

A Lodge UPDATE



Issue 28

Quarterly Newsletter from The FOPA of Ohio

February 2026

From the President

Greetings Members,

This year at our conference we will be holding elections. The board positions of President, Vice President, and Secretary–Treasurer will all be up for nominations, as will all district trustee positions. I've already spoke to several members who are interested in serving on the State Board. If you'd like more information on any of the positions and what is expected of board members please reach out to me, I'll be happy to discuss it!

The Velarium database is back up and running. This database had been free to us for many years but when the National FOP switched to a new system, we realized that it wasn't compatible for our needs. We were able to negotiate a contract with Velarium and moving forward it is imperative that all lodges are using this system to keep their membership up to date. Adding new members, and removing former members who are no longer with the FOPA. Beginning in 2027 lodges who haven't updated their rosters in the system, won't receive membership cards until the information has updated. We will be happy to work with anyone who isn't familiar with the system and will have seminars after this meeting, spring meeting and the conference.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please get in touch!

Fraternally,

Theresa A. Drennen, State President

FOPA Challenge Coins



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. Proceeds benefit the FOPA State Lodge general fund.

Mark Your Calendars

Spring Board Meeting: April 24th - 25th

Annual State Conference: July 18th -21st

From the Vice President

Greetings to all,

Hoping this finds you all well and rested up from the hustle and bustle of the holidays. As we enter into 2026 I want to sincerely thank you all for your continued support of the FOPA. Your lodges and members make a difference in the activities you do in the community and above all the support you give to our law enforcement members.

We have another busy year approaching with our winter and spring meetings and our Annual Conference. To prepare throughout the next 6 months please keep in mind that The FOPA Scholarship, Nick Dimarco Scholarship and Virgil McDaniel Scholarship have a deadline of May 1st. By filling out the application that is located on the FOP of Ohio website it will enter the applicant for all 3 scholarships. Please contact me if you have questions or would be interested in serving on the scholarship committee.

Last year we did not have any nominees for Member of the Year, Lodge of the Year or The Virgil McDaniel Award. The applications for all of these awards can also be found on the FOP of Ohio website with a deadline of May 1st. It would be great to have a few nominations to pick from. Every lodge has someone who makes it great and goes over and beyond. Lets recognize these individuals. Please contact me if you have any questions or would be interested in serving on the awards committee.

During the conference this year we will again be raffling off a bourbon basket with some police items mixed in, a lottery ticket basket and a 50/50 drawing. Please contact me if you would be interested in selling tickets and helping out with this fundraiser.

I am here for you. Please do not hesitate to contact me through email at Whiteohstatevp@gmail.com or text or call at 419-230-6800. I appreciate each and everyone of you !!!!

Sincerely,

Tammy White, State Vice 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!

**Would you like to see your lodge's event or fundraiser featured here?
Deadline for submissions for the May 2026 issue is April 15th.**

Please email submissions to ALodgeUpdate@gmail.com

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

Member Spotlight

A Lifetime of Service: The Law Enforcement and FOPA Leadership of Mark Hoageson

For 35 years, Mark Hoageson served the City of Richmond Heights as a dedicated member of the Auxiliary Police Unit, retiring on April 8, 2024 after more than two decades as unit commander. Known for his steady leadership, calm presence, and genuine care for the community, Mark built a reputation as someone who always put people first. His colleagues describe him as a deeply committed public servant who consistently went above and beyond to support the safety and well-being of his hometown.

Mark's approach to policing was rooted in connection. He believed that trust was earned through visibility, kindness, and meaningful engagement. Whether assisting patrol officers during major incidents, supporting city events, or conducting routine preventive patrols, he understood the unique role auxiliary officers play in strengthening the bond between residents and the police department.

Some of Mark's most memorable contributions came from the joy he brought to local families. He became known for decorating police cruisers for Christmas, Easter, and Halloween, driving through neighborhoods with holiday music playing from the loudspeakers. Children would run out to wave, laugh, and—on Halloween—collect candy directly from the cruiser. Those moments of fun and community spirit reflected Mark's belief that policing is not only about safety, but also about building positive experiences that last. Throughout his career, Mark volunteered countless hours to support the city during water main breaks, power outages, parades, concerts, and weekend park patrols. At a time when many departments faced staffing challenges, his leadership ensured that Richmond Heights continued to benefit from high-visibility preventive patrols, both mobile and on foot. His dedication made him a living example of modern community policing.



Service Beyond the Badge: Leadership in FOPA Lodge #27

Mark's commitment to public service extends far beyond his work in uniform. A member of FOPA Eastern Cuyahoga Lodge #27 since 1989, he has served as Treasurer for the past five years—guiding the lodge through one of the most challenging periods in its history.

Coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic, the lodge faced significant financial and organizational pressures. Membership was aging, participation had declined, and long-standing revenue sources were no longer reliable. Under Mark's steady financial leadership, Lodge #27 undertook a series of necessary reforms to stabilize operations, align spending with available resources, and chart a sustainable path forward. His approach was practical, transparent, and focused on preserving the lodge's mission while adapting to new realities.

Mark also stepped up as Newsletter Editor, ensuring that members remained informed, connected, and engaged during a time when communication was more important than ever. His work helped maintain continuity, strengthen relationships, and support the lodge's recovery and growth.

Today, Mark continues to serve actively in both roles—Treasurer and Newsletter Editor—demonstrating the same dedication and reliability that defined his law enforcement career.

Continuing Service to the Community

Even in retirement from the Auxiliary Unit, Mark remains connected to the Richmond Heights Police Department. He continues to assist the department during special events and on particular occasions when his experience and steady presence are needed. His commitment to service has never been tied to a title; it is simply who he is.

A Legacy of Leadership and Community

From decades of community-focused policing to guiding FOPA Lodge #27 through a period of transformation, Mark Hoageson has built a legacy defined by service, integrity, and genuine care for others. His impact is felt in the officers he mentored, the residents he connected with, the lodge he helped stabilize, and the countless moments of kindness he created along the way.

His story is a reminder that leadership is not measured only in rank or years served, but in the lives touched and the community strengthened.

Thank you Mark For all of your hard work and your dedication to the FOPA!

Submitted by: Mary Prince, Secretary FOPA #27

Around the State

FOPA Eastern Cuyahoga Lodge #27

In early December, FOPA Eastern Cuyahoga Lodge #27 hosted its very first Holiday Family Gathering at the Rustic Grill at StoneWater in Highland Heights, Ohio. The evening offered a warm and relaxed setting for fellowship, giving members, their families, and guests an opportunity to enjoy the season together in a casual and welcoming atmosphere.

This new gathering was introduced as an additional opportunity for members to spend time together during the holidays. While the parent lodge's Christmas Party remains the primary seasonal celebration, our lodge wanted to complement that tradition with an informal get-together focused on family, connection, and shared fellowship.

As the holiday season continued, our lodge also joined the parent lodge's Christmas Party at Alfredo's at the Inn, carrying on a long-standing tradition that remains a highlight for many of our members.

Thanks for sharing Lodge #27!

Submitted by: Mary Prince, Secretary FOPA #27



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Around the State

Newark Lodge #10

Lodge #10 has been really busy! They've been helping out their FOP lodge, helping out in the community, and having a great time! Their pictures are continued on the next page.

Great work Lodge #10!

Submitted by: Jennifer Smith,
Secretary FOPA #10



Jennifer Smith helping with Newark Police Department shop with a cop. Lots of presents needed to be wrapped in a short amount of time!



Tina Stevens and Sheri Nethers helping with the Newark City Schools haunted bus garage.



Tina Stevens and Jennifer Smith volunteered with the Heath Police Department to assist with wrapping presents for their Shop with a Cop event.



Tina Stevens, Dianna Hill, Sheri Nethers, Jaden McElfresh and Jennifer Smith assisted Englefield Oil with wrapping presents for two area shelters.



Tina Stevens and Jennifer Smith volunteered with the Heath Police Department to assist with wrapping presents for their Shop with a Cop



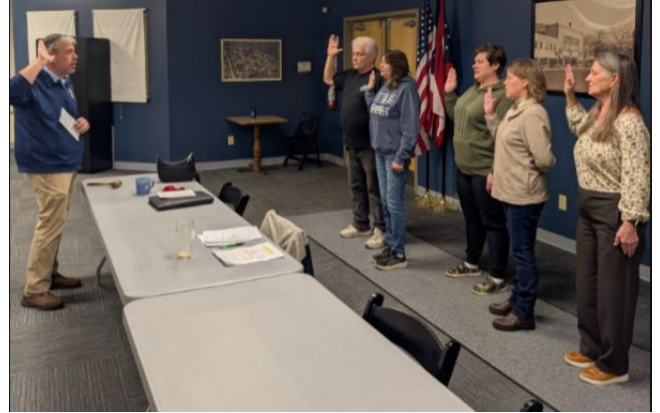
Sheri Nethers, Tina Stevens and Jennifer Smith assisting our P lodge with the kids' Christmas party. We shopped with a few of the FOP guys, which was quite interesting, decorated, prepared goodie bags, served food and cleaned everything up!

Around the State

A few more from Newark Lodge #10



Tina Stevens, Sheri Nethers, and Jennifer Smith volunteered for the Pataskala Police Department Citizens academy! We assisted by being drinkers for the class to show impairment. They were able to see the effects of different stages of alcohol consumption and how this differs for each individual. This was a very fun night, and our FOP PPD trustee James Wiles made sure we got home safely!



FOPA #10 Board being sworn in by State FOP President Jay McDonald! Curt Kreager (Trustee), Joyce Benson (President), Tina Stevens (Vice President), Jennifer Smith (Secretary) and Janet Hendry (Trustee).

Erie County #35

Lodge #35 has been keeping busy with several projects. To the right are pics from their Golf Scramble Fundraiser at Coastal Swing Golf & Bar.

Check out their other projects below!

Take a look at their upcoming Wing Party Fundraiser on the next page.

Submitted by Tim Meade, President
FOPA #35

Keep up the Great Work Lodge #35!



10 Coats & several hats and gloves were purchased and delivered from our lodge to Sandusky PD for their Christmas Coat Drive Holly Price & Mary Dahlmann pictured



In November FOPA #35 provided desserts for Lake Erie FOP Lodge 17's annual reverse raffle



Our lodge also donated funds to Written Inspirations in conjunction with Perkins Local Schools where notes of inspiration are sent to our local Ohio Veterans Home residents.

Fraternal Order of Police Associates

Erie County Lodge #35



Join us for our Annual
FUNdraiser!

Saturday April 25th Noon-3pm

at Daly's Pub in Downtown Sandusky

ALL-U-CAN-EAT Wings Pizza & Select beverages

Raffle Prizes, 50/50's and FUN!

Proceeds support FOPA #35 of Erie County



Tickets
\$25



For tickets email: ckd988half@gmail.com

WESTERVILLE, OHIO

Monday, August 10, 2026

Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio 2026 Golf Outing



The Golf Club at Little Turtle
5400 Little Turtle Way
Westerville, Ohio 43081
Phone: 614-212-4000

Monday August 10, 2026
Cost: \$125 per player
Registration 9:00AM
Shotgun start 10:30AM

Enjoy 18 holes of golf
(including cart), lunch, dinner,
prizes, and an exciting awards
banquet.

All for just \$125.00 per player

- Closest to the pin challenge. Winner will receive an Odyssey Putter
- Longest drive contest Winner will receive a New Titleist driver
- Titleist Driver Raffle

Please contact:
Rob Hawley
rhawley@fopohio.org
222 E. Town St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215
614-224-5700 ext. 1150

FOP Strong

Fraternal Order of Police 2026 Golf Outing- 4 Man Scramble



This year's event will be held, **August 10th** at the well-manicured Golf Club at Little Turtle in Westerville, Ohio.

Registration begins at 9:00 am, shotgun starts at 10:30 am.

The cost for this event is only **\$125 per golfer**. The price includes 18 holes of golf, riding cart, drink tickets, dinner, and various awards.

All Sponsorships are 100% tax deductible

HOLE SPONSOR - \$150.00

Showcase your company's logo as your logo will be prominently displayed on signage at the sponsored hole.

Closest to the Pin SPONSOR - \$250.00

Showcase your company's logo as your logo will be prominently displayed on signage at the golf course

Dinner SPONSOR - \$750.00

Showcase your company's logo as your logo will be prominently displayed on signage at the golf course.

President's SPONSOR - \$2,500.00

Champion Sponsorship package includes:

- One (1) foursome.
- Recognition on banner at golf course.

Please RSVP and return with payment by March 1, 2026
Make checks payable to FOP of Ohio Foundation.

FOP Supporter Information

Name _____
Company _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip: _____
Email Address _____

Golfer 1 _____ Golfer 3 _____
Golfer 2 _____ Golfer 4 _____