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## Three Lost Heroes

Brazos County Pct. 3 Volunteer Firefighter William Richard "Dick" Danes died in the line of duty, on



May 17, 2012, while participating in a ladder training exercise at the Texas Engineering Extension Service's Brayton Fire Training Field in College Station. Firefighter Danes is survived by his wife Mary E. Danes and a grown son and daughter.

Constable Brian Bachmann, 41, was shot to death on Monday afternoon, August 13,



2012, while serving a court-ordered eviction order at a residence in College Station, Texas. Constable Bachman was a nineteen-year law enforcement veteran, having served as a Deputy with the Brazos County Sheriff's Office prior to becoming the Constable for Precinct 1 in Brazos County. He is survived by his wife Donna, a young son and, two daughters.

Atascocita Fire Captain Neal Smith, 46, died in the line of duty after being injured in a "Smoke Diver" training exercise on Sep-



tember 17, 2012. Captain Smith was a 5-year veteran firefighter and is survived by his wife, a 9-year-old son and a 6-year-old daughter.

## "In Their Own Words"

by Harris County Sheriff's Deputy René Dennis, wife of  
Harris County Sheriff's Deputy Joeseeph N. Dennis

September 27, 2012

On May 22, 2001 I had my first dealings with Rick Hartley, along with two volunteers, from the 100 Club when they delivered a check to assure my children and I were in need for nothing. A few months later they came



to my house and this time when they left we were completely debt free. The 100 Club made sure all of our financial burdens were no more! Since that time, and to this day, when I have requested assistance for anything including taking care of those who were trying to take advantage of me as I made funeral arrangements for my husband to assisting me find

dependable used cars as my children came of driving age, they have been right at my side. It has now been eleven years since my husband was killed in the line of duty and this incredible organization is still ready and waiting to assist me and my children. They are helping pay for my son's college education. His tuition, books, car note and fuel are taken care of so that not only can be worry free about transportation to/from school but he can be the first from our family to receive a college degree. The 100 Club has already made preparations for my 16 year old daughter to have what she needs for college, too.

Although this organization has definitely taken a great deal of the financial burden off of me, the 100 Club is NOT just about finances. Without fail, two or three times a year I receive a phone call inquiring as to how the kids and I are doing. I have no doubt that if I want or need anything, I have only to ask. I truly do not know where we would be without the help of this wonderful organization.

## Lone Star Hibiscus Society

Some of us forget that each day, we step out of our doors and into our community and enjoy many freedoms, many liberties that we take for granted. We enjoy these liberties because

*Hibiscus* continued on page 2

## Board of Directors Update

New Members of the Board

### Willie Alexander

Mr. Alexander began his career playing defensive back for the NFL Houston Oilers from 1971-1980. A graduate of Alcorn State University and a Chartered Life Underwriter



(CLU) of The American College in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, Mr. Alexander is the president of W.J. Alexander & Associates, P.C. (WJA), an employee benefits consulting and insurance brokerage firm. Mr. Alexander and his wife have two college age children.

### David Shannon

David is a graduate of the Uni-



versity of Houston and is the President and CEO of WSH Land, Inc. David is married, the father of one son and one daughter, and is a native Houstonian. In his spare time, David enjoys golfing and hunting.

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## Help Us Grow... Give This Application to a Friend! FOR NEW MEMBERS ONLY

Do not use this form to renew your membership  
(a renewal form will be mailed to you at a later date)

Please mark your **NEW** membership choice below:

- Regular Membership - \$100 Annually
- Life Membership - \$1,000 Single Gift
- Quarterly Life Membership - \$250 Annually over four consecutive years (you become a Life Member after your fourth donation is received)
- Business Membership - \$150 Annually
- Business Life Membership - \$1,500 Single Gift

NEW MEMBER NAME (please print) (only one name per application)

BUSINESS NAME (if applicable) (must include an individual's name under "new member name")

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY / STATE

ZIP (including 4-digit extension)

HOME PHONE

CELL PHONE

BUSINESS PHONE

E-MAIL ADDRESS

VISA

MASTERCARD

AMERICAN EXPRESS

DISCOVER

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ / Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

ACCOUNT NUMBER

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SPONSORED BY: Newsletter

Your gift is tax-deductible: IRS Tax Exempt AUS:EO:77-1795 Dated 8/26/1977

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we are the land of the free, home of the brave. But the liberties we enjoy daily aren't free, they come with a high price, they come through the many sacrifices made by Police Officers and Fire Fighters. Our freedom has been paid for through the blood, sweat and tears of each of these men and women, just as our salvation has been paid for through the blood of Jesus Christ. My Father David Mitchell made this donation in the name of my mother Ann Mitchell who passed away in December 2011. They both love and appreciate the sacrifices of Public Safety and this is their way of giving back to those who keep us safe!

Elwood "Woody" Mitchell, Asst. Chief Harris County Constable, Pct. 4



Woody Mitchell, Dave Mitchell, 100 Club Executive Director Rick Hartley, and Jeanette Elliff



Presentation of 15 vests and 5 radios to Fort Bend County Precinct 2. Pictured are 100 Club President Randy Russell, Fort Bend County Pct. 2 Constable Ruben Davis, 100 Club Executive Director Rick Hartley, and Fort Bend County Pct. 2 Commissioner Grady Prestage. The 100 Club's total support, historically for the precinct is \$58,593.



100 Club Executive Director Rick Hartley Spring Fling 2012 Event Co-Chairman Josh Wallach, TMCA 2012 Commodore Steve Lee.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER: A Few Words From Randy Russell

Words cannot express my feeling for the continued support your Club receives from our 29,500 members. I would like to ask each of you to consider contacting us if you know of an opportunity to present a brief 100 Club program to a group or organization that you may belong to that has a need for speakers. We have learned that this is a great way to spread the word of what we do and it also helps us in gaining members from individuals who want to support our Law Enforcement and Firefighting Heroes. Please contact our Executive Director Rick Hartley at (713) 952-0100 or email him at: rick@the100club.org. to schedule a program.

Sadly, I report to you that Brazos County Precinct 1 Constable Brian Bachmann was killed in the line of duty on August 13, 2012 in College Station. Constable Bachman is survived by his wife Donna and four children. Your Board approved funding to pay off the families existing debt and to provide funding for the children's future college education.

On September 17, 2012, Atascocita Volunteer Fire Captain Neal Smith died, in the line of duty, from injuries received during a "Smoke Diver" training exercise in Beaumont. Captain Smith is survived by his wife Penny and two young children.

The 100 Club Board of Directors approves funds for the families of law enforcement officers and firefighters killed in the line of duty, which includes paying off the family debt and providing funds for children to further their education after they com-

plete high school. I am pleased to report that our average gift to the dependents of our Heroes killed in the line of duty is approximately \$300,000. Of course, all financial support is based on the particular needs of each family and the amounts vary depending on those needs.

On September 30th, the Club held its "Back the Badge" Gala featuring Larry Gatlin and the Gatlin Brothers at the Bayou City Event Center. We greeted 575 folks who came to support the efforts of our 59-year-old organization. The next day, October 1st, we held our 24th annual 100 Club Golf Tournament at Sterling Country Club with 200 golfers participating in the outing. I would like to thank all of our sponsors, participants, and also the hard work of all who made both of these events successful. A special thank you goes to 100 Club Director Garry Plotkin for his hard work that made both of these events fun for those who attended and successful fundraisers for the Club.

As we approach the Holiday season, I would ask you to think about giving a 100 Club membership as a gift. A membership application is included in this newsletter. Many members have done this in previous years and your gift of a 100 Club membership helps us to grow and provides us with the ability to continue our support for our Law Enforcement and Firefighting Heroes.



ALEXANDER'S FINE PORTRAIT DESIGN

The 18th annual Salute to Law Enforcement was held on Saturday, May 5, 2012 at Willowbrook Mall. This event attracted over 100 policing agencies to the Mall, allowing area residents to meet law enforcement officers and learn about the services provided by their agencies. This event includes a large display of policing equipment, including mobile strategic crisis management centers, car seat inspections, robotic devices and animals used in drug detection.



On May 15th, 100 Club Vice President Bob Brooks received a check for \$1,000 from Salute to Law Enforcement. Over the years they have donated \$9,000.

## 2012 Back The Badge Gala in September at Bayou City Event Center



Director's Award Presentation at the DPS Commission Meeting on April 20, 2012. Front row, left to right: Texas DPS Public Safety Commission Chairman Cynthia Leon, 100 Club Executive Director Rick Hartley, Texas DPS Director Steven C. McCraw, Back row, left to right: Texas DPS Public Safety Commission Commissioner Allan Polunsky, Texas DPS Public Safety Commission Commissioner Carin Barth, Texas DPS Public Safety Commission Commissioner Ada Brown



## 2012 Annual Golf Tournament in October at Sterling Golf Club



## 2012 Annual Heroes Awards Banquet in May at Bayou City Event Center



## Please help us to save money on newsletter costs

You can help us save newsletter printing and postage fees by giving us your email address so we can provide the newsletter to you electronically. We thank the thousands of 100 Club members that have already done so. Please visit our web site to sign up: <http://www.the100club.org/paperless>.

## 100 Club Upcoming Events

**Annual Meeting**  
Wednesday, January 9, 2013

**59th Annual Heroes Awards Banquet**  
May 2013  
honoring outstanding Law Enforcement and Firefighters in our coverage area.

**25th Annual Golf Tournament**  
Fall 2013  
Venue and date TBD