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FCPO 2006 Conference a Success!

Nashville, TN - September, 2006:

In spite of bad weather in Chicago, the 2006 FCPO conference went smoothly! Heavy rain, wind and a tornado in the Chicago-area delayed several en route to Nashville, including President Urgo and his wife.

The Friday night opening session featured a review of FCPO activities on the Gulf Coast after Katrina. Medals of commendation were given to Sean Barna, a firefighter member of the Gulfport Chapter currently overseeing reconstruction efforts, GP Chapter founding president Caleb Williams and Canadian Sergeant (retired) David Greenhalg, who has been on the Gulf Coast almost continuously for the past year. (Greenhalg also received special recognition from FCPO of Canada executive director, retired Chief Hank Harley.)



New FCPO Leaders: Joel Dicks, Howard Eddy, Royce Hearne, Grant Wolf, Chuck Urgo, Paul Lee, Ray Bell, Caleb Williams, and Jim Hammond.

A part of each year's conference is the Annual Members Business Meeting, where results of the mail ballot for National Board members are confirmed. Activity reports were given by President Urgo, Executive Director Grant Wolf and Vice President Paul Lee, who has been responsible for the new FCPO web site.

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Can \$150K Become \$1.5M?

The Gulfport Story continues...

Yes, when the dollars are used only to buy supplies, and unpaid volunteers do the work. That's what happened as a result of our efforts to help Gulfport LE personnel rebuild their hurricane-ravaged homes!



Since Hurricane Katrina, members and friends have given approximately \$150,000 through the efforts of FCPO-USA and FCPO of Canada for the Gulfport project. Many more thousands of dollars in direct contributions were generated as a result of our efforts. While some of the FCPO dollars were used to purchase tools and equipment, most went directly into building supplies.



How \$150,000 became \$1.5 million

Recently Hank Harley, *FCPO of Canada* Executive Director, gave this report to us.

"At this time it appears as though there have been major clean-up and repairs to the homes of 30 police officers, 25 firefighters and one civilian affiliated with the Gulfport FCPO Chapter, and seven others chosen for assistance – 63 in all.

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...FCPO 2006 Conference

Each of the three incoming new National Board Members – Ray Bell, Chicago P.D. (ret.), Chief Jim Hammond, Hamilton CO Sheriffs Department (ret.) and Caleb Williams, TX State Trooper, gave their testimonies. Officer Michael Dye discussed the excellent LE Bible study he has prepared (The Peacekeepers), retired FBI agent Dwight Garretson gave a presentation on the International Justice Mission ministry and Jim Hammond presented a video on his work with the Jordanian International Police Training Center where Iraqi police officers are being trained in Amman, Jordan.



Guest speaker Dr. Dave Trempe, president of Royal Chaplain Corps, Knoxville, spoke three times: *The Reality of Shattered Families*; *Armed for Negotiation*; and *Pay Rate – How Much is Enough?* At the conclusion of the final Sunday session Dr. Trempe led the congregation in a very personal communion service, assisted by FCPO executive director Chaplain Grant Wolf.

Details for the 2007 conference are being negotiated, and will be announced as soon as they are completed.



...Gulfport

"As I have surveyed the homes and calculated the materials and labour involved in these 63 homes, I used the figure of \$25,000.00 per home average, which could easily be very short of the actual figures. This brings the amount of relief to \$1,575,000 to the Police and Fire Departments of Gulfport, Mississippi."

Hank also told us of the many comments he received from those who were helped by FCPO volunteers:

- *Your help was Heaven sent...we had lost hope!*
- *I don't know how we could have coped without help from FCPO.*
- *From the time they entered our home we became very close friends. We couldn't have done it without them.*
- *I never knew people from so far away would care. Nobody asked for anything - they just wanted to HELP!*
- *I never knew so many "God Things" could happen.*

Initial coordination of FCPO efforts was handled unstintingly by retired Canadian Police Sergeant David Greenhalgh. In February 2006 David's duties were assumed by Sean Barna, Gulfport Fire Department, while David moved on to help coordinate relief to other police and fire personnel along the Mississippi coast. (Both David and Sean attended the recent FCPO National Conference on Nashville where each received awards and grateful appreciation from both *FCPO of Canada* and *FCPO-USA*.)

In his report Hank reminded us, *"There is an urgent need to complete this project. Police and fire personnel need to be back with their families in their own houses. Katrina took a toll not only on their material wealth but also their mental, physical and spiritual well-being."*



You, too, can help Gulfport in three ways:

- Go to Gulfport as a volunteer construction worker.
- Give funds to help others who cannot pay their own way.
(All gifts are tax-deductible and go 100% to the Gulfport project.)
- Pray that many involved with the project will come to know Christ as their personal savior.

For more information contact the FCPO National Office at 423/622-1234 or send your gift to FCPO, P.O. Box 3686, Chattanooga, TN 37404-0686

Mark your gift: "Katrina Fund"



Chuck Urgo, President of FCPO-USA



Conference Speaker Dr. Dave Trempe, President of Royal Chaplain Corps, Knoxville, TN.



Grant Wolf presenting a Commendation Medal to Gulfport firefighter Sean Barna, who is a member of the GP chapter. Sean has overseen the reconstruction of police and fire personnel homes.



U.S. Board members Caleb Williams and Paul Lee talking with FCPO of Canada Executive Director Hank Harley and CPD Sergeant Gregg Bowman.



Grant Wolf presented a Commendation Medal to Sgt. David Greenhalgh, Canada (Ret), FCPO-USA / Canada liaison.



The FCPO-USA Display



FCPO of Canada Executive Director Hank Harley also presented David with a plaque from FCPO of Canada.

The President's Corner

Chuck Urgo
President



There are three phases most police officers go through in their careers: Rookie, Cynical (personal disillusionment) and Maturity.

The "Rookie" phase is characterized by idealism, coupled with a desire to help people and thus "make a difference in society." The "Cynical and personal disillusionment phase occurs once we have come to grips with the reality of policing: its lack of support from citizens, the enormity of the task and lack of appreciation on the part of political leadership. Most of us reach, I hope, a third stage where we realize we have made a difference in the lives of people we have come in contact with. We couldn't help them all, but we did help a few. And we've come to understand that if we (the police) were not there, our community would be poorer for it.

I have noted (and experienced) similar phases in the lives of FCPO chapter members and leadership.

- Most chapters start out with a great deal of enthusiasm and energy.
- After a period of time discouragement sets in. The chapter is not as well received as was expected. Some people drop out because of shift and assignment changes.
- It becomes "work" to plan meetings and conduct Bible studies.
- There may be some opposition and persecution aimed at the group or individuals in the group. About this time many are thinking about "throwing in the towel" and calling it quits.

It is at this crossroad we need to consider the fact that God has called us to be a light in a dark place (Matt. 5:16). If we allow ourselves to become "weary in well doing" (Gal. 6:9) that light may go out. Cops are 'action and results oriented' by nature and training. While we may feel compelled to make new converts to Christianity, we have to remember that God calls us only to be faithful, leaving the results to Him (1 Cor. 4:2).

Looking back on more than 25-years years of being a member in my local chapter, I recall many "hills and valleys" with our group. But there always was continuity and consistency. People came and went, but each was ministered to in some way by having been with us. Many heard the Gospel and responded in some way or another. That is true for you and your chapter. Let me encourage you to be faithful in the place where God has called you to minister.

We stand willing and available to help with your chapter or individual member needs. Let me encourage you to check out our newly-revamped web site (www.fcpo.org). We are continuing to add resources to aid you in your Christian walk and provide tools to help reach your fellow officers for

Christ. If you have a more specific personal need, please telephone or e-mail us at any time.

And, at all times, remember to "Be strong and courageous...do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you..." Joshua 1:9

National Board Members/Officers Selected at Nashville Conference

The mail ballot election of Ray Bell, Jim Hammond and Caleb Williams for three-year terms to the FCPO National Board was confirmed at the annual FCPO Members Business Meeting in Nashville on September 23. This is the first time Bell and Williams have served on the Board, and this is a return by Hammond to the Board after a year's absence.

While members elect National Board Members, the Board Members choose their own officers for one-year terms. Chosen for a second one-year term were Chuck Urgo, President, Paul Lee, Vice President and Joel Dicks, Secretary/Treasurer. Others on the Board in addition to the three new members and the three officers are Howard Eddy, Keith Farley, Royce Hearne and Grant Wolf, Executive Director. Completing their terms and going off the Board were Bruce Mills and Vinse Gilliam.

Board members serve at their own expense and on personal time for three-year terms and are eligible for election to a second three-year term. After six years they must remain off the Board for at least one year before being eligible for re-election.

FCPO completes 2005-06 Fiscal Year "in the black!"

For the 14th consecutive year, the FCPO ministry ended the 2005-06 Fiscal Year June 30th "in the black."

Gifts totaling nearly \$151,000 were received during the 12-month period, with more than \$34,000 given specifically for relief to Gulfport PD following Hurricane Katrina. Our expenditures of \$174,600 came from this year's income plus designated gifts received in prior years but not spent until '05-06. That lowered our fund balances from \$85,895 to \$54,750 at year's end.

The "important story" in FCPO fiscal management is the General Fund, which pays for all expenses except Special Projects and the Executive Director's salary and benefits, which he raises separately. In spite of inflationary increases, the balance in the General Fund to begin the 2006-07 Fiscal Year increased by more than \$2,500 over the prior year's balance.

In his summary report following his review of our 2005-06 finances, CPA G.T. Nickell wrote the following: "I have reviewed the (accompanying) statements of cash receipts and disbursements and change in cash of the Fellowship of Christian Peace Officers-USA for the year ended June 30, 2006, in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services. Based on my review I am not aware of any material modifications that should be made in order for them to be in conformity with the cash receipts and disbursement basis of accounting."

Newly Revised FCPO Website now in use!

By Paul Lee, National Vice President

The FCPO website (www.fcpo.org) has received a complete makeover and looks great! The purpose is to help us improve our ministry to LE. If you are near your computer and will click on the site, let me “walk you through it.”

- The **Home Page** has an audio welcome from President Chuck Urgo. At the bottom of the page you will see a scripture verse, which changes every week. Click on it to go directly to the Memory Verse page. In addition to good verses to memorize, you’ll also find verses with specific reference to law Enforcement.



- Our easy-to-navigate **menu** is on the left side of “Home.” Check out the **About You** section to take the “good person” test and see how you do.
- New members can **join FCPO online**, using **PayPal** for the new member registration fee.
- You can use the **Tell a Friend** section to email your personal address list (you can send yourself an e-mail to see the appropriate e-mail your friends will receive).
- The **News** section will contain FCPO calendar events and our **Newsletter**.
- The **Submit Your Story** section provides you the opportunity to submit a story of interest to others. It may be your salvation testimony, what

FCPO means to you, an “on the job” story where God was with you, a good devotional, or something else of interest. (All submissions will be reviewed and edited for proper grammar before they are posted.) Your article could be a source of strength and encouragement to other officers, both believers and non-believers.

- The **Resources** section is meant to help you and others looking for LE Christian aids.
- The **Links** section – ever growing – will connect you to other FCPO chapters which have websites, Bible reading links, evangelistic/teaching sites, national and international police links, etc.
- “Currently Under Construction” is the **Devotional** section. It will give us the ability to display appropriate audio and video messages useful to LE personnel.
- In addition to paying for your new member registration fee with PayPal, you can use this tool to make a gift to FCPO or purchase items from our Store as they become available.

We encourage you to visit our improved website often, and introduce it to others - both LE and Civilians. Our on-going commitment is to keep this site “alive and well” through continuous updates, adding and subtracting information regularly to keep it current. Our hope is that the end result will better help us carry out The Great Commission: leading unsaved officers to Christ while providing Christian encouragement and hope to all.



Paul Lee demonstrates the new website at the FCPO National Conference.



*Sharing Christ
with those in the
Criminal Justice
System*

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PeaceKeepers Bible Study Available

*Grant Wolf
Executive Director*

Michael Dye, a 20-year LE professional, has written an excellent Bible study for law enforcement professionals. Using real life situations all officers can appreciate, Mike helps bring new meaning to many Bible passages and spiritual references. The study book can be used either by individuals or for group studies, and is especially appropriate for local FCPO chapters.

In 17 chapters Mike covers such topics as:

- **Can a Cop be a Christian?;**
- **Stress and the family;**
- **God's purpose for our work;**
- **Why bad things happen;**
- **Is there life beyond the badge;**
- **Combating negativity in the workplace; and**
- **Getting connected with God.**

The PeaceKeepers Bible Study is available from FCPO at a cost of \$12.50 per copy, which includes shipping and handling. If you e-mail your order to lvette@fcpo.org we will fill it immediately and invoice you for the amount due. Or you can order online at www.fcpo.org using PayPal.