



OHIO FOP E-Focus

AUGUST, 2009

Ohio State Conference A Hit!

About 350 delegates from across Ohio were on hand in Columbus to participate in the 75th Annual Conference of the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio.

Those in attendance were addressed by Ohio Attorney General Richard Cordray, Lieutenant Governor Lee Fisher, Grand Lodge President Chuck Canterbury and Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund Director Bill Estabrook.

Outstanding Legislator awards were given to Senator Tim Grendell and Representative Jay Goyal for their outstanding support of our issues at the State House.

A Resolution was passed by the delegates to show support of Sgt. Jim Crowley and the Cambridge, MA Police Department regarding the recent controversy (see additional article) involving President

Obama. Another Resolution was passed to support the Casino proposal due to the jobs it would generate and the money set aside for law enforcement, amongst other issues, in the proposal. A resolution was also passed to form a study committee to look for ways to save money at future conferences and finally a resolution was passed to congratulate Capital City Lodge 9 for their outstanding job in hosting the conference.

FOP Donates to

Special Olympics and Easter Seals

The FOP of Ohio made donations during their 75th Annual Conference to the Special Olympics of Ohio and to Easter Seals.

These annual donations are made to these two

charities because they are the external charities of choice of the Fraternal Order of Police and the good work they do is obvious to everyone. The delegates at the conference were treated to being addressed by a Spe-

cial Olympics athlete and the National Child Ambassador from Easter Seals and each received a standing ovation. All delegates were impressed by those two, I guarantee it!

State FOP Board hosts discussion on layoffs!

At the State FOP Conference, the Board of the Ohio FOP hosted a discussion regarding layoffs and the threat of layoffs all across the state. Presidents of lodges in Akron, Dayton, Columbus, Cincinnati, Mansfield, Summit County, Hamilton County and others spoke on what was happening in their areas and what actions they have taken.

The consensus of the speakers was that the best action to take was to be politically active and politically aggressive in supporting political candidates that support public safety. The speakers also believe that local politicians are using the economic crisis as an opportunity to try to break the unions, specifically ours.

Dave Stone, of Summit County Deputies Lodge 139, spoke very passionately from the perspective of a member who was laid off previously and how the FOP needs to be supportive of, and remain in contact with, those who get laid off.

Dave Hughes, of Lodge 9 in Columbus, gave a fiery speech about how members and leaders need to remain focused on working to save the jobs of those being targeted for layoffs.

Mark Drum, of the State Board, spoke on the importance of our own members not working to the detriment of other members. Specifically, retired members who volunteer for law enforcement agencies to do the work of laid off members for free.

Randy Beane, President of Dayton 44, stated his belief that the best way to defeat those who seek to make our communities less safe through police layoffs is to establish local Political Action Accounts (PAC'S) to support those financially who support the police. Mark Drum echoed those sentiments but also thinks that members should contribute to the State PAC so that the State FOP could pool those donations and use them locally to the benefit of those members at the local level.

Lastly, Jay McDonald of the State Board, suggested that members focus on the impact to public safety when campaigning against layoffs and trying to make local residents aware of how police layoffs will affect the community. He also passed along a story he heard from Florida FOP member George Hachigian. This story involved a newspaper ad and a billboard campaign that said something like this: "This town has 6000 sex offenders, do you know where they are, because there are now less police officers to protect you from them due to Mayor Whomever laying off 20 men and women who swore an oath to protect you."

Patty Kungle - 2009 Ohio FOP Member of the Year

At the 75th annual conference, the FOP of Ohio named its member of the year. This year's award winner was nominated by her brothers and sisters from the Summit County Deputies Lodge 139. Patti Kungle was nominated because of her dedication to duty and to her Lodge. Patti became the first female road patrol deputy for the Summit County S.O. She also worked with D.A.R.E. the Mounted Patrol, worked Community Policing and was an OPOTA certified instructor. She has served as a Lodge Trustee and Vice President.

Patti also has served the State FOP and the FOP, Ohio Labor Council. She has been the liaison for both organizations to OPERS. She has assisted numerous members with their pension questions..

2009 CIRF GOLF OUTING IS HUGE SUCCESS

Brothers and Sisters of the FOP of Ohio and the FOP, Ohio Labor Council:

During the calendar year of 2009, the Critical Incident Response Service has responded and handled over 70 separate critical incidents through-out the State of Ohio. To assist in funding the program , the only fund raiser of the Critical Incident Foundation is the CIRF Golf Outing on the first Monday in August.

This year the event produced over 90 golfers from across the state to participate in this fundraiser at the Foxfire Golf Club located south of Columbus and we are very happy to report that everyone had a terrific time with other brothers and sisters.

A very enthusiastic thank you to all sponsors, golfers and staff for making this annual event a huge success, and look forward to seeing all the smiling faces next August 2, 2010.

On behalf of our State Secretary for the FOP, Jay McDonald and our program director, Mike Haley thank you very much, and if any question should arise, please call the office at 1-800-367-6524 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

David Conley

Lima Lodge 21 - 2009 Ohio FOP Lodge of the Year!

The 2009 Ohio FOP Lodge of the year was named at the annual conference in Columbus. This year the award went to FOP Lima Lodge #21. Lima Lodge #21 is a multi-agency Lodge with members from municipal, township, county, state and federal agencies. Lodge #21 is very active in the community. The members support the local Soap Box Derby, 4-H, Boy Scouts, Lima Police Department Youth Roller Hockey and a shop with a cop program.

The Lodge also provides a book scholarship for the children of any member attending college. The Lodge has established a Benevolence Fund to aid our members during times of serious illness or if a member should die.

In the past Lodge #21 has hosted 2 FOP Board meetings. They also conduct an annual Memorial Service during Police Week. The Lodge also sends delegates to the annual conference.

FOP Acts in Massachusetts Incident

The National and Ohio FOP have taken a strong stance in the recent controversy regarding the arrest of an African American Professor in Cambridge, MA. that was the subject of much media attention. This media attention is due to the fact that President Obama decided to interject himself into the controversy and made remarks without, admittedly, knowing all the facts surrounding the case.

On the morning of 23 July 2009, at the direction of National President Chuck Canterbury, Executive Director of the Grand Lodge Jim Pasco contacted the White House to advise them of the FOP's concerns regarding the President's remarks at the previous night's press conference which were directed at Sergeant James Crowley and the Cambridge Police Department. Pasco also advised them that National President Canterbury would issue a formal statement later in the day.

**Please go to
www.fop.net to see all
the information
regarding the FOP's
involvement in this
controversial incident.**

Pasco was subsequently contacted by a second member of the White House staff, who told me that all other police groups had committed to remain silent on the issue. He told this staff member that we were unlikely to remain silent. Pasco suggested that he call National President Canterbury, who was in a travel status, and gave him National President Canterbury's cell phone number. .

About ten minutes later, National President Canterbury, having by then spoken with the White House himself, coordinated with Arnie Larson, President of the Massachusetts State Lodge, and instructed the Washington, D.C. office to issue a strong statement in support of Sgt. Crowley and the Cambridge Police Department. We did so at approximately 3 pm that afternoon. By early that evening, as a result of FOP leadership on the issue, all other national police groups—except the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO)—rethought their positions and also made statements in support of the men and women of the Cambridge Police Department.

The Grand Lodge was inundated with media calls but only responded to print media to ensure a clear and moderate message. National President Canterbury declined all invitations to appear on talk shows and television news programs.

On the following day, we were happy to comply with a White House request to help facilitate a call from President Obama to Sgt. Crowley, the content of which has been extensively reported.

The State of Ohio FOP issued a resolution in support of Sgt. Crowley and Officer Figueroa and the department as a whole and that message will be delivered in a letter from President DiMarco to those individuals.

There is no doubt that the FOP's prompt, thoughtful, and aggressive action ultimately minimized potential adverse fallout from this matter, and brought focus to the simple fact that Sergeant James Crowley is a good police officer in a good department, and that he and his colleagues were merely doing their jobs that day—and doing them well.

Delegates Unanimously Support Cincinnati!

The delegates to the State Conference unanimously approved a motion to support the efforts of Queen City Lodge 69 in their bid to bring the 2013 Conference to the Buckeye State.

Brother Bill Halusek narrated a video presentation from the lodge highlighting

the reasons for voting for Cincinnati for 2013.

President Nick DiMarco summed it up more bluntly saying, "You would be foolish not to vote for Cincinnati, besides being from our home state...you have to consider the costs of going to Long Beach and then to Utah in 2011.

The savings of not having to travel in 2013 are reason enough to vote for Cincinnati but when you consider that these are our brothers and sisters asking for our help, it is a no brainer!."

VOTE CINCINNATI FOR 2013!

Enforcement Expo is one month away!

September 1 and 2 at the Columbus Convention Center will be the date and place of the 4th annual Enforcement Expo. AG Richard Cordray will be the keynote speaker, the semi-

nars will be fantastic, the exhibits will be numerous and interesting and everything will be free. FREE!

All you have to do is pre-register and even

parking is free.

Go to www.enforcementexpo.com

For more information.

See you there!

Ohio FOP to caucus in Long Beach !

National Trustee Chet DeLong has called a caucus for Monday, August 17 at the close of regular business. Look for a flyer at the Westin for an exact location.

This room is designed for 150 people and we believe that around 250 delegates will be in attendance at the Long Beach conference, so get there early if you want a seat.

There are numerous Constitution and By-law proposals to discuss. Also, the election of the National Trustee will take place in Long Beach this year.

Police officers may face higher heart disease risk

Police officers may have a higher-than-average risk of developing heart disease—not all of which can be explained by traditional risk factors, a new study suggests.

Researchers found that compared with the general population, officers with the Buffalo, New York, police force showed an elevated rate of early Atherosclerosis—a build-up of fatty deposits in the arteries than can lead to heart disease or stroke. The difference, the study found, was not fully explained by the usual heart risk factors, such as older age, heavier weight, smoking and High Blood Pressure and cholesterol.

The findings suggest that aspects of police work itself may take a toll on heart health, the researchers report in the *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*. Exactly what those factors are is not known, but stress is one suspect, Dr. John Violanti, who was involved in the study, told Reuters Health.

Over the course of a career, police officers are exposed to chronic, and sometimes traumatic, stress, noted Violanti, an associate professor of social and preventive medicine at the State University of New York at Buffalo.

Past studies have suggested that chronically elevated levels of "stress" hormones, like cortisol, may contribute to Atherosclerosis. Violanti and his colleagues lacked stress-hormone measurements from their study participants, so it is not clear what role stress might have played in the findings.

The study included 312 police officers who were compared with 318 Buffalo-area residents, all of whom were free of heart disease symptoms. The researchers used ultrasound to measure thickening in the walls of participants' carotid arteries; greater thickness is indicative of early, symptomless Atherosclerosis.

Violanti's team found that even when they factored in age, sex and a range of other heart disease risk factors, police officers generally had more thickening in the carotid arteries.

For now, the bottom line for police officers is that they should try to rein in all the heart risk factors that they can control by, among other things, following a healthy diet, getting regular exercise and not smoking, Violanti said. He and his colleagues are currently studying cortisol levels in police officers, to see what role chronic stress may be playing in their heart health.

SOURCE: Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, June 2009.

Ohio FOP gets amendments into the Ohio Budget

The Ohio FOP was successful in getting several key pieces of our legislative agenda into the Ohio Budget.

Legislative Chairman Mark Drum led the way in getting some clarifications to the public records law entitling you to place property into your initials, instead of your name. This clarification was needed because of Hamilton County Auditor Dusty Rhoades refusing to comply with the spirit of the original legislation.

We also were able to place some updates of earlier legislation into the budget to benefit our brothers and sisters at BCI. They are now included in the law that allows them to use their work address for their Ohio drivers license, includes them (and others) in the prohibition of impersonating a police officer and allows any on duty traffic crashes not to be counted on your personal insurance.

There were also some amendments that dealt with how breaks in service would be han-

dled by the Ohio Peace Officer's Training Commission. No longer will you have to take refresher courses for short breaks in service.

The Attorney General also pushed to remove the provision that all mandated training must take place before the department can be reimbursed.

We will keep working for you

OPOTC investigates funding for training in Ohio

The continuing professional training committee of the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission is investigating a way to provide the funding necessary to complete the intent of the mandated training for law enforcement officers. Sheriff Mauer of Wayne County is leading a group of committee members to Kentucky in August to study the model they use. This model basically taxes all property insurance.

With this tax, the State of Kentucky provides a training to each department equivalent to about \$3600 for each full time law enforcement officer for training only.

The fire service in Kentucky also receives funding from this model as well. In Ohio, we hold more of the qualifying types of insurance and therefore would receive more dollars under the same plan but we also have more officers.

I will keep you up to date on any progress or additions to this plan.

The 2011 FOP of Ohio Conference will be in Canton, Ohio....I am looking forward to it already!

SPEEDING TICKET EXCUSES



**I WAS ON MY
WAY TO BRING
YOU DONUTS**



**I WAS RACING
HOME TO
WATCH COPS**



**I THOUGHT
YOU WANTED
TO RACE?**

FOP of Ohio Calendar of Events

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| August 3 | 3rd Annual CIRS Golf Outing | Lockbourne, Ohio |
| August 16-20 | 59th Biennial National FOP Conference | Long Beach, CA |
| September 1-2 | Enforcement Expo | Columbus, Ohio |
| October 3 | Poker Walk for Special Olympics | Put-In-Bay |
| July 27-29 | 76 Annual FOP of Ohio Conference | Independence, Ohio |

Lots of local lodges are holding golf outings and other events, please visit www.fopohio.org for a listing of all that have been sent to the Ohio State Lodge. See you in Long Beach.