



POAT Newsletter

*Sergeant Chuck Duncan, Miami Dade Police Department
April, 2008*

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The Police Memorial will be held on Thursday May 1, 2008, at 7:00 p.m.

This year there will be several names added to the wall; three officers that died in the line of duty this year (from Miami-Dade Police Department, City of Miami Police Department and Miami-Dade Corrections) and some officers have been determined to be in the line of duty deaths that are historical. In my 29 year career I have never witnessed a Miami-Dade County police memorial service where so many names will be added to the wall of honor at Tropical Park. As I have stated in years past it is the law enforcement community's duty to remember and honor all of the officers that have died serving our community. This is emphasized more when we have recently had so many officers shot and killed in Miami-Dade County, not to mention South Florida, this past year. The Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony on May 1, 2008 at Tropical Park is the time and place to pay respects to surviving family members' friends and partners of those officers that made the ultimate sacrifice, as well as, pay tribute the heroes on the wall. Everyone should make a concerted effort to attend the ceremony this year.

It is your duty!

The POAT is in the process of assisting the parents of fallen City of Miami Officer James Walker

by mobilizing skilled and unskilled labor to work in conjunction with a contractor (Lt Danny Villanueva), electrician, plumber, Home Depot and funded by POAT to get their residence up to standard. Officer Walker was in the early stages of helping his parents update their house; we are going to help his parents in his spirit. The date for this is projected to be a week long event around the end of April-beginning of May. If you would like to help in this endeavor by providing physical labor or funds contact the POAT office at 305-594-6662. The unskilled labor will be needed the first 2-3 days of the project.

On Saturday, April 26, 2008, the March of Dimes-March for Babies Walk

will be held at Crandon Park, Key Biscayne. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. start: 8:30 a.m. Contact Allison Bishop-Cooner (305) 471-1931 or e-mail Abishop-cooner@mdpd.com for further information The PBA has supported this charity for many years, which provides assistance and research in dealing with infants born premature. Take the time to support this worthwhile cause by walking or sponsoring a walker.



Crews, Sidney

EOW: Apr 25, 1929
Miami

Curlette, Clark

EOW: Apr 1, 1976
MDPD

D'Azevedo, Francis

EOW: Apr 1, 1976
MDPD

Dove, Jerry

EOW: Apr 11, 1986
FBI

Fitzpatrick, Robert

EOW: Apr 3, 1985
Miami Beach

Grogan, Benjamin

EOW: Apr 11, 1986
FBI

**Hodges Jr.,
Thomas**

EOW: Apr 1, 1976
MDPD

Leis, Thomas

EOW: Apr 29, 1990
MDPD

Martin, Joseph

EOW: Apr 27, 1990
MDPD

Pena, Louis

EOW: Apr 3
Coral Gables

The Bi-Annual POAT Motorcycle Ride to support Holiday Gifts for Surviving Children

will be held on May 4, 2008. The Ride begins at 9:00 a.m., starting at the Snapper Creek Plaza on the Turnpike and ends at Holiday Isle in the Keys. For additional information contact Lt. Rudy Gonzalez at R_Gonzalez01@mdpd.com (305-471-2312), or the POAT office at 305-594-6662. Registration forms can be downloaded from the POAT website; POAT.org.

The Annual POAT Golf Tournament

will be held on Tuesday May 6, 2008, at Indian Creek Golf and Country Club. The tournament fee is \$250 a golfer (\$1,000 per foursome), and is limited to 18 foursomes. For additional information, contact Annette McCully (305) 970-2776 or the POAT office (305)594-6662.

At the time this article was written the Walk to Cure Diabetes had not taken place yet. I will provide the results of POAT's walk team next month.

Service Legacy Brick

The Service Legacy Bricks for retired officers would make a great Christmas gift for that special retired officer in the family. The Service Legacy Brick is placed in the walkway at the new Law Enforcement Memorial in Tropical Park. You can get a brick in the walkway by completing the application that is on our website at POAT.org and making a \$50 donation to POAT. The funds raised from the brick donations goes towards maintaining the Law Enforcement Memorial and funding the annual Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Ceremony.

POAT Scholarships

The POAT has two scholarships that we offer to students getting ready to attend a university, college, or vocational school and are the children of a sworn officer, federal, state, county, or municipal, serving within the boundaries of Miami-Dade County. The deadline for both scholarships has been extended to June 30, 2007. **The Paul Janosky Art Scholarship** is offered to students majoring in visual, graphic or computer arts. **The Mike Byrd Crime Scene Scholarship** is offered to students majoring in Biology, Chemistry, Forensics, Pathology, or any major affiliated to Crime Scene Investigation. Applications for these scholarships can be obtained by downloading them from the POAT web-site at <http://www.POAT.org> or calling the POAT office at (305)594-6662.

www.POAT.org

POAT has updated its web-site at <http://www.POAT.org>. A great way to keep informed of POAT's events and fundraisers or scroll through the roll call of honor.

Thanks for your support and stay safe!

Make a tax deductible donation:

**Mail to: Police Officer Assistance Trust
1030 NW 111 Avenue
Miami, Florida 33172**

POAT offers assistance to all sworn officers in Miami-Dade County from federal, state, county, and municipal agencies. **Your contributions make these efforts possible!** Checks should be made payable to the Police Officer Assistance Trust or POAT. If you wish to make a donation to a specific area of assistance (educational, general, holiday gifts, police memorial, Paul Janosky Art Scholarship, Mike Byrd Scholarship), please notate the information in the memo area of your check

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The Police Officer Assistance Trust is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization operating within Miami-Dade County, Florida. POAT provides assistance to law enforcement officers and their families in times of crisis or critical need