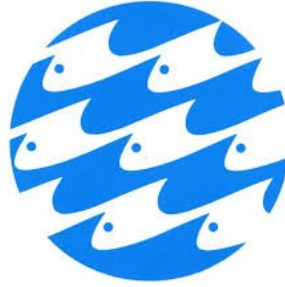




# The Fourword

Volume 47 Number 6

June 2019



## MEMBERSHIP PASSES TO THE NATIONAL AQUARIUM

The Executive Board of Directors of Baltimore County Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge #4 has entered into another one year business partnership under the Corporate Membership program with the National Aquarium. This means we have four transferable passes for use by our members.

If you are interested in using the passes:

You can call or email the Office at (410) 668-0004.

If they are available on the date you have requested they will be reserved for you.

It will be your responsibility to pick up and return the passes.

On the occasions when different members have passes reserved on adjacent dates we ask the parties to communicate and agree upon a drop-off/pickup location for transferring the passes.

Should the passes become lost or stolen while they are in the member's possession we will require the member to pay for the replacement cost.

These passes grant access to the aquarium through the corporate membership entrance which should reduce if not eliminate any waiting in line.

We are pleased to be able to offer this as an additional benefit to the members of FOP Lodge #4.



Representing the Professional Police Officers of Baltimore County





## **MEETING MINUTES May 2019**

- The May General Business meeting was held on May 28, 2019 at FOP Lodge #4. President Weston called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Chaplain DiCara gave the invocation. President Weston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

- Brother Rommel, Sister Kraemer and Brother Graff were excused, all other Officers and Legal Advisor Chaz Ball were in attendance.

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

- A motion was made by Brother King to accept the minutes of the April General Membership Meeting. A second was made by Brother Warnick. There was no discussion. The motion passed.
- The meeting was suspended to allow a guest speaker from Adeo Advocacy Group. She talked about how FOP Lodge #4 is working on improving our image and relationships with the communities our members serve.

## **REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

### **~ PRESIDENT WESTON ~**

- April 23-26– Attended the trial for the murder of Sister Amy Caprio.
- April 24– Addressed the In-

Service Training class.

- April 29– Attended the trial for the murder of Sister Amy Caprio and the Baltimore County Police Foundation Awards Dinner.
- April 30– Attended the trial for the murder of Sister Amy Caprio.
- May 1– Attended the trial for the murder of Sister Amy Caprio.
- May 2– Responded to Shock Trauma in reference to an Officer involved shooting in PC #8.
- May 3– Attended the Healing Hearts reception and the Fallen Heroes Day Service at Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens.
- May 7– Attended the County Executives announcement of Melissa Hyatt to become the next Chief of the Baltimore County Police Department and a meeting of the Association of Retired Baltimore County Police Officers.
- May 8– Addressed the In-Service Training class, attended the insurance and retirement budget presentations to the County Council and attended a fundraiser for Councilwoman Bevins.
- May 10– Attended the Baltimore County Police Department Memorial Service and the reception hosted by FOP Lodge #4.
- May 14– Attended the Pension Board of Trustees meeting.
- May 20– Attended meetings of the Political Action and Legal Advisory Committees and the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors.
- May 21– Addressed the Baltimore County (General Employees) Retirees Association meeting.

## **LODGE 4 OFFICE**

9304 Harford Road  
Baltimore, Maryland 21234  
Phone (410) 668-0004  
FAX (410) 668-8126  
Toll Free (888) 313-3501  
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## **ELECTED OFFICERS**

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

Steven G. Comegna  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**  
*F.O.P. Lodge 4*  
(410) 409-0293

David M. Rose  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**  
*F.O.P. Lodge 4*  
(443) 956-2643

Donna M. Patterson  
**Lodge Secretary**  
*PC-12*  
(410) 365-8481

Robert W. Caskey  
**Treasurer**  
*CIB-Robbery*  
(443) 956-2615

W. Don Patterson  
**State Trustee**  
*Retired*

Ryan Massey  
**Sergeant at Arms**  
*CIB - Homicide*

Anthony DiCara  
**Chaplain**  
*Training*

L. Timothy Caslin  
**Past President**  
*Retired*

## **EXECUTIVE BOARD of DIRECTORS**

Kenneth F. Schubert  
**Chairman**  
*Retired*  
(410) 404-2788

Mike DiCara  
**Vice Chairman**  
*PC-4*

Thomas G. Scally  
*Retired*  
David Sweren  
*PC-4*  
James P. Rommel, Jr.  
*Retired*  
Robert Graff  
*PC-6*

Kathy Kraemer  
*PC-6*  
Chris Hodnicki  
*CIB-GET*  
Ryan Franks  
*CIB-Arson*  
Justin Warnick  
*CIB-RATT*

## **LODGE STAFF**

Nancy Skinner—Administrative Assistant

## **LEGAL ADVISORS**

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

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

**Fourword Editors**  
Don Patterson

## *The Fourword*

- May 22– Addressed the In-Service Training class.
- May 23– Attended the Baltimore County Council Budget Adoption.
- May 24– Attended a meeting with the Deputy County Administrative Officer, the Director of the Office of Human Resources, and the Police Department's representatives concerning our Unfair Labor Practice complaint about changing the process for both promotional and selection drafts.
- May 28– Attended the County Council work session and chaired the FOP Lodge #4 General Membership meeting.

### **1<sup>st</sup> V. P. COMEGNA ~**

- April 23– Visited Precinct #3 and conducted voting on the Memorandum of Understanding.
- April 24 – Visited Precinct #3 and Precinct #4 and conducted voting for the Memorandum of Understanding.
- April 30 – Met with two members from the employment section and discussed our new hire's benefit package.
- May 1 – Attended the viewing for Brother Rommel's grandmother and an event for Baltimore County Executive John Olszewski, Jr.
- May 2 – Responded to Precinct #8 in response to an officer involved shooting and a wounded officer.
- May 3 – Attended Precinct #8, Shift 2 roll call.
- May 5-6– Attended the 3rd Annual CIT Maryland Conference.
- May 7– Attended the meeting of the Association of Retired Baltimore County Police Officers.
- May 10– Attended the Baltimore County Police Memorial Day

program in Towson and the reception hosted by FOP Lodge #4.

- May 13– Met with Rich DeNardi from Nationwide Retirement Solutions to discuss the possibility of our members deferring a portion of the back pay from the 6.1 c settlement.
- May 15– Addressed the In-Service Training class.
- May 16– Attended the monthly meeting of the Baltimore County Police Assistance and Relief Fund and Chief Sheridan's budget presentation to the County Council.
- May 20– Attended meetings of the Political Action and Legal Advisory Committees and the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors.
- May 23– Attended the Baltimore County Council's Budget Adoption meeting.
- May 28– Participated in the PAR Fund's Golf Tournament and attended the Lodge #4 General Membership meeting.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> V. P. ROSE~**

- April 23– Attended Precinct #1 afternoon roll call and conducted voting for the Memorandum of Understanding.
- April 24– Attended Precinct #1 midnight roll call and conducted voting for the Memorandum of Understanding, met with a member to discuss retirement options and addressed the In-Service Training class.
- April 25– Attended the trial for the murder of Sister Amy Caprio.
- April 26– Attended the trial for the murder of Sister Amy Caprio.
- April 29– Attended the Baltimore County Police Foundation Awards Dinner.

- April 30– Met with members of the Recruitment Unit to discuss the new pay scale and military recruitment and attended a County Budget meeting.
- May 1– Addressed the In-Service Training class and attended a fundraiser for County Executive John Olszewski, Jr.
- May 2– Responded to Shock Trauma in reference to the officer involved shooting in Precinct #8.
- May 3– Attended the 34th Annual Fallen Heroes Day ceremony at Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens.
- May 6– Met with a member to discuss a possible grievance.
- May 7– Attended the meeting of the Association of Retired Baltimore County Police Officers.
- May 8– Attended the County Council Budget meeting about retirement and insurance and a fundraiser for Councilwoman Bevin.
- May 10– Attended the Baltimore County Police Memorial Ceremony and the reception hosted by FOP Lodge #4.
- May 14– Attended the Pension Board of Trustees meeting.
- May 15– Met with a member to discuss a grievance and a member to discuss retirement options.
- May 16– Attended a supplemental benefits presentation at County Office of Human Resources and Chief Sheridan's presentation of the budget to County Council.
- May 20– Chaired a Legal Advisory Committee meeting and attended the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- May 21– Attended a meeting of Baltimore County (General Employees) Retirement Associa-

tion.

- May 22– Met with a member to discuss retirement options and Colonel McCullough to discuss the Body Worn Camera policy.
- May 23– Attended the County Council Budget Adoption.
- May 24– Met with Deputy County Administrative Officer in an attempt to resolve the Promotion Draft Unfair Labor Practice.
- May 28– Attended the County Council work session, the confirmation hearing for the new Chief of Police, and the FOP Lodge #4 General Membership meeting.

#### **SECRETARY PATTERSON**

- April 29– Attended the Baltimore County Police Foundation Awards Dinner.
- May 5-6– Attended the 3rd Annual CIT Maryland Conference.
- May 7– Attended the meeting of the Association of Retired Baltimore County Police Officers.
- May 10– Hosted the reception at Lodge #4 following the Baltimore County Police Memorial Service.
- May 20– Attended a meeting of the Legal Advisory Committee and the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors.
- May 21-23– Attended In-Service Training.
- May 28– Attended the Lodge #4 General Membership meeting.

#### **~TREASURER CASKEY~**

- At the May General Membership meeting, Treasurer Caskey reported the finances of the Lodge.

**RETIREMENTS**  
**Linda Mabry**  
**Brian Cates**

#### **~TRUSTEE PATTERSON~**

- April 29– Attended the Baltimore County Police Foundation Awards Dinner.
- May 5-6– Attended the 3rd Annual CIT Maryland Conference.
- May 7– Attended the meeting of the Association of Retired Baltimore County Police Officers.
- May 10– Hosted the reception at FOP Lodge #4 following the Baltimore County Police Memorial Service.
- May 20– Attended the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- May 28– Participated in the PAR Fund golf tournament and attended the Lodge #4 General Membership meeting.

#### **EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT**

**~ Ken Schubert~**

- An Executive Board of Directors meeting was held May 20, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm. Brother Scally, Brother Sweren, and Brother Hodnicki were working. All other board members were in attendance as was Legal Advisor Mike Davey.
- 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 COMMITTEE**

**~Ryan Franks~**

- The Donation Review Committee met and brought forth the following motions which passed.

- To donate \$1,500.00 to the Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run to defray costs of lunch at the Public Safety Building.
- To donate \$100.00 to the Huntington's Disease Team Hope Walk being held at UMBC on June 8, 2019 for awareness and research.
- To donate \$300.00 to the 2nd Annual Amy's Ride and Run event honoring Sister Amy Caprio.
- To donate \$300.00 to the Towson University Student Science Organization.
- To purchase a table for \$450.00 for the GBMC Safe Domestic Violence Program's 5th Annual Bull Roast on June 8, 2019.
- To donate \$150.00 for the silent auction event held by the FNI National Academy on May 29, 2019. Proceeds benefit Concerns of Police Survivors.
- These motions were passed by the Executive Board of Directors and there was no opposition from the general membership.

#### **GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE**

**~Dave Rose~**

- The FOP and the County have reached a settlement in the Section 6.1c grievance. The County is currently calculating the individual amounts of back pay and those will be distributed as they come into the lodge. Details of the settlement have been distributed throughout the membership. We have also been working with Nationwide Deferred Compensation and our payroll division to give members the option to defer a percentage of their back pay in their 457 plan. The first installment of the back pay should be paid by July 12, 2019. Those wishing to defer should have their documentation submitted to

payroll by June 21, 2019.

- The FOP and the County had the Health Care Arbitration hearing on January 15, 2019. Arbitrator Debra Murray-Sheppard rendered her decision on May 8, 2019. In her decision she denied the FOP grievance. She states that the authority for the County to set premium rests with the Director of the Office of Budget and Finance based on recommendations from Bolton Partners. There is no provision as to which method is used nor is there a provision which links premium costs, projected or actual.
- The FOP was able to show that pharmacy rebates were not being included in the calculation of the total cost and premium rates. Those rebates are now included in the calculation. Also, the variance reports given to HCRC by the County actually have no relation to the health care budget or actual cost. The FOP was also able to show that the health care reserve account had been over budgeted in recent years and the County Auditor reports showed monies in that account were not actually going towards the budget shortages or incurred but not reported expenses for health care. The monies were being used for various projects throughout the county. This year, the County Council cut \$14 million from that account to help balance the budget.
- The step #3 grievance for the specialized assignment process was set to be heard before Arbitrator Marvin Johnson. Since the filing of the grievance, the sergeant who was, in our opinion, improperly selected, had applied, gone through the selection process and been selected to CIB. The Arbitrator was notified of this by the county attorney. Arbitrator Johnson contacted our attorney to see if we wished to pro-

ceed. After discussion and on the advice of our attorney, a letter was drafted to Chief Sheridan stating our withdrawal of the grievance is not and should not be construed as any indication the County acted properly. To the contrary, the original selection was improper because this particular sergeant was not on the current CIB eligibility list and did not participate in the application and selection process. Therefore, the position should have been filled with a sergeant who was on the eligibility list. Given that the sergeant has now completed those steps, the FOP is choosing not to pursue this particular violation. Should the Department engage in similar misconduct in the future, the FOP will pursue all available options.

- We presented the POFC. McCain reschedule pay grievance on November 1, 2018 at step #3, the Office of Administrative Hearings. Judge Stahl issued a decision on November 14, 2018 denying the grievance. We submitted our notice of intent to arbitrate on December 5, 2018. The Legal Advisory Committee met on December 17, 2018 and voted to appeal to arbitration. The Executive Board of Directors also approved the appeal. There was no opposition from the general membership.

#### **LEGAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ~Dave Rose~**

- The Legal Advisory Committee met on May 20, 2019 at the request of Mike Marshall to discuss the appeal of Brother Estes' hearing board decision to the Baltimore County Circuit Court. Mike Marshall gave a presentation to the committee members and answered questions presented to

him. The appeal focused on eleven (11) charges. The appeal must be successful on all of them. The committee opined that several of the sustained allegations for misrepresentation had no merit to justify a finding of guilt based on the reason stated on record.

However, the remaining cases gave the members a reason to pause. After discussion, Brother Caskey made a motion to deny the request to fund the appeal. There was a proper second by Sister Patterson. The motion passed. The motion was presented to the Executive Board of Directors and the members concurred.

- On February 25, 2019, the committee and Executive Board approved the filing of an Unfair Labor Practice against the Baltimore County Administration for conducting the promotion draft without the involvement of the FOP's representatives. Since that filing, the Department has conducted 2 additional promotion drafts without our involvement. President Weston has been in communication with the Director of the Office of Human Resources continually voicing our objection to this practice and our intent to proceed to arbitration. As recently as May 17, 2019, the County has communicated to us they want to meet and attempt to reach some resolution. No meeting has been set to date.
- The attorneys for Ericka Barnes have filed a complaint for a Writ of Mandamus on her behalf. Generally, a writ of mandamus is an order from a court to an inferior government official ordering the government official to properly fulfill their official duties or correct an abuse of discretion. The case was in mediation with retired Judge Platt on February 27, 2019. A hearing for the Mandamus is scheduled for July

9, 2019 with Judge King. The appeal has been stayed pending the outcome of the Mandamus hearing.

- A writ of mandamus was filed in Baltimore County Circuit Court on August 20, 2018 for the Marvin Haw case. No date has been set. However, the County Administration submitted Bill 77-18 to County Council on October 1, 2018. The bill, which was passed by Council, permitted a “beneficiary” to appeal a decision of the Board of Trustees to the County Office of Administrative Hearings and the County Board of Appeals. This was in effect retroactive to March 14, 2013. The case has been remanded back to the OAH. No date has been set.

#### **PENSION COMMITTEE** ~Dave Rose~

- At the May 14, 2019 Pension Board of Trustees meeting, the trustees approved sixteen (16) total retirements, none from the Police Department.

#### **POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE** ~Dave Rose~

- The committee members reviewed six (6) new/revised policies this month.
- The FOP filed a request to bargain over the installation and monitoring of GPS in the patrol vehicles. On March 22, 2019 Second VP Rose met with members of the Command Staff to discuss our request to bargain the implementation and use of the GPS system. Second VP Rose stated that the implementation of the system without a

policy or some communication piece stating the purpose of the system and how it will be used caused a lot of consternation among the members. The development of an Informer to be distributed to the members while developing an SOP was discussed. An Informer was disseminated on March 3, 2019.

- The FOP expressed concern that this system not result in discipline of our members because we have not agreed on a policy. If any member receives discipline as a result of the system, please call the lodge so we can discuss it.

#### **POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE** ~Steve Comegna~

- The Political Action Committee met on Monday, May 20, 2019. There were four motions that were brought forth to the Executive Board of Directors for approval.
- To purchase a \$500.00 sponsorship to an event for Baltimore County Councilman Wade Kach (District #3) on Wednesday May 29, 2019.
- To purchase a \$250.00 sponsorship to an event for State Delegate Jon Cardin on Thursday, June 6, 2019.
- To purchase a \$250.00 sponsorship to an event for State Delegate Pat Young on Thursday, June 13, 2019.
- To purchase a \$1,000.00 sponsorship to an event for Speaker of the House Adrienne Jones on Thursday, June 20, 2019.
- These motions were approved by the Executive Board of Directors on Monday, May 20,

2019. This report was given to the membership at the May General Membership meeting on Tuesday, May 28, 2019. The membership approved this report.

#### **BEREAVEMENTS**

**Retired Brother Anthony Vitek Jr.**  
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**Linda Broadfoot, Wife of Retired Brother Roland Broadfoot**  
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**Doris Taylor, Mother of Retired Brother James Taylor**  
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**Evelyn Davis, Mother-in-Law of Brother Orlando Lilley**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Bertha Antoinette Elliott, Grandmother of Retired Brother Jim Rommel**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**William Franklin Hook, Father-in-Law of Brother Jamie Connors**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Patricia Scott, Mother of Sister Shawn Scott**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Marion Wamsley, Mother of Retired Brother Warner Wamsley and Mother-in-Law of Retired Sister Karen Wamsley**  
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**Anthony William Labbate, Uncle of Brother Chadd Lettau**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Clara Bernice Labbate, Grandmother of Brother Chadd Lettau**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Jean Noppenberger, Mother of Brother Mark Noppenberger**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**George W. Arnold, Grandfather of Sister Ann Tarczy**  
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**Nancy L. Page, Mother of Brothers Todd Page and Greg Page and Mother-in-Law of Sister Amy Page**



## GOOD OF THE ORDER

- During the month of May, FOP Lodge #4 received four (4) thank you cards. Three (3) flower arrangements were sent to bereaving members. One (1) fruit basket was sent to a grieving member. Two (2) memorial donations were made in lieu of flowers.
- Ethan Briggs, the 13 year old son of Brother Chris Briggs of Precinct 12 was diagnosed with a brain tumor at 7 years old. He has had three surgeries since 2013 with the most recent just a couple months ago when after an MRI it was discovered the tumor had spread. Ethan is currently undergoing treatment to stop and hopefully cure the cancer he has been fighting for almost half his life. FOP Lodge #4 wanted to show their support for this brave young man and sent him an Edible Arrangement. Ethan responded with a thank you card that included his own artwork. (included in newsletter) FOP Lodge #4 and Precinct 12 are standing behind this young warrior.  
#ETHANSTRONG.

Dear Police

I would like to thank you for the fruit basket. My whole family enjoyed all of the fruit. I think my favorite piece of fruit was the oranges. I never enjoyed them but when I had one they changed my mind. I don't know what the rest of my families favorite fruit was. Well Once again

Thank You!! 😊

From  
Ethan  
Briggs



5/28/19

## BIRTHS

**Theodore Mitchell  
Grantham, Son of Brother  
Stuart Grantham**  
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**Naomi Noske, Daughter of  
Sister Lindsey Noske and  
Granddaughter of Brother  
John Rein**  
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**Isaiah Angelo Allen, Son of  
Brother Carlos Allen**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Laine Elizabeth Maisel,  
Daughter of Brother  
Christian Maisel**

**If you are in need for  
a notary, we provide  
notarization at the  
Lodge. Please feel  
free to contact Nan-  
cy Skinner at 410  
668-0004 to make  
an appointment.**

The July

**FOP Lodge 4  
GENERAL  
BUSINESS  
MEETING**

will be held on

**Monday,  
July 22, 2019  
7:30 p.m.**

at  
FOP Lodge 4  
9304 Harford Road

The August

**FOP Lodge 4  
GENERAL  
BUSINESS  
MEETING**

will be held on

**Monday,  
August 26, 2019  
7:30 p.m.**

at  
FOP Lodge 4  
9304 Harford Road