPS. Feel free to contact me with any questions. I always enjoy talking to our survivors and supporters. From all of us on the board: "Thank You."

Sterling Spangler
President
e-mail: president@dc-cops.org



Sterling Spangler



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Mark Your Calendars: Two DC-COPS Membership Meetings

Please Join Us!

As a type of family, DC-COPS is special. In many ways, we are unique as an organization. As an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) charity, we continue to do our best to support fellow survivors. This is a rewarding challenge – all of us have careers, families, financial issues and other commitments. Although there is a board of directors that provides the required leadership, DC-COPS is an organization that belongs to all of us.

We enjoyed our holiday events at the end of 2008 since they gave us the opportunity to see many of you. We want to gather

again and involve you in the future of your organization as well as offer support to each other. Therefore, it's time for two important DC-COPS membership meetings and social gatherings: one in May and one in June. Please see below for more information about each meeting.

Who is eligible to vote in board elections?

Any family member (surviving spouses, children, parents, siblings) of a law enforcement officer killed in the line of duty is eligible. Also recognized as categories of survivorship are extended family members, significant others, fiancés, and affected co-workers. In addition, the member should sign and submit the *Member Information Form* (included with this

MEMBERSHIP MEETING #1

Date: Saturday, May 30

Time: 1 p.m.

Location: Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority 'Metro' Headquarters
Jackson Graham Building
600 5th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

This meeting will be an excellent opportunity for you to energize your involvement in DC-COPS. We'll talk about what's going on with the chapter, ideas for the future, and cover details about the upcoming elections. What's on your mind? How have you been? Please make every effort to join us and bring your thoughts and ideas (and children are welcome!)

If you'd like to take Metro, take the Red, Green or Yellow lines to the Gallery Pl-Chinatown station, use the Arena exit, and walk two blocks east on F Street to 5th Street; or take the Red line to Judiciary Square station, use the F Street exit, and walk half a block west on F Street to 5th Street.



MEMBERSHIP MEETING #2

Date: Saturday, June 27

Time: 1 p.m.

Location: Fraternal Order of Police
District of Columbia Lodge #1
711 4th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

This is another important gathering for the future of the Washington DC Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors. It's at this meeting that we'll hold our elections for a new board of directors. There is street parking and the FOP Lodge also is convenient to the Judiciary Square Metro stop.

DC-COPS needs dedicated individuals to continue its operation and move forward in its support of survivors. It would be a blessing to have no new survivors but reality tells us differently and all of us need to be there. We feel it's an honor to serve on the board and hope you'll feel the same. DC-COPS belongs to all of you.

This election is one of the most important in a long while. All board positions are going to be open to nominees and many of us cannot run again because of term limits. This brings us to the crossroads mentioned in the *President's Message* on the first page of this newsletter. Many of these board positions must be filled for our chapter to continue operation.



DC-COPS Membership Meetings (cont.)

newsletter). You can mail the form to the address listed or bring it with you to the Survivors' Breakfast, the May meeting, or the June meeting.

Who is eligible for office?

The same rules that apply to voting also apply to running for office. However, survivors aren't eligible to serve as a board member until at least one year has gone by since the loss of their officer. A board member shall act as an official spokesperson of the chapter, shall serve a two-year term, and shall perform other duties on behalf of the organization as assigned. Board descriptions are as follows:

President: Shall be the presiding chief officer of the Chapter, preside at meetings and/or conferences of the chapter and at meetings of the Executive Board; have the option to call special meetings of the Executive Board when deemed necessary, or upon a petition of a majority of the Executive Board; submit appropriate chapter reports to the Executive Board and the C.O.P.S. Chapter Coordinator; make appointments to the Executive Board should a position become vacant; shall perform other duties on behalf of the organization as he/she deems necessary.

Vice President: Shall fill the position of President should the elected President be unable to complete his/her term; shall coordinate chaplain services for the chapter; shall work with Legislators and various levels of government on behalf of the chapter.

Treasurer: Shall complete necessary State and Federal financial reports required by National C.O.P.S. and submit to the President for review and submission to the C.O.P.S. Chapter Coordinator; shall be responsible for handling all business associated with the bank; promptly deposit all funds; report all expenditures of the Chapter to the membership at the general meeting.

Recording Secretary: Shall take and transcribe minutes of all meetings; providing copies to the Executive Board and to the National Chapter Coordinator; safely keep the Bylaws of this Chapter and keep records of all official amendments; shall prepare, file, and maintain paperwork required by the District of Columbia laws; shall be responsible for the coordination of written communication in the event the Correspondence Secretary is unable.

Correspondence Secretary: Shall be responsible for the coordination of all written communication on behalf of the chapter; shall apprise the National Office of any and all

changes of the membership including names, addresses, phone numbers, etc., in a timely manner; shall take and transcribe minutes of all meetings in the event that the Recording Secretary is unable.

Parliamentarian: Shall ensure compliance to the common usage and customs of Robert's Rules of Order.

Liaison Officer Chair: Shall be responsible for recruiting 'liaison officers' from the many law enforcement agencies in the Washington, DC metropolitan region so that each can communicate information about DC-COPS events with their respective agencies and also act as points of contact in case their department experiences a line of duty death. One of the strongest foundations of our organization is our relationship to the many area agencies and we want to strengthen it further.

Anyone wishing to be nominated for an elected position must submit a letter of intent to President Sterling Spangler with biographical information by Friday, June 19, 2009. It doesn't have to be an essay but we do want to know a little about you and why you'd like to be on the board (if you prefer paper, the letter can be mailed but should be in Sterling's hands by June 19.) If you have access to a computer and an e-mail account, an e-mail attachment is even better! Please address the letter to: Sterling Spangler, *Election Committee Chair*, 3404 Bitterwood Place, #I-303, Laurel, MD 20724 or as an e-mail attachment to president@dc-cops.org.

Please include your contact information such as phone number, mailing address, and relationship to deceased officer. Upon receipt of the letter, a *Nominee's Pledge Form* will be mailed quickly to each candidate. We must have the *Nominee's Pledge Form* in hand at election time on June 27; therefore, it must be returned to Sterling before then or it can be brought with you to the meeting itself. This *Nominee's Pledge Form* must be notarized. You can do that in advance of the elections but we will be sure to have a licensed Notary Public at the meeting to make things easy for you.

Once you are proudly elected to the DC-COPS board, things will move fast! There is a National C.O.P.S. hands-on training retreat for new board members from July 9-12, 2009, at a lodge on beautiful Sunnen Lake in the mountains of Missouri. Travel expenses will be reimbursed by DC-COPS and you will learn more about the organization and meet dozens of other board members from across the country. Each chapter is required to send at least one member and we'd love it to be you. It's a great weekend retreat. You can make your travel arrangements as soon as you're elected and we'll go over the details at the May and June meetings. ❖

DC-COPS Survivors' Breakfast: A Special Occasion

This year's DC-COPS Survivors' Breakfast will be held on Saturday, May 9! Join us to celebrate the completion of our chapter's 10th anniversary, to remember our loved ones, and to kick off National Police Week. As an organization made up of survivors, it has been our goal over the past ten years to bring many of us together, be part of a close family, and help each other as much as we can. Although we celebrate a special occasion this year, the breakfast is an annual event everyone enjoys. It's our way of recognizing local survivors and supporters.

This year, we are going to put together a picture album of our fallen officers; therefore, if you can make a copy of one

of your favorite photos, please bring it with you to add to the album.

We'll also have a memory book on hand for guests to write their thoughts. If you'd like, you'll have the opportunity to share thoughts and stories with all of us during breakfast. Enjoy the delicious food and good company at 10 a.m.

on Saturday, May 9, 2009. As always, it will be held at Casa Italiana at 595 1/2 Third Street NW, Washington, DC, located at 3rd and F Streets. Please call Sterling at 443-286-3088 to RSVP. ❖



National Police Week 2009 Schedule

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation which designated May 15th as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which that date falls as "Police Week". Every year since, tens of thousands of law enforcement officers from around the world converge on Washington, DC to participate in a number of planned events which honor those that have paid the ultimate sacrifice.

The first official memorial service took place on May 15, 1982. On that date, approximately 125 people gathered in Senate Park to honor 91 law enforcement officers. Over the past 22 years we have honored over 3,000 law enforcement officers from around our nation. Today, the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service has become one in a series of events which includes the Candlelight Vigil, which is sponsored by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF) and seminars sponsored by Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.) For more information, visit the following web sites:

- www.nationalcops.org
- www.nleomf.com/NPW2009
- www.policeweek.org

TUESDAY, MAY 5

14th Annual Blue Mass

Time: 12:10 p.m.; *Location:* St. Patrick Catholic Church, 10th & G Streets, NW, Washington, DC; *Contact:* 202-347-2713; www.saintpatrickdc.org/bluemass.shtml

SATURDAY, MAY 9

DC-COPS Survivors' Breakfast

Time: 10:00 a.m.; *Location:* Casa Italiana (Holy Rosary Church), 595 1/2 Third Street, NW, Washington, DC; *RSVP:* 202-332-COPS

MONDAY, MAY 11

30th Annual DC Area Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Service

Fraternal Order of Police DC Lodge #1 Auxiliary
Time: 11:00 a.m.; *Location:* Metropolitan Police Department Memorial Fountain, 300 Indiana Avenue, NW, Washington, DC; *Contact:* mirellaaux@gmail.com

National Police Week 2009 Schedule (cont.)

TUESDAY, MAY 12

Early Arrival Day

Police Unity Tour Arrival Ceremony

Time: 2:00 p.m.; *Contact:* Harry Phillips at 973-443-0030; e-mail at info@unitytour.com or visit www.policeunitytour.com

16th Annual TOP COPS Awards Ceremony

National Association of Police Organizations
Time: 7:00 p.m.; *Location:* Warner Theatre, 513 Thirteenth Street, NW, Washington, DC; *Contact:* Jill Sizelove at 703-549-0775

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

Official Arrival and Check-In

21st Annual Candlelight Vigil

Time: 8:00 p.m.; *Location:* National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, 400 Block of E Street, NW, Washington, DC. It is advised that anyone attending take the Metro Red Line to Judiciary Square. *Web site:* www.nleomf.com

THURSDAY, MAY 14

National Police Survivors' Conference, Day #1

Hosted by Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.)
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; *Location:* Hilton Alexandria Mark Center (Registration through National C.O.P.S. is mandatory); *Contact:* 573-346-4911 or e-mail at cops@nationalcops.org

National Police Week Challenge 50-Kilometer Relay Race to benefit C.O.P.S.

Time: 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.; *Location:* Secret Service Training Center in Laurel, MD; *Contact:* npc50@cox.net or visit www.secretservice.gov/npc50

7th Annual Steve Young Honor Guard Competition

Hosted by the Fraternal Order of Police Grand Lodge
Time: 8:30 a.m.; *Location:* John Marshall Park, between the Federal Court House and the Canadian Embassy; *Contact:* Ken Roske at honorguard@policeweek.org or visit www.policeweekhonorguard.com

THURSDAY, MAY 14 (cont.)

Shomrim Society Kaddish Service

Time: 9:00 a.m.; *Location:* National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial; *Contact:* Major Jay Gruber at jgruber@umpd.umd.edu

14th Annual Emerald Society & Pipeband March and Service

Hosted by the National Conference of Law Enforcement Emerald Societies, Inc.; *Time and Location:* Assemble at 4:30 p.m. at New Jersey Avenue & F Street, NW. Step-off promptly at 6:00 p.m. March will proceed to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. *Contact:* Mike Roe at 314-304-1915 or by e-mail at mjroe@slmpd.org

Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.)

25th Anniversary Dinner

Time: 6:00 p.m.; *Location:* Grand Hyatt Washington; 1000 H Street, NW Washington, DC; *Ticket Information:* 573-346-4911 or at www.nationalcops.org/anniversary.htm

FRIDAY, MAY 15

28th Annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service

Hosted by the Grand Lodge, Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) and Grand Lodge FOP Auxiliary; *Time:* 12 noon; *Location:* West Front of the United States Capitol, Washington, DC; *Web site:* www.policeweek.org

FOP/FOPA Wreathlaying Ceremony

Time: 3:30 p.m. at the 400 Block of E Street, NW;
Location: National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial

SATURDAY, MAY 16

National Police Survivors' Conference, Day #2

Hosted by Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.)
See Thursday, May 14.

DC Generals vs. Chicago Enforcers Football Game

Hosted by DC Generals Police and Fire Football Team; partial proceeds to benefit DC-COPS; *Time:* 2:00 p.m.; *Location:* Gallaudet University's Hotchkiss Field, 800 Florida Avenue, NE, Washington, DC; www.dcgeneralsfootball.org; for tickets contact tempox2@yahoo.com. ❖

C.O.P.S. Kids/Teens Program During National Police Week Seminars

Two full days of group counseling sessions and recreational activities are planned for the deceased officers' children/stepchildren and siblings (*kindergarten through high school*) on May 14 and May 16, 2009, at local law enforcement facilities while adults are in C.O.P.S. seminar sessions. Transportation and lunch will be provided both days. Age-appropriate fun and social activities as well as evaluations and counseling for each child's mental and emotional well-being are planned.

Children *must be pre-registered* and assessment forms completed, and must attend both days to participate in this program. Once pre-registered, check-in with the C.O.P.S. Kids staff on Wednesday, May 13 (between 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.) at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center Hotel to confirm child(ren)'s attendance.

C.O.P.S. Daycare (infant up to kindergarten): Children/Stepchildren and siblings of fallen officers can attend C.O.P.S. Daycare at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center Hotel during seminar hours only on May 14 and May 16, 2009 with lunch provided. Due to limited space, pre-registration is necessary.

For additional information, visit C.O.P.S. web site at www.nationalcops.org, e-mail at cops@nationalcops.org, or call 573-346-4911. ❖

Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers are needed to ensure Police Week is everything it should be for all of our survivors. If you will be in Washington, DC, during the National activities, won't you consider helping? There will be an additional need for volunteers the late afternoon of May 14 to complete the setup for the C.O.P.S. 25th Anniversary Celebration. Call Eleanor Allione, chairperson of C.O.P.S.' Volunteer Committee at 302-378-8785 or e-mail her at troopersmom4cops@yahoo.com if you can help. *Spanish-speaking volunteers are also needed.* ❖



Keeping Up With the Finances

Here's a simple breakdown of DC-COPS' finances for your information. A special thanks goes to our treasurer, survivor Stacy Slette, for putting so much work into keeping our records up to date and externally audited. Our fiscal year runs from April 1 to March 31 and soon we'll send our audited financial records to National C.O.P.S. If you would like to see a detailed breakdown, please contact Stacy at treasurer@dc-cops and she can forward a PDF version to you.

Summary of Income for Fiscal Year 2008:

- Miscellaneous Donations: \$1,364.22
- Golf Tourney Proceeds: \$12,000.00

Total Income: \$13,364.22

Summary of Expenses for Fiscal Year 2008:

- Administrative Expenses (phone, supplies, etc.): \$1,370.28
- C.O.P.S. Walk: \$1,250.00
- May Survivor's Breakfast: \$892.39
- Moving Expenses: \$281.41
- Golf Tournament: \$252.50
- MALESW: \$214.80
- Traumas in Law Enforcement Seminar: \$937.57
- C.O.P.S. 25th Anniversary Donation/Seats: \$3,500.00
- Other: \$4,236.17
- Holiday Party: \$562.28
- C.O.P.S. Seminars or 'C.O.P.S. Kids' Camp: \$350.00
- Bank Fees: \$36.00

Total Expenses: \$13,883.40

Current Bank Balance: \$20,383.06

DC-COPS also has an additional \$20,000 in a Certificate of Deposit (CD), which matures in November, at which time the board may vote to roll over into a new CD. ❖



Change of Address or Info?

Have you recently moved? Has your e-mail address changed? If so, please let us know! Contact Sterling Spangler at president@dc-cops.org. We want to make sure our membership records are updated and that you get all of our correspondence. ❖

C.O.P.S. Survivor Retreats and 'Hands-On' Programs

National C.O.P.S. will be holding their wonderful and helpful annual survivor retreats over the summer and early autumn. Not all details have been ironed out yet. To get the latest updates, visit www.nationalcops.org, call National C.O.P.S. at 573-346-4911, or send an e-mail to cops@nationalcops.org. Here are the retreat dates for 2009:

- Adult Children's Retreat: June 26–29, 2009
- "COPS Kids" Camp: July 27–August 2, 2009
- Outward Bound: July 26–August 6, 2009
- Fiancés/Significant Others Retreat: Aug. 28–31, 2009
- Siblings Retreat: September 11–14, 2009
- Spouses Retreat: September 18–21, 2009
- In-Laws Retreat: October 16–19, 2009
- Parents Retreat: October 30–November 2, 2009 ❖



C.O.P.S. Mission Statement

Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.) 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 government 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. The Washington DC Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors (DC-COPS) is a nonprofit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. All donations are tax deductible to the full extent permitted by law. We survive solely on donations of citizens and businesses and are always looking for community support. All of our board members are survivors who are volunteers for the organization. ❖

Confidentiality

The National and Washington DC Chapters of C.O.P.S. want to remind chapter representatives and members that we have promised to keep all personal information for survivors and other members completely confidential (which includes our e-mail lists). All representatives involved in managing the organization have signed a *Confidentiality Agreement*, filed with the National Chapter. ❖



Traumas in Law Enforcement Seminars

By Stacy Slette, DC-COPS Treasurer and survivor of Sergeant Gerard W. Burke, Jr. (EOW: 3/23/06)

This year's Traumas in Law enforcement seminar was held February 2-4 at the James N. Robey Public Safety Training Center in Marriottsville, Maryland. This three-day seminar was well attended, with over 100 people in attendance.

The Traumas in Law Enforcement seminar involved four presenters over a three-day period, along with a survivor panel. The first day's presentation was from our own Shirley Gibson, one of the founders of DC-COPS and past president of National C.O.P.S. (and mother of MPO Brian T. A. Gibson of the Metropolitan Police Department, EOW: 2/5/97). Shirley candidly shared her experience from the moment of hearing of Brian's shooting and the steps she's taken to rebuild her shattered life. At the end of this day we also heard the survivor experiences of Sterling Spangler (Lt. Thomas Rettberg, EOW: 2/11/00), Lynn Parry (Sgt. Mark Parry, EOW: 1/21/02), Eleanor Allione (Trooper Frances Collender, EOW: 2/6/01), and Sue Nickerson (Officer Michael Nickerson, EOW: 2/13/01). Each story was uniquely tragic and yet they shared how human spirit – and our peers in grief – sustains us and makes us stronger when all we want to do is curl up and die.

The second day we heard from Ed Sulzbak, a retired FBI special agent and profiler. Ed shared with us his extensive experiences with the FBI with both thoughtful reflection and humor. Both of which are necessary when dealing with the traumas that the listeners will someday encounter.

On the final day, Robert Douglas, Executive Director of The National P.O.L.I.C.E. Suicide Foundation, and a retired officer from the Baltimore City Police Department, shared with us his experiences as an officer and also his work in researching and documenting police suicides with future hopes of prevention. And finally, guest speaker Steve Watt kicked off the last session with a large, cowboy style “WHHOOOP” which quickly brought us back to our seats after lunch. Steve was an officer with the Rock Springs, Wyoming Police Department who was shot four times and left for dead in 1982 but survived and now shares his story of recovery with others.

DC-COPS wants to give a special note of thanks to survivor Omar Morales (Officer Marlon Morales, EOW: 6/13/01), who is Executive Chef at The Original Steakhouse and

Sports Theatre. With all his hard work and coordination, his restaurant and suppliers provided incredible lunches for all attendees for two days of the seminar. The food got rave reviews. On the final day, DC-COPS was proud to sponsor the lunch for everyone. We'd like to thank the Maryland Chapter of C.O.P.S. for sponsoring the seminars as well as all attendees, who drove long distances in winter weather to join us for this important event. Visit www.nationalcops.org to learn more about the Traumas in Law Enforcement seminars.

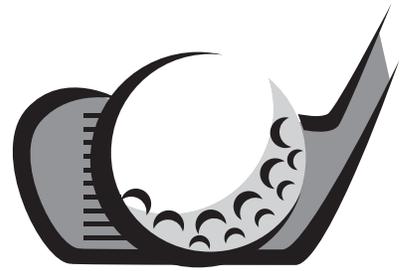
❖

Mid-Atlantic Law Enforcement Survivors Weekend Photos



6th Annual DC-COPS Classic Golf Tournament

The 2009 DC-COPS Classic Golf Tournament is just around the corner. Don't miss this opportunity to support the Washington DC Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors while playing 18 amazing holes of golf at Penderbrook Golf Club in Fairfax, Virginia. This year marks the 6th Anniversary for the DC-COPS Classic Golf Tournament. Once again, we will have golf course attendants deliver lunch to all golfers during the course of play! Immediately following the round of golf, please join us in the clubhouse for an additional complimentary meal as we present great competition and raffle prizes. Registration is sure to sell out fast, so sign up soon. Visit www.copsclassicgolftournament.com for registration and sponsorship information. We definitely need financial sponsors and love finding new players. Please do your part to help us meet this challenge. *Included in this mailing is a flyer about the golf tournament.* Many thanks to Joe Crespo and Greg Alemian from the Metropolitan Police Department for the amazing hard work they put into the organization of this tournament. It was a tremendous success last year! Everyone who attends has such a great time – players and volunteers.



Date: Monday, August 17, 2009 • *Time:* 'Shotgun' start at 9:00 am

Location: Penderbrook Golf Course • 3700 Golf Trail Lane • Fairfax, VA 22033 • 703-385-3700

www.penderbrookgolf.com

This year's golf tournament is being dedicated to Officer James M. McGee, Jr. of the Metropolitan Police Department, End-of-Watch: February 7, 1995.

Mid-Atlantic Law Enforcement Survivors Weekend

Mid-Atlantic Law Enforcement Survivors Weekend (MALESW) will be held from Friday, October 2 through Sunday, October 4, 2009, in the seashore resort town of North Wildwood, New Jersey. It will be an amazing weekend where old friends get to see each other again and new survivors will become part of our close-knit family.

MALESW is unique in that it recognizes the truly forgotten heroes: the survivors of fallen law enforcement officers. Survivors include family members and co-workers. The weekend focuses on law enforcement survivors from the Mid-Atlantic region but fallen officers from other regions are also honored if the survivors take part in the weekend. The event is hosted annually by the North Wildwood Police Department.

The Montego Bay Resort and Conference Center is the host hotel. Since the weekend will be held off-season they are able to offer more rooms at a much better rate. There are

many different types of rooms available at different rates. Rates include two nights' stay, two breakfasts, dinner for one night and a "Beef and Beer" party on Friday night with DJ and dancing. The weekend's inclusive rates begin at \$245 per couple per room. There is a \$60 charge for additional guests. *Registration for the weekend must be done through the MALESW committee* (DC-COPS is not handling the arrangements). The registration form, more details about rates, and the weekend's schedule are available at www.midatlanticsurvivors.org.

Registrants need to submit a \$100 room deposit with their registration forms. Once you check-in your check will be returned to you. (They must do this because people reserve rooms but do not show up and the committee must pay for those unused rooms.) For more information, call 609-522-2411 or send an e-mail to info@midatlanticsurvivors.org. ❖

From Our Members

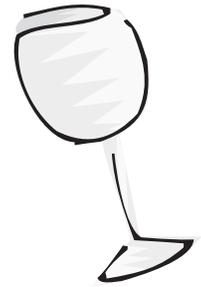
Police survivor Kelli Grim and her family moved to our area about a year and a half ago and are now active members of our larger DC-COPS family. They are survivors of Police Officer Robert Francis Grim, Sr. of the Ormond Beach Police Department, Florida (EOW: 11/13/04). Kelli would like to reach out to other survivor families and C.O.P.S. members in the Northern Virginia area and make a connection! Kelli's husband is currently a Federal Air Marshall with Homeland Security and formerly an officer / detective for 15 years in Florida. If you also are in the Northern Virginia area and would like to touch base with the Grims, please contact Kelli at 703-881-8411 or by e-mail at KelliGrim@gmail.com. ❖

Omar Morales, brother of Officer Marlon Morales of the Metro Transit Police Department (EOW: 6/13/01) has been an active supporter of DC-COPS for a very long time. He is pleased to announce that his son, nephew of fallen officer Morales, recently turned two years of age. His own name is Marlon, named with pride after his uncle. Congratulations to the Morales family! *(A note from DC-COPS: Thank you Omar for all your support for the C.O.P.S. Trauma in Law Enforcement seminars in February.)* ❖



National C.O.P.S. 25th Anniversary Banquet

On May 14, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. a 25th Anniversary Gala Celebration will be held at the Grand Hyatt Washington at Washington Center, 1000 H Street, N.W. Washington, DC.



It's hard to believe that 25 years ago on May 14 the organization of Concerns of Police Survivors was born! C.O.P.S. became its own separate entity so that the organization could welcome the surviving families of fallen law enforcement officers without interference from the politics that exists within and between law enforcement organizations.

To help celebrate this anniversary, DC-COPS has purchased several seats for the banquet and wants to offer these seats to our survivors who would really enjoy the evening. We are offering these seats at no cost to our survivors; however, a returnable deposit is necessary to cover our expense if a seat is reserved by a member but goes unfilled. Therefore, we are requiring a \$150.00 deposit per guest to reserve the seat. When you join us for the banquet, your full deposit will be returned to you and all of us will have a great time! These seats are on a 'first come, first serve' basis. To reserve a seat, please contact Sterling Spangler at president@dc-cops.org or 443-286-3088. Arrangements for the deposit can be made at that time. (The seat will be considered reserved when the deposit is 'in our hands'.) Please understand our need for a deposit: we want to make sure the seats are held and open for members who intend to join us. It's unfair to other survivors who wanted to go if we end up with several empty seats on banquet night. ❖

How to Keep Tabs on a Convict

If you want to keep tabs on an inmate who is incarcerated in the state of Maryland, the state's Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services has a useful web site that offers quite a bit of useful information, including an Inmate Locator, which enables members of the public to learn the housing location of most inmates committed to the custody of the Commissioner of Correction. You can use these services at www.dpscs.state.md.us. ❖

Washington D.C. Chapter

Concerns of Police Survivors

P.O. Box 31549, Washington, D.C. 20030-1549

Phone: (202) 332-COPS

mail@dc-cops.org • www.dc-cops.org



DC-COPS' MEMBER INFORMATION FORM

We are asking you to fill out this form so we can keep our records up to date. By signing below, you will be officially designated as a voting member of the Washington DC Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors (as is now required for all chapters of C.O.P.S.) Please remember you can only be a voting member in one chapter. For example, if you are a voting member of the Maryland Chapter of C.O.P.S., you cannot vote in our elections. We welcome all survivors into our support family and work closely with other chapters, but we must follow certain guidelines when it comes to our elections and other business. Thank you so much for your involvement with DC-COPS. All information provided to DC-COPS is kept in confidence and is for our use only. We do not provide the information to unauthorized organizations or individuals.

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Address (cont.): _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone(s): _____

E-mail: _____

Officer's Full Name: _____

'End-of-Watch' Date: _____ Agency: _____

Relationship to Officer _____

Children (under 18 years of age):

Name: _____ D.O.B. _____

Name: _____ D.O.B. _____

Name: _____ D.O.B. _____

Name: _____ D.O.B. _____

Please provide any additional information or important notes on the reverse side.

Member Signature _____ Date _____

Please mail signed form to: DC-COPS, P.O. Box 31549, Washington, DC 20030. Thank you!