



Suncoaster

Suncoast Chapter of the Society of Former Special Agents
of the Federal Bureau of Investigation
Tampa Bay, Florida – September, 2006

Suncoast Chapter Tampa Bay, FL

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Dennis Hughes, Secretary
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Nominations
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Tom Connolly
Daniel Saunders

Speakers Bureau
Ed Fleck

Daniel Saunders, Directory
Daniel Saunders, Historian

Charlene Buccione,
Chapter Liaison to Tampa
Division

Chairman's Message

Dear Colleagues,



Thank you for the opportunity to serve the Chapter as its Chair for the 2006-2007 year. The September meeting is quickly approaching and the newly elected officers are making preparation for a great time to be had by all.

Many thanks to the outgoing officers for a job well done and a special thanks to Joe Ondrula and Lane Bonner for spending time with the new staff as they have shared their expertise regarding issues important to the Chapter.

We are planning a great agenda and social season for the Chapter and I'm sure you will enjoy each and every meeting. Please mark your calendar for the monthly event so that you and wife and or guest will not miss the camaraderie and the entertainment.

For our first meeting, September 19th Ed Fleck has scheduled author Scott Deitche as our guest speaker. Scott is the author of "Cigar City Mafia" a history of the Tampa underworld. Several copies of "Cigar City Mafia" will be given away as door prizes.

I will see you in September.

Richard Holland

Society Elections – 2006-2007 Officers and Board of Directors

President - Elect Rich Bernes
Secretary - Ed O'Brien
Member-at-Large - Larry Schneider
Florida VP - Al Robinson
Southeast VP - John Kelso
South Central VP - John Epke
North Central VP - Dave Lichtenfeld

Suncoast Event Dates

September Meeting – Sept. 19th
October Meeting – Oct 17th
November Meeting – The November meeting will be held a week early, on November 14th, due to a conflict with Thanksgiving week.
December Christmas Party – Dec 10th 11am – 4 pm

Speakers for 2007

Ed Fleck announced the speakers he has lined up for the first meetings of the 2007 program year:

Sept 19, 2006 – **Scott Deitche**, noted local author, who has written some OC books in which he has interviewed some former Agents.

Oct. 17, 2006 – **Jim Karvellas**, former sportscaster

From our Treasurer

Dues for 2006 - 2007 will be solicited October 1, 2006 through December 2006. 2006-2007 dues must be paid by Dec. 31, 2006. Members can send their 2006-07 \$25.00 dues to Bob Ulmer. We will end the year with over \$3,000.00 in the bank.

New Society Web Site

There is a new society web site. The new site has the same address, but new look, feel, content and a members' only area. Go to <http://www.socxfbi.org/> and be sure to create a "sign in" for yourself. There is a link in the lower left corner to "Sign Up Today"

Our chapter will have a space on the national site soon.

Recent Retirees News

Brian Kensel sends his greetings from the Pensacola area "...I'm up in the Panhandle at Whiting Field starting a three week security force class on Monday. Last week Peggy & I went out to Whidbey Island to visit our daughter & son-in-law; she just returned from a deployment in the desert, and he's about to go there aboard the Eisenhower.

Spent the month of August in Naples, Italy, which was a great trip...got to do some side trips to Pompeii, Mt. Vesuvius, Rome, etc. This is turning out to be a very interesting job. Since I'll be here through the end of September, I'm afraid I won't make the meeting; please extend my regards to those who do."

James P. Livingston, a former FBI agent with 29 years' experience investigating crimes from juvenile offenses to terrorism has been hired by the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office to oversee the support services division.

James P. Livingston has begun his duties, working out of the Falkenburg Road facility, sheriff's spokeswoman Debbie Carter said Tuesday.

The support services divisions includes building and fleet maintenance, forensics and the records department.

Livingston, who retired from the FBI in August, was a juvenile probation officer in Memphis for seven years before serving 22 years as an FBI agent. He has a law degree and bachelor's degree in criminal justice from the University of Memphis.

For the past 11 years, he has worked as a supervisor at the Tampa FBI office. He and his family have lived in the Tampa Bay area for 11 years.

SA Joseph K. Judge, retired Tampa (Orlando RA) (1971 - 2000) will be hosting a show named "On The Run" on nationwide Court TV at 11PM, Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2006, in an episode entitled "The Globetrotter."

Joe will narrate and comment on the reenactment of the last case he worked which involved the lead defendant in the case, Shalom Weiss, who fled during jury deliberations, resulting in a fugitive investigation. The trail took Joe to Brazil for three weeks, working with the Federales there, and then on to Europe, where Joe identified Weiss's girlfriend, whom Joe then followed to Germany and then Austria, where the apprehension took place. Weiss was sentenced in absentia in Orlando federal court to 845 years, the longest sentence imposed in federal court history. The extradition battle was incredible but Weiss is currently at Coleman Federal Pen.

We are sorry to hear work has moved **Ed Bejarano** away from the Tampa Bay area. Ed has taken a position with Guardsmark. Ed and family have relocated to the Ft. Lauderdale area. We wish him & his family the best in their new home. Ed wrote he intends to join the local SOFSA chapter in his new area.

FBI Reserve Service

The program was originally open to those who have retired from the FBI five years or less. I am pleased to let you know FBIHQ has just eliminated the five year rule. Those who are interested in getting in the program may get more information from the www.fbi.gov web site.

Long Range Planning Committee – Message from Cy Gamber

I was recently asked to be a member of the Society's Long Range Planning Committee. (LRPC) I agreed to serve and was swiftly appointed. (Not much of a surprise there.)

I have now received word that the LRPC will have a brief meeting sometime during the National Convention in New York to work out an agenda for the coming year. I encourage you to submit to me any ideas you may have as to how the Society can improve its operations, and/or improve and establish new membership programs, etc.

Please submit any suggestions directly to me via email by 9/15/06, so I can bring them with me to this LRPC meeting.

Thanks for your cooperation,

Cy Gamber
CPG5731@aol.com

Chapter Wellness News

KIRSTEIN, ERNEST J. JR., 81, of Dunedin, died Monday (July 17, 2006) at home under the care of Hospice of the Florida Suncoast.

He was born in Cleveland and came here many years ago. He graduated from Notre Dame School of Law and worked 28 years as a special agent for the FBI. Then he worked locally as a senior staff investigator for 28 years with the Florida Bar. He was a member of Light of Christ Catholic Church, where he served as a reader and an extraordinary minister of Communion. He enjoyed fishing, traveling and reading. Survivors include his wife of 24 years, Phyllis; two sons, Tom, Marco Island, and Ernie, Apex, N.C.; three daughters, Pauline Walker, Largo, Cathy Kirstein, Clearwater, and Caroline Harned, Palm Harbor; a brother, Robert, Butler, Pa.; two sisters, Irene Selders, Toledo, Ohio, and Virginia Hampton, Wadsworth, Ohio; 10 grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. Moss-Feaster Funeral Homes & Cremation Services, Belcher Road Chapel, Largo

Mike Lunsford advised "Anyone wishing to send cards can mail them to Phyllis Kirstein, 819 Peggy Ray Drive, Dunedin, Fl. 34698. Her phone number is 727-733-3684."

Photos from Chapter Members

Joy Wilson was on a recent flight from TIA and got this very nice shot of the new Tampa office building. Thanks for sharing this unusual perspective with us.



If you have an unusual picture that is FBI focused, share it with your chapter members.