THE TEXAS JAIL ASSOCIATION
KEY ISSUES
Vol. XVII, No. 1 WINTER 2013

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Here we are in 2013 already. I'm hoping everyone had a very blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year. The New Year is starting out just as exciting as the past year was for TJA. Your Board has a lot of new items coming up and I will try to highlight as many as I can in this letter to you.

My year as president is coming to a close as May moves closer and closer and everyone is getting ready for our 27th Annual Conference. It saddens me to know I only have a few months left before I turn the reins over to our 1st Vice President **Steve Fisher**. However, I will continue to work hard for you as Past President.

The Board met in October and determined that three out of four *Key Issues* publications will be sent out digitally and available to print out at the membership's leisure. The April, July and October editions will be sent out on the Association list serve, as well as being available on our website. As you will see, this issue is our "State of the Association" issue. Each January, we will print and mail *Key Issues*. In this issue you will find information from the presidential chain, along with all our committee reports. Along with this information, the call for Board Member nominations can be found. Each year, there are at least two Director Positions and the 3rd Vice President position open. These positions are filled by membership vote at our Annual Conference. If you attend the conference, remember to visit with each nominee before casting your vote. If you are considering running for the board yourself, I wish you well. If you have any questions about running, please feel free to contact any Board member or Past President.

Our 27th Annual Conference will be held May 13-17, 2013, in Austin, Texas. Registration for the conference is open on the TJA website, along with hotel information. If you wish to stay at the host hotel, Renaissance Austin Hotel, I suggest you make reservations early because the room block fills up fast.

The training committee chaired by 2nd Vice President **Kim Howell** has an outstanding line up of instructors and classes that will bring great knowledge to you to share with your agency. We are excited about some changes coming to this year's conference, including a special surprise right after the opening ceremonies. I'm not going to say what it is, let's just say it will be a tasty time for all with a free gift. Also, this year we will be giving cash prizes during the dedicated vendor time. I anticipate all the attendees will have a great time.

If you work at a small jail, I would like to invite you to attend my class Tuesday afternoon. It is about maintaining a small jail on a small budget. We will talk about jail locks, plumbing, painting concrete and possibly some wiring problems. The class will be a hour and a half, presented twice that day. I hope each participant will walk away with some new knowledge on problems we have working in our jails. I look forward to this conference and all the classes we have in store for the attendees.

During the last part of 2012, TJA hosted Suicide Detection, class #3501, across the state. We have

KEY ISSUES DEADLINES

March 1, 2013 for April 2013 Publication
June 1, 2013 for July 2013 Publication
September 1, 2013 for October 2013 Publication
December 1, 2013 for January 2014 Publication

Send your articles on CD or via email to
Sharese Hurst, Texas Jail Association
Correctional Management Institute of Texas
Sam Houston State University
Huntsville, Texas 77341-2296; sharese@shsu.edu.

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Don't Forget to Nominate Your Peers for Recognition Awards

As we approach the 27th Annual Conference, it is time to call for award nominations. This call includes Detention Officer of the Year (Professional Service), Detention Officer of the Year (Valor), the Hall of Fame Award and the Jerry Bags Leadership Award. The criteria for these awards can be found on the TJA website and within this periodical. The winners of this year's awards will be recognized at our Banquet on Thursday night, May 16, 2013, at the beautiful Renaissance Hotel in Austin. This is the time for professionals to be recognized for the job they perform so well. Your participation in this nomination process will be greatly appreciated by not only the winners, but also by your peers in our career field.

Michael Starkey, Past President
Texas Jail Association

had a good response to this class and hope to continue offering it around the state in 2013. We are looking for counties to host the class. We have Board members available to assist, or instruct. If you are interested in our regional training, please contact **Carmella Jones** at cj@carmellajones.com for additional information. I would like to thank Carmella for an outstanding job on this course and everything she has done for TJA.

The membership drive is in full swing and I encourage you to participate. Third Vice President **Joey Mullins** will provide more information about the contest in this publication. **Jennifer Stephens** and our sales committee are working on new ideas for TJA merchandise that will be available at the 27th Annual Conference. It's going to be hard to top the shirts they created last year, but I bet they do.

I want **Sharese Hurst** to know how much we care and love her for her dedication to TJA and our members. No one really knows how hard this super lady works unless you are around her, or work with her, during your year as President. Along with her outstanding staff, she works long, hard hours to make sure that TJA functions go off without a hitch. I just want to say, "Thank you."

This has been a year of ups and downs for me, and if you know me at all, you will understand what I'm talking about. The highs have included the night I was inducted as President of TJA with three of my girls and son-in-law watching from a front row table. Then, there was the night of November 11, 2012, at Indian Creek Baptist Church, where I was ordained as one of the first two Deacons in over 20 years. Yes, that was a very humbling experience and I'm honored and excited to tell you. Now, I look forward to the weekend before the conference to be in Commerce, Texas on the grounds of Texas A&M to watch my #2 daughter, Chelsea, walk across the stage as a college graduate. She looks forward to stepping into the teaching and coaching field just like her grandmother. You could say I'm one proud Daddy and yes you would be right, of all my children.

I'm hoping this letter has left you informed and wanting more as you read on into this newsletter of the TJA. As your Board, we look forward to serving you- the membership each and every day. May God bless each and every one of you. Always remember while you are making a living, don't forget to have a life. Stay Texas Proud.

Lieutenant Scott Simonton
(949) 452-2849

The Meeting Minutes

By Jen Matejicek

First things first, I want to send out a special "Thank You" to our Past President **Mike Starkey**. Because of Mike, I get to say loud and proud, "I am *your* TJA Secretary." Sheriff **Don Sowell** appointed me to the position of Jail Administrator back in 2007. …Oh boy what was I thinking?!?! Mike and TCJS Assistant Director **Shannon Herklotz** quickly became my "best friends!" They are my life line and I would have had a hard time without their guidance.

I would have to say, I never knew it took this much hard work and dedication of the board members to keep these conferences going. It is such a rewarding feeling and I truly love handling the secretarial duties for TJA as well as helping out with the sales table. Last year, **Carrie Windham** taught me how to sell ice to an Eskimo. I have made so many friends and look forward to meeting you!

So when you attend the next conference, stop a Board Member….and get involved! Sit next to someone you don't know. Introduce yourself, talk, learn from experiences, exchange business cards, and remember…..that person is your co-worker. (Think about it – we all are jailers!) This is OUR conference, let's make it the best. We are Texas Proud…..We are TJA.

Proud Moments

By: Todd Allen, Jail Administrator, Tom Green County

One of the proudest moments of my career of 15 years was the day I was elected to the Texas Jail Association Board of Directors. I had spent the early part of my career attending conferences in hopes of one day being able to be a part of the organization that had done so much for my career development. That hope came to be in May of 2010 at the Austin Jail Conference.

Immediately after being notified by the TJA President, I was asked to join the Training Committee, an assignment I gladly accepted. I spent two years on the training committee and had the pleasure of working with good people that share the common goal of enhancing the professionalism of our field through training. This, my 3rd year serving the Association, I became a member of the Sales Committee. The purpose of the sales committee is not only to raise funds to help the Association put on conferences, but it is also to raise funds for the scholarships offered through the Texas Jail Association as well as spread the TJA name and promote the family feeling this Association is most proud of. I am proud to wear the TJA logo over my heart and am proud to work with the sales committee to develop new ideas to promote TJA.

As I near the end of my 3rd year on the TJA Board of Directors, I hope to have the opportunity to continue the relationships with the members of the Texas Jail Association that I have been blessed with over the years. I encourage every jail officer in the state of Texas to join the Texas Jail Association and become a board member, you will not regret it.

Conference includes:
- **Excellent training and materials**
- **TCLEOSE credit**
- **Exhibitor Showroom**
- **Great door prizes**
- **Awards Banquet**
- **Refreshment breaks**
- **Certificate of training**
- **Jail tours**
- **Courtroom Challenge**

- Renaissance Austin Hotel – Austin, TX
- May 13-17, 2013
- 28 Training hours
- $175.00 Member/$205.00 Non-member Conference Registration Fee includes: Curriculum, Conference bag, President's Lunch, Banquet dinner and entertainment, four continental breakfasts, and three afternoon breaks
- Register online at: www.texasjailassociation.com

27TH ANNUAL TEXAS JAIL ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

Cancellation Policy:
A. A full refund of fees paid will be authorized when a written request for refund of conference or program fees is submitted at least 10 days prior to the scheduled start of the program.
B. A refund of 70% of the fees paid will be authorized when a written request for refund of conference or program fees is submitted less than 10 days prior to the scheduled start of the program.
C. No refund will be given for participants that do not attend the program and no advance notice of cancellation is received.
D. Substitutions may be made prior to the first day of the program for persons that are unable to attend. Advance notice is requested.
E. The Executive Director may make exceptions to the refund policy in the event of an emergency that prevents the participant from attending as scheduled.

27th Annual TJA Conference Tentative Topics:

- **Inmate Transportation**
- **Cuffs & Consequence: Use of Force in Jails**
- **Crime Scene in the Jail**
- **Legislative Update – 82nd Legislature**
- **TEEX Update**
- **Maintenance of Small Jails**
- **PREA Panel**
- **FMLA & ADAA**
- **Fingerprinting: A Hands on Approach**
- **Hot Topics for Corrections**
- **Covert Communications**
- **Courtroom Testimony**
- **Interview & Interrogation Techniques**
- **PTSD – Peer Recognition**
- **Report Writing**
- **Narcotics Recognition**
- **Team Building**
- **Teach 'em to Love the Job**
- **Gangs**
- **ABC's of IPC**
- **Objective Jail Classification**
- **Bringing Calm to Chaos: A First Line Response to Mental Illness**
- **Excited Delirium**

If you have any questions, please call Sharese Hurst at (936) 294-1687. Thank you.
Conference dress code is business casual.
A member of The Texas State University System. An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution.
Duplicate as needed for multiple flyers.

AWARD NOMINATIONS

The Texas Jail Association is now accepting nominations for Detention Officer of the Year (Professional Service and Valor) and the Jerry Baggs Leadership Award. The purpose of these awards is to recognize exceptional service provided by an individual in the field of county jail operations. These awards will be presented at the 27th Annual TJA Conference held May 13-17, 2013, in Austin, Texas. A person being nominated does not have to be a member of TJA; however, he or she must be eligible for membership in TJA. Recipients will receive complimentary conference registration and hotel accommodations at the Annual Training Conference. The recipient will also be presented with a commemorative plaque and will be recognized in the TJA newsletter. Any nomination must have the written endorsement of the agency head.

Nominations will be accepted for the following awards:

A. Professional Service
B. Valor
C. Hall of Fame
D. Jerry Baggs Leadership

Please complete and return the nomination form below to the Awards Committee by **March 15, 2013**. Please describe in specific detail how this nominee meets the criteria for the award. Attach additional pages if needed. Also attach supporting documentation such as offense reports, sworn statements, newspaper accounts, and letters of recommendation.

CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION

A. **Detention Officer of the Year - Professional Service** – This award is given to an individual working in county corrections who has demonstrated a commitment to professional service at his/her agency by making outstanding contributions to county corrections that exceed basic ability and expected performance.

B. **Detention Officer of the Year - Valor** – This award is given to an individual working in county corrections who demonstrated courage or valor in the face of danger while in the performance of his/her official duties.

C. **Hall of Fame Award** – This award is a tribute to the service of an individual career of outstanding contributions to county corrections and the criminal justice system. The recipient of this award has demonstrated a dedication to the advancement of the field of county corrections.

D. **Jerry Baggs Leadership Award** – This award is presented to an individual employed in the field of county corrections who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in and appreciation of the field of county corrections. He or she has exhibited a sincere commitment to the professional advancement of county corrections personnel.

TEXAS JAIL ASSOCIATION

Awards Nomination

Person Nominated: _____
Department/Agency: _____
Position or Title: _____
Address: _____
Phone Numbers: _____

Nominated by: _____
Position or Title: _____
Endorsement by Agency Head: _____

*Return this form and any supporting documents by **March 15, 2013**:*
TEXAS JAIL ASSOCIATION
ATTN: Awards Committee
Correctional Management Institute of Texas
George J. Beto Criminal Justice Center

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Election time is coming and we need good people from around the state to continue the tradition of dedication and commitment set by current and past officers and board members. Become involved; submit a nomination now. The Nomination Committee of the TJA will be selecting a slate of candidates for the following positions:

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

The person elected will serve progressively through the vice presidential chairs to become your president. Give some serious thought to this nomination and present yourself, or someone else, to the Nomination Committee. The eligibility for this elected office is contingent upon active "**professional**" membership in good standing with the Association for a period of one year prior to election. The member must have served at least one year on the Board of Directors in order to be eligible for this position. The member elected will be required to attend approximately four meetings per year.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – Two Positions Available

The Board of Directors shall be the governing body of the Association. The President shall be the presiding officer at all board meetings. The Board shall be empowered to authorize expenditures for the general business of the Association, authorize additional expenditures, and set appropriate charges. The Board may enter into any agreement or contract with other personnel or organizations for the advancement of the Association. Eligibility for this elected office is contingent upon active "**professional**" membership in good standing with the Association for a period of one year prior to election. Members elected to this position shall serve a three year term in office.

NOMINATION PROCESS

Nominations with an attached resume, picture, and letter of endorsement from the agency head are to be returned to **TJA Headquarters, Attention: Sharese Hurst, Box 2296, Huntsville, Texas 77341-2296.** All packets will be sent to the Nomination Committee Chair for verification of eligibility and distribution to committee members.

Guidelines for nominations

1. Individuals must be **professional** members in good standing as specified in the by-laws at the time of nomination.

2. Nominating Committee members shall not be considered for office.

3. Only hard copies of nominations will be considered. Self-nominations are acceptable.

4. Office being sought shall be identified in the nomination.

5. Endorsement of the affected agency head must accompany the nomination. Nominations lacking the agency head's endorsement will not be considered for office.

6. Elections shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Article VI of the by-laws.

Nominations must be received by March 15, 2013. All nominations shall contain the following for consideration: **Full Name, Current Occupation, Official Title, Business Address and Phone Number, a brief biographical sketch (not to exceed 50 words), letter of endorsement from the agency head, and a picture to be included on the ballot.** Nominations received after the deadline cannot be considered.

Nomination Committee
Chair:
Steve Fisher
1st Vice President, TJA
Walker County
751 FM 2821West
Huntsville, Texas 77320
(936) 435-2400
(936) 435-2410 fax
sfisher@co.walker.tx.us

Committee Members:
Kim Howell
2nd Vice President, TJA
Lubbock County
P.O. Box 10536
Lubbock, Texas 79403
(806) 775-7005
(806) 775-7979 fax
khowell@co.lubbock.tx.us

Dennis Wilson
Member-at-Large
Limestone County
912 North Tyus Street
Groesbeck, Texas 76642
(254) 729-3278
(254) 729-4568 fax
dwilson@co.limestone.tx.us

Nominations & By-Laws Committee Report

By: Steve Fisher, 1st Vice President

Greetings to all my friends and law enforcement family! We have closed out another year and are beginning a new one. I hope and pray that everyone had a safe and wonderful Christmas season. As we begin this New Year, we are already planning for the upcoming Annual Conference in Austin. The year has gone by extremely fast and we are looking forward to seeing everyone again. It will be another great opportunity for training and networking.

The Board wants to make sure that the members are informed and/or reminded of what each position on the Board is responsible for. The 1st Vice President is the chairperson for the Nominations Committee and the By-Laws Committee. With that being said, there are no recommended changes for the By-Laws this year.

We want to encourage all members to consider serving on the TJA Board of Directors and/or to nominate someone to serve. Our founder, **Jerry Baggs**, had a vision for the people who serve in corrections. It is an honor and privilege to be a part of such a great organization, not just in this state, but in the nation. We have such an impressive organization that so many other states and associations only wish they could have. I also want to thank all the sheriffs in this great state for their continued support of TJA.

We have a duty to carry on this tradition by growing our membership, as well as a need for members around the state of Texas to serve on the Board. I challenge each of you to continue to promote our Association and consider serving on the Board. We will have our elections in May 2013 at our Annual Conference in Austin. It is not too early to consider serving, or to nominate someone that you feel would provide the needed leadership for TJA. Please refer to the "Call for Nominations" in this publication, or on the TJA website, for further details.

The following is your Nominating Committee for the 2012-2013 year:

Steve Fisher
Walker County Sheriff's Office
Email: sfisher@co.walker.tx.us

Kim Howell
Lubbock County Sheriff's Office
Email: khowell@co.lubbock.tx.us

Sheriff **Dennis Wilson**
Limestone County Sheriff's Office
Email: dwilson@co.limestone.tx.us

The following is your By-Laws Committee for the 2012-2013 year:

Steve Fisher
Walker County Sheriff's Office
Email: sfisher@co.walker.tx.us

Billy Bryan
Email: wjb@vvm.com

Mary Farley/Past President
Bell County Sheriff's Office
Email: mary.farley@co.bell.tx.us

If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please let us know. We look forward to working with and for the members of the Texas Jail Association. We hope to see all of you at the regional trainings around the state, and in Austin at the Annual Conference in 2013! I hope and pray that everyone has a successful year and safe travels. Take care and God Bless!

About the Second Vice-President

By: Kim Howell

I would like to take a moment and share with you the duties and responsibilities one has when serving as the 2nd Vice President of our great Association. The first and foremost is Training; I emphasize that with a capital "T," as it is the cornerstone of our foundation. One can define training as "to make proficient with specialized instruction and practice." Being proficient increases our abilities and skill set as professionals in our career.

The 2nd Vice-President chairs the Training Committee. The committee plans and prepares two conferences, our Annual in May and the Jail Management Issues in August. In planning, the committee reviews the previous course evaluations received from the attendees to ascertain if the speaker was effective, the topic was relevant and beneficial to the members. We also review new classes and instructors to bring "hot topics" to the forefront. After much time and thought the committee prepares the tentative agenda.

Prior to the upcoming conference the committee chairperson contacts and schedules the presenters, obtaining the following information: logistical needs regarding transport and travel, costs associated with bringing the speaker to the conference, and equipment required for the class. The 2nd Vice-President works closely with the Executive Director in preparing the speaker matrix as this information is the foundation of the contracts that the Executive Director and staff enter into with an instructor.

The chairperson is tasked with ensuring each course has a moderator assigned. The moderator is an important component. The moderator greets and introduces the speaker, ensures that the course materials such and handouts and evaluations are in place and last but not least the TCLEOSE sign in sheet is present so that attendees will receive the proper training credit. The moderator assists with the keeping the class on schedule by advising the instructor when break times are nearing. The moderator closes out the class and collects all of paperwork.

During the conference the 2nd Vice President confirms that the instructors have arrived as scheduled. They will greet each instructor and thank them for bringing their knowledge and expertise to our membership. Next is checking to make sure that the moderators are in place, course materials are present and all equipment is working. Having a back-up plan is essential, since one doesn't have control over illness or weather and the conference must go on.

I don't want this to sound daunting or too demanding because there is such a level of teamwork within the Texas Jail Association that affecting these objectives are easily obtained.

There is great mentorship from the current President in addition to the Past Presidents that any question one may encounter they will have an answer. I would encourage you to take on the challenge because not only can you assist with the professional development of others but you will find that you also increase your own. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your 2nd Vice-President as it has been my honor to do so.

Taking Care of the Money

By: Carla Stone

The Treasurer's position is a three year commitment and consists of many different duties. The duties of Treasurer range from paying bills, balancing the checkbook, reconciling statements, assisting with the sales booth, as well as serving as a member of the Executive Committee.

As Treasurer, I am responsible for verifying sales totals and depositing those funds into the association's general account. From this account we purchase the sales items, pay printing expenses for *Key Issues*, storage containers for the sales items and equipment needed to present training classes at the conferences. I am also responsible for processing any donations to our two scholarship accounts and also the disbursement of those funds when approved.

The Treasurer is also responsible for compiling all the required financial reports and information for the accountant to prepare the Association's tax return each year. Due to our non-profit status this is a very important task that must be completed in a timely manner.

It is my responsibility to present a Treasurer's Report each board meeting and at the annual May Conference. All financial records are maintained and available for audit by the Finance Committee when requested.

And, as with all of our jobs descriptions in our county facilities, that famous statement, "other duties as may be assigned by the Sheriff;" the Treasurer's duties also include any other duties as assigned by the President.

Training Report

By Kim Howell

Greetings fellow TJA Members,

I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable Holidays season. Closing out a year brings the opportunity to reflect back on goals that were set and accomplished, both personally and professionally. Goals were set for the Association and achieved as well. The training opportunities included classes that an employee could gain certification as well as an increased knowledge base. The conference attendance increased further enhancing the professional relationships agencies achieved.

The Texas Jail Association teamed up again with the Texas Commission on Jail Standards and presented "The Basics" throughout the state. The course was held in 11 locations with 479 attendees receiving training. Also, ongoing is the TJA Regionals which consists of Suicide Detection and Prevention in Jails, 72 individuals have received this training to date. Please take advantage of additional future training opportunities throughout the upcoming year. You can locate the information on the TJA website.

I would like to personally thank the board members for sharing their knowledge as instructors throughout the year; moderating classes and playing a key role in making the conferences run as smoothly as they do. A special thank you to our Historian **Carmella Jones**, she has assisted immensely with the Regionals; from preparing topic materials, teaching to scheduling the training locations. She has been, and always will be, an asset to the Association. Executive Director, **Sharese Hurst** and the CMIT staff of Sam Houston State University do a wonderful job. Their hard work makes a Conference run extremely smooth.

We are preparing for the 27th Annual Conference to be held at the Renaissance Hotel. Mark your calendars for May 13-17, 2013. Please contact me if you are interested in being a presenter, moderator or assisting in any other way with the conference. Please continue to share your training ideas for either topics or presenters, as this Association was built by our members for our members.

Your training committee for 2012-2013 is:

- Chairman: **Kim Howell,** 2rd Vice President, Lubbock County Sheriff's Office, 806-775-7005, khowell@co.lubbock.tx.us
- Member: **Scott Simonton**, President, Palo Pinto County Sheriff's Office, 940-659-3593, deputysimonton@yahoo.com
- Member: **Steve Fisher**,1st Vice President, Walker County Sheriff's Office, 936-435-2400, sfisher@co.walker.tx.us
- Member: **Joey Mullins**, 3rd Vice President, Angelina County Sheriff's Office, 936-634-2724, jmullins@angelinacounty.net
- Member: **Shane Poole**, Director, Travis County Sheriff's Office, 512-854-5326, Shane.poole@co.travis.tx.us
- Member: **Carmella Jones**, Historian, 512-917-1017, cj@carmellajones.com

From His Chaplain

Lord….Thank You

I hope everyone got their fill of turkey and all that goes with it. This time of year, we all gather around our families and give thanks for all of the blessings God has given us. I know that every one of you have tons of things to be thankful for. Your family and your health are usually on the top of the list, and it's truly two things to be grateful for, but there is so much more; like….. everything.

Recently at church, the pastor called the children up to pray before they were dismissed to children's church. As always, he spoke to the children before having prayer. Pastor Ivey asked the question, "What are you thankful for?" There were answers like…"My mom and Dad." You know the usual sweet answers from little ones. One little boy however, said, "I'm thankful for everything." How sweet to hear this from a child. In thinking, it should come from us all. We are instructed by God's Word to be thankful for all things.

Ephesians 6: 15-20 in the New Living Translation says, "So be careful how you live, not as fools but as those who are wise. Make the most of every opportunity for doing well in these evil days. Don't act thoughtlessly, but try to understand what the Lord wants you to do. Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, let the Holy Spirit fill and control you. Then you will sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, making music to the Lord in your hearts. And you will always give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

I know, as well as a lot of you, that giving thanks to God for everything is hard to do. When we are going through hardship and tribulation it is hard to give thanks. But if you remain spiritual in your thinking, you can reassure yourselves in knowing that what you may be going through will build character in your walk with God. Passing through a valley with your feet planted solidly in God's Word will give peace and victory and especially bring Glory to God! Colossians 2:7 says, "Let your roots grow down into Him and draw up nourishment from Him, so you will grow in faith, strong and vigorous in the truth you were taught. Let your lives overflow with thanksgiving for all He has done." New Living Translation.

In giving thanks to God with a true and honest heart for Him brings praise, honor and glory to Him. It is a way to worship God and to spend time with Him. While driving to work you can spend time giving thanks to our Lord for all He has done in your life. We should all stop and take time to reflect on all He has done for us and all He has given us.

May God bless you all,

Jerry Baker, Jail Administrator
Houston County Sheriff's Office
TJA Chaplain

TOO MUCH HAT, NOT ENOUGH COWBOY?

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Exhibitor Update

By Mo Mascorro & Chris Medley

The New Year is here, the elections are over, and budgets are becoming more stable. As vendors, those are all good things. This election cycle saw a much larger turnover of sheriffs than we normally see, which means we will be seeing new faces at TJA conferences this year. If you are unsure of how some local races turned out, we encourage you to visit the Sheriffs' Association of Texas website where they have a link to unofficial election results.

The Vendor Committee is dedicated to making the exhibit experience the best it can possibly be for both participants and exhibiting companies. We work with the Board of Directors and the Correctional Management Institute of Texas team to plan exhibit hours and show layouts. Both members serve on staggered two-year terms, and are appointed at the TJA Annual Conference in May by the incoming President, the current 1st Vice President of the TJA Board. It is a two year commitment that requires regular attendance at quarterly Board meetings. It is a non-voting position, but thankfully our voices carry weight with this Board and we have been able to advise on changes that we hope will continue making this one of the best associations for membership training in the country.

For 2013, with direction from the Board, we have made recommendations to change the vendor setup in ways that will allow more concentrated exhibitor time while still maintaining the high quality of training that the TJA conferences have always been focused on. One of the biggest changes to the vendor time you will see this year is on opening day of the exhibit hall for the TJA Annual Conference in May. Your Board will have a formal ribbon cutting to open the hall, followed by vendor time and an "Apron" lunch served in the hall. Every person that attends will get a commemorative TJA Apron along with their lunch, as well as access to special door prizes in the exhibit hall.

Everyone should have received their exhibitor packets for the 27th Annual TJA Conference to be held May 13 – 17, 2013 at the Renaissance Hotel in Austin, Texas. If by chance you did not receive your packet, you can access all the needed information and forms on the TJA website.

CAUTION: Please take time to review your packets and get them back to TJA in order to secure your "preferred spot." If you delay, as others have in the past, you may find yourself left out and not able to attend and or exhibit. You should know that on your behalf TJA has implemented a Non-Exhibitor/Sponsor Policy during the conference dates. *Please report anyone that you feel is not registered and is gaming the system.*

Please contact either vendor representative with questions or comments on improving the vendor experience.

Maurice "Mo" Mascorro
Infinity Networks
512-963-2330

Chris Medley
Galls
210-632-7066

Entertainment Committee Annual Report to the Members

The entertainment committee was established to bring fun and fellowship to TJA event. The goal of the committee is to sponsor activities that, while hopefully fun, are a safe event for conference attendees. Although some like to "party" away from the conference hotel, we hope our events keep the majority in-house where you can truly relax and personally get to know instructors and fellow professionals from across the state.

This year's biggest event was our TJA Idol competition where the top three received cash prizes in a karaoke contest that spanned three days. Another highlight was Sheriff **Daniel Law** and his Texas High Riders who put on special performances in both Austin and Galveston.

We hope you enjoy these events and welcome any input - good or bad - as we strive to serve the members in this area.

Bill Bryan
Chair

Promoting Our Association

By Jennifer Stephens

After being elected to the TJA Board, I was chosen as chairperson of the Sales Committee. I oversee the operation of our sales team and the planning and coordinating of our merchandise. The sales committee is made up of four members; however, it takes the whole board's cooperation and help for us to be successful. We are in charge of setting up and taking down the sales tables, as well as staffing the table during each conference.

The revenue made from the merchandise sales helps assist in the running of the Association. I work closely with our vendors to try and get the best deals possible so that we can keep it affordable for our members.

Our main goal as an association is to get TJA's name out to the public and promote membership. I am always looking for new ideas that I think our membership will enjoy and will serve that goal.

I feel the biggest reward as a board member is being able to meet the membership and interact with them. I love networking with other counties. It's always neat to hear other's ideas and how they do things at their facility. The contacts I have made through the Association have been used on more than one occasion.

When I first started throwing around the idea about running for the Board, I wasn't sure if I was "board member" material. I didn't know if I had anything to offer the Association. I was fortunate enough to have a command staff that stood behind me and gave me the extra encouragement I needed. I encourage those of you that may be having the same insecurities to quit doubting and take the first step in getting involved. Once elected, I quickly became aware that each of the board members were very different and each of us had something unique to bring to the table. Serving on the board is a lot of hard work and at times is a challenge juggling between my county position and the Association, but it is definitely worth it. The experience as a board member is priceless.

1300 IN 2013
by
Joey Mullins

Greetings! I hope everyone had a Merry CHRISTmas and a Happy New Year. As your 3rd Vice President, I am accountable for the membership committee which is responsible for planning, development, and implementation of on-going recruitment programs. In our last business meeting, on behalf of the membership committee I presented some new ideas to add to the current membership drive. We hope TJA membership will continue to grow with these new incentives. I challenge you to take part in this year's membership drive.

Membership Drive Rewards

- Individuals with **20** or more **new memberships** receive: Lifetime membership and certificate of appreciation
- Agency with **20** or more **new memberships** receive: Free registration to annual conference
- Individuals with **10 renewals** receive: Cash prize at annual awards banquet.
- Individuals with minimum of **5 new** memberships receive: Coupon for free gift from the TJA sales table
- Individuals with a minimum of **5** memberships from **out of county** receive: Coupon for free gift from the TJA sales table
- Individuals with the **most out of county** memberships receive: Cash prize at annual awards banquet

The last three are the new items that were added to the contest in hopes of encouraging current members to network outside of their departments to others that may not be involved in the Association. The cutoff date for the contest will be May 1, 2013.

Currently, we are 1097 members strong and growing. Our goal is to reach 1300 members by the 27th Annual Conference, May 13-17, 2013. I challenge **YOU** to help us reach our goal!

I look forward to seeing everyone at the conference. If you are not already registered I encourage you to do so, for it will be a great week of learning and networking.

Technology Committee Report

By Shane Poole

Greetings everyone, let's get social! (Social media that is.)

Social media has become a mainstream form of communication for millions of people on a personal level, but it has also caught fire with business and professional organizations to include law enforcement and corrections agencies. As most of you already know, TJA has had a Facebook page through the efforts of 3rd Vice President **Joey Mullins** for quite some time, and your Board wants to take our efforts in social media to the next level to serve you even better!

Over the coming weeks and months, we will be expanding the content on our Facebook page to enhance your experience as a TJA member. We will be finding ways to make connecting with your TJA friends around the state as simple as a click or two. We know that you value your privacy, so we will continue our policy of limiting participation to active, full members of TJA. The page will be moderated to ensure our content keeps a positive tone for all to enjoy. We will also be working to provide you with information and offerings for training and other opportunities that will mirror what goes out through our list serve, so you will have another way to connect besides email. If you are not already a member of the TJA group, just search Texas Jail Association and request to join from your Facebook page.

Many members also want to take advantage of connecting professionally with people and organizations in and outside of TJA. To help out with this, we have established a group on www.linkedin.com. If you are not already a member, this is a great forum for all of your professional contacts. Access will be open to all TJA members, Associate members and vendors that have participated in at least one TJA vendor show in the past three years. Linked In allows members to post conversations on specific topics, much like we do requests for information and assistance through the list serve. As with our Facebook page, we will moderate this group as well. Check this one out and get your account going today or look for your invitation from me in your inbox!

Last, but not least, look for us on Twitter as we get closer to the annual conference in May and the JMI conference in August. We hope to use Twitter to make your conference experience even more enjoyable through interaction with our President, Board members, members and vendors.

So it looks like an exciting year ahead in TJA. We hope that integrating social media with our organization will benefit you both professionally and personally as we grow our networking opportunities. Please feel free to contact me or your Technology Committee members with suggestions or requests on how we can make your social media experience even better. Members working for you include: Joey Mullins (jmullins@angelinacounty.net), **Carmella Jones** (cj@carmellajones.com), **Bill Jennings** (wjennings@co.gregg.tx.us), and yours truly at shane.poole@co.travis.tx.us.

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Meet Byron Shelton, TJA Director

Hello, my name is Byron Shelton and I am proud to be serving as a director for your Texas Jail Association. I was appointed to the board in June of 2012. Again, I am proud to be serving in this capacity because it enables me to interact with some of the finest professionals in the field of corrections in the state of Texas.

As a member of the Board, I can be actively involved in training throughout the state. Traveling to jails across this great state allows me to absorb knowledge from individuals who have a great deal of compassion for this field that we all love so much. I truly believe continued training is the one thing that everyone in this profession must have in an effort to be successful.

No matter what size facility you work in, it is possible you are experiencing personnel shortages along with complacency. One of the most productive ways to combat these problem areas is ensuring that you are constantly engaging your respective staffs in training. Being members of TJA allows us to share knowledge with one another. Again, when we sit and visit with one another we learn that we share the same issues and problems. So, why in the world should we reinvent the "wheel"? Utilize your TJA membership by reaching out to people who share the same problems as you. These are not complex things we are dealing with, but sometimes it helps to hear that voice of reason from another jail, or agency, to get us moving in the right direction and to motivate us.

If you are a person responsible for training within your agency, or are in a position that allows you to send people to training classes for your agency, then encourage your staff members to become members of the Texas Jail Association. This Association offers continuous training. Many times, these trainings are free. That's right no cost! I don't know if your agency is anything like mine, but my administration is very supportive to classes and training that are free. Additionally, training tips can be obtained once the classroom portion is done by interacting with fellow professionals outside the classroom setting through networking with peers. At the end of the day, there is no negative aspect of becoming a member of the TJA. Please don't wait another day to join! Be a part of one of Texas's most respected organizations.

I look forward to continued service with this organization for you, the members, and people that count! I say thank you for your service to this profession and continue to keep the fire and passion for this field in which we love!

Sergeant Byron Shelton, Bell County Sheriff's Office, Belton, Texas

MANDATORY CRISIS INTERVENTION FOR JAIL OFFICERS

by
Todd Allen

Once a mental health consumer is taken into custody by a peace officer with crisis intervention training (CIT), they are, in some cases, brought to the local county jail. Jail officers receive extensive training in self-defense and takedown techniques but no CIT training. With no CIT training, the officers will resort to the training they are taught to use, causing an often unnecessary use of force against mentally ill inmates. The jail officers are viewed as insensitive to the needs of the mental consumer, causing an unfair negative perception of the jail officers.

Training is available to assist jail officers in identifying a person in mental health crisis. Once the identification is made, the officer must refer to the use of force continuum to deal with the individual. This can include a wide range of force options, including placement in a restraint chair, the use of chemical agents, or deployment of the TASER. After the threat of injury to the officer has been removed by the use of force, the jail officer is still required to care for the individual for the duration of their incarceration.

Crisis Intervention Training should be mandatory for jail officers in Texas. There are a large number of persons incarcerated with some form of mental illness. Jail officers are not properly trained or equipped to handle these inmates. Texas Peace Officers are required to attend Crisis Intervention training, but the jail officers working in the facilities that often house these persons with a mental illness have no requirement for CIT training.

The concept of crisis intervention was developed as a jail diversion technique. Responding officers, trained in crisis intervention techniques, would deescalate the subject and refer them to the appropriate mental health facility. There are, however, many instances where the individual is brought into jail rather than a place where the individual can receive some form of treatment for their illness.

Due to the lack of available space and the number of inmates with a mental illness, many of them are placed in

general population. An inmate placed in general population with a mental illness is at risk of being assaulted or taken advantage of. Other inmates may not recognize the signs of a mental crisis and may view the actions as aggressive or disrespectful and assault the individual. The inmate with a mental illness may not understand what is happening when another inmate is taking advantage of them, subjecting them to the loss of items or possibly sexual assaults.

In jails, rules must be followed. These include facility rules as well as unwritten rules put in place in the cell block by other inmates. Some mental illnesses do not allow the individual to understand the difference between right and wrong. For each rule broken, there are consequences. Jails have a clearly defined set of rules that must be adhered to by all inmates. Officers not trained to recognize a mental crisis and properly handle the situation will discipline the inmate, tightening the security on them. This tightening of security may lead to an increased sense of fear and paranoia to the inmate involved aggravating the crisis.

Stress among jail officers is elevated due to the nature of the job. The sometimes manipulative ways of inmates can be tough to deal with on a daily basis. Officers are faced with the danger of inmate-on-officer assaults and inmate-on-inmate assaults every day they are on duty. Some of these assaults could have been prevented if the officers were properly trained in de-escalation techniques like crisis intervention. Jail officers are forced to handle these types of situations with the training they have. Most often, this training is in the use of force. Using force against an inmate may result in injury to the inmate but can also result in injury to the officers as well. An individual in a mental health crisis may not understand the orders being given and will act out. If the crisis is one that puts the individual in fear that they are being attacked, they will certainly defend themselves.

The steps an officer must complete to determine the possibility of a mental illness and what to do afterwards is clearly defined. During the booking process, officers are required to complete a mental health-screening instrument on all inmates booked into the facility (Texas Administrative Code, 2009). After determining, based on answers to the screening instrument, that the inmate is in need of further evaluation, the officers must notify a magistrate within 72 hours (Early Identification of Defendant Suspected of Having Mental Illness or Mental Retardation, 2009). After determination, there are no defined steps on what to do next. Typically, the officer will place the inmate into a holding cell, usually away from other inmates and monitor them during regular checks. If the inmate, or mental health consumer, has a mental crisis, the officer is not trained to properly deescalate the individual. The officer will resort to the training that was received during the training process: use of force. The inmate will be subjected to the appropriate use of force to remove the perceived threat. This will often have an undesired effect on the inmate in a crisis. The inmate may not understand what is happening and will begin to resist more violently, causing to the officer to escalate the force. Unfortunately, this may result in injury to the inmate. The officer is trained to use the amount of force necessary to regain control of the inmate.

Crisis Intervention Training is required for all persons licensed as a peace officer in Texas. (Texas Occupations Code, 2009) While this training has improved peace officers' contacts with mentally ill persons, little has been done for jail officers. Jail officers are faced with the dilemma of protecting the mentally ill subjects that are brought into the jail with little or no training. Jail officers are in contact with these individuals far more than any other member of the criminal justice community and are often the first to notice the beginning of a mental crisis. The officer is not adequately prepared to handle and de-escalate the situation. The need for this type of training is imperative for the safety of the officers and the mentally ill.

Persons with a mental illness will continue to arrive in jails. In some cases, there is no other alternative. With the decline in the economy and the strain on already tight budgets, hospitals are more frequently denying individuals with a mental illness. The arresting officer may have no other option but to bring the mentally ill person to jail for emergency detention if for no other reason. Chapter 16.22 of the Code of Criminal Procedure gives the authority to do this (Early Identification of Defendant Suspected of Having Mental Illness or Mental Retardation, 2009). Jails will have no choice but to take the person in and care for them as best they can. With the current training jail officers receive, the risk of injury to the mental consumer remains elevated. The majority of mental health consumers are not normally violent unless provoked by improper treatment.

The cost of training officers is very low. Training all officers in a facility will ensure that someone will always be available to deescalate a subject experiencing a mental health crisis. This training can include any civilian and support staff in the facility. The training curriculum does not address diagnosing an inmate, only recognizing, communicating, and deescalating. Safeguards in place with the Code of Criminal Procedure and the Texas Commission on Jail Standards will ensure the steps are followed, and the subject will receive the care they desperately need. The program must be reevaluated often and feedback from staff is necessary to make crisis intervention techniques successful.

Training jail officers in crisis intervention techniques will ease some of the stress felt by the officers every day. The officer will have a sense of pride in knowing that an unnecessary use of force was avoided. Family members of mental health consumers will take comfort in knowing their loved one is being cared for during their incarceration and will receive treatment for their illness.

LOCAL JAIL OFFICIALS VISIT POLISH REMAND PRISONS

by

Shane Poole

From left to right: Lt. Shane Poole, Mr. Bob Patterson, Warden Steve Mora, Mr. Doug Dretke, General Krzysztof Keller, and Sheriff Dennis Wilson at the Central Board of Prison Services, Warsaw.

This past September, a group of local jail and prison officials had a once in a lifetime opportunity to visit Poland and tour several of their facilities. The trip was part of an on-going exchange of ideas and friendship between the Polish Prison Services and the Texas jail and prison systems.

The leader and organizer of the delegation was **Mr. Doug Dretke**, the Correctional Management Institute of Texas (CMIT) Executive Director. He has led several groups of prison officials to Poland previously, as well as hosted several groups from Poland when they visited our great State. Other participants included **Sheriff Dennis Wilson** of Limestone County; **Mr. Bob Patterson** of Bell County, TJA and AJA Past President; **Warden Steve Mora**, Federal Bureau of Prisons out of Bryan; and yours truly.

This latest trip was the first opportunity for local jail officials to participate in the exchange program, and we were invited specifically to tour the Polish Remand Prisons. The Polish Prison System is a unified system run by the Polish Prison Service, meaning that one governmental agency manages offenders from arrest through the completion of prison sentences and parole. The equivalent of a Texas jail in Poland is their Remand Prison. Remand prisons are located throughout the country under the supervision of Regional Directorates.

General Jacek Wlodarski, Director General of the Poland Prison Service and CMIT Executive Director Doug Dretke.

Our trip almost ended before it began due to a Lufthansa cabin crew strike in Germany (our plane included), so our group split up and took a couple of different routes and airlines to get to Warsaw, but we all made it safely (other than Doug's suitcase that took a detour). Upon arrival, we met our escorts and translators for our stay, Col. **Wlodzimierz Paszkowski**, Lt. Col. **Magdalena Brol** and **Aleksandra Rogowska** who all work for the Prison Service Office of the Director General. These two get high marks for herding a bunch of Type-A Texans from one end of Poland to the other without a major international incident!

A typical cell door in an older facility.

The official itinerary included meeting General **Jacek Wlodarski**, Director General of the Prison Service; General **Krzysztof Keller**, Deputy Director of the Prison Service; General **Pawel Nasilowski**, Director of the Electronic Monitoring Center; Col. **Krzysztof Trela,** Regional Director (Cracow); Col. **Miroslaw Dudar**, Regional Director (Bialystok); representatives of the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, and the wardens and staff of the remand prisons and the national police training center.

Our home base was the Prison Service Staff Training Center in Popowo. We toured several remand prisons and installations to include the Remand Prison Warsaw-Mokotow; Remand Prison Cracow; the National Police Training Center in Legionowo; the Electronic Monitoring Center in Warsaw; Remand Prison Hajnowka; and the Remand Prison Warsaw-Grochow.

In visiting the various locations, we discovered that the Polish Prison Service facilities varied widely in terms of design and age, not unlike the jails across Texas. The units in Warsaw and Cracow for example, were historical, pre-dated WWII, and were both used by the Nazis and the Russian occupation to hold Polish political prisoners.

With regard to the prisons themselves, what struck several of us was the lack of visibility in the cells that we now take for granted in our jails. Polish prisons have a very high regard for inmate privacy. Most cells have a solid door with a small peep hole for staff to see in the cell. Most cells housed two to four inmates. We also noticed that their inmates pace their rec yards just like ours! Our Polish brethren face many of the same issues we do with regard to crowding, classifications, staffing, training, facility maintenance and budgeting.

Sheriff Wilson and Warden Mora inspect a cell at the Cracow Remand Prison.

The remand prisons, being regionally based, often house convicted offenders of all custody levels. The prison system firmly believes in keeping offenders as close to home and family as much as possible to allow them to stay connected with family and friends. Most visits we observed were 'contact' style, and were believed to contribute to the offenders' successful reintegration.

The wardens had the flexibility to implement counseling, educational and vocational programs that worked for their population and their community. Such programs included high school programs similar to our GED programs; landscaping and maintenance; radio program production; rescue dog obedience training; arts and crafts; and community service. Qualified inmates have even participated in local "fun runs" with the community!

Of particular note, was the Polish Prison Service's twist on electronic monitoring. The technology is similar to ours, but it is managed from a central, national office. Instead of using the system for pretrial release or traditional parole monitoring, prison officials "recruit" eligible inmates who are released to serve the rest of their sentence on a monitor instead of sitting in prison. Monitoring officials not only perform the traditional tasks of tracking and contacting participants, they're also expected to take calls from offenders who may be experiencing a variety of troubles adjusting to life on the outside and putting them in touch with the appropriate resources.

We were fortunate to see some of the beautiful countryside as well. Our trip to Cracow was by train. The old town square and market, castle and cathedrals were among the most memorable sites of the trip. From Cracow, we drove to the mountain town of Zakopane. We were able to travel by cable car to the top of the mountain ridge dividing Poland and Slovakia in the south—and we actually walked along this ridge. (I think Sheriff Wilson crossed the border illegally a few times taking pictures!) We also visited a wildlife preserve in Hajnowka located in the northeast Bialystok region where we saw their famous bison up close and personal. Old Town Warsaw was amazing in that it was a faithful recreation of the old architecture of the area to include the national palace, all of which was completely destroyed by the Nazis in WWII.

A typical cell in the Wasaw Remand Prison

Throughout the visit, we indulged in the traditional foods and local hospitality which was beyond compare. The Polish people are truly a proud and welcoming bunch of folks whom I am now grateful to call friends. I am deeply appreciative of the opportunity our hosts gave us with our brief visit. I came away with the realization that we have a lot more in common with our colleagues half-way around the world than I would have thought, and I look forward to showing them some Texas hospitality when they can make the trip here! *"Na zdrowie!"*

As Steve Mora and Bob Patterson look on, Sheriff Wilson receives the traditional tap on the shoulder with General Nasilowski's sword just like a newly trained correctional officer.

Courtesy of https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/pl.html

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE STATE

COLLIN COUNTY

Dottie Scalf Honored at Retirement Reception

Sheriff Box's Office Coordinator, **Dottie Scalf**, was recently given the grand send off during a retirement reception held in her honor. A host of friends and family members were in attendance to congratulate her. Sheriff **Terry Box** presented her with a plaque commemorating eighteen years of dedicated service with the Collin County Sheriff's Office.

Major Chuck Ruckel Honored at Retirement Reception

Major **Chuck Ruckel** recently retired as Major of Operations with nineteen years of dedicated service. A retirement reception was held in his honor with an abundance of friends and well-wishers. Sheriff Box presented him with a retirement plaque for nineteen years of dedicated service with the Collin County Sheriff's Office.

Twenty Years of Service

Sheriff **Terry Box** congratulates Deputy **Jim Simms** and Records Supervisor **Cheryl Mathis** for their achievement of twenty years of dedicated service. They were each presented a 20 Year Plaque and commended for their loyal service.

Sergeant Stubbs Receives Award

Sergeant **Diane Stubbs** received the "2012 Presidents Award" at the 15th Annual Texas Association of Property & Evidence Inventory Technicians (TAPEIT) Training conference. Sergeant Stubbs was selected for this award based on her involvement, accomplishments and contributions to TAPEIT. She was also re-elected to her 3rd Term for the TAPEIT Board of Directors.

Transfer Deputy Promotions

Transfer Deputies **Dennis Gill** & **Rodney Tackett** have been promoted from Transfer Deputy to Patrol Deputy. Sheriff Terry Box congratulated each one on their recent promotion.

JEFFERSON COUNTY

On June 7, 2012 Sheriff **Mitch Woods** promoted Officer **Cherisse Jackson** to the rank of Sergeant of the Jefferson County Correctional Facility.

On November 5, 2012 Sheriff Mitch Woods promoted Correctional Sergeant **Aaron Morris** to the rank of Lieutenant.

On November 5, 2012 Sheriff Mitch Woods promoted Correctional Sergeant **Charles Ford** to the rank of Lieutenant.

On December 11, 2012, Sheriff Mitch Woods promoted Officer **Doreal Dorsey** and Officer **Shawn Gallander** to the rank of Sergeant of Corrections.

Sergeant Dorsey has been employed with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department since September of 2004. Sergeant Gallander has been employed since June of 2007.

JIM HOGG COUNTY

Jail Dedication

Sheriff **Erasmo "Kiko" Alarcon** and the Jim Hogg County Commissioner's Court formally dedicated their new jail with an open house on October 11, 2012. A number of local and area dignitaries attended, including Congressman Henry Cuellar of the 28th Congressional District.
Jail Administrator Larry Benavides is pleased about the new facility. Chief Deputy Lorenzo Benavides is also excited to see this project come to fruition.

The new facility is located on a 15-acre site on Old Cemetery Road, approximately a mile east of the courthouse. The 48-bed, 20,000 square foot jail replaces the old 18-bed downtown facility, which was located a block away from the courthouse in a rehabilitated bank building for the last 25 years. The structure includes Sheriff's offices, dispatch/911 areas, an emergency operations center; separate buildings for employee fitness and vehicular maintenance, a fenced impound yard and a fueling station.

DRG Architects of San Antonio designed the facility and Don Krueger Construction Company of Victoria was the General Contractor. Support areas in the new jail, such as kitchen, laundry and processing areas, have been designed for future expansion of up to 96 inmates without disrupting day-to-day operations, ensuring the new facility will meet the needs of Jim Hogg County for many years to come.

The construction cost of $4.4 million included all aspects of construction, furnishings and start-up items. Congressman Cuellar was instrumental in helping Jim Hogg County obtain funding for the project through the United States Department of Agriculture.

KLEBERG COUNTY

The Kleberg County Sheriff's Office Detention Division is proud to announce numerous promotions. **Stephanie Aguilar** and **Jose Lopez** were promoted to Corporal (left); **Samuel Alaniz** and **Ernesto Alvarez** (right) were promoted to Sergeant. Sheriff **Edward "Ed" M. Mata** (center) swore the officers in during a promotional ceremony at the Sheriff's Office.

LIMESTONE COUNTY

Limestone County Sheriff **Dennis D. Wilson** proudly announces the recent promotion of Jail Corporal **Elaine Hall** to the rank of Jail Sergeant. Sergeant Hall has been employed by the Limestone County Sheriff's Office since 2005. She has spent her entire time working as a Correctional Officer. Sheriff Wilson stated, "I am very proud of the job that Sergeant Hall has performed in the past. She has excellent leadership skills and is truly a great asset to our agency. I know that she will excel in her new leadership role."

Sheriff Wilson also promoted Correctional Officer **Tim Wynn** to Jail Corporal on November 5, 2012. Corporal Wynn began his employment with the Limestone County Sheriff's Office in 2006. Sheriff Wilson commented, "Corporal Wynn has also been an outstanding employee while working as a Correctional Officer. I am very confident that Corporal Wynn's leadership skills will benefit all who are employed as a Correctional Officer at the Limestone County Jail. I wish both of these two officers much success in the future."

LUBBOCK COUNTY

Sheriff **Kelly S. Rowe** congratulates Deputy **Adrienna Alonzo** for being chosen as Employee of the Month for the month of July and Deputy **Orlando Rivera** for the month of August 2012.

Deputy Alonzo has been temporarily re-assigned to the communications center for light duty. Deputy Alonzo started her career with the Lubbock County Sheriff's Office as a communications operator before completing Peace Officers training and being assigned to courthouse security as a Court Deputy. While assigned to the communications center for light duty Adrienna has excelled in performing all tasks at or above standards. She consistently exceeds the average number of phone calls taken, radio traffic taken and call sheets made each week. Deputy Alonzo's original assignment is with the Lubbock County Courthouse security.

Deputy Orlando Rivera is assigned to SWAT. Deputy Rivera is never satisfied with the "status quo" and is a top performer in SWAT. He started his career with the detention center in 2006. He continued to move his way through the department until recently assigned to SWAT. He was one of only four to have accomplished the advanced physical fitness challenge issued to all SWAR members. He completed 50 push-ups in a minute, 50 sit-ups in a minute, 88 chin-ups and ran two miles in 17 minutes with only a 60 second "breather" between each exercise. His applications of tactics and firearms fundamentals are solid.

Sheriff Kelly Rowe presenting Deputy Adrienna Alonzo a certificate for Employee of the Month for July, 2012.

Deputy Orlando Rivera with Sheriff Kelly Rowe during employee of the month presentation.

On September 12, 2012, Sheriff Kelly S. Rowe deputized the following Officers: **Russell Scarborough, Demetreia Hearn, Mary Castillo, Brenda Hassell, John Splichal, Michelle Garcia, Robert Barlow, Jeremy Carter, Justin Edwards, Mike Monzingo, Antonio Chavez, Eilizabeth Madrid, Roy Handlin, Brandon Coulter, Miguel Lopez, Sean Helmuth, Abel Betancourt.**

Back Row, Left to Right, Sheriff Kelly Rowe, Deputy Antonio Chavez, Deputy Robert Barlow, Deputy Sean Helmuth, Deputy Jeremy Carter, Deputy Brandon Coulter, Deputy Demetreia Hearn, Deputy Miguel Lopez, Deputy Russell Scarborough, Deputy John Splichal, Front Row, Deputy Justin Edwards, Deputy Abel Betancourt, Deputy Mary Castillo, Deputy Roy Handlin, Deputy Michelle Garcia, Deputy Brenda Hassell, Deputy Elizabeth Madrid.

Deputy **Mike Monzingo** was recognized for employee of the month for September. Left to right, Deputy Mike Monzingo, Sheriff Kelly Rowe.

Deputy **William Thetford** was recognized for employee of the month for October. Left to right, Deputy William Thetford, Sheriff Kelly Rowe.

Officer **Santos Jimenez** was recognized for employee of the month for November.

On October 12, 2012, Finance Clerk **Debra Lee** retired from Lubbock County after 14 years of serving the citizens of Lubbock. Left to Right, Sergeant Natalie Ybarra, Finance Clerk Jan Doty, Finance Clerk Debra Lee, Finance Clerk Vickie Threet.

On September 15, 2012, Sheriff Kelly Rowe participated in the National Tell a Police Officer "Thank You" Day by thanking deputies and officers who serve and protect the citizens of Lubbock County.

Congressman Randy Neugebauer, Sheriff Kelly Rowe.

On October 24, 2012, Chief **Kim Howell** was presented with the Destination Dignity Award from StarCare Specialty Health System and Disability Rights Texas. The Destination Dignity Award is recognition to an individual who promotes dignity and community inclusion of all citizens. Chief Howell was nominated and selected for her work in mental health and collaborative partnerships within the community.

On November 17, 2012, Deputy **Travis Rogers** and Deputy **Tracy Hix** participated and placed second in the Lubbock Regional Public Safety Golf Tournament. Left to Right, Deputy Travis Rogers and Buddy Davis with the LRPSM.

Officer **Sunniva Angerer** was recognized for employee of the month for December. Left to right, Sheriff Kelly Rowe, Officer Sunniva Angerer.

MITCHELL COUNTY

Building a New Law Enforcement Center

Sheriff **Patrick Toombs** and his staff are proud to announce the construction on the new Mitchell County Jail and Law Enforcement Center, which began in June 2012, is on schedule to be ready for occupancy in May 2013. The new facility is located on a 2.7 acre block, directly across from the courthouse and the existing jail on Pine Street.

The 32,000 square foot building will initially house 48 inmates, with shell space for another 24 beds that can be finished out in the future. The new facility includes Sheriff's offices, a dispatch area, an emergency operations center, an employee exercise room, a training room, DPS offices and a driver's license area.

DRG Architects of San Antonio, with the assistance of Gary Adams, designed the facility and Sedalco Construction Services of Fort Worth is the Construction Manager. The construction budget of $7.16 million is funded through the sale of General Obligation Bonds, after passage of a bond election in November of 2011.

SHACKELFORD COUNTY

Sheriff **Edward A. Miller** is proud to announce the opening of the new Shackelford County Law Enforcement Center with a 24 bed jail and office space for the Shackelford County Sheriff's Office, Constable, DPS Troopers and TPWD Game Warden.

SMITH COUNTY

Retirements in Smith County

Lieutenant **Shane Scott** is retiring after 25 years of service at the Smith County Sheriff's Office.

Shane has been a long time member of the Texas Jail Association and can be remembered as the guy that rides the Flashy Harley Davidson to all the Jail Conferences. Shane began his career as a Detention Officer. He was promoted to Detention Sergeant, Patrol Deputy, Patrol Sergeant and Lieutenant over the Smith County Low/Medium Risk facility.

Sergeant **Amos Oliver** has served the Smith County Sheriff's Office for over 24 years. He is a member of the Texas Jail Association. Amos started his career as a Detention Officer and was promoted to Detention Sergeant where he served for over 8 years at the Smith County Jail Maximum Security Facility.

Senior Detention Officer **Carol Smith** announced her retirement from the Smith County Sheriff's Office for over 20 years. She has worked in all aspects of the detention facility and has been the Booking Office FTO officer for many years. Carol has been a member of the Texas Jail Association.

Letter from Retiring Chief Deputy Bobby Garmon

I have protected the citizens of Smith County for 32 years. In 1980, Sheriff **J.B. Smith** hired me as a deputy sheriff. I worked my way up through the ranks to Chief Deputy. My friend and boss, Sheriff J.B. Smith, is retiring December 31, 2012. I have always said that I would not have another boss; therefore, I will be retiring from Smith County December 31st, as well. It has been an honor to serve with Sheriff Smith all of these years.

One of my goals as a law enforcement officer was to make a difference in my community in which live. I feel that I have done that by offering many hours of service to numerous entities. I have served on the Board of Directors for the United Way, Azleway Boys Ranch, the Salvation Army, and Ebenezer Daycare. In addition, I functioned as President of the Texas Chief Deputies Association, the East Texas Peace Officers Association and the Tyler Jaycees. I served several years on the County Corrections Advisory Council for the Correctional Management Institute of Texas at Sam Houston State University. I am also a long time member of the Texas Jail Association and the Sheriffs' Association of Texas.

It has been a great experience being a member of one of the oldest and respected professions. I am proud to be a Texas Peace Officer.

God Bless each of you.

Sincerely,
Bobby Garmon, Chief Deputy, Smith County
(903) 539-8903

TJA Past President Gary Pinkerton Announces His Retirement

Over the past 28 years, I have been employed by one Sheriff, **Sheriff J.B. Smith**. He has given me the opportunity to be a part of a well-respected agency throughout the State of Texas. Sheriff Smith has always encouraged us to be active in our community. I have served as President of the Texas Jail Association, East Texas Peace Officers Association, Smith County Peace Officers Association and I currently serve as Director for the Texas Chief Deputies Association.

I have had a very rewarding career and have had the opportunity to meet other law enforcement and corrections professionals across the great State of Texas. Sheriff Smith did not seek re-election this term and is retiring December 31, 2012

Effective December 31, 2012, I will also retire from Smith County. I want to thank my TJA family for all of their support over the years. The friendships made will always be cherished. I am retiring from Smith County not the organizations. I look forward to seeing you in the future and also at the conferences. I can be contacted at (903) 360-8913.

Sincerely,
Gary Pinkerton, Chief Deputy

TEXAS JAIL ASSOCIATION
STATEMENT OF FUNDS
ENDING DECEMBER 13, 2012

Checking Account:	
Balance:	**$14,004.25**
Past Presidents Scholarship Account:	
Balance:	**$ 5,746,57**
Jerry Baggs Leadership Scholarship Account	
Balance:	**$ 1,069.09**
Texas Department of Public Safety	
Certificate of Deposit	
Balance	**$60,444.74**
Regular Shares Account	
Balance	**$ 84.44**
Sam Houston State University Account	**$121,062.47**
TOTAL	**$202,411.56**

Printing and mailing the Key Issues has become a significant cost to the association, decreasing funds available for training. In October, your Board decided to mail only the annual issue to all members which will include annual reports of all committees, membership, finances, by law changes and a call for nominations. In keeping with the times, a quarterly issue will be emailed and available on our website for individual printing. We hope that this will allow for members to forward the issue to others in their department and to print for distribution as they may need.

2012 - 2013 TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES AROUND THE STATE

Date	Workshop Title	Location
January 22-25, 2013	Gangs Conference[1]	Austin, Texas
February 5, 2013	Suicide Detection and Prevention in Jails[2]	Bryan, Texas
February 7, 2013	Suicide Detection and Prevention in Jails[2]	Bryan, Texas
February 10-15, 2013	Mid-Level Management Program[1]	Huntsville, Texas
February 12, 2013	Suicide Detection and Prevention in Jails[2]	San Angelo, Texas
February 12, 2013	Suicide Detection and Prevention in Jails[2]	Bryan, Texas
February 13, 2013	Suicide Detection and Prevention in Jails[2]	Austin, Texas
February 14, 2013	Suicide Detection and Prevention in Jails[2]	Bryan, Texas
February 15, 2013	Suicide Detection and Prevention in Jails[2]	Austin, Texas
February 17-22, 2013	Jail Administration: Management & Operations[2]	Huntsville, Texas
March 3-8, 2013	National Jail Leadership Command Academy[3]	Huntsville, Texas
March 6, 2013	Suicide Detection and Prevention in Jails[2]	Athens, Texas
March 19, 2013	Suicide Detection and Prevention in Jails[2]	Lubbock, Texas
March 21, 2013	Suicide Detection and Prevention in Jails[2]	Lubbock, Texas
March 25-28, 2013	Jail Management & Operations for Newly Elected Sheriffs[3]	Huntsville, Texas
April 9-12, 2013	Women in Criminal Justice Conference[3]	San Antonio, Texas
April 15-19, 2013	Wardens Peer Interaction Program[4]	Huntsville, Texas
April 19, 2013	Suicide Detection and Prevention in Jails[2]	Anson, Texas
April 21-26, 2013	Mid-Level Management Program[1]	Huntsville, Texas
April 23, 2013	Suicide Detection and Prevention in Jails[2]	Tahoka, Texas
April 25, 2013	Suicide Detection and Prevention in Jails[2]	Amarillo, Texas
May 13-17, 2013	27th Annual Texas Jail Association Conference[3]	Austin, Texas
May 20-24, 2013	Senior Level Corrections Leadership[1]	Huntsville, Texas
June 5-7, 2013	Leadership for Support Staff Conference[5]	Galveston, Texas
June 17-21, 2013	Criminal Justice Leadership Program[2]	Bandera, Texas
June 23-28, 2013	National Jail Leadership Command Academy[3]	Huntsville, Texas
August 26-29, 2013	TJA Jail Management Issues Conference[3]	Galveston, Texas

1 Contact Jeff Marton at 936-294-1640 or jeffmarton@shsu.edu, or visit www.cmitonline.org.

2 Contact Jason Schwarz at 936-294-1668 or jschwarz@shsu.edu, or visit www.cmitonline.org.

3 Contact Sharese Hurst at 936-294-1687 or sharese@shsu.edu, or visit www.cmitonline.org.

4 Contact Kathleen Gilbert at 936-294-3073 or kgilbert@shsu.edu, or visit www.cmitonline.org.

5 Contact Monique Keith at 936-294-1639 or mkeith@shsu.edu, or visit www.cmitonline.org.

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