



St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office

Update

Volume #16

2013 Annual Report

www.stcharlessheriff.org

DEDICATED TO REPORTING THE NEWEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ST. CHARLES PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Postal Patron

This is a free annual publication mailed to St. Charles Parish residents, law enforcement professionals, community organization representatives, civic leaders and government officials. If you are not on the mailing list and would like to receive future issues, please direct your request to the Special Services Department at (985) 783-1355 or fax us at (985) 783-1195.



**SHERIFF
GREG CHAMPAGNE**

Welcome to the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office's sixteenth issue of "Update". We want to continue to improve communication between our community and law enforcement, ensuring that residents can play an active role in helping us create a safe community. Our residents' involvement dramatically improves our effectiveness in protecting the lives and property in St. Charles Parish. We hope you will join us by reporting suspicious activity in your neighborhood as it occurs.

In this issue, we unveil an extensive list of crime prevention tips on our web site, as well as outlining our strategy to reduce crime by working with inmates at the Nelson Coleman Correctional Center. The program is designed to help them develop job skills that will enable them to lead productive lives when they return to the community.

We also spotlight Explorer Post 15, an organization that provides a productive outlet for young people in our community.

St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Deputy Jeff Watson Falls in the Line of Duty

All of us at the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office mourn the death of Deputy Jeff Watson, who was killed Aug. 4 when another vehicle pulled into his path on Paul Maillard Road. Deputy Watson, who was responding to a call for assistance from another deputy, died in the service of the residents of St. Charles Parish.

Our entire community has joined in prayer for his family, and for the continued safety of his fellow officers, who put their lives on the line for our community's safety each and every day.

Deputy Watson was 41 years old, a 12-year veteran of law enforcement who joined the Sheriff's Office in 2005 after serving with the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office. He was one of us – a resident of Destrehan with

his wife Lynsey and stepdaughter Abrial. We urge our residents to include them in your prayers.

Jeff Watson was the fourth deputy to give his life in the line of duty in the 200-year history of the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office.

A police officer's job is inherently dangerous. He or she can put on their badge thousands of times and come home safely. Or just once, and never come home again. We hope that Deputy Watson's family is the last to experience this tragedy.

On behalf of all of us at the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office, we offer Deputy Watson's family our deepest sympathy, and our pledge of support in the years to come.

Greg Champagne



DEPUTY JEFF WATSON
End of Watch: August 4, 2013



Candlelight Vigil held for Deputy Watson on August 8, 2013 at St. Charles Sheriff's Office Headquarters with Interment August 9, 2013 at Jefferson Memorial Gardens Cemetery, St. Rose Louisiana.



Sheriff Champagne Promotes Veteran Officers



Major Rodney Madere and Sheriff Champagne

Sheriff Champagne has promoted two accomplished police officers to higher posts.

Rodney Madere Jr., a 22-year veteran of the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office has been promoted to Major. He serves as Chief of Investigations in the Criminal Investigations Bureau, and has wide-ranging experience in the Sheriff's Office's patrol and investigative divisions. Madere has previously worked in the Patrol Division, Narcotics Division, Detective Bureau, Special Operations Division, and as the commander of the Special Response Team, which is activated during high-risk arrest operations.

Madere also has been a key player in the development of the I.M.P.A.S.E. program, in which the Sheriff's Office and parish school officials train for the possibility of a threat by an active shooter to students and faculty at area schools. The program, which involves coordination with EMS, school faculty and parish workers, has become a model for other law enforcement agencies.



Captain Joe Ganote and Sheriff Champagne

Joe Ganote, a 14-year veteran of the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office was promoted to Captain. His current position is Captain, Assistant Chief of Investigations and Commander of the Special Response Team (SRT). Captain Ganote previously held the position of Lieutenant Commander of the Special Operations Division/Homeland Security and Crime Scene.

Captain Ganote has completed over 3,000 hours of advanced law enforcement training, including undercover operations, SWAT operations/high risk event planning and counter terrorism. He is certified in interview and interrogations, homicide and robbery investigations, bomb identification, hazardous materials response, computer voice stress recognition, courtroom testimony, active shooter training, operational skills and land navigation. Capt. Ganote also serves as a Louisiana P.O.S.T. Academy Instructor and Firearms Instructor.

Both officers are graduates of the F.B.I. National Academy in Quantico, VA. ★

Sheriff Champagne to serve as NSA 3rd Vice President



Sheriff Champagne and NSA President Michael Leidholt of Hughes County, South Dakota.

Sheriff Champagne rose in line from National Sheriffs' Association Secretary to 3rd Vice President on June 26, 2013 at the annual conference held in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Founded in 1940, NSA is a non-profit organization and the leading advocate on law enforcement, criminal justice and public safety issues. As

one of the largest law enforcement organizations, NSA is dedicated to raising the level of professionalism among those in the criminal justice and public safety fields.

Through programs, training, and other resources NSA helps sheriffs, deputies, and others in the field to perform their best to better serve the people of their jurisdictions. ★

Commemorative Bicentennial Badge

St. Charles Parish Sheriff Greg Champagne has commissioned a Commemorative Bicentennial Badge recognizing two centuries of service to the residents of St. Charles Parish. Deputies will wear the badge starting this month.

Deputies will wear the badges for one year, after which the commemorative badge will be retired and deputies will again utilize the traditional six-pointed star.

The office of sheriff was created by the Louisiana Legislature in 1810, three years after the state was created. Responsible for providing law enforcement services, the sheriff is also the official tax collector in Louisiana parishes. The office was originally an appointed position under the authority of



the district judge, who was the parish's chief executive. An 1845 constitutional change made the office elective.

With a workforce of nearly 400 deputies in law enforcement, civil and support roles, the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office is one of the most progressive law enforcement agencies in Louisiana. The cost of the badges was made possible through drug asset forfeiture funds. ★

Follow Us:

Web Site: www.stcharlessheriff.org



St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office



SCPSheriff

vimeo.com/stcharlesparishsheriff
(Site for Sheriff's Office videos)

Crime Stats Down for First Half of 2013

Sheriff Greg Champagne reports that Crime is down 20% for the first half of 2013 compared to the first half of the year in 2012.

Sheriff Champagne has been active in putting together task forces to combat identified crime trends which has been instrumental in decreasing crime in St.

Charles Parish.

The Sheriff's Office releases Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) regarding seven (7) Index Crimes compiled for the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This information consists of crimes reported to the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office from July 1, 1996 – June 30, 2013. ★



ST. CHARLES PARISH TRIAD

Service Providers

TRIAD

Senior Day 2013

All St. Charles Parish Senior Citizens are invited to attend

October 17, 2013 • 9:30 AM

JERUSALEM SHRINE CENTER IN DESTREHAN
1940 Ormond Blvd., Destrehan

FREE

Health Screening
Diabetic Foot Screening
Give-a-ways
Door Prizes
Information
Entertainment
Lunch

Flu Shots will be available through
St. Charles Community Health Center.

No out of pocket expense with Medicare Card.
Without a Medicare Card cost is \$20.

For transportation call
985-783-6683

For more information
call Joyce Gullage
985-783-1355

Community Strategies

I.M.P.A.S.E. Program Designed to Protect Citizens

The Sheriff's Office is working with public and parochial schools in the parish to keep students and faculty safe from attack, by training school administrators how to react to a threat. The Sheriff's Office began training to respond to such threats in the aftermath of the 1999 Columbine High School shootings in Colorado, in which two armed students killed 12 students and a teacher, and injured 21 others.

The program, called I.M.P.A.S.E., has evolved into a well-documented plan that has been refined after numerous drills and training exercises in coordination with school officials. The acronym stands for Integrated Multilayered Planning for an Active Shooter Event.

"There are many kinds of threats, man-made and natural, that could endanger students and faculty in our schools, and recent events have demonstrated the need for vigilance. Having a plan gives us the tools we need to protect our citizens," Sheriff Greg

Champagne said.

Team members have given training to several other jurisdictions and are scheduled to present this training to the North Carolina Criminal Justice Commission in October.

To develop the program, Sheriff Champagne sent team members out to interview first responders and others who were involved in previous events to find out what they had learned. Maj. Rodney Madere, an original member of the team, said Sheriff's Office and school officials have worked to train deputies and school employees on tactics to protect employees and students in the event such attack should occur.

The parish's volunteer firefighters train closely with the sheriff's deputies between exercises, which are held every two years.

"In between trainings, we're in constant communication with each other," Madere said. "We go to their training sessions. They come to ours."

Sheriff Champagne said cooperation with other parish agencies is the key to the program's success.

"Our I.M.P.A.S.E. program could not be successful without the partnership with the school system, firefighters and other stakeholders in our parish. It is a credit to their leadership," he said. ★



"Offender" taken into custody by sheriffs deputies.



Special Response Team (SRT) members secure hallway of local school during drill.



SRT member stands at his post.

CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

St. Charles Parish residents concerned about crime in their neighborhoods can get common-sense tips on how to better protect themselves using resources on the Sheriff's Office web site, www.stcharlessheriff.org.

Click on Community Programs on the home page, then Crime Prevention. Also available under that heading is an interactive crime tracker that alerts residents about crimes occurring near their homes.

Topics on the crime prevention page include:

- Online safety.
- Tips on avoiding violent crime, including "A Dater's Bill of Rights."

CRIMESTOPPERS
1-877-903-STOP

- Training your child about how to deal with strangers.
- Sensible tips about how to protect your belongings.
- A description of the office's Victims Assistance Program.
- Strategies for parents to keep their children away from drugs, and where to get help if they become users.
- How to develop a plan to escape domestic violence.
- Disaster preparedness, and tips on how to prepare for storm season.
- How to set up a Neighborhood Watch organization.
- How to avoid scammers and crooked contractors.

To see these tips and more, visit our web site at www.stcharlessheriff.org, click on the "Community" link, then "Crime Prevention." ★

New Sheriff's Office Mobile App Available to Residents

The Sheriff's Office's new mobile app, **St. Charles SO on the Go**, will allow parish residents to keep track of the latest crime news and other updates from the Sheriff's Office.

The app, currently available for Android, contains many of the functions contained on our web site, sized for a

small screen. An iPhone version has been submitted to Apple for approval.

The mobile app allows residents to pay traffic citations and taxes, stay informed about reported crime in their neighborhood, anonymously report criminal activity, obtain forms to apply for a job at the Sheriff's Office, get an

accident report, or apply for a business license in the parish.

The app also has links to an extensive list of crime prevention tips for online and home safety. ★



Community Crime Prevention

Sheriff Champagne Announces New Home Inspection Program



The St. Charles Sheriff's Office Home Inspection Program (H.I.P.) is a voluntary service that provides a free home safety and crime prevention inspection to identify features in your home, which might make a residence susceptible to burglaries, fires, or injuries due to falls.

"Many times we may not recognize potential hazards within the confines of our own home. Having someone

independently inspect our property provides greater insight into minimizing potential risk. These inspections will be comprised of Sheriff's Office personnel and trained fire fighters from the local fire departments," said Champagne.

The inspection team will provide the homeowner or occupants recommendations that could be taken to remove or reduce potential hazards.

If you are a St. Charles Parish

resident and interested in having your home inspected, please contact Lieutenant Craig Petit or Sergeant Dwayne LaGrange at (985) 783-1355 to schedule an appointment. ★



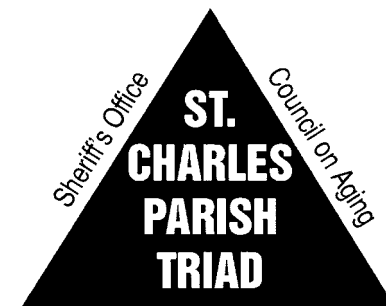
TRIAD Provides Programs and Services for Senior Citizens

Sheriff Greg Champagne and the St. Charles Council on Aging created a local Triad program on April 23, 1997.

"We have a growing elderly population in St. Charles Parish, so meeting the needs of these citizens is a big challenge for law enforcement and community agencies," Champagne said. TRIAD is a national concept operating under the belief that together, with sheriffs, police chiefs, and seniors globally joining forces, better programs and services can be provided to the elderly.

TRIAD'S PURPOSE

- Support the involvement of law enforcement practitioners, as well as citizens of all ages, in the development, implementation, and evaluation of acceptable solutions to reducing crime against the elderly.
- Mobilize community resources to continually ascertain the needs and concerns of older citizens and provides a mechanism for meeting those needs.
- Enable law enforcement agencies to share resources that can effectively be utilized to develop and achieve a highly visible and effective means of identifying available programs or possible solutions



Service Providers

to reducing the criminal victimization of the parish's elderly population.

- Foster the development and maintenance of a local advisory panel to law enforcement called Seniors and Lawmen Working Together (SALT).

St. Charles Parish Triad has several outreach programs (see right). As a non-profit organization, Triad has been supported by funding through United Way of St. Charles since 2002. The Triad program has been able to reach out to more senior citizens and provide additional services since funding by United Way became available. ★

For more information about this program, please contact the Triad Coordinator Joyce Gullage at 985-783-1355.

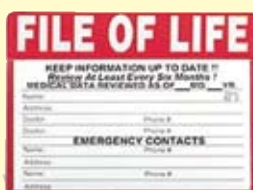
Free Programs For Seniors

Adopt A Senior

Law enforcement officers meet with eligible senior citizens on a regular basis to provide reassurance of safety and open lines of communication between senior citizens and law enforcement officials.

File of Life

Miniature Medical File for immediate access to one's medical history, current medications and emergency contacts.



Flashing Security Light

Developed for crime prevention, it helps emergency units find your home quickly by auto flashing capabilities. Also, a steady light comes on automatically at dark and shuts off during daylight hours.



Senior Citizen Self-Defense Class

A class teaching senior citizens how to verbally and physically defend themselves. It also teaches them how to prevent being a victim of crime.



A Survivor's Journal

This is a small book, which acts as a guideline to assist senior citizens and their families to prepare, in advance, their own wishes during a disability and/or death.

A Survivor's Journal

A guide to help prepare your loved ones for your disability or death

St. Charles Parish Triad

Drug Disposal Program

This service is designed to reinforce the safe use and disposal of expired and unused medications of all types.



Operation Quick Response

A house numbering project for those senior citizens who do not have visible addresses on their homes. Every second counts in an emergency!

4.

For more information about these programs, please contact the Triad Coordinator Joyce Gullage at 985-783-1355.

Programs for CHILDREN

Child ID Files Available

Imagine one second your child is by your side and the next he or she is gone. It is a parent's worst nightmare. Having the needed information readily available the first few moments of the search can be invaluable to law enforcement authorities. Realizing this, Sheriff Greg Champagne is making available free Child ID Files for your children. A Child ID File is a packet of information about a child, gathered, stored and regularly updated by a parent. The file focuses on a child's unique characteristics. Many children disappear each year. Some are runaways, others are kidnapped by an unknown person or a noncustodial parent. Whatever the reason a child is missing, finding that child quickly is vital. A Child ID file can help. Have your child's fingerprints taken. Fingerprints can be used to identify children who can't identify themselves due to injuries, disabilities, trauma or because they're too young to speak.



They can also be used for older kids who refuse to identify themselves or who give incorrect information or for victims who have died. Children's appearances change, making photos less useful as time passes, but fingerprints stay the same. The St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office offers free child fingerprinting and a booklet about keeping a Child ID File. For more information, contact the Special Services Department at 783-1355. ★

Youth Programs Focus on Safety

As a service to the community, the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office regularly visits schools, local events and meetings. Also, the Special Services Dept. offers community programs designed to promote safety and crime prevention. The objective of these programs, which are offered at no charge, is to provide residents with vital information and needed skills to lessen their risk of becoming a victim. Through education, we hope to reduce crime locally.

To arrange a presentation for your group or organization, contact Susie Gauthier at (985) 783-1355. Scheduling is flexible. ★

Topics and demonstrations include:

- * Child Fingerprinting
- * K-9 Demonstrations
- * Crime Scene Presentations
- * Halloween Safety
- * Narcotic Awareness
- * Seatbelt Safety
- * Bicycle Safety
- * Vehicle Safety
- * Tips for Latchkey Kids
- * Personal Safety
- * Drug Awareness
- * Self Defense



SAFE SCHOOL PROGRAM REDUCING VIOLENCE

The number of fights in St. Charles parish schools has dropped dramatically since the parish's Safe Schools program began in the 1994-95 school year. The program, which stations St. Charles Parish Sheriff's deputies in the parish's two high school and four middle schools, is designed to quell violence by deterring student fights. Seven deputies, serving as school resource officers, are assigned to the schools where they serve as safety officers, teachers of law related education, and reality based counselors.

Taking a proactive approach in promoting a safe learning environment, the Sheriff's office and School Board are in the forefront with their partnership in creating a safe schools program that has become a national model. Since implementation, the St. Charles Parish Violence Prevention Program has yielded as much as an 88 percent reduction in violent incidents on school campuses.

The St. Charles Parish Safe Schools model has been duplicated by agencies nationwide. ★

24 HOUR DRUG HOTLINE (985) 785-4450

With a 24-hour drug hotline, residents are urged to call and report drug activity. These anonymous tips will be used by deputies to aggressively pursue dealers and abusers of illegal drugs in St. Charles Parish.

Experts suggest that as much as 90% of all criminal activity has some correlation to illegal drugs, whether it is directly or indirectly. "Those who abuse drugs often go to extreme levels to obtain them, even if it means robbing or stealing from those they love," said Champagne.

"The St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office is committed to the war against drugs, but we can't do it alone, we need

the residents to be our eyes and ears in efforts to rid our neighbor-

hoods from illegal and harmful drugs. Aggressive enforcement, education of children about the harmful effects of illegal drugs, and community involvement are all key elements in battling drug activity," added Sheriff Champagne.

To report drug activity, call the drug hotline at (985) 785-4450. All calls will be kept confidential and will be instrumental in making St. Charles Parish a safe community. ★



Lock Your Vehicle Doors & Store Valuables

LOCK YOUR VEHICLE

- ✓ Shut windows tightly whenever you park. Even a small gap will allow a thief room to insert a wire to pry up the lock button.
- ✓ Lock all doors and the trunk or hatchback every time you leave your car. Lock the garage door too.
- ✓ Never leave a car running unattended.
- ✓ Avoid leaving keys with a garage or lot attendant by choosing a place where you park your own car when possible.

DON'T TEMPT A THIEF

- ✓ Carry as few valuables in your vehicle as possible. Cell phones, money, mobile audio or video equipment, etc., are lures for thieves

looking to make a quick grab.

- ✓ Lock packages in the trunk, or put them under the front seats.
- ✓ Engrave your car's VIN on radar detectors, CD players, mobile audio or video equipment, etc., in your vehicle. If the equipment is found later it will make it easier to identify as yours.
- ✓ Don't use the glove compartment as a "traveling safe." Take your valuables, including personal papers, with you.



EXPLORER POST #15

The Explorer Programs were established in 1962 by the Boy Scouts of America, along with representatives of the criminal justice community. Started in 1997 through the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office, the Explorer Post #15 gives area teens a head start training for a career in law enforcement. The three guiding goals are:

- Recruit young men and women to qualify for future careers in law enforcement, offering a positive relationship between police and the youth of our community.
- Provide a forum in which young people can provide non-hazardous community service, thereby relieving deputies for other assignments.
- Provide solid training toward the development of better citizens and better physical fitness for all who participate in the program.

Explorer #15 members actively strive to create a better outlook for their future. Their commitment to education and community service broadens members' goals and develops a sense of leadership. Explorers strive to build public awareness of their commitment to the citizens by working in conjunction with the



Front row, left to right: Deputy Vicki Carter, Sergeant Burley McCarter. 2nd row: Richard Ecuyer, Mark Koederitz, London Thomas, Lieutenant Anthony Smart, Tariq Nurmohamed. Back row: Carson Benoit, Torin Borne, Deputy Dwayne Chaisson. Photo taken at the University of Montevallo after graduation from ALEEA, Alabama Law Enforcement Explorer Academy, June 2013.

sheriff's office. They better serve our community with the knowledge they've gained through training and accumulated experiences.

The Explorer program keeps teens off the streets, encourages youth in the community to look to deputies as role models, and instills in them discipline and purpose in life. ★

For more information please contact Deputy Vicki Carter at (985) 783-1355.



Captain Abdullah Nurmohamed participating in the Explorer competition (Crime Scene Investigation) at Winterfest in Gattlinburg, TN, Feb. 2013.

Community Partnerships

National Night Out Against Crime

On Tuesday, **October 15**, neighborhoods throughout St. Charles Parish are being invited to join forces with thousands of communities nationwide for the 30th Annual National Night Out Against Crime/Drug Prevention event. National Night Out is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch and co-sponsored locally by Sheriff Greg Champagne and the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office.

National Night Out is designed to (1) Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness (2) Generate support and participation in local anti crime efforts (3) Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community relations; and (4) Send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.



This year's theme is "Giving Crime & Drugs a Going Away Party". From **6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on October 15**, homeowners, apartment dwellers and businesses are asked to lock their doors, turn on outside lights for security and spend the evening with their neighbors and police outdoors demonstrating solidarity against crime.

National Night Out is an ideal opportunity for citizens and law enforcement nationwide to form powerful partnerships in the fight for a safer America. On August 4th, millions will join forces to Give Crime & Drugs a Going Away Party.

If your neighborhood is planning a Night Out Party, please call Susie Gauthier by Monday, October 7 at 985-783-1355 to register. ★



"Night out Against Crime" Kick-off Party

October 13, 2013 • 2:30pm-6pm

Treasure Chest, Kenner, LA 70065

Admission: FREE

Come support the fight against crime at the "Night Out Against Crime" Kick-off Party where there will be live entertainment, children's activities, various displays and demonstrations by law enforcement professionals from the various parishes, live music and great food.



St. Charles implemented Project Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) in 1989, making it the second such program to be instituted in Louisiana. The program teaches youngsters the skills they need to avoid drug abuse, gang life, and violence. Worldwide, 35 million school children will benefit from D.A.R.E. training.

D.A.R.E. is a deputy-led series of classroom lessons that teach children from kindergarten through 12th grade how to resist peer pressure and live productive, drug- and violence-free lives. It teaches children the skills they need to recognize and resist the subtle and overt pressures

that may lead them to experiment with drugs and alcohol.

Uniformed officers serve as regular classroom instructors to teach the various D.A.R.E. curricula. With its message of drug, gang, and violence prevention, the program accomplishes its goals by:

- Building students' self-esteem and teaching them to resist peer pressure.
- Providing students with accurate information about alcohol and drugs.
- Teaching students decision-making skills and about the consequences of their behavior.
- Teaching students how to say no to drugs while providing alternatives to drug use.

The overwhelmingly positive response led the department to assign a third deputy to the D.A.R.E. program. It continues to grow today as fifth- and sixth-graders in the parish's public school system accept the challenge to live drug- and violence-free. ★

Sign-up Continues for Sheriff's Citizen Academy

The Sheriff's Office offers a Citizens Academy to local residents in an effort to give parish citizens first-hand information on how the Department operates. This free academy consisting of nine sessions held one night a week at the St. Charles Sheriff's Office at 260 Edward Dufresne Parkway, Luling, Louisiana.

The program involves classroom, interactive instruction and a variety of scenarios. Participants are given the same information that our police recruits and officers receive during in-service training.

To qualify for attending you must:

- **Be 21 years of age**
- **Provide information necessary for a criminal background check**
- **Work or live in St. Charles Parish**
- **Commit to attending all classes**

If you are interested in attending the next academy, go to www.stcharlessheriff.org, complete the on-line registration and mail it to Christine Carter at 260 Judge Edward Dufresne Parkway, Luling, LA 70070 (phone: 783-1280). You will be notified upon your acceptance. More information will be forthcoming on a start date for the academy. ★

Sheriff's Camp teaches boys lessons for life

The 18th annual "Operation First Class Sheriff's Camp" was held during the week of July 14 - 19 at the Boy Scout's Camp Salmen located in the pine forest of Kiln, Miss. This year 72 boys between the ages of 12 - 16 attended the five-day camp along with 14 deputies and 9 Explorer Cadets serving as chaperones.

Through a partnership with the New Orleans Council Boy Scouts of America we offer boys an opportunity to attend, at no charge, a one-week summer camp. Not only do the boys enjoy a variety of outdoor activities including swimming, archery, and crafts, the camp blends



Campers and Law Enforcement Officers at Operation First Class Sheriff's Camp 2013

education and instructional skills, career education, building values, ethics and leadership development to combat the causes of violence and crime.

"When I was elected Sheriff of St. Charles Parish, one of my pledges was to create a summer program for parish youth in an effort to promote trust and interaction between young people and

the Sheriff's Office," Sheriff Champagne said. "The cost to send these boys to camp for one week is roughly the same as incarcerating two juveniles in a correctional facility for a month."

By reaching the youths at this age, the Sheriff said he hopes to make a difference before they end up in the judicial system. "This program is a tremendous

success and a positive experience for the boys who participate, as well as the deputies who accompany them," Sheriff Champagne said.

Since 1996 over 750 St. Charles Parish boys have attended this summer camp.

For more information, please call (985) 783-1355. ★

Community Outreach

NELSON COLEMAN CORRECTION CENTER Changing Lives through Rehabilitative Programs

More than 500 inmates are housed at the Sheriff's Office's Nelson Coleman Correctional Center. This 91,000 square-foot facility is capable of housing 600 inmates and is staffed with 150 deputies, clerical and medical personnel. As of July 1, 2013, the inmate population was 509 males and 39 females.

Major Roland Ladreyt, who has been warden since September 2010, said one of the goals of the facility is to help inmates become productive citizens.

"I will aim for a rehabilitative effort for these inmates, rather than have them just sitting around serving time. My goal is to create a combination of programs aimed at reducing crime and changing individual lives.

"We need to go beyond just locking them up and throwing away the key because that has never worked in the long run. They all get out, return to society and the question is 'Do you want them worse than when they came in'?"

"With the introduction of several successful rehabilitative programs, our goal is to assist or mold inmates interested in treatment."

Ladreyt said that upgrades and improvements to existing detention and security control systems have improved officer safety.

Some of the recent improvements at the correctional center include:

Video Arraignment & Video Visitation:

Security improvements at the jail allow judges to conduct arraignments by video, reducing the need for inmates to bring inmates to the courthouse for initial legal proceedings. The video system also is used for inmate visitation, enhancing security by preventing physical contact between inmates and visitors.

GED Program

The correctional center, in cooperation with the St. Charles Parish Schools, offers a GED program for inmates. More than 75% complete at least one educational functioning level and between 25% and 30% complete the program and receive a GED diploma.

Project Transition

A program certified by Louisiana Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections, prepares inmates for re-entry into the community through training in substance abuse, relationship awareness, job readiness and parenting skills. Inmates

can discuss personal challenges with professional instructors on how to address problems they may encounter upon release.

Classes

The facility also provides regular classes for inmate development such as Alcoholics Anonymous, anger management classes, and various other self-improvement programs.

Outreach Program

The outreach program continues to grow throughout the parish. Inmate work crews help set up and clean up after many community fairs and events throughout the parish. The inmate litter abatement program picks up litter along streets and highways, boat launches, and parks throughout the parish. Inmate workers fill sand bags for the parish and its residents during hurricane and storm events. They also assist in storm recovery by picking up debris and trash.



Nelson Coleman inmates lend a hand filling sand bags for parish residents.

Worker Program

Three main benefits to this program are: Expose inmates to new skills, limits inmate idle time, and save taxpayer and parish money by providing needed services

Inmates assist with building maintenance at the correctional center providing electrical, plumbing, and air conditioning work in addition to helping with ground keeping. The kitchen staff, which includes about 40 inmates, prepares about 1,800 meals daily, and inmates are assigned to launder uniforms and bed linens daily for the entire facility.

Work Release Program

In June 2002 the St. Charles Parish Nelson Coleman Correctional Center was approved by the Louisiana Department of Corrections (DOC) to begin an inmate work release program. The St. Charles Parish Correctional Center is approved for 60 inmates to be on work release

pending strict Department of Corrections Guidelines and available jobs.

This program allows inmates to leave the facility and work, earning money and work experience. Once an inmate begins a work release job, he must pay for room and board. This amount is 50% of their net earnings which is deposited into St. Charles Sheriff's office general fund. Upon release, inmates in the program receive the remaining money, giving them financial help as well as work experience and the opportunity to become productive citizens.

Medical Services

The medical director is Dr. Lawrence Durante and the Health Service Administrator is Kecia Charles, RN. Staff consists of: 4 physicians, 1 dentist, 1 RN, 5 LPN's, 7 medical assistants, 2 pharmacists, and 1 x-ray technician. A new addition to Medical Services is the Tele-Medicine feature. An inmate who needs to be seen by a specialist can do so via video or telephone. The physician makes a treatment assessment based on information from the patient, staff and electronic attachments. With Tele-Medicine and in-house medical treatment, inmates rarely see an outside physician in person, saving the cost of transportation, increasing officer safety and improving security.

The correctional center was the first facility in the state to implement inmate



Through the Outreach Program inmates at Nelson Correctional Center assist at local fairs and events.

co-pays for doctor visits and medication. The inmate is charged \$7.00 co-pay for doctor visits and \$3.00 co-pay for prescriptions.

Religious Services

Over 80 volunteers provide services at the Correctional Center. Religious services range from Catholic and Baptist services to Muslim and Buddhist teachings.

Gardening

Under the direction of Major Ladreyt, this year the inmates began growing vegetables for the use in the Corrections kitchen.

Vehicle Maintenance

This division provides periodic and preventative maintenance to all vehicles in the Sheriff's Office fleet. Services include oil changes, batteries, brakes, etc. Inmate workers are trained to assist the officers assigned to this division.

Security Improvements

The Correctional Center has recently created a mechanism to allow inmates' relatives or others to anonymously report violence against inmates to top Sheriff's Office administrators.

The system allows relatives or friends of inmates to anonymously report issues of concern by using an online form on the Sheriff's Office's web site. The reporting mechanism is a federal mandate designed to reduce violence among inmates.

Cost-Effective Crime Reduction

"In a facility of this size we are able to house more inmates and have seen a reduction in crime throughout the parish. For prison safety, and to interrupt the cycle of crime, we have enhanced the system using basic techniques - all at a minimal cost to the sheriff's office and taxpayers," Major Ladreyt said. ★



Tele-Medicine camera used at Correctional facility for in-house treatment.



Inmates help with building maintenance through the Worker Program.

SERVICE PIN RECIPIENTS HONORED



Congratulations to the following personnel on receipt of the department's service pins. We are indeed fortunate to have employees dedicated to this agency and community by providing many years of faithful service. Thank you for sharing your talents and experience with us. ★

30 YEARS

Zinna, Sam M.
Robicheaux, Maisy L.
Cazenave, Beverly L.

25 YEARS

Bourgeois, Rosalyn P.
Robert, Jimmy M.
Pollet, Randal J.

20 YEARS

Folse, Michael J.
Hamilton, Lonnie M.
Thigpen, Arthur J.
Johnston, Deborah A.
Smith, Donald L.
Benoit, Gerald J.

20 YEARS (continued)

Sparks, Todd W.
Chauvin, Sylvia W.

15 YEARS

Whitney, Troy J.
Oubre, Richard P.
Walsh, Bradley Gerard
Kelly, Ursula Green
Mott, Deneen Bovie
Robinson, Alvin L.
Brimmer, Theresa Marsalette
Freitas, Melissa Ann
Guidry, Jason M.
Jackson, Vanessa V.

10 YEARS

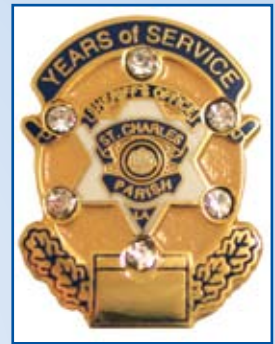
Folse, Shane Michael
Solorzano, Rodrigo M.
Fahrig, Jody T.
Roth, William T.
Hazeltine, Burt Glenn Norton
Robert, Dawn Sanders
Harrison, Shelly B.
Marroccoli, Joseph
Wintter, Katherine A.
Dewhirst, Joseph A.

10 YEARS (continued)

Tregle, Mitzi
Brass, Erik M.
Hamilton, Giovanni Michele
Peranio, Jared P.

5 YEARS

Mautemps, Dawn M.
Duffoure, Keith J.
Harris, Carla J.
Zeringue, Bertie Allen
Brown, Carrie Albair
Gullage, Joyce E.
Vial, Shannon Brown
Ramos, Dora P.
Tabora, Allan Edgardo
Schultz, William P.
Heggelund, Martha Ramirez
Murray, Don Urain
Stackhouse, Troy A.
Frickey, Gavin M.
Barreca, Frances E.
Pertuis, Amanda Dawn
Diggs, Carlyn R.
Springer III, Ronald F.
Monetti, Vincent P.
Cali, Frank Calvin



5 YEARS (continued)

Cosse, Greg
Lege, Nicholas Evan
Dupre, Jennifer Pilar
Allen, Gary Patrick
Carmouche, Merlin C.
Laurent, Beau Thomas
Labue, Salvatore V.
Gilboy, Jack C.
Kilpatrick, Stephen W.
Cortez, Mark
Ropas, Amber A.
Bocage, Valerie Scott
Tucker, Andrea Metrejean
Catalanotto, Scott T.
Everett, James C.
Mistretta, Tamra L.
Acevedo, Jorge Michael
Brooks, Tramell



The Law Enforcement Torch for Special Olympics was held on May 24, 2013. Participants of the Torch Run from St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office raised \$1,516.06 this year. The Law Enforcement Torch Run is the single largest fundraiser for the Louisiana Special Olympics. This year's guest participants were Special Olympians Matthew and Joseph Guichard and Hannah Hotard of Norco. ★



2013 St. Charles Sheriff's Office Torch Run participants raised \$1,516.06.



Sheriff Champagne receiving a Campaign Achievement Award from the United Way at the Victory Celebration held on March 7, 2013. The Sheriff's Office contributions were up 44% from last year.

SEND YOUR GIFT HOME

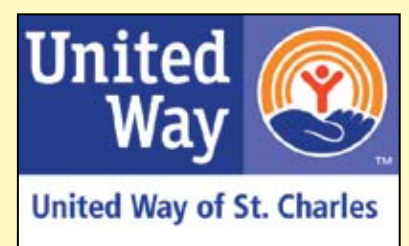
SCSO employees enthusiastically gave to the United Way of St. Charles in 2012 for the twelfth consecutive year, with contributions reaching \$12,285.60.

By designating the parish's United Way agency as the recipient of your pledge, you can ensure that neighbors like you will receive crucial services in their time of need.

Unless you designate St. Charles Parish, your gift will go to the parish in

which your office campaign is held.

Please send your gift home to the United Way of St. Charles.



8.

Follow breaking news from the Sheriff's Office through our web site at www.stcharlessheriff.org. There, residents can pay taxes and traffic citations, view the latest arrest and incidents through our news releases, and keep track of reported crimes and convicted sex offenders who may be living in your neighborhood. You can also get the latest news on our Facebook page, **St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office**, or our Twitter feed, **SCPSheriff**.

