

MN Concerns of Police Survivors

2013 MN C.O.P.S.

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MN C.O.P.S. Blue Light Service Saturday, October 19, 2013

The annual MN C.O.P.S. Blue Light Service is fast approaching. This year's event will start at the Best Western Kelly Inn just west of the Law Enforcement Memorial. You are invited to join us for a light lunch at the Kelly Inn from 4:30 – 5:30 PM. This is a time for all of us to sit and relax, and maybe make some new friends. At 5:45 PM we will walk down to the Law Enforcement Memorial to begin our Blue Light Service at 6:00 PM.

This year's event will host 2 very special guest speakers. Brian Jeska, Brittany Schneider.

As a lot of you know, this event was always scheduled closer to the upcoming holiday season. A few years ago we had to cancel 2 years in a row due to Mother Nature. Your Board of Directors felt this was a very important event and it was decided to hold it in October. But we hope you all know this is our way of remembering you and your hero during the holidays.

Please join us on October 19th and help us remember those who were taken from us, and those who continue their mission to serve. If you plan to attend, please call or e-mail Jackie Bergeron, 651-762-9558, donderosadaisy@hotmail.com or Bill Hammes, 763-898-8310, hammes105@comcast.net. This will help us to prepare for the food and refreshments.

On page 3 of the newsletter we have included some information on how and why the Blue Light Project got started. It is a great story that needs to be shared across the nation. We must never forget those who have died while serving. Take time this upcoming holiday season to put a blue light where all will see.

Special points of interest:

- Blue Light
- President's Message
- Reminder
- Chaplin Thell
- A Survivor's Journey
- Upcoming Events
- LOD Anniversaries

President's Message:

Dear C.O.P.S. Family, It is a season of Thankfulness.

It is with great anticipation we look forward to our second Blue Light Service without snow. Mark your calendar for Oct 19th at 4:30 at Kelly Inn for luncheon, 6:00 p.m. is our service. October should prove to be the answer to our canceled programs of the past. We heard many positive comments after last year's event to keep our program in October. Please come join us as we remember our fallen officers and all of the officers that take care of our streets daily.

We want to also remember all of the wonderful fundraisers and their sponsors that have stepped up again this summer to make our Minnesota Chapter financially healthy. MN C.O.P.S. has sent a family to Police Week in May and 6 siblings to the siblings retreat last month. This month 2 in-law parents and 4 parents will also travel to retreats made possible by our sponsors. Thank you to the many survivors that volunteered this summer. We can't do this without you.

As you think about your blessings this season, remember your fellow survivor's that have always given a hug and supported you. Your loved one will never be forgotten in our C.O.P.S. Family. Supporting each other is what makes us stronger.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Silvera
President

REMINDER

You should have received by now the MN C.O.P.S. form requesting an update on the profile we have in our database today. Please remember to complete the form, sign it, and return it in the stamped self-addressed envelope. If you did not receive the form, please contact Hazel Vokral or Bonnie Silvera via email:

hazelvokral@yahoo.com <<mailto:hazelvokral@yahoo.com>>

bsilvera@comcast.net <<mailto:bsilvera@comcast.net>>

Project Blue Light

The Project Blue Light began in 1989 when the surviving mother-in-law of a Philadelphia (PA) police officer killed in the line of duty told C.O.P.S. (Concerns of Police Survivors) that she would have two blue lights in her window for the holidays, one in memory of her son-in-law and one in memory of her daughter, the officer's widow, who had been killed in a car crash that year.

C.O.P.S. adopted this idea as a way that everyone could honor the officers who serve and protect us while remembering those who have been killed in the line of duty. Project Blue Light has grown steadily as a way of remembering our departed law enforcement officers across America and beyond. The concept is a simple one. Place a single blue light in your window in memory of fallen officers. At this time of year, ornamental light fixtures, such as candlestick replicas, are easy to come by and serve this purpose well.

Replace the (usually) white light bulb with a single blue bulb, and place it in a window where it will be seen. Most people won't know its significance, but the ones to whom it matters most, will.

Law Enforcement United (LEU) – “Road to Hope”

31 Police Officers from across Minnesota took part this year in the 3 day LEU 250 mile bike ride from Chesapeake, VA., to Washington DC. One of those officers was Minnetonka Police Officer Trevor Johnson. Officer Johnson raised \$2,000.00 for C.O.P.S. and The Officer Down Memorial Page. The ride started on May 10th and ended May 12th. The Board of Directors here at MN C.O.P.S. wants to thank Officer Johnson and all the other officers who took part in this ride. Your dedication and support to this organization, and the families of those officers who died while serving, will never be forgotten.



Siblings Retreat – 2013

This year Dana Schneider attended the siblings retreat. Dana wrote the following about her experience at the retreat.

“I can’t say enough good things about these organizations. Both MN C.O.P.S. and National C.O.P.S. have been beyond helpful.” Dana added, “This was my 2nd siblings retreat. I will continue to attend the retreat, not only because of the people I continue to meet that are going through the same thing, but also because of the wonderful and supportive counselors.” “I will continue to deal with the loss of my brother but have comfort knowing the counselors and other siblings are just a phone call away.” “Thank you from the bottom of my heart to all those that donate to the C.O.P.S. organization and for those that help make the retreat possible.”

Dana Schneider

Introducing Chaplin Frank Thell – MN C.O.P.S. Chaplin

Having been ordained a Catholic permanent deacon on 1990, Chaplin Thell decided to do police and fire chaplaincy as part of his ministry. In 1992 he was trained as a St. Paul Police Chaplin and served St. Paul PD for 5 years. Frank then became a Chaplin for the Ramsey County Sheriff. While serving for RCSO he became a volunteer with the Victim Intervention Program working with support groups for families of homicides, suicides, and accidental deaths. In 2000 he was awarded the Chaplin of the Year Award from RCSO.

In 2002 Chaplin Thell worked with the Minneapolis Police Homicide Department as a full time paid counselor what is now known as the Survivor Resources. During this time Frank assisted and conducted grief support for victim’s families and injured survivors from the I35W bridge collapse. As a result of his work on this project, he was awarded the Minneapolis Police Chief’s Award of Merit.

In 2003 Chaplin Thell was asked to become the Chaplin for the Forest Lake Fire and Rescue Squad to be their sole Chaplin. He currently serves as the Chaplin Coordinator for the Ramsey County Sheriff’s Chaplin Corps and as the Chaplin for the East Metro SWAT team. Frank was asked to be the Chaplin for MN C.O.P.S. which he graciously accepted. The next time you see Frank, please take a moment to say hi and welcome him to your chapter. We are lucky to have such a generous, talented individual. Welcome Chaplin Frank Thell.

Lace Up For Law Enforcement United Team Minnesota



Public Safety Hockey Tournament

October 18th and 19th 2013

Bielenberg Sports Center

4125 Radio Drive Woodbury, MN 55129

4 Game tournament

Great Raffle and Door Prizes

Cost \$525 U.S Payable to Law Enforcement United

Contact Matt O'Hara for entry and questions

651-303-3406 Mohara1850@aol.com

Proceeds to benefit Law Enforcement United Team Minnesota, Concerns of Police Survivors, and Officer Down Memorial Page



A Survivor's Journey

When Michael J. Pollitz died in the line of duty on November 30, 2011, he left a spouse and 2 very young children: Ilana, his wife, Jake now 10 and Morgan now 8. Ilana's journey after Mike's death was a difficult one filled with unspeakable pain; wishing to have just another minute with Mike to hold him and tell him she loved and missed him and the feeling her life was over. This was no different from other survivors who have lost their Officer. Ilana turned this pain into helping others by forming a young widow's grief group and focused on volunteering at her children's school – as she became a full time stay at home mom. As time went by, she met and fell in love again and on August 16, 2013 she remarried. Below is a picture of Ilana and her beautiful new family on the happy day.

Left to Right Top Row

Jacob Pollitz, Ilana Pollitz-Kurtz, Todd Kurtz, Peyton Kurtz

Left to Right Bottom Row

Morgan Pollitz, Carsten Kurtz



National C.O.P.S. has once again received a federal grant to train Law Enforcement Departments and their Officers on preparing and handling line-of-duty deaths, the cumulative stress on an officer, police suicide, and the “traumatized officer”. Trauma Training sessions are listed below. For more information, go to: <http://www.nationalcops.org/training.asp>

- **January 6–8, 2014**
Orange County, Florida (greater Orlando area)
Orange County Convention Center
9800 International Drive, Orlando Florida 32819
- **January 27–29, 2014**
Dublin, California (greater Oakland area)
Alameda County Sheriff’s Office
Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Services
4985 Broder Boulevard Dublin, California 94568
- **February 10–12, 2014**
Westminster, Colorado (greater Denver area)
Westminster Public Safety Center
9110 Yates Street Westminster Colorado 80031
- **February 24–26, 2014**
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Saint Mary’s University Event Center
2540 Park Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404
- **March 3–5, 2014**
Tulsa, Oklahoma
Highland Park Christian Church
5708 East 31st Street
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74135
- **March 10–12, 2014**
Durham, North Carolina
Duke University– Richard White Lecture Hall
East Campus Building 7214
1308 Campus Drive
Duke University, North Carolina 27708
- **March 31–April 2, 2014**
Albany New York
New York State Police Academy
1220 Washington Avenue building 24
Albany New York 12226–2450

Wild Bill's Fund Raiser – August 10, 2013

On August 10, 2013 Wild Bill's Restaurant chain held their annual fund raiser for the MN Chapter of C.O.P.S. And what a great success it was. Several members of MN C.O.P.S. and your board members traveled to each of the restaurants. We wanted to view the activities and support this business for what they are doing for our chapter. This day was nothing short of unbelievable, fantastic, fun, amazing, and very rewarding. The staff at all the Wild Bill's welcomed us with open arms. The public who visited the restaurants were very gracious and inquisitive. I can tell you that the Blaine and Maple Grove are the 2 stores I attended and it was a very rewarding day. Wild Bill's is to be commended for the support and assistance they have shown our chapter. We as a chapter are very fortunate to have them as a partner. So if you happen to stop at a Wild Bill's to eat, please take a moment to thank them for what they have done for us.

Thank You Wild Bill's

SURVIVORS

PLEASE BRING YOUR PICTURES OF YOUR LOVED ONES TO BLUE LIGHT SERVICE.

We would like to display pictures of all of our Line of Duty Death Officers from the State of Minnesota at our Blue Light Service.

It does not matter how long ago they died or if your officer died out of state and you live in Minnesota. We would like to honor them with their picture on our table at Kelly Inn. Please bring your picture in an 8x10 frame, preferably in uniform by 4:15 p.m. on October 19th.

Should you have a copy that MN C.O.P.S. could keep in our records (or copy) we will be making a photo book to display on future occasions. Please feel free to send us any news article or information about your officer that could be added to our book. This would help us get to know your loved one better. Any volunteers that would like to help with this one time book project are welcome to call Bonnie 763-427-0920. If you cannot attend our service this year we still want your pictures.

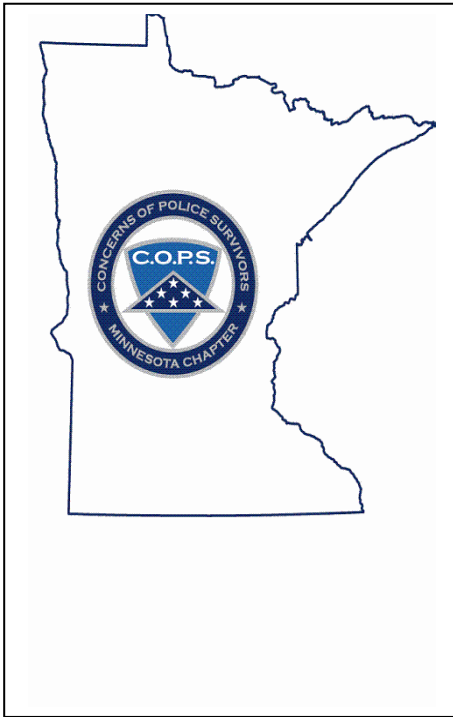
Anniversary Dates: Line of Duty

This issue we have listed October, November, and December. If you know of a name that should be in here and is missing, please let us know. If you find an error, please let us know. Line of Duty Death Anniversaries: These are listed first by month, day, and year the officer was died.

10	1	1897	10/1/1897	<u>Charles Wetzel</u>	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
10	1	1937	10/1/1937	<u>Rich G Hinshaw</u>	St. Paul Police Department
10	3	1876	10/3/1876	<u>Henry Kaepernick</u>	Faribault Police Department
10	3	1934	10/3/1934	<u>Roy C Lichtenheld</u>	Minnesota State Patrol
10	5	1922	10/5/1922	<u>Christian Johnson</u>	Lyle Police Department
10	6	1933	10/6/1933	<u>David A Butchart</u>	Duluth Police Department
10	8	1962	10/8/1962	<u>Edward Eades</u>	Meeker County Sheriff's Department
10	12	1922	10/12/1922	<u>George Albert Stegner</u>	St. Paul Police Department
10	13	1958	10/13/1958	<u>Kenneth Johnson</u>	Ramsey County Sheriff's Office
10	14	1930	10/14/1930	<u>August W. Haase</u>	Fairmont Police Department
10	15	1965	10/15/1965	<u>Andrew P Herlitz</u>	Morrison County Sheriff's Office
10	15	1973	10/15/1973	<u>Donald Ziesmer</u>	Minnesota State Patrol
10	16	1965	10/16/1965	<u>John E Stack</u>	Morrison County Sheriff's Office
10	18	1888	10/18/1888	<u>Peter Poull</u>	Moorhead Police Department
10	20	1969	10/20/1969	<u>Francis Wozniak</u>	Detroit Lakes Police Department
10	21	1925	10/21/1925	<u>Murdock E Murray</u>	ATF
10	22	1979	10/22/1979	<u>Ira Emmons</u>	Pope County Sheriff's Office
10	25	1982	10/25/1982	<u>Richard Warren Walton</u>	Oakdale Police Department
10	25	2009	10/25/2009	<u>Mike Wilken</u>	Ramsey County Sheriff's Office
10	26	1921	10/26/1921	<u>John T Foley</u>	ATF
10	27	1931	10/27/1931	<u>Frank E McGregor</u>	Benton County Sheriff's Office
10	29	1884	10/29/1884	<u>Charles Albert Washburn</u>	Wright County Sheriff's Office
10	29	1981	10/29/1981	<u>Robert R Lawson</u>	Itasca County Sheriff's Office
11	1	1916	11/1/1916	<u>James L Gardner</u>	Osseo Police Department
11	1	1968	11/1/1968	<u>Marlo Zwiers</u>	Cambridge Police Department
11	2	1986	11/2/1986	<u>David Ward Mack</u>	Minneapolis Police Department
11	3	1987	11/3/1987	<u>Edwin H Arendt</u>	Stearns County Sheriff's Office
11	9	2007	11/9/2007	<u>Mark Bedard</u>	Minneapolis Park Police Department
11	10	1954	11/10/1954	<u>Walter Kruegel</u>	Fillmore County Sheriff's Office
11	14	1934	11/14/1934	<u>Lawrence F Tierney</u>	St. Paul Police Department
11	15	1977	11/15/1977	<u>Donald Mayerle</u>	Keewatin Police Department
11	16	1923	11/16/1923	<u>James Art Wilson</u>	Beltrami County Sheriff's Office
11	19	1983	11/19/1983	<u>Brian Heikkila</u>	Solway Township Police Department

Anniversary Dates: Line of Duty

11	19	1986	11/19/1986	<u>William J Goodsell</u>	Minneapolis Park Police Department
11	20	1959	11/20/1959	<u>Ray F Krueger</u>	Minnesota State Patrol
11	21	1912	11/21/1912	<u>William J Lyden</u>	Minneapolis Police Department
11	21	1928	11/21/1928	<u>Arvid Lundgren</u>	Koochiching County Sheriff's Office
11	23	1922	11/23/1922	<u>Rudolph Maurer</u>	Wright County Sheriff's Office
11	26	1987	11/26/1987	<u>Alfred Biagi</u>	St. Paul Police Department
11	28	1913	11/28/1913	<u>George B Anderson</u>	Minneapolis Police Department
11	28	1956	11/28/1956	<u>Donald Risberg</u>	Minneapolis Police Department
11	28	1973	11/28/1973	<u>Richard Allan Lura</u>	Carver County Sheriff's Office
11	28	1973	11/28/1973	<u>Ronald Jerome Kalkes</u>	Carver County Sheriff's Office
11	29	2012	11/29/2012	<u>Thomas Decker</u>	Cold Springs Police Department
11	30	2011	11/30/2011	<u>Mike Pollitz</u>	St. Louis Park Police
12	1	1941	12/1/1941	<u>Oscar G Olson</u>	Duluth Police Department
12	3	1874	12/3/1874	<u>Mathew Hamilton</u>	Winona Police Department
12	4	1992	12/4/1992	<u>Lester Kohler</u>	Mahnomen County Sheriff's Department
12	5	1905	12/5/1905	<u>Ole Havey</u>	Hayfield Township
12	6	1930	12/6/1930	<u>Roy Larson</u>	Moorhead Police Department
12	7	1953	12/7/1953	<u>Ernest Zettergren</u>	Anoka County Sheriff's Office
12	15	1963	12/15/1963	<u>James E Hendricks</u>	Minneapolis Police Department
12	15	1989	12/15/1989	<u>Michael Hogan</u>	Hutchinson Police Department
12	16	1932	12/16/1932	<u>Ira Leon Evans</u>	Minneapolis Police Department
12	18	1932	12/18/1932	<u>Leo Gorski</u>	Minneapolis Police Department
12	21	1980	12/21/1980	<u>Roger Ervin Wrobbel</u>	Wright County Sheriff's Office
12	22	1951	12/22/1951	<u>Neil R Johnson</u>	Blooming Prairie Police Department
12	23	1926	12/23/1926	<u>Marshal Frank Dahlin</u>	Isanti Police Department
12	24	1930	12/24/1930	<u>Harry E Parker</u>	Minneapolis Police Department
12	25	1928	12/25/1928	<u>Robert H Lobdell</u>	U.S. Customs and Border Protection
12	27	1964	12/27/1964	<u>Glen A Skalman</u>	Minnesota State Patrol
12	30	1925	12/30/1925	<u>Michael J Lawrence</u>	Minneapolis Police Department
12	30	2011	12/30/2011	<u>Shawn Schneider</u>	Lake City Police Department



MN C.O.P.S.
P. O. Box 222
Anoka, MN 55303
Phone:
(763) 269-1000
We're on the Web!
See us at:
MNCOPS.ORG



Check the MN C.O.P.S. website.
www.mncops.org

Concerns of Police Survivors began in 1984 and consisted of 110 members. Today C.O.P.S. is a nationwide program with a membership of over 15,000 families. C.O.P.S. mission is:
"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 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."

MN Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors

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MN C.O.P.S. Newsletter

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