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Table of Contents

ON THE COVER

Left to Right: Sr. Agent Steve Vidrine, Sgt. David Liles, Lt. Jesse Savoie, Sr. Agent Ray Thomas and Sgt. Keith Aucoin with seized equipment from cases made in the first week of January 2007.

FEATURES

- Mr. Bryant Hammett Named as
New LDWF Secretarypg 11
- Louisiana Operation Game Thief, Inc. and
Enforcement Division, Partners vs. Crimepg 13

DEPARTMENTS

- President's Messagepg 5
- Vice-President's Messagepg 9
- Headquarterspg 23
- Region 1pg 31
- Region 2pg 43
- Region 3pg 59
- Region 4pg 85
- Region 5pg 97
- Region 6pg 117
- Region 7pg 135
- Region 8pg 157
- Region 9pg 167
- Bragging Boardpg 189
- Advertiser's Directorypg 195
- Classified Adspg 199



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President's Message



SGT. RICHARD PURVIS
PRESIDENT, LWAA

Welcome to our first "Game Warden" magazine issue of 2007. The Louisiana Wildlife Agents Association has made great strides concerning our magazine. I

am proud to say that the magazine is finally "self-sufficient". Not only are we not in the red, but we have been able to generate what we would consider substantial funds from our magazine. Because of this we, the board and I, have been able to increase each region's charity fund from \$500 a year to \$1000 a year. Each region can use this money at their discretion. If you want to give in one lump sum, that's fine. If you want to break it up and use it towards multiple local charities, that's fine too. It's up to each region to

decide. Just remember that you need to use your funds before the end of August. That's when the LWAA's fiscal year ends. In addition to each region's charity fund increasing, we have been able to increase our annual contribution to Special Olympics. For the past few years we have been financially strapped and had to reduce our contribution to \$2500. This year we will be able to increase it to \$5000.

Speaking of Special Olympics, the annual "Special Olympics Torch Run" is fast approaching. As always,

the LWAA will pick up the tab for any agent who would like to participate in this event. Many of our members have taken part in the Baton Rouge leg of the run. If you have never been to it, I encourage you to try it out. It will certainly be a blessing to you. Don't worry about being in top shape. If you can't make the whole run, you can jump on board one of the trail vehicles with me and the rest of the old folks.

Our summer time "I Got Caught Wearing My Life Jacket" T-Shirt campaign is approaching
Continued on page 6


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President's Message

Continued from pg 5

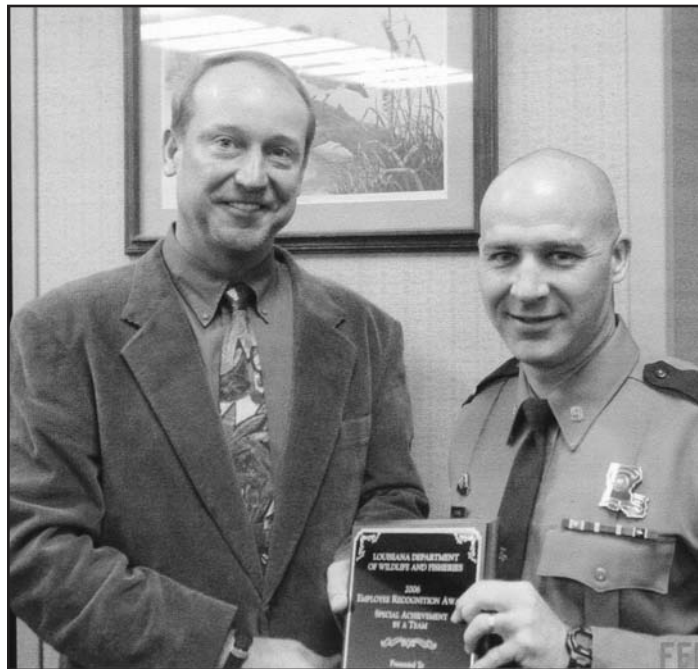
as well. We are counting on our members to solicit monies to be used to purchase the T-Shirts so that we will be able to pass them out to young boaters we encounter this summer. Please remind any donators that 100% of the money collected will go toward the purchase of the shirts. I, for one, have seen a considerable increase in the number of young people as well as adults who have gotten in the habit of wearing their life jackets while boating. I like to think it is because of not only agents writing tickets, but also the positive reinforcement that we give when we acknowl-

edge the young people when they are caught with their life jackets on.

As most of our members know, the entire LDWF Enforcement Division was one of the recipients of the 2005-2006 "Team Achievement Award" from the Office of the Secretary of the LDWF. The award was presented at the Feb. 1st Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission meeting in Baton Rouge. The LWAA board and I were proud to accept the award from the new LDWF Secretary, Mr. Bryant Hammett, on behalf of all of the agents statewide. This award was in recognition of

our search and rescue efforts during Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Until next time, stay safe and God bless.



Sgt. Richard Purvis accepting the LDWF "Team Achievement" Award from Sec. Bryant Hammett.

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