



NLPOA

SONOMA COUNTY CHAPTER

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“El Informante” E-Newsletter

May 18, 2009

Honoring Family, Education, and Community through Service
and Mentorship since 1972. www.nlpoa.org

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President's Message

Two Wednesday's ago I raced against the high school kids for the "Top the Cops" at Infineon Raceway. I won the race and also won (for the second time this season) the Police Officers "Fastest Response Time" award/certificate. This is awarded to the Police Officer that has the fastest response/reaction time of all the Officers racing that night.

There is an electronic timer known at the Drag strips as the "Christmas Tree" which lights up and counts down to start the race. The drivers have to try and synchronize their take off time with the lights on the Christmas tree. If you start too soon, you RED light and lose the race automatically. If you start too slow, your slow reaction time is calculated into your overall time and you can still lose the race. This is known as Drag racing or Bracket racing, and the times are calculated to .000 of a second. A really slow reaction time would be .600 and a fast reaction time would be .001. My reaction time was .018.

Deputy Mike Kirby with the Marin County Sheriff's Department was involved in an auto accident on Tuesday, May 5th and suffered major injuries. He was hospitalized in the ICU at Memorial Hospital. His five year old son died at the scene as a result of the accident.

Mike worked for the Sonoma County Sheriff's Department for approx. 11-years before going to Marin County S.O.

Mike was well liked while he worked here and he is a very good Deputy. He lives in Sonoma Valley and still keeps in contact with everyone. Having lost a son, I know what Mike & his family are going through right now and any little thing we can do to make things just a little easier for his family is greatly appreciated.

I was honored, when I was asked to spend a night watching over Mike at the hospital. Please keep the Kirby family in your prayers.

As the Sonoma County Chapter President, I authorized a \$100 check to be sent to the Kirby Family. Here is the Mike Kirby's website:<http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/mikekirby1>

Sonoma County Sheriff's Department, retired Sergeant Prent Monson, passed away on May 16th. Prent was at a shooting competition in Bishop, California with his wife Kas when he collapsed of an apparent heart attack. An ambulance arrived on scene within 6 minutes but they were unable to save him.

Prent was born November 16, 1943. He graduated from high school in Santa Rosa then went on to serve in Vietnam. Prent started with the Sheriff's Department around 1971 as a Reserve Deputy then went full-time around 1974 and served until retiring as a Detective Sergeant of the PCI Unit. During his time at the department he served on the SWAT team, Narcotics Unit, was the head range master and worked several other assignments.

Since Prent's retirement, he and Kas have lived in Gardnerville, Nevada. He and Kas were very active traveling by RV, cowboy action shooting, black powder cartridge shooting and golfing.

I personally worked for Prent when he was my Sergeant in the PCI Unit, SWAT team, and on patrol. Prent will surely be missed by all that had known him and worked with him. Please keep the Monson Family in your thoughts and prayers.

Please remember to keep all of our brothers and sisters in law enforcement in your thoughts and prayers this month while we honor those that died serving their communities as officers.

Adelante Mario Jimenez.....

2009 NLPOA AWARDS



2009 NLPOA Lifetime Membership Award has been given to three members; **Louis Flores, Sr.** with the Kern County Chapter in California, **Albert Rivera, Jr.** (Posthumously) with

the San Gabriel Chapter, in California, and **Ronald Perez** with the Sonoma County Chapter, in California.

Ron Perez was a thirty (30) year Police Officer and with the Santa Rosa Police Department, California, and he is currently retired. Ron was chosen because of his commitment to this organization and to the mission, goals, and objectives of the NLPOA. Ron has exemplified excellent organization and leadership skills as a Member of NLPOA, Sonoma County Chapter, past Chapter President, and as a twenty (20) year member of NLPOA.

Congratulations Ron!

NLPOA also award **Tina Nieto**, a Captain with the Los Angeles Police Department, California, **Siddeeq W. El-Amin**, Cammander/Captain with the Plainfield Police Department, New Jersey, **George Gascon**, Chief of Police, Mesa Police Department, Arizona, and Commissioner **Tony Ortiz**, Orlando, Florida with the **2009 NLPOA Chief's Leadership Award**.

2009 NATIONAL POLICE WEEK



National Police Week was held this year between May 10th and May 16th, 2009. Each year police and citizens from all over the United States recognizes the service and sacrifice of the fallen U.S. law enforcement with special events held in Washington, D.C. The week events give

everyone time to honor and to forever remember the fallen that will never be alone.

National Police Week was established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962, National Police Week pays special recognition to those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others.

The good news about the events was that fewer law enforcement lives were lost in 2008 than in any year since 1960, when 127 officers made the ultimate sacrifice. In 2008 133 Federal, State and local law enforcement officers were killed in communities across America. All of their names were officially added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. on May 13th. Those names were added along with 255 newly discovered line-of-duty deaths from earlier years, there will be 18,662 names inscribed on the Memorial walls.

Forty-four (44) officers died in automobile crashes, eighteen (18) struck by vehicles and nine (9) died in motorcycle crashes. Thirty-nine (39) officers were killed by gunfire, thirteen (13) died of job-related illnesses, two (2) were killed in a helicopter crash, two (2) died in a bomb explosion, one (1) was killed in an airplane crash, one (1) officer was beaten to death, one (1) officer drowned, one (1) was electrocuted, one (1) was stabbed to death, and one (1) officer was killed in a train crash.

The average age of the officers was thirty-nine (39) years old and they had served for twelve (12) years. The youngest age was twenty-two (22) and the oldest age was seventy (70) years old. Thirteen (13) of the fatalities last year were women, making 2008 the third deadliest year in history for female officers.

“NEVER ALONE, NEVER FORGOTTEN”

CESAR CHAVEZ HEALTH FAIR



The 2009 **Cesar Chavez Health Fair** had approximately 3,000 participants at this year. The Fair provided hundreds of free health screenings and gave out 1,500 free nutritious meals, 5,000

pounds of fresh fruits and veggies, along with a wide range of valuable information and services to support healthy lifestyles.

SANTA ROSA POLICE DEPARTMENT



The new Chief of Police, **Thomas E. Schwedhelm** for the Santa Rosa Police Department was sworn into office on Monday, May 18th, at the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 100 Santa Rosa Avenue. Tom has raised from within the department ranks and has been the acting Chief of Police.

Congratulations Tom!

HUMOR?

A turtle is crossing the road when he is mugged by two snails. When the police showed up, they ask him what happened. The shaken turtle replies, “I don’t know. It all happened so fast.”



When a fellow Army ROTC cadet was kept out of Airborne School because of poor grades, his grandfather was confused. “Wait a minute,” he said to his grandson. “You’re telling me that these days you have to be smart to jump out of an airplane?”



The formula for a happy marriage? It’s the same as the one for living in California: When you find a fault, don’t dwell on it.

ENTERTAINMENT

Fri
5/15
to
Sat
6/06

6th Street Improv
Don't miss the spontaneous and outrageous laugh fest at the 6th Street Improv, where trained actors take suggestions from the audience and perform on-the-spot stories and scenes. Runs thru 6/6/09. 523-4185

Sat
5/30
to
Sun
5/31

Infineon Raceway Celebrates 100 Years
One of the world's most iconic sports cars will take center stage in its centennial year at the Wine Country Classic Historic Car Races at Infineon Raceway, May 30-31. The Morgan will celebrate its 100th Anniversary in 2009. More than 250 historic racecars in all will converge on the Sonoma Valley. In addition, the event will also feature the Wine Country Pavilion, boasting sumptuous food and wine samplings from Sonoma/Napa Valley purveyors.

Sat
5/30

Stumptown Daze Parade & BBQ
This year's theme is "Pirates of the Old West, Black Bart Rides Again." and features a wide variety of entries including horses, floats, marching bands, fire trucks & antique cars. A wonderful event for kids of all ages, followed by a delicious BBQ hosted by the Russian River Firefighters Assoc. It all starts at 11am in downtown Guerneville.

Sun
6/14

Fiesta Filipina 2009
Free Event!!!! Vendors, Authentic Filipino Cuisine, Cultural Dance, Games, Raffles, Music w/ featured recording artist - UBI live w/ F.A.E.D. 12-5pm
Filipino Community Center 332-9659
3361 Fulton Street, Santa Rosa

EMPLOYMENT

Police Officers Standards & Training
www.post.ca.gov
NLPOA
www.nlpoa.org
State of California Jobs
www.caljobs.ca.gov

2009 SPONSORS

LPOA wishes to thank our sponsors and we urge our members to patronize their business.

Gold Sponsor: G.C. Micro Corp., 3910 Cypress Drive, Petaluma, CA. 94954. (800) 426-4276. **President & CEO, Belinda Guadarrama**, has worked hard to make sure GC Micro Corporation provides excellence in IT procurement solutions, since 1986 for hardware & software. It is an authorized dealer of every major product line, including Hewlett-Packard, IBM, Compaq, Apple, Toshiba, Tektronix, Xerox, NEC, Cisco, Sun, Microsoft, Adobe, Symantec, Veritas, Hummingbird and Computer Associates. As a 100% minority and woman owned small business it has won awards and customer recognition.

www.gcmicro.com

Silver Sponsor: First Community Bank is located at 438 First Street, Santa Rosa. First Community Bank is a full service bank with great rates and service. (707) 636-9713
Fax (707) 636-9113 www.fcbconnect.com

Silver Sponsor: Romelli Bail Bonds located at 1150 Coddington Center #2, Santa Rosa, CA 95401. (707) 525-9705. "Get a release on life!"
Owners: Dale & Marie Miller.
E-mail: bailyou@pacbell.net

Silver Sponsor: Gerald Villareal, Attorney at Law is located at 3436 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA. 95403 (707) 527-4044.

Bronze Sponsor: Carlos' Country Kitchen located at 90 West College Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95401 (707) 569-9734. Carlos' is providing a "Saver Card" to members for a 10% savings on any regular priced menu item for every visit. Contact Ron Perez for your card (707) 975-6971.

EDITOR



NLPOA Sonoma County is a nonprofit public benefit corporation and operates under Section 501 (C) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Association goals are to: Promote Equality and Professionalism in Law Enforcement, Recruit Latinos into the Law Enforcement field, and Bridge the Gap between Latinos and Law Enforcement, while Honoring Family, Education and Community through Service and Mentorship.

NLPOA is the largest Latino Law Enforcement Organization in the United States, with local chapters in many cities throughout the country. Its membership includes Chiefs of Police, Sheriffs, Police Officers, Parole Agents, and Federal Officers, all of whom are employed at the local, state, and federal levels.

All opinions expressed in articles or by advertisement in "***EL INFORMANTE***" are those of the contributing writer and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of "***EL INFORMANTE***" or the Sonoma County Chapter of the National Latino Peace Officers' Association. The editor takes great effort to ensure the accuracy of information contained in the newsletter. However, we will not be responsible for errors or omissions or any damage, howsoever caused, that result from its use.

First-time annual membership fee is \$40. All other membership fees are \$60 and payable January of each year. To make comments or to submit articles, please e-mail: BlueRon@aol.com or mail items to: **NLPOA - Sonoma County Chapter, Post Office Box # 31, Windsor, CA. 95492-0031.**