



The Fourword

Volume 37, Number 12

December 2009

SUPERBOWL 5K RACE



To benefit the **Baltimore County Police Memorial Fund**

Sunday February 7, 2010 Starting at 10:00 a.m.

**CCBC Dundalk Campus
7200 Sollers Point Road
Dundalk, MD 21222**

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Representing the Professional Police Officers of Baltimore County





**MEETING MINUTES
November 2009
recorded by
Dave Folderauer**

The November 2009 General Business Meeting was held on November 23, 2009 at FOP Lodge 4. President Weston called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Chaplain Merkle led the invocation. President Weston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

Brother Lagna was excused. Brother Massey was working. 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 King to accept the minutes of the October 2009 General Membership Meeting. A second was made by Brother Rommel. There was no discussion. The motion passed.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS
~ PRESIDENT WESTON ~**

- October 27 Met with a member concerning disability retirement procedures.
- October 28 Attended the viewing for Brother Jeff Neral.
- October 28 Attended the funeral service for Brother Jeff Neral.
- October 30 Responded to the police involved shooting in PC-08.

- November 2 Met with a County Council candidate for the 2010 election, and attended a fundraiser for Brother Pete Sharman.
- November 3 Addressed the attendees of the supervisor school, met with the negotiation team, and attended the Retired Officer's Association meeting.
- November 4 Addressed the in-service training class.
- November 5 Offered testimony at an arbitration hearing on behalf of the Federation of Public Employees.
- November 9 Met with workers compensation attorney Mark Grasso.
- November 10 Attended a Pension Board of Trustees meeting.
- November 13, 14 Attended the quarterly Maryland State Fraternal Order of Police meeting in Rocky Gap.
- November 16 Met with the negotiation team, attended a legal advisory committee meeting, a membership committee meeting, and the executive board of directors meeting.
- November 18 Addressed the In-Service training class, and met with a member concerning the disability retirement process.
- November 19 Attended the Bi-monthly meeting between Chief Johnson, the Bureau chiefs and the FOP executive board, and attended the COP OUT annual fundraiser.
- November 23 Met with representatives of the Consortium for Police Leadership in Equity, and attended the General Membership meeting.

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

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

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

A Message From the Chaplain

~Paul Merkle~

Holiday greetings to all! As families celebrate the holidays that arrive in each December, may yours be truly blest. The anticipation of gift giving and parties and family gatherings bring us much joy and peace.

The time is here for each of us to give a big hug and embrace those we love. Take a moment to call someone you think may need a lift, and just say "Hello." Your voice will make a difference in their day.

The joy of the Lord be with you now and forever and as in the poem *Footprints*, if you are looking down and seeing only one set of footprints in the sand, consider the response from the Lord: "It was then that I was carrying you."

Enjoy the season, be safe, and be blest in the Lord. Best wishes for the new year.

~ 1st V. P. COMEGNA ~

- November 3 Attended a meeting of the Negotiations Committee.
- November 13 and 14 Attended the quarterly meeting of the Maryland State Lodge, in Rocky Gap.
- November 16 Worked at the lodge office and attended meetings of the Negotiations Committee, the Legal Advisory Committee, the Political Action Committee and the Executive Board of Directors.
- November 19 Attended the bi-monthly between Chief Johnson and the Executive Board of Directors of F.O.P. Lodge # 4.
- November 23 Worked at the lodge office, served as member of the Election Committee counted ballots and attended a meeting of the Political Action Committee, a meeting of the Executive Board of Directors

and the General Membership Meeting.

~ 2nd V. P. ROSE ~

- October 27 Met with a member about a pension issue.
- October 28 Addressed officers in-service training class.
- November 2 Attended the fundraiser for Brother Pete Sharman.
- November 3 Attended a Negotiations Committee meeting and the Retiree's Association meeting.
- November 4 Attended a meeting with the Director of Human Resources in reference to educational assistance.
- November 6 Attended a meeting with Mike Marshall and Legal Director Jordan Watts.
- November 7 Attended a fundraiser for Delegate Susan Aumann.
- November 16 Attended a Negotiations Committee meeting,

chaired a Legal Advisory Committee meeting, attended a Membership Committee meeting and the Executive Board of Directors meeting.

- November 19 Attended the bi-monthly meeting with Chief Johnson and attended the 6th Annual Cop Out.
- November 21 Responded to an officer-involved shooting in Baltimore City.
- November 23 Attended an EBOD meeting and the General Membership meeting.

~SECRETARY FOLDERAUER~

- November 3 Attended a meeting of the Negotiations Committee.
- November 16 Worked at the lodge office and attended meetings of the Negotiations Committee, the Legal Advisory Committee, the Political Action Committee and the Executive

Bereavements

Mary E. Zang
Mother of Retired Brother
William J. Zang

Susan M. Enko
Wife of Brother
Frank Enko

Robert W. Arbogast
Son-in-Law of Brother
Donald G. Fredrick



Board of Directors.

- November 19 Attended the bi-monthly meeting between Chief Johnson and the Executive Board of Directors of F.O.P. Lodge # 4.
- November 23 Worked at the lodge office, chaired the Election Committee, counted ballots and attended a meeting of the Political Action Committee, a meeting of the Executive Board of Directors and the General Membership Meeting.

~TREASURER CASKEY~

- October 30 Responded to the police-involved shooting in Precinct 8.
- November 16 Attended the Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- November 23 Attended an Executive Board of Directors meeting and the General Membership Meeting.

STATE TRUSTEE

~Don Patterson~

- The Maryland State FOP Board meeting was held on November 14, 2009 at Rocky Gap.
- Delegate Kevin Kelly from Allegheny county was presented with the Maryland State Lodge Legislator of the Year award. Delegate Kelly then talked about how Allegheny County is attempting to start a Police Department.
- Two new lodges were created. Lodge 129, UMBC, was formed with 20 members. Lodge 138, Gaithersburg, was formed with 48 members. This gives Maryland 71 lodges with 19,737 members.
- Percy Alston, Lodge 89 Past President, announced he is running for Delegate in the 27th legislative district of Prince Georges County. He is having a fundraiser on December 2, 2009 at Lodge 89.
- Civic Development, the solicitation company for the State Lodge, filed for bankruptcy. A motion was made to explore new companies.
- The next State Lodge meeting will be held on January 23, 2010 at Harbourtowne Resort in St. Michaels.
- The 2010 State Conference will be held September 19-22, 2010 in Ocean City.

~EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT~

~ Kenny Schubert~

- An Executive Board of Directors Meeting was held on November 16, 2009. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. Brother Lagna was on vacation.
- 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

BULLROAST COMMITTEE

~Kenny Schubert~

- The FOP Lodge 4 Bullroast will be held on March 28, 2010 at the Tall Cedars Hall.

DONATION REVIEW

COMMITTEE

~Paul Merkle~

- A motion was made to donate \$250.00 to the Marty Ward Memorial account. The motion passed.

EXPENDITURE REVIEW

COMMITTEE

~Regina Ecker~

*Association of
Baltimore County
Retired Police
2010 Meetings*

*January 5
March 2
May 4
September 7
November 2*

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

The Fourword

- On October 22, 2009, the committee met and reviewed the Lodge office bills from April through July, 2009.

GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE ~Dave Rose~

- On November 4, 2009 Bro. Pianowski and I met with the Director of Human Resources to discuss educational assistance reimbursement. In an attempt to resolve the pending grievance, we discussed the school curriculum, payment policy and class format. Bro. Pianowski will be compiling additional documents for their review.

LEGAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ~Dave Rose~

- The Legal Advisory Committee met on November 16, 2009 to discuss two separate issues. The first was a request from retired Bro. Maczis to fund an appeal of his Worker's Compensation case to the Circuit Court. He requested financial assistance from the lodge in the amount of \$2,500-\$5,000, for expert medical testimony from his physician. A motion was made not to fund the request. The motion passed.
- On October 31, 2009 we received the decision from the Labor Commissioner on the pension interest class action grievance. The grievance was denied on the basis that the commissioner felt this was not a grievable issue. A motion was made to fund the case to arbitration. The motion passed unanimously. The recommendation was presented to the Executive

Board of Directors and it passed unanimously.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE ~Tom Scally~

- The committee advised that they had a request from Todd Beatty for reinstatement to the FOP. Todd Beatty was terminated from the Police Department in August, 2003 and is applying for a disability pension. The request was denied at the committee level.

NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE ~Cole Weston~

- The Negotiations Committee met with Baltimore County on December 3, 2009. The committee will continue to meet throughout the next several weeks.

PENSION COMMITTEE ~ Cole Weston ~

- The Pension Board of Trustees met on November 10, 2009 and

approved twenty one (21) service/drop/and death in service retirements, one (1) ordinary disability, and three (3) over sixty work extensions for Baltimore County Employees.

POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE ~Dave Rose~

- In the month of November the committee reviewed 4 department policy changes. The committee found no bargaining issues.

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE ~Steve Comegna~

- The Political Action Committee met on Monday November 16, 2009 and Monday November 23, 2009. Several motions were presented to the Executive Board of Directors.
- A motion was made to donate \$250.00 to Percel (Percy) Alston in his bid for a State Delegate seat in District # 27.
- A motion was made to purchase

FOP Lodge 4 "Fallen Heroes" Memorial Scholarship Awards

Applications for the Fall, 2010 & Spring, 2011 scholarship awards are now available. Eight (8) \$3000.00 awards are made each year. The deadline is February 1, 2010. Contact Lodge 4 for details.

The Fourword

two (2) tickets to a fundraiser being held by Baltimore County Councilman T. Bryan McIntire (District # 3). The ticket cost was \$125.00 each, for a total PAC expenditure of \$250.00.

- A motion was made to purchase one (1) ticket to a fundraiser being held by Baltimore County Councilman Joe Bartenfelder (District # 6). The ticket cost was \$500.00 each, for a total PAC expenditure of \$500.00.
- These motions were presented to the Executive Board and received a proper second. They were discussed, voted upon, and approved by the Executive Board of Directors.
- These motions were also presented at the General Membership meeting. Each motion was made, received a proper second and was voted upon. The General Membership approved each expenditure.

REPORT OF LEGAL COUNSEL

~Mike Marshall~

- Brother Matt Ackley's doctor has determined that he is at maximum medical improvement and is 100% disabled. The County doctors seem to have conceded that Brother Ackley's condition is permanent. The outstanding issue is the percentage of disability impairment and benefit. The County has identified a doctor who will review Brother Ackley's records and provide a disability rating so that his disability pension can be converted from 50% to 66 2/3 %. The issue appears to be that the County doctors have been either unqualified in Brother Ackley's condition, or

unwilling to testify at a proceeding regarding the condition. Counsel continues to work with Brother Ackley to arrive at a solution.

NEW BUSINESS

- President Weston made a motion to spend \$3800.00 for platters to be delivered to the precincts on New Year's Eve. The motion passed.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Executive Board of Directors election results were as follows (* denotes winners):

*Jim Rommel	699
*Tom Scally	666
*Lou Lagna	637
*Mike DiCara	582
*Tony DiCara	571
Vince Romeo	531
Kathy Kraemer	499
Kathy Greenbeck	308

- Congratulations to the five incumbent Board members who were re-elected to another 2-year term.
- During the month of November, the Lodge sent four (4) flower arrangements and seven (7) sympathy cards to bereaving members. One (1) fruit basket was sent to a member following a surgery. Two (2) donations were made in lieu of flowers (at family members' request) in the name of a member or loved one. Five (5) "Thank You" cards were received.
- Brother Bob Caskey advised members to make sure they have the cards issued by Schlachman, Belsky & Weiner, which contain the language members should include if they are ordered to write a statement

without the presence of counsel. These cards can be obtained from the FOP Lodge 4 lobby.

- The Super Bowl 5K race will be held on February 7, 2010.
- President Weston advised that Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens graciously offered a burial site for Jeff Neral and his spouse as well as Jason Simons and his spouse. The special services Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens provides to the Baltimore County Police Department are greatly appreciated.
- Brother Bergin advised that the fundraiser for Brother Pete Sharman raised approximately \$35,000. Thanks to all who supported the cause.
- Brother Bob Caskey won the 50/50 and donated it back to Lodge 4.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 pm.

Members are reminded that all acknowledgments of bereavements and those sick or in distress are the result of notifications from family members and/or coworkers.



“FOR PETE’S SAKE”

On November 2, 2009, a benefit for Baltimore County Police Detective Pete Sharman was held at The Ship’s Café Bar and Grill in Catonsville. The benefit was held to assist Pete’s family with expenses while he fights, A.L.S. (Lou Gehrig’s disease), a horrible terminal disease. Proprietors, Jim & Sharon Andrews generously donated their place of business, time and expense to host the benefit for an officer in need. The list of people assisting with this event is to long to name so I will only mention a limited number of those involved:

- Tony Scuito (musician) -Edwin Mulitalo and Spencer Folau (retired Ravens)
- Chris Hoiles and Tippy Martinez (retired Orioles) -Peter Angelos and Steve Biscotti
- Cal Ripken and Brooks Robinson -Fox Chevrolet and the Catonsville Walmart
- Jimmy Bell and Maryanne MacLellan of Hightops Backstage Grill
- Sheila Silverstein and WPOC Country Radio
- Beverly from Sign-O-Rama of Catonsville -retired Officer Marti Motten.

Thanks to those who donated silent auction items which were incredible and I thank each and every one of you for your contributions.

Special thanks to “Times” reporter Kevin Rector, whose article on Pete helped spread the word throughout the community. Many thanks to Wolf Security and Lieutenant Rick Landsman for your donations and your involvement in this event. Thanks to Lieutenant Charles Gable of the Howard County Sheriffs Dept for donating his winnings from the 50/50 raffle.

Thanks to the business communities of Catonsville, Arbutus, Lansdowne and Baltimore Highlands. Thank you to the members of the Wilkens Police Community Relations Organization and its President, Lorna Rudnikas and Treasurer, John Roth. Thank you to the Catonsville Chamber of Commerce and George Brookhart and to the Baltimore County Police family and The Baltimore County Fraternal Order of Police Lodge # 4.

Most of all, thank you to the citizens of the western Baltimore County. After growing up in Catonsville, I new that you would not let us down and believe me, you didn’t. You came through for us in a big, big way. As of the date of this article, we are stilling receiving donations from all over the state of Maryland from individuals, businesses and church groups. If you desire to make a donation, we have an account open for “Pete Sake” donations and you can send a check payable to the W.P.C.R.O. in the name of “For Pete’s Sake”, 1201 Sparrow Ct. Arbutus, MD 21227.

I can’t say it enough,
Thank You, Thank You, Thank You
Rick Bergin
Sgt. @ Arms
Baltimore County
F.O.P. Lodge # 4

The January

**FOP Lodge 4
GENERAL
BUSINESS
MEETING**

will be held on

**Monday,
January 25, 2009
7:30 p.m.**

at
FOP Lodge 4
9304 Harford Road

The February

**FOP Lodge 4
GENERAL
BUSINESS
MEETING**

will be held on

**Monday,
February 22, 2009
7:30 p.m.**

at
FOP Lodge 4
9304 Harford Road