

Welcome to the first release of our new look for "Eyes and Ears", the only published newsletter in the nation dedicated to Citizen Patrol Volunteers and the Coordinators who support them!

Not only do we have a new "look and feel", but thanks to a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance, we are now able to expand the distribution of our newsletter beyond our membership base. Over 2,000 additional Police and Sheriff's Departments across the nation will be receiving copies of this newsletter with the goal of sharing the many benefits Citizen Patrol Volunteers and groups can bring to their community along with Best Practices from others.

We're excited to bring you this edition as it has pages filled with pictures and information from our recent, fourth annual, Citizen Patrol conference held last November, 2003. Many of you have already been asking about this year's coming conference dates and we're happy to share those with you on page four. In addition to our upcoming Fifth Annual National Citizen Patrol conference where we present the "Citizen Patrol Volunteer of the Year" and "Coordinator of the Year", along with other awards to recognize the efforts of tremendous people, we will also be holding the first ever Regional Citizen Patrol conferences. The two additional conferences will

be held in the Central and South East Coast, in Virginia and Florida, and will offer those of you who have not had the opportunity to attend our annual conference, the chance to meet with your peers. We're looking forward to meeting with many of you who have been asking for a conference closer to home and hope to see you this summer.

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to thank all the hard working and dedicated people at the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, who have worked with us in support of our funding needs and helped during the implementation period. We're very grateful for the opportunity and funding to expand our operations and look forward to a continued relationship. Now more than ever, our nation needs the support and assistance of its citizens to help combat the threat of terrorism and continue the fight against crime. We hope our efforts will assist in these efforts to help make our great nation a stronger and safer place for all to live.

As always, I welcome any feedback and look forward to hearing from you.

Until then, Be Safe, Be Seen, Be Heard and Make a Difference!

Respectfully,
Arthur Femister
President and Founder
National Association Citizens on Patrol



In addition to founding the NACOP, after a 22 year career in the Information Technology sector, Mr. Femister founded the Public Safety Volunteer Institute to help train Volunteer Coordinators on topics such as how to recruit, manage, reward and retain volunteers and travels the nation conducting workshops. Prior to that he served four years in the U.S. Coast Guard conducting Search and Rescue Missions and Law Enforcement patrols. Mr. Femister has been an active Citizen Patrol volunteer since 1997 and completed a Level II Reserve Police Officer training course. He also serves as an on-call Volunteer with his local county Fire Department and serves on his city's CERT, Community Emergency Response Team.

Mr. Femister is recognized as an expert in the area of Citizen Patrol knowledge and has been featured on TV, Radio and Newspapers. He has received numerous awards for his community service and is one of the few civilian recipients of the IACP's, International Association of Chiefs of Police, "Presidents Coin" which he received for his efforts with the NACOP to reduce crime throughout the nation.

Mr. Femister continues to serve and patrol as an active Citizen Patrol Volunteer and regularly donates 40 hours plus a month of his time to various Public Safety organizations.

If you're serious about supporting your Citizen Patrol Volunteers, we invite you to join the National Association Citizens On Patrol, the only organization in the world dedicated to supporting C.O.P.'s and those critical individuals, the Coordinators, who support them. See page 25 for more details on the many benefits membership in the National Association Citizens On Patrol has to offer!