

# NAFTO NEWS

Volume 1, Issue 1  
Spring 2009

## GREETINGS FROM OUR NEW DIRECTOR

Greetings fellow WI-NAFTO members,

I would like to start off stating that it is an honor to have been elected to serve as your director. I have been involved in field training for over 10 years as both an FTO and currently the FTO coordinator for the Walworth County Sheriff's Office. I truly believe that as fellow FTO's you play one of the most important roles in your department. It is my goal to continue to strive for excellence and assist the organization in providing the best in field training to all members.

The executive board has already met and is busy planning our course of action for 2009 as well as the 2009 conference. I am very

optimistic on the future of this organization. It is one of the State's top training organizations and it is because of each and every one of you.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Doug Ninmann for his years of service and dedication to our organization as the past director. I have asked him to attend board meetings as his time will allow providing insight, experience, and assisting in making a smooth transition.

We have been in contact with members of the National Board of Directors and expressed to them concerns that we had in reference to the 2008 conference. Despite some tension, all agree it was a great conference and want to continue to work together in a positive fashion in the future.

Again, I want to thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve as your director, and if there are any question, comments, or concerns, please feel free to contact me at any time at [director@winafto.org](mailto:director@winafto.org), [dgerber@co.walworth.wi.us](mailto:dgerber@co.walworth.wi.us), or 262-741-4680.

Lt. Dave Gerber



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### Special points of interest:

- 2009 CONFERENCE  
SEPT 28 - OCT 1  
CHULA VISTA RESORT  
IN WISCONSIN DELLS

SEE US ONLINE FOR  
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## FAREWELL CONTINUED ON P. 3

I just wanted to put something down in writing for you all. I have greatly enjoyed my time with WI-NAFTO and the great friends and acquaintances I have made through the years. I

Have been with NAFTO since it started in Wisconsin and have enjoyed all of the time I spent with NAFTO. I know there have been some trying times in the past and in the recent past but with all of you and your input we have overcome and become stronger. It was with mixed feelings that I chose to step down from NAFTO, but with what I see now and the direction the organization is going I

feel comfortable with my decision. There is a great group at the helm and there are always going to be changes in the group and this only makes the organization stronger.

## “THE ONE” BY JEFF CHUDWIN

"Out of every 100 men, ten shouldn't even be there,

Eighty are just targets,

Nine are the real fighters, and we are lucky to have them, for they make the battle.

Ah, but the one,

One is a warrior,

And he will bring the others back."

- Heraclitus

The landscape of law enforcement changed forever on September 11, 2001.

On that day, war was brought upon our nation; on our soil. Thousands of our fellow citizens were murdered along with hundreds of first responding police and firefighters.

This war had been declared long before by Bin Laden and other killers who swore their life's work to the destruction of our way of life. But those who were empowered to protect this nation and far too many of our citizens simply believed that we were invincible, invulnerable, and untouchable. They were wrong and we paid the price in blood, lost lives, and broken dreams.

We stood together as Americans for a short while, united by a common enemy; but not for long. As the

years passed and follow on attacks failed to occur America grew tired. You see, vigilance is tiring, boring but vital and fewer remained vigilant. What we could not see was the unending struggle by our military and law enforcement intelligence and operations officers who fought the coming threats in the dark of night and the absence of public knowledge. If nothing has happened the reporters and commentators said, then there must be no real threat; and with that the politics of the past renewed its ugly ways and we fell to fighting and bickering. Shame on the politicians for their dereliction and self interest but that changes nothing for us. As law enforcement officers our duty remains the same no matter what the politics.

Today, the enemy is emboldened and empowered by our lack of unity and failure to accept or understand the danger he poses. The threat is greater today than yesterday that one of our cities will be reduced to smoking ruins and our citizens subject to an attack of terrible effect and loss of life on a scale that few can fathom. But despite this inability to visualize such devastation such an attack is still very much a reality.

What does this mean to us, the police officers and agents who stand on the forward edge of the battle? Given

the oath we have taken as the protectors of our communities, it now becomes more urgent that we throw off the blindfold of denial. We must embrace the reality of the threat and stand ready to fight this enemy every day, every hour, every minute.

Reality...

To give word to it, gives rise to it.

To give word to it, gives life to it.

To give word to it, makes it reality.

Are you willing to accept the reality? Some are not. For some, it creates such fear that they will not or cannot accept it.

I heard from an officer whose wife refused to speak to him when he brought up the possibility of terrorist attacks on schools. They have a young child in grade school. He told me that she would not speak to this issue because in doing so she would be required to acknowledge that their child was at risk. It is easier to hide from the fear and the truth, unless you are the ONE.

Every Officer has the ability to train to a higher capability to fight the threats. It requires that you take time each day to develop both your physical and mental skills.

To be the ONE requires that you overcome your own self doubt and

## WISCONSIN LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMORIAL

The Wisconsin Law Enforcement Memorial's mission is to Remember and Honor Wisconsin Law Enforcement officers killed in the line of duty.

The 19th Annual Wisconsin Law Enforcement Ceremony will be held on Friday, May 8, 2009 at Noon.

"In Honor of Those who Have Died...Dedicated to Those Who Live and Serve"

Anyone wishing to participate in the squad procession from Olin-Turville Park to the Memorial is requested to arrive no later than 11:30 a.m. A breakfast will be provided by WPPA. The procession will leave promptly at 11:45 a.m. There will be a luncheon held following



the ceremony at the Wisconsin Air National Guard Armory. If Department s want to sent their colors to the Memorial, please contact Sgt. James Antisdal with the Oak Creek Police Dept

jantisdal@oakcreekwi.org or 414.766.7639

# FAREWELL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

We can learn from the past and move proudly into the future.

I hope that we continue as a FTO training group even if it not with NAFTA, but our group is a dedicated and caring group looking out for the common goal, that of training our new employees to be able to function in their respective positions. I have always held this as a passion for me personally and do not care for all of the politics that has become part of the national organization.

We, in Wisconsin, have always tried to do things a little different and I feel that we are on the cutting edge of Field Training and continue to make improvements.

I am a great fan of the Sokolove-Locke method of training and will support it, which is probably why we have had such a challenge with National.

I really want to thank all of you for your support and input, which has really helped me with making decisions with and for NAFTA.

I was really taken off guard at the last Conference as you could see I was deeply moved by your award and your support. I am a man of few words, and that night it was even fewer.

I always thought that I could be tough as we are all led to believe we are supposed to be in law enforcement, but let me tell you that a little compassion and understanding goes a long way. Trust

me, I have learned this from my time on the job.

Please continue to support the efforts of WI-NAFTO and the ideals that we all have about training. Good luck in the future and you can always call me, even if it is just to say, "Hi!"

You will always be on my mind and in my heart. You never know when I will show up to visit, and trust me, I will visit.

It is hard to give up good friends!

Stay safe,

Doug Ninmann

[dninmann@co.dodge.wi.us](mailto:dninmann@co.dodge.wi.us)

## UPCOMING FTO INSTRUCTION CERTIFICATION COURSES

**05/18/09-05/22/09 Gateway Technical College-Kenosha**

\$375.00 Instructor: Sokolove/Locke

Contact: Daniel W. Nolan (262) 767-5202

[noland@gtc.edu](mailto:noland@gtc.edu)

**12/14/09-12/18/09 Fox Valley Technical College-Appleton**

\$415.00 Instructor: David Locke

Contact: Jessica Heimann (920) 735-4773

[heimann@fvtc.edu](mailto:heimann@fvtc.edu)

**10/19/09-10/23/09 Fox Valley Technical College-Appleton**

\$415.00 Instructor: David Locke

Contact: Jessica Heimann (920) 735-4773

[heimann@fvtc.edu](mailto:heimann@fvtc.edu)

Refer to WILENET for additional information on the upcoming Field training Officer Courses.



## NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

National Police Week, which occurs each year during the week in which May 15 falls, recognizes the service and sacrifice of U.S. law enforcement. Established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962, National Police Week pays special recognition to those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

Schedule of Events:

May 13: 21st Annual Candlelight Vigil (8 p.m. National Law Enforcement Memorial)

May 14: Annual Emerald Society & Pipe band March and Service



May 15: 28th Annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Day Services (Noon West Front of the US Capitol)

For additional information visit: [www.nleomf.org](http://www.nleomf.org)

**WISCONSIN CHAPTER  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIELD TRAINING OFFICERS**

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"Do not go where the path may lead,  
go instead where there is no path and  
leave a trail."

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

## “THE ONE” CONTINUED...

self interest. As a police officer, you do not have the right to be lazy, out of shape, or unskilled. You do not have the right to call yourself the protector of your community and then fail to take your rifle and other gear on patrol because it is a hassle carrying it in and out of the station. You do not have the right to abandon your duty. You do not have the right to wear the uniform of a police officer if you only pretend to be capable of carrying out your most sacred mission; the protection of the lives of those around you.

You only earn the title of Police Officer when you can look in the mirror and see a real police officer. When you can look at yourself with a pride that is well founded and you rebuff the negative energy of those pretend officers who belittle your efforts; you have become the ONE.

You may be the only officer in your agency who accepts this calling. Not every man or woman can do so. It is not a question of size or gender. When you have the heart to fight the fight against boredom and complacency; to place the safety of those whom you have sworn to protect before your own when fear and danger confront you, then *you* can be the ONE.

To be the ONE requires action, not talk. You are and will be known by what you do, not what you say you will do. When your deeds and words are equally honorable and equally actionable; you *are* the ONE.

If you see that you are one of the ninety whom Heraclitus says should not be on the field of battle ...we bear you no ill will. We ask only that you find another path to walk that does not place such

heavy a burden on you. It does not make you a bad person, it make you a person who has the integrity to realize that in the fight, you will be a risk to yourself and others.

If you are one of the NINE, we welcome you and embrace you, for you will fight and that is all we ask. Not every police officer can rise to the highest calling.

But for you who will fight the fight every day, without tiring, without doubt, without reservation, and will train to exhaustion, only to get up to do so again and again; you will be the ONE who brings back all the others from the battles that we will surely face.

You will earn the honor of the respect of your peers whether spoken or not.

You will be known as the ONE who all will look to when the danger is near and the enemy close.

But most of all you will carry the knowledge in your heart and soul that you made the conscious decision to overcome all obstacles to achieve the greatest title one can ever hold.

You will be what Heraclitus described two thousand five hundred years ago:

You will be the ONE