



UNITY

THRU STRENGTH AND PURPOSE



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

Volume 93, September 2008

EDITORIAL

In many of our past issues of UNITY, we have attempted to stress the important activities that are and will be confronting our membership now and in the future. One of course, deals with Hospitalization and the "Open Enrollment" program. Currently it is unknown when that program will be announced and how long will the membership have to respond. Hopefully our membership, including those living outside Michigan, be afforded the time needed for the mail to reach them and their responses returned in the allotted time.



PRESIDENT

Don Taylor

Summer has come and gone, and we are still waiting for a decision on our healthcare lawsuit. I know this is beginning to sound like a broken record, but our attorney Chris Legghio says we are very close to having finalized the agreement. As soon as the agreement is released we will notify everyone of the decision.

The mailing, along with the details of the agreement, will include your new membership card. We will also enclose the dues request form for 2009, for those members that are not having their dues deducted from their pension checks.

The court case regarding the 75 million dollars of our pension money has its' first court date set for September 26, in front of Chief Judge William Giovan. The Judge will be hearing arguments regarding the superintending Control portion of the Lawsuit. Briefs regarding this case are due by the end of September.

The active unions have notified our attorney Mike Stefani that they intend to file counter lawsuits against our Association. In which they will claim that we have no grounds for our action against them. We have no intention of backing off our case. As a matter of fact we are looking into the possibility of adding additional charges. Stay tuned, we will keep you posted.

We are moving forward with our efforts to form a state wide retiree organization. We have met with leaders of the Retired State Troopers Association, and have been in contact with representatives of Oakland County Sheriffs, Dearborn and Warren. I also spoke with the President of the newly formed Retired Police

(continued on page 6)



VICE PRESIDENT

Gregory Trozak


It is hard to believe that summer has ended and the September General Meeting is over and in the books. The meeting was held at the east side location and we had another great turnout. At this meeting everyone was brought up to date on our pending litigations. Also approved by the members at this meeting were changes made to our Constitution and By-laws. Over the summer months our attorney, Bob Buydens, worked on and re-wrote the Constitution and By-laws of our Association to conform to the law allowing us to continue our non-profit status. This along with recommendations made by the By-law Committee and approved by the Board of Directors will now take effect. The

Constitution and By-laws will be posted on our website in the near future.

The picnic and golf outing were successful though the attendance for the picnic was down quite a few from last year. It may have had something to do with the price of gas and they did predict a shower for the afternoon. We did get a brief rain fall but as always there was plenty of good food and refreshments for everyone. A great big thank you and job well done to Kenny Gidner, Max Lemaux and his crew for another outstanding picnic. Thanks guys and gals. A suggestion was made to explore the possibility of having a east side picnic if a location could be found who could handle a group the size of ours. That suggestion will be noted and will start our search. The golf outing was one of the best ever, we had a great turnout and the weather was fantastic. Thanks to Al Grant, Jack Devoy and all the volunteers for a great outing. By the time you read this the Educational Conference in Las Vegas will have concluded and I am sure that was as successful as all the other events we have had. The Association will continue to offer as many functions and information as possible. If anyone has any suggestions or ideas please feel free to let us know.

The updating of the office computer system continues, the new program for the data base has been installed and the few problems we have found are in the process of being resolved.

(continued on page 7)



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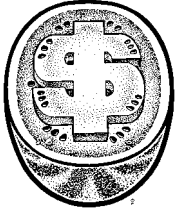
Retired Detroit Police & Fire Fighters Association Inc.
 2525 E. Fourteen Mile Road • Sterling Heights, MI 48310-5969
 (586) 795-1734 • Fax (586) 795-2183
 Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m till 3:00 p.m.



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**PENSION
CHAIRMAN**
Gregory Trozak

We knew it was coming we just did not know when. Well it happened, the Mayor is gone and I'm sure the structure of the Pension Board is going to change. The seats on the Board including the Chief, City Treasurer, Fire Commissioner, and the Mayor's representative may all be replaced by the new Administration. It will be interesting to see what changes take place and how the newly designated will affect the systems day to day operations.

In my last article I attempted to explain the agreement between the City, Unions and the resolution passed by the Pension Board allowing the City to forgo annual payments of \$25,000,000.00 for (3) years. It seems some members have taken my comments in the wrong way. In the article I tried to explain my personal feelings concerning the active unions attempt to gain benefits for their members. Again I will say that I wish the active unions all the best in negotiating benefits for their members, we all remember the struggles the unions experienced while we worked for the City during contract negotiations. As I attempted to explain, when the agreement the unions and city reach affect monies not being placed in our pension fund, this has a direct impact on our members and our pensions. This is the reason the Association took legal action and we will continue to use any means necessary to protect our rights and safeguard our pensions. I hope this answers any question members may have, if not feel free to give me a call at the office.

There is nothing new on the construction of the new offices for the pension systems. The new site will be the E. Jefferson location and the two (2) systems, General and Police and Fire, are continuing to meet and hammer out the details. With the possible new makeup of the two (2) boards maybe things will move along a little smoother.

In the next few weeks we will see if any changes are made and I will make sure everyone is updated and by the time the next UNITY goes to press more information will be known. Until the next time take care and if you have any problems or questions please give the office a call.

**Detroit Police Benefit and
Protective Association**
(Note new phone numbers!)

New Center One Bldg.
3031 W. Grand Blvd. Suite 405
Detroit, Michigan 48202-3023
313-870-9301 Fax 313-870-9330
Office hours are M-F 7am – 3pm,
Closed for lunch 11:30 – 12:00

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
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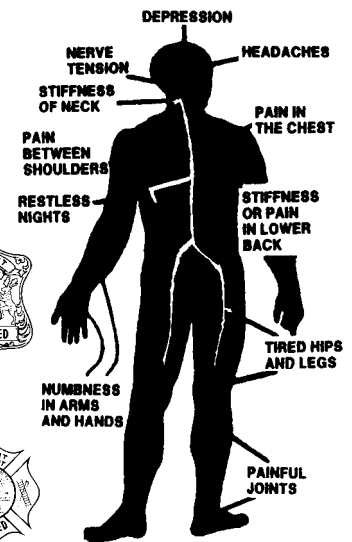
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Next to Dunkin Donuts)
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Southwest Detroit	Northwest Detroit	Dearborn
Dr. Tom Moses	Dr. Tom Moses	Dr. Tom Moses
6807 W. Vernor	14243 W. Eight Mile	6549 Schaefer
313-843-5433	313-342-5433	313-582-5433

Hospitalization

John Devoy

As the weeks and months drift by we seem to be no nearer a solution to the Health Care Case. Retirees continue to pay and pay with no relief in sight. Every time the situation is mentioned the answer is always, have patience the decision is just around the corner. The big question is which corner?

All Retirees are concerned about the final decision and how it will effect their coverage. What choices do they have? When will it become official? All these questions are good ones and must be addressed. Every day this decision is delayed, we the Retiree's, are losing monies from our pension checks. I think that all of us believe that it is the intent to take advantage of the Retirees, no matter what Retired group you may belong to.

I also must inform you that your Association is doing its utmost to finalize this problem. Our Attorney is there, as is our Executive Board. We are, as an Association, doing everything we can do to get a final, favorable decision.

Just recently a new problem has come up in regards to our Health coverage. Some Hospitals, Clinics, etc., have attempted to collect, in advance, a front end deductible when using their facilities.

If you become involved in one of these problems, insist that they call the 1 (800) 951-2583 number on the back of your Blue Cross card.

For those on U.S. Health, or COPS Trust, call 1 (586) 693-4380 or outside Michigan, call 1 (800) 225-9674, to verify your coverage.

Police and Fire coverages do not have a front end deductible clause. Be alert for this!!!

Please remember, your Association membership meetings are as follows - September - east side - October - west side. The location changes from east to west every other month.

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.

- | | |
|---|--|
| Robert A. Buyse | Thaddeus G. Kosmowski
<i>in memory of Albin Kosmowski</i> |
| Joyce Carter <i>in memory of James & Thomas Carter</i> | Michael Martin <i>in memory of Alma & Donald Phipps</i> |
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| Melbourne J. Hynes II | Charles T. Weir <i>in memory of Charles Weir Sr.</i> |
| Irene Kalinowski <i>in memory of Stanley Kalinskowski</i> | Kathleen V. Worden <i>in memory of Edward Worden</i> |
| Dale Killeen <i>in memory of John Killeen</i> | |
| Donald G. Knobelsdorf | |
| Jean Kocis <i>in memory of 24th Anniversary Robert D. Kocis</i> | |

Welcome New Members!

June

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| Amos, Mark | Fechser, Gene |
| Autrey, John | |

July

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Garrigan, Robert | Routin, Kennett |
| Hicks, Jr. Edgar | Saunders, Tony |
| McNeill, Aleda | Simon, Gerard |
| Pawl, Lawrence | Singleton, Evan |
| Plonkey, Joseph | Wright, Joseph |

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.

Motor City Casino Lower Level Buffet

2901 Grand River Ave., Detroit, MI

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

Grand River Grill, 2394 Grand River, Brighton, MI

Exit 145 off of I96

ASSOCIATION CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

NEW!

General Membership Meeting Schedule

SEPTEMBER 2008 - JUNE 2009

THURSDAY AT 7 PM

EAST SIDE/AMERICAN POLISH CENTURY CLUB

33204 Maple Lane - Sterling Heights, Michigan

Nov. 6 • Jan. 8 • Mar. 5 • May 7

WEST SIDE/MONAGHAN K OF C HALL

19801 Farmington Rd. - Livonia, Michigan

Oct. 2 • Dec. 4 • Feb. 5 • Apr. 2 • June 4

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*

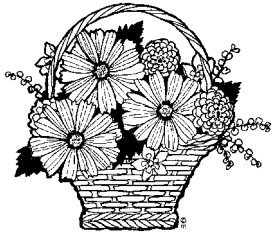
Refer to column for next meeting's location.

Arizona Roadrunners*

Members will be notified of
time and place by mail

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

**Articles for the November, 2008
Issue should be “submitted” by
October 15, 2008**



ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

(Surviving Spouses)

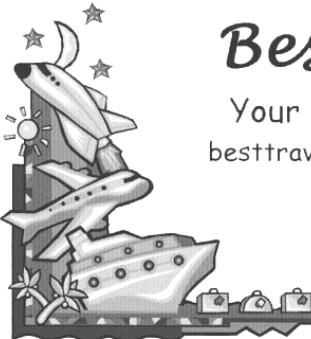
Fern Garner

On August 22, 2008, 14 of the East Side Ladies attended the Memorial Mass for June Tullock. June was one of the original members when the group was formed 16 years ago. She was very active and wore many hats, but will long be remembered as the activity co-ordinator who would plan many varied outings, and short day trips. Of course she was always looking for suggestions from our membership. She welcomed the input and there were others who would plan activities too.

She also served as President for two years and did an admirable job both in organizing and conducting the meetings. She had a passion for detail and followed through on any activity she was involved with. It was a long standing known fact that she was always very fastidious about her hair being just so, and at the funeral one of her grandsons made mention of it during a trip to Niagara Falls. These are the little personal things you remember about someone which are unique to each individual.

This is the first time in all the years that I have been writing this column that I have personalized it, but it is with a purpose. It is intended to show those police and fire widows how closely knit a group the Silver Ladies are. Much as the active and retired men have always attended funerals of deceased fellow officers and fire fighters, we who are steeped in that tradition do the same.

So, we welcome any police or fire widow our friendship in the tradition our spouses embraced. Come join, or just come visit us for information, at one of the monthly meetings. See Calendar of Events box in this issue for time and place.



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Luann Lejeune
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PRESIDENT *(continued from page 1)*

and Fire Fighters Association of Lincoln Park. All have expressed an interest in a State Organization. But we still need your assistance in this effort, if you come in contact with or know any retired Police or Fire Fighters from other organizations, please ask them to give us a call at the office.

We are also moving forward on our lobbying efforts. Our Lobbyists, Tim Ward of Michigan Legislative Consultants attended the General meeting on September 4th to update the membership on our lobbying efforts. We will be looking into the possibility of presenting legislation in Lansing to protect our rights and prevent legislation that would have a negative effect on our membership.

In our Lobbying efforts we need your assistance; we can not use general funds for P.A.C. donations. So to those that have already donated we Thank You, and for the rest we ask for your support.

That's it for now, stay in touch, monitor the Web-site and check your E-mails for updates.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS!

Oakwood Healthcare Systems will again administer flu and pneumonia shots at our General Membership meeting on December 4, 2008 beginning at 6:00 P.M.

COST

Flue Shots – \$25 • Pneumonia – \$40
(Cash or Checks only)

The shots are available **free of charge to all participants who have Medicare Part B. Medicare card must be presented to receive the Medicare Benefit. No other insurance will be accepted.**



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	Dept.	Rank	Date of Death
Barnosky Paul J.	Police	P.O.	6/21/2008
Black Robert W.	Police	P.O.	7/25/2008
Choiniere Paul F.	Police	Insp.	7/26/2008
Closurdo Lawrence	Police	P.O.	7/13/2008
Evans Raychelle N.	Police	P.O.	6/6/2008
Harrison Harold J.	Police	Sgt.	6/5/2008
Hayes Harold A.	Fire	Capt.	6/6/2008
Johnson Norman A.	Police	Lt.	6/21/2008
Karpowski Patrick J.	Police	Sgt.	6/3/2008
Lohmeier Lester J.	Police	Insp.	7/2/2008
McQueen Edward	Police	P.O.	7/5/2008
Pehrson James	Police	P.O.	3/10/2008
Pionk Marvin E.	Police	P.O.	6/29/2008
Rademaker Clarence J.	Police	P.O.	7/26/2008
Rohn Edward A.	Police	Cmdr.	6/17/2008
Rose Hugh M.	Fire	Lt.	7/28/2008
Selasky Leo G.	Fire	Chief	7/14/2008
Shock Nicholas	Police	P.O.	7/30/2008
Spauding Robert E.	Police	P.O.	6/9/2008
Stafford Harvey	Police	P.O.	7/10/2008
Tessier Arthur L.	Fire	Capt.	6/27/2008
Tuljus Francis J.	Fire	FF	6/15/2008
Tyler Joseph	Police	P.O.	7/24/2008
Van DeVoort John	Fire	Chief	6/16/2008
Viglietti Achilles A.	Police	Sgt.	6/19/2008
Wallace Joseph A.	Police	P.O.	6/26/2008
Watt John M.	Police	P.O.	6/4/2008
Webb John A.	Fire	FEO	6/13/2008
Yanik August J.	Police	Lt.	7/25/2008

VICE PRESIDENT *(continued from page 2)*

The Association in an attempt to assist the process of members signing in at the general meetings will explore a method of identifying our members with a scanning system. This should speed the occasional backup at the door and help in identifying non-members or those who have been delinquent.

With 2009 just around the corner the dues renewals will begin for everyone that is not enrolled in the payroll deduction plan, again this year we will be putting the payroll deduction forms in with the renewal notice and request that members consider enrolling in the plan. This is a savings to the Association and to the member.

Just a reminder, we will continue to alternate General Meeting locations from month to month. This change seems to be received well with our members and it allows all of our local members to become more informed. Remember just because the meetings change location each month everyone is encouraged to attend all the meetings whether they are on the east or west side.

Until the next time, take care and if you have any questions or concerns give the office a call.

Detroit Police Department
Retired Badges

Silver – \$30.00 EA.*  Gold – \$40.00 EA.*

Available to R.D.P.F.F.A. Members
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(313) 527-3914

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Members Letters

R.D.P.F.F.A.:

From: Retired Detroit Police and Fire Club of Florida.

At our May meeting of the Florida Retirees, the members voted unanimously to send a check to our parent organization, the retired Detroit Police and Fire Fighters Association.

This check may be used in any manner that the Association feels necessary. Our club is so grateful for all the time and work that all of you do to protect the rights of us her in Florida! We are proud of you and thank you for everything you do!!

Dolores Larsen, Treasurer.

R.D.P.F.F.A.:

I apologize for this payment being late. My wife had a bad stroke and it's been very hard keeping up with everything.

Please accept a small contribution with my dues, I wish it could be more.

As always it's great having a voice so we are kept informed of very important issues to the retirees and knowing you are right there fighting for us.

Thanks for All Your Hard Work
Jim Wirth

R.D.P.F.F.A.:

I last paid dues in 2003. Life just got away from me. Would you please accept my enclosed check and allow me to join the Association?

If so, please apply my check for 2009 membership dues.

Thank you,
Gail Bach

R.D.P.F.F.A.:

I am enclosing a check for my dues and an extra check, to use as you see fit.

Your dedication, that benefits us all, is deeply appreciated.

Thank you,
Shirley Doucette

R.D.P.F.F.A.:

Thank you so much and God bless you for watching over the interest of retired Police & Fire families.

Sincerely,
Wayne R. Schick

Hey guys:

Sorry for the late dues, but here they are. Also I included a little extra. Thought it might help at least pick up the cost of postage for the "Unity" that you mail me here in Canada. Keep up the great work you are doing for us.

Thanks,
William J. Wolff Jr.

R.D.P.F.F.A.:

Enclosed is a check to appreciate your efforts on behalf of retirees. Use it any way you feel is most helpful.

Sincerely,
Phyllis Gotelaere

Dear Retired Detroit Police Officers:

I have been going to send you a check for quite some time now but just didn't get to it. I just wanted to say thank you for all the advice you have given me over the years – especially since my husband passed away.

Edward Worden became a Detroit Police Officer in the year of 1949 and retired in 1974. He was a good man, husband and father.

Edward passed away in 1998. I would like to give this gift of money in his memory and it

Members Letters *(continued)*

is a way of saying thanks for all the help you have given me in making decisions about all the mail we get about out health plans, etc.

Thanks again,
Kathleen Worden

R.D.P.F.F.A.:

I would like to express a special “thank you” for all that you do. I realize these are difficult times, trying to hold on to our present benefits and I appreciate all your hard work for us.

Being a member of the RDPFFA has been such a benefit to me. It is reassuring for me to know I can contact you for any questions or problems and they will be answered or resolved. Belonging to the RDPFFA is one of the best “insurance policies” I have.

Many thanks,
Joe Wooley

Retired Detroit Police:

This writer’s dues are paid! I would like to contribute a little more for your appreciated effort.

I was going to state or list the places I worked and what I did etc, when I was an active member of the DPD but then I thought, who cares? Roy Moerschell was a detective at the old #-5 when I was assigned at the same.

Please use this extra check as you see fit. From a thankful member living in the U.P., 180 miles west of the bridge.

Yours truly,
George LaCoursier

R.D.P.F.F.A.

Please use this money where you deem it is needed most. Do not publish my name in the Unity!

Sincerely,
Police Retiree

Dear Brothers:

Thanks for everything and good work on everyone’s behalf.

Jim Hudson

R.D.P.F.F.A.:

Thank you all for your continued service to our Association.

Please use this contribution toward the Political Action Fund.

Rudy Guffrey

R.D.P.F.F.A.:

Please use this donation to help the Political Action Fund.

Thank you for your concern for our Retired families.

Jim & Mary Lou Lasich

ATTN: City of Detroit Police and Fire Fighters

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RETIRED DETROIT POLICE AND FIRE CLUB OF FLORIDA

Nancy Schmidt

Other than a few storms we have been dodging, it's quiet down here. We are looking forward to seeing our Florida friends and Snowbirds at the October 5th, and November 2nd meetings. Speaking of friends, we have lost two of our old and dear friends recently, that I'm sure many of you knew. Norman Johnson, a former member, from Milton, FL died in July of cancer and also Frank Gianotto of Clinton Township, MI passed away September 1st. Just today we heard that Louie Weidner of Michigan, died September 4th. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families. They surely will be missed.

We would also like to send out Get Well Wishes to George Stanbury and Jim Caulfield who have been fighting health problems over the summer. We wish you well guy's and we'll see you in November.

Just a reminder that our October 5th meeting is held at the Brandon Community Center, 502 E. Sadie St., Brandon, Florida. Come and join us for coffee and donuts. Doors open at 11:00 a.m. and the meeting starts at 12:30 p.m..

Dues for October, 2008 to September, 2009 are coming due. If you have any questions, contact Dolores Larsen at 1-727-786-3429.

Don't forget, we are trying to get some Door Prizes, together for the December meeting, so if you have anything that you would like to donate, let me know. I'm sure we have some "crafty" ladies out there. Also, a couple extra prizes will be added to the 50/50 drawing for the November 2nd and December 7th meetings.

I asked last month if anyone had any news or information that they wanted added to the article. Well, advertising works. I got my first call this week from Retired Lt. John Gobetti. Turns out he lives up in Brookville, FL (our neck of the woods). He's 95 years young and has been retired since 1963. John and his wife Helen have been in Florida since 1968. Helen is in a nursing home now and John doesn't do a lot of driving, due to some health problems and has just recently sold his motorcycles. He doesn't get to the meetings anymore. It was great talking with you John, keep in touch.

WOMEN'S DIVISION REUNION LUNCHEON

OCTOBER 18, 2008

12 Noon - 3:00 p.m.

Tavern on 13 Restaurant

17600 W. 13 Mile Road,
east of Southfield Road
(248) 647-7747

COST:

\$23.00 per person

CONTACT:

Barbara Weide (734) 416-9176
or
weidebarbara@sbcglobal.net

*No matter what you've done
for yourself or for humanity,
if you can't look back
on having given love
and attention to your own family,
what have you really accomplished?*

Lee Iacocca



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

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Snowbirds
Dan Zemaitis

Our 14th annual Snowbird Picnic went well in spite of the unsettled weather. Leo and Shirley Haidys drove 3 1/2 hours from Pentwater to attend and won the prize for coming the farthest.

The fun and games and eating and companionship was great again. Lorrannine Dennerly, Lorraine Rudeen and Bill Henahan celebrated August Birthdays at the picnic and Bill and Betty Henahan also celebrated their Anniversary. Also Leo and Shirley Haidys celebrated their 50th Anniversary which I forgot to mention. Sorry folks.

Betty Henahan won the women's putting and Jerry Rozanski won the men's putting. Bev Clayton won the women's Skee Ball and Dan Zemaitis won the men's. Jey won the women's shoe kick and Jerry Rozanski won the men's. Jey and I won the water ballon toss.

Mike and Joann Cherry came early and helped shuck 8 dozen ears of corn and set up. Thanks a lot you two. We had some guests Terry Krzyzanowski, Mary Kennedy and Kathy Summers who I'm sure had a good time. Ellie Barnauskus won the 50-50 money raffe as well as the separate raffle for the Policeman figure giving roll call and also it was a music box. Thanks to Mike Kniaz who ran the raffles again and also made up all new Snowbird Rosters without charging us.

Thanks to my wife Jey who always sends my articles in. Plus don't forget the color change paddle boat trip October. Till next month.

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Westside Silver Ladies

Geri Henningsen

Summer ends, autumn begins and life goes on....a lot faster than it used to!!

CONDOLENCES to our member and friend, Marie McCarthy on the death of her sister and to Christina Rohn on the death of her husband.

THANK YOU from all of us to Colleen Burke, daughter of Martina for preparing a new master list and making copies for all the members.

Our lucky 50/50 winners were Meta Bateson for July and Mary Wagner for August. We, also held a special drawing for \$1. off a meal certificates donated by George at Archie's. Thank You, George. The winners were: Mary Wagner, Meta Bateson, Louise Progar, Gayne Zell, Jo Kozlowski and Shirley Brandt. It may not be much but it's still a good feeling to win.

Last January, the Westside Silver Ladies made a donation to the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy for a brick to be placed along the River Walk. If any of you are in the area, the brick has been placed at the Rivard Plaza in Band C. It reads, "DP&FF Westside Silver Ladies.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Martina Burke - 9/23, Sally Emerick - 9/26, Dorthy Bliss - 10/1, Dolores Tanana - 10/7, Jean Lewis - 10/9, Nancee Hay - 10/12, Theresa Kelley - 10/15, Jo Kozlowski - 10/22 and Dolores Weaver - 10/28.

The RDP&FFA picnic did not get rained out! It turned out to be a great day with delicious food and super prizes. Thank You, Fran Murphy for doing raffle tickets, again along with two members from the Detroit Police Family Association, Hilda Fumerola and Delphine Raska.

Recently, I heard a voice from my past...Chari Burdick. Chari is a former member of the Detroit Police Wives Association. It was great talking to you, Chari.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY; "Why not make the best of things? Any fool can make the worst of them"!!! Charles L. Brombley, Cleric.

Let's meet at Archies!

Geri Henningsen, (734) 335-6778.

The Harvest Moon

Summer has departed, all to soon

Fall has arrived with the harvest moon

The trees will be changing from green to red
Warm breezes gone, now cool ones arrive instead.

Farmers will be harvesting things they've sown
And all the other things they might have grown

From pumpkins to squash, Tomatoes too

And all the other things that they grew.

Now the farmers are planting acres of corn

Because now a new urgency is born

It now is processed to help meet the need

Of the large Automotive hunger to feed.

A farmers life is not easy it's true

A work that's too demanding for me and for you

We gladly accept the fruits of his working

And his difficult duties, never shirking.

The hours are long, from dawn until sunset

Most farmers perform them without regret

Thank God for men and woman like these

They certainly do not have a life of ease.

I'll always remember my days, years past

My youth as a farm hand, gladly didn't last

But I learned a lesson I wouldn't forget

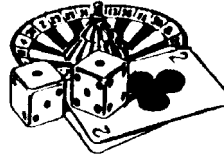
Farming was one of the toughest jobs yet.

By Roy H. Moerschell



Silver Ladies

Carol Curley



NEVADA JACKPOTS

Tom Hulkkonen

Just when we get comfortable with summer living, our weather changes as will the leaves of autumn!

Our July picnic was delicious! Even Helen Malkowski and Marie Johnson came to enjoy the sunny warm day!

Our August meeting at Filippa's Restaurant was rewarding in that Irene Brooks will be our President for another year! Sophie Zielinski our Vice-President, Wilma Fulton, Treasurer and Marie Johnson continuing as our "Sunshine Lady", will also serve us! Carol Curley won the 50/50.

We had a few absences. Among those were Rita Chase, who went to West Virginia to visit her children. Bernice Hall went up north to visit her daughters Clydesdale horse farm. Welma Fulton informed us that she visited June Tullock who is continuing her recovery. Helen Malkowski had a doctor appointment and so it goes. Millie Stone let us know her mother will be 100 years old this August! Charles Master was in our words and prayers for recovery in his retirement.

Happy Birthday wishes in September to: Fern Garner, November to: Rita Chase and Helen Malkowski, and in December to: Jean Graves!

Our lunches are the first Tuesday of every month. If you were thinking of having conversation, laughs, a great meal with no clean-up, call Irene Brooks, 1-(586) 749-8894.

My summer thought:

I've got a thistle by my door
I don't think I like it anymore!

I let it grow so it would show

Its beautiful unusual flowers and
the humming birds that might come

but it's so tall with arms so long when I go by,
it pokes me some.

When friends come over to say "Hi", they lean away
and ask me "Why"?

I explain it was for conversation and laughs but now,
even I am intimidated for more
because this rapturous thistle is blocking my door!

Greeting members,

A short explanation on the delay in the writing this newsletter is necessary. On July 17th my clothes washer flooded my entire house and the ensuing repair and replacement battle with my insurance company is still on going a month later. The walls have been repaired and painted but the flooring is not in so subsequently everything is sitting in the middle of each room. The house is not conducive for doing much in this state.

Nine members attended the July 19th business meeting. As conversation developed around the insurance cost and medical coverage debacle we really did not get a formal meeting going. So, we ate breakfast and continued the discussion. The incredible sell out by the uniforms services unions at the expense of all retirees was discussed. I thought we were all in this together but as the mayor has shown, Detroit is a "get it while you can" city and damn the consequences. Lets hope our lawsuit can right this miscarriage of justice. Be sure to read your copy of the Unity newsletter and use the RDPFFA website to stay abreast of the changes.

There were no volunteers for an August party. Kudos to the Breeds for their last Bunco party, it was really a blast. I know it sometimes difficult to throw a party so we need more volunteers to keep this tradition going.

Ray & Marge Downing celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on September 20th. Congratulations and applause from all those present!

Our 2008 roster has 23 dues paying members and associates. We have lost contact with a lot of previous year members so I will update our roster to reflect the changes. Our treasury has a balance of \$405.00.

I hope you all can attend the next business meeting.

ASSOCIATION OFFICE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT!

Our medical equipment has been depleted and there is a need for wheelchairs and walkers with wheels.

We ask that if you have borrowed any of our medical equipment and have no further need for the items, please return them to the office.



ARIZONA ROADRUNNERS

Al Helquist

All of the members of the ROADRUNNERS would like to take this opportunity to thank CHARLES MASTER for his many years of service as the SECRETARY/FINANCIAL OFFICER of the RDPFFA. It is going to seem funny after all of these years not to see CHARLES sitting in his office upon visiting.

We want to wish both CHARLES and ELSIE nothing but the best and once again, the biggest THANK YOU that we can extend.

Spoke on the telephone with both BOB and DARLENE GREENWALD regarding BOB's progress. BOB has a temporary set back this summer and was forced to be admitted to the

hospital with low sodium level where he remained for about a month.

As of this writing he is now at home and about to resume his acupuncture treatments once again, which have helped.

His Doctor said that he didn't want BOB to travel to LAS VEGAS for the Convention this year so it sounds like that is out, but BOB and DARLENE shall be at the ROADRUNNERS'S meeting in September. We shall be looking forward to seeing them.

The end of JUNE the Wife and I flew to MICHIGAN for the TMU Reunion which was fantastic. There were over ONE HUNDRED in attendance and I didn't see one person without a smile on their face all evening. Including me. A tip-of-the-hat to JIM ORLANDO, TERRY LAURENCELLE and the many - many others who put that function on. It was great.

We shall have a ROADRUNNER meeting in September at the WILD HORSE PASS CASINO and the meeting for NOVEMBER shall be held on Sunday the SIXTEENTH beginning at TWELVE NOON.

Hope to see Y'all in LAS VEGAS at the convention in SEPTEMBER.

In the words of GOETHE: We must always change, renew, rejuvenate ourselves; otherwise we harden.



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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.

AMERICAN LEGION Post 161

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Dominic Cantanzaro

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EYE CARE UPDATE 2008

Metropolitan Eye Center will always provide the latest and safest treatments available for our patients. As a full-service eye 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 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.



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 a thousand of data points across the entire eye - to produce a personalized vision treatment plan.

Whether it's 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.

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



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CATARACTS

If you believe you may have a cataract, don't worry. Every year, some 2.5 million Americans have cataract surgery. Modern cataract surgery has developed into one of the safest, most successful and most patient 'friendly' surgical procedures available. 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!

MULTIFOCAL LENS IMPLANTS

When our patients have cataract surgery, the improvement to their 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. The first step is to have a complete eye examination and determine if this type of implant is right for you!

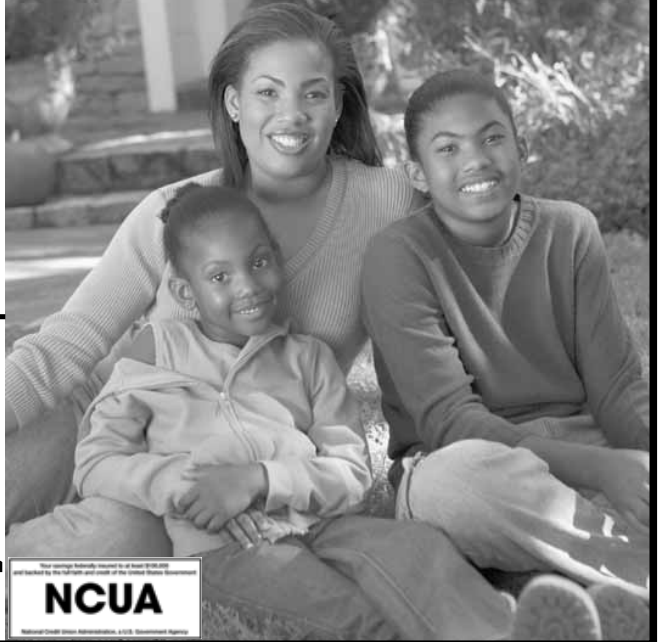
GLAUCOMA TREATMENT

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.

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