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LDWF Enforcement Division is proud to announce the recent acquisition of a state-of-the-art mobile command unit (MCU). See story on page 11.

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President's Message



SGT. RICHARD PURVIS
PRESIDENT, LWAA

As you read this message, we should be deep into a long hot Louisiana summer. Our summer time t-shirt give away

should be in full swing introducing our new LWAA mascot, Pirogue the LWAA alligator. This character was designed by our new friends at Impression Print and Design. This character will be LWAA's version of popular icons like "McGruff" the crime dog, or the Geico Gecko. Hopefully, we will see more advertising campaigns featuring Pirogue in the near future. Speaking of our t-shirt program, I would like to thank all of our sponsors who made this program possible. 100% of all of

your contributions went to purchasing and printing the t-shirts that we gave away to children who agents "caught wearing their lifejackets". Over the past years this has become a very popular project. Kids now know when it is that time of year and are asking to be checked for lifejacket compliance so they can get their t-shirt. These are the same kids who we hope will grow up to be adults who have gotten into the habit of wearing their lifejackets while they are underway.

Our other summer time project, the

Louisiana Special Olympics Torch Run took place in May statewide. I know that there were several agents who participated in their local runs. I was part of approximately 35 or so agents who came to the Baton Rouge run on the 18th. Like always we were the agency with the largest turn out. During the opening ceremonies, one speaker mentioned the LWAA in their opening remarks and specifically mentioned one of our past members who has since gone on to his

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President's Message

Continued from page 5

final reward, John Garlington. The speaker remembered how "Big John" never missed a run and ran every step of the way, even the year that his own son, a fellow law enforcement officer, was taken away in an automobile accident the week before the run took place. That, my friends, is dedication. Dedication to those less fortunate, and those not blessed with the health and opportunities that many of us, I included, take for granted everyday. It is men like "Big John" and the others who gave up time and suffered some

minor discomfort for someone else to be able to have something just a little better that makes me proud to be one of you guys.

The annual LWAA convention is set for July 27th-29th. Remember, it is election year for board reps for the odd numbered regions. Also elections for the office of Vice-President and Treasurer will be held on the Saturday business meeting. If you feel led to serve the association, maybe this is your opportunity.

Until I see you, Stay Safe.

Cecil Graves

St. Francisville

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