

for your Information

Any opinions expressed herein are the views of individual contributors. They should not be considered as endorsed by the Los Angeles Police Protective League or the *Thin Blue Line*.

LAPD Band

by Christina Challey

"In the course of my career in music, I have lived an adventure far beyond any that I could have ever imagined," says LAPD Band member Lee Gurst. "With the exception of a six-week stint



Lee with the LAPD Band.

as a busboy in a Philadelphia restaurant during my junior year of high school, I have never had a 'regular job.'"

Lee began his life of adventure in a suburb of Philadelphia. Although there were no musicians in his family, he said the record player was in constant use, playing hits from Tony Bennett, Eddie Fisher and Frank Sinatra. Lee, along with his father and sister, would often sing together during car trips. Lee said at age 6 he got his own record player and would spend his allowance on popular, jazz and classical records. These genres continue to be his favorite styles of music.

While in the fifth grade, Lee thought he wanted to play the accordion. This lasted only three weeks. Then he decided he really wanted to take drum



LG at the Beverly Wilshire gala.

lessons, and the rest, as they say, is history! Lee played in the junior and senior high school bands, and by the 10th grade he was playing drums and percussion in many community and professional bands and orchestras in the Philadelphia area.

While in New York to audition for the Juilliard School of Music, Lee was inspired by the numerous orchestras and ensembles offering playing opportunities. He soon began to get calls to play in nightclubs, recording and TV studios, and theaters, and at age 19, he played his first Broadway musical—the original production of "Man of La Mancha." He says to this day it remains one of his favorite shows.

Lee's work in an Off-Broadway show led to an association with a well-known choreographer with New York's Harkness Ballet. They collaborated on a creation for a new ballet called "Percussion for Six." This ballet became one of the most successful and popular in the company's repertoire, and now, more than 47 years later, the work continues to be performed by numerous international dance companies.

One particular Off-Broadway show was to add an additional adventure to Lee's life. While playing in this show, he became close friends with the piano player—Barry Manilow. In the

following years, along with Barry, Lee would accompany innumerable singers and performers, such as Bette Midler and Melissa Manchester. He played on many of Barry's commercial jingles, and when Barry began his own recording career, Lee became his drummer and musical director. For six years, Lee was there for all of the hit records, live concerts and TV appearances. He says those years were among the most exciting and gratifying years of his professional career.

Lee's adventurous life continues today with his participation with the Los Angeles Police Concert Band. Lee says that one of the greatest rewards of playing in the Band is the opportunity to contribute to recruit graduations. He says, "Beyond just being able to see the sense of accomplishment and pride in the graduating recruits, it is a privilege to be present and to be a witness as the lives of those new officers, as well as their families and friends, are changed forever. It has given me a new respect and appreciation for the police officers who I see on the city streets every day."

For more information about the Band, please contact Jim Starr, executive director: sngcop@aol.com. For greatly appreciated donations to the Band, please go to www.lapolicfoundation.org, and in the notes box, put "For the Band." ♦

PRO FORCE

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Firearms and Tactical Equipment for Law Enforcement Professionals

STAY TUNED AND BE ON THE LOOKOUT AS WE BRING YOU NEW ITEMS AND PRODUCTS FOR

2018

Join us at our Brea store in California on February 9th, 10th, and 12th for

100% DAYS!

100% FACTORY AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTOR



GLOCK NIGHT SIGHTS
GLOCK RAIL 9MM 3 MAGS PA1750702

\$455.40

Active LE Only

NEW 17 Standard GEN 5

We sell to Law Enforcement/Military Professionals both active and retired, Security Personnel, Medical First Responders and Fire Professionals. Credentials are required to enter our store. (Professional ID, Badge etc.)

655 N. Berry Street, Suite H, Brea, CA 92821 Tel: 714-257-9095
Fax: 714-257-9076 Open Mon-Sat 8am-7pm e-mail: sales@proforceonline.com www.proforceonline.com

TIKKA T3X .308

The new T3x Tactical rifles provide all of the field-proven features the Tikka T3 family is known for around the world: Accuracy (3-shot MOA guaranteed), crisp trigger and smooth bolt operation. The T3x TAC is a multi-purpose rifle that adapts to any given situation the law enforcement officer may encounter.



JUST! \$1735.99

JRTAC316SB

COLT COBRA Active LE Only



The Colt Cobra marks Colt's triumphant return to the world of double-action revolvers. Its small frame and 2" barrel make it ideal for concealed carry. The Cobra is chambered in .38 S&W and is +P capable. This firearm was designed to meet the needs of new shooters and seasoned professionals alike.

ONLY! \$679.99

COBRA-SF2MO

SALE ENDS 1/31/18

We Turn Your GUNS Into Cash

we'll come to you & we make it easy on you

- Consignment Sales - Outright Purchases - Appraisals - Insured
- Licensed - Travel To You - Estate Liquidation - Quick Payment

 Springfield 1903 NM Sold For: \$6,016	 HK P7M13 Sold For: \$3,038	 1st Gen Colt Bisley Sold For: \$8,506
---	---	--

LSB

Lock Stock & Barrel Investments

2050 Donville Ave. Simi Valley, CA 93065

www.LSBauctions.com

M-F, 8-5 & Saturday Appointment (805) 285-0715