Open Hearts

This is a story about the heart. It involves heart doctors who have studied and trained years in order to strengthen hearts and save lives…community leaders and educational institutions with unselfish hearts that financially support heart doctors and heart research…DPS state troopers with a heart for their jobs of protecting people…also a retired state trooper who worked years to help suffering young children grow strong and healthy, and a state trooper organization that strengthened him.

and the special honoree, Richard Williams, a retired state trooper and heart care survivor.

Trooper Williams is a veteran of 40 years DPS service, whose life and work had been saved and extended by the skills and dedication of the heart doctors of the Austin Heart Hospital (AHA). He was the evening’s honored guest. The heart doctors, who had done many heart procedures on Williams, had learned of his life of unselfish service to others, especially with underprivileged children. Along with several other program themes about heart research and other heart medical advances and needs, this was to be a special evening for him.

The Heart Ball’s program moderator was beautiful Shannon Wolfson of Austin television’s KXAN news, who introduced speakers and guided the proceedings. She introduced American Heart Association Board Chairman Bobby Jenkins, an Austin businessman who spoke of heart disease and strokes as leading killers, said that the American Heart Association partners with the University of Texas and Texas A&M in heart research -- and also 22 local hospitals.

Continued on page 3
Our Supreme Court

“You know what I’m going to do? I’m going to take it all the way to the Supreme Court if I have to.”

How many times have we said or heard someone else say this or something similar. It reflects a belief in a position so strongly held that nothing will keep us from fighting to the bitter end.

But guess what. Just how many cases actually get to the Supreme Court for their consideration? Well, last term there was an attempt to get just over 9000 cases heard. The Supreme Court actually accepted approximately 80 cases for argument. Not real good odds.

You see, the Supreme Court doesn’t have to hear any case it doesn’t want to hear. And the ones it usually accepts have some broad policy application to a substantial part of our country. Gore v. Bush is a good example. And now the appointment of justices has taken on an enormous political significance.

The words “Equal Justice Under Law” are written above the main entrance to the United States Supreme Court. They reflect the ultimate responsibility of the highest tribunal in our nation.

The Supreme Court came, in large part, from the deep desire of the American people to obey the Rule of Law and have a constitutional government. And over the years, the United States has clearly demonstrated its determination to preserve and protect our written Constitution. And to keep watch over the executive and legislative branches of government.

Our Constitution is an attempt to carefully balance the need for a strong but flexible federal government with sufficient limits to protect the rights of every citizen. The judicial process was instituted to insure that neither the executive or legislative branches of government could take away our individual freedom.

The Court’s real power was shown in 1803 when Chief Justice Marshall wrote the decision in Marbury v. Madison. The Court decided in that famous case it had the power and duty to overturn what they viewed as an unconstitutional law.

Continued on page 6

With the highway patrol, there are no routine stops

So when the Supreme Court rules on a Constitutional issue, that judgment is virtually final. The ruling can only be altered by an amendment to our Constitution and that’s very rare. However, when the Court interprets a statute, new legislation may be passed to correct the error noted in the opinion.

Members of the Supreme Court are appointed by the President, subject to the approval of the Senate. To insure an independent judiciary and to protect the judges from partisan pressures, the Constitution provides that judges serve for life during their “good Behavior.” Additionally, the Constitution provides that judges’ salaries may not be reduced or diminished while they are in office.

The number of justices on the Court has changed 6 times, settling in at the present number of 9 in 1869. Since the Court’s formation in 1790, there have been only 16 Chief Justices and 97 Associate Justices. The average service of a judge is 15 years. The record in appointments goes to President George Washington who appointed the original 6 justices and before the end of his second term, appointed 4 additional judges. President Franklin Roosevelt comes in a close second. He appointed 8 justices and 1 Chief Justice.

The Court’s yearly term begins on the first Monday of October and continues until the following June or July. The Term is divided in two week intervals between “sittings” when the Justices hear cases and deliver opinions, and “recesses” when they consider cases and write opinions.

Usually, each side of a case is allowed 30 minutes to make an argument before the Court. In each case, the Court has before it the record of the case as well as briefs submitted by each party.

As is customary in American courts, justices are seated according to seniority. The Chief Justice sits in the middle. The senior Associate Justice sits to his right and the second senior to his left, and so on, alternating right and left by seniority.

It has been traditional prior to the opening of court that each Justice shakes the hand of each other Justice. This is known as the “conference handshake” and is a reminder that differences of opinion did not preclude overall harmony of purpose.

TSTA Officer Membership Advantages

- Free Last Will & Testament
- Free AD&D Insurance
- Emergency Assistance
- Legal Assistance
- Legislative Representation
- Personal Counsel
- Monthly Newsletter (Online)
Following him at the microphone was University of Texas President, Dr. Bill Powers, who said that UT was pleased to have a strong program in heart research. He also mentioned that his university strongly supported the development of the Dell Medical School of Austin.

While the elegantly dressed huge crowd (black ties, evening gowns) enjoyed (filet) steak dinners, a unique fundraising activity took place, designed to raise money for heart research. It’s theme: “Open Your Heart.” It was an auction, done by professional auctioneer, Gayle Stallings. Exciting, exotic and practical prizes were awarded to high bidders. The bids, which were extremely high-dollar amounts, were much higher than the value of the prizes, which were attractive values. All the funds raised went to the mission of the AHA to fund Heart Research, community outreach and medical advancements.

Prizes included ● a week in Jackson Hole, WY ● UT Longhorn fan experience (UT vs. UTSA, stadium suite for 16 guests) ● Anglers Parade at Port O’Conner ● 7 days/nights in Santa Fe ● Yellowstone Backpacking trip for 2 ● Executive Wellness Package (CT Scan, stress test, ultrasound screening) and also many more.

To prepare the enthusiastic audience for meeting former state trooper Richard Williams, a video was shown of the honoree’s life, partially about his DPS service, partially about the life success of one of Richard Williams’ young boys: also it was about Williams’ medical treatments by the doctors at Austin Heart Hospital. It included comments by Heart Hospital’s Dr. Kunjan J. Bhatt, Congestive Heart Failure Specialist, and Williams’ daughter, Melanie, who was her father’s continual caregiver.

The auction was a big hit with the attendees. A very large amount of money was raised for the American Heart Association. Austin car dealer Bill Munday was the most benevolent. Businesses, news media, other individuals, St. David’s Health Care and St. Jude’s Hospital were strong sponsors of this event and its goals.

Near the end of the program, honoree Richard Williams and his grandchildren were invited to the front and center stage. Words of honor and praise were spoken about him. Then came a special surprise for the veteran ex-trooper, and for the audience.
Spotlights flared and many cameras flashed, as the huge and appreciative audience applauded Williams and the troopers. It was the magic moment of the evening.

Williams and his family were overwhelmed.

It was a beautiful tribute to the gray-haired former trooper for his years of public safety service, his years of service to homeless children, and to the heart doctors whose dedicated skills prolonged his life.

* * * *

Williams’ work with the underprivileged children of Lampasas, Texas, started during the latter years of his DPS trooper career where he patrolled the highways and protected people. He was appalled to discover the large numbers of young children who were homeless, abused, hungry and disoriented. Many were very young school dropouts. Some were runaways - from home situations with mixed parents, drug environments. Others were hungry, had no winter coats and slept on floors in houses with no heat or plumbing.

He got them to meet with him, at first, under oak trees in the city park. He fed them with money from his own pocket, arranged recreational games. He told them Bible stories, about Christ’s love, and taught them to pray. He told them there was a better life, and challenged them. Getting transportation help from teenagers with cars, he picked up the little ones for weekly meetings, then delivered them back to their grim home environments and mixed parentage.

He gave his young group a name: “His Kids.” “Word of mouth” about this grew - in the schools, in the ghetto areas, within the broken families and relatives. The numbers grew. Some help came. The Texas State Troopers Association (TSTA-Austin ) which cares about trooper problems and careers, loaned “His Kids” a van, a driver, helped financially and with transportation. Williams arranged week-long trips for many to a Christian youth camp at Comfort, Texas. Meetings continued. Their meeting places moved from the city park to a warehouse to a church facility. A little country church donated food regularly. Williams developed assistants from the children’s ranks. The Lampasas community became aware of them - including the newspaper.
Open Hearts... continued from page 4

Young lives improved. They learned to laugh, to love, to hope, to be better students. Some graduated from middle school and high school. Williams’ love and care for the kids never slackened. The troopers association became a “big brother” to Williams and “His Kids.” Year after year it sent their outreach/editor Jack Lawler to their activities. He gave them continuous publicity in the TSTA monthly publication which alerted the statewide trooper world as well as Lampasas County.

The Heart Ball planners honored the Texas State Troopers Association by seating Mr. and Mrs. Jack Lawler with Richard Williams at the banquet’s heart table.

“If you want to write something to last a few hours, take a stick and write it in the sand. If you want to write something that would last a hundred years, take a chisel and engrave it into stone. But if you want to write something that could last forever- write it on the heart of a child.”

Remembering fallen Texas Officers

This year’s Texas Peace Officers’ Memorial Ceremony, honoring those who died in the line of duty in 2015, was held on May 1-2 on the Texas Capitol grounds.

The event began with a Candlelight Vigil Sunday night at the Memorial wall, with United States Congressman Ted Poe delivering the keynote address. The Memorial Ceremony took place at 11 a.m. Monday on the south steps of the Capitol. Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick presented medals and resolutions to the surviving family members.

“This annual Memorial Ceremony is a priceless opportunity for both the civic and Law Enforcement communities to come together to honor and pay tribute to our fallen peace officers. These heroes have paid the ultimate sacrifice while courageously protecting and serving the citizens of the great State of Texas. We will be forever thankful for what these families have sacrificed,” said Ashlee Hardy, President of Metroplex Concerns of Police Survivors.

Members of law enforcement from across the state, friends and families of our fallen officers, elected officials, and countless supporters of law enforcement were in attendance.

The ceremony was coordinated and hosted by the Texas Chapters of Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.), which includes the Metroplex, Greater Houston, and South Texas chapters.

The fallen officers honored were:

- Eligio Ruiz Garcia, JR., Texas Dept. of Criminal Justice
- Christopher A. Davis, Texas Dept. of Criminal Justice
- Richard K. Martin, Houston Police Department
- Christopher Dan Kelley, Hutto Police Department
- Korby Lee Kennedy, San Angelo Police Department
- Tronoski D. Jones, Harris County Sheriff’s Office
- Darren H. Goforth, Harris County Sheriff’s Office
- Jeffrey Emmons Radford, Bell County Constable’s Office
- William Karl Keesee, Texas Dept. of Public Safety
- Darrell L. Allen, Marlin Police Department
- Timothy A. Davison, Texas Dept. of Criminal Justice

Courtesy, printed excerpts from Ashlee Hardy, President Metroplex Concerns of Police Survivors.

Former state trooper Richard Williams, a big guy with a big heart for underprivileged children, was still going strong in his youth work until 2015, when his human heart faltered. He turned to the heart doctors of the Austin Heart Hospital. They did many wonderful things to restore him to health. And through their procedures, they learned of Richard’s unselfish life, then helped create this special evening of honor.

The marvelous things they did was due to heart research and heart science and new technology - and to the generosity of many. Also, because they had big hearts for unselfish service.
The complex role of the Supreme Court involves its authority to invalidate legislation which, in the Court’s considered judgment, conflicts with our Constitution. This power of judicial review has given the Court a crucial responsibility to insure individual rights. It also maintains our Constitution as a “living document” so that broad provisions can be continually applied to complicated new situations.

Now, every time we disagree with a Supreme Court opinion, most of us wish for a different system. Yet over time, the authority of the Supreme Court has guaranteed our individual freedoms and insured that an oppressive government would not be allowed to prevail. We are the only nation on earth that has a court so powerful that it can prevent the executive or legislative functions of government from overpowering our individual rights.

So until next time, you’ll be careful out there, you hear.

Judge Gist is completing his 40th year as a Criminal District Judge. Previously, he served as an Assistant District Attorney for 10 years. He is a Board Certified Specialist in both Criminal Law and Criminal Appellate Law by the State Bar of Texas. He served as Chair of the Judicial Advisory Council for 19 years before being appointed by the Governor as a member of the Texas Board of Criminal Justice. The first State Jail was named after him and he has twice been elected Chairman of the Criminal Law Section of the State Bar of Texas.

TSTA Officer Membership Advantages
- Free Last Will & Testament
- Free AD&D Insurance • Emergency Assistance
- Legal Assistance • Legislative Representation
- Personal Counsel • Monthly Newsletter (Online)

The Armed Citizen
- Two Nashville, Tenn., football fans were bidding each other farewell outside the home where they had just watched the Titans game on TV. As they were talking, a Jeep Cherokee pulled up the front of the house. One man got out of the Jeep, pointed a gun at the victims and demanded their valuables. An accomplice collected the goods and drove off in the Jeep. The gunman, meanwhile, had grabbed the car keys from one of the victims and was getting into that car to flee. One of the victims then pulled his own gun and told the robber to stop. The bad guy opened fire, but the victim got off a fatal shot in self-defense. Police are still looking for the man who drove off in the Jeep and any other passengers. (The Tennessean, Nashville, TN, 8/24/15)

- According to local police, a Toledo, Ohio, man used a concealed handgun to defend himself against an armed robber. Returning home from work early one morning, the 21-year-old was approached in his front yard by a man brandishing a handgun. The victim, who has a concealed carry permit, produced his own firearm and fired at the thief several times. The robber then fled the scene, and the armed citizen dialed 911. “We have no reason to believe that (the victim) did not fire in self-defense, so no charges have been filed as of yet,” said Toledo Police Lt. Joe Heffernan. (cleveland.com, Cleveland, OH, 10/20/15)

From the Armed Citizen® Archives September 1939
A Los Angeles liquor dealer, whose store had already been the scene of two holdups and a double slaying, was waiting with a shotgun when a robber entered not long ago. The masked man, a .45 pistol in his hand, began looting the cash register. Proprietor Rex Sutton’s shotgun roared. The robber was fatally wounded in the head. Said to resemble the thief who had once before held up Sutton’s store, he may also have been the one who, several months before, shot and killed a clerk and a customer during another raid on the same place. (Glendale News Press, Glendale, CA)

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Reprint from The American Rifleman, Feb.1, 2016.

Prayer changes things

Reprint from the Mayo Clinic Health Letter, May 2016.
April 22, 2016

Texas State Trooper Association
C/O L.D. Whitten
5555 N. Lamar Boulevard
Austin, Texas 78751

The Fourth Annual Department of Public Safety Region 2 Retiree Firearms Qualification and Luncheon was a success; and your contribution, through L.D. Whitten, was a huge factor which led to that success. Thank you for participating in our event at the Liberty County Firearms Range this year. It is the perfect place for us to join together in partnership with the local officials to say Thank You to the DPS Region 2 Retirees for the many years they gave in service to DPS and to the Citizens of Texas.

The luncheon grows every year; and that is due, in large part, to your help. I want to specifically thank you for the generous contribution of $500.00. That money was used to purchase a 25-quart Bison Cooler and to defray the food costs so our retirees could enjoy that delicious food at no cost to them. The retirees were excited over the door-prize segment of the event, and the cooler was a coveted prize.

We hope to see you again next year. If I may ever be of service, feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,

Philip Duane Steen
Regional Commander

cc: Major Adam Gerald Brown
Major Jeffrey Collins
Major Dwight D. Mathis
DPS Trooper to retire after 4 decades of service

By ANDREW BRANCA
Daily Light Staff Writer
Waxahachie

In a career that has spanned almost four decades, Trooper James Colunga has retired from his post at the Texas Department of Public Safety on May 31. Colunga joined DPS in 1977 after a recruiter came to the University of North Texas, where he was studying to be a teacher.

During his career with the department, Colunga has had a number of different positions. He patrolled the highways, conducted investigations and is currently serving as a safety education and public information officer.

“I started with DPS in 1977. I was going to the University of North Texas and they were doing a recruitment thing at the school. I found myself with a wife and child and needed a job. That is how it happened. I wasn’t planning on being an officer. I was planning on being a teacher or coach. That is what my intentions were, but whenever the situation changed, I decided to try it out,” Colunga said. “If you were to ask me in the beginning or even in the middle, I would have said 25 and I am out. It has been a great career because I have done so many things with the department.”

Colunga said one of the changes that he has seen during his career is how the role of DPS has shifted to become an all-encompassing agency.

“I was 27 years in highway patrol. In those days was where it was more speed enforcement. We still do speed enforcement, but we do more drug trafficking,” Colunga said. “I think that the trooper now is more multi-tasked. We go down now and secure the border. Back in those days, we didn’t do that. Anything in those days, we did more hurricane duties and tornado duties. Any kind of destructive situation like that, they would call us to assist.”

After graduating from the academy, Colunga started his career in Port Arthur, Texas where he was based for two years. The majority of his career has been in Ellis County. After doing patrol work on the highways for 27 years, he was given the opportunity to work at the driver’s license office and conduct investigations related to identify fraud.

“At that point in time in my career, we had a lot of fraud going on in the offices because of the immigration process. People were coming in with fictitious documents all of the time,” Colunga said. “That put me in another area of my job, being an ID fraud investigator. I really enjoyed it. I got to do undercover jobs. I got to do arrests. All of my arrests were state jail felonies.”

One of the moments that stick out in Colunga’s career is when he was called to Waco during the spring of 1993 to provide assistance. According to the National Public Radio’s website, a standoff took place between federal agents and David Koresh, the leader of the religious group the Branch Davidians, and Koresh’s followers, which ended with a fire that killed 80 people.

A creative way for public safety officers to serve

Donate life:
Be an organ, eye or tissue donor

For information, visit www.donatelifetexas.org
WHAT YOUR $25 ANNUAL TSTA DUES BUYS
for Officer Members, both current and former

*Free Last Will & Testament - TSTA Member and His/Her Spouse
Trooper becomes a commissioned officer and puts life on the line every day
Trooper marries
Trooper adds baby(ies) to family
Trooper divorces
Trooper divorces and then remarries
These are a few reasons TSTA members have taken advantage of this benefit. All are important reasons to have a will in place and also redone when circumstances change.  
*TSTA furnishes this service at no cost.

*Free AD&D Insurance - Up to $4,000
A TSTA member is killed while on vacation in a freak accident.
A TSTA member is killed in the line of duty.
No matter how a member meets his end, as long as it is an accident the insurance pays--also if member loses limb or sight due to an accident the insurance pays.

*Emergency Assistance - Disaster/Death
Flood waters from hurricane ruined their home. Electricity was out and all their food ruined. Furniture, computers & TV's all ruined. Homeowners insurance covered some, but not all--not motel bills or insurance deductible. TSTA members got an immediate assistance check through their membership.
A TSTA member was killed in a highway crash. His wife received a $2000 TSTA emergency assistance check immediately (this type gift is not always automatic). It did not heal the grief of the lost husband/father, but it provided fast help until the insurance paid off.

*Legal Assistance
A Highway Patrol Trooper arrested a young DWI who spent a few hours in jail. The young man's father, a city council official in their town, filed a lawsuit against the Trooper. For various reasons, DPS legal services did not defend him. But TSTA did-with their attorney, whose services were worth big money. The suit was settled peaceably out of court. It happened just that way because the HP Trooper had joined TSTA and paid his $25 annual dues.

*Legislative Representation
A Highway Patrol Trooper was injured and disabled for life. TSTA helped him financially early. Later, working with troopers and other DPS friends and utilizing its lobbyist, TSTA helped the injured trooper secure lifetime disability income from the state.
TSTA members are employed by the state. This means that they serve at the discretion of the Texas Legislature, which controls the law enforcement budget. This controls DPS officers' salaries and other financial factors which affect the officer's career and his family. TSTA maintains close relations with senators and state representatives. Yes, TSTA is a lobbyist for DPS trooper/members. Its knowledgeable people often explain trooper needs to these elected officials. The TSTA/legislative relationship is a good one, valuable to DPS commissioned officers.

*Personal Counsel
Many situations arise in an officer's life, both professional and personal. They can be discouraging and stressful, such as illness in the family or injury to the officer. TSTA is here for you with advice and assistance -just call.

*Online Monthly Newsletter
If you are a TSTA member and have filled out an on-line profile, it will be delivered straight to your in-box. Otherwise, you can go to www.texasstatetroopers.org to access. You'll get unique articles and pictures about troopers, families... their accomplishments and problems. Also DPS events and new equipment, legislative news, courtroom criminal/legal analysis by veteran criminal Judge Larry Gist - and even a few chuckles. Look for it the first week of every month.

OFFICER MEMBERS GET SO MUCH VALUABLE HELP FOR A ONE-TIME ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE OF $25. WHAT A GREAT BARGAIN AND A GREAT GIFT TO YOUR FAMILY.
AUSTIN – On Tuesday, May 18, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) honored Texas law enforcement officers who lost their lives in the line of duty during the past year, including two Highway Patrol Troopers and one Hutto Police Department officer. Texas State Representative Larry Phillips, the keynote speaker for the service, and various other law enforcement officials and family members of fallen officers attended the memorial ceremony, which was held in conjunction with National Police Week.

Sgt. William “Karl” Keesee, of Brownwood, died in the line of duty on Oct. 29, 2015, as a result of a traffic crash. Trooper Jeffrey Nichols, of Paris, Texas, died in a traffic crash March 26, 2016. In addition, Hutto Police Department Sgt. Christopher Kelley died in the line of duty on June 24, 2015, after being struck by a suspect evading police in a motor vehicle.

“A career in law enforcement carries with it considerable risks and responsibilities, and today we pay our respects to the brave men and women who willingly take on the duties of a peace officer,” said Rep. Larry Phillips. “We are eternally grateful for the fallen officers who have given their all to protect their communities. On behalf of all Texans, we also express our tremendous appreciation to the families who have sacrificed so much for the safety of others.”

Since 1823, 219 officers serving in the Texas Rangers and DPS have died in the line of duty. According to the Officer Down Memorial Page, three police officers have died while on duty in Texas this year, and in 2015, there were 12 line-of-duty deaths statewide.

Family members of the fallen DPS officers – including Darla Keesee and Merle Lemond, widow and mother of Sgt. Keesee; and Chrystal Smith and Brian Nichols, sister and brother of Trooper Nichols – placed a memorial wreath during the ceremony.

“We are humbled by the extraordinary men and women who devote their lives to protecting and serving their communities,” said Public Safety Chair Cynthia Leon. “The fallen heroes, families and loved ones we honor today have given so much, and we cannot thank them enough for their sacrifice.”

“With the tragic loss of these three courageous and selfless officers – and all those before them – we are solemnly reminded that there is no greater devotion to duty than to serve and protect others at any and all costs,” said DPS Director Steven McCraw. “Today we pause to show our immense gratitude for their service and supreme sacrifices. And we endeavor to bring some comfort to these heroic families, who have endured so much.”

In our last newsletter with the article about the Region 2 Fish Fry and Firearms Qualifications (at Cleveland), we erred in identifying this veteran officer.

He’s CVE Captain Andy Sitgreaves (ret.). We erroneously labeled him as Lt. Mark Riordan (ret.).

Sorry Captain, we apologize!

The DPS service is one of many ceremonies held across the United States to honor fallen law enforcement officers during National Police Week, May 15-21.

For a list and photos of fallen DPS members throughout history, visit the DPS website at www.dps.texas.gov/memorial. For more information about fallen officers across the state and nation, see www.odmp.org/.

Another TSTA Service for Officer Members:

AD&D BENEFIT

We are pleased to announce to our members that at NO COST TO YOU, we have renewed your Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefit at an increased amount of $4,000 for each of you.

You do not have to return the card if all you want is the $4,000 AD&D benefit.

However, if you are interested in participating in the Health Services Discount Card which can save your family 20-60% on vision care, hearing care, prescription drugs and chiropractic - along with receiving Child Safe Kits for your children and grandchildren, members should return the reply card for further information.

An American Income Life (AIL) representative will contact you to set up an appointment to deliver and explain the no-cost benefits. This program is not insurance, so members are not required to fill out forms. All they need to do is show a discount card when they visit a participating pharmacy or health care provider.

The TSTA provider is very strong financially. TSTA has been working with them for the past several years with outstanding service provided on all levels.
First octopus: What do you like least about being an octopus?
Second octopus: Washing my hands before dinner.

If athletes get athlete’s foot, then what do astronauts get?
Missile toe.

A little boy was praying at bedtime. “I can’t hear you,” whispered his mother. “I’m not talking to you,” the boy whispered back.

The manager of a glass and window company advertised in the paper for experienced glaziers. Since a good glass man is hard to find, he was pleased when a man who called about the job said he had twelve years of experience. “Where have you worked as a glazier?” the manager asked.
The man replied, “Krispy Kreme.”

Ian: My neighbors were screaming and yelling at three o’clock this morning!
Mark: Did they wake you? 
Ian: Nah...I was already up, playing my bagpipes.

Who was the greatest female financier in the Bible? Pharaoh’s daughter; she went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little prophet.

What is richer, a bull or a cow? A bull. The cow gives you milk; the bull charges you.

A salesman telephoned a household, and a four year-old answered.
Salesman: May I speak to your mother?
Child: She’s not here.
Salesman: Well, is anyone else there?
Child: My sister
Salesman: Okay, fine. May I speak to her?
Child: I guess so.
There was a long silence on the other phone. Then...
Child: Hello?
Salesman: It’s you. I thought you were going to get your sister.
Child: I did. The trouble is I can’t lift her out of the playpen.

At a church dinner, there was a pile of apples on one end of a table with a sign that read, TAKE ONLY ONE APPLE, PLEASE. GOD IS WATCHING YOU.

On the other end of the table was a pile of cookies where a youth had placed a sign saying, TAKE ALL THE COOKIES YOU WANT. GOD IS WATCHING THE APPLES.

A man moved to a nursing home. He soon noticed that a woman was constantly staring at him. After a few days, he approached her and asked, “Ma’am, why have you been staring at me all the time?”
“You look just like my third husband,” she replied. “Well, how many times have you been married?” he asked.
She answered, “Twice.”

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Application for Membership
TEXAS STATE TROOPERS ASSOCIATION
5555 N. Lamar, Ste. D111, Austin, Texas  78751
E-mail us at TSTAMAIL@aol.com
Website: www.texasstatetroopers.org

TSTA intends no indictment of those of supervisory rank through their exclusion as members of this organization. We do understand, however, that no association can be all things to all people. Therefore, we have chosen to represent those who need our services more: first-line troopers. This policy negates the probability of conflict of interest that stems from multi-class representation.

TSTA will work hard for the betterment of life for every member of the department.

FOR MEMBERSHIP: Complete the application below. Mail it and a check for $25 payable to the Texas State Troopers Association to the address at the top of the application. Include your jacket size: M, L, XL, XXL or XXXL. Your cap and jacket will be mailed to you. Or you may register and pay your dues on-line at www.texasstatetroopers.org and click Join TSTA.

WILLS: Members are reminded that one of your benefits from TSTA is the free preparation of a last will and testament. This service is performed by Lee Johnson. He may be contacted at:
Lee Johnson, Attorney-at-Law
12710 Koawood, Beaumont, TX 77713
Telephone: (C) 409-351-9090
E-mail: leejatty@gmail.com

Statement of Purpose
Texas State Trooper is an official publication of the Texas State Troopers Association. Should you have news you would like published, mail it to:
Texas State Troopers Association
5555 North Lamar, Ste. D111 Austin, TX 78751
E-mail us at TSTAMAIL@aol.com
Website: www.texasstatetroopers.org
The Texas State Troopers Association is open to all first-line commissioned members of the Department of Public Safety, both current and former.

2016 Application for Membership
TEXAS STATE TROOPERS ASSOCIATION
5555 N. Lamar, Ste. D111, Austin, Texas  78751
www.texasstatetroopers.org
Dues $25

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Membership dues paid to TSTA are not deductible as gifts or charitable contributions but may be deductible under an IRC Section other than Section 170 (c).

I, ____________________________________________, request membership into the Texas State Troopers Association, and if accepted agree to abide by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association, the rules and decisions of its officers. I also agree to pay annual dues of Twenty-Five (25) Dollars for all of a calendar year or any part thereof.

I understand that any unreasonable failure to assist a fellow member of the Texas State Troopers Association will result in this membership being cancelled by the board of directors at their option.

I also understand this membership will terminate immediately if I am promoted to any supervisory rank of sergeant or above.

Signature of Applicant Date E-mail address