LE Member of the 4th Quarter, DFC Ron Filipowicz

During just one week in October 2017, DFC Ron Filipowicz used contacts and past cases to solve retail thefts in our county. These investigations led to Retail/Theft arrests, all felonies for two suspects in Charlotte County Jail, and an Open PCA for a third suspect committing similar crimes in Sarasota and Charlotte Counties. DFC Filipowicz routinely reviews BOLOs with scrutiny. He uses his knowledge of several computer databases and search engines to follow up on leads. In one situation, DFC Filipowicz reviewed a BOLO of a retail theft from a Port Charlotte grocery store. He positively identified the female in the photograph. He discovered the female was working with a male who stole additional unreported merchandise and established a possible identification of that white male. He was detained several days later and transported to jail. All of these incidents and more are examples of the determination, follow-through, and perseverance DFC Filipowicz conducts to investigate crimes and establish suspects.

LE Member of the 3rd Quarter, DFC Joe Scott

DFC Scott sets the example of dedication to service. He is the first one in the office every day and the last one to leave. DFC Scott is dedicated to his work and must be told to stop working most days. He is extremely organized and is always on top of his cases. There is never a time when DFC Scott loses his temper or becomes unfocused. Even though he worked more than seven death investigations during the month of July, he remained positive and upbeat. Not only did DFC Scott handle all the overdose cases during the month of July, but he also worked his normal case load with high quality work. Because DFC Scott is a dedicated and trusted detective, he was assigned to handle the recent carfentanil overdose cases. DFC Scott coordinated with the Narcotics Unit and the DEA Task Force to locate the source of carfentanil coming into Charlotte County. Based on the information DFC Scott obtained, the Narcotics Unit located and arrested a subject suspected of supplying heroin laced with carfentanil in Charlotte County. After the suspected heroin dealer was arrested there were no more carfentanil-related overdoses for several months.

Detention Member of the 4th Quarter, Corporal Christina Casteel

Corporal Christina Casteel strives to further herself in the pursuit of her career at the Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office and has taken on additional obligations and extra duties to stand out from the crowd. She is one of two Corporals responsible for more than 20 Deputies assigned to A-Squad. She takes on several extra projects in addition to her assigned supervisory duties. However, she was recommended to receive this award today for her outstanding hard work and dedication that she has given to Explorer Post 29 in addition to her current assignment. Since 2015, she has taken time away from her personal life in order to assist and help mentor the youth. Some of her duties include being responsible for all equipment, as well as supply requisitions. She also keeps track of the Law Enforcement Exploring Proficiency Award program. This program provides the Explorers an opportunity to earn recognition from 14 different areas. She is enrolled full-time in college, a dual enrollment for her Master’s degree. She represents the agency with tremendous pride, which also shows in the quality of work that she delivers in the Detention Bureau. Her hard work and dedication to this great agency should not go unnoticed.
4th Quarter Award Ceremony continued

**Civilian Member of the 4th Quarter, Tammy Wilkie**

Tammy Wilkie is assigned to our Community Affairs Unit and is best known for her coordination of our Citizens’ Police Academy and the management of the Project Lifesaver Program. These two programs are important community outreach products that serve the community in many ways. Tammy’s hard work and dedication to the community have been a positive reflection on this office. Recently, her hard work has been recognized in her application for grants from both the Target Corporation and the Alzheimer’s Foundation of America. As a result, the Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office was awarded a total of $6,000.00. The monies from these grants were utilized to outfit the Agency’s new Inter-Active Trailer and for equipment and supplies for the Agency’s Project Lifesaver Program. Tammy accepts all challenges and often thinks of innovative ways to make a positive difference for others. She represents all of us in a very professional manner, while remaining humble. She can always be counted on to make the right decision and she performs her job with dedication and integrity. For the aforementioned accomplishments and for the personal tribulations you have overcome, we proudly recognize you as Civilian Member of the Quarter.

**Special Recognition**

DFC Hernan Morales is currently the School Resource Officer at Kingsway Elementary School and the senior adviser for Explorer Post 29. DFC Morales not only works his school, but helps at several crossing guard locations and covers East Elementary when needed. As the head advisor for the Explorers, DFC Morales is responsible for organizing training and events with the involved youth. The Explorer Program creates a better understanding of America’s social, economic and governmental systems. DFC Morales meets with stakeholders in the community who have events and provides the Explorers as volunteers for a donation back to the unit. DFC Morales should be commended for a great job.

**30 Years of Service**

Congratulations June Parks on the accomplishment of 30 years of service with the Charlotte County Sheriff’s office. June started her career in 1988 as a Records Clerk. She transferred to Dispatch as an Operator almost 5 years later. While in Dispatch for 8 years, she was promoted to Assistant Supervisor. In 2001, June was transferred to Human Resources as a Specialist where she has been for the last 16 years. Throughout June’s 30-year career, countless changes have taken place but she has always demonstrated the strong core values of a loyal employee. Here’s to many more years together.

**Lifesaver Award**

In October 2017, Deputy Austin Oskey responded to a call in Englewood referencing a male subject not breathing. Upon arrival, Deputy Oskey assessed the scene and took over CPR until EMS arrived. Even then, he continued to perform CPR, in intervals, with EMS and Fire personnel. After several rounds, EMS administered AED and medication to the subject which resulted in his regaining a pulse and breathing. EMS praised Deputy Oskey and stated that if it weren’t for his help, they would not have been able to revive the patient. Deputy Oskey’s advanced training as a Combat Life Saver, his leadership, resourcefulness, and swift actions were instrumental in saving the life of this man.
March 30, 2018

CCSO Star News

Employees and Volunteers Recognized

LE Member of the Month, Deputy, Deputy Krista Lazarski

Dep. Krista Lazarski was born in Tampa, Florida on MacDill Air Force Base. Dep. Lazarski received her Bachelor’s Degree from the University of South Florida in May of 2015. In July of 2015, she began her career with Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office as a Professional Compliance Assistant. Dep. Lazarski graduated the Law Enforcement Academy in 2017, becoming a team member of District 2, Squad A in December of 2017. On February 07, 2018, Dep. Lazarski was conducting traffic enforcement on Tamiami Trail near Midway Blvd. She observed a vehicle traveling above the speed limit and conducted a traffic stop at the intersection of Tamiami Trail and Midway Blvd. When the suspect’s vehicle was pulled over, Dep. Lazarski observed the front passenger throwing items out of the window. She immediately called for another unit to assist. Once the other unit arrived, Dep. Lazarski located Methamphetamine, Ecstasy, Hydrocodone, Oxycodone, Hydromorphone and other unidentified pills. Dep. Lazarski’s attentiveness that lead her to seeing the narcotics being dropped out of the vehicle and her completing a thorough investigation, lead to two of the occupants of the vehicle being arrested. The third occupant was arrested for a VOP warrant. Dep. Lazarski had some of the highest activity on Squad A for the month of February 2018.

Detention Member of the Month, Donna Geyer

Donna Geyer was hired on September 10, 2007, as a Corrections Deputy. Donna is married to retired Deputy Mark Geyer. In 2014, Mrs. Geyer moved to a civilian position as the Detention Mail Tech. She has been instrumental in preventing contraband from coming in via Inmate Mail. Donna’s past experiences of working as a Corrections Deputy has given her the knowledge and skills of handling inmate mail and what contraband items to look out for. On several occasions, she has found Suboxone strips hidden under stamps and seals of envelopes. Most recently, she intercepted a large amount of tobacco being sent in to an inmate inside of shoes. She is commended for her diligence in making sure dangerous contraband does not make into the jail through inmate mail. She is an asset to the sheriff's office and we thank her for her hard work and dedication.

Support Services Member of the Month, Dawn Healey

Dawn has been part of the CCSO Finance team since January 2017. During this time she has done a great job learning what it takes to maintain the various office buildings for the Sheriff’s office as well as managing the Alarm database and providing back-up to Supply and Receiving. Dawn is very meticulous in her job functions and is always engaged in her work, going the extra mile. In October 2016 we began implementing a new database for our Alarm program. Dawn also worked with the county attorney for several months bringing the False Alarm Ordinance up-to-date. Dawn not only handled this transition to the new database, she also learned her duties as the maintenance coordinator for the Sheriff’s office, and she is the backup for Supply and Receiving. Dawn’s next big project is getting a new phone system installed and transitioned over the County for day-to-day maintenance. Because of her dedication to this position, CCSO has experienced a successful year in the new alarms database, seamless moves to new office space (D1, D3 and the Mall office) as well as ensured coverage for Supply and Receiving. Dawn enjoys spending time with her family. She takes care of her elderly father who is battling prostate cancer as well as helping her older daughter who is currently attending UCF. This is in addition to all the other duties of a wife and mother.

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Detective Burn is an excellent detective with a superior work ethic. Detective Burn was selected to serve as a Major Crimes Detective in May of 2017. He holds the most arrests in the Unit for 2017. He prides himself on completing the investigation and finding justice for his victims. During November 2017, Detective Burn was called out to a possible sexual battery investigation involving a nine-year-old victim. Detective Burn gathered all relevant information and conducted all necessary witness interviews before interviewing the suspect. During the interview of the suspect, he was able to elicit a confession from the suspect, drastically improving the odds of prosecution. Although there is nothing good about this case, it is an honor to have Detective Burn on our team so we can get justice for our victim.

Rev. Steve Mock was called to the ministry 38 years ago, and about five years ago he was called to help at CCSO. While many other volunteers act as extra eyes and ears for deputies while patrolling streets and waterways, Steve says he helps take some of the load off deputies by bringing God’s presence into some intensely emotional situations. On call 24/7 and ready to serve at a moment’s notice including offering support for victims in times of crisis assisting in death notification and functioning as part of crisis response team, Steve and seven other chaplains help wherever needed. The chaplains are also available to minister to members within the agency. Steve is the pastor of the Punta Gorda Presbyterian Church, however it has been observed that the difference between a church pastor and a police chaplain is like the difference between a doctor in his office and a medic on the battlefield. “Ever since I’ve been volunteering, I’ve been impressed with the level of compassion deputies show while investigating crisis situations. I recall when a teenager committed suicide in Englewood. The deputies were explaining what was going on and why sometimes a forensic investigation takes a long time. I was able to visit sometime later and learned how much the family appreciated me being there.”

In those dark times when the emotional checkbook gets overdrawn, Steve is proud to be there to mentor spiritual support.

Author, David Trautman, Volunteer
The fleet feet of Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office

DFC Hernan Morales completed the Ultra challenge—30.4 Miles in 2 days. The 4 races (5K, 8K, 15K and Half Marathon) all took place in Tampa on February 24th and 25th, 2018.
Proud Papa, Lt. Jeffrey Sisk, with his sons. Justis (left) and brother Slade (right) will be joining Team USA for the 2018 World Championship Race in Baku, Azerbaijan this June. They both have travelled throughout Florida and the United States racing BMX, and this will be their first time riding for Team USA in an international race. Justis has been racing BMX for over a decade and is classified as Fifteen Expert. He is on the Pure BMX Racing Team sponsored by J & R Bicycles, Avian Parts, Sinz Racing and Morphine Industries. Slade has been racing BMX going on 9 years and races as a thirteen Expert.

GO Team USA and the Sisk boys, we will be rooting for you!

Nine Explorers from CCSO Post 29 had the opportunity to attend the 2018 March Delegates Meeting and Training sponsored by the Alachua County Sheriff’s Office at Camp Crystal Lake in Starke. For more information about our Explorers go to our CCSO website. [www.ccso.org](http://www.ccso.org)

Habitat for Humanity is celebrating its 30th year by scheduling to provide 30 homes during 2018. CDFC Ortiz-Cruz, the Bureau of Detention Program’s Office, is a regular at the Habitat Events providing assistance and donations from the “Inmate Flower Program” to new homeowners. The crew this weekend, under his direction, got to get dirty for once, and were tasked with laying sod as well as planting trees. Even some of the smallest CCSO family members got involved in his great community service. To Lt. Tabbatha Carter & Telicia, Cpl. Michael Kern, CDFC Ortiz-Cruz, Vanessa Christensen, Natalie and Colton we thank you for giving so freely of your time.
Graduating Officers and Participants of Charlotte County’s 40-hour Crisis Intervention Team Training. Representing the Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office: (In no particular order) Deryk Alexander, Colin Eggleton, Shane Engelauf, Jemal Felicien, William Holzapfel, Suzanne Humphrey, Ben Michaels, David Motz, Kyle Nasby, Geraldine Orneas, Austin Oskey, Roberto Ortiz, Sergio Pineda, Robert Robbins, Tamara Sanders, Mark Schaible, Lucas Tomlinson, and Alfred Ursomanno. Representing: Corizon Mary Jo Ali and from Punta Gorda P.D. Kelvin Jimenez.

Volunteer Luncheon

Good food and awards thanked our volunteers for another year of service. Our annual show of appreciation took place at noon on February 21st at the Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club.

Relay for Life

Sunday, March 11 at the Tampa Bay Rays Spring Training Game against the Minnesota Twins, Sheriff Bill Prummell threw out the first pitch. Sheriff Prummell and team members from the CCSO Relay for Life were on hand to promote the upcoming Relay for Life event. Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 14th, Charlotte County Fairgrounds, 11:00 am to 11:00 pm.

We’ve got news for you!

Check us out on our:
Website: www.ccsso.org
Blog: www.ccsoblog.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/CCSOFLSheriff
Floyd “JR” Davis started his career with the Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office in 1985 and retired 28 years later in 2013 at the rank of Sergeant. JR worked in many different areas, his favorite being the Agriculture Deputy. Everyone in the Babcock area knew JR and would often just wait for JR to come back on duty to report a crime. Sadly, JR has lived through personal tragedy. He lost both his wife Valerie to lung cancer in 2015 and his son Jeremy to lung cancer in 2016. Through JR’s faith and strength of character, he has stood tall through it all, even falling in love again. JR married Lee Anne Knight in 2017. He currently spends his time loving on his grandkids and plays Bluegrass music all over the state. He plays with several groups and enjoys every minute. JR’s words of wisdom: “When you think you have it bad, don’t complain. Somebody has it worse.”

Until next time,
Sherman Robinson
(Major CCSO Retired)

Linda Jacobs, formerly of the Finance Department received a festive send-off from her co-workers. Best of luck on your new adventures.

Want to receive the CCSO Star News by email? Send your request with your email address to: CommunityAffairs@ccso.org
We will add you to the distribution list!
Send your good news to us at CommunityAffairs@ccso.org

What’s Going on

April 5  Bowl for Kids’ Sake
Launch Party  Big Brothers
Big Sisters  Leroy’s Southern Kitchen & Bar 6:30– 8:30 pm

April 28  9th Annual Clubs for
Kids Golf Tournament
Kingsway Country Club 8:30 am start

May 4  Young at Art,
2018 Leadership Charlotte
Fairgrounds  doors open 6pm

FGCU Graduation

Sgt. Craig Brandon, Brent Watson, Michelle Griffin completed the Dynamics of Supervision Class at FGCU. Major Jim Kenville, Dennis Thompson, Capt. Norm Wilson, Major Earl Goodwyne and Colonel Tom Rogers all turned out to congratulate them.

FGCU Graduation

Let’s Get Fit! Tone up Tuesdays and Thursdays

In an effort to increase fitness and help those involved with the Get Fit 2018 Challenge, we have declared Tuesdays and Thursdays over here at Training as “Tone Up Tuesdays & Thursdays.” We want you to come down to Training to do some interval and circuit training tailored to your fitness levels by our certified fitness instructors! We welcome all levels of fitness!! This includes ALL Members, LEO, CO & Civilians! 1st class Tuesday, April 3rd at 4:15pm & 5:15pm and continue them every Tuesday and Thursday after that.