

ALodge UPDATE



Issue 8

Quarterly Newsletter from The FOPA of Ohio

February 2021

Letter from our State President

Happy New Year!

I hope the start of 2021 finds everyone safe and healthy! 2020 certainly had challenges in that most lodges were not able to meet physically, as was the case with the State Lodge. Hopefully, we will be able to see everyone in the near future.

As mentioned, we had a few challenges last year. Namely, Shaun Campbell, the State Treasurer, passed away in October. So as not to have an interruption with the finances of the State Lodge, the board sought and appointed a new treasurer. There were several members who showed an interest in this position and they were brought to the board for consideration. The board chose to appoint Elaine Domonkos, from Capital City Lodge #5 as the treasurer to fill Shaun's term. As some of you may remember, Elaine held this position in the past. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Elaine back to the board!

Our raffle from 2020 was postponed and will take place this year, so please continue to sell those tickets.

In the meantime, should any of you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your District Trustee or any other board member.

I am looking forward to a safe and prosperous 2021!

John Nicholson

FOPA of Ohio

State Lodge President

FOPA Mask Fundraiser



\$7.50 each
or
3 for \$20
(Price includes shipping)

Masks are two ply polyester cooling fabric, machine washable and reuseable.

**To purchase send a check or money order made out to FOPA of Ohio to:
Theresa Drennen, 2437 Dunkeith Dr NW, Canton OH 44708**

Or more information contact Theresa Drennen (419) 357-2813 or ALodgeUpdate@gmail.com

****If your lodge would like to purchase 20 or more, contact us for discounted pricing.**

Updates

2020 was definitely a challenging year for everyone, and our lodges were no exception. Hopefully sometime this year we can get back to some degree of normalcy. Until then, how you function as a lodge is up to you. There are lodges who have suspended their meeting for now and choose to send out updates to their members. Some lodges are learning to hold meetings electronically through zoom or similar applications. And there are some lodges who are meeting in person while adhering to social distancing recommendations. How your lodge handles this is up to your membership, what matters is the health and safety of all our members. We would definitely recommend keeping in touch with all of your members, check on your members who may be more isolated, reach out however you can: phone calls, emails, if you have members who are unable to get out much, possibly form a committee to help pick up necessities or run small errands for them. Make sure to forward this newsletter to your members so they can keep up with what's going on around the state. Let's all help each other through this winter and maybe by summer things can begin to approach normal again.

This year has definitely changed with the way the State Lodge conducts business as well. Our winter board meeting was cancelled, the FOP had a brief zoom meeting mostly to approve their budget, but we did not participate. The spring board meeting was cancelled and will be held via zoom. And last week it was announced that our yearly FOP/FOPA State Conference which was to be held in Sandusky has been cancelled as well. The FOP is working on options for virtual meetings for their state conference, and we will look into that as well.

One thing that still must be done, even if you aren't currently meeting, is filing your taxes. We can't stress how important it is to keep your status current with the IRS. Most lodges file electronically, it's a simple procedure but please make sure it gets done. Lodge officers, check with each other and make sure your lodge has filed. You can look up your status online with your EIN number on the IRS website. For more information please visit: <https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/annual-filing-and-forms>

Lastly, the State Lodge has two fundraisers going on. Our mask fundraiser (shown on page one) and our 50/50 raffle (shown below). If any lodges are interested in purchasing a quantity of masks, please contact me for prices. The listed prices cover shipping, so if your lodge would like to make a larger purchase, we can give you a discount. The 50/50 raffle winners were to be drawn at our conference, since it has been cancelled, we will find a date to hold the drawing this summer and draw the numbers via a zoom meeting or on a Facebook live event. We will update you in the next issue with the drawing date.



FOPA State Lodge

50/50 Raffle

10 Winners split the Pot!!

Up to \$500 each!!

\$5 each or 5 for \$20

Proceeds to be split 50/50 between:
FOPA of Ohio State Lodge and
FOP of Ohio Foundation (CIRS)

For tickets or more information contact

Theresa Drennen (419) 357-2813 or ALodgeUpdate@gmail.com

Around the State

City of Fairfield Lodge 97

The City of Fairfield Fraternal Order of Police Associates Lodge 97 (FOPA Lodge 97) winds up another year of successful community service projects. A big portion of the FOPA goals is community service where the FOPA Lodge 97 selects an organization and members donate to the needs of that organization.

In January and February of 2020, Fairfield FOPA members brought in over 400 food items as part of a Food Challenge between the City of Fairfield Police and Fire Departments. Member generosity helped the local food pantry supply food items for needy families within the City of Fairfield community.

The Fraternal Order of Police Associates were unable to have in-person meetings since COVID; however, member communications continued through FOPA email weekly news updates.

2020 community service Christmas projects were two-fold. First Step Home is a facility for women in various stages of recovery from addiction. This year FOPA Lodge 97 partnered with City of Fairfield Fraternal Order of Police members to help meet the needs of First Step Home. Collected were 136 pairs of socks, 33 toothbrushes, 14 toothpaste, 77 lotions, 55 deodorants, 2 hair conditioners, 13 shampoos, 5 scarves, 20 hand soaps, 5 blankets, 2 (\$25 each) Target gift cards and 4 (\$25 each) Kroger gift cards. Gift cards will help to purchase needed personal items.

The second 2020 Christmas project was for Women Helping Women who requested soap and items for babies in the care of mothers. Donated to Women Helping Women were 631 diapers, 1728 baby wipes, 74 bars of soap, 2 (\$25) Target gift cards and 4 (\$25) Kroger gift cards. The Target and Kroger gift cards will help with needed items.

Without the support of Fraternal Order of Police Associates members and help from the City of Fairfield Fraternal Order of Police, the community service projects would not be possible. The Fraternal Order of Police Associates is small in membership; however, the outpouring of generosity of its members is extraordinary.

Submitted by Lodge 97 Secretary /Treasurer Carole Arend

Great Job Lodge 97!



Ohio FOP FREE College Just got BETTER! Pursue Your Degree Online For FREE!

NEW! Free College now offers more options! You can work toward an associate degree or certificate, and now a bachelor's degree completely online, for FREE.

- **No costs to you!** You will not have to pay for tuition, fees and e-books. Additional financial aid options are available for education-related costs.
- **Online programs, accessible anytime, anywhere**
- **Available to your family!** Spouses, domestic partners, children, grandchildren, dependents, siblings, nieces and nephews are all eligible!
- **Now enrolling for fall classes starting August 17, 2020**

Our education partners are public, regionally accredited colleges in Ohio, so credits you earn are transferable. Full and part-time options are designed for working adults.

Find out more at FOPFreeCollege.org!

Visit FOPFreeCollege.org or call us at 888-590-9009!

Around the State

Columbus Lodge #5



Lodge #5 members assembling meals for feeding
Franklin Co law enforcement on Christmas



Capitol City Lodge participated in a couple of events. The first was their annual: Feed the Police. Every Christmas Eve morning FOPA Lodge #5 members meet at the lodge to make food trays for officers who are working on the holiday. This year they were able to assemble lunches for all 28 departments in Franklin County!

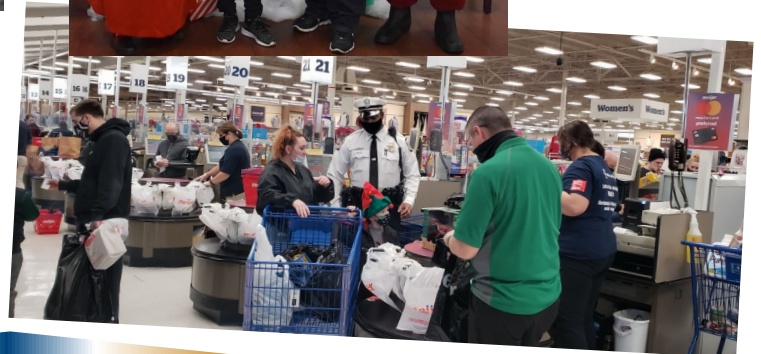
The second event had them assisting FOP #9 and Bridge the Gap Foundation for a breakfast & Shop with a Cop event. They were able to shop for 70 kids! Plus kids got a chance to see Santa too.

Submitted by Lodge #5 President, Jim Leezer



Pictured here:
Janice Ritchey,
Jessica Davis,
Jim Leezer and
Richard Fisher

**Great Job
Lodge #5!**



Akron FOPA #6

FOPA #6 in Akron has a couple of events planned for 2021.

First FOP #7's Music Fest at their lodge with Journey tribute band Escape. Saturday June 5th, starting around 6pm. This is FOP #7's main fundraiser and FOPA #6 helps their parent lodge at this event with selling tickets, parking, beverages, and whatever else they may need.

The second is FOPA #6's annual corn roast on August 14th. This event will also be held at their lodge. They will be selling chances (\$1 each or 6 for \$5) on cash prizes of \$50, \$100, \$250, and \$500!! There will be free food and beverages and it is open to all members and prospective members.

Please stay tuned to our next issue for more information on these events.

Submitted by: Jeff Miller, President, FOPA #6

Ohio Line of Duty Death



Ofc. Brandon M. Stalker

The Toledo Police Department memorialized one of its own Tuesday. Officer Brandon M. Stalker was shot and killed in the line of duty Monday January 18, 2021. The 24 year old had been a TPD officer since March 2, 2019.

Officer Stalker's funeral was held at John F. Savage Arena on the University of Toledo main campus. The funeral commenced at 10 a.m. with law enforcement officers from around the state and region attending. Also in attendance were Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur and Toledo Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz.

"I prayed to God that I would never stand on this stage again, that my police department would never endure this pain and shock again, prayed that another TPD family would never have to experience the tragic loss of a loved one" said TPD Chief George Kral.

Officer Stalker attended the police academy with Officer Anthony Dia who was killed in the line of duty July 4, 2020 by a gunman.

Following the funeral, a procession including over 300 law enforcement vehicles escorted Officer Stalker's casket to Toledo Memorial Park in Sylvania. The graveside service was private, open only to family, friends, and law enforcement.

Among the departments sending officers to the funeral were Sandusky PD, Port Clinton PD, Norwalk PD, Marblehead PD, Lakewood PD, East Cleveland PD, OSU PD, Pro Medica Security, Columbus PD, Taylor (MI) PD, Sylvania PD, United States Border Patrol, Ohio State Highway Patrol, Northwood PD, numerous Sheriff's departments, and many, many others. The Columbus police and Cleveland Metroparks Police sent their mounted units.

Officer Stalker leaves behind his fiancée, Ashley Ohmer and his children Kennah Miller-Stalker and Grayson Stalker. Officer Stalker is also survived by his parents, David and Cosette, Grandparents William Lowe and Barbara Grover, brothers, sisters, a niece and a nephew.

Anyone wishing to make a memorial contribution may donate to the Brandon Stalker fund at Toledo Police Federal Credit Union.



Photos from day of Officer Stalker's service
courtesy of Bill Theisen Erie County Lodge #35





FOP of Ohio Foundation Purse Raffle

FOP of Ohio Foundation is excited to announce their 1st Designer Purse Raffle! Only 1000 tickets sold and the 26 week raffle will be based on the Monday evening Ohio Lottery Pick 3 each week. Winners will begin to be chosen when all tickets are sold. Purses include Kate Spade, Michael Kors, Coach and Fossil and each ticket is \$30. Guaranteed winner each week! All proceeds benefit the FOP of Ohio Foundation!

**For every 5 tickets you buy or sell,
You get one free!**

Purchase online at: <https://unionly.io/o/fopohfoundation/designer-purse-raffle-2>

Or you can send payment with 'Attention Paige Ludwig' to:
FOP of Ohio Foundation, 222 E. Town St, Columbus Ohio 43215

2021 FOP of Ohio Foundation 26 Week Designer Purse Raffle <small>One winner each week</small>		
Coach, Fossil, Kate Spade, Michael Kors		
Tickets: \$30		
Only 1000 tickets sold Based on Monday evening Ohio Lottery Pick 3		
<small>All proceeds benefit the FOP of Ohio Foundation a 501(c)(3) Any unsold tickets belong to FOP of Ohio, Inc.</small>		
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Name	Phone	Email