

The Quarterly Newsletter of the FWC's Division of Law Enforcement

Cooler temperatures and hunting season mean a transition into the woods for many of our officers, although Florida's waterways are never empty. As always, FWC DLE members have been busy since the last newsletter! Here's a brief snapshot of some of the events and activities that have taken place since our last newsletter in August. If you have anything at all that you would like included in the next quarterly newsletter (scheduled for March 2017), please don't hesitate to send it to Robert Klepper, DLE PIC, at Robert.Klepper@MyFWC.com. Stay safe out there and keep up the good work!

- [2017 Hurricane Season](#)
- [News from the Commission Meeting](#)
- [Promotions and New Hires - July 1 - December 1, 2016](#)
- [Blast from the Past](#)
- [Interdivisional / Interagency Cooperation](#)
- [Conferences and Meetings](#)
- [Community Outreach Efforts](#)

- [Awards – July 1 – December 1, 2016](#)
- [SOG/K-9/OPV](#)
- [Training and Recruitment](#)
- [FWC in the Media](#)
- [News to Use/Praise/New Additions/Personal news](#)
- [Most popular Facebook post of the quarter:](#)
- [Did you know?](#)



2017 Hurricane Season

This hurricane season, Florida was impacted by two named storms.

The FWC Division of Law Enforcement actively provided emergency assistance, emergency operations center support and aviation support during both of the storms.

FWC efforts during **Hurricane Hermine**, which made landfall in Northwest Florida just prior to the Labor Day weekend, included the deployment of 53 members from outside the region to assist with search and rescue efforts, debris removal, reconnaissance, aviation and public safety details. 15 missions were undertaken during the emergency. The FWC worked posts at the State Emergency Operations Center for 17 combined shifts. The aviation unit provided valuable damage assessment missions following the storm's passage. Northeast, Northwest and Southwest Region FWC Special Operations Group (SOG) teams staged for a response to the affected areas as soon as conditions allowed. After the hurricane passed, these SOG teams

deployed to affected areas and provided critical services including damage assessment, search and rescue by land and water, and public safety and general law enforcement patrols. This was in addition to other sworn members in those affected areas who also conducted patrols and public safety missions in their regions.

Hurricane Matthew posed a threat to a larger area of the state. At the State Emergency Operations Center, FWC members worked a combined 23 shifts to maintain FWC coverage and participation in the combined response effort. Two separate units, comprised of a total of 82 members were deployed to two locations prior to the storm's passage. Incident commanders coordinated with special operations group members from other regions, national guard personnel, regional law enforcement agencies and in-place regional officers to provide comprehensive reconnaissance, relief, search and rescue, law enforcement and public safety missions. A total of 13 missions were conducted by FWC members. The aviation unit provided numerous overflights of the vast area of coastline affected by the storm, coordinating with military airspace controllers and the FAA. Geo-tagged photographs taken by FWC aircrews captured the first aerial views of affected areas, which were uploaded to the SEOC.

FWC DLE Members are to be applauded for their great work during these two events!



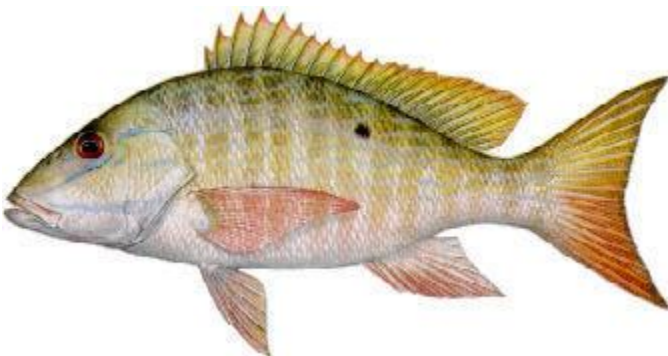
News from the Commission Meeting

The last commission meetings took place **September 8-9, 2016** in St. Augustine and **November 16-17** in St. Petersburg. Interested members can view the agenda for the September meeting [here](#) and the November meeting [here](#). Pictures from the September meeting can be viewed [here](#) and the November meeting [here](#).

Some of the highlights of the meetings included:



Commissioners approved an unprecedented initiative to conserve some of Florida's most vulnerable wildlife by designating and modifying **Critical Wildlife Areas** throughout Florida. Full press release [here](#).



Commissioners approved several **mutton snapper** management changes, which will go into effect Jan. 1, 2017, and include:

- Increasing the recreational, commercial, importation and sale minimum size limits to 18 inches.
- Reducing the recreational bag limit to five fish per person within the 10-fish snapper aggregate bag limit.

- Replacing the May through June commercial trip limit in all state waters with a five-fish per person, per day limit from April through June in Atlantic state waters.
- Establishing a 500-pound commercial trip limit for the remainder of the year (July through March) in Atlantic state waters.

Full press release [here](#).



Following a request from Gov. Rick Scott, the Commission expanded the **recreational red snapper season** in Gulf state waters by adding an additional seven days in November. Full press release and dates [here](#).



Commissioners approved closing Gulf state waters to recreational harvest of **greater amberjack** for the remainder of 2016. This closure was put into place because NOAA Fisheries estimates that the annual federal recreational quota was exceeded. Full press release [here](#).



The recreational **red drum daily bag limit** in the Northwest Red Drum Management Zone (Escambia County through Fred Howard Park near Pasco County) will remain one fish per person. Full press release [here](#).



Commissioners recognized Investigator Steve Wayne as its 2016 Investigator of the Year during the Commission meeting in St. Augustine. The annual award honors an FWC investigator whose efforts show outstanding performance and achievement among investigators, including captive wildlife cases, overt and covert investigations, surveillance, and wildlife trafficking. Investigator Wayne's numerous achievements in 2015 show his dedication to this integral aspect of the FWC's mission. He was also featured in a Florida Times-Union story [here](#).



The FWC approved a historic plan to conserve imperiled species - a groundbreaking attempt to achieve conservation success with dozens of imperiled species throughout the state. At its meeting in St. Petersburg, the FWC approved the **Imperiled Species Management Plan**, a capstone on five years of work developing the plan, and over a decade of revising the listing process. Full press release [here](#).



The Shikar-Safari Club International named **Officer Dustin Lightsey**, who has since been promoted to Lieutenant, its **2016 Wildlife Officer of the Year** during the Commission meeting in St. Augustine. Shikar-Safari Club International is a conservation-based organization that presents awards annually to wildlife law enforcement officers in all states, provinces and territories in the United States and Canada. Jim Harrison and Don Henderson from Shikar-Safari attended the meeting and presented the award.



The Fish & Wildlife Foundation of Florida recognized FWC **marine field mechanic David Broughton** as its **2016 Rodney Barreto Employee of the Year**. Andrew Walker, CEO of the Foundation and FWC Commissioners presented Broughton with the award at the FWC Commission meeting Sept. 8 in St. Augustine. "Each year, the Foundation is pleased to honor an FWC employee who has gone above and beyond to further this vital conservation mission. David is an incredible asset for the FWC and is a great choice for this award," said Rodney Barreto, Chairman of The Foundation. Full press release [here](#).



FWC sets **new barracuda size limits** for south Florida - These changes will apply in state and federal waters off Collier, Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach and Martin counties only and include creating a recreational and commercial slot limit of 15 to 36 inches fork length and allowing the harvest of one fish larger than 36 inches per person or vessel per day, whichever is less. Full press release [here](#).

Promotions and New Hires - July 1 - December 1, 2016

Please join us in congratulating these members on their new ranks and positions!

Promotions from July 1 – December 1, 2016

Randall Bowlin promoted to Captain (Northeast Region)
Herbert Frerking promoted to Captain (Northeast Region)
John Marvin promoted to Captain (South Region Bravo)
Rachel Bryant promoted to Captain (GHQ - Operational Support)
Anthony Rosas promoted to Lieutenant (Southwest Region)
Tyler Harrison promoted to Lieutenant (GHQ - Captive Wildlife and Environmental Investigations)
Christina Martin promoted to Investigator 1 (South Region Bravo)
George Price, III promoted to Lieutenant (Northwest Region)
James Yetter promoted to Lieutenant (Northeast Region)
Jeremy Munkelt promoted to Investigator 2 (South Region Bravo)
Thomas VanTrees promoted to Lieutenant (Southwest Region)
William Freemon promoted to Investigator 1 (Southwest Region)
Stuart Spodee promoted to Lieutenant (Southwest Region)
Whitney Chase promoted to Lt Lieutenant (Northeast Region)

New Hires from July 1 – December 1, 2016

Welcome to the family!

Officer John Allen (South Region Alpha)
Duty Officer Nicoli Davis (North Central Region)
Hailey Anderson, Planner 2 (GHQ - Boating & waterways)
Kennaey Hester, Government Ops Consultant 1 (GHQ - Fleet & Technical Services)
Duty Officer Amanda Stamp (South Region Alpha)
Kimberly Clothier, Staff Assistant (South Region Alpha)
Virginia Davis, Staff Assistant (South Region Bravo)
Officer Gabriel Fernandez (South Region B)
Cherryl Sullivan Staff Assistant (Northwest Region)
Michael Shanks Staff Assistant (North Central Region)
Duty Officer Shirlyn Mobley (North Central Region)
Duty Officer George Rezende (South Region B)
Duty Officer Aasha Good (North Central Region)
Duty Officer Scott Silvest (Southwest Region)

Blast from the Past



Command staff are always going on about “meeting with land owners” – this photo from the 1950s shows that not much has changed. Just a friendly drop by and an opportunity to get out of that stylish patrol vehicle!

Interdivisional / Interagency Cooperation



The crew of OPV Guardian provided valuable assistance to FYCCN's 2016 Saltwater Fishing Camp. The kids (and officers) enjoyed a tour and ride aboard the vessel, and had a great day experiencing the fun of fishing outdoors.

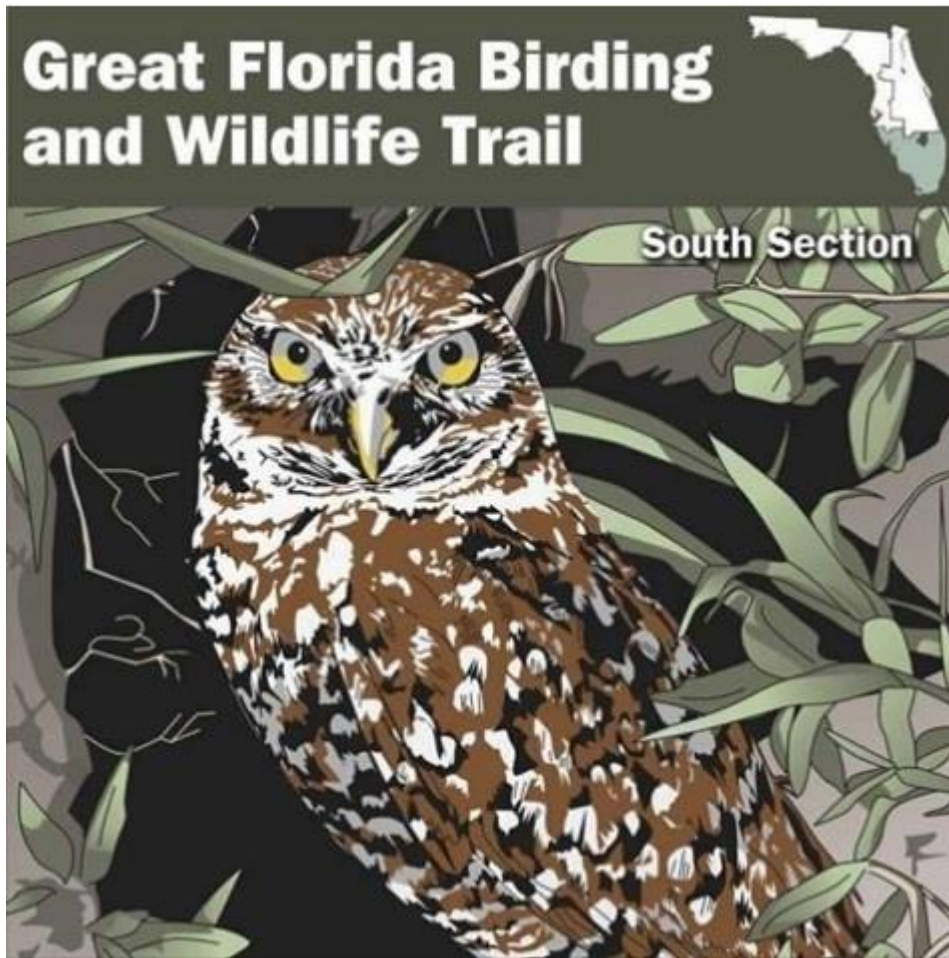


In July, the crew of the OPV Gulf Sentry assisted FWRI biologists with an important research mission. FWRI researchers retrieved and replaced a number of submerged receivers that monitor vital marine data. The Gulf Sentry conducted patrol duties on the way to and from the site, and assisted FWRI researchers with deployment.



LE personnel (Officer Ryan Smith, who made the case, pictured above) teamed up with a host of other FWC staff from numerous divisions to assist HSC's gopher tortoise conservation program during a massive tortoise capture/relocation effort. The team captured 26 gopher tortoises from a .75-acre pen over two days in Sebring. Deb Burr, program coordinator, named all of the volunteers expert "tortoise whisperers" and "burrow divers!" Many of the tortoises were

relocated to South Carolina to help reestablish a population there. Check out the video of their relocation [here](#).



The Great Florida Birding and Wildlife Trail is a network of 510 premier wildlife viewing sites across the state. When you want to know where to go in Florida to see native birds, butterflies and more, head for the Trail. **Whitney Gray, the program coordinator, is available to conduct presentations** about the trail to interested squads, regions, stakeholder groups, etc. [Contact her](#) if you would like to set up an in-person or virtual presentation about this valuable resource.



When Hurricane Hermine hit Florida's Gulf Coast, flooding caused several manatees to be displaced in a pond on a golf course in Crystal River. Plans were put into action on September 15 as the FWC, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo, Clearwater Marine Aquarium and other partners successfully rescued eight healthy manatees, including a mother-calf pair. A great video of the rescue efforts can be seen [here](#).

Conferences and Meetings



During the 2016 Southeastern Park Directors Conference, FWC personnel partnered with Florida State Parks, the Florida Forest Service, St. Johns River Water Management Office and the USDA to provide information and static displays of equipment to the more than 80 regional state park directors in attendance. Special thanks to Captain Byron Smith, Lieutenant Dan Dickson, Officer Lauren Taylor, PIO Chad Weber, K-9 Officer Duane North and K-9 Max!



Major Percy Griffin and Lieutenant Colonel Brian Smith graduated in 2016 from the 3rd Cohort of the National Conservation Law Enforcement Leadership Academy. A short video describing the academy and the activities of the 3rd Cohort can be found [here](#).



Colonel Brown was invited to represent state conservation law enforcement agencies and discussed domestic wildlife trafficking issues on an expert panel addressing the illegal trafficking and commercialization of wildlife at “Stories from the Front Line: Exploring Global Law Enforcement in the New Age of Wildlife Trafficking” — an event hosted by the National Geographic Society and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The event was attended by officials and conservation experts from 11 African nations on the frontline of poaching of elephants, rhinos, and other iconic species. Check out the full story [here](#).

Community Outreach Efforts

Outreach is something that all of our members pride themselves on – here are a just a few highlights of members at community outreach events in recent months. Promoting youth participation and community outreach in conservation is a vital mission for FWC. FWC DLE members are always encouraged to participate in school and community events that **get kids interested in the outdoors and conservation.**



South Region PIC Carol Lyn Parrish and PIO Amy Moore attended a Kid's Fishing Day at the South Florida Fairgrounds in August. Carol Lyn organized the event and the Division of Freshwater Fisheries Management supplied the equipment.



PIO Bobby Dube pulled an FWC patrol boat in the Key West July 4th parade.



Kids love trucks! At two recent "Touch a Truck" events, Officer Stephen Spradley, PIO Tyson Matthews and Recruiter Mike Albert showed off all the tools and features that FWC officers have in their trucks to protect the public and the natural resources of Florida.



Nearly 3,000 visitors came by the lobster information booth in the Keys for the beginning of lobster mini-season. PIO Bobby Dube and other FWC, Florida Parks Service and USCG staff answered tons of questions from interested people.



Lieutenant Robison, Recruiting Officer Steinmetz, and Officer Plussa participated in an outreach and recruiting event at the 2016 Heroes Salute over the Labor Day Weekend at Hawks Cay Resort in the Keys. Our FWC officers were the stars of the show by allowing children and families to hold, pet and interact with multiple snakes, turtles, several alligators and a few other Florida critters. The event was a major success overall with hundreds of interactive citizen encounters and dozens of youth expressing aspirations to someday become FWC officers.



Officer Casey Anderson and K-9 Scout spent some time at Gilchrest Elementary School in Tallahassee, where he spoke about the FWC, conserving natural resources and the importance of spending time outdoors.



Captain Alberto Maza, FWFF member Ignacio Borbolla and NPS Ranger Mackarvich conducted a boating safety and conservation presentation to students at Columbus High School. The students and staff all had a great experience.



South Region Alpha Officers Defeo and Tarr represented FWC well in an area CrossFit "Battle of the Badges." They had to complete three workouts which included rowing, running, air squats, assault bike, box jumps, sled pushes, overhead lunging, pushups and sit-ups! Great work!

Awards – July 1 – December 1, 2016

Congratulate these members on their recent recognition for their outstanding service!

Letter of Commendation: For service rendered in the line of duty where the member or volunteer has displayed courage or outstanding performance while either assisting in the apprehension of criminals, prevention of a crime, protection of life or property, or contributions toward the improvement of Division efficiency, or contributions toward the improvement of public relations for the Division.

Officer Kyle Mason (South Region Bravo)
Lieutenant David Robison (2) (South Region Bravo)
Pilot II Daniel Willman (Aviation)
Officer Nicholas Guerin (South Region Alpha)
Officer Nick Korade (North Central Region)
Officer Lee Yates (North Central Region)
Lieutenant Chuck Mincy (North Central Region)
Investigator II Christopher Holleman (North Central Region)

Lifesaving Award: For performance of an act which may have arisen through an emergency or otherwise, and which resulted in the saving of a human life.

Officer Olly Adams (South Region Bravo)
Officer Kyle Plussa (South Region Bravo)
Investigator Evan Laskowski (Southwest Region)
With Valor - Officer Benjamin Hankinson (South Region Alpha)
Officer Stephen Laroche (Northeast Region)
Lieutenant Ben Eason (Northeast Region)
Officer Ricky Justus (North Central Region)
Lieutenant Philip Glover (North Central Region)
Investigator James Armstrong (Northwest Region)

Other Awards:



Maj. Richard Moore receives prestigious award for boating safety work - During its annual meeting, the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators presented Maj. Richard Moore, FWC's boating and waterways section leader, with its prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award. This award is designated for individuals who have contributed extensively to boating safety over the course of their career. Moore has worked in boating safety and conservation law enforcement in Florida for more than 25 years, and is a nationally recognized expert and advocate for boating safety. His contributions to boating safety initiatives are innumerable, and this prestigious award recognizes the great impact that he has had to the field. Congratulations, Maj. Moore! View the complete NASBLA press release [here](#).



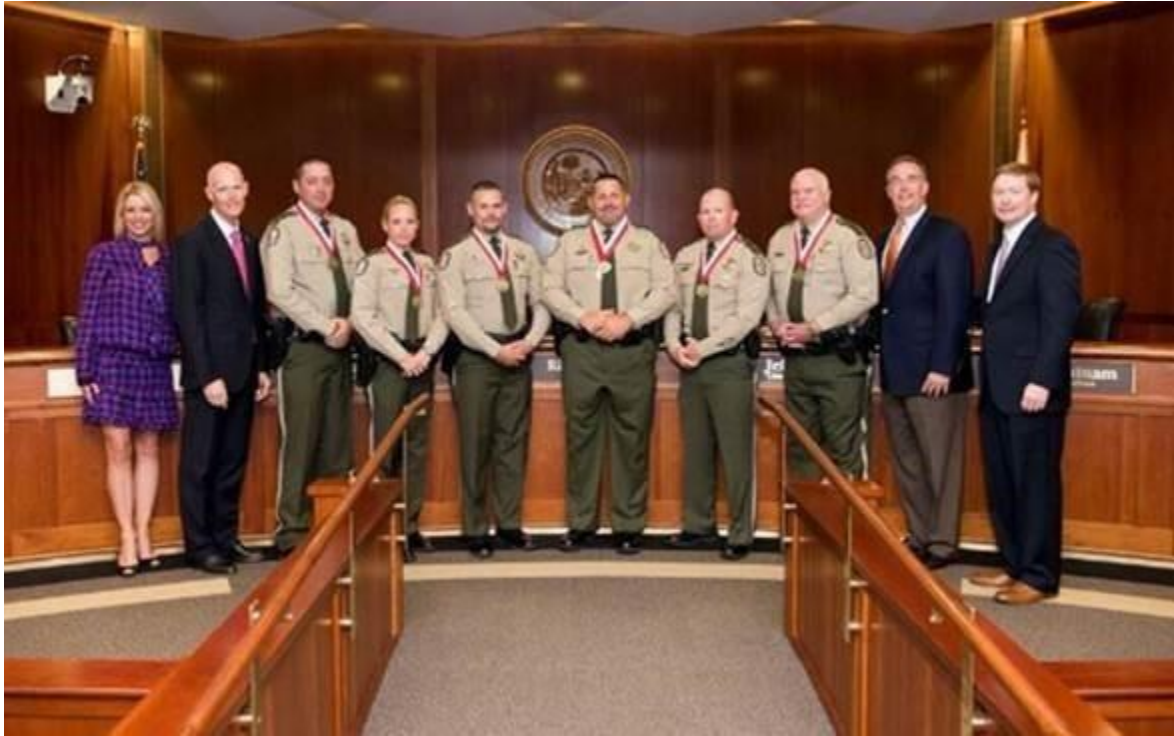
During its 57th annual meeting, held in Seattle, Washington, Sept. 11-14, 2016, the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators presented its prestigious **national Boating Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award to Officer Jarrod Molnar**. Congratulations Office Molnar! Check out the full press release [here](#).



Lieutenant Streety was recognized by Safariland in September for his courage and being the 1,717th person saved by one of their products/vests.



The week following Hurricane Hermine, FWC employees, along with other state agencies, were asked to assist Governor Rick Scott with a debris clean up detail around Tallahassee. FWC officers, along with staff from the North Florida Shop and others, assisted with this cleanup. FWC brought trucks and trailers for the detail, and assisted with hauling off downed trees, limbs and other debris. To show appreciation for the help, **Governor Scott held a BBQ for them!**



Governor Rick Scott recognized six officers with the Medal of Heroism for their bravery and service assisting families in Hernando County during Hurricane Hermine. Congratulations to Lieutenant Kevin Grover, Officer Robyn Bergwerff, Officer Dave Spradlin, Officer Dan Fagan, Officer Scott Peterson and Officer Justin Henry. Officer Josh Little was also honored, but was unable to be present due to the birth of his new baby!



Tampa Police Chief Eric Ward honored FWC Officers Greg Patterson and Richard Dearborn with Lifesaving Awards at a recent ceremony. Greg's daughters were present to accept the award. On Saturday, July 9, just two days before Greg's passing, he was involved in a lifesaving mission with Officer Dearborn. They assisted three victims into the boat, one by one, and all three were transported to the Gandy boat ramp where Tampa Fire Rescue was waiting to assist.

SOG/K-9/OPV



South Region Alpha SOG and local officers attended a joint training mission with the Army National Guard 48th Civil Support Team and Indian River Sheriff's office to cross train each other on maritime nuclear/ chemical emergency response. Officers spent three days practicing emergency chemical response on the water by stopping and overtaking a 50' vessel and calling in the CST. The CST then responded accordingly and identified the hazard.



Officer Jonathon Wright and his K-9 partner "Zoey" attended an extensive four-week training academy at the United States Department of Agriculture's National Detector Dog Training Center in Newnan, Georgia. They trained to detect wildlife located in palletized boxes and on moving conveyer belts. Upon completing their training, Officer Wright & Zoey returned to Broward County where they will work to detect illegal shipments of wildlife. Their mission will be to frequent our sea ports, the local airports, shipping/receiving companies like UPS and FedEx and attempt to discover Lacey Act violations, improper packaging, unsanitary conditions, unlawful transfer of ownership and various other violations. We are very happy to have this

new addition to our very successful K-9 program in partnership with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service in detection of the illegal importation/exportation of wildlife.

Training and Recruitment



FWC Training personnel conducted marine law enforcement training during the annual Law Enforcement Training Seminar at the Florida Public Safety Institute. Law enforcement officers from across the region participated in a basic marine law enforcement course, where they learned from Lt. Scott Olson basic navigation, boat stops and boat handling skills. Check out the news story [here](#).



During the holiday season, FWC Academy staff, along with FHP and both active recruit classes had an opportunity to brighten the lives of less fortunate children and families. The **annual Marine Corps Toys for Tots Program** collected a number of great toys from the two recruit classes and agency personnel. Thank you to all who participated!



As a way to honor our fallen officers, the FWC training section has created a Memorial Workout program. The workouts are a way to honor the sacrifices of the brave officers who have come before us, improve our fitness and strengthen our agency's identity. Recruit Class 31, along with several staff from HQ and retired Lieutenant Colonel Mark Warren participated in the **CT Randall Memorial Workout** at Cascades Park in Tallahassee. Check out upcoming memorial workouts at our Division Home Page [here](#).



Fifty-five officers from across the country participated in an advanced training session on boating accidents at the FWC Training Academy. Lieutenant Haney (South Region Bravo) was interviewed on the media story [here](#). Instructors used vessels that had been in accidents, so investigators could have real-world experience piecing together what happened on the water.



ATV Instructor Training took place in December at the Academy. A number of LE and non-LE members took advantage of the opportunity, and became certified ATV instructors.



The commencement ceremony for **Class 30** took place on September 30, 2016 at the Florida Public Safety Institute. 32 graduates were pinned before friends, family and distinguished guests. The guest speaker for the ceremony was Shane Mahoney, an internationally recognized wildlife biologist, conservationist, and thought leader. Mr. Mahoney is the founder

and CEO of Conservation Visions Inc., a private company that has recently launched The Wild Harvest Initiative, an innovative and ground-breaking scientific study. Also in attendance were Commission Chairman Brian Yablonski and Executive Director Nick Wiley. The Roy Burnsed Memorial Award was awarded to Officer Tyler Dunn. Lt. Adonious Duhart was the class coordinator.

Photos for Class 30's commencement can be viewed [here](#).

New officers from Class 30 are:

Officer David Bellville (Northeast Region)
Officer Nate Boulware (South Region Alpha)
Officer Charles Bradshaw (Southwest Region)
Officer Alberto Canamero (Southwest Region)
Officer Jacob Carter (Southwest Region)
Officer Jeremiah Cheshire (South Region Alpha)
Officer Nate Cheshire (North Central Region)
Officer Markiel Curbelo (South Region Bravo)
Officer Jason Dalton (Southwest Region)
Officer Chris Davidson (Southwest Region)
Officer Tyler Dunn (South Region Bravo)
Officer Grant Eller (Northeast Region)
Officer Michael Errico (South Region Bravo)
Officer James Fox (North Central Region)
Officer Noel Garcia (South Region Bravo)
Officer Thomas Godfrey (Southwest Region)
Officer Jared Hayes (Northwest Region)
Officer Dominique Infante (Southwest Region)
Officer Michael Janzen, Jr. (South Region Bravo)
Officer Andrew Kobs (Southwest Region)
Officer Jorge Larios (South Region Bravo)
Officer Sean Long (Northwest Region)
Officer Ted Mandrick (Northwest Region)
Officer Richard Marroquin, Jr. (Northeast Region)
Officer Brittany Mobley (South Region Bravo)
Officer Celine Moffett (South Region Alpha)
Officer Nicole Muina (South Region Alpha)
Officer James Pettifer (Southwest Region)
Officer Brian Richardson (Northwest Region)
Officer Jessica Rorer (North Central Region)
Officer Brian Sapp (South Region Bravo)
Officer George Vuxton (North Central Region)



The commencement ceremony for **Class 32** (7-week breakout session for sworn/certified officers) took place on November 18, 2016 at the Florida Public Safety Institute. 13 graduates were pinned before friends, family and distinguished guests. The guest speaker for the ceremony was Diane Eggeman, Director of the FWC Division of Hunting and Game Management. Also in attendance were numerous command staff. The Roy Burnsed Memorial Award was awarded to Officer Kenneth Thornton. Lt. Eric Hall was the class coordinator. Some photos can be viewed [here](#) – more to come!

New officers from Class 32 are:

Officer Angelina Banks (South Region Alpha)
Officer Lonnie Brevik (South Region Alpha)
Officer Jefferson Carroll (South Region Bravo)
Officer Jason Crosby (South Region Alpha)
Officer Britton Drew (North Central Region)
Officer Frank Farinas (South Region Bravo)
Officer Robert Hardgrove (Southwest Region)
Officer Seth Loeffler (Northeast Region)
Officer William Robson (North Central Region)
Officer Brooks Sadilek (South Region Alpha)
Officer Kenneth Thornton (Northeast Region)
Officer Edward Vazquez (North Central Region)
Officer Austin Warensford (South Region Alpha)

Recruitment efforts span the state and include internship programs, workshops, shows, events, career days and clinics. FWC recruiters and other members attended a number of shows and expos and visited more colleges and universities.

FWC in the Media



Officers in the SW Region were featured on the news regarding their efforts to provide public safety services to the residents of Pasco County who were affected by the flooding during Hurricane Hermine. Check out the full story [here](#).

Law enforcement increases patrols for Labor Day weekend.



Officer Ben Norbrothen gave a great interview and ride-along promoting boating safety over the busy Labor Day holiday. Check out the full story [here](#).



Outreach to Florida's Spanish speaking population is a vital ingredient to achieving our mission. In this episode of [Vamos a Pescar](#), which aired on Univision and social media channels, Officer Lorenzo Veloz talks about boating safety during the July 4 holiday weekend.

News to Use/Praise/New Additions/Personal news



Hurricane Matthew kept Fleet and Technical Services busy. They staged vehicles, supplies and placed support teams within deployed units to maintain readiness.



The 75th Anniversary of Florida's WMAs is coming up soon! January 21st was the kick off celebration at Babcock-Webb WMA, Florida's first Wildlife Management Area (established in 1941). This is the first in a year-long schedule of activities around the state. There will be a variety of exciting hands-on activities for families to enjoy, all at no charge. Visit the 75th WMA Anniversary website [here](#) for more information.



The new Shell Point boat ramp in Northwest Florida reached completion this year. Thanks to a grant administered by the FWC, boaters and anglers have a great resource to get out on the water. Wakulla County created a great drone video of the ramp that you can see [here](#).



The FWC teaches a conservation law class at the University of Florida every Tuesday evening. One of the requirements in the course is attending a ride along with a FWC law enforcement officer. Five students along with Lieutenant George Wells, Officers John Burks, Baryl Martin, Reece Alvis and NOAA Special Agent Kelly Moran Kalamas, conducted a law enforcement patrol aboard the OPV Gulf Sentry. They patrolled state and federal waters focusing on recreational fishing vessels. The students were able to see conservation law enforcement officers in action.



Congratulations to Officer Matthew Nasworth for making the first meat case of the hunting season in SRA in late July. It wasn't bacon that these three men were trying to hide in the rear floor board of their vehicle. They had shot a spotted fawn at night near Labelle. In addition to being in possession of the out of season fawn they were also found to be in possession of drug paraphernalia. All three subject were booked into the Hendry County Jail.

Make sure to congratulate these DLE members on their recent employment milestones:

Retirement!

Leonard Bailey - 29 years
William 'Clayton' Tolbert - 25 years, 8 months
Carl Voss, LE - 15 years, 6 months
Robert Mroczkowski, 35 years
Kurt Arendas – 22 years

35 Years of Service

Officer Lane Kinney (Northwest Region)
Duty Officer Joseph Mielke (Northwest Region)

30 Years of Service

Biological Scientist IV Hector Cruz-Lopez (Investigations Section)
Officer Ed Maldonado (South Region Bravo)

25 Years of Service

Colonel Curtis Brown (GHQ)

OMC Cindy Byrd (GHQ)

20 Years of Service

Marine Equipment Maintenance Superintendent Joe Kelsch (Field Services Section)

Investigator II Kenneth Holmes (North Central Region)

Officer Greg Stanley (Southwest Region)

Officer Benjamin Waring (Northwest Region)

Most popular Facebook post of the quarter:



The most popular post this quarter was from September 7, 2016. It reached **276,058 people** and garnered more than 2,000 reactions.

Check out the full post [here](#).

If you are on Facebook, **check out the [MyFWC Facebook page](#)** – it's a great source of information about what your fellow FWC members are doing! Law Enforcement posts are consistently popular, and sharing what you do with your friends is a great way to promote the agency and the division!

Did you know?



FWC DLE members make up a team that saves approximately 1,000 people per year. Every person is vital to that team.

Do have any questions, comments or news for the next newsletter?
Email [Robert Klepper](#) or give him a call at 850-617-9666.