

Winter 2013

# THE COUNCILOR

■ FLORIDA COUNCIL on CRIME and DELINQUENCY ■



2013

## SOME HIGHLIGHTS:

- President's Message
- 84<sup>th</sup> Annual Criminal Justice Training Institute
- Local Chapter News

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# THE COUNCILOR

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**It is with great pride and honor that I serve you this year** as FCCD's 71st State President. I want to thank you for giving me this opportunity.

This year's theme is *"Collaboration: Innovative Leaders, Effecting Change and Promoting Success."* As we have learned throughout the years, working together, combining resources, knowledge and skills, while working toward the same end goal, we achieve success.

Each year we have opportunities to increase our membership, and this year is no different. At the first Quarterly Board Meeting, there were great ideas. Many of our Chapters have already partnered with other agencies and citizens within the community in an effort not only to increase our numbers, but to increase our resources and work together to achieve the goals of our great Organization.

Currently, we are preparing for three Quarterly Board Meetings and our 84th Annual Training Institute. This is truly a collaborative effort. Over the next several months, each of you will play a key role in making this a successful year.

Each year our Statewide Community Service Projects in some way intervenes in the life of a child. As with most of our Statewide Community Service Projects, this year's is one that we have supported in the past, Domestic Violence Shelters. More often than not, when an adult seeks refuge in a Shelter, there is one or more children with them. I encourage you to seek out the Shelters in your area. Give them the support they need to help families heal and recover from horrific events that will no doubt influence who they become in the future.

Remember, *"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much"* (Helen Keller). We prove this each year through Community Service Projects, and the joy we bring to others less fortunate. Keep up the good work.

The recent Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting has reminded us that we have no guarantee for the amount of time we have here on this earth. Therefore, we cannot afford to take life for granted, nor can we afford to put off until tomorrow those things that should be done today. Please keep the families affected by this tragedy, our troops and our families and friends that are going through difficult times in your thoughts and prayers.



Your support and commitment is greatly appreciated.

*May God Bless and keep you all,*

S. Merrell Colchiski  
FCCD STATE PRESIDENT 2012-2013

# LOCAL CHAPTER NEWS

▪ FLORIDA COUNCIL on CRIME and DELINQUENCY ▪

## Chapter 2

### A Will to Live. . . Stop the Cycle.

by Lynn Garst, President

FCCD Chapter II, in partnership with Wakulla Correctional Institution, brought Domestic Violence Awareness to the forefront in a recent affair held at the Harry K. Singletary Training Academy, located on the Wakulla CI property. The theme for the event was “A Will to Live...Stop the Cycle”



*Deputy Assistant Secretary of Administration Michelle Pyle, Warden Jimmy Coker & Guest Speaker Nicky Yarborough*

and included several special guest speakers, members of local law enforcement, messages from DOC and Wakulla CI administration and an opportunity for fellowship as those in attendance enjoyed a complimentary lunch.

The program opened with a warm welcome from Warden Jimmy Coker, who took a moment to express his sentiments about the importance of domestic violence awareness and recognizing that domestic violence affects people in every community...and every work place. Kathy Asbell, Wakulla County Refuge House, was the first guest speaker and began by sharing some alarming statistics about domestic violence.

Nicky Yarborough, founder of Life in the Now Ministries, followed with a dynamic and encouraging message highlighting her personal experience as a domestic violence victim. Through her struggles, Ms. Yarborough conceptualized and drew upon what she calls “Now Faith”, which means that we should recognize the past, learn from the past, but make a conscious effort not to dwell in the past.



*Wakulla CI's Correctional Officer Tasheka Paden, Warden Jimmy Coker & Assistant Warden of Operations Jacob Sorey*

The final guest speaker was Wakulla CI's own, Correctional Officer Tasheka Paden, who is still in the process of recovering from her domestic violence nightmare. Her bravery and perseverance has been and remains an inspiration to many.

Correctional Officer Jamie Smith and Medical Data Entry Operator Melanie Ginn sang a song and the event concluded with messages from DOC's Deputy Assistant Secretary of Administration, Michelle Pyle and Wakulla CI's Assistant Warden of Operations, Jacob Sorey.

## Chapter 4

### Helping Others Is What We Do

by Jill Holness, President

Chapter 4 has been very busy since our last newsletter was published. In June we hosted a Town Hall Re-Entry session with Secretary Tucker, which was attended by many of our members and Circuit 17 staff. In August we donated card fronts to the Boynton Beach Library to assist their youth program. Our August school supply drive was a huge success and many boxes of supplies were delivered to Lauderhill Middle School. We were able to provide refreshments at three separate training sessions.

The 83rd Annual Criminal Justice Training Institute in Clearwater Beach, Florida was a great success. Chapter 4 once again received the Chapter Effectiveness Award and was very honored by having three of our nominees be selected for Distinguished Service Awards. Our Secretary Marny Lewis was the recipient of the Corrections Award. She gave a moving acceptance speech, and we are very proud of her dedication to the Department of Corrections. Captain Darin David Dowe from the Broward County Sheriff's Office was given the Law Enforcement Award posthumously, following his untimely death from cancer. His mother accepted the award on his behalf. We were glad to be able to honor his legacy, which has enhanced the law enforcement community. The Re-Entry Award was given to Thomas Lanahan

of the Broward County Sheriff's Office. He was unable to attend the conference but was later presented with the award by Marny Lewis.

In September our members stepped up to the plate when we were asked to collect toys for the Joe DiMaggio Children's Oncology Unit. In October some of our members participated in a Breast Cancer Walk and a Walk-a-Thon in support of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. During the month, we also collected and donated several large boxes of toiletries



for the women in the AVDA domestic violence shelter. Chapter 4 also collected cell phones in partnership with Verizon Wireless for Hopeline. October was a busy month, as in addition to our domestic violence awareness activities, ten large boxes of food were collected and donated to the Hollywood Community Church during our Operation Feeding Families Food Drive. In November we partnered with Hollywood Police and Fire and Calvary Chapel in Operation Florida Sunshine, which was a clothing drive for Hurricane Sandy victims. Also in November



we participated in the Light the Night walk for Leukemia & Lymphoma and raised hundreds of dollars for their cause. Some of our members donated toys and toiletries for Operation Christmas Child through Samaritans Purse. Our chapter board members donated cleaning supplies and toothpaste for the women that reside in The Haven, which is a domestic violence shelter in Clearwater, Florida.

Assisting domestic violence shelters is an FCCD statewide community service project this year and Chapter 4 will be making donations at each board meeting throughout the state. The other statewide project this year is raising money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. We look forward to putting on our annual talent show to raise more money for this worthy organization. Our chapter is currently conducting a professional suit drive, raising toys for the Salvation Army, collecting clothing and house wares for the domestic violence shelter and selling Enjoy the City coupon books. We will be collecting card fronts for the St. Jude's Children's Ranch for abused and neglected children through the end of February.

## Chapter 5

### Perspective on the Last Training Institute

by Cynthia Brown

I had the privilege of attending the 83rd Annual Criminal Justice Training Institute August 20, 2012 through August 23, 2012 at the Hilton on beautiful Clearwater Beach. This was my first time attending the conference and I really did not know what to expect. The conference was well organized and offered some very informative training. I was pleasantly surprised by the training. I attended training on “bath salts”, retirement strategies for public employees, gangs, food: facts, fallacies and function, homegrown terrorism and recognizing and managing symptoms of mental illness. A



lot of times when we think about training we think that it is going to be long and boring. However, each of the presenters was very

knowledgeable of the subject matters they

were presenting and kept you interested.

You certainly did not have to worry about finding something to eat! Each morning breakfast was provided and each evening there were events with great food.

The distinguished service awards

banquet on the last night was the best. We had a wonderful dinner and heard about all the wonderful things

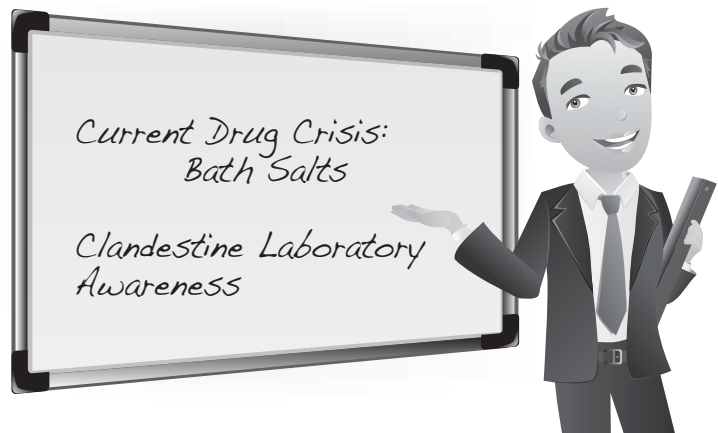
the award recipients had done in their communities. The members of the Florida Council on Crime and Delinquency spend numerous hours of their own time and their own money to make Florida a better place to live and help others that are less fortunate or have been victims of crime. Conference attendees were invited to participate in a Fun Run and asked to bring shoes which were given to CASA (Community Action Stops Abuse) a Domestic Violence Shelter in Clearwater. Attendees were also asked to “Bring a bear because you care” that were presented to the local police department for children who have witnessed or been a victim of crime.

I am very proud to be a Floridian and be a part of the Florida Council on Crime and Delinquency. I am looking forward to next year’s conference.

### Another Chapter 5 First Time Attendee

by Suzanne McRee

I recently had the good pleasure to attend my first FCCD conference, the 83rd Annual Criminal Justice Training Institute held at the Hilton Clearwater Beach. From the moment of my arrival at the event registration area through the closing events and farewells a vibe was in the air – the feeling of a common goal. Staff from all areas of the corrections and judicial fields gathered together as this year’s conference theme was put into practice: Looking to the Future While Remembering the Past. As our agency focuses on transitioning inmates from prison to the





communities, it is vital that we all draw on our past experience while looking to the future for new and innovative ways of accomplishing the task at hand. Each class session that I attended was presented in such a way as to make me look at the issues at hand in a new light. Two of the classes that I attended, "Recognizing and Managing Symptoms of Mental Illness" and "Current Drug Crisis: Bath Salts" gave instruction and techniques specific to correctional staff in being able to deal with inmates in these situations and/or under these effects, creating a

safer environment for staff. As I sat beside a new acquaintance at lunch who told me about the "Clandestine Laboratory Awareness" class that she had attended and how walking into a meth lab is a very real danger in her position as a probation officer, I realized how much we can all learn from one another, when that information is shared. Because of that realization I am even more grateful for the opportunity to be a part of such an organization and would encourage anyone that has not had a chance to attend, to do so.

## Chapter 7

### Thanks First Florida Credit Union

by Jean Leonard

Chapter 7 would like to thank our state vendor supporter First Florida Credit Union. They are not only a financial supporter, but provide training to our members. First Florida Credit Union Orlando's local branch manager Brian Ladd and Jacksonville Regional Branch Director Joe Markley presented 3 classes to our Orlando Business Office on Identity Theft, Financial Fitness, and Credit Scores 101. The response from those that participated was so positive that the personnel office has also requested to have



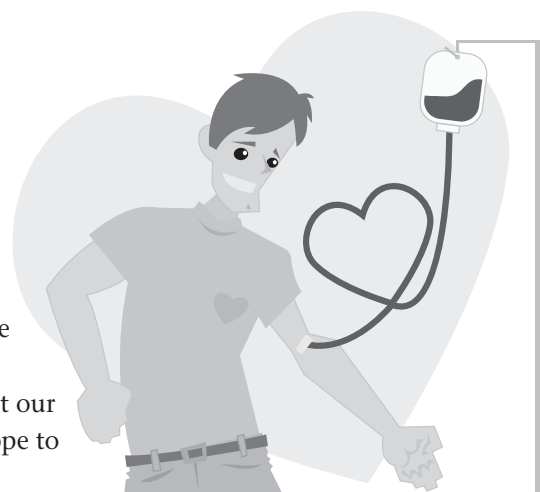
this training for their staff. One of the goals of FCCD is to provide valuable training to staff at no cost. First Florida has come to partner with us to meet this challenge. They believe in our mission and have joined their respective FCCD chapters.

## Chapter 8

### Chapter 8 Gives Back

by Tammy Marcus, President

Chapter 8 in Miami has a regular group of members who donate blood every two months when the blood mobile comes to the probation office we know as THE NATION. There is nothing like giving blood as a means of giving back to the community. Last month we had so many donors that the Community Blood Centers of Florida raffled off two trips to the participants. For the holidays, our chapter is also collecting toys for kids in shelters. In addition, we are collecting toiletries and clothes for women in the local domestic shelter. Chapter 8 is reaching out to a local retirement home to assist our elderly as they are often forgotten about during the holidays. We hope to bring some joy and happiness to those less fortunate than us.



## Chapter 9

### Helping with the Holidays

by Art Gormley President

Chapter 9 has recently completed our efforts to collect food items for Thanksgiving dinners for members of our community who need assistance. Our food drive was successful and now we are collecting for Christmas dinners and gifts for young family members. After all, Santa has to visit so many during Christmas, sometimes he needs a little help. These efforts are being headed up by Janice Flatley (DJJ), Rontrice James (DOC) and Meghan Storck (First Florida Credit Union). Meghan is a new chapter member and has jumped right in with that true FCCD spirit. Janice is our current Chapter 9 Secretary; Rontrice is last year's Chapter 9 President. We are all having fun in the spirit of giving and remembering the true meaning of the Holidays.



Our membership is growing thanks to a number of past Chapter 9 members who have rejoined us in our efforts to provide some needed services to our community. Among those rejoining us are five past Chapter 9 presidents. All of

who are seeking to be active in helping us accomplish our mission.

FCCD is so many things to so many people: professional organization, friends, family, networking opportunities, training experiences, gateway to give back to the community and so much more. Don't forget to invite others you know to join us in our efforts.

## Chapter 10

### Chapter 10 Excels

by Ken Johnson

Chapter 10 is proud to announce our returning officers for the 2012-2013 year. Officers are President Ken Johnson, Vice-President Candace Kennedy, Secretary Justine Patterson, and Treasurer Rosalyn Baker.

Chapter 10 was proud to award the most scholarships for this year's FCCD Institute in Clearwater Beach. Our attendees were very impressed with the annual event and especially enjoyed the outstanding training offered. It was also a great time to socialize with long lost friends from across the state and to make new ones in the process. We were truly honored by the State Board to be chosen to receive the Chapter Effectiveness



Award for this past year and look forward to achieving this honor again at next year's conference.

Our 2012-2013 Community Service campaign began last month, as we were once again active participants in the 2012 Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk of Palm Beach, FL and Back to School Supply Drive for Palm Beach County. Other upcoming events for this calendar year include the Leukemia & Lymphoma Light the Night Walk, Foods for Families Thanksgiving Drive and the United States Marie Corps Toys for Tots Drive. Chapter 10 has also adopted a local inter-

city Cub Scout Troop and will be providing volunteer hours as well as financial assistance to this worthwhile cause.

We recently participated in providing assistance during the recent electronic monitoring training sponsored by Circuit 15 for all community control officers, specialists and supervisors. We have many other exciting training opportunities to choose from as we begin the new calendar year.

Lastly, we would like to welcome our new state officers to their recently elected leadership positions and look forward to working with all the officers and providing assistance when necessary.



## Chapter 17

### Chapter 17 and Tomoka CI Light the Night

by Sgt. N. Wilson

Tomoka Correctional Institution and Florida Council on Crime and Delinquency Chapter 17 joined together again this year to raise money and walk in support of the Light the Night Walk.



The Light the Night Walk is the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's evening walk and fundraising event. It is the nation's night to pay tribute and bring hope to thousands of people battling blood cancers and to commemorate loved ones lost to the disease.

The LLS funds lifesaving research that has contributed to major advances in the treatment of blood cancers and treatments for other types of cancer, such as chemotherapy and stem cell transplants.

Fundraisers worked diligently and even in these tough economic times were able to raise nearly \$800 for this worthwhile cause!

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### Chapter 17 and Tomoka CI Host Fall Festival

by Angela Gordon

On Saturday, October 20, 2012 Tomoka CI and FCCD Chapter 17 joined together to bring fun to the children of Tomoka CI and FCCD! The kids enjoyed animals, bouncy houses, hayrides, pumpkin painting contests, costume contests, games, prizes and tons of candy and food. Volusia County Citizen Volunteers came out and offered finger printing at no charge and the Volusia County Fire Department, Station #15 came out to show the kids how to work a fire hose. Tomoka CI K-9 Team brought out our newest puppies and one veteran tracker to demonstrate how we track and Inspector Herbrand brought a drug dog out to show the kids how the dogs can find drugs.

Staff from Tomoka and FCCD Chapter 17 members volunteered their time during the event doing everything from driving the hayride to making caramel apples to cooking and decorating. With the stressful jobs that we do on a daily basis, this event was a good way to enjoy family time and fun with our co-workers.



# First Time Conference Attendance

by Robyn Pickens

I initially became involved with FCCD Chapter 17 by attending the training sessions that they hosted each month. Within the past year and a half I had increased my involvement by participating in fundraisers, charity events as well as community service projects. I was extremely fortunate this year through my involvement to be offered a scholarship to attend the 83rd Annual Criminal Justice Training Institute. I had heard about this event but really had no idea what to expect. The tone of the entire week was set in the first night when attending the Opening Session and Chapter Awards Ceremony. While I understood the goal of each Chapter to obtain effectiveness and positively influence our local communities, I had no idea the large impact FCCD actually has.

Each Chapter proudly represented their group, their institution or office, and their community. I was so proud to see that our own chapter, Chapter 17 was honored for all of our hard work throughout the year.

In everything we do we should always seek to improve. The Conference provided an opportunity for each one of us to improve in not only our Chapter but also our careers. Having the chance to network with co-workers from institutions and offices throughout the State gave us the ability to share stories, advice and support. Meeting with vendors who provide services to us and those in our care gave insight to our common mission. Attending seminars such as the Re-Entry Panel allowed each of us to join together and share

insight as well as understand the role that each of us has in this goal. Seminars such as Interviews and Interrogations, The Hidden Crime of Human Trafficking, and Clandestine Lab Awareness helped us to broaden our horizons beyond the gates of the institution and understand other issues that affect our community.

My experience at the Annual Criminal Justice Training Institute has provided me with a number of tools that I was able to use and share upon my return to the institution. I have made lasting friendships, new contacts, obtained additional knowledge and a fresh outlook on FCCD as well as the Department of Corrections. I look forward to continuing my involvement in FCCD Chapter 17 and working for an even better year!



## Chapter 23

### Off to a Great Start

by Angela Durden

Chapter 23 has been off to an amazing start. We kicked things off with a very successful school supply drive where over 300 items were collected and delivered to Hosford Elementary and Jr. High School on Friday August 27, just in time for the kids to put them to good use. We had our first meeting on September 20th where the new officers were introduced. President: Angie Durden, Vice President:



Kibbe Sandin, Treasurer: Mike Mayo, and Secretary: Tim McCroskey.

On November 8, 2012, Chapter 23

hosted a Lunch and Learn training event where we welcomed Special Agent Supervisor David Gross and Inspector Leisha Fordham from FDLE's Florida Fusion Center. Mr. Gross shared with the group his



knowledge of K2 spice and other various drugs. This was a very informative training and everyone in attendance was able to take something away from it.

We are continuing to raise money for Relay for Life and plan on visiting the nursing home in Blountstown around Christmas. We can't wait to see what the new year has in store for us!

## Chapter 24

### Community Meeting & School Supply Drive

by James Schweinsberg

On August 15th, FCCD Chapter 24 members from NWERC along with other local chapters hosted a Re-Entry Partnership Public Forum focusing on "Partnering for Fewer Crimes, less Victims, and Safer Communities."

The meeting took place at Gulf State College in the Student Union East Conference Center. It was an excellent opportunity to share thoughts and suggestions on how we can all work



together in facilitating the positive re-entry of offenders back into the community.

A special thanks to FCCD Chapter 24, the staff of NWERC, for sponsoring their annual "School Supply Drive". The supplies were delivered to Vernon Elementary School on August 31st. The supplies will be distributed to

classrooms throughout the school. We appreciate those who supported this worthy cause!



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