

# A Lodge UPDATE



Issue 23

Quarterly Newsletter from The FOPA of Ohio

November 2024

## From the President

Greetings Members,

I hope you're all enjoying the absolutely beautiful fall weather, this is my favorite time of the year! Please make sure to check out page 6 for a fall fundraiser from the FOP of Ohio. Please consider supporting our FOP brothers and sisters.

This may sound like a broken record, but please make sure your lodge has made their IRS 990 filing for the year. Only half of the lodges have filed their federal tax forms for the 2023 tax year. Several lodges are a year behind in filing, some are two years behind, and unfortunately a number of lodges will be receiving revocation letters from the IRS if they haven't already.

Lodge officers, check to make sure your lodge has filed and make sure you are using the correct EIN (tax ID number). Local FOPA lodges must have their own number, they may not use the state lodge EIN or the EIN of their FOP parent lodge. If your lodge hasn't filed PLEASE take care of it as soon as possible. Once the IRS send the revocation letter it can be time consuming and costly to get back to good standing. And if your lodge gets to this point you are in danger of no longer being a lodge in good standing.

Beginning in 2025 we will be closely monitoring EIN compliance. We will be sending reminders to the lodges that can still file, and we will be sending letters to lodges and to their respective FOP lodges if they are no longer compliant with the IRS. If lodges that are out of compliance do not take strides to become compliant, they may not be considered a lodge in good standing. This could mean not receiving membership cards or being able to send delegates to our annual state conference until they are reinstated with the IRS.

If you would like to check your status on the IRS website you can visit: <https://apps.irs.gov/app/eos/> and enter your lodge's tax ID number (EIN)

If you have any questions about your lodge's status or are unsure what your EIN is, please let me know. We will cover this in more detail at our winter board meeting and of course at our annual conference.

We hope to see many of you at our upcoming meetings in 2025. Mark your calendars for these dates: Winter Board Meeting January 24th-25th in Columbus, Spring Board Meeting May 2nd-3rd in Canton, and our annual FOP-FOPA State Conference July 13th-15th in Sharonville.

Fraternally,

Theresa A. Drennen, State President

**Would you like to see your lodge or a member featured in the next edition? We love to share stories from across the state!**

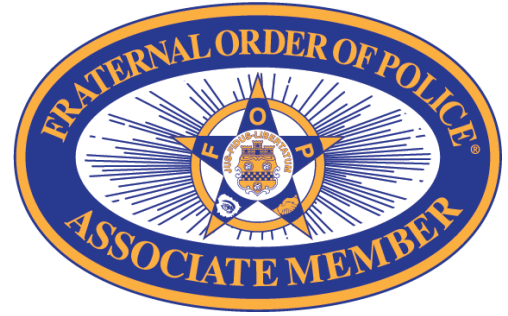
**Deadline for submissions for the February 2025 issue is January 15th. Please email submissions to [ALodgeUpdate@gmail.com](mailto:ALodgeUpdate@gmail.com)**

# State Secretary-Treasurer Report

Greetings from your Secretary/Treasurer, Elaine Domonkos.

What a beautiful fall we are having. The fall colors are really starting to come out and the temperatures are finally returning to normal – no more heat wave.

I hope this finds everyone well and that the lodges are off to a great new start. Although the per capita payments have slowed down, we are still taking them in.



Any per capita payments made from July through December will be calculated and a check will be presented to the State FOP of the number of members paid for during this time. By presenting the payments twice a year, this ensures that all members are accounted for, whether you send in the 2025 members early, their per capita payment still gets calculated. To sum this up – per capita payments received January through June, membership is calculated and paid to the State FOP at the state conference. Per capita payments July through December get calculated and paid to the State FOP at the Winter Board meeting in January. Should you have any questions regarding this procedure, please let me know.

As in my past articles, some of this may be repetitive, but there is a reason I continue to put the information into the articles.

## **E-MAIL**

My email, specific to FOPA business is up and running. Please use the following email for any correspondence you may have: [FOPAOhioStateSecretary@gmail.com](mailto:FOPAOhioStateSecretary@gmail.com). If you continue to use my prior email, your message may not be reviewed in a timely manner. I get a lot of emails on my prior email, and those pertaining to the FOPA may be lost.

I will try to reply within 24 hours of receiving any email. I look several times during the day but cannot always reply while at work. If there is anything that needs immediate attention, please call me on my cell and leave a message if need be (614-323-5557). For those calling, if you are not in my contact list, the call will automatically be sent to voice mail. Please leave a message and I will call you back – either after 5:00 pm or during my lunch.

## **PER CAPITA PAYMENTS – MEMBERSHIP CARDS**

All per capita payments for 2024 should now be paid. If not, please send in your final payments as soon as possible. It is now time to make sure all information is current in the database. This is what will be used for the printing of the 2025 Membership Cards. Please make ALL changes now so that the cards print with the correct spelling. Let's also mark all those members who are no longer members as inactive so that a card does not print. This also goes for those who have passed away this past year.

**Membership Cards:** IF you have any cards that needs corrected or cards for a new member, please keep the following in mind:

DO NOT contact Denise Young requesting new cards or corrections. All requests for new cards or corrections need to go through me! NO EXCEPTIONS!

New Member cards will be completed once the per capita for the new member has been received by the state.

Again, no exceptions. Therefore, it would serve your lodge to add this member to the data base and submit their per capita immediately following their joining of your lodge.

Contact me for any card corrections, need for additional disbursement forms or questions.

Please note that members who have been *Reinstated* are not to be considered a new member if they have had a few years between being a member. *New members* are members who have *never* been a member of the FOPA. We want to make sure we do not duplicate the cards that print every year.

I continue to get checks written to the FOP and the FOP Auxiliary. Please double check before mailing your per capita payment to the state. ALL checks need to be payable to **FOPA of Ohio Inc.** Once I stop getting payments payable to anyone other than the FOPA of Ohio Inc, I will continue to put this in the newsletter.

Make me stop, please :-)

*Continued on page 3*

# State Secretary-Treasurer Report

*Continued from page 2*

## **SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS**

We received a wonderful thank you note from one of our Scholarship winners, Theodore Troullos. I have copied it below for all to see:

*Dear Fraternal Order of Police Scholarship Committee,*

*I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for awarding me the FOP Scholarship. As a freshman in the Mechanical Engineering program at Ohio State University, I am proud to share that I am entering college having graduated with a 3.8 GPA from The Linsly School. This scholarship will significantly alleviate the financial burden of my education and allow me to focus more on my studies and future career goals.*

*This semester, I am enrolled in challenging yet exciting courses, including physics and calculus, which are essential for my journey toward becoming a mechanical engineer in the automotive field. I have always been passionate about working on vehicles, and I particularly enjoy spending time on my 1996 Ford truck. The hands-on experience I gain from this hobby fuels my enthusiasm for engineering and drives me to succeed academically.*

*Your generous support is not just an investment in my education but also in my future as a mechanical engineer. I am deeply committed to working hard and achieving my goals, and receiving this scholarship is a tremendous encouragement as I continue on this path.*

*Thank you once again for your generosity and belief in my potential. I am determined to make the most of this opportunity and look forward to giving back to the community in the future.*

*With gratitude,*

*Theodore "Mikey" Troullos*

## **BANK BALANCE – July 29, 2024 through October 19, 2024**

### **General Checking Account**

Beginning Balance	\$125,974.74
Ending Balance	\$92,743.84
Difference	\$33,260.90

The payments made during this time ranged from the postage, supplies, Conference Hospitality, FOPA per capita, officer salaries. This balance reflects all payments that were made in July that have now been cashed.

### **Scholarship Checking Account**

Beginning Balance	\$16,871.72
Ending Balance	\$23,570.72
Difference	\$6,699.00

All the scholarship checks have been cashed and the \$3 per member was deposited. Several scholarship payments went unclaimed as grades were never sent. If you have any previous scholar winners inquiring about their payments, please remind them that they owe grades before getting any payment.

As always, your State Board is here to help you in any way that they can. Please feel free to contact me via email ([FOPAOhioStateSecretary@gmail.com](mailto:FOPAOhioStateSecretary@gmail.com)) or phone 614-323-5557 if you have any questions and/or concerns.

Elaine Domonkos  
FOPA State Secretary/Treasurer



## Around the State

### Erie County Lodge #35

Lodge #35 participated in the Perkins Township Community Days celebration. They gave away two kid's bicycles generously donated by member Hazel Foley in memory of her son Harry. They also had membership information available to let the community know what the FOPA is all about!

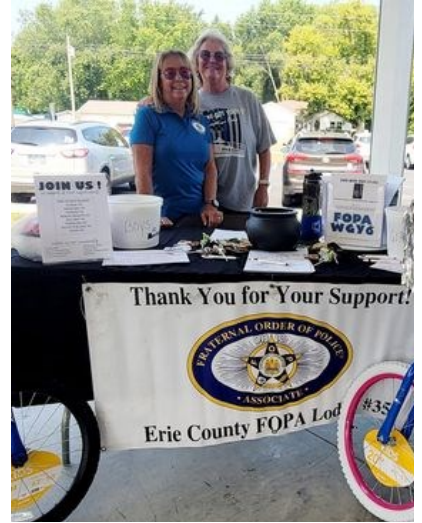
*Submitted by Tim Meade Lodge #35 President* **Great Work Lodge #35**



Mary Dahlman & Holly Price



The happy winners!

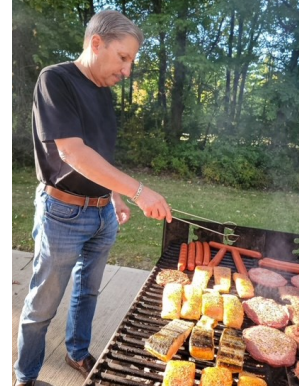


Fran Bergmoser & Holly Price

### Beachwood Lodge #88

Lodge #88 had their annual picnic on September 16th.

*Submitted by Robert Marimberga Lodge #88 President*





## Around the State

### Lima Lodge #8

Lima Lodge #8 participated in the Allen County Fair Parade on August 11th. It is a great community outreach event for the lodge.

They were also able to swear in six new members at their September meeting!

*Submitted by Tammy White, Lodge #8 Secretary -Treasurer & State Vice President*



Front row L to R: Dave Beck, Mark Miller, Tammy White, Lisa Heffner, Doris Cole, Chris Adams, Rebecca Kreher, Pam Sinica

On trailer L to R: Kristen Sinica, Brad Long, Laura Ball, Robert Rose

New members L to R: Gary Reinert, Doris Reinert, Marianne Moats, Mutiatu Awe, Jeff Millirans, and Codi Rose

Also from Lima Lodge #8, one of their members received quite an honor. David Bates is a Lodge #8 member and the founder and owner of Warriors Way. Warriors Way is a program to help military veterans with their mental health and PTSD. David was awarded the Jaqueline Kennedy Onassis Award for outstanding public service benefitting local communities. This award is the highest recognition of public service in the country, and an incredible honor.

**Congratulations David, and Thank You for all you do for our veterans!**



**Would you like to see your lodge's event or fundraiser featured here? Deadline for submissions for the February 2025 issue is January 15th.**

**Please email submissions to [ALodgeUpdate@gmail.com](mailto:ALodgeUpdate@gmail.com)**

**Please include details of the event/raffle and who to contact for tickets or for more information.**



## Fundraisers

Please consider supporting the FOP of Ohio and purchasing tickets for the chance to win two tickets to Michigan at Ohio State on November 30th! The proceeds of the raffle will go toward helping local FOP lodges throughout Ohio.

Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$20 and can be purchased online at:  
<https://unionly.io/o/fopohio/store/products/2024-fop-of-ohio-football-raffle>

The winner will be drawn on November 15th.



## FOPA Challenge Coins



NEW Fundraiser! We have challenge coins for sale! Coins are \$10 each or 2 for \$15. If your lodge would like to purchase a larger quantity please ask about bulk pricing.