



# The Fourword

Volume 41, Number 2

February 2013

## Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #4

does not conduct telephone solicitation.

Citizens and organizations that wish to support Baltimore County Police Officers and their families may send donations to the following funds:

### Police Assistance Relief (PAR Fund)

Please consider helping those who help others. Your tax deductible 501(c) 3 contribution supports police officers and their families when they are most in need.

**Make your check payable to the "PAR Fund",** and mail to  
FOP Lodge 4  
9304 Harford Road  
Baltimore, MD 21234

### Baltimore County Police Memorial Fund

Your tax deductible 501(c) 3 contribution supports the fund which is dedicated to maintain a memorial to honor those officers of the Baltimore County Police Department who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to the community. **Make your check payable to the "Baltimore County Police Memorial Fund",** and mail to FOP Lodge 4, 9304 Harford Road, Baltimore, MD 21234

### Baltimore County Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #4

annually awards eight (8) \$3,000.00 "Fallen Heroes Memorial Scholarships" for the children of Baltimore County Police Officers.

**Make your check payable to "FOP Lodge 4",** and mail to  
9304 Harford Road,  
Baltimore, MD 21234

## Reminder for Retirees at Tax Time

The *Healthcare Enhancement for Local Public Safety (HELPS) Retirees Act* allows a deduction of up to \$3,000 annually for health care and long term care insurance premiums. The federal law went into effect Jan. 1, 2007. The deduction is for the federal income tax return only. More information can be obtained from the Lodge 4 website in the Contracts & Legislation section. Also, IRS publications have information on the topic that refer to pensions of retired public safety officers.



Representing the Professional Police Officers of Baltimore County





**MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 2013**

- The January 2013 General Business Meeting was held on January 28, 2013 at FOP Lodge 4. Vice President Comegna called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Chair of the Board Kenny Schubert gave the invocation. First Vice President Comegna led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

- Chaplain Merkle was sick. All other elected officers and Board members were present. Legal advisor Mike Marshall was also in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

- A motion was made by Brother Grumbach to accept the minutes of the December, 2012 General Membership Meeting. A second was made by Brother King. There was no discussion. The motion passed.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

**~ PRESIDENT WESTON ~**

- December 31 Delivered the New Year's Eve deli platters to the precincts.
- January 4 Attended a fundraiser for Delegate Joe Boteler.
- January 8 Attended the Retired Officers' Association meeting.
- January 9 Addressed the In-Service training class, attended a meeting of the large lodge FOP leaders in Maryland, and met with the leadership of the

Federation of Public Employees union.

- January 11 Attended the promotional ceremony.
  - January 17 Met with First Vice President Steve Comegna to make 2013 committee appointments.
  - January 18 Met with Colonel Burris concerning the County proposed long term modified duty policy. Picked up the County's response concerning the MD Public Information requests for the 25 million dollar loan from the employees' pension system.
  - January 21 Attended the Executive Board of Directors meeting.
  - January 22 Met with Delegate Davis, chairman of the Economic Matters Committee, concerning proposed employee protection on workers compensation claims, and attended a Baltimore County Spending Affordability Committee meeting.
  - January 24 Attended the bi-monthly meeting of Chief Johnson, his bureau chiefs and the Executive Board of Directors of the FOP.
  - January 26 Attended the Maryland State FOP meeting at Lodge #34.
  - January 28 Attended the General Membership meeting.
- ~ 1<sup>st</sup> V. P. COMEGNA ~**
- January 17 Met with President Weston regarding 2013 committee appointments for the Lodge.
  - January 21 Worked at the Lodge office and attended the Executive Board of Directors Meeting.
  - January 24 Attended the bi-monthly meeting between Chief Johnson and the Executive

**LODGE 4 OFFICE**

9304 Harford Road  
Baltimore, Maryland 21234  
Phone (410) 668-0004  
FAX (410) 668-8126  
Toll Free (888) 313-3501  
www.foplodge4.org

**ELECTED OFFICERS**

Cole B. Weston  
**President**  
(443) 956-2679

Steven G. Comegna <b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President</b> <i>PC3 - Traffic</i> (410) 409-0293	David M. Rose <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</b> <i>F.O.P Lodge 4</i> (443) 956-2643
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David J. Folderauer, Sr. <b>Lodge Secretary</b> <i>PC 4 - IST</i> (410) 382-2075	Robert W. Caskey <b>Treasurer</b> <i>CID-Robbery</i> (443) 956-2615
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W. Donald Patterson <b>State Trustee</b> <i>PC12</i>	Anthony DiCara <b>Sergeant at Arms</b> <i>PC12</i>
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Paul A. Merkle <b>Chaplain</b> <i>Retired</i>	L. Timothy Caslin <b>Past President</b> <i>Retired</i>
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**EXECUTIVE BOARD of DIRECTORS**

Kenneth F. Schubert <b>Chairman</b> <i>Retired</i> (410) 416-2800	Mike DiCara <b>Vice Chairman</b> <i>PC 4</i>
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Thomas G. Scally <i>CID - Arson</i>	Louis J. Lagna <i>Retired</i>
Donna Patterson <i>PC12</i>	Patrick Zito <i>PC 7 - Traffic</i>
James P. Rommel, Jr. <i>K9</i>	Ryan Massey <i>CID - Homicide</i>
Joe Caskey <i>CID - Homicide</i>	Kathy Kraemer <i>PC 6</i>

**LODGE STAFF**

Juanita Bouthner—Administrative Assistant  
Nancy Skinner—Administrative Assistant

**LEGAL ADVISORS**

Schlachman, Belsky & Weiner, P.A.  
Phone (410) 685-2022  
IAS Cases Michael Marshall

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*The Fourword* is the official monthly publication of Baltimore County Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 4.

**Fourword Editor**  
Kathryn Greenbeck  
*Precinct 8*

## The Fourword

Board of Directors of F.O.P. Lodge # 4.

- January 26 Attended the quarterly meeting of the Maryland State FOP at Lodge 34.
- January 28 Worked at the Lodge office and attended the General Business Meeting.

### ~2nd V.P. ROSE~

- December 18 Met with attorneys from Schlachman, Belsky and Weiner.
- December 21 Attended the open house at Lodge #34.
- December 31 Delivered New Year's Eve platters to the precincts.
- January 8 Attended the Pension Board of Trustees meeting and the Retired Officers Association meeting.
- January 9 Attended a meeting with several State Lodge representatives.
- January 11 Attended NCIC recertification.
- January 15 & 16 Attended and addressed in-service training.
- January 18 Met with Col Burris in reference to modified duty policy changes.
- January 21 Attended the Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- January 22 Attended Circuit Court for the Stan Siedlecki case and attended the County's Spending Affordability Committee meeting.
- January 23 Addressed in-service training.
- January 24 Attended the Fair Practices meeting and the Executive Board of Directors meeting with Chief Johnson.
- January 26 Attended the quarterly Maryland State FOP meeting at Lodge #34.
- January 28 Attended the General Business meeting.

### SECRETARY FOLDERAUER

- January 21 Worked at the Lodge office and attended the Executive Board of Directors Meeting.
- January 28 Worked at the Lodge office and attended the General Business Meeting.

### ~TRESURER CASKEY~

- Worked at the Lodge on January 13, 21, 27, 28, and 31.
- January 21 Attended the Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- January 26 Attended the Maryland State FOP meeting at Lodge 34.
- January 28 Attended the General Membership meeting.

### STATE TRUSTEE

#### ~Don Patterson~

- January 8 Attended the retirees' meeting.
- January 21 Attended the Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- January 26 Attended Maryland State FOP Board meeting.
- January 28 Attended the General Membership meeting.
- On 1/26/13 I attended the Maryland State Board meeting at Lodge 34. There was much discussion about pending SB281, Firearms Safety Bill. It was determined that the State Lodge would oppose any legislation that violates or hampers our 2nd Amendment rights. There was also discussion on the bill to repeal the death penalty. It was determined that we would support the death penalty and be against repealing it.
- There will be an increase in the state's budget for public safety in the amount of \$27,000,000.
- The National Conference is in August, 2013 in Cincinnati. The 2014 State Conference will be held August, 2014 in Solomon's

## Bereavements

**Retired Brother  
Charles P. Hanke**

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**Retired Brother  
Eugene D. Rohrbaugh**

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**Retired Brother  
Charles J. Jones**

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**Marie Elizabeth Banahan**

**Mother of Brother  
Bill Banahan**

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**Betty Sharron  
Mother of Brother  
Dave Fares**

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**Joseph William Hannon**

**Father of Brother  
Steven Hannon and  
Father-in-Law of  
Sister Lisa Hannon**

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**Theresa R. Conway  
Sister-in-Law of Retired  
Brother Terry R. Conway**

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**George Wakefield, Sr.  
Father of Brother  
George Wakefield, Jr.**

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**Eugene G. Preston, Jr.  
Grandfather of  
Sister Kimberly Hall**

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**Robert B. Hull, Sr.  
Father of Retired Brother  
Robert B. Hull, Jr.**

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**Evelyn Clark  
Mother-in-Law of Brother  
Anthony Shelton**

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**Owen J. O'Neill  
Father of Retired Brother  
Dennis O'Neill and  
Grandfather of Brother  
Hunter Laisure**

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**Joyce Bennington  
Mother-in-Law of  
Brother Pete Grippi**

**42nd Annual  
Bull, Oyster & Shrimp Roast**

**Sunday  
March 24, 2013  
1 p.m. to 6 p.m.**

**Tall Cedars Hall  
Parkville, MD**

**\$35.00 per person  
(Reservations are being accepted)**

**For Tickets & Information  
Contact Lodge 4 at (410) 668-0004**



**HEALTH CARE COMMITTEE**

~Steve Comegna~

- Legislation has been submitted by the Baltimore County Executive, which would recognize the Health Care Review Committee as the official “Bargaining Agent” for healthcare benefits in Baltimore County. The bill also provides a dispute resolution process in case of impasse. We have sent the bill to our labor attorney for review.

**LEGAL ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE**

~Dave Rose~

- On January 18, 2013 FOP Lodge 4 deposited \$410,432.95 awarded in the fee petition for the Blake case. This concludes the Blake case that started in September 2006 when Chief Sheridan ordered him for a medical test after he testified for Brother Phil Crumbacker at a Board of Appeals hearing.
- On January 18, 2013 The Maryland Court of Appeals denied the “Motion for Reconsideration” that was filed by Baltimore County on December 7, 2012 in the Retiree Subsidy case. There are no other avenues for appeal by the County. The Court of Appeals issued an order to the Court of Special Appeals to reverse itself and AFFIRM the Baltimore County Circuit Court and Arbitrator’s decision in favor of the Fraternal Order of Police. When that occurs we can then start working on returning the affected members to their proper health care subsidy that was in place upon retirement and reimbursement for any overpayment.
- The Stanley Siedlecki case was heard in Baltimore County Cir-

Island.

- The next State Board meeting will be held in Ocean City on April 20. There will be a training on April 19 at noon. The training will be on officer safety to reduce line of duty deaths.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD  
OF DIRECTORS REPORT**

~ Kenny Schubert~

- An Executive Board of Directors meeting was held on January 21, 2013. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. Sister Patterson and Brother Lagna were working. All other elected officers and Board members were present. Legal counsel Mike Marshall was also present.
- Motions that were made, after receiving a proper second, were discussed, voted upon, and appear in this issue under the appropriate committee reports.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**DONATION REVIEW**

~Paul Merkle~

- The Donation Review Committee met on January 21, 2013. The following motions came out of the committee.
- Motion to donate \$1000.00 to the Concerns of Police Survivors as National Police Week Badge of Honor Sponsor May 12 – 17, 2013.
- Motion to donate \$250.00 to the St. Baldrick’s Foundation to support the work with children with cancer. Shave-a-thon on March 3, 2013.
- Motion to be a Bronze sponsor at \$1500.00 for the 2013 Baltimore County Police Foundation awards program on Tuesday April 16, 2013.
- Motion to be a Lieutenant sponsor \$500.00 for the 27<sup>th</sup> annual MAAWLE conference being held Mar 24 – 28 , 2013.
- All motions were approved by the Executive Board and by the General Membership.

cuit Court on January 22, 2012 in front of Judge Cox. We are currently waiting for a decision.

- On June 28, 2012 the County filed an appeal to the Court of Special Appeals regarding the Employee Relations Act. This case involves the filing of an Unfair Labor Practice by the FOP when the Kevin Kamenetz administration changed the Absence Control Policy without bargaining with the FOP. County Executive Kamenetz refuses to select an arbitrator as directed by the County Code. Judge Cox ruled that County Executive Kamenetz was in violation of the Employee Relations Act and must select an arbitrator as directed by the County Code. No hearing date has been set.
- The Employee Relations Act case was heard on September 9, 2011 at the Court of Special Appeals. We are still waiting for a decision. Our attorney will be contacting the Court to inquire about the status.
- The Brandt Bradford case was postponed and no reschedule date has been set.
- The James Laboard case is scheduled for Motions on April 12, 2013 and the case has been rescheduled for June 17, 2013 in Baltimore County Circuit.
- We currently have six (6) trial boards scheduled for the first 5 months of 2013 and one (1) that isn't scheduled at this time.

#### **PENSION COMMITTEE**

~Dave Rose~

- The Baltimore County Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees met on January 8, 2013 and approved twenty five (25) total retirements, eight (8)

service, fourteen (14) DROP, two (2) vested and one (1) death in service.

#### **POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE**

~Dave Rose~

The committee received three (3) policies to review this month. There is an issue with one of the policies referencing the lateral entry program as it pertains to salary. The new policy states that "Salary will be determined by the Administrative and Technical Services Bureau Commander after consultation with the Office of Human Resources (OHR)." We believe this is incorrect. Salaries are bargained by the Fraternal Order of Police. I have corresponded with the Strategic Planning Unit Commander and the Administrative and Technical Services Bureau Commander in an attempt to remedy this issue.

#### **POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE**

~Steve Comegna~

The Political Action Committee presented one motion to the Board and the membership this month. That motion is as follows:

- To purchase a \$250.00 sponsorship to a fundraiser being held by Baltimore County Councilman David Marks (District # 5) on Sunday February 17, 2013. The committee vote was unanimous.
- This motion was given to Chairman of the Board Schubert, who "polled" the Executive Board of Directors. The Board also voted to support this motion.
- This report was given the general membership at the January

#### **Association of Baltimore County Retired Police 2013 Meetings**

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April 2, 2013

May 7, 2013

September 3, 2013

November 5, 2013

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All meetings are held at Parkville Heritage Gardens at 7:30 p.m.

General Business Meeting. The general membership also approved this expenditure.

#### **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

- Brother Grumbach advised members that Brother Rick Bradburn's house recently burned down.
- Brother Tony DiCara advised members of the St. Baldrick's Foundation Shave-a-Thon on March 3. Precinct 12 formed a team in memory of Josh Weir. To donate, go to [stbaldricks.org](http://stbaldricks.org) and search for "Baltimore Heroes" and "Team Josh."
- Brother Bob Caskey advised that FOP Lodge 25 is currently conducting a solicitation campaign.
- During the month of January, FOP Lodge #4 sent three (3) cards and/or flower arrangements to bereaving members. Four (4) donations were sent in lieu of flowers at the families' request. Two (2) fruit baskets were sent to members recovering from hospitalizations. Fifteen (15) "thank you" cards were received.
- The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.



The March

**FOP Lodge 4  
GENERAL  
BUSINESS  
MEETING**

will be held on

**Monday,  
March 25, 2013  
7:30 p.m.**

at  
FOP Lodge 4  
9304 Harford Road

The April

**FOP Lodge 4  
GENERAL  
BUSINESS  
MEETING**

will be held on

**Monday,  
April 22, 2013  
7:30 p.m.**

at  
FOP Lodge 4  
9304 Harford Road