



The Gold Star

Third Quarter 2011

Volume 31, No. 3

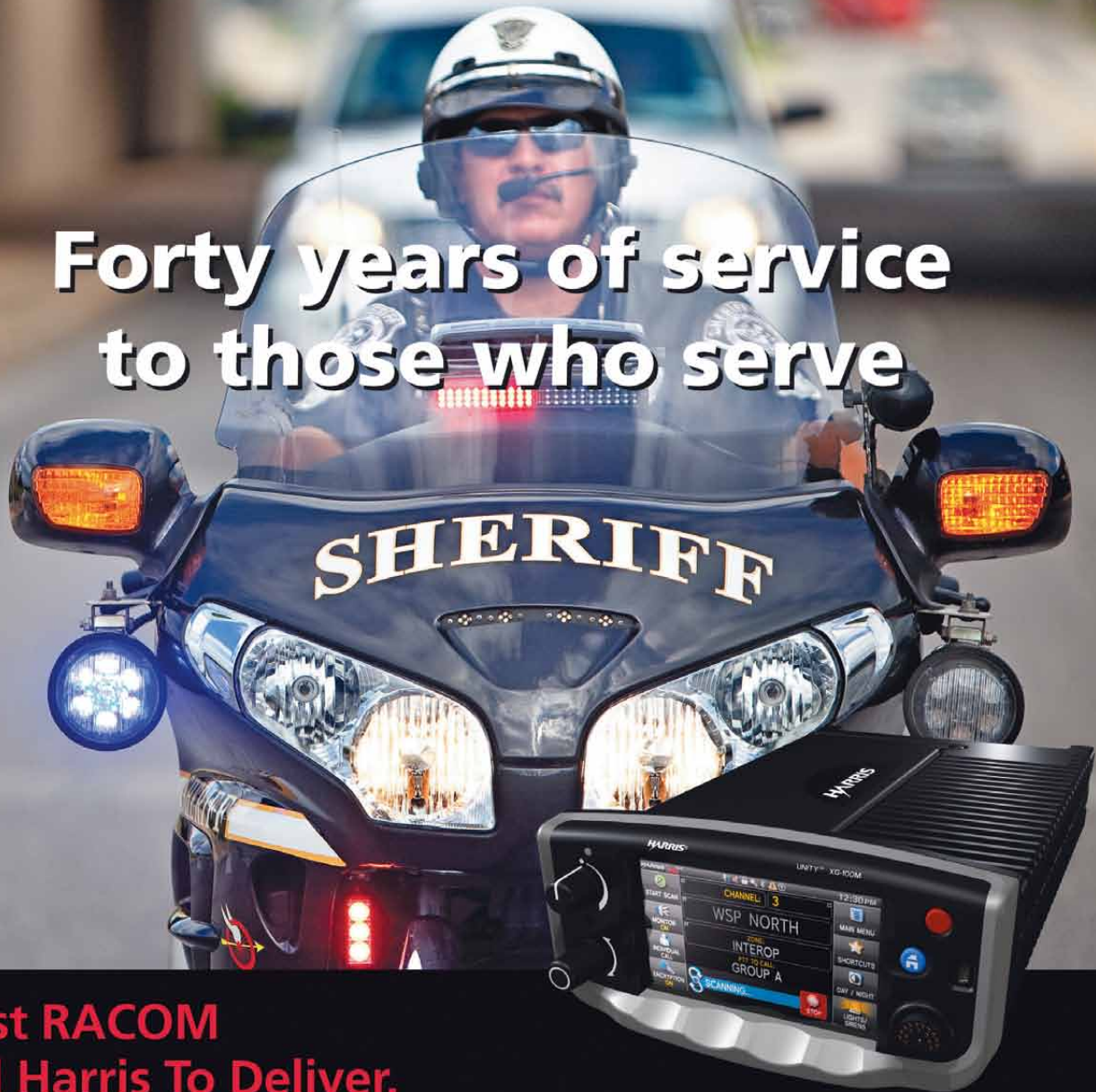
Official member publication of the Iowa State Sheriffs' and Deputies' Association (ISSDA)

Story County's Sheriff, Paul H. Fitzgerald (right), was sworn in as president of the National Sheriffs' Association by his brother, Iowa Treasurer Michael Fitzgerald



See Sheriff Fitzgerald's acceptance speech on Page 8 of *The Gold Star*.

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Attending the Newton Fire Department's 10th anniversary commemoration of the 9-11 attacks: Jasper County Sheriff's Office Deputies (left to right) Tyler Clement, Jeremy Bundt, Josh Britton and John Halferty. Steve Wright is a Jasper Co. reserve deputy and Baxter police chief. Event guest speakers were 9-11 widow Jean Cleere of Newton and Gov. Terry Branstad.

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Deputy Doug Norton

Heart attack takes 32-yr.-old Black Hawk County Deputy

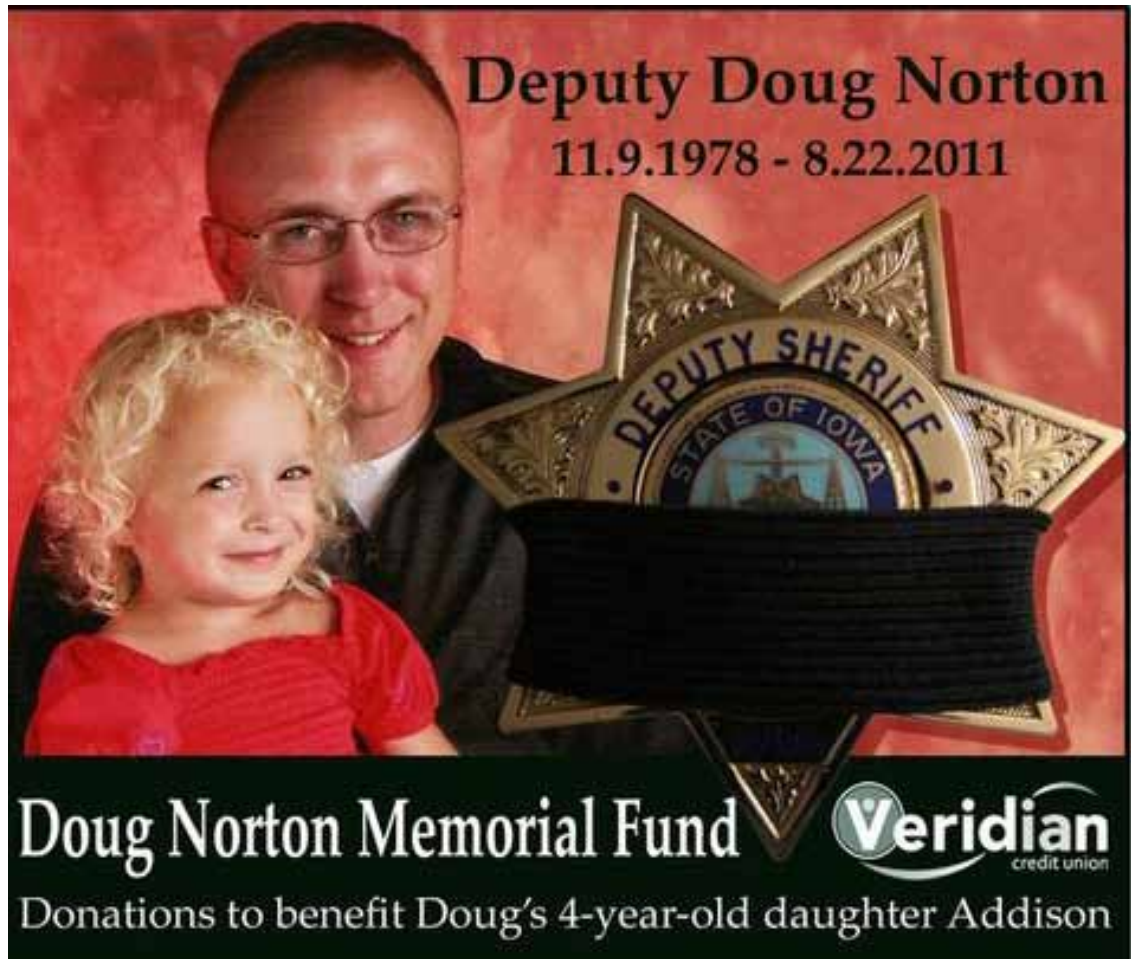
Black Hawk County Deputy Doug Norton passed away on Monday, August 22, of an apparent heart attack at the age of 32.

Deputy Norton is survived by his wife, Melissa and his 4-year-old daughter, Addison.

The “Doug Norton Memorial Fund” has been sent up at Veridian Credit Union to benefit Addison.

Doug started with the Black Hawk County Sheriff’s Office on November 30, 1998.

His visitation was held at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Waverly, and his funeral was held there on August 26.



Wrist Band Sales Now, AMVETS Spaghetti Dinner Oct. 1 Benefit Family of Injured Des Moines Police Officer Phoukham Tran

The Des Moines Police Department is selling blue wrist bands for \$5 at the Department information desk, 25 E. 1st Street, to benefit the family of Des Moines Officer Phoukham Tran, who was seriously injured while directing traffic at the Iowa State Fair when he was hit by a pickup truck driven by a drunken driver.

Also, a fundraising all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner to benefit Officer Tran’s family will be held October 1 from 5 p.m. to ? at AMVETS Post 2, 2818 5th Ave., Des Moines (directly east of Gino’s). The cost is only \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for kids under six, and open to the public. You don’t have to be a member of the club to attend. Funds raised will help defray some of the expenses Officer Tran’s family incurred from his long hospitalization and current rehabilitation therapy services in Chicago.



The Gold Star

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Mourning Doug Norton, Remembering 9-11; Keeping the standard uniform, car striping

It is with heavy heart that I write my quarterly message, as just over one week ago Northeast Iowa buried one of our own, a good man and deputy who worked for the Black Hawk County Sheriff's Office.

Doug Norton will be missed by many, remembered by all whose lives he touched, and his passing will leave a deep void in the hearts and souls of all his loved ones.

As I write this today, I am also in remembrance of the terrible events of September 11, 2001. I believe it is important that we all continue to remember that day as one of the darkest in our nation's history.

And yet, I am moved by the way all of law enforcement – as well as other emergency services – responded in the face of the unknown, pulling together to do a job that kept that day and the days, weeks, months and years that followed safer and from becoming even more chaotic.

God Bless the men and women who, in the face of danger, rose above it all to provide assistance to those in need on that day and every day since!

As we transition into the fall and winter months, it is important that we continue to strive to be the best association in Iowa. We can do so when those who have historically been involved stay involved, and by getting those who in the past have stayed on the sidelines, watching and waiting for an opportunity, also get involved.

Your nominating committee, which is comprised of officers from all four corners of the state and one representing central Iowa, has been working to find candidates to run for office on the board of directors. When you receive your ballot, please take



Sheriff Dewey Hildebrandt
Bremer County

the time and opportunity to cast your vote – and of equal importance – get to know your representatives. You put each of us here to do a job for you, but without your input we can only guess how you want us to represent you.

It continues to be brought to my attention that some sheriffs' offices have been slipping further and further away from the standards set forth by I.S.S.D.A. and code relative to car striping and standardized uniform wear.

I am a very strong supporter of the uniform standards set down by those leaders who walked before us, and I believe they did so knowing that we can only be a strong association if we have standards and we ALL follow those standards. Any citizen of Iowa, any visitor to Iowa and, perhaps

most important, every legislator, governor or other government official that lays eyes on an Iowa sheriff or deputy should easily recognize us by the uniform we wear.

Do we truly want to go back to the days when we had 99 different uniforms and no uniformity in our squad car markings? Only by keeping the stated standard can we continue to be recognized as a leader in this state.

I believe it is time that, if you are a sheriff who chooses to move away from the standards currently in place, you re-evaluate your reason for doing so and consider how your decision is impacting each and every one of us. A professional organization is only as strong as its leadership, and its leadership can only remain strong if those who put us in that role are willing to support long-recognized and valued standards.

Finally, I want to thank those sheriffs, deputies and civilian employees who once again gave of your time and talents to work the State Fair booth of ISSDA. Our booth is always heavily visited and requires a good deal of effort before, during and after the fair to make it successful. So thank you if you in any way helped.

If any of our members have questions or concerns, I ask that you contact a board member. We publish the meeting agendas as well as minutes on the website so you can stay informed, in hopes that you will help us by keeping us informed of your thoughts as well.

Sincerely,
Dewey Hildebrandt, President

Moving?

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Send your change of address information to: thegoldstar@mchsi.com

or by mail to: Bill Sage, P.O. Box 526, Atlantic IA 50022-0526

Thanks for Fair Booth Setup and Staffing; Legislative, Jail, Schools Committees Busy

Greetings,

I woke this morning and realized it is September 1st. Is it really? How long was I asleep? I cannot help but wonder where the summer went. I remember May and taking a vacation, but where did the rest of it go? Ok, I hear some of the snickers out there. Orgel, we'll tell you how long you have been asleep! I know I am not alone when asking where summer went, while we think about the lousy winter weather we will soon be working in. So remember fondly the summer you had.

I want to thank the Public Relations Committee for the booth they set up for the Iowa State Fair. I enjoy working the booth. During my shifts, it never fails that my partner and I receive positive comments about the content and look of the booth. The one question often asked that I can not answer is why the old deputy car is not next us.

I know we had several open shifts at the booth, so I hope that next year we get all of the shifts filled. The general public is curious about the Office of Sheriff, and working at the fair booth is a positive contact to correct misconceptions and answer the



Chief Deputy Don Orgel
Hardin County Sheriff's Office

plain questions they have. I will be back next year, as I know many of you will.

The Legislative Committee has been hard at work, already, planning for the next session of the Legislature and getting ready for the issues that will positively or negatively affect us.

The Jails Committee always puts a lot

of time into Jail School, with good results. I enjoyed attending this month. It was hard to top last year, but the contacts made there always become a resource to take home with you. Large jail or small jail, we have the same problems, different resources, but we all have phones and minds. We can always call a contact we made for a suggestion, and with a little imagination and thought an adaptation of the suggestion can be realized.

The Schools Committee remained busy coordinating with the Jails Committee for the Jail School as they continued working on the winter school of instruction, and planning the associated festivities.

I understand that mental health will occupy a large block of instruction this year. I know the Governor has appointed a special committee on the subject, so let's stay tuned as this subject affects all offices in many ways.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Winter School, till then:

Let's be careful out there!

Don O

ISSDA School Dates 2011-2013

Civil Schools

Holiday Inn-Airport	April 22-25, 2012	\$69.00	three weeks prior to school
Holiday Inn-Airport	April 21-24, 2013	\$69.00	three weeks prior to school

Jails

Holiday Inn-Airport	Sept. 16-19, 2012	\$69.00	three weeks prior to school
Holiday Inn-Airport	Sept. 22-25, 2013	\$69.00	three weeks prior to school

Winter

Embassy Suites	Dec 4-7, 2011	\$105.00	room cut off November 20
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Story Co. Sheriff Fitzgerald Accepts Presidency of National Sheriffs' Assn.



Story County Sheriff Paul Fitzgerald delivered his acceptance speech as incoming president of the National Sheriffs' Association at the Association's convention in St. Louis in June.

(This is Sheriff Paul H. Fitzgerald's acceptance speech on June 22 as 2011-12 president of the National Sheriffs' Association).

"Members of the National Sheriffs' Association, my family and friends: I am honored to begin my service as the 70th President of the National Sheriffs' Association. THANK YOU! Thank you for your confidence in me, and thank you for your support.

As my eyes travel around this room, I see so many people with whom I've had the honor of working in the past. I see past NSA Presidents who have each left our Association stronger and more dynamic than when they took office. I solemnly promise to make my own contributions to this great legacy of work and commitment.

Over the next 12 months, I know that

each of us will continue to devote our energies to the protection of the communities we serve. We will leave no task undone as we work to support, protect and fight for our Nation's first responders.

I want you all to know that, like the 69 NSA Presidents who have come before me, I am resolved to work hard for you and for the NSA. I stand ready in this coming year to give everything that I have to give, to serve with you, and to serve you.

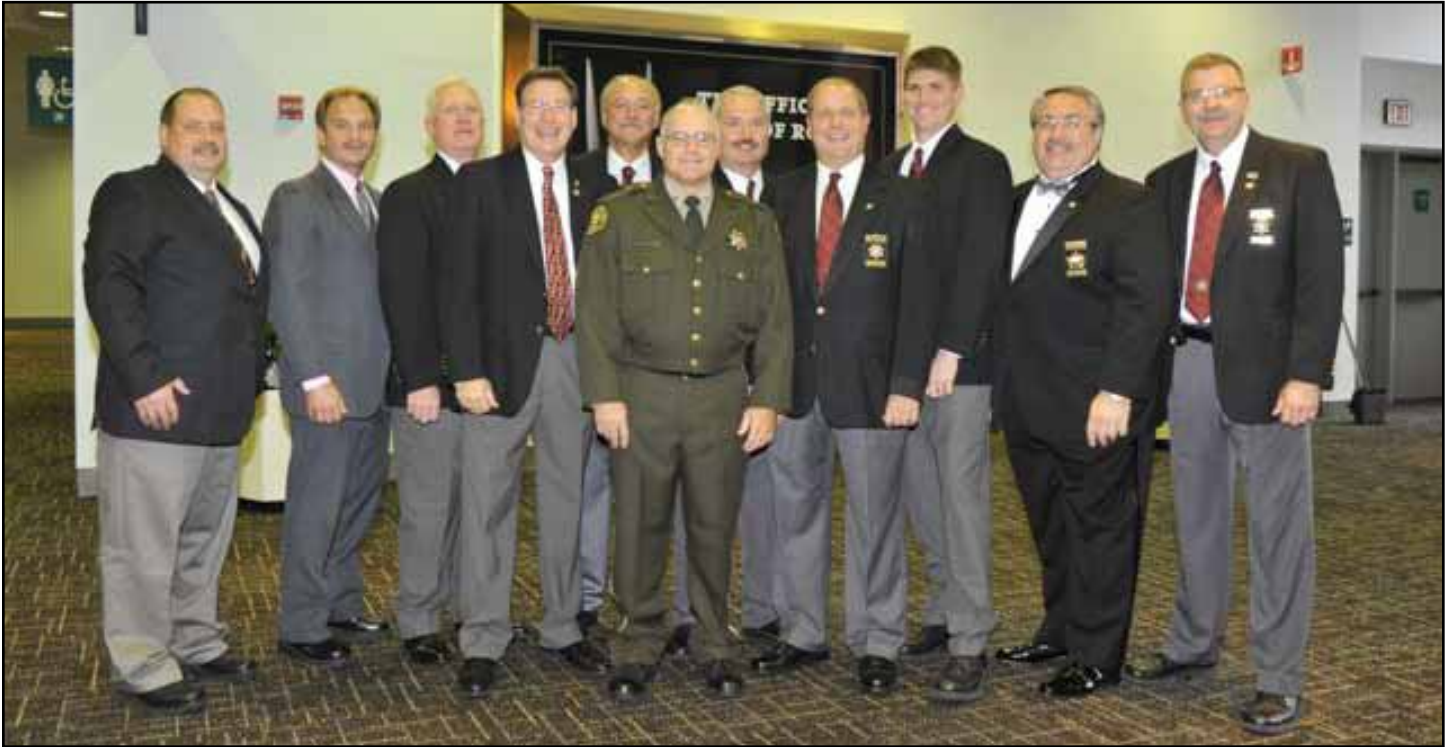
In the coming year, I will be working to preserve the great Office of Sheriff, and to ensure that our Association provides sheriffs everywhere with the support that they need. Our office is often attacked, and we must remain alert to deal with each attack as it occurs. As a matter of fact, in 1994 in my home state of Iowa, a referendum was held to change the status of sheriff from

elected to appointed! That initiative was heavily defeated by the voters. Similar initiatives have been rejected by our constituents in other states.

I realize that most county officials appreciate and respect our elected office. Even more importantly, I believe that our citizens clearly recognize the importance of our work. This is proven again and again as they rally to protect our Office when it is threatened.

As Thomas Jefferson wrote in his *The Value of the Constitutions*, "The office of Sheriff is the most important of all the executive offices in the county." I promise before everyone in this room, I WILL DEFEND OUR OFFICE from those who would do it harm.

(Continued on Page 9)



The Iowa delegation that attended the National Sheriffs' Association banquet for the swearing in of Story County Sheriff Paul Fitzgerald as president in St. Louis included (from left to right): Lt. Tom Parmon (Clinton County), Sheriff Doug Jenson (Winnebago County), Sheriff Denny Hagenson (Hamilton County), Sheriff Randy Krukow (Clay County), Sheriff Paul DeGeest (Mahaska County), Sheriff Paul Fitzgerald (Story County), Sheriff Jerry Dunbar (Washington County), Sheriff Rick Lincoln (Clinton County), Chief Deputy Jared Schneider (Washington County), Sheriff Ted Kamatchus (Marshall County), and Sheriff Dewey Hildebrandt (Bremer County).

Some of you know of my ongoing involvement in the D Block debates and discussions that have been in progress now for many months. This is an issue in which I will continue to involve myself, and with the weight of the sheriffs of our nation behind me!

I will continue to work to ensure that our country's first responders are allocated a dedicated section of the broadband spectrum, known as the D Block, which will provide our first responders coast to coast and border to border with the necessary contiguous spectrum, **which we control**, to help ensure interoperability for nationwide wireless broadband communications. Once this is granted, I will continue to advocate for cutting edge technologies to be placed in the hands of every first responder in the country.

First responders should have better resources and technology at their disposal than is the case today. When the mobile devices in the hands of the average teenager have more capability than the technology possessed by our first responders, **SOMETHING IS WRONG!** I will not stop working until this situation is taken care of, and our first responders across the nation have access to the technologies that they deserve, and which they need to keep themselves and our citizens safe.

Our nation's sheriffs have come together across the nation, forming many Associations. Each association works very successfully to enhance and support the work of its members and sheriffs across the country. In 2006, our 65th President, Sheriff Ted Kamatchus, stood before us and said "3,084 Sheriffs - One Voice." As

sheriffs and as associations of sheriffs, we have the potential to have an even greater impact together that we can have separately when we combine our resources as we face particular issues. I believe that we can do more! There is strength and power in a united voice and as I have seen over the past two years, a commingling of all first responders across America speaking with one voice has had a significant effect.

The NSA, arm in arm with the MCS, IACP, MCC, MC, IAFC, the National Association of EMS, along with APCO and many other first responder associations, has brought us close to a wireless broadband national network which I believe will be a critical accomplishment from which first responders will benefit for years to come.

(See Fitzgerald, Continued on Page 10)

Sheriff Paul Fitzgerald Accepts NSA Presidency

– continued from Page 9

Just two weeks ago, The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation passed the “Strengthening Public-Safety and Enhancing Communications through Reform, Utilization, and Modernization (SPECTRUM) Act of 2011.”

The President of the United States in his budget presented to Congress calls for the D-Block to be allocated to Public Safety with appropriate funding, and the support in Congress grows each day.

The struggle is not over yet. We have built momentum and now we must remain stubborn and continue to push this important issue. Please call your Senators and Members of Congress and urge them to support and to become co-sponsors of this legislation.

I know of no other time when all of the nation’s first responders united in a single voice for a single issue. Ted Kamachus pointed the way. We have seen that the 3,084 Sheriffs do indeed have a powerful voice. And now we have seen what happens when all of our nation’s first responders speak with one voice.

As I serve this year, I intend to explore this strategy. Let us see what the combined power of 3,084 Sheriffs AND the voices of the many organizations and associations with which NSA works can accomplish.

One voice need not be restricted to sheriffs. If ALL first responders combine to speak with one voice on particular issues, there will be no stopping us. This is the vision that I have as your incoming President.

I believe that we have many more successes ahead of us, and I have no doubt that whenever our One Voice is heard, people will listen and changes for the better will happen.

So that we are ready the next time that we need to speak with One Voice, I plan to convene a summit of all state sheriffs association presidents and executive directors, as well as the presidents and executive

directors of the Major County Sheriffs’ Association; the Western States Sheriffs’ Association; the Southwest Border Sheriffs’ Association; and the Texas Border Sheriffs’ Association at our 2012 winter meeting.

At this summit, we will work to identify the issues that would be more effectively handled by a joint venture. We can then discuss strategies that will optimize our ability to effectively work together in support of these common purposes.

Henry Ford said it best: “Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.”

Now, to all of you who are members of NSA, I want to say something that comes from my heart: I hope that each and everyone of you will decide to get even more deeply involved with the NSA:

- Take an active role in the life and work of your Association.
- Tell us what you like and don’t like.
- Hold us accountable.

Only with the help of each of you can we truly create an even more powerful team.

Now, let me take a moment to thank the people who helped reach this place and time:

To my family, my children and my wife, Evonne, I want to say: Thank you for your unwavering faith in me. I could not have achieved all that I have, and I would not be standing here tonight, were it not for you.

I know that I am not alone in this. Each of us has a family standing behind us and it is their support that sustains us.

My life has also been directed by a higher power -- I praise God Almighty for his guidance in the past and I know that I will be turning to him in the future as the path of my life unfolds before me.

Next, I want to thank the outstanding men and women of the Story County Sheriff’s Office. It has been an honor to work with you over the past 19 years. Together,

we have advanced the law enforcement mission throughout Story County and we have impacted the State of Iowa.

A special thanks to Iowa’s Sheriffs for their professionalism and dedication to their county and state. Thank you for coming to support me tonight.

I would also like to thank our executive director and the dedicated staff of the National Sheriffs’ Association for their continued hard work on behalf of America’s Sheriffs.

It would be remiss of me not to recognize the many sheriffs, our friends, who are dealing with disaster in their communities. Wild fires, floods and catastrophic tornados have crippled some of our communities, and they have challenged some of our fellow sheriffs over the past few months. This is the reason that many of them could not be with us this evening.

Their strength and perseverance in the face of disaster is what an American Sheriff is all about! The many sheriffs who came to assist them and who offered their own resources are what banding together is all about.

But let us not forget, we will face more emergencies in the future! Recently I read that the 2011 hurricane season for the east coast is projected to be extremely severe. My fellow Sheriffs on the east coast, and in the south, know that we all pray that the experts are wrong. But please also know that we, America’s sheriffs, stand ready to assist you should they be correct.

As I close, I would like to recognize our good friend and colleague, Sheriff James Allen “Big Jim” Karnes, who passed away just before our conference. Jim’s many years of service and dedication to his family, his community, and to the NSA will not be forgotten.

Thank you all and may God Bless you, your family and God bless the U.S.A.



Harshbarger Named Legal Council for Iowa State Assn. of Counties



by **Kristi Harshbarger**
ISAC Legal Council

I am the new legal counsel for the Iowa State Association of Counties (ISAC), and I wanted to take this opportunity to tell you a little bit about myself.

I am grew up in Mediapolis, Iowa, and attended the University of Iowa for my undergrad degree in journalism with a minor in political science. Next, I headed to Drake University for law school, where I focused on business law. I also participated in Drake's Children's Rights Clinic, where I was a guardian ad litem for Children in Need of Assistance. I clerked at the Brick Gentry law firm and the Ahlers & Cooney law firm during school. In both of these positions, I assisted on a variety of legal issues in the litigation and business arenas, including some work related to local government laws and Iowa's open meetings and open records statutes.

I decided to stay in the Des Moines area after graduation by accepting a position with the Brown Winick law firm. I spent the next four and half years working in the firm's business department. I worked on a broad variety of legal issues for the firm's business clients, including tax matters, contract review and negotiation, and equity and debt financing. The firm worked with many biodiesel and ethanol plants, so I had the opportunity to visit various Iowa communities and witness the development of the renewable fuels industry in our state. While my legal background is

broad, I am excited for new challenges and issues through my work for ISAC and hope to develop additional areas of expertise that will benefit ISAC and its members. I like researching detailed rules and regulations, which should make problem solving for the variety of questions that will come my way as ISAC's legal counsel enjoyable.

I was married on April 9 at Living History Farms, and we were so lucky to have a spring day that felt like summer. My husband, Dan, is from Ft. Atkinson, Iowa and

graduated from Iowa State University – so we are one of those “a house divided” families. Between Dan and myself, we have family in three corners of the state.

As ISAC's new legal counsel, I am really looking forward to the chance to visit more of Iowa's communities, and meet more of the great people that live and work throughout our state. If you want to know any more about me, or have anything you would like me to work on with you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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170 Attend Jail School Held Sept. 11-14 in Des Moines



The above left photo shows the registration desk on Monday morning with the new ISSDA Flag for sale overhead. In the right photo, the colors were presented by the Polk County Honor Guard.



ISSDA President Dewey Hildebrandt Welcomed everyone.



Attorney Douglas Phillips, of the Klass Law Firm, discussed legal Issues.



Adam Autico, ICE, talked about immigration procedures.

Article and photos by Rick Penning
Grundy County Sheriff

The Iowa State Sheriffs' & Deputies' Association 2011 Jail School convened

at the Airport Holiday Inn in Des Moines from Sunday, Sept. 11 through Wednesday, Sept. 14.

On Sunday afternoon, registration was available to the early arrivals, while

the evening included pizza, sandwiches, snacks and networking among attendees.

Monday morning, registration continued with numerous members taking advantage of ISSDA jewelry and clothing sales.



The ISSDA Jail Committee members at the Jail School were (left to right) Mike Simons, Lynette Redden, Don Orgel, Mark Hervey, Kelly Hafner, Natalie Hosch, Shad Stoeffler, Larry Septer, Stu DelaCastro and Reinhard Boeschen.



In the left photo, Craig Mastke, ILEA, instructed on report writing. Middle photo: Chief Jail Inspector Delbert Longley talking about new web-based jail reporting. At right: Mike Stueckrath, Des Moines P.D., talking about Gangs MGIA.

The Presentation of Colors was made by the Polk County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard, the invocation was given by Chaplain John Harrell, and opening remarks followed by ISSDA President Dewey Hildebrandt.

The President announced this is the first year that a full-time employee, such as jailer, can run for the ISSDA Board of Directors – formerly an option only available to sheriffs and deputies. Please contact

President Hildebrandt immediately if you are interested.

Jerry Dunbar, Legislative committee, reported this is an "IPERS" year, which means benefits and retirement issues can be addressed in the Iowa Legislature. Sheriff Dunbar also stated other issues that will probably be addressed include: Alaska carry law vs. Iowa weapon permits, Office of Drug Control Policy and traffic violations

under Chapter 321.288, and "fail to have control."

The morning session opened with attorney Douglas Phillips of the Klaas Law Firm in Sioux City discussing "Legal Issues in the Jail." Topics covered included inmate marriages in jails, the peace officer bill of rights, TASERS in jails, inmate ac-

(See *Jail School*, continued on Page 14)

DeSotel Sworn as Jones County's New Sheriff

By Steve Gravelle
SourceMedia Group News

Retirement just didn't work out for Jones County's new sheriff.

"After your retire, sometimes you think, 'Wow this is great,'" Harvey DeSotel said this morning, minutes after being sworn in. "And sometimes your life takes a turn."

Meeting in special session, county supervisors voted 3-2 this morning to appoint DeSotel to serve out the term of Mark Denniston, who submitted his resignation May 24. DeSotel was sworn in at 10:30 a.m.

Supervisors Leo Cook, Joe Cruise, and Kate Dirks voted in favor of DeSotel's appointment, county auditor Janine Sulzner said. Ned Rohwedder and Wayne Manternach dissented.

DeSotel, 61, Anamosa, retired in 2007 as a sergeant from the Linn County Sheriff's Office after 30 years. Before that, he was a member of Anamosa's police department the town marshal in Oxford Junction, Wyoming, and Oelwein.

DeSotel began work for the Jones County Sheriff's Office on the courthouse security detail a few months after his retirement.

Denniston recommended DeSotel, a retired Linn County sheriff's deputy, to fill out his term. Rick LaMere, a retired Drug Enforcement Agency agent, also applied for the job. Supervisors interviewed the applicants Tuesday.

"He wanted to have somebody in the department who knew the department and knew the runnings of the department to finish out the remaining term," said DeSotel. "Since I'm retired, I wouldn't afraid of losing my job like some of the deputies" when the current term ends.

That term is up in 2012. DeSotel said he hasn't decided if he'll run then.

"People have asked me that," he said. "To be quite honest, I'm not sure. There's a lot of circumstances and I don't want to evade the issue, but you never say never."

County residents have two weeks to file a petition for a special election to fill the



Jones Co. Sheriff Harvey DeSotel

position, but "I haven't heard anything on that," Sulzner said.

Denniston, 51, has been Jones County sheriff since 1996, and was last re-elected in 2008. He started as a deputy in 1983.

Jail School, continued

cess to the law library, and strip searches.

Adam Autio and Kevin Donnelly of ICE then advised of their policies and procedures when dealing with inmates who are illegal. They urged everyone to call their office if an inmate's legal status is in question, and they will assist in research.

Following a delicious and filling hot beef lunch, the first afternoon session was by Craig Mastke, of ILEA, discussing the need for precise and timely report writing.

Woodbury Chief Deputy Greg Logan then talked on "Contingency Plans for Jails." The last class was FBI Special Agent Scott James alerting everyone to "Suicide Awareness and Intervention."

On Tuesday morning, Chief Jail Inspector Delbert Longley started the day reporting that DOC will be switching to web-based reporting for each month's jail stats. Ten counties will test the system in September with the hope of implementing

it statewide around January 1, 2012.

Mike Stueckrath, Des Moines P.D., then talked about gangs in their city and the amount of graffiti cases they deal with, along with removal costs.

Don DeKoch updated everyone on "Critical Incident Management" and how it assists first responders, whether they be law, fire, or EMS and how to include communication dispatchers.

Willis Roberts, former ILEA instructor, then discussed the need to "Decide Something, Please." The lack of decision making can be detrimental to an office.

Tuesday afternoon, following the chicken dinner, Don DeKoch returned to the podium and discussed the issues of social networking / Facebook. DeKoch reminded the audience that employees often forget that the entire internet can view what you post, and it may affect your current and future jobs and your future life.

John McPhee, Fire Service Training Bureau, then prepared us for emergencies such as fires in the work place and fire behavior.

The day ended with Major John Godar, Linn County, updating members on the ISSDA website and, again, he encouraged everyone to get logged in on the new system to keep current on issues within the Association and throughout the State.

Simply go to "ISSDA.org" and then contact Godar at Linn County if you need assistance with your personal access.

On Wednesday morning, Teama McGregor, DOC, updated attendees on the upcoming PREA issues in jail. The final draft is expected by January of 2012, with compliance in January 2013.

The final session was U.S. Marshal Ken Runde and Deputy Bill Kiesau talking on "Transportation/ Court Security/ Weapons." (continued on Page 15)

30 Years of Linn County Sheriffs Remembered at Photo Session



The current and all living former Linn County Sheriffs of the last 30 years recently met for a group photo session.

This group included (front left) current Sheriff Brian D. Gardner (2009 to the pres-

ent), at front right is former Sheriff Orlie J. Workman (1977 to 1980); in the back left is former Sheriff Dennis H. Blome (1985 to 1994); and at the back right is former Sheriff Donald D. Zeller (1994 to 2008).

Deceased former Sheriffs from this three-decade period include interim Sheriff Dennis L. Fiser (1994) and former Sheriff Donald "Buzz" Sawyer (1981 – 1984).

Jail School, continued



At left, Teama McGregor of the Iowa DOC talked about new PREA regulations.

At right, Willis Roberts, former ILEA instructor, talked on decision making.



Jasper Co. Deputy J. Dittmer Presented GTSB Award for Enforcement & Safety

At the Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau conference in April, Jasper County Deputy Sheriff Jeremy Dittmer was presented the DPS Commissioner's Special Award for Traffic Safety for outstanding service to the cause of reducing injuries and loss of life in traffic crashes in Iowa.

According to the presentation, Deputy Dittmer excels in the area of traffic enforcement and safety. He participates in nearly all special traffic safety projects and checkpoints, as well as coming up with new and innovative ideas to conduct special projects.

In the past year, Deputy Dittmer arrested 27 individuals for OWI, 21 individuals for driving under suspension, revoked or barred; 12 individuals for open container violations, 13 for possession of alcohol while under the age, one for providing alcohol to a minor, and ten individuals for intoxication.

There is no doubt these arrests by Officer Dittmer may have prevented an unknown number of crashes, injury and death on our roadways.



Iowa Dept. of Public Safety Commissioner Larry Noble presented Deputy Jeremy Dittmer with the DPS Commissioner's Special Award for Traffic Safety.

Polk County's Lt. Jim Brown Elected to the NIAIA Executive Committee



Congratulations to Lt. Jim Brown, Polk County Sheriff's Office, who was recently

elected to the Executive Committee of the National Internal Affairs Investigators Association, where he serves as the Chairperson of the Midwest Region.

The N.I.A.I.A. consists of a combination of 411 federal, state, county, and municipal law enforcement agencies. The Midwest Region is comprised of 11 states.

Lt. Brown has served with the Polk County Sheriff's Office for 27 years, and currently heads its Office of Professional Standards.

Throughout his career, Lt. Brown has proudly been assigned to nearly all of the divisions that make up the Polk County

Sheriff's Office.

The N.I.A.I.A. is not an investigative agency, but is the only national professional association dedicated to the education, development and assistance of the internal affairs units and their investigators.

The benefits of membership include contacts with other departments in nearby areas, as well as around the nation, and an annual training conference that focuses on issues of concern and interest to internal affairs investigators.

For more information on N.I.A.I.A., go to <http://www.niaia.us> and on Facebook under "NIAIA".

AMVETS Cedar Rapids Post 6 Donates Toy Bears to Linn Co. Sheriff's Office

Members of the AMVETS Cedar Rapids Post 6 presented the Linn County Sheriff's Office with a supply of stuffed bears for deputies to give to children they encounter in stressful situations during the course of their duties.

The use of stuffed animals has shown to be a method of calming children involved in distressing situations. Post 6 fundraising provided the monies utilized to purchase the bears.



Bear Donations: AMVETS Cedar Rapids Post 6 Commander Donald A. King III (left), Linn County Sheriff Brian Gardner (center), and AMVETS Cedar Rapids Post 6 Provost Marshal Dean Varner (right) hold bears donated by AMVETS to the Linn County Sheriff's Office.



Come Join the ISSDA Auxiliary

I would like to take a quick moment to invite all spouses to participate in the the Iowa State Sheriffs & Deputies Association Auxiliary. We will be having our annual meeting at the Winter School in Des Moines, which begins December 4, 2011. Come and enjoy networking with others while we support the ISSDA.

If you have any questions or want more information feel free to contact me by email at: issdaaux@hotmail.com

Thank you,
Pamela Dunbar
President, ISSDA Auxiliary

Protection Against Telephone Fraud

By Sgt. Steven Parker, Retired

The telephone is among the greatest inventions of the modern age. From the early days of the local operator and party lines, to the modern wireless and Internet phone, the telephone age has connected us with loved ones, made our lives more convenient and provided many services at our finger tips.

However, telephones are also prime targets of fraud and confidence swindle games. By educating yourself about telephone fraud and knowing how to spot and prevent these frauds, you can save yourself much heartache from becoming a victim.

Voice Mail Fraud

Hackers can compromise your voice mail system to make collect, third party or direct dial calls at your expense. Voice mail vendors provide new customers with a default password – usually an easily guessed combination such as 1, 2, 3, 4. If you don't change the password, hackers can guess it quickly and break into your phone system.

Once a hacker knows your password, he or she can use it to make international calls at your expense. A safety tip is always change your default password immediately by choosing a complex voice mail password of at least six digits and change it frequently.

Phone Subscriber Fraud

A criminal who obtains your personal information can use it to set up a cell phone account in your name. Charges can go on for years without your knowledge. People who are victims of identity theft often find that they are also victims of cell phone subscriber fraud. Keep personal information including Social Security, credit card, bank account numbers, your mother's maiden name, and your birth date private so they cannot be used by someone else.

Phone “Slamming”

A common scheme results when a fraudulent carrier changes your long distance phone service without your permission or knowledge. This usually results in higher charges for long distance calls on your telephone bill. You may be deceived



Sgt. Steven Parker, Retired

into agreeing to switch your service by entering a contest and not reading the fine print, which authorizes the switch. Read your phone bill carefully each month, and make sure you still have the long distance company you selected.

Phone “Cramming”

As a consumer, you may choose to have legitimate charges for services such as voice mail, paging and calling cards added to your telephone bill. This may result in a long and complicated statement. Phone “Crammers” take advantage of confusing telephone bills by sneaking other charges you never authorized onto your telephone bill, figuring you will not notice. Always check your phone bill carefully to make sure you are paying only for the services you authorized.

Calling Card Number Scams

Criminals representing themselves as telephone company representatives may contact you and ask for verification of your calling card number to check for unauthorized charges, and then use it to make international calls. Never give out personal information on the telephone. Call your phone company directly for verification that there is a problem with your calling card.

Call “Splashing”

Call slashing can happen when you

place a call from a public telephone. You may believe that you are using your preferred long distance carrier, but your call is actually routed first to a distant call center. As a result, you will be billed as if you made the call from the distant location rather than from your actual location, and incurring higher rates. Call splashing is only legal if you request that the call be transferred to a different carrier's operator or you consent to this practice. Don't consent to any call transfers unless you understand what the operator is asking.

809 Area Code Scam:

You may receive an urgent message on your answering machine or pager requesting that you call a number immediately, usually because of a family emergency. When you call the number, you discover that the call has nothing to do with your family.

The 809 area code is actually the country code for the Dominican Republic, and later an expensive phone charge shows up on your phone bill. Always know where you're calling before you dial. While it is usually necessary to dial 011 to reach an international location, some international locations have telephone numbers that resemble domestic long-distance calls.

International Modem Dialing:

If you use a dial-up modem to connect to the Internet, and download a “viewer” or “dialer” computer program usually offered for free to access a site, the program may disconnect your modem and then reconnect it to the Internet through an international long distance number without your knowledge or authorization. You will then receive a large international phone bill.

Install a dedicated phone line for your computer that is restricted to local calls. If that is not possible, watch out for any program that allows your modem to redial to the Internet without your direction. Cancel the connection, and check the number your modem is dialing.

Protect Yourself from Telephone Fraud and Help McGruff “Take A Bite Out Of Crime”

Photo and article reprinted with permission from the Mount Ayr Record-News

Ringgold County's K-9 Murphy in State Animal Hall of Fame

Photo courtesy of the Mount Ayr Record-News



It's official. Murphy, Ringgold county's K-9 dog, has been inducted into the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association's Iowa Animal Hall of fame.

Murphy and his handler, Deputy Shannon Arends, received the honor in April at an awards ceremony during the "Raise Your Paw Auction" in Des Moines, a fund-raiser for the Animal Rescue League of Iowa.

According to the citation, Murphy, a German shepherd, is well-qualified in all areas of apprehension, search, tracking and drug detection. During his 18-month tenure, he has

been very active and achieved some major accomplishments.

The dog is certified through Rivera Police K-9 and the Heart of America Police K-9 Association. The dog has received praise

from judges while in certification as one of the most outstanding narcotic dogs ever seen.

Deputy Arends believes that Murphy is a great hero and has always show his bravery and ability to carry out his duties by risking his life to keep Ringgold County safe.

"He is a great partner and friend and the Department is very lucky to have him as part of the team," Deputy arends said.

Murphy has been involved in over 53 narcotic-related arrests attributed to his direct efforts within the last 18-20 months and nearly 51 felony charges related to illegal narcotics.

The dog has been so successful in the County that narcotics officers from surrounding areas report very little intelligence about drugs coming into Ringgold County from other areas.

Drug dealers have a fear of getting caught in bringing drugs into the County and personal drug use is also down, and the amount of warrants executed in the County down by 75 percent this year.

"This is a direct result of Murphy's success," Arends said.

To help the County pay for the costs of having the K-9 program, a benefit fund-raiser was held on April 30 at the Mount Ayr American Legion building. The Mount Ayr Lion's Club served a free-will offering spaghetti supper, followed by an auction and dance. Auction items were listed on K-9 Murphy's Facebook page. Raffle tickets were sold at Jami's Coffee Mill and Deli, the Hilltop Veterinary Clinic and the Ringgold County Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Kamatchus Honored for Providing Facility for IAI Basic Crime Scene School

On May 5, the Iowa International Association for Identification (IAI) presented Marshall County Sheriff Ted Kamatchus with a plaque in honor of his service to the organization.

For more than 10 years, Sheriff Kamatchus has provided the Iowa I.A.I. with the training facility to host the Iowa I.A.I. Basic Crime Scene School.

Several hundred law enforcement personnel from a variety of agencies throughout the state have benefited from his generosity of making the five-day, hands-on crime scene school possible each year.

With the facility at Marshall



County, participants have been able to apply what is taught in the classroom sessions through the various hands-on workshops at the facility.

As a continuation of the basic course, the Iowa I.A.I. has also been able to teach a three-day advanced school at the Marshall County facility during the past couple years.

The Iowa I.A.I. was formed in 1963, and has more than 200 active, life, and associate members who are proud to present this resource for the study of law enforcement forensics.

The Iowa I.A.I. website is at <http://www.iowaiai.org/index.html>.

In the photo, Iowa I.A.I. President Herve Denain (left) presented a plaque to Marshall County Sheriff Ted Kamatchus during the 2011 Iowa I.A.I. Conference in appreciation of his support and service to the I.A.I. and the law enforcement community.

Linn Co. Sheriff's Office Finance Division Receives County's Teamwork Award



Recognized by county award: (left to right) Major Doug Riniker nominated the Linn Co. Sheriff's Office Finance Division for the award, presented to Linda Meyer, Rae DeKlotz, Jenni Pirc, Melissa Ash, and Christine Garity. Not shown is Janine DeVries.

The Linn County Sheriff's Office Finance Division received the County's quarterly "Teamwork Award" at the July 13 employee recognition breakfast. The Finance Division staff was nominated for this recognition by division commander, Major Doug Riniker.

The Finance Division collects outstanding court debt, processes room & board reimbursement claims, prepares accounts payable claims, processes payroll for the department's 170+ employees, conducts grant monitoring activities, bank reconciliations, and much more.

The Finance Division employees were recognized for their hard work, honesty, integrity, discipline, and positive attitudes. All Finance Division staff work very well

together by sharing information, skills, ideas, knowledge, and are pro-active by solving problems before they escalate.

Each has job duties in addition to the constant phone calls and clients at the window, which are handled with the utmost respect, courtesy and professionalism. They feel their jobs are equally important, know when a co-worker needs assistance, and are willing to help. They are crossed-trained and share job duties to complete the work when a co-worker is on vacation.

There have been many procedural changes within the Finance Division over the past three years. Some have simplified the process, while others proved more challenging. Regardless, the staff faced these changes with a positive attitude, were

willing to adapt and overcome, and offered suggestions to improve the process.

The amount of court debt collected during the past three years has more than doubled, from \$500,000 in FY08 to an estimated \$1,200,000 in FY11.

In addition, another estimated \$340,000 was collected for room & board fees. This significant increase over the past three years has occurred without an increase in staff, with changes in management personnel, and with two new employees due to staff transfers.

With the County receiving \$580,000 of the revenue generated by the Finance Division, it is probably one of only a few County Departments that are truly self-sufficient.

