

**SERVICE TO MANKIND
2006-2007**

**Richland Sertoma Club
Bill Todd, President
2830 Wheat Street
Columbia, SC 29205
(803) 256-2191**

**JOSEPH P. ARNOT
3013 Cliffside Dr.
Columbia, SC 29209
(803) 776-3864**

SERVICE TO MANKIND
JOSEPH P. ARNOT
Richland Sertoma Club
Columbia, South Carolina

It is with great pride that the Richland Sertoma Club has chosen Joseph P. (Joe) Arnot as our Service to Mankind recipient. Joe has been a very enthusiastic member of our community since 1971 and has not once slowed down, even after learning four years ago that he had leukemia.

Joe has been very active in numerous organizations in Columbia and Charleston, as well as statewide organizations in North and South Carolina. Some of these include Traffic Clubs International, Delta Alpha Transportation Fraternity, State Ports Authority Committee, Charleston Traffic Club, Columbia Traffic Club, and the Buyers and Suppliers Association of South Carolina. Joe has devoted tons of his own free time to helping these groups, and has really shone in our community as a stellar volunteer.

Joe has not only been a member of all of these volunteer programs, he has also held many prominent positions in each, as well. He is a past president of the Delta Alpha Transportation Fraternity, and has held the position of State Vice President of Traffic Clubs International for seven years for both the states of North and South Carolina. He is a charter member of the State Ports Authority Committee, and chaired this committee during the years of 1988-1991. He also received the Port Seal award from this committee. Meanwhile, Joe is also a member of the Charleston Traffic Club and a past president of the Columbia Traffic Club. Another respected position he has held has been as past president of the Buyers and Suppliers Association of South Carolina.

Currently, Joe is a Reserve Deputy Sheriff with the Richland County Sheriff's Department. At the age of 78, he happens to be the oldest uniformed officer in the Uniform Division. In 1999, he graduated from the 11-week Citizens Academy, and in 2002, at the age of 74, Joe became the oldest person to ever graduate from the Richland County Police Academy. In 2003, he was recognized as the Reserve Deputy of the Year, and in 2005, Joe set the record for volunteer hours worked with 2,700 hours of volunteer service to the Richland County Sheriff's Department. Presently, Joe is in his fourth year as a reserve deputy sheriff with Richland County. Beginning in 2000, he became a "ride-along" with Region One, working 12-hour night shifts at the age of 72. Shortly thereafter, Captain Steve White asked Joe to volunteer in the office as well, and thus Joe began working three ten-hour shifts in the office, while continuing his ride-alongs. At the same time, Joe devotes some of his efforts to the Richland County Department of Public Works- Transportation Committee, and helped with the 2006 South Carolina Special Olympics.

Not only has Joe been active with the Richland County Sheriff's Department and other related organizations, he has also been breath of fresh air for his own community in Southeast Columbia. An active member of St. Peter's Catholic Church, Joe and his wife live in Berkeley Forest, where Joe was president of the Berkeley Forest Homeowner's Association in 1999 and 2000. He has been instrumental in establishing crime watch for this neighborhood and successfully lobbied for sidewalks between the Berkeley Forest and Dominion Hills neighborhoods to Caughman Road Park. He requested that these sidewalks be built so that the children of these communities had secure means of walking to and from the park. On, December 4, 2001, Richland County Council Chairwoman Kit Smith signed a resolution commending Joe for his extensive community involvement and efforts to improve the quality of life for Richland County citizens.

While Joe's story may sound incredible to most folks, the most astonishing part is that on top of all of his astounding volunteer work, Joe was diagnosed with leukemia four years ago and is *still* battling with the cancer today. While he admits that his health is not what it used to be, the cancer has not slowed Joe down one bit, as he still volunteers 40 hours per week for 50 weeks out of the year. This is remarkable for someone of his age. When asked why, at the age of 78, he still volunteers so much of his free time to the community, Joe reflects on his life and how fortunate he has been and answers, with a twinkle in his eye, "I hope I'm paying God back for as good as he's done to me all my lifetime. As long as God gives me the will and the power, I want to stay with it."

Joe was born in West Orange, New Jersey on March 17, 1928 and found himself in Charleston, SC in 1951 as a member of the United States Navy. It was there in Charleston that Joe met his wife, Doris Strickland, whom he married one year later. The Arnots have been blessed with five children, twelve grandchildren and one great-grandchild. They moved to Columbia in 1971 when Joe took a job with Yellow Freight, a Fortune 500 company. Since retirement in 1993 from Yellow Freight, Joe has been an extremely active member of the Columbia community.

The members of Richland Sertoma Club are proud to present Joe Arnot as our recipient of the Service to Mankind Award. Because of his unwavering devotion to the Richland County Sheriff's Department and other organizations, amidst being a full-time husband, grandfather and great-grandfather, and dealing with his own personal bout with leukemia, Joe is most deserving of the Service to Mankind Award. The Columbia area is more than privileged to have a member of the community such as Joe and we feel he will make an ideal representative as the District, Region, and International Service to Mankind Award recipient.