

Fraternal Order of Police

BlueNote

Official Publication of the North Carolina State Lodge

Volume 6, Issue 5

www.ncfop.org

September - October 2022

President's Message

By Randy Hagler, State President

Welcome to the September/October 2022 issue of the official publication of the North Carolina Fraternal Order of Police, The BlueNote. If you receive this publication via email or download it from the ncfop.org website, please share it with all your law enforcement friends, family, and supporters. It contains important information concerning our organization and law enforcement across the State.



By the time you receive this newsletter, we will be only a couple weeks away from 26th Biennial State Conference of the North Carolina Fraternal Order of Police. Think about that for just a second. For the past 52 years the leaders of NCFOP have been gathering every other year to do the work of the Order and to make our jobs safer with better pay and increased benefits. That sounds like a long time, and it is. What is even more remarkable, though, is that number pales in comparison to the length of time the National Fraternal Order of Police has been doing the same thing across the United States. Since 1915 your National Lodge has been working for you to try and assist with all the things already mentioned but on a much larger scale. That is the reason the Fraternal Order of Police has grown to more than 365,000 members, all of which are active or retired full-time officers serving at the local, state, and federal levels to keep our communities safe.

The NCFOP State Conference will be September 18-22, 2022 in Durham and will be hosted by Durham County Lodge 2. Our Brothers and Sisters in the Durham Lodge have worked hard to ensure everyone will have a great time while there. They have some great evening events planned at various Durham venues in the downtown area. I know we will be at Durham Bulls stadium for a baseball game and dinner one night, a bourbon and cigars night at another establishment and even an Irish night planned to make sure no one gets bored after a hard day of meetings. The NCFOP State Conference is open to all NCFOP members but you will need to be credentialed by your local lodge to vote in our election of officers as well as the many motions which will be brought up during our two-day conference. Each Lodge has a set number of delegates that can vote but any NCFOP member is welcome to attend the conference to learn more about your organization. If you are interested, check with your local lodge about being a delegate or an alternate delegate so that you can be credentialed to attend. You are also welcome to get in

(Continued on next page)

Inside This Issue

President's Message Randy Hagler

Chaplain's Corner with Phil Wiggins

National Lodge Update Dennis McCrary

Chairman of Trustees John Byrd

FOP Legislative Update Wayne King

> NC FOP Article Senator Edwards

Compliance for the 2022 State Biennial Conference

BlueNote Information and Last Submission Date Terry Mangum

26th NC Biennial Conference & Fall Board of Directors Meeting 11

State Lodge Biennial Conference Election Request

NC Association School Resource Officers Conference 2022

> FOP Time in September Terry Magnum 17

Legal Aid Committee Terry Magnum 17

> Trivia 18

President's Message (Continued)

touch with us at the State Lodge (<u>NCFOPStateLodge@outlook.com</u>) or me at randy.hagler@outlook.com and we will do our best to get you the information you need.

Our State Conferences are held every even numbered year and give our membership the opportunity to set the direction they want the State Lodge to go in for the next two years. There will be nominations to elect officers to serve for the following two years. Those offices up for election at each conference are President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, 2nd Vice President, Sgt. At Arms, Chaplain, and National Trustee. At this meeting, after the general election, all State Trustees will gather and elect their Chairman of Trustees. The Chairman will serve on the Executive Board, along with the others noted above, as well as our Immediate Past President. These ten (10) elected officers will then be installed at the conclusion of our business meeting.

In addition to the election, we will vote on many Amendments that have been submitted for consideration to our Constitution and By-Laws. Amendments generally generate a great deal of discussion from the delegates, some may be in favor and others may be against. Each of these amendments will all be voted on by the delegates at the conference and will either pass or fail.

We will also be discussing political endorsements for statewide races. This year, for example, we have elections for U.S. Senate, NC Supreme Court, and NC Court of Appeals which we will be considering for endorsements. All candidates have been sent a questionnaire with a number of questions which were suggested by our Endorsement Committee. Their responses will be evaluated by our committee and presented to the delegates during the State Conference. Additionally, many of the candidates have already accepted an invitation to attend and make remarks in person to our delegates. However, no worries about long political speeches. We have let them know that each candidate is limited to 5-7 minutes to speak so these presentations will move along quickly.

It has been my honor to serve as your State President for the past ten years. I was first elected in 2012 after serving four years as your State Vice-President and nine years as your National Trustee. Prior to my service on the State Lodge Board of Directors, I served six years as President of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Lodge #9 and continue to serve on my local lodge Board of Directors. Many things have changed over the years within our organization but one thing remains the same. That is my commitment to keeping NCFOP the premiere law enforcement officers' organization in the State. I was fortunate in my journey with the FOP and had some great folks to learn from as I was learning my way around the Order. On the National level it was folks like Past National Presidents Gil Gallegos and Steve Young, two great National FOP leaders. On the State level I was fortunate to work closely and travel with Past Presidents Don Penix and Terry Mangum. I was able to learn a lot from these FOP leaders and a multitude of others who helped shape my FOP journey. I am encouraged by what I am seeing across not only our State but also the country. We are getting some younger members involved. I know I see it at my local lodge and I am also seeing it in other lodges around our State as well. It is absolutely imperative that we find ways to draw the younger officers into the FOP and to work diligently to show them the value of being an FOP leader. This will take the efforts of all of us to accomplish but I am willing and I hope you are as well. With that said, I would respectively ask for your support as I run to be your State President at our upcoming State Conference.

Please take good care of yourself and your family, both blood and blue, and I look forward to seeing you in Durham.

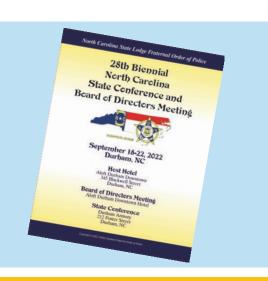
NCFOP State Conference

Host Hotel – Aloft / Durham Downtown

Arrival Date: Sunday, September 18, 2022

Board of Directors Meeting: Monday September 19th Board Meeting held at Aloft

NCFOP State Conference Tuesday-Wednesday, September 20th and 21 - Durham Armory 212 Foster St



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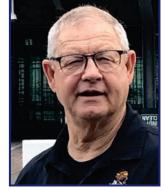
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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Phil Wiggins

I am really looking forward to our upcoming 2022 FOP Fall Board of Directors meeting and State Biennial Conference in September in Durham. Again, I am excited about placing my name on the list for the office of North Carolina FOP State Chaplain for another two years.



It really has been an honor serving in this position and I hope to continue for another 2 years. I have always looked at this position as a calling that God

has placed upon my life, to care for and love our members especially during a time of crisis.

The North Carolina Fraternal Order of Police has done an outstanding job of working hard for the membership across our great State of North Carolina. As your State Chaplain over the years, I have tried to keep 1 Peter 4:10 as a challenge to do my best. It reads, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." If you feel I am worthy, I would appreciate your vote of confidence for me to continue to serve as your FOP State Chaplain during this upcoming election. To God be the glory. I love each of you!!

God's Blessing!!

Chaplain Phil Wiggins NC State Lodge Chaplain Cell: 919-451-2801



National Lodge Update

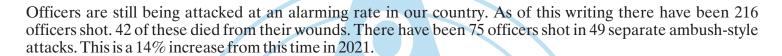
By Dennis McCrary - NC National Trustee

The next FOP National Board meeting will be held September 16-18 in Dallas, Texas. I will leave this meeting on Saturday afternoon and return home to prepare for our State Board and Conference meeting beginning Sunday September 19. My information in this article will be fairly limited as I will be able to give a detailed report at our meetings in Durham.

The National Board of Directors did hold an online meeting on August 15. I will share with you below some of the major items that were discussed during this meeting.

It certainly appears COVID's devastation on law enforcement officers and others is finally slowing down. So far this year we have only lost 73 officers to COVID but that

brings our total since the pandemic began to 1009. Many families have had to deal with this terrible disease but too many lost their lives.



The FOP continues to be the voice for law enforcement officers in the United States. Since 2019 till August of this year the FOP has been mentioned in the news 135,629 times. The next closest organization is the IACP at 26,264. You can add all the 8 major law enforcement organizations numbers together and they still do not total those of the FOP. We definitely are the organization that almost all media contacts to represent law enforcement opinion. Our national leaders are constantly on numerous news shows and represent us well.

I hope all members are taking advantage of the Blue View Podcasts that are being put out weekly by the National Lodge. Most of these podcasts are very informative for our members and you should take the time to keep up-to-date on our profession. Our podcasts have had over 200,000 views since they started in February.

One of the FOP's legislative priorities is the Social Security Fairness Act. The FOP has mounted a tremendous push for this legislation and House Bill H.R. 82 now has 294 cosponsors. This is enough to get the bill to the House floor for a vote so hopefully this will happen soon. The Senate may be more of a challenge but at least we are making some progress. Any member wishing to review this legislation can go to the FOP national website and see the details.

Suicide continues to be an issue in our profession. On average officers will witness 188 critical incidents during their careers. 17 in 100,000 police officers will commit suicide every year. Less that 5% of US law enforcement agencies have a suicide prevention training program. H.R.6943 the Public Safety Officer Support Act will make the Public Safety Officer's Benefit available to families if certain requirements are met. This is very similar to how veteran suicides are treated by the US Department of Veteran Affairs. This benefit has passed congress and was signed into law by President Biden on August 17.

Our free college benefit for members has been put on hold at this time. The US Department of Education has indicated that the colleges providing this benefit to officers have not been doing this within their policy guidelines. Negotiations are ongoing to get this benefit back up and available to our members as soon as possible. You can read more about this at the National FOP website.

Most of you are aware of the Department of Labor's Job Corps program. The FOP is in discussion with the

National Lodge Update (Continued)

DOL to make positions in our law enforcement agencies eligible for the Job Corps participants. You will hear more about this in the near future.

A reminder the National 2022 Diversity Summit will be held October 17-18 in Charlotte. NC Vice President Bobby Gaddy is chairman of the Diversity Committee and is coordinating this event. It is filling up fast so I encourage you to go to the National Website to get more information and register.

Lodges should be planning ahead for next year to take advantage of training offered by the FOP. The Wellness Summit will be in Nashville January 29-31, 2023. Leadership Matters will also be in Nashville and is being held February 2-4, 2023. Make plans now to send someone from your lodge to this great training.

Qualified Immunity is under attack and has been eliminated in some locations. We still have this benefit in North Carolina but there is a push nationwide to eliminate this protection. The current Legal Plan vendor, Hylant, has now made available individual officer liability coverage through the FOP. This insurance is uniquely designed to protect individual officers by indemnifying them against financially unfavorable settlement and judgement with an A rated insurer up to \$25,000 with no deductible.

I would like to thank each of you for allowing me to serve as your National Trustee. I will be running for re-election at our State Conference in Durham and I am asking for your vote. It has been my goal to represent all members of NCFOP in a professional manner and I do believe I have done this. Please let me know if I can be of any assistance to you or your lodge.

A Message from Your Chairman of Trustees

By John Byrd – State Chairman of Trustees

Brothers and Sisters,

I hope this message finds everyone safe and well. It will be good to see everyone at the State Biennial Conference in Durham on September 18-22. Remember, we will be having elections so make sure your lodge is in compliance so your delegates will be able to vote. Your E-Board has been busy since the last board meeting looking at more benefits for the membership. There will be more to come on this in the future. We have some good news to report. The Cary property has been sold. President Hagler will also have some news at the conference about our plans for the State Memorial Service starting next year. The epidemic of officer attacks over the past few months has become unconscionable. Please stay safe out there.

Here are some of the activities I have been involved in since my last message:

- Attended Lodge #74's Family Day Event on June 25th at Mayo Lake Park in Roxboro. The event was co-sponsored by MADD.
- Attended Lodge #74's bi-monthly meeting on Tuesday night June 28th at Holt Lake Park in Butner, NC.
- Corresponded with the National Lodge on July 13th in reference to some legal aid issues.
- Attended National Night Out at Palace Pointe in Roxboro on August 2nd and recruited 2 new members.
- Attended a Memorial Committee meeting in Biscoe at the Samarcan Training Facility on August 4th.
- Sent out email updates to Trustees during this time period.
- Sent this article to Brother Mangum for the "BlueNote" on August 18, 2022. (I encourage all of you to send articles and pictures to Brother Mangum promoting your lodges and what you are doing).

As always, I am here to serve you and your lodge. You can call me anytime at 336-504-8173 or email me at person7454@yahoo.com. I hope you continue to find my periodic email updates beneficial. It is an Honor to serve as your Chairman of Trustees and will once again take this opportunity to announce my intention to run for re-election at our state conference. Thank you for your support and trust in me.

A Message from Your Chairman of Trustees (Continued)



Lodge 74 President John Byrd Sr. and Sgt. At Arms Chuck Gentry with Miss North Carolina at the National Night Out in Roxboro on August 2nd.



Regional MADD Coordinator Ollie Jeffers, Mark Fox with MADD, Congressional Candidate Courtney Geels and Lodge 74 President John Byrd at Lodge 74's Family Day.



Some of the crowd at the National Night Out.

FOP Legislative Update

By: Wayne King – State Legislative

Governor Roy Cooper signed off on the \$27.9 billion dollar spending plan on July 11th. This spending plan which passed the Republican-controlled legislature with enough votes from Democrats to thwart a potential veto.

The revised fiscal year budget represents a 7.2% increase from the prior budget, with substantial amounts going to new and existing infrastructure projects. The extra spending was intended to cover the surging inflation rate. The 8.6% rate for the 12-month period ending in May was the highest since 1981.

The total amount in just the Justice and Public Safety portion of the budget is \$124.3 million dollars which represents a 3.6% increase over last year's budget and includes a 3.5% pay increase for state employees.



The spending plan invests \$32 million for school safety grants, an additional \$15 million for school resource officers in elementary and middle schools and \$26 million for officers in high schools.

The budget also invests heavily in providing funds for additional 38 judicial support staff, 93 Deputy and Assistant Clerks, 13 Magistrates, 11 Assistant District Attorneys and 19 specialized mental health and reentry Probation and Parole Officers (PPO).

On the same day, Governor Cooper vetoed a proposal that would have required sheriffs and jail administrators to find out the immigration status of some inmates and assist U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement in keeping them detained before possible deportation. The proposal would have only applied to those charged with serious crimes, such as homicide, rape, kidnapping, human trafficking, assault, child abuse and violation of a domestic violence protective order.

Look for this piece of legislation to resurface in next year's long session, especially if Republicans gain supermajorities as is widely expected to occur.

NC Fraternal Order of Police Article - Senator Edwards

By: State Senator Chuck Edwards

Enforcing our laws is a thankless job taken on by brave men and women, that in recent years has endured endless scrutiny for split-second life and death decision-making. It's unfortunate that media bias, cell phone video snippets, and anti-law enforcement sentiment have led to low morale and high turnover rates in many parts of the country.

Let's be clear: There are a few bad actors in any field of work, but the majority are honorable. Sometimes innocent mistakes are made inside of nanosecond decisions. The law enforcement officers that I meet set high professional standards and hold one another accountable to meet those standards. But since 2020, the issue of recruitment and retention for these dedicated public servants has only been further perpetuated by social malice and media criticism, fueling the dangers posed to both on and off-duty members of law enforcement.



NC Fraternal Order of Police Article - Senator Edwards (Continued)

In 2021, the Police Executive Research Forum found an 18% increase in resignations and 45% increase in retirements compared to the previous year. Our law enforcement departments are drowning, and the public wants to hold their head under.

I'm proud that in all but one of North Carolina's western counties I'm constantly reminded of the support for those who are sworn to serve and protect. I'm also proud to have been part of a General Assembly that has worked diligently over the years to support law enforcement. And in the face of public disparagement, my colleagues and I doubled down our efforts to certify the well-being and value of our state's officers.

One of the most pertinent ways I've found we can support our state's law enforcement is through advancing compensation and funding. That is why last year I introduced the Police Funding Protection Act. Despite calls to "defund the police," a negative correlation has been pinpointed between cutting law enforcement funding and rising crime rates. This is because soft-on-crime policies like cutting department sizes and access to resources only promote a culture of lawlessness.

As one of the most egregious examples: The leaders of the City of Asheville have degraded their police force so extensively that they have now listed the specific crimes on a website that can be committed where there will be no police investigation. This is to say, ok general public - these are the crimes you can now get away with and these are the laws we will no longer enforce. I perceive this as a clear dereliction of duty and an abandonment of those leaders' oath of office. This example and the many others like it make it even more critical that we fully fund our departments and show them our relentless respect.

I've publicly called on the Asheville City Council in their regularly scheduled meetings to invite police officers and recognize them for their service. To my knowledge they've yet to have the courage to make such an important public acknowledgement.

To expound upon my appreciation for the service of our officers and my efforts to preserve on the job safety, I supported criminal justice reforms that expand the issues officers are trained to handle and increase the penalty for criminals who injure an officer while resisting or obstructing an arrest. Law enforcement officers are our communities' protectors, which inherently puts them in a position of risk. This increased penalty certifies that those who don't respect an officer who is there to protect the community will have to face the consequences accordingly.

We must also advocate for destignatizing our officer's mental health. This is especially important in a profession as tumultuous as law enforcement. Our officers are forced to encounter unspeakable crimes and then *expected* to let it roll off their back as they return home to their families. The worst part is, eventually the unspeakable becomes the norm - which should never be the case.

To combat the growing mental health crisis, underscore the value I place on law enforcement, and ensure LEOs have the opportunity to digest their experiences in a way that preserves their internal sanctity, I helped to establish new criteria that requires training on mental health and wellness strategies for all officers and certifies they have clear access to mental health services when needed.

To create a more stable environment for law enforcement it is critical that they be continuously supported, especially by our government. Thank them all for their service.

Thank you for reading,

Chuck Edwards

Compliance for the 2022 State Biennial Conference

By Kevin Hornaday – Constitution and By-laws Chairman

As we make final preparations for the upcoming State Conference in Durham, please make sure your lodge is in compliance.

As of the day I prepared this article, 23 lodges have not submitted tax information and 19 lodges have not submitted their 2021 minutes. If you believe your lodge is one of these lodges, please contact the committee as soon as possible. The members of the committee and their assigned lodges appear at the end of this article.

As a reminder, Article 6, Section 5. of the North Carolina FOP Constitution states:

Section 5. In order for a Subordinate Lodge to be in compliance with the State Lodge, the Subordinate Lodge must submit to the State Lodge the following five (5) items:

- (1) Articles of incorporation (up to date).
- (2) Tax ID number.
- (3) Constitution and By-Laws for the Subordinate Lodge.
- (4) Current IRS filing.
- (5) Current Lodge minutes.

A Subordinate Lodge not in compliance with items 1-5 above will not have a voice or vote at the State Biennial Conference or State Board of Directors meetings.

A Subordinate Lodge in question with compliance with items 1-5 must be cleared by the State Secretary and Chairman of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee before having voice and vote restored. (Amended 8/15/2014)

Guide to Compliance:

Minutes – Minutes should be kept for every meeting. Submit your previous year's minutes to your C&BL Committee Liaison each January (after the minutes of the previous year have been approved by your lodge president). Each lodge must hold at least one (1) business/membership meeting a month, OR one (1) business/membership meeting every other month. If you don't have a monthly meeting, document the reason why and have the secretary sign it.

Taxes – Documentation of your lodges filing must be sent to the State Lodge office only. You can then email the C&BL Committee to inform us you have submitted your taxes to the State Office. If we don't know when you file, we assume you file on May 15th.

Constitution/By-Laws – Each lodge should review their C&BL's after each Biennial Conference. Vote on any necessary changes and submit them to the Committee for approval.

The C&BL committee is here to help you and your lodge to stay in compliance. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Committee Members and the lodges assigned to them:

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Blue Note Information & Last Submission Date for 2022

By Terry Mangum - Executive Editor

I certainly hope you have been enjoying and sharing your BlueNote publication. If you submitted an article or photographs for this September/October issue, I would like to personally thank you.

There is only one BlueNote publication left for 2022 so do not miss your opportunity. Get busy and submit an article so that we can read about your Lodge's activities. Your contribution will inform the reader of what your Lodge is doing and may offer ideas on activities other Lodges could be doing. And remember, any member may submit an article for the BlueNote. You do not have to be a Local Lodge or State Lodge officer. If you are receiving and reading the BlueNote then you qualify to submit an article.

If you are trying to grow your Lodge's membership, as we all should be, think of your article as a recruitment tool. Articles about your Lodge activities can generate interest from non-FOP law enforcement officers in your area and this interest may equate to a new member for your Lodge. Remember to **read** and then **share** the BlueNote with your fellow law enforcement officers who have failed to join the FOP.

All you have to do is write the article and then e-mail your article to my e-mail address <u>TerryMangum@frontier.com</u> by the due date. It is just that simple and painless. If necessary, I will edit what you send to me, and your article will be prepared for publication. You may even send photographs without an article. When submitting photographs, please select a few of the best and include the names of the individuals in the picture and the event.

Below is the Article Submission Due Date for the last issues of the BlueNote for 2022.

Article Submission Due Date for 2022:

November/December issue: Due by October 21, 2022

As always, I am here to serve you and our membership. If I may be of assistance to you, or if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.



26th North Carolina Biennial State Conference and Fall Board of Directors Meeting

By Robert E. Gaddy, Jr. - State Vice President and Durham County Lodge 2 President

Greetings Sisters and Brothers. Let me be the first to welcome you to the 26th Biennial North Carolina State Conference and Fall Board of Directors Meeting here in Durham. The conference is being hosted by Durham County Lodge 2 and co-hosted by the Hubert E. Tyndall Tri-County Lodge 74. This one event will represent the best professional law enforcement experience of the largest and oldest law enforcement labor organization in the United States.

The North Carolina Fraternal Order of Police State Conference aims to set the organization's goals and agenda, and it occurs every two years. The business of the Order is conducted, seminars are offered, Constitution & By-Laws are reviewed and amended, the State Executive Board is elected, and State Executive Board Officers, State Trustees, and Committee Chairs report their activities.

What to expect during the week.

Sunday, September 18

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Late Registration/Events package pick-up (Hotel Lobby)
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Executive Board Meeting
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	State Trustee's Meeting
6:00 pm – 12:00 am	Light Hospitality Room Open (TBD)

Sunday: You will have the opportunity to register for any events that you may not have registered for prior to arriving at the Conference. In addition, the Host Lodge will open the hospitality room for light hors d'oeuvres and a limited drink menu.

Monday, September 19

8:30 am – 9:00 am	Opening – State Fall Board Meeting	
	(Dress to Impress)	
9:00 am – 3:00 pm	State Fall Board Meeting Business Session	
2:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Late Registration/Events package pick-up (Hotel Lobby)	
6:30 pm – 7:00 pm	(Shuttles leave for Bull McCabe's)	
7:00 pm – 10:00 pm	Irish Night (Bull McCabe's)	
10:30 pm – 12:00 am	Light Hospitality Room Open (TBD)	
*After 3:00 pm, activities are available upon request (Golf, Etc.)		

Monday: After the Fall Board meeting business day is complete, the Host Lodge looks forward to hosting you for our signature event, "*Irish Night in the Bull City*." During this event, you will hear great music and enjoy delicious food with just a small taste of what the Bull City has to offer.

Tuesday, September 20

9:00 am – 9:30 am	Opening Ceremony – State Conference	
	(Dress to Impress)	
9:30 am – 4:00 pm	Conference Business	
5:30 pm – 6:00 pm	Shuttles leave for Mystic Farms and Distillery	
6:00 pm – 10:00 pm	Bull City Bourbon and Cigars event	
	(Mystic Farms and Distillery & Amendola Family Cigars)	
10:30 pm - 12:00 am	Light Hospitality Room Open (TBD)	
*After 3:00 pm. Activities Available upon request (Golf. etc.)		

26th North Carolina Biennial State Conference and Fall Board of Directors Meeting (Continued)

Tuesday: After the State Conference business day is complete, the Host Lodge looks forward to hosting you for another signature event, "*Bull City Bourbon and Cigars*." During this event, attendees can tour the distillery while sampling some of their best and latest products. At the end of the tour, you will have an opportunity to purchase some of the samplings. In addition, you can also sample and purchase fresh handrolled cigars from one of our most recognized cigar makers in Durham. For those of you who may not want to sample or smoke, we have an indoor area for you to enjoy non-alcoholic beverages and food.

Wednesday, September 21

9:00 am – 4:00 pm Conference Business 6:30 pm – 10:30 pm Durham Bulls Baseball Night

(Durham Bulls vs. Norfolk Tides)

10:30 pm – 12:30 am Light Hospitality Room Open (TBD)

Wednesday: As we close things out and just when you thought you'd had enough, there will be more. What would a trip to Durham be if you didn't have the opportunity to attend a Durham Bulls Baseball Game? The Durham Bulls, Triple-A affiliate of the Tampa Bay Rays, will be facing off against the Norfolk Tides, Triple-A affiliate of the Baltimore Orioles, in what hopes to be a fantastic match-up.



So please don't miss out on what will be a great State Conference. Register today and make plans to attend the NCFOP 26th Biennial State Conference and Fall Board meeting. We hope to see you there!

State Lodge Biennial Conference Election Request

By Greg Brown – State Sergeant at Arms

Greetings my Brothers and Sisters. I am Greg Brown and your State Sergeant at Arms. I am seeking re-election for this position and I am humbly asking for your continued support. In 2014, you elected me to represent you as your State Sergeant at Arms. During this time, I have attended all state functions and meetings and completed all tasks that have been asked of me. Additionally, I attend Local, State and National Law Enforcement Memorial Services which I believe is just a small way to show my respect by honoring those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

During my eight years of being your State Sergeant at Arms, I have had an excellent working relationship with our Executive Board and Board of Directors. I also continue to submit articles for each issue of The BlueNote. Additionally, I have also held many other positions on State Lodge Committees to include DART Director, DART North Eastern Coordinator, NCFOP Foundation Inc. (currently the Vice President), Chair and committee member of Membership and Recruitment, and the NCFOP Website Committee.

I have been a member of the Fraternal Order of Police since 2005. While serving my local lodge, Rocky Mount Lodge 46, I have been elected President and currently State Trustee. During my time as State Trustee, I have participated in and chaired many Lodge 46 events and activities to include our annual law enforcement Peace Officers Memorial Service and our FOP, Cops and Kids program. Also, I have been the co-speaker at FOP and Law Enforcement Officers Spiritual Retreats with Master Trooper Kirk Hensley of Surviving the First Three Seconds. One recognition I am most proud of and honored by, during my time as a member of the FOP, is being the recipient of the State Lodge 2012 Mark R. Tucker Memorial Award.

It has been an honor and privilege serving as your State Sergeant at Arms during the past eight years and it is my sincere hope that I have served you well. If re-elected to this position, I will continue to represent you with Respect and Integrity, while working together with you for the betterment of this organization.

I humbly ask that you support me once again for the office of State Sergeant at Arms. Please feel free to contact me anytime if you have any questions or concerns. I am always available for you.



NC Association of School Resource Officers Conference 2022

By Greg Brown - Chairman of Membership and Recruitment Committee

FOP State President Randy Hagler and State Sergeant at Arms Greg Brown (Chairman Membership and Recruitment Committee) attended the North Carolina Association of School Resource Officers in Wilmington on July 11-15, 2022. This year's NCASRO Conference was the largest on record with 540 registered attendees.

During the conference many personal contacts were made and approximately 150 possible new members came to the FOP booth to speak with us about joining the FOP. There were several officers and deputies from Robeson County and Randolph County who express an interest in starting lodges in their areas. Many of these individuals expressed their dissatisfaction and or disappointment with other law enforcement organizations they were part of. All of these contacts will be sent to the local lodges to be followed up on and the new lodge or lodges prospects as well.

The National FOP Brochure and the State Lodge FOP palm card benefits insert were instrumental in assisting potential new members with making a decision on whether or not to join. Many saw the variety of benefits the FOP offers, compared to other organizations, and as one said, "It was a no brainer on which to join."

President Hagler was able to show how easy it was for any NC FOP member to find an attorney, in case they were involved in a critical incident, by using the National FOP app on his phone and using the attorney search section in the app. The individuals he demonstrated this to were very impressed with the number of attorney's NCFOP has representing our members. Some were also interested in the FOP Free College program which the National FOP offers. These were just two examples of the benefits that made the decision easy for them.

There were several previous members who had let their membership lapse and we were able to get their membership renewed during the conference. Most of those lodges were online with online application and payment options.

Lower Cape Fear Lodge 58 State Trustee Jon Fish assisted with the FOP Booth during two days of the conference. Jon is an asset to recruitment and we thank him for taking the time on his days off to join us.

The Fraternal Order of Police is a ground up organization and it takes a collaborative effort by everyone to reach out to current and potential new members. When you receive new member interest emails from us, please respond and make contact with these individuals as soon as possible.

In closing it was a fruitful endeavor at this year's conference and we look forward to attending in years to come.





(Continued on next page)

NC Association of School Resource Officers Conference 2022 (Continued)









(MORE PHOTOS→)

NC Association of School Resource Officers Conference 2022 (Continued)











FOP Time In September

By Terry Mangum - Immediate Past State President

I hope all of my Fraternal Order of Police Brothers and Sisters across the great State of North Carolina are doing well.

September will be an extremely busy time for many of your FOP leaders and lodges. I will be attending the National State Presidents meeting and National Board of Directors meeting which will be held in Dallas, Texas on September 14 thru 18. Also attending these meetings will be President Randy Hagler, National Disaster Relief Chairman Dennis McCrary, and National Legal Defense Chairman Chet Effler. We will be rushing home from Dallas and heading to Durham.



Why will we be rushing back? Our State Fall Board of Directors meeting and State Biennial

Conference will be held in Durham on September 18-22. My local lodge, Durham County Lodge 2, is hosting these meetings and members have been hard at work to provide an enjoyable and entertaining time for all attendees. During the State Biennial Conference, one area of extreme importance will be the presentation of fifteen proposed amendments to the State Lodge Constitution and By-laws which will be considered by the delegates. There is more information on the upcoming meeting and State Biennial Conference in other articles in this issue.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the State Biennial Conference in Durham. For those who may be wondering, I will be seeking another term as the State Immediate Past President and ask that you support and vote for President Randy Hagler so that I am able to. It has truly been a privilege and an honor to serve our membership as the State Immediate Past President. I sincerely thank the other Executive Board members and State Trustees who have worked diligently to move our organization forward in a productive and beneficial manner for our membership.

If I may be of assistance to you, or if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. As always, I am here to serve you and our membership.

LEGAL AID COMMITTEE

By Terry Mangum – Legal Aid Committee Chairman

I would like to recognize and thank all of the Legal Aid Committee members for their service to our members and the State Lodge on this most important committee. The members of the Legal Aid Committee are Kelli Jones of River City Lodge 76, Tom Lance of Haywood County Lodge 16, Mark Michalec of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Lodge 9, Chris Schenk of Salisbury-Rowan Lodge 87, and Lynn Wilson of Harold C. Enloe Lodge 1.

The Committee adheres to the purpose of the NCFOP Legal Aid Plan when reviewing legal aid requests. The plan provides legal representation or assistance in circumstances where or when a member faces disciplinary action, sanction, administrative charges, suspension or termination of Employment, demotion or other loss or reduction of benefits or professional rights, duties, or responsibilities, for acts or actions within his or her Scope of Employment as a Law Enforcement Officer. This may include requests for assistance in a grievance hearing with his or her respective Employer, civil service board hearing, or other similar administrative forum, on the terms and conditions specified in the Plan.

Additionally, I would like to recognize and thank State President Randy Hagler and State Counsel Norris Adams for their assistance to our Committee.



We Have A WINNER!!!

Yes, we had many responses and we do have a winner for the July/August issue of our Trivia contest. **Byron Highland**, State Trustee of Pitt-Greenville Lodge 69, is the **grand prize winner** of the BlueNote **TRIVIA** contest. Byron correctly identified the 3 individuals in the Trivia photograph as James Shores, Wayne King, and Randy Hagler.

Many thanks to everyone who participated in this issue of **TRIVIA** and sent in a response.

If you have not won a **TRIVIA** contest, do not give up. There are two opportunities left in 2022 for you to win, this issue and the November/December issue. Keep playing and submitting your answers and maybe you too can be a BlueNote **TRIVIA** Grand Prize Winner like Byron Highland.

Remember, it is never too late to submit your guess. But you should definitely send in your responses as quickly as possible. And check the photograph thoroughly. Sometimes we may get a little sneaky. I hope to see your name listed as the BlueNote **TRIVIA Grand Prize Winner** in the next issue.



DRUMROLL!!! TRUMPET FANFARE!!! PLAY TRIVIA!!!

It is **TRIVIA TIME** and **TIME** for everyone to **Play TRIVIA**. This is your opportunity to participate in another entertaining and exciting round of BlueNote **TRIVIA**.

Can you identify the to (2) individuals in this photograph?



If you can identify these two (2) individuals, all you have to do is send an email to terrymangum@frontier.com with your answer along with the name and number of your Lodge.

Remember to send me your answer as quickly as you can.

The correct Trivia answer will be posted in the November/December 2022 issue of the BlueNote along with the name of the **first** individual submitting the correct answer. Good Luck!!!