



The Fourword

Volume 37, Number 10

October 2009

6th Annual

“COP OUT”

All proceeds to benefit the
Police Assistance Relief Fund

November 19, 2009

6pm—10pm

Portside Pub

11 Margaret Avenue
Essex, MD 21221

Contact

Kurt Wilhelm
410-887-4870,

The Portside
Pub

410-682-5580

or

FOP Lodge 4
410-668-0004

for tickets

or more

information

“On The Pit”

Beef, Ham,
Turkey,

Italian Sausage

Salads, Fixin’s
& Draft Beer

Music provided
by D.J.

Glen Wagner

\$30.00

per person



Representing the Professional Police Officers of Baltimore County





MEETING MINUTES

September 2009

recorded by

Dave Folderauer

The September 2009 General Business Meeting was held on September 28, 2009 at FOP Lodge 4. President Weston called the meeting to order at 7:28 p.m. Chaplain Merkle led the invocation. President Weston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

Sgt. At Arms Bergin was on vacation, Brother Rommel was sick, and Brother Scally was working. Legal Advisor Victor Sobotka was present. All other elected officers and board members were present.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

A motion was made by Brother Grumbach to accept the minutes of the August 2009 General Membership Meeting. A second was made by Brother Cullum. There was no discussion. The motion passed.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

~ PRESIDENT WESTON ~

- August 26 Met with Major Burris and Captain Johnson concerning the Department's Fitness Initiative program.
- August 27 Met with County Councilman Kevin Kamenetz, and met with a prospective county council candidate for 2010.
- August 28 Participated in the 2009 FOP Lodge 4 Golf Tour-

nament.

- September 3 Met with the President of the Blue Guardians, Orlando Lilly concerning enhanced communication of pension and disability retirement issues, and met with a member and his legal council concerning service retirement considerations.
- September 8 Attended a Pension Board of Trustees meeting, met with a prospective county council candidate for 2010, and attended the Retired Officer's Association meeting.
- September 9 Met with a member concerning the procedures for initiating Internal Affairs investigations and addressed the In-Service training class.
- September 10 Attended the Police Assistance and Relief Fund meeting and met with members concerning secondary employment permits.
- September 14 Met with Major Schwartz concerning the policy review process and met with Greg Der, the recently elected president of FOP Lodge #21 in Howard County.
- September 15 Attended the county council work session.
- September 16 Addressed the Supervisors school on Grievance procedures and FOP issues, and addressed the In-Service training class
- September 21 Met with the negotiation team, attended a Political Action committee meeting and the Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- September 23 Addressed the In-Service class and met with a prospective county council candidate for 2010.
- September 24 Attended the Bi-

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 1st Vice President <i>PC3 - Traffic</i> (410) 409-0293	David M. Rose 2nd Vice President <i>F.O.P Lodge 4</i> (443) 956-2643
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David J. Folderauer, Sr. Lodge Secretary <i>K9</i> (410) 382-2075	Robert W. Caskey Treasurer <i>CID-Robbery</i> (443) 956-2615
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W. Donald Patterson State Trustee <i>Materials & Facilities</i>	Richard J. Bergin Sergeant at Arms <i>VNS - CDVIT</i>
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Paul A. Merkle Chaplain <i>Retired</i>	L. Timothy Caslin Past President <i>Retired</i>
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EXECUTIVE BOARD of DIRECTORS

Kenneth F. Schubert Chairman <i>Employment</i> (410) 416-2800	James P. Rommel, Jr. Vice Chairman <i>K9</i> (717) 451-7117
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Thomas G. Scally <i>CID - Arson</i>	Louis J. Lagna <i>Retired</i>
Donna Patterson <i>Planning & Research</i>	Patrick Zito <i>PC 7 - Traffic</i>
Mike DiCara <i>PC 6</i>	Ryan Massey <i>Homicide</i>
Joe Caskey <i>Homicide</i>	Tony DiCara <i>PC 12</i>

LODGE STAFF

Larry Sibley—Office Manager
 Juanita Bouthner—Administrative Assistant
 Regina Ecker—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.

Kathryn Greenbeck
Fourword Editor

The Fourword

Association of
Baltimore County
Retired Police
Meetings

November 3, 2009
January 5, 2010
March 2, 2010
May 4, 2010
September 7, 2010
November 2, 2010

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

monthly meeting between Chief Johnson, the Colonels, and members of the Executive Board of Directors, and responded to Shock Trauma concerning a fatal automobile accident.

- September 28 Attended the viewing for Brother Jason Simons, and attended the General Membership meeting.

~ 1st V. P. COMEGNA ~

- August 27 Met with President Weston and a candidate for Baltimore County Council in 2010.
- August 28 Participated in the 2009 FOP Lodge 4 Golf Tournament.
- September 15 Worked at the Lodge office.
- September 21 Worked at the Lodge office and attended meetings of the Negotiations Com-

mittee and Political Action Committee. Attended the Executive Board of Directors meeting.

- September 28 Worked at the Lodge office and attended the General Membership meeting.

~ 2nd V. P. ROSE ~

- August 28 Participated in the 2009 FOP Lodge 4 Golf Tournament.
- September 3 Met with a member concerning an IAS case and retirement options.
- September 8 Attended the Association of Baltimore County Retired Police meeting.
- September 9 Met with a member concerning an IAS case. Attended In-Service Training.
- September 11 Attended a worker's compensation hearing.
- September 14 Met with Major Schwartz and President Weston in reference to the policy review procedures. Met with the recently elected Howard County FOP President.

- September 21 Attended a Negotiations Committee meeting. Chaired a Grievance Committee meeting. Attended the Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- September 24 Met with Captain Wilson concerning a court overtime policy. Attended the Executive Board of Directors meeting with Chief Johnson. Responded to Shock Trauma for Brother Simons.

- September 25 Met with the presidents of IAFF Local 1311 and TABCO.
- September 26 Attended the PCR Council's Bull Roast.
- September 28 Chaired a Legal Advisory Committee meeting. Attended the General Membership meeting. Attended the

viewing for Brother Simons.

~SECRETARY FOLDERAUER~

- September 21 Attended Negotiations and PAC Committee meetings. Attended the Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- September 24 Attended a meeting of the Executive Board of Directors with Chief Johnson. Responded to the scene of Brother Simons' car accident.
- September 28 Attended a Legal Advisory Committee meeting. Attended the General Membership meeting.

~TREASURER CASKEY~

- August 28 Participated in the 2009 FOP Lodge 4 Golf Tournament.
- September 21 Attended the Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- September 28 Attended the General Membership meeting.

Bereavements

**Brother
Jason W. Simons**

**Retired Brother
Matthew A. Dula**

**Walter H. Greif
Father of Retired Brother
Walter H. Greif, Jr.**

**Elmer C. St. George
Father-In-Law of
Brother Lawrence D. Gick**



**FOP Lodge 4
"Fallen Heroes"
Memorial**

Scholarship Awards

Applications for the Fall,
2010 & Spring, 2011
scholarships are available
now. Eight (8) \$3000.00
awards are made each
year. Contact Lodge 4 for
details.

~TRUSTEE PATTERSON~

- The next Maryland State FOP meeting will be held on Saturday, November 14, 2009 at Rocky Gap.

**~EXECUTIVE BOARD
OF DIRECTORS REPORT~**

~ Kenny Schubert~

- An Executive Board of Directors Meeting was held on September 21, 2009. The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. Brother Rommel was sick. Brother J. Caskey and Brother Massey were working.
- 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~

- Brother Don Patterson advised that the FOP Lodge 4 Golf Tournament raised \$3,666.00.

**DONATION REVIEW
COMMITTEE**

~ Paul Merkle ~

- A motion was made to donate

\$250.00 to the PAR Fund fundraiser on October 14, 2009. This motion passed.

- A motion was made to purchase 10 tickets, for a total expenditure of \$300.00 for the Police Community Relations Council Bullroast. This motion passed.
- A motion was made to purchase the Lodge 4 pocket calendars for 2010. This motion passed.

GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

~ Dave Rose ~

- The class action grievance filed for the interest charged to several officers for back pension contributions was scheduled for a hearing at Step #3 in front of the Labor Commissioner, George Gay on September 1, 2009. The hearing date was postponed and was rescheduled for October 6, 2009.
- On September 21, 2009 the committee met to discuss a grievance filed in reference to the educational assistance policy, specifically the reimbursement for tuition. A member was denied a request, wrote an appeal to the Director of Human Resources, and was again denied. The committee members reviewed the policy and college course description. A motion was made to pursue the grievance at Step #3. The motion passed. It is scheduled to be heard on October 26, 2009.
- The retiree subsidy grievance was scheduled to be heard in Circuit Court on September 25, 2009. The case was placed on the trial docket and should have been placed on the motions docket. The case was postponed and will be scheduled on

the motions docket.

**LEGAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

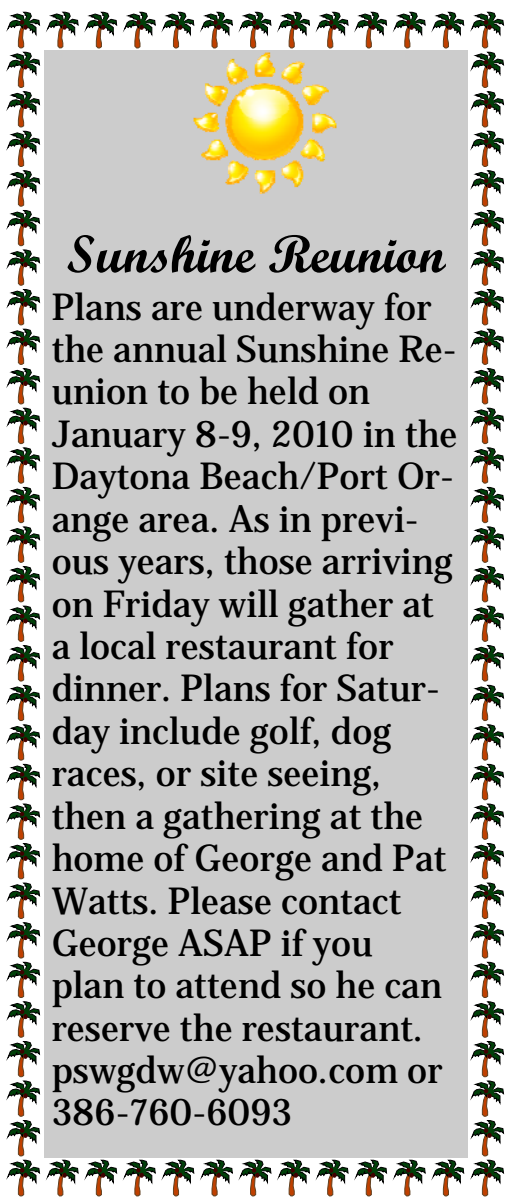
~Dave Rose~

- The Legal Advisory Committee met on September 28, 2009 to discuss the revised disciplinary matrix. The committee will meet again on October 12, 2009 for further discussion.

**NEGOTIATIONS
COMMITTEE**

~Cole Weston~

- The Baltimore County Federation of Public Employees (FPE) did not ratify their contract.



Sunshine Reunion
Plans are underway for the annual Sunshine Reunion to be held on January 8-9, 2010 in the Daytona Beach/Port Orange area. As in previous years, those arriving on Friday will gather at a local restaurant for dinner. Plans for Saturday include golf, dog races, or site seeing, then a gathering at the home of George and Pat Watts. Please contact George ASAP if you plan to attend so he can reserve the restaurant. pswgdw@yahoo.com or 386-760-6093

Those employees will not get the 2% COLA on January 1, 2010.

- Baltimore City and Prince George's County are currently in negotiations for contracts that should have taken effect July 1, 2009.

PENSION COMMITTEE

~ Cole Weston ~

- The Pension Board of Trustees met on September 8, 2009 and approved eleven (11) service/ vested retirements, six (6) over-sixty work extensions, and one (1) ordinary disability for Baltimore County Employees.

POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE

~Dave Rose~

- On September 14, 2009 President Weston and Dave Rose met with Major Schwartz in reference to the policy review procedures. Major Schwartz is now in charge of furnishing any policy changes to the FOP.
- On September 21, 2009 County Administrative Officer Fred Homan issued a new Cell Phone Usage Policy to all County employees. The policy stated that the use of cell phones, without use of a hands free device, is prohibited while operating any type of motor vehicle while on County business. (Uniformed Police Officers/Emergency Medical department personnel are excluded). The FOP had several communications with the Labor Commissioner and the Police Department over the policy. Police work today often requires the use of a cell phone. The policy, as written, would exclude uniformed officers, but include plain clothes officers in

the ban. As a result of communicating the concerns of the membership, the policy was revised to exclude "all police officers." On September 21, 2009, the Labor Commissioner stated in a letter to the FOP and the Police Department that the exclusion from the Cell Phone Usage Policy is for all police officers.

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

~Steve Comegna~

- The Political Action Committee met on Monday September 21, 2009 at the Lodge office. All of the committee members were present. The committee brought forth the following motions for PAC expenditures (each motion passed unanimously in committee):
 - To purchase five tickets to a fundraiser being held by the Citizens for Better Government Slate (Boteler and Cluster District # 8). Tickets were \$40.00 each for a total PAC expenditure of \$200.00.

- To purchase a Bronze Sponsorship to a fundraiser being held by State Senator Kathy Klausmeier (District # 8). The Bronze Sponsorship is a total PAC expenditure of \$250.00.

- To purchase one ticket to a fundraiser being held by State Senator Jim Brochin (District # 42). The total PAC expenditure is \$250.00.

- To purchase six tickets to a fundraiser being held by the Baltimore County States Attorney, Scott Shellenberger. The ticket cost was \$50.00 each, for a total PAC expenditure of \$300.00.

- These motions were presented to the Executive Board of Directors on Monday September 21, 2009 at the Executive Board of Directors meeting. Each motion received a proper second, was discussed and voted upon. Each motion was approved by the Executive Board of Directors.

- The committee met again on

THE LAW OFFICES OF SCHLACHMAN, BELSKY, & WEINER, P.A. HAVE MOVED. OUR NEW OFFICES ARE LOCATED AT:

300 East Lombard St., Ste 1100

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Toll Free: 888.685.2022

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The Fourword

Monday September 28, 2009 to consider one other request that was received after the Executive Board Meeting. That request was from State Senator Ed Kasemeyer. The committee made the following motion to the Executive Board:

- To purchase one ticket to a fundraiser being held by State Senator Ed Kasemeyer (District # 12). The ticket cost was \$250.00 each for a total PAC expenditure of \$250.00.
- This motion was presented to the Executive Board of Directors on Monday September 28, 2009. The motion received a proper second, was discussed and voted upon. This motion was approved by the Executive

Board.

All of the motions in this report were presented to the General Membership on Monday September 28, 2009. Each motion received a proper second, was discussed and voted upon. Each motion was approved.

OLD BUSINESS

A question was asked about the status of the Blake case. Motions to dismiss were argued on July 1, 2009 and no decision has been reached yet.

NEW BUSINESS

President Weston advised that after communication with Chief Johnson, the practice of having officers ignore afternoon District Court summonses when the

officers are scheduled for evening shift has been discontinued.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

At the beginning of the meeting, business was suspended for Attorney Mark Grasso to address the membership about a current case he is handling, in which a Lodge 4 member who was working Uniformed Secondary Employment was injured, and the issues he is facing with Worker's Compensation.

- During the month of September, the Lodge sent three (3) flower arrangements and three (3) sympathy cards to bereaving members. One (1) "Thank You" card was received. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

All members are encouraged to vote in the Lodge 4 election.
Ballots have been mailed to members' homes.
Nominations were as follows:

Line Officers

President: Cole Weston

1st Vice President:: Steve Comegna

2nd Vice President: Dave Rose

Secretary: Dave Folderauer

Treasurer: Bob Caskey

State Trustee: Don Patterson

Sergeant-at-Arms: Rick Bergin

Chaplain: Paul Merkle

All Line Officer positions were unopposed.

Executive Board of Directors

Kathy Greenbeck Training

Jim Rommel K9

Mike DiCara PC6

Lou Lagna Retired

Tom Scally CID

Tony DiCara PC12

Kathy Kraemer PC6

Vince Romeo Retired

A.L.S. (Lou Gehrig's Disease) Benefit "FOR PETE'S SAKE"



Detective Pete Sharman

DATE: *Monday, November 2, 2009*
TIME: *2:00 pm – til*
LOCATION: *Ship's Cafe & Pub, 828 Frederick Rd. Catonsville, MD 21228*
DONATION: *\$10.00 at the door*

- ◆ Silent auction, celebrity guests, 50/50, raffle tickets and more
- ◆ Reduced drink prices, hourduerves
- ◆ Music by Tony Scuito

For the last eight years Officer / Detective Pete Sharman has been a member of the Baltimore County Police Department and the Baltimore County Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge #4. Pete spent the majority of his career in the Wilkens Precinct and the last year in the Narcotics Division (Western C.D.V.I.T.). Tragically, Pete has been diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, commonly know as "Lou Gehrig's" disease. There is no cure for this horrible disease and eventually it will confine Pete to a wheel chair. Pete has recently retired and is collecting a disability pension. The expenses that he and his wife Jen will incur in the future will be enormous. Pete will need his residence redesigned so that it is handicapped accessible (ramps, bathrooms, etc,etc.), along with a vehicle so that he may be transported.

The November

**FOP Lodge 4
GENERAL
BUSINESS
MEETING**

will be held on

**Monday,
November 23, 2009
7:30 p.m.**

at
FOP Lodge 4
9304 Harford Road

The December

**FOP Lodge 4
GENERAL
BUSINESS
MEETING**

will be held on

**Monday,
December 28, 2009
7:30 p.m.**

at
FOP Lodge 4
9304 Harford Road