



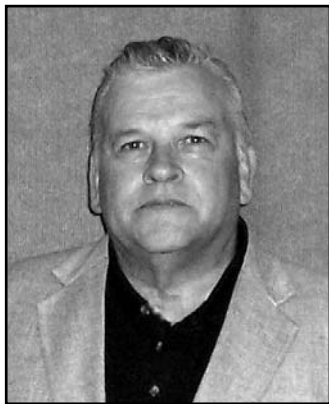
UNITY

THRU STRENGTH AND PURPOSE



Bi-Monthly Voice of the Retired Detroit Police and Fire Fighters

Volume 97, May 2009



PRESIDENT

Don Taylor

State Representative Fred Durhal Jr. Takes up our Battle "Right to Vote / A Question of Fairness"

Our continuing struggle for equal and fair voting rights for Retired Detroit Police Officers and Fire Fighters has a new champion for our cause.

State Representative Fred Durhal Jr., working in conjunction with our lobbyist Tim Ward, introduced House Bill 4917. This bill would give Retired Detroit Police Officers and Fire Fighters an equal vote for elective representatives of the Detroit



Rep. Fred Durhal, Jr.

Police and Fire Pension System. For far too long Retired members of the Detroit Police and Fire Pension System have been denied a basic American Right, to vote for those that claim to represent you. We are not the first group to be deprived of this basic American Right, and this point was very effectively and elegantly pointed out by Representative Durhal.

Representative Durhal also took the time to attend our General Membership meeting May 7th, to address the members. Following his presentation, I believe the 300 or so members in attendance agreed that we have the right person in our corner.

To view a video of Representative Durhals' presentation to the membership, go to our web-site. A link

will be set up or just go to <http://family.webshots.com/album/571914863nWwLBu>

Now it is time to let our Representatives know that we want them to Co-sponsor and pass this bill. Elected Officials have told us that they are more impressed when their constituents contact them in person or by letter. Other ways to contact them would be by phone and / or email. To lookup information on your State Representative go to http://house.michigan.gov/find_a_rep.asp

Normally we would ask that you not share our correspondence with non-members, but in this case we want everyone involved who can assist us in obtaining our goal, i.e. family members, friends, neighbors, retired police and fire non-members, so please spread the word. Do not just sit back and let this opportunity to right this wrong slip away. Although this may seem like an issue, which appears to be very difficult to rationally oppose, rest assure there will be those lining up on the opposing side.

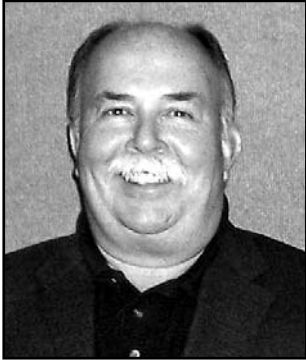
We will track the progress of this legislation and list the co-sponsors on our web-site rdpffa.com. A number of Representatives have already signed on as co-sponsors; their names are listed in this article. We will also print a partial copy of the Bill in this issue of Unity (HB 4917) on page 3, in the Pension column.

Co-Sponsors:

Bettie-Cook Scott District 3, Bob Constan District 16, Mike Huckleberry District 70, Bert Johnson District 5, David Nathan District 11, Lesia Liss District 28, Jim Slezak District 50, Dian Slavens District 21, Harold Haugh District 42, Deb Kennedy District 23, Andrew Kandrevas District 13, Tim Melton District 29.

The next item of concern is our Hospitalization lawsuit/settlement. We have had very little progress

(continued on page 6)



VICE PRESIDENT

Gregory Trozak

We have all been impacted by the recent economic decline. The Association's Board of Directors has taken steps that will confidently assist the RDPFFA in cutting expenditures during these frustrating times. Even though these steps are considered temporary, only the future will determine that outcome. These cuts were made across the board, some I agreed with and others I did not.

Over the past year we have had additional substantial costs, namely attorney fees. I'm sure everyone will agree that we all loathe paying legal representative costs, but this is something that is necessary. The main goal of this Association is to protect the rights we have earned for our years of service to the City. This must be absorbed and the fight continued.

Additional expenses include postal cost. The past year was substantial because of the switch to the dues being collected by payroll deduction. We knew that there would be additional cost but now that the program has been in effect for nearly a year the future expense will be diminished substantially. The postal cost also included a mass mailing in an attempt to gain non-members. This has also shown to be some degree of a success. The Association signed up close to 400 new members of which many have requested to pay their dues by having them payroll deducted.

Other cost cutting measures have also been enacted resulting in additional savings, including reducing honorariums for officers and board members, reducing the size of the Board of Directors through attrition, using our tax exempt status for the mailing of the "UNITY" newsletter, reducing our accounting fees, stopping or reducing donations for events or functions within the Association and dropping out of the National Association of Police Organizations (N.A.P.O.).

I will continue to support any expenses that benefit our members, this includes General Meetings, Association Sponsored Events and any spending needed to protect our rights that we have earned or may help us gain additional profit in the future. This is the reason I was against dropping out of N.A.P.O. and I will state my reasons. The main reason being, N.A.P.O. continues the fight to bring to an end the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the General Pension Offset (GPO). We all know that this has been an ongoing fight for several years with still no legislation signed into law. This legislation, which would totally repeal the GPO and WEP, has been introduced in both Houses, H.R. 235 in the House and S. 484 in the Senate. N.A.P.O. is optimistic that with the new Congress these bills will move out of committee and on the House and Senate floors for debate and then signed into law by the Administration. In 2008 N.A.P.O. had assisted our organization in providing sample letters used in contacting members of Congress along with updating us on the progress of these two (2) bills.

Another important piece of legislation that was signed into law was the Healthcare Enhancement for Local Public Safety (H.E.L.P.S.) Retirees Act. The H.E.L.P.S. Retirees Act allows public safety retirees to use up to \$3,000.00, federal income tax-free, annually

(continued on page 9)



Retired Detroit Police & Fire Fighters Association Inc.

2525 E. Fourteen Mile Road • Sterling Heights, MI 48310-5969

(586) 795-1734 • Fax (586) 795-2183

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m till 3:00 p.m.



OFFICERS

President

Donald Taylor

V. President

Gregory Trozak

Secretary/Treasurer

Allan Grant

OFFICE E-MAIL

rdpffa@hotmail.com

E-MAIL

rdpffa@yahoo.com

WEB SITE

www.rdpffa.com

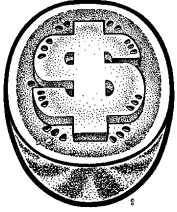
PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Paul Mitchell

Rick Lancaster

POET LAUREATE

Roy Moerschell



**PENSION
CHAIRMAN**
Gregory Trozak

House Bill Number 4917


In lieu of the pension article for this issue we will include a partial copy of House Bill number 4917, a bill to amend 1947 PA 336, that pertains to allowing the Retired Detroit Police Officers and Fire Fighters an equal vote for elective representatives of the Detroit Police and Fire Pension System.

4

18 (5) IF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING BETWEEN A CITY WITH A POPULATION
19 OF 500,000 OR MORE AND ITS POLICE OR FIREFIGHTING EMPLOYEES RESULTS
20 IN A REQUIREMENT THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE POLICE OR
21 FIREFIGHTERS' PENSION OR RETIREMENT SYSTEM INCLUDE 1 OR MORE
22 REPRESENTATIVES OF MEMBERS OF THE PENSION OR RETIREMENT SYSTEM OR
23 OF THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UNIT, THE METHOD OF SELECTION OF THOSE
24 REPRESENTATIVES IS A PROHIBITED SUBJECT OF BARGAINING. THE
25 RETIREMENT BOARD OR PENSION BOARD SHALL ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS
26 TO GOVERN THE ELECTION OF THOSE REPRESENTATIVES. THE RULES SHALL
27 PROVIDE THAT THE REPRESENTATIVES SHALL BE ELECTED BY A MAJORITY

5

1 VOTE OF ALL ACTIVE AND RETIRED MEMBERS OF THE POLICE OR FIRE
2 DEPARTMENT WHO ARE ACTIVE OR RETIRED MEMBERS OF THE PENSION OR
3 RETIREMENT SYSTEM AND ASSURE THAT EACH OF THE RETIRED OR ACTIVE
4 MEMBERS HAS AN EQUAL VOTE. RETIRED MEMBERS OF THE PENSION OR
5 RETIREMENT SYSTEM SHALL HAVE NO RIGHT TO NOMINATE CANDIDATES TO THE
6 PENSION OR RETIREMENT BOARD, ALTHOUGH THEY SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO
7 VOTE ON THE CANDIDATES NOMINATED BY THE ACTIVE MEMBERS. THIS
8 SUBSECTION APPLIES TO A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT OR AN
9 EXTENSION OF AN EXISTING COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT THAT TAKES
10 EFFECT ON OR AFTER THE DATE THAT THIS SUBSECTION TAKES EFFECT.



GREENE'S

LAWN AND GARDEN MAINTENANCE
SNOW PLOWING · FIREWOOD · CEMENT

KEVIN GREENE
(586) 790-7908**16414 WALCLIFF**
CLINTON TOWNSHIP, MI 48035

Muccioli Studio Gallery
511 Beaubien
(313) 962-4700

14 Kt. Gold
Detroit Police Badge, **\$145 + tax**
Lieut. & Sgts. **\$170 + tax**
Police Family Charm **\$225 + tax**

Free Engraving

All above badges in sterling silver **\$40 + tax**

Phone Orders Welcomed! • All major credit cards accepted.
Hours: Tues. - Fri. 11-5 • Sat. 11-3
Prices subject to change with gold market fluctuations.



Hospitalization

John Devoy

Open enrollment, settlement of Lawsuits, summer, fall, winter and spring all happen sooner or later, sometimes later than sooner. Hopefully when you are reading this column all the necessary information will be in your hands. Your options will be clear and you will be able to make an intelligent decision on Health care.

As usual I advise everyone to keep all printed material related to our lawsuit and Health care options.

When the time comes to make your choice, always make a copy to keep for your records and mail the other copy to Human Resources by registered mail with a signature required. This would insure that the City of Detroit received your decision by mail.

Any time you have questions about Health care you can always call me. I will be very happy to assist you.

These are not Health care issues; however try to attend these associate functions.

Saturday - Picnic - June 27th at Kolping Park

Saturday - Picnic - August 8th at the German Park

Friday - Golf - August 21st at Salt River

Monday - September 21st to Friday - September

25th - Planet Hollywood in Las Vegas for our annual convention.

Also try to attend our General Membership meetings the 1st Thursday of every month except in July and August.

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL "DUFFERS DERBY" GOLF OUTING

FOR R.D.P.F.F.A. MEMBERS & GUESTS!

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 2009

9:00 A.M. Shot Gun Start

Salt River Golf Course

38633 23 Mile Road

Chesterfield, MI

586-725-0311

COST: \$65.00 PER PERSON

Breakfast, Lunch and Supper

Registration forms are available from the Association Office. Call 1-586-795-1734.

Welcome New Members!

March

Black, James - Fire

Blair, Darlene - Police

Crowley, John - Fire

Dermidoff, Dennis - Fire

Dildy, William - Police

Evans, Steve - Fire

Fontana, Mario - Fire

Hoze, James - Fire

Johnson, Tyrone - Fire

Jones, James C. - Police

Long, Walter Jr. - Police

Martin, Harrison - Police

Miller, Fredrick - Police

Quaine, Mark - Police

Rhodes, Eugene - Police

Taylor, Lawrence III - Fire

Walker, Thomas - Fire

Zwicker, Charles - Police

April

Anderson-Andrewa, Veda - Police

Bergin, Debra - Police

Bouie, Michael - Police

Cheney, Daniel - Fire

Francis, Steven - Fire

Goree, Anthony - Police

Henry, Marion - Police

Knight, Kenneth - Police

Lemoncelli, Valentino - Police

Myslinski, Charles - Police

Paciorka, Wesley - Fire

Robbins, Jonathon - Police

Sawyers, Hubert Jr. - Police

Sterrett, Marsha - Police

Stewart, Mary - Police

Tate, Ronald Sr. - Police

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

A.P.B. Retirees Luncheon

Third Monday of every month

For Information call: Joe Borri at (586) 791-5552

5th Precinct Oldtimers Luncheon

Second Monday of every month at 11:00 A.M.

Big Boy's at Garfield and Hall Rd. (M-59)

11th Precinct Retirees Luncheon

Second Wednesday of the month at 1:00 P.M.

Buddy's Pizza - 13 Mile Rd. and Van Dyke

14th Precinct Quarterly Breakfast

Contact Ron Smolka at

734-422-8258 for future schedules

Fire Fighters Breakfasts

First Monday of the month at 9:00 A.M.

Voyageur Restaurant – (810) 329-4101

525 Riverside Dr. – St. Clair, MI

First Tuesday of the month at 9:30 A.M.

Step Inn Restaurant

325 N. Main St., Downtown Cheboygan, MI

Third Tuesday of the month at 9:00 A.M.

Omega Coney Island

22501 W. Eight Mile Rd., Detroit, MI

First Thursday of the month at 10:00 A.M.

Little Chef Restaurant 101 Brookside Lane,

(Enter off Grand River) Exit 145 off of I96

ASSOCIATION CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

NEW!

General Membership Meeting Schedule

SEPTEMBER 2009 - MAY 2010

THURSDAY AT 7 PM

EAST SIDE/AMERICAN POLISH CENTURY CLUB

33204 Maple Lane - Sterling Heights, Michigan
Sept. 3 • Nov. 5 • Jan. 7 • Mar. 4 • May 6

WEST SIDE/MONAGHAN KofC HALL

19801 Farmington Rd. - Livonia, Michigan
Oct. 1 • Dec. 3 • Feb. 4 • Apr. 1 • June 3

West Side Silver Ladies*

2nd Tuesday of the month at 1:00 P.M.
Archie's – 30471 Plymouth Road – Livonia
Between Middlebelt and Merriman Road

East Side Silver Ladies*

1st Tuesday of the month
Meeting at Filippa's – Time: 2:00 P.M.
Mound North of M-59, Utica, MI

Police & Fire Club of Florida*

Next meeting is 1st Sunday of the month 12:30 P.M.
“October to May” at Brandon Community Center
502 E. Sadie St. - Brandon, Florida

Snowbirds Of Michigan*

2nd Sunday of the month
at “BJ's” Restaurant in Gaylord, MI
Social Hour 11:00 AM – Meeting at 1:00 PM

Nevada Jackpots*

Refer to column for next meeting's location.

Arizona Roadrunners*

Members will be notified of
time and place by mail

***Refer to columns for specifics or program changes**

**Articles for the July, 2009 Issue
should be “submitted” by
June 15, 2009**

PRESIDENT *(continued from page 1)*

since our last issue; however Detroit City Council did approve the settlement. We were waiting for a certified copy of the resolution that City council passed approving the settlement, and for all the Unions to sign off. As I write this article on Sunday, May 11, Attorney Chris Legghio has advised me, that on Monday, May 12, he will file a motion with Judge Torres requesting a hearing in which he will seek to have the Judge approve the settlement and give the go ahead to implement the settlement, with or without the Unions signing off and with or without the certified copy of the resolution from City Council. It appears that the implementation of the settlement will probably not take place until August or September. Once everything is in place, you will receive a letter from the attorney explaining the details of the settlement. We will keep you updated.

Next item of concern is our lawsuit regarding the misuse of the money from our pension system. Just a little reminder of what took place. The city and the active unions entered into an agreement in which the city was allowed to forgo paying 75 million dollars into the pension system, in exchange for the active unions receiving increased payout on their sick time, and using 25% of the

value towards their average final compensation on their pension. This case has been bouncing around from the Chief Judges to Judge Murphy for several months now.

On Thursday, May 7, a status hearing was held with Judge Murphy, during which he questioned the attorneys present regarding the portion of the lawsuit dealing with superintending control. (Superintending control, if granted would reverse the decision of the pension board and require the city to pay in the full amount they were originally required to pay, prior to agreement between the unions and city.) The attorneys representing the Unions, City and the pension Board, told Judge Murphy that they believed based on the responses from Chief Judge Giovan and Chief Judge Virgil Smith, that the portion dealing with superintending control had been dismissed. Our attorney Mike Stefani disagreed with their opinion.


Judge Murphy advised our attorney, based on the information he has now, that if our side did not agree to drop the superintending control portion, and the other side filed briefs requesting it be dismissed, he would dismiss the superintending control issue. At which time we could appeal his decision to the Michigan Court of Appeals. Although appealing to the Michigan Court of Appeals would delay our portion of the lawsuit seeking damages from the City, unions and pension board, at this time we believe the superintending control portion is important and that the action of the pension board was improper and should be reversed. Therefore, at this time if the court dismisses the superintending control issue, we are intending to appeal the case to the Michigan Court of Appeals. Our next court date with Judge Murphy is June 18, these issues may be resolved on or before that date. We will keep you updated, regarding this matter.

In the last issue of the Unity we requested information from our membership regarding those that were paying dues to the LSA and the DPOA. We are still researching the possibility of taking legal action against the LSA and DPOA for violating their fiduciary responsibility to their associate members by collecting dues from them, and then using those funds to actively work against their best interest. If we find it necessary and believe it to be in the best interest of our members this lawsuit might be filed shortly. We will keep you updated.

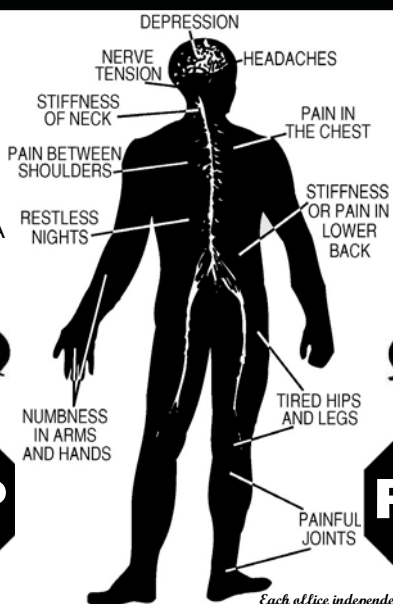
On Friday April 3rd, I met with the Presidents of the DPOA, LSA, DFFA, and Vice President of the DCOA. During this meeting, it was articulated by the unions that they did not intend to interfere with the settlement


(continued on next page)

FEEL BETTER IN 30 MINUTES




Dr. Ray
Hon. LSA, DPFA
Former Army
Paratrooper






Dr. Tom
National Board
of Chiropractic
Examiners



STOP



PAIN

Each office independently owned & operated

Call now!	Eastside Detroit Dr. Ray Kaminski 10575 Morang 313-884-5477	Southwest Detroit Dr. Tom Moses 6807 W. Vernor 313-843-5433
Clinton Twp. Dr. Ray Kaminski 43297 Garfield Rd. (next to Dunkin Donuts) (586) 286-1100	Northwest Detroit Dr. Tom Moses 14243 W. Eight Mile 313-342-5433	Dearborn Dr. Tom Moses 6549 Schaefer 313-582-5433

Members have full coverage with USH&L and BCBS

PRESIDENT *(continued from previous page)*

of our hospitalization lawsuit, and that it had just been a misunderstanding, due to a lack of communication. They also stated that they had, in the past supported issues concerning Retirees and that we all should work together. However, since that meeting we have been getting some mixed messages. We remain ready to meet with any of the Unions or the City regarding any or all of the issues that I have raised in this article, and I agree that it is time that we work together to resolve our issues outside of the court rooms. We are watching to see some sign of action by the unions to support their words.

Over the next several months you will receive information from John Hancock regarding Long-Term Care. Many of you have expressed an interest in this type of coverage so we have agreed to assist representatives of John Hancock with getting the information out to our members. A letter signed by me will be included in the package of information you receive. The purpose of my letter is to inform you that this program is available, and our members will receive a discount and by you seeing the information on our letterhead, you can rest assured that we are handling the mailing and not releasing addresses of our members to anyone. If you are in need of Long-Term Care insurance now, you should contact Karen Whelan (Rivest) at her office. (313) 963-4004

Our membership has reached its highest level ever at nearly 6800 members. We still need everyone to monitor our non-member list, and contact anyone that you may know, and suggest that they do their part. We all need to share in the responsibility of protecting the rights and benefits of Retired Police Officers and Fire Fighters.

I ask that everyone that receives a pension, and has not signed up to have your dues deducted from your

pension check, reconsider. This greatly reduces the workload and postage cost to the Association, it also saves you a couple dollars. The deduction forms are available on our web site, or you can give us a call and we will send you one.

If you are planning to attend our Las Vegas convention, and have not yet reserved your seat, you need to do so right away. As of this date only 12 seats remain. Any seats that remain unspoken for will be dropped shortly. If you are attending but only need a room, we have rooms held so give us a call. This year's convention is from September 21-25 and is at Planet Hollywood.

In closing, I want to acknowledge all those members that continue to support our association by sending in donations to our P.A.C. fund and general funds. As you know, we are involved in a number of court cases and Legislation in Lansing. We also are now involved in political action on a statewide basis, and we are not allowed to use general fund money for political action, so we need your support.



RDPFFA PICNIC

**Saturday
June 27, 2009**

**KOLPING PARK
47440 Sugarbush Road
Chesterfield Township, MI
(586) 598-0174**

Take I-94 to 21 Mile Rd East to
Sugarbush North, 1/2 mile on right side.

Admission is by a valid R.D.P.F.F.A. Membership Card

REMEMBRANCE AND THANK YOU

The following supporters, their names and in the names of their loved ones, have contributed most generously to our Appreciation, Building and P.A.C. Funds. Your continued support of our Association is the encouragement we need and reflects your recognition of the Association's efforts in your behalf.

Adams, Patrick	Dibble, Don	Kanka, Robert	Krol, Arthur/Gloria
Arbuckle, Russell/Karin <i>In memory of Louis Arbuckle</i>	Dornan, Carol	Kanopsky, Patricia	Lacoursier, George
Bar, Timothy/Karen	Duggan, Susan	Kapcia, Raymond/Virginia	Lankford, Charles
Barber, Gary/Evelyn	Eades, Edward/Diann	Karczewski, Bonnie	Lassner, Robert
Barber, Gary/Evelyn	East Side Silver Ladies	Kato, Joseph	Launore, Lavon
Barnes, Harold H. <i>In memory of Harold C. Barnes</i>	Family of Annette Emke <i>In memory of Wiley Trout / Jesse Baily</i>	Kelley, Theresa	Ledford, William/Clara
Barton, Dennis P.	Fisher, Patricia	Kenny, Wilbert	Lemke, Hugo/Shirley
Margaret M. <i>In memory of Francis Arbanas</i>	Flaughter, Norman/Nancy	Kivela, Gordon/Mark	Loeffler, Bob
Bassett, James/Marisa	Freiwald, Carl	Klock, John	Lutka, Richard
Belanger, Nelson/Adale	Fulton, Wilma <i>In memory of Cleo Bryant</i>	Koby, Jay/Geralyn	Magdowski, Donald
Berry, Calvin	Gallagher, Dennis/Justine	Konfara, Joseph/Dorothy	Maisano, Jerome <i>In memory of Justine Karpinski/ Harold Sparkman</i>
Black, Don	Gartner, John	Kosek, Edward	Mangum, Eugene
Blake, Donald	Gehling, George	Kosmack, Ray/Audrey <i>In memory of Leonard & Clare Kosmack</i>	Marshall, James
Boehm, Jerome/Margaret	Gerardy, Rosaria	Kosmowski, Thaddeus <i>In memory of Albin N. Kosmowski</i>	McCann, Thomas/Constance
Bove, Anna <i>In memory of Armand J. Bove</i>	Gerling, Gregory	Kovach, Julius	Mitchell, Sylvester/Rhonda
Braun, Donald M.	Giles Jr. John	Kovach, Kenneth	Monahan, James
Brayboy, Eleanor	Girard, Viola		Nowicki, George
Breslin, Beverly	Griffin, John		
Brown, Kay/William	Griffin, Wade		
Brown, Kenneth	Griffis, William/Marsha		
Bruce, David/Gaye	Gross, James		
Burrell, Joseph	Hamilton, Robert		
Cadnick, Emily/John	Harris, Glenn/Patricia		
Cardinale, Lou <i>memory of Al Green/Lou Erment</i>	Harris, James		
Carlson, Barbara <i>In memory of Chuck Carlson/Fred Walter, Gregory, Pedlar/Bob Leskie</i>	Hart, Thomas		
Chakan, Sharon/Nowicki, Kathleen <i>In memory of John Chakan</i>	Hay, Nancee <i>In memory of Gordon Hay/Gerald Henningsen</i>		
Chakan, Sharon/Nowicki, Kathleen <i>In memory of John Chakan</i>	Heberly, Josephine		
Conn, Robert/Janice	Heinz, Ruth		
Crago, Irene/	Heise, Robert		
Kurczewski, John E.	Henningsen, Geraldine & Ball, Donna <i>In memory of Gerry Henningsen, Gordon May & Jim (JC.) Carter</i>		
Daly F. J./Charles, P.A.	Hine, Steve		
Daly F. J./Charles, P.A. <i>In memory of John Daly</i>	Hoff, Robert		
Daly, Florence <i>In memory of John Daly</i>	Hold, Daniel Jr.		
	Howell, James/Nollie		
	Hunt, William		
	Hynes, John		
	Ireland, Ellen		
	Jones, Gary/Nettie		

ATTN: City of Detroit Police and Fire Fighters

HAP IS ... Security for your family

HAP is more than just a card you carry. HAP is your partner, with affordable plans focused on wellness, because great coverage starts with getting you healthy and keeping you that way.

HAP is ... a promise to be there at every stage of your life.

solutions powered by



Call HAP Client Services
(313) 872-8100 or toll-free (800) 422-4641

www.hap.org

O'Leary, Dorothy/Dennis
 O'Neill, Lois
 Olsen, William
 Owczarzak, Henry
 Pakulski, Ronald
 Pawlowski, Thomas
 Pepper, Robert/Judith
 Perkins, Elinor
 Peltier, Ernest *In memory of Paul Begin*
 Pilate, Carol *In memory of Wayne Keeney*
 Potts, George *In memory of Bob Sherman*
 Priebe, Richard
 Pyzik, Chester/Irene
 Ramsay, Harry
 Reczko, Henry
 Regnier, Richard
 Restauri, Donald/Madolyn
 Rice, Jack/Shirley
 Rohrer, Gordon W.
 Rosenau, Arlene *In memory of Lt. Martin Rosenau*
 Saier, Elizabeth/Gary *In memory of William Saier*
 Sargent, Gladys
 Schumann, Robert
 Shade, Philip/Karen *In memory of Clyde Tome*
 Sihler, Mary/Ruth *In memory of Ed Hasse*
 Sington, Gerald/
 Philomena *In memory of Gerald Barba*
 Smith Charles A. *In memory of Vetold Tomaszewski*
 Soncrant, John
 Sparkman, Barbara/
 Emery, Lynn
 Stano, Leonard
 Stephens, Ronald
 Stewart, Mary
 Thom, Roger/Jeanette
 Tillman, Richard/Patricia
 Tines, James/Arlene
 VandenBoom,
 John/Marilyn
 VanLeen, Richard
 Veneri, Neil
 Viecelli, Richard
 Walker, Kenneth/Cynthia
 Walrad, Hope
 Wandrie, Pete *In memory of Otto B. Wandrie*
 Wendyker, Al
 Williams, Billy/Eleanor
 Williams, Charles/Edith
 Williams, Wallace/Peggy
 Winkler, Frank
 Wojtas, Carl
 Wolfe, William/Thelma *in memory of Serge Foresi*
 Woodling, Kathryn A.
 Yoskovich, Frank
 Yuhn, Delbert/Gloria Young
In memory of Donald Yuhn

VICE PRESIDENT *(continued from page 2)*

from their retirement plan to pay health care premiums.

Critics will say that our membership would receive these benefits despite being members of N.A.P.O. That is true but since retiring and becoming involved with our Association one of the main complaints I have heard concerns the status of non-members and how they get all the benefits we have received over the years through all the hard work of the RDPFFA with no contribution or involvement on their part. There is that possibility that the over 250,000 members of N.A.P.O. may someday look upon our Association in a similar way. Granted the majority of the work N.A.P.O. performs involves active groups, our members do reap some of these benefits, both police and fire. Looking at the bottom line, with our over 6,700 members the annual N.A.P.O. cost to the Association is approximately \$1.04 per member, a minimal amount by any standard. Our Association, even lacking the updates from N.A.P.O., will make every attempt to keep our members informed.

With this being the last "UNITY" before the spring picnic I would like to remind everyone that it is scheduled for June 27, 2009 at Kolping Park located at 47440 Sugarbush Rd. in Chesterfield Township, 1/2 mile north of 21 Mile Rd. east of I-94 at the 21 mile exit. There is no cost to our members so come on out and gather with some old friends or make a few new ones and just enjoy yourselves. The park will open at 10:00 am with lunch starting around 11:00 am with a little snack later in the afternoon.

Also during the summer months, on August 8th will be the late summer picnic at the German Park in Northfield Township and on August 21, the Association golf outing is scheduled. Registration for the golf outing will be forthcoming to prior participants or give the office a call and one will be sent out.

Finally, the Annual Convention and Conference held in Las Vegas (September 21-25) is selling out fast, as of this writing there were only 14 spots available so if still interested give Jack Devoy a call and reserve your seats.

In closing I would just like to tell everyone to enjoy the summer months and if you have any problems or questions feel free to give the office a call. I hope to see a lot of you at one of our upcoming events.



SERVING THOSE SERVING OTHERS

Our team invites your team to join over 450 active and retired POs and PO family members and choose Parkside Dental Team for all your dental needs. Parkside Dental Team is proud to serve our community's police officers.



BRAND NEW OFFICE!
 36444 W. Warren Avenue
 in Westland

Conveniently located at the northwest corner of Warren and Central City Parkway, just blocks west of Westland Mall.

734-261-6060
www.park-sidedentalteam.com



We accept
Delta PPO and
Blue Cross.

Parkside DENTAL TEAM
integrity • customer service • excellence.

Members Letters

RDPFFA

The enclosed check is a donation to the P.A.C. fund in remembrance of my good friend Sgt. George Pollock. Many thanks for all you have done and continue to do on behalf of us retirees.

James Farris

RDPFFA

I do appreciate everything RDPFFA is doing to help us widows. Please accept this check.

Sincerely,
Barbara M. Spaulding

Dear RDPFFA

Enclosed is a check. I'm way behind on my dues. What ever is left put in your fund. I want to thank you all, for what you do.

Like Barney always said. You're a great organization. God I miss him

Thank You,
Irene Hartner
(Memory of Bernard Hartner)

Hi,

Enclosed is a check for the P.A.C. Fund. I want to thank all of the Officers and other workers who are doing a good job in making our retiree organization function.

Sincerely,
(Retiree) John Wrobel

Hi Jack (Devoy)

Just a short note of thanks for all our association has done for us.

Enclosed is a check to be used as you see fit. Hope to see you in June.

George Fraham

RDPFFA

Please apply this donation to the P.A.C. Fund. My thanks to everyone for all the hard work being done on our behalf. It is greatly appreciated.

John Fairbairn

RDPFFA

The enclosed check is being sent in memory of my husband. He was very proud of his Detroit law enforcement career. He was also thankful for all the work everyone put in to have such a good retirement association.

Please use the check where it is most needed

Thank you,
Anna M. Tomaszewski
(Memory of Witold Tomaszewski)

RDPFFA

Enclosed please find check to be used which ever way you think would be best for the association. Thank you very much for all the good you do for all of us.

Sincerely,
Rita A. Chase
(Memory of husband Leo J. Chase)

RDPFFA Officers,

Thank you for all of your hard work on behalf of all the Retired Police Officers and Fire Fighters.

Please use this donation for the P.A.C. fund

Sincerely,
Charles Archibald
(Retired D.P.D.)

RDPFFA

In addition to the authorization for a monthly dues deduction, please accept this check, written to be deposited in the Retired Detroit Police & Fire Fighters Association general fund.

Delbert Sprankle

P.A.C. Fund

From: Richard J. Bokuniewicz in memory of Marion McAuliffe (Mother in law).

Detroit Police Department
Retired Badges

Silver – \$30.00 EA.*



Gold – \$40.00 EA.*

Available to R.D.P.F.F.A. Members
Contact Retired Detroit Police Officer George Toy at:
(313) 527-3914

**Add \$5.00 for Shipping & Handling. Allow 6-8 Week for Delivery*

RDPFFA

I appreciate the great job you are doing. Use this check where needed.

Thank You,
Frank Bernock
(Retired D.F.D.)

Dear RDPFFA,

First thanks for my raise and thanks for all you have done and are doing for all of us.

I am sending the enclosed check. Again thanks so much.

Shirley A. Brandt
Memory of husband Howard F. Brandt
Detective Sgt.
deceased for 11years - May 1997

Don Taylor

I wish to express my gratitude for the job you and all the officers of our Association are doing. It's an honor to be a member of the RDPFFA.

Enclosed is a check you may use where needed. It would have gone to the L & S, but I know our Association can make better use of it.

Thanks again,
Frank Hrubiak

We had a serious BCBS problem my wife, Cheryl & I tried what we thought was the right way to approach the problem, but we got no place. Finally we called on John (Jack) Devoy from the Retirees group to look into our problem. He looked into it within two weeks and fixed our problem perfectly. Thanks very much.

Stephen N. Parsell

Hi Guys:

You are fighting the good fight. Hope the little check helps the P.A.C. Fund.

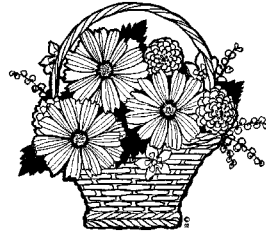
Regards,
Frank W. Staskon

RDPFFA

Please accept this donation from the "The East Side Silver Ladies" in memory of our dear friend and former President, June Tullock.

Use the money where it is most needed. Many thanks for your hard work on our behalf

Sincerely,
The East Side Silver Ladies



ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

(Surviving Spouses)

Fern Garner

Checking my columns dating back to January 1995 I found one written in May of 1999. It was somewhat like an open invitation to all widows of Detroit police and firemen to join the Silver Ladies. We just celebrated our seventeenth anniversary, with a festive luncheon of course.

Over the years I have issued an invitation to those widows who are associate members of the RDPFFA to join our groups, east or west side. One year I even found a copy of the old WWII Poster of Uncle Sam in full costume complete with top hat but the problem was getting it included in the printing process for the Unity. Those of you who are vintage 1941-1945 might remember it but for those of you who are younger you probably have seen similar posters of other organizations.

There are still many of the original group and over the years have shared many things. As I have said before our husband's jobs made them, and us, unique considering the hours and type of work. We answer questions whenever possible, but if we can't, we always refer you to the RDPFFA office for someone who can.

So instead of Uncle Sam standing there inviting you to join a branch of the armed services, picture a group of smiling waving ladies beckoning you to join them. Check Unity for dates and times of meetings. See you there.

AMERICAN LEGION Post 161

Police & Fire Fighters Looking for Members

Must have wartime service!

Dues \$35

For information contact:

Dominic Cantanzaro

(248) 879-0490



IN MEMORIAM

Once again we call the roll and acknowledge those friends and associates who have left us since our last publication. It is hard to let go of good friends but it is easy to remember the good times we shared and realize that now they rest in peace.

Name	Rank	Dept.	Date of Death
Bednark, Gregory	P.O.	Police	3-4-09
Bender, David	P.O.	Police	4-5-09
Blaylock, James III	P.O.	Police	3-17-09
Clifton, Harry	Lt.	Police	4-11-09
DeLong, Herbet	Lt.	Police	4-4-09
Dionne, Dennis	P.O.	Police	2-10-09
Dunn, Thomas	Sgt.	Police	3-31-09
Gardner, Elaine	P.O.	Police	2-22-09
Gobetti, John	Lt.	Police	3-11-09
Hall, Florence	Sgt.	Police	4-19-09
Handzlik, James	Lt.	Fire	4-24-09
Harris, Joseph	P.O.	Police	4-29-09
Janas, Paul	Sgt.	Police	3-28-09
Keeney, Wayne	Sgt.	Police	3-12-09
Kopsch, Robert	Sgt.	Police	4-13-09
Krolik, Joseph	Capt.	Fire	4-21-09
Lightfoot, Leon	P.O.	Police	3-7-09
McKenney, Arnold	P.O.	Police	4-6-09

Micus, Edward	P.O.	Police	4-28-09
Neubauer, Steven	Sgt.	Police	4-15-09
Nil, Robert	Sgt.	Police	3-31-09
Perry, Roy	P.O.	Police	4-10-09
Peschke, Robert	P.O.	Police	3-8-09
Quain, Howard	Sgt.	Police	2-22-09
Saulski, Joseph	Sgt.	Police	4-29-09
Schultz, Robert	P.O.	Police	3-17-09
Smith, Gerald	P.O.	Police	4-28-09
Thornhill, Torin	Sgt.	Fire	4-14-09
Trosin, Alvin	P.O.	Police	4-16-09
Van Buhler, Robert	Bat. Chief	Fire	12-16-08
Waznak, William	P.O.	Police	2-13-09
Webster, Clyde	P.O.	Police	3-8-09
Wolny, Ronald	P.O.	Police	4-29-09

DUES DEDUCTION

PLEASE CHECK PAY STUBS

It has come to our attention that some Members have enrolled in payroll deduction and the \$2.00 monthly deduction is not being taken. If this has affected you, let the office know.

If you would like to be enrolled call the office and a form will be mailed to you.

2009
Dues
\$25.00

Retired Detroit Police & Fire Fighters Association

For Additional Assistance
Contact Association Office

Retired Detroit Police &
Fire Fighters Association
(586) 795-1734

Please Complete This Form & Return With Payment

Application for Renewal _____ New _____ Associate _____

Name: _____ Phone _____

Address: _____ E-Mail _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Amount Paid _____

Date Paid _____

Check No. _____

Dues Year 2009

Make Checks Payable To: Retired Detroit Police & Fire Fighters Association
Mail To: 2525 E. 14 Mile Rd. Sterling Heights, MI 48310-5969

IRS Notice 835 (Jan. 88)
Noncharitable Contribution



FINANCIAL NETWORK

"Built On A Relationship Of Trust"



ASSISTING CITY OF DETROIT EMPLOYEES WITH THE ACCUMULATION & PROTECTION OF THEIR ASSETS

We at John Hancock Financial Network feel that gaining knowledge about your retirement is an important step in overall planning your financial future. At John Hancock Financial Network, we focus on solving the financial needs of individuals and families. We understand and have the expertise and resources to help you make the most of your earnings and accomplish your goals for the accumulation and protection of your assets.

Solutions available include:

- ◆ **Fixed Annuities**
- ◆ **Asset Accumulation and Protection**
- ◆ **Deferred Compensation Plan Rollovers**
- ◆ **Tax Advantaged Investments***
- ◆ **Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA's)**
- ◆ **Life Insurance**
- ◆ **Long Term Care Insurance**
- ◆ **Financial Needs Analysis**

Find the solutions that are right for you.

For more information, please contact:

KAREN RIVEST

Registered Representative

333 E. Jefferson, Suite 295

Detroit, MI 48226

(313) 963-4004

Fax: (313) 963-9413

www.karenwhelanrivest.com

*The financial analysis and recommendations are not intended to replace the need for independent tax, accounting, or legal review. Individuals are advised to seek the counsel of such licensed professional.
Registered Representative/Securities offered through Signator Investors, Inc., Member FINRA, SIPC.
28411 Northwestern Highway, Suite 1300, Southfield, MI 48034. (248) 827-1300.
225-11182008-16048147



RETIRED DETROIT POLICE AND FIRE CLUB OF FLORIDA

Nancy Schmidt

The Annual Dinner March. 1st was a success. The past Presidents in attendance were recognized. They were Fran Maione, Wally Hamer, Jim Bateson and Ron Goosen. Wally Hamer was honored with a plaque for his many years of dedicated service to the club. He is moving up to Pensacola, Florida, to be closer to his family. We will surely miss you Wally.

Moe Gekiere and Jim Bateson won \$25 each on the 50/50 and Fran Maione was the \$30 or the two free dinner tickets donated by Jim and Mary Thomas of Houghton Lake, Michigan. Congratulations to you all and many thanks to the Thomas's for their generosity.

Bill Rushing, a Life Member donated his dues back to the club. Thanks Bill. We even had a little "Musical Entertainment" provided by our very own Bill Larsen. You had to be there to truly appreciate it was the high light of the day. The Pizza Party April 5th was great. We

had 26 in attendance, including guests Tom and Sharon Sowell. Birthday's were celebrated by Edith Caulfield and Bill Schmidt. Jim and Edith Caulfield observed their 22nd Anniversary. Congratulation to you all!

On a sad note, John Gobetti of Brooksville Florida passed away in March at the age of 96. Our condolences to his wife Helen, and his family.

Nominations were held by Bill Larsen. Bill Peplinski made a motion and seconded by Ray Kosmack to leave present officers in place. A vote was taken and approved by the membership. The Officers agreed to retain their positions, so the Election is complete. President Bill Schmidt, Vice President Harry Ramsay, Treasurer Dolores Larsen, Rec./Corr. Sec. Nancy Schmidt, Sgt. At Arms Jim Bateson, Chaplain Rev. Ron Goosen, Activity Chairman Bill Larsen.

The 50/50 was won by Earl Wiltse and Tom Sowell, and they both donated their winnings back to the club. Boy, we couldn't even give it away. Thanks so much guys.

Rev. Ron closed the meeting with a prayer for Love and Peace for all.

This month we heard from Walter Rakicki, of Bellaire, Michigan. Norbert Koslowski called, hope to see you the next time in Florida. Robert List of New Baltimore, Michigan a Life Member of the club called. He and his wife Morea moved back to Michigan for health reasons. Please keep in touch. I received an e-mail from Eileen Schumaker, a DPD retiree. She and her husband are going to spend some time in Florida. Hope you keep our club in mind when you make the move.

My Phone # is 1-(352) 683-7924 and e-mail address is njschmidt@gate.net. I'm going to count on you to keep me busy this summer with things to report. Have a great summer and don't forget our May 3rd meeting. So until then Stay Safe and say a Prayer for our troops.

Doug Hohman
(248) 245-2800

Retired Detroit Police Sergeant

900 Round Lake Road
White Lake, MI 48386



- Weddings
- Showers
- School & Athletic
- Memorial Lunches
- Training
- Receptions

***** Member Discounts *****

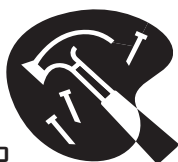
FREE Hall Rental
for RDPFFA Retirees Agenda or
Benefits for Retired/Active Members in Need

VISIT US ONLINE: GATHERINGATTHELAKES.COM

HOME IMPROVEMENTS

- REMODELING
- ELECTRICAL
- "RAMPS & RAILS"
(HANDICAPPED MODIFICATIONS)

DOUG HOHMAN • (248) 245-2800



Engine 32

100 Year Anniversary Party

June 7, 2009

12:00 P.M.

FOOD • FUN • RAFFLE

For information contact:

Engine 32 or F.E.O. Carlson at:

(586) 381-3105



It's April and as I'm writing this, Michigan is getting hit with yet another snowstorm of several inches. Hope it's the last one cause Jey and I are heading back to Glennie to chop some ice blocks out of the lake to put in our ice box.

At the Florida meeting it was nice to see Earl Wiltse who I worked with at the 16th Precinct 40 years ago. Are some of us getting old?

We wish a happy April Birthday to our Snowbird Vice President Mike Kniaz. Have a great one Mike.

In light of recent developments pertaining to our retiree benefits it's imperative that we show support for our RDPFFA Officers who are always fighting for us.

If you are interested in the Mackinac Island trip you can call Jey at the Florida phone (727) 397-6226 or after the 1st of May, in Glennie at (989) 735-3450. As of now the Best Western in St. Ignace is still closed for the winter (long winter) but Jey usually tries to reserve 20 rooms. So leave your name and phone number and she will get back to you. It's for June 12 and 13th and our meeting is the on the 14th. The exact price is not known but last year the package was about \$184.00 per person. That includes 2 nights at the Best Western

Lakeview rooms with balconies. Friday night sit down buffet, 2 continental breakfasts, Ferry to the Island, carriage ride around the island, visit to the Fort and a luncheon buffet at the Grand Hotel (with free rocking chair privileges), also gambling packages.

Did you ever notice: When you put the 2 words "The" and "Irs" together it spells "Theirs"?

**2009 Retired Firefighters
Mid-Michigan Annual Picnic**

June 9, 2009

Noon until ?? at the

Houghton – Higgins Lake Elks Club

4932 W. Houghton Lake Dr. (M-55)

Houghton Lake, Michigan • (989) 336-9136
(South shore of Houghton Lake)

Cost: \$35.00 per person

*Includes Grill your own steak • all Food and Open Bar
Booze Raffle • 50-50 • Appetizers • Firemen's Fund and
RDPFFA Merchandise Available*

Make your own reservations!

Beachfront Hotel (formerly Best Western), next to the Elks Club, has special rates available.

Call (989) 366-9126 for resevations.

PLEASE RSVP to:

John H. Beyer (989) 366-7876 or send check to
Detroit Retired Fire Fighters of Houghton Lake
3627 S. Gladwin Rd. • Prudenville, MI 48651

**DO YOU HAVE
CATARACTS?**

NOW YOU HAVE A CHOICE!

You may be a candidate for the new AcrySof ReStor intraocular lens. This remarkable new lens makes it possible, for most patients, to have great vision, after Cataract surgery — **WITHOUT GLASSES!**

CALL the office of Dr. Robert A. Sklar **TODAY**
TO see if you are a candidate.

248-526-1010

**Victimized By
Stockbroker Malpractice?**

Peter C. Rageas, C.P.A., M.S.T.

Attorney at Law

and

James P. Graven

*an Ohio attorney and Toledo Firefighter, current
NASD/NYSE arbitrator and practicing attorney
who has represented investors nationwide.*

400 Monroe, Suite 220

Detroit, MI 48226

(313) 962-7777 • Free Consultation

Westside Silver Ladies

Gerri Henningsen

The West Side Silver Ladies are mourning the loss of one of our own, Jean Lewis. Jean died suddenly on April 19th. She was an active, outgoing member who always had a smile. Jean attended ninety percent of our functions. Her absence is already being missed.

Summer is fast approaching and the first eastside picnic is planned for June 27. I hope many of you can turn out for this event. I, for one, will take advantage of the Retirees hospitality and attend both!! I'm hoping we will meet some of the eastside Silver Ladies.

March & April's luncheons were quite animated (except when the food was served)! Marilyn Noseworthy won the 50/50 for March and Mary Wagner won for April. We have been blessed with a new member who drove in from Hartland, MI. WELCOME to our group, Dorothy Jamieson.

A few of our regular attendees have been unable to attend our luncheons lately. Shirely Brandt, Sally Emerick, Lessie Johnson, Theresa Kelley, Fran Murphy and Pat Tomasaitis..... We've missed you.

I'd like to say "HI" to some dear friends in Florida who read the Unity every issue Nancee Hay, Jenny Moilanen and Carol Sava. You are missed. Thank you to another Floridian, Nancy Schmidt for your nice words in your "Retired Detroit Police & Fire Club of Florida" column.

Upcoming birthdays are Ginny Kaltenback - 5/1, myself - 5/4, Theresa Zalewski - 5/7, Marie McCarthy & Dorothy O'Leary, both 5/12, Fran Murphy - 5/17, Elaine Wallace - 5/18 & Dolores Smith - 6/20. Happy birthday to all of you.

Today's thought A person isn't poor if they can still laugh. A quote from Raymond Hitchcock.

Let's meet at Archie's!!

Gerri Henningsen, (734) 335-6778

Theodore I. Cohen

Certified Public Accountant

30300 NORTHWESTERN HIGHWAY
SUITE 323
FARMINGTON HILLS, MI 48334
PHONE 1-248-539-7428
FAX 1-248-932-3521
TICCPA@aol.com

PROVIDING THE RETIRED
DETROIT POLICE & FIREFIGHTERS
ASSOCIATION WITH PROFESSIONAL
ACCOUNTING, TAX & CONSULTING
SERVICES

I Remember When

We woke a longtime before sunrise
The morning was cool and damp
The tent was all that kept us dry
This was the way it always was in camp.

We all got up and dressed real quick
And soon had a fire glowing
Warming our bones as best we could
Excited, we knew where we were going.

We soon had a large pot of coffee brewing
Frying pan was popping with bacon
A large pot of scrambled eggs was ready
Biscuits in a homemade oven, baking.

We couldn't wait to fill our plates
And get the whole place neat
Because we were soon heading out
Catching frogs was hard to beat.

We each got our homemade club
Usually made from an old barrel slat
The handle was shaped with our pocket knife
The lower part was usually flat.

Each got an old "Gunnysack" to carry frogs
Then we all headed out to the creek
Walking slowly through the weeds
It seemed none of us had time to speak.

Frogs would jump at our approach
We would swat it if we were able
Cause the more we caught and skinned that day
Would be served to us at the supper table.

It took a lot of these tasty things
To make a meal for a bunch of hungry men
But it was no problem, after eating them
To get the guys to go out and hunt again.

Roy H. Moerschell



Silver Ladies

Carol Curley



NEVADA JACKPOTS

Ray Downing

Ah May at last! Flowers, birds singing and anticipation of our garden fruits!

We have our 17th anniversary dinner at DiFratelli's on Van Dyke and as expected it was delightful including the brightly decorated carrot cake delivered by Barb Talley. Thank You! Chaired by Bernice Hall - Thank you again!

Happy Birthdays: May - Barb Talley and Corrine Evans. June: - Marcy Rolf, Louise Zygmuntowicz, Millie Stone and Delphine Marciniak. July - Sophie Zielinski, Wilma Fulton. Irene Brooks won the March 50 / 50. Carol Curley won the April 50 / 50. Our condolences to Millie Stone at the passing of her mother who was over 100 years old.

A needed name corrections from my last article for our newest member Marcy Rolf. Sorry Marcy!

Get well prayers to our members with health setbacks and to those helping with other family situations.

The R.D.P.F.F.A. picnic (one of two), is on the east side this June 27. We Silver Ladies are considering that more of us will be able to "make the scene" for that reason alone!

Our July picnic is coming up next. See you there! To join us call President Irene Brooks (586) 749-8894.

Minutes of the meeting of the Nevada Jackpots on Saturday, March 14, 2009, at the Four Queens Hotel/Casino.

The meeting was called to order at 9:45 a.m. by President John Breed, with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for our departed members.

It was noted that Jim Hudson, probably our oldest member, is doing very well in his California home, but just can't make it to Las Vegas any more.

There was brief discussion of the problem with our Hospitalization lawsuit which the RDPFFA had apparently won, only to have it kicked back to the court due to intervention by the active unions. As of March 26, I've not heard of any further movement in the matter. The RDPFFA is suggesting that retirees not support the DPOA or LSA with retiree's dues any further.

Treasurer Tom Hulkonen noted that our treasury currently holds \$287.00 and a roll of stamps. If you have not sent in your 2009 dues of \$5.00, please take a moment to send them along to Tom at 8208 Bolingbrook Ave., Las Vegas 89149. There is no truth to the rumor that that address is in Tonopah.

It was noted by Tony Pakula that the Nevada Jackpots will observe there 25th year of existence in September of 2010, and a special meeting for the occasion was suggested by him. An excellent idea and the membership was urged to submit suggestions during the months ahead so it may be planned for well in advance.

The waiter having brought our delicious breakfast orders, the meeting was declared adjourned at 9:35 a.m. The next Jackpots meeting will be on Saturday, May 9, 2009, at 9:30 a.m. at Hugo's Cellar at the Four Queens Hotel/Casino.

"The happiest people don't necessarily have the best of everything.

They just make the best of everything."

--Anonymous



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF U.S. POST 1278

Police and fire fighters looking for members. Must have overseas wartime service!

Annual Dues \$35.00

For information contact:

Robert Siedlik at (734) 953-8558 or robr1278@gmail.com



Bob Blickensdorf
*Retired Chief of Police
Madison Heights Police Dept.*

Wanted: Detroit Police Memorabilia

Seeking old badges, photographs, call boxes, equipment from the Detroit Police Department

1745 Castlewood • Madison Heights, MI 48071
(248) 589-9980 • Email: blick068@hotmail.com



ARIZONA ROADRUNNERS

Pat Engle

Due to the lack of interest, there will be no article for this issue of the Unity.

DEATH OF MEMBER FAMILY ASSISTANCE PROCEDURE

Communications vary whether member was Police, Fire, or Sergeant and above. If you are Police make your first call to the Detroit Police Benefit & Protective Association, (313) 870-9301. Followed by either a call to the Detroit Police Officer Association, (313) 567-8770, or the Lieutenants & Sergeants (313) 961-5699, which ever applies.

While the Detroit Police Benefit & Protective Association will normally contact the City of Detroit with the information it would be reasonable to follow up with a call to the Pension Bureau, (313) 224-3362 or 1 (800) 339-8344 and Human Resources (313) 224-4809 or 1 (888) 288-2684 to make sure that they were notified. Last but not least, notify the Retired Detroit Police & Fire Fighters Association, (586) 795-1734.

Fire employees, start by notifying the Detroit Fire Fighter Association, (313) 962-7546, the Detroit Firemen's Fund Association, (313) 961-2988 or 1 (877) 961-2988, Detroit Fire Mutual Fund, (313) 962-4595, and the Detroit Pension Bureau, (313) 224-3362 or 1 (800) 339-8344.

The above agencies will assist you with the notification process. It would be a good idea to put this information with your secured legal documents or some other obvious place where your survivors can locate it.

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

CHAPTER 154 • MT. CLEMENS, MI

P.O. Box 1114

Mt. Clemens, MI 48046-1114



"Veterans Helping Veterans"

VETERAN'S SUPPORT CENTER

16945 12 Mile Road • Roseville, MI 48066

Chapter Office: (586) 776-9810

Fax: (586) 776-9683

9th ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONVENTION SEPTEMBER 21 – 25, 2009

Planet Hollywood

(A 5-star resort located in the center of the strip)

**COST \$550.00 PER PERSON BASED ON
DOUBLE OCCUPANCY**

Price Includes:

- Round trip air • Hotel • Transfers and baggage handling • Private dinner and cocktail party • Hospitality Room • and much more!

**You can download a sign-up form on our web-site
by clicking on the "Event Calendar"
or call our office for further information!**

**If you plan on attending, keep in mind that space
is limited so make your selection early.**

**Please make checks payable to
"PFF Educational Fund"**

**Also, please note that final payments are due
prior to July 1, 2009.**

**Be sure to print your name on the sign-up form as it
appears on your ID.**



MICHIGAN Neurosurgical Institute

**4620 Genesys Parkway
Grand Blanc, MI 48439**

Phone (810) 606-7200

Fax (810) 606-7115

www.michneurosurgical.com

Avery Jackson III, M.D.

Board Certified Neurosurgeon

Grandfather and Father Retired DPD



The Michigan Neurosurgical Institute, P.C. is an institution dedicated to personal, individualized care of patients with spine and brain conditions. We treat all spine disorders, no matter how simple or complex. We always emphasize non-surgical treatment as the first option. We also put emphasis on patient education and participation in a care delivery model.

Dr. Avery M. Jackson, III, Director of the Michigan Neurosurgical Institute, completed a Neurosurgical Complex Spine Fellowship at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Dr. Jackson has extensive training in complex spinal cases, brain and spine tumors, head and spine trauma, vertebroplasty, kyphoplasty and minimally invasive surgery.

EYE CARE UPDATE 2009

Metropolitan Eye Center, also home of Lakeshore Eye Surgery Center, will always provide the latest and safest treatments available for our patients. As a full-service Eye Center, and State licensed Surgery Center, with an on-site Optical Studio, you can be assured we will do whatever we can to make your vision the best it can possibly be. Here are just *some* services we provide.

VITAMINS

According to the Seddon Harvard University study, Lutein and Zeaxanthin have been correlated to a 43% lower prevalence of Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD). Lutein protects the retina by functioning as an antioxidant and by blocking harmful ultraviolet radiation that can damage the delicate macular tissue.

Antioxidants from Vitamin C, Vitamin E, Zinc, and Selenium have been shown to stabilize and prevent further progression of AMD. Patients who have already developed the disease are encouraged to take a vitamin with high doses of Lutein and antioxidants to minimize further loss of vision. Vitamin supplements designed specifically for the eye (MaxiVision) are available in our Optical Studio. Specific dietary components, particularly the carotenoids found in dark green leafy vegetables have shown great promise in reducing the incidence of AMD. Vitamin supplements are readily absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract resulting in increased blood serum levels and macular pigment density. Omega3 supplements available in purified fish oil enhance the beneficial effects of these vitamins. High concentration pharmaceutical-grade supplements are recommended for optimum effect. These supplements are also available in our optical studio.



CATARACTS AND MULTIFOCAL LENS IMPLANTS

If you believe you may have a cataract, don't worry. Every year, 3 million Americans have cataract surgery. Modern cataract surgery has developed into one of the safest, most successful and most patient 'friendly' surgical procedures available. The improvement to your vision can be life changing. With the latest advancements in multifocal lens implant technology, we are able to offer even more dramatic vision changes to improve not only your distance vision, but also your intermediate and near vision, as well. In some cases, bifocal intraocular lens implants can reduce the need for reading glasses after surgery. It is quick and painless and almost always results in a dramatic improvement in vision for the patient. That's good news since

cataracts are a normal part of the aging process!

The first step is to have a complete eye examination and determine what type of implant is right for you!

GLAUCOMA TREATMENT

It is estimated that almost 50% of people who have glaucoma don't even know they have it because they have not had a comprehensive eye exam. The pressure in the eye is usually elevated in patients with glaucoma, but there is no pain or visual loss until it is too late. Left untreated, vision gradually declines and eventual blindness will result.

Fortunately, glaucoma can be detected by your doctor during your comprehensive eye exam. Early treatment can prevent visual loss. Advances in treatment include new eye drops called prostaglandins and a revolutionary new laser treatment called SLT. Using SLT to treat glaucoma, doctors can eliminate the need for eye drops in some cases! You have a higher than normal risk for glaucoma if you are African American, have a family history of glaucoma, or had an eye trauma. For more information, go to our website, or call for an appointment.

LASER VISION CORRECTION

We are delighted to be using the Bausch & Lomb Zyoptix™ Personalized Laser Vision Correction System for the treatment of nearsightedness and astigmatism. This revolutionary technology is enhanced by the use of an additional space-age laser, INTRALASE[®] that creates the LASIK flap without the use of a blade. We call this 'High Definition Vision'! The advanced diagnostic system used analyzes thousand of data points across the entire eye - to produce a personalized vision treatment plan.

By using the B&L Zyoptix System for traditional LASIK or PRK, our doctors are able to treat most patients who desire to eliminate or reduce their need for glasses.

The good news is that the LASIK procedure *may be* covered by U.S. Health and Life for current and retired Detroit Police and Fire Fighters.

NEARVISION CK

Are you at least 45 years old? Have you had good vision all of your life without glasses? Would you like to eliminate your reading glasses most of the time? If you answered yes to all of these questions, then you may be a candidate for NearVision CK. CK is an exciting advancement in vision correction because it is a simple, painless procedure that uses radiofrequency (RF) energy instead of a laser. To find out more about NearVision CK, contact our office at 800/774-7565.

CALL TODAY

Our doctors are experts in all conditions of the eye and look forward to helping you protect your most precious gift of sight!



586/774-0393 • 800/774-7565
Shorepointe Optical Studio - 586/774-9320
WWW.METROPOLITANEYECENTER.COM

**RETIRED DETROIT POLICE & FIRE
FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION, INC.**

2525 E. Fourteen Mile Road
Sterling Heights, Michigan 48310-5969
(586) 795-1734

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Detroit, Michigan
Permit No. 2060



**Kolping Park
June 27, 2009**

New Name, Same Great Service

Detroit Municipal Credit Union is now
Detroit Metropolitan Credit Union

We've changed our name, but not our standards. We are still the same great Credit Union that our members have come to trust for *all* their financial needs. But now we're serving the *whole* community. So spread the word to friends and neighbors—now they can enjoy the same great products and services that have kept our members coming back for 80 years!

Membership is Now Open to:

All residents who live, work or worship
in Wayne, Oakland and
Macomb Counties.



NCUA



**DETROIT METROPOLITAN
CREDIT UNION**

1480 E. Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, MI 48207 • Phone 313-568-5000 • Fax 313-568-6170
Mon 8:00 - 4:30 • Tues - Thur 8:30 - 4:30 • Fri 8:00 - 6:00
CU[®]Talk 800-860-5704 • CU Identification # 166 • Routing and Transit # 272078297