

The Academy Connection

Where South Carolina Law Enforcement Training is Defined

SOUTH CAROLINA
CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACADEMY



**INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:**

Policing...A World Apart	2
Gyrocopters	4
World Police Olympics	5
Student Award Winners	6
Training News	7
Employee News	8-9



Director's Message Hubert F. Harrell

The events which have occurred in South Carolina over the past six months have reminded us of the awesome responsibility the law enforcement community must bear in the performance of their duties. One instance illustrates how we must always be mindful of the power which we are entrusted with to enforce the law and the consequences we must accept when we misuse that power. The other situation is how proud we should be of our fellow law enforcement officers who worked with immediacy and steadfast determination to bring a killer into custody after he killed nine innocent people while they were worshipping at a church. Both of these situations bring to light that, first of all, law enforcement officers are human and we will make mistakes for which we should be held accountable, and secondly that we are diligent hard working professionals who will stop at nothing to right a wrong when innocent people are hurt or injured.

I would like to express my appreciation for those public officials who managed the investigations and circumstances of both events. First, the City of North Charleston, Mayor Keith Summey and Chief Eddie Driggers, who did not turn a blind eye when one of their officers acted in a questionable manner which caused a shadow to be cast over our profession and our citizens to doubt our professionalism. Their quick and decisive response eliminated the need for public outcry. There were no demonstrations or public displays of violence nor was there condemnation of the entire agency for the actions of one officer. Chief Greg Mullin and the City of Charleston, the State Law Enforcement Division, the FBI, the US Marshall's Service, the Department of Public Safety, the Shelby, North Carolina Police Department and finally, the media, who all worked tirelessly to get the information out concerning the suspected killer who took nine innocent lives in a church. He was cap-



tured because we have learned to work together.

These are two sides of the same coin, one side tarnished and one side bright, much as our profession has shown itself to be. Because we are human, and far from perfect, some will falter, but the "Thin Blue Line" must never break. We must stand strong for what is right and just. The people we serve expect it and our profession demands it. As I spoke with one of our graduating classes I reminded them that the people we serve deserve their protectors to be steadfast, dedicated and true to the oath we take to "Protect and Serve".

Continued on Page 2

Director's Message Continued

We must prove that we are worthy of their trust, that we can be fair and impartial, and that we can serve without racial or political bias.

All too often we concentrate on the tarnished side of the coin and rightfully so. We expend many hours trying to polish both sides of the coin but sometimes we miss a spot. It is up to us to eliminate those who have proven unworthy of public trust and do so with the same certainty with which we would bring to justice those who would do the public harm. South Carolina has proven that it is capable and willing to do what is necessary to keep our community whole.

The South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy wishes to extend its heartfelt condolences to our Charleston family for their losses and to acknowledge how proud we are of how you have shown what is possible when we all work together. This is your Academy.

Policing...A World Apart

By: Mike Brantley

Have you ever wondered how law enforcement officers in other parts of the world are trained to deal with the ever changing issues they face? Recently, two instructors from the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy were given the chance to find out. Captain Jim Crosland, from the Basic Training Unit, and Instructor Michael Brantley, from the Traffic Safety Unit, participated in the first law enforcement training exchange program with the German Polizei. These officers spent a week touring and training with the basic law enforcement officers at the Rhineland-Palatinate State Polizei Academy in Hahn Germany.

German Police deal with many of the same issues as officers in South Carolina. Drugs, gangs and the constant increase of traffic are much like here in the United States. One area where their laws differ is when it comes to firearms ownership. Unlike here, in Germany there are very strict guidelines associated with the ownership of firearms. The cost and legal requirements associated with gun ownership limits the number of gun owners and those who do own guns tend to be avid sportsmen and hunters.

When it comes to training, there are major differences. Although many of the training techniques used in Germany resemble those used here, the amount of time that is spent on basic training far exceeds the



standards in our state. South Carolina requires an officer to attend 12 weeks of training to become certified as a Class 1 officer. In Germany, a new officer who earns the equivalent certification as our Class 1 must attend the Academy for three years. During this time they are extensively trained in all aspects of law enforcement. Their training is broken down into 13 modules of training over the three year period. Each module ranges in length from 5 weeks to 23 weeks. Officers are trained in everything from how to study and do research to Cultural Diversity. Each module has a different testing component that the officer must pass before moving to the next one. Written test, oral presentations and practical exercises make up the evaluation process in each module.

Once an officer graduates from the Academy, they are required to serve two years with the Riot Police Squad. During this time they are further trained to deal with large crowds, drive transport vehicles and trained in advanced tactical techniques.

Near the end of their two year service on the Riot Police, officers begin the process of selecting and applying for a specialized unit. Their options include remaining on the Riot Squad or transferring to one of four other units. The other units are the Water Police, Patrol Division, Traffic, and Investigations. Once the officer is selected to one of these units they begin the necessary specialized training that is specific to the unit. For example, an officer who is selected to the traffic unit is trained in advanced pursuit driving. This is done on a Formula 1 race track using high performance vehicles. These officers will stay with this specialized unit for the remainder of their career unless they request to transfer to another unit. If they make that request they must apply and be accepted into the other unit before it is allowed.

Another major part of the German Polizei culture is physical fitness. While at the academy, officers are required to participate in a specific number of hours of fitness training per module. Swimming, running, weight lifting as well as rock climbing are a few of the options available to the officers. Once in the field, the emphasis on physical fitness remains a major part of the expectation put on the officer.

Much like the training requirements, the structure of the German police force is also very different than here in South Carolina. There are no city or county police agencies. Germany is divided into territories, much like states. Each territory has a police force but the officers of all territory are employed by the German government. Officers can transfer from one territory to another without having to go through additional training. Basically there is only one police agency in all of Germany and every officer works for the same agency. The only difference is the Federal Polizei, who serves much like our Homeland Security Officers. This structure eliminates the issue of officers moving from one agency to another and ensures that training is the same across the entire country.



To say this was an opportunity of a lifetime for these instructors would be an understatement. Information and ideas that were shared between the two agencies, as well as the professional contacts made, will serve as invaluable tools to increase officer education. The geographic location might be far apart, but the dangers faced by officers is the same. Through the continued sharing of ideas and training, both South Carolina and the German Polizei plan to meet these dangers head on.

On-Line Training Available Through Acadis

In February of this year an email was sent to all training officers regarding the transition from ETV Moodle to the Acadis Learning Management System (LMS). Over the past four months we have had great success with agencies beginning to use Acadis, but we still have a large number of agencies who have not.

The Academy strongly encourages all agencies to begin allowing their officers to create a user account in Acadis and to begin using Acadis for online training. We recommend that once you start using Acadis that you stop using ETV Moodle so it will be easier for the Academy staff to track each officer's training. Also be advised that RADAR, SMD, and SFST recertification courses are no longer available in ETV and the only way to recertify is through Acadis.

Detailed instructions on how to use Acadis along with contact information is on our website at <http://www.sccja.sc.gov/ACADIS.html>



Gyrocopters: Economic Option to Maximize Patrol Operations

By: Brian Bennett

Law enforcement leaders are often faced with maximizing public services while working with limited budgets. Doing more with less is often the daily task for many agencies and limited budgets don't leave room for extras such as having an aviation unit. Agencies that do have aviation assets are usually relegated to purchasing surplus military equipment from government warehouses or buying well used equipment from the private sector. Fixed wing aircraft can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars and helicopters can run into the millions of dollars. The fuel and maintenance to operate most aircraft can cost tens of thousands of dollars that put further strain on budgets. Many agencies in South Carolina simply cannot shoulder the cost associated with aircraft. What if there was something cheaper and more effective? Enter into the realm of Gyrocopters!

What's so good about gyrocopters one might ask? Gyrocopters (Gyros as they are known) have the best flight characteristics of both fixed wing and rotary wing craft with minimal operating costs and are inherently safer. Gyro flight characteristics are such that they only need a short takeoff distance; they can land like a helicopter, are naturally stable in flight, are highly maneuverable, cannot stall and won't go into tailspins. Almost all of the existing gyrocopter models use regular

87 octane gasoline that is significantly cheaper than aviation gas. Engines for gyros are readily available and easy to service.

There are a number of law enforcement agencies in the United States who have chosen to purchase gyrocopters and found them to be exceptional for patrol operations, search/rescue, surveillance, and many other uses. The chief of Tomball Texas stated that their gyrocopter was worth more than 20 patrol cars on the ground. The law enforcement models available can be outfitted with movable infrared cameras, search lights, patrol radio equipment and



even carry officers armed with rifles. Financial resources for purchasing gyrocopters can be obtained by way of the U.S. Department of Justice and the National Institute of Justice Aviation Technology Programs. Links to funding sources, demonstration videos, list of agencies using gyrocopters and further information can be found at the link here: <http://www.sccja.sc.gov/Other%20Files/Law%20Enforcement%20Gyrocopter%20Information.pdf>

The 2015 World Police/Fire Olympic Games

The 2015 World Police/Fire Olympic games were held in Fairfax, VA the week of June 26– July 5. There were over 12,000 competitors, 70 countries represented, 60 sporting events, and 53 venues, spread out over 10 days.

John McMahon, Range Manager, represented the SC Criminal Justice Academy by participating in the Skeet Shotgun event that was held July 1-2 2015. The event consisted of 100 single and 100 double targets and then a high overall (aggregate of the two events scores). With close to 100 shooters representing various agencies around the US (to include city, county, state and federal departments) plus other countries like Russia, Italy, Great Britain, Ireland, Canada, Australia, New South Wales, Finland, and Iceland, McMahon was able to finish with 2 bronze medals and the silver medal for the overall high score. It was a great opportunity for SCCJA to have this exposure on a national stage and have a



representative on the podium in front of an international audience. The top three overall shooters were from Italy (gold medalist), USA (McMahon, silver medalist), and Great Britain (bronze medalist).



Based on state, regional, and international competition, McMahon's medal count over the past 10 years is currently 56 gold, 22 silver and 8 bronze. Congratulations McMahon, way to represent South Carolina and the United States.



JP Strom Award Winners April—June 2015



BLE 630
Nicholas R. Smith
SC Department of Natural Resources



BLE 631
Andrew L. Blair
SC Highway Patrol



BLE 633
Yvonne M. Still
Myrtle Beach Police Department

Bert Friday Award Winners April—June 2015



Basic Detention 351
James D. Law
Georgetown County Detention Center



Basic Detention 352
Stephen C. Weymouth
Lexington County Detention Center

Basic Class Information

Basic Law Classes

B 635 May 11— August 7, 2015
 B 636 June 1—August 28, 2015
 B 637 June 22—September 18, 2015
 B 638 July 20—October 9, 2015
 B 639 August 10—October 30, 2015
 B 640 August 31—November 20, 2015
 B 641 September 21—December 18, 2015
 B 642 October 12, 2015—January 22, 2016

Limited Duty October 19—29, 2015

Basic Detention Classes

BD 353 July 13—31, 2015
 BD 354 August 10—28, 2015
 BD 355 September 7—25, 2015
 BD 356 October 5—23, 2015
 BD 357 November 2—20, 2015

Basic TCO (formerly E-911)

BTOT 197 July 27—August 7, 2015
 BTOT 198 September 7—18, 2015
 BTOT 199 October 19—30, 2015

BASIC LAW SFST DRINKING LAB

With the addition of SFST and Datamaster DMT classes in the new 12 week basic training curriculum, it will be necessary to ask the field to assist us with volunteer drinkers. I believe this training will assist officers in not only DUI detection, but also help officers to recognize when subjects are impaired. This can make a huge difference in what approach an officer will take when handling various situations. We need approximately 250 volunteers per year. I know this sounds like a lot, but that is less than one percent of South Carolina's police population. If you can be of assistance or have any questions please contact Michael Brantley of the Traffic Safety Unit at (803)896-7791 jmbrantley@sccja.sc.gov or Dale Smith at (803) 896-5556 desmith@sccja.sc.gov.

Below you will find a list of dates we need volunteers. We can provide rooms to any volunteer who will need to travel and stay overnight. Alcohol and meals are provided for all volunteers; however, if they desire to bring their own alcohol that is permitted.

Dates for BLE Drinking Lab 2015

July 29th & 30th 2015
 August 19th & 20th 2015
 September 9th & 10th 2015
 September 30th & October 1st 2015
 October 21st & 22nd 2015
 November 11th & 12th 2015
 December 9th & 12th 2015



Welcome Our New Employees



Angela Surber
Receptionist



Brian Zwolak
Advanced Training Instructor



Craig Ivery
Testing Unit



Taylor Barber
Registration Unit



Kevin Rhinehart
Traffic Safety Instructor

RETIREMENT NEWS

Congratulations to Donna Dowd of the Certification Unit on her retirement.



Employee Awards and Recognition

State Service Awards 2015

10 Years

Bill Kern
Jennifer Tatum
Scott Franklin

15 Years

George Surber
Jason Manis
Lauren Orris
Marie Pound

20 Years

Roy Rogers

25 Years

Michelle Miller
Michael Clark
Vennie Miller
Michelle Collins
Chip Myers

30 Years

Cheryl Beard

Awards given in recognition of State Employee Appreciation Week May 13, 2015:

Supervisor of the Year
Bernard Shirer

Advanced Instructor of the Year
Brian Bennett

Basic Training Instructor of the Year
Michelle Collins

Employee of the Year
Rodney Clay

Director's Award
Cheryl Beard

Michelle Collins (right) received the Basic Training Instructor of the Year award from Director Hubert Harrell (left).

