



# MAY 2011



## A Message From Your Sheriff



It seems there's really no such thing as "routine" actions in law enforcement anymore. Many of the 162 officers killed in the line of duty in 2010 were doing seemingly "routine" activities. Even with the best equipment and the best training, it is dangerous business. Our state lost nine law enforcement officers in the line of duty last year. In the first four months of 2011, we lead the nation with ten. During May, we take time to stop to hold ceremonies, vigils, and other events to pay tribute to those we've lost. But the truth is, in our line of work, those tremendous sacrifices are ingrained in our daily thoughts.

Sincerely,

*Larry Ashley*

## In Honor of Their Sacrifices



Okaloosa County Airport Police Department Officer Kenneth Stanley Baldwin, who was shot and killed while patrolling the then Okaloosa Air Terminal on September 11, 1987, was remembered in Tallahassee May 2nd as part of the start of Law Enforcement Memorial Week.

The 42-year old Baldwin had closed for the night and he was alone when he was shot four times in front of the building. He was discovered around 2:30 a.m. by a newspaper delivery man.

Baldwin's son, Kenneth Baldwin Jr. of Nashville Tennessee, made the trip to Tallahassee to take part in the Candlelight Vigil and Memorial Ceremony.

The Honor Guard of the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office was also present to escort Baldwin during the Vigil.

**"The case, investigated by federal authorities, has not been solved,"** said current Okaloosa Sheriff Larry Ashley. **"But we will never forget the men and women who put their lives on the line. We remember and honor Officer Baldwin, along with Deputy Tony Forgione, Deputy Skip York, and Deputy Burt Lopez, not just today, but every day, as we in the law enforcement community strive to serve the public to the best of our abilities."**



Kenneth Baldwin Jr. poses with Members of the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard at the Tallahassee Law Enforcement Candlelight Vigil on May 1st.



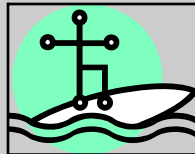


# POLICE MEMORIAL WEEK





# SPRING BREAK 2011



Okaloosa County Sheriff's deputies issued at least 342 citations to underage drinkers during Spring Break. That compares to 566 notices- to- appear for underage possession of alcohol handed out in Spring Break of 2010.

**Deputies on Beach Patrol say other than two very busy weeks during March, the 2011 Spring Break season appeared to attract more families than college students. That is reflected in the lower number of citations written: of those notices to appear, 98 were issued to high school students from various states, including Florida - and 244 were issued to college students.**

Here is a breakdown of some of the states with the highest number of offenders cited during Spring Break 2011:

- MISSISSIPPI: 55 college students, 18 high school students
- ALABAMA: 35 college students, 9 high school students
- GEORGIA: 50 college students, 15 high school students
- TENNESSEE: 19 college students, 6 high school students
- LOUISIANA: 28 college students, 18 high school students
- LOCALS: 3 college students, 4 high school students

NTA's for underage alcohol possession were also issued to students from Missouri, Arkansas, Ohio, Texas, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Kansas, Michigan, Oklahoma and Pennsylvania.

This year deputies on beach patrol had a mobile computer terminal on their ATV's to help make the process of tracking down information more efficient. They say one of the more common problems encountered was students giving them fake identities. The mobile computers allowed them to sort that out quickly.





# GETTING INVOLVED AND GIVING BACK



From Chamber Expo's, United Way Fundraisers, and helping with the "Let's Move" Campaign to Eglin Motorcycle Safety Day, the NaGisa Program at Niceville High School, the OCSO Explorers, the Prescription Drug Take-Back Initiative, and fixing a remembrance lunch in memory of former co-workers—Okaloosa County Deputies and Personnel enjoy getting involved and giving back!

**Date:**  
**May 18**



**Time:**  
**11 a.m.**



**Place:**  
**NICEVILLE  
COMMUNITY  
CENTER**



**ANNUAL OKALOOSA  
COUNTY LAW  
ENFORCEMENT  
MEMORIAL LUNCHEON**



**Featured Speaker:**  
**Former P.O.W. & Author of**  
**Escape from the Box**  
**Col. Ed Hubbard USAF (Ret.)**

**Special Guest:**  
**Florida Attorney General**  
**Pam Bondi**

PLEASE JOIN US TO PAY TRIBUTE  
TO FLORIDA'S FALLEN OFFICERS

*Sponsored by: Okaloosa Sheriff's Chaplain's Program*



**Blue Knights Law Enforcement  
Motorcycle Club  
Florida Chapter XXV**



**Proudly Present**

**The Deputy Skip York Memorial  
Emerald Coast Children's Advocacy Center  
Poker Run**

**Saturday, May 21, 2011**

**Registration starts at 8:30 am**

**First bike out @ 9:00am**

**Last bike out @ 10:30am**

**Last bike in @ 1:30pm**

**Cost is \$20 per rider and \$25 with passenger**

**Registration includes lunch after the ride**

**Ride pins for the first 200 riders**

**Heritage Cycles Harley Davidson**

**788 North Beal Parkway, Ft. Walton Beach, Florida**



For more information call Bruce Stewart at 850-200-3055 or [BlueKnightsXXV@cox.net](mailto:BlueKnightsXXV@cox.net)

Our event is in honor of our fallen Blue Knight brother, Skip York



# LEADERSHIP & CHARACTER



## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



Last month in this section I began a series of articles that focused on the subject of leadership. What causes one person to become a leader while countless others have the desire to follow someone? The conclusion is a simple one. We follow a person because we observe qualities in that individual that impress us and we have a desire to be led. Leaders, however, want to be out front leading the charge and also expect others to follow them into battle. This month I want to begin to look at the qualities of a leader in hopes that each of you reading this article will apply these qualities to your personal life and become someone that others want to follow.

**The first leadership quality is character. John Maxwell has written many books on the subject of leadership. If I may glean from his expertise, notice this quotation: “Crisis doesn’t necessarily make character, but it certainly does reveal it.” That quote is not only a catchy one, it is a true statement. Character has been described as what we do and how we act when no one is watching. Character is doing right for the sake of doing right, not the fear of being caught. If we are to be leaders, we must begin with personal character. Do what is right no matter who is looking. Stay on the straight path, follow the Golden Rule and when you glance over your shoulder, others will be following you.**



G. Alan Bernard stated, “The respect that leadership must have requires that one’s ethics be without question. A leader not only stays above the line between right and wrong, he stays well clear of the ‘gray areas.’” Apply this first quality, strengthen your character, and stand up tall and lead!

OCSO Chaplain Kevin Davidson