



The Fourword

Volume 43 Number 9

September 2015



Jim Morrison Family Fundraiser

Saturday October 24, 2015

7:00 - 11:00PM

**St. Clare Hall
716 Myrth Avenue
Baltimore MD 21221**

\$35.00 per ticket

**Silent Auction ♦ Door Prizes
Proceeds to benefit the Morrison Family**

Sponsored & Catered by:
MISSION BBQ
The American Way.



**Menu: Turkey, Pulled Pork, Sausage,
Macaroni & Cheese, Green Beans and more!**

Contact Information: Karen Schmelz 410.887.6026
kschmelz@baltimorecountymd.gov

Joe Bangert 410.935.7019
sjbangert@aol.com



Representing the Professional Police Officers of Baltimore County





MEETING MINUTES August 2015

- The August General Business meeting was held on August 24, 2015 at FOP Lodge 4. President Weston called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Brother Graff gave the invocation. President Weston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

- Brother Cortes was working, Sister Greenbeck, Brother Scally and Chaplain Merkle were excused, all other Officers were in attendance as well as Legal Advisor Mike Marshall.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- A motion was made by Brother Folio to accept the minutes of the May General Membership Meeting. A second was made by Brother Grumbach. There was no discussion. The motion passed.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

~ PRESIDENT WESTON ~

- July 28– Met with the County Administrative Officer and the Director of the Office of Human Resources concerning the EEOC pension contribution case.
- August 4– Attended a meeting of the Governor's Commission Regarding Body Worn Cameras in Annapolis.
- August 6– Met with Herb Weiner, Mike Marshall and

Mike Davey of Schlachman, Belsky and Weiner in reference to representation of FOP Lodge #4.

- August 9-13– Attended the 62nd Biennial National Conference in Pittsburgh which was also the 100th Anniversary of the Fraternal Order of Police.
- August 17– Attended a meeting of the Political Action Committee. Attended the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- August 18– Met with Doug Jess concerning the complaint he sent to the National President and Secretary alleging that FOP Lodge #4 violated our Constitution and By-laws.
- August 21– Participated in the FOP Lodge #4 annual golf tournament.
- August 24– Attended the Maryland General Assembly Public Safety and Policing Workgroup meeting in reference to the LEOBR in Annapolis. Chaired the Lodge #4 General Membership meeting

~ 1st V. P. COMEGNA ~

- August 5– Visited Precinct #8.
- August 6– Attended a meeting of the Police Assistance and Relief Fund (P.A.R. Fund)
- August 9-13– Attended the 62nd Biennial Conference of the National Fraternal Order of Police. (100th Anniversary of the FOP).
- August 17– Attended a meeting of the Political Action Committee. Attended the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors Meeting.
- August 21– Attended and played in the annual Lodge #4 golf tournament.

LODGE 4 OFFICE

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ELECTED OFFICERS

Cole B. Weston
President
(443) 956-2679

Steven G. Comegna
1st Vice President
F.O.P. Lodge 4
(410) 409-0293

David M. Rose
2nd Vice President
F.O.P. Lodge 4
(443) 956-2643

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

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

W. Don Patterson
State Trustee
Retired

Ryan Massey
Sergeant at Arms
CID - Homicide

Paul A. Merkle
Chaplain
Retired

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
CID - Arson
Robert Graff
PC-6
James P. Rommel, Jr.
PC-11
Joe Caskey
CID - Homicide

Kathy Kraemer
PC-6
Michael Cortes
RATT
Ryan Franks
PC-1
Kathryn Greenbeck
PC-8

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

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

Fourword Editors

Donna Patterson
Don Patterson

- August 24– Attended the Lodge #4 General Membership Meeting.

~2nd V. P. ROSE~

- July 28– Met with County Administrative Officer, Fred Homan and Director of the Office of Human Resources, George Gay.
- August 4– Attended a meeting of the Governor's Commission Regarding Body Worn Cameras in Annapolis.
- August 6– Met with representatives from our law firm, Schlachman, Belsky and Weiner.
- August 9-13– Attended the 62nd Biennial Conference of the National Fraternal Order of Police in Pittsburgh.
- August 17 – Attended the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- August 20 – Met with Mike Marshall and Legal Director Vicki Walsh to finalize two (2) discipline cases.
- August 21 – Participated in the Lodge #4 golf tournament.
- August 24 – Spoke in Annapolis at the Public Safety and Policing Workgroup committee in reference to the L.E.O.B.R.. Attended the Lodge #4 General Membership meeting.

SECRETARY PATTERSON

- August 9-13-Attended the 62nd Biennial Conference of the National Fraternal Order of Police in Pittsburgh.
- July 17 – Attended the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- August 21 - Attended the annual Lodge #4 golf tournament.
- August 24 - Attended the General Membership meeting.

~TREASURER CASKEY~

- August 6– Worked at Lodge.
- August 9-13 – Attended the 62nd Biennial Conference of the National Fraternal Order of Police in Pittsburgh.
- August 17– Attended a meeting of the PAC Committee. Met with representatives of RBC. Attended the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- August 23– Worked at Lodge.
- August 24– Attended the Lodge #4 General Membership meeting.
- August 25– Worked at Lodge.
- August 30– Worked at Lodge.

~TRUSTEE PATTERSON~

- August 9-13 – Attended the 62nd Biennial Conference of the National Fraternal Order of Police in Pittsburgh.
- August 17– Attended the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- August 21– Participated in the annual Lodge #4 golf tournament.
- August 24– Attended the Lodge #4 General Membership meeting.
- On Sunday, August 9, 32 of us including 4 from Lodge #25 and 3 from Lodge #5 set out on a bus to the National Conference in Pittsburgh. The 4 hour trip quickly turned into a 7 hour trip as the bus broke down on the Pennsylvania turnpike. We eventually made it to Pittsburgh and had a pretty eventful week. On Monday the 10th we sat through all the business of the day and then had a caucus of the Maryland delegates. During this caucus, we had nominations for our new National Trustee. Brother Dave Rose was nominated by

President Weston and Brother Bob Cherry from Lodge #3 was nominated by the State Trustee from Lodge #89. The vote was held and Brother Cherry won 180-101.

- Tuesday the 11th was another busy day. There was a very energetic speech from a special Olympian who was thankful to all law enforcement for their support of the Torch Run. It was also nomination day for the National Executive Board. President Canterbury, Secretary Yoes, Treasurer Panoza and Sgt at Arms Mayberry were unopposed. Vice President Brannigan was opposed by Brother Jay McDonald, President of the Ohio State Lodge. 2nd Vice President Frank Gale was opposed by Brother Les Neri, President of the Pennsylvania State Lodge. After close of business the Maryland delegation met and all the candidates for national office came in to speak with us except Secretary Yoes. We then discussed the 21 amendments to the by laws. The Maryland delegation concurred with the By Law committee recommendations.
- Wednesday the 12th started with committee reports. There was a presentation from the Missouri State Lodge on the actions going on in Ferguson. Lodge #3 did a presentation on the After Action Report from the riots in Baltimore. The amendments to the by laws were then voted on. Amendments 1-19 were all passed. Amendment 20 was withdrawn and Amendment 21 was ruled out of order. After close of business all Lodge #4 members attended the 100th Anniversary Celebration.

- Thursday the 13th started an hour early due to the large number of delegates who would be voting. The Credentials Committee reported there were 3624 registered delegates and 493 registered alternates. The vote was held and the results were reported that Jay McDonald defeated Ed Brannigan 2032 to 1416 and that Les Neri defeated Frank Gale 1733 to 1727. There was some controversy with the results. The election was done on computer and there were 13 more votes cast than people who checked in. After several hours of discussion between the national officers and legal team, President Canterbury certified the results.
- The bus ride home was uneventful.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD
OF DIRECTORS REPORT**
~ Ken Schubert~

- An Executive Board of Directors meeting was held on August 17, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.. Sister Greenbeck was on vacation and Brother Scally was working. Legal advisor Mike Marshall was excused. All other board members were in attendance.
- 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

ATHLETIC COMMITTEE
~Don Patterson~

- The annual Golf Tournament was held on Friday August 21, 2015. Everyone had a good time and after all bills were paid there was a profit of \$627.14.
- A big thanks goes out to Secretary Donna Patterson who pretty

much spearheaded the entire day. Thanks to Brother Rob Graff and Brother Mike DiCara for all their help doing whatever Donna asked. Thanks to Sisters Marianne Snyder and Carey Kus for being outstanding "Beer Cart Girls". Also thanks to Gretchen Meyer, Wife of Brother Al Meyer for helping out all day.

**DONATION REVIEW
COMMITTEE**
~Mike DiCara~

- The Donation Review Committee met on August 24, 2015 and the following motions were made and passed.
- Motion to donate \$400 to support Brothers Derek Clark and Randy Carrington in the Johns Hopkins Ride to Conquer Cancer bike ride on September 19 and 20.
- To purchase two (2) tables of 8 at a cost of \$2000.00 for a fundraiser for the Make-a-Wish Foundation, to be held on September 12, 2015.

GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE
~Dave Rose~

- No grievances were filed this month.

**LEGAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**
~Dave Rose~

- The briefs to the Maryland Court of Appeals in the retiree health care subsidy case have been submitted. The case will be heard in the fall of 2015
- The ERS/County has filed an appeal to the Court of Special Appeals in the Brandt Bradford case. The County's initial brief was submitted by June 30, 2015.

Our response was due on August 28 and the County's reply is due September 17, 2015. The case will be heard in the fall of 2015.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
~Cole Weston~

- The Public Safety and Policing Workgroup met on August 24, 2015 in Annapolis with discussions on the L.E.O.B.R. There are meetings scheduled in September, October and November.
- There is also a Committee on Body Cameras. There is a meeting scheduled for September 1 with a final report to be done on October 1.

NEGOTIATION COMMITTEE
~Cole Weston~

- The negotiation team will meet the first week of September to discuss options prior to the opening of negotiations.

PENSION COMMITTEE
~Dave Rose~

- On August 11, 2015, the Pension Board of Trustees met and approved thirty-eight (38) retirements. Two (2) were from the police department.

**POLICY REVIEW
COMMITTEE**
~Dave Rose~

- The committee members reviewed three (3) policies this month. There were no bargaining issues identified.

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

~Steve Comegna~

- The Political Action Committee met on Monday, August 17, 2015. The committee made the following motions:
- To purchase a \$1000.00 "Relish" sponsorship to a "cookout" fundraiser for Delegate and FOP Brother John Cluster (District #8) on Sunday, September 13, 2015.
- To purchase two (2) tickets at \$250 each to a fundraiser for the Leadership for Northeast Baltimore County Slate (Councilman Marks and Senator Jennings) on Tuesday, August 25, 2015.
- To purchase a \$1000.00 Silver Sponsorship to a fundraiser being held for Baltimore County Councilman A. Wade Kach (District #3) on Tuesday, August 25, 2015.
- To purchase a \$250.00 sponsorship for a fundraiser being held for State Delegate Stephen Laferty (District #42B) on Wednesday, October 7, 2015.
- These motions were presented to the Executive Board on August 17, 2015 and were approved by the general membership on August 24, 2015.

NEW BUSINESS

- A concerned member had issues in reference to the promotion process. He feels the process is unfair and is tainted and being manipulated. He also feels the selection process for specialized units is unfair. One suggestion he made was for 2 year lists for promotions. President Weston addressed the issues and also explained how the negotiation process works.
- Brother Rommel asked a question in reference to the DROP

about whether the age to take your money without penalty dropped from 55-50 years of age. President Weston advised we are looking into this matter.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- During the month of August FOP Lodge #4 sent four (4) cards and flower arrangements to bereaving members. Two donations were made in memory of passing family members. Six (6) thank you cards were received. One (1) flower arrangement sent to member recovering from illness. One (1) fruit basket sent to member involved in a car accident.
- The raffle to support the 4 members of Baltimore City Lodge #3 raised \$4255. Brother Bob Caskey made a motion to add \$5745 to make a donation of \$10,000. Motion passed.
- Vice President Comegna made a motion to spend \$8650 to fix the air conditioning units at the Lodge. This includes a 10 year warranty for parts and labor. Motion passed.
- 1st Vice President Comegna made a motion to spend up to \$1200 to purchase a defibrillator for the lodge. Motion passed.
- President Weston made a motion to spend up to \$5000 to send 4 members to the Advance Course in Police Discipline Essential Training in Las Vegas, November 4-6. Motion passed.
- Retired Lt. Joe Bangert is organizing a bull roast to assist Brother Jim Morrison, who was injured in a motorcycle accident.
- The Baltimore County Democratic State Central Committee will be holding their Unity Dinner on September 30, 2015. Several awards are presented during this dinner, one of which is for

Union Leaders. This years award is being presented to President Cole Weston.

- Nominations for the Line Officer positions, half of the Executive Board positions and delegates to the State Conference to be held in 2016 in Baltimore City will be accepted at the September General Business meeting.

***The final
Association of Baltimore
County Retired Police
meeting for 2015 will be
held on Tuesday, Novem-
ber 3, 2015. The meeting
will be held at
Parkville Heritage***

Bereavements

***Brother Brett Lanasa
Wilkins Precinct***

***John H. Gohnauer, Step-
father of Brother Patrick
Covahey***

***Rachel Snyder, Sister of
Brother Andy Minton, Sis-
ter-in-Law of Brother
Matt German and Cousin
of Brother Marc Thoeicht***

***Richard Warner, Father-
in-Law of Retired Brother
Cary Koch***

***Lindy Mosler Dobbins,
Sister-in-Law of Brother
Scott Manz***

***Joan C. Carpenter, Wife of
Retired Brother T. Bruce
Carpenter***

The October

**FOP Lodge 4
GENERAL
BUSINESS
MEETING**

will be held on

**Monday,
October 26, 2015
7:30 p.m.**

at
FOP Lodge 4
9304 Harford Road

The November

**FOP Lodge 4
GENERAL
BUSINESS
MEETING**

will be held on

**Monday,
November 23, 2015
7:30 p.m.**

at
FOP Lodge 4
9304 Harford Road