



Fraternal Order of Police

BlueNote

Official Publication of the North Carolina State Lodge

Volume 8, Issue 1

www.ncfop.org

January-February, 2024

President's Message

By Randy Hagler - State President

Welcome to the January/February 2024 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 of your law enforcement friends, family, and supporters. It contains important information concerning our organization and law enforcement across the State.



It is hard to believe that 2024 is right in front of us and 2023 is in the rear-view mirror. Make no mistake, time is flying by. My hope is everyone had a safe and happy Christmas as well as New Year's. To the officers that are still working, we appreciate you and the work you do every day. That is especially true during the holidays when so many of our friends and families are gathering and celebrating the season and you are stuck answering call after call. Your service is appreciated by the majority of the citizens you come in contact with, whether it seems like it or not.

We already have a number of events on the schedule for 2024. The following is a brief overview of these events.

- **NFOP Wellness Summit – February 19-20, 2024 in Nashville, Tennessee.** The National FOP Wellness Committee host this annual training event focused specifically on wellness. Space is limited so check quickly with NFOP.
- **NFOP Leadership Matters – February 22-24, 2024 in Nashville, Tennessee.** Leadership Matters continues to be one of the most popular training seminars designed specifically to aid lodge officers in conducting the business of the lodge more effectively. This training opportunity offers courses unique to the various positions of FOP leadership. The training usually sells out so time is limited to get signed up. Visit the National Lodge website or give us a call at the State Office. The National FOP does offer, on a limited basis, scholarships to assist with registration fees.

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The Voice of Law Enforcement

President's Message (Continued)

- **NCFOP Spring Board of Directors Meeting – April 5-7, 2024 in Charlotte, NC.** The NCFOP Board of Directors will be meeting in Charlotte for the Spring meeting. Any FOP member is welcome to attend and see the work done by your Board of Directors. The Executive Board will meet on Friday (4/5) in the afternoon and the Trustees will meet on Friday evening. The full Board of Directors will meet on Saturday (4/6) from 8:30am until business is completed.
- **Celebration of Our Law Enforcement Heroes – April 23, 2024 in Kannapolis, NC.** This is a statewide celebration of our fallen NC officers from 2023. This ceremony is brought to you by NCFOP and NC Concerns of Police Survivors. This year's ceremony will be held at Central Baptist Church in Kannapolis at 11:00am. Please plan to attend and help us celebrate the officers who made the ultimate sacrifice and their families.
- **National Police Week – May 13-15, 2024 in Washington, DC.** Join thousands of other law enforcement officers in our Nation's Capital as we honor the officers from across the country who died in the line of duty in 2023. The two signature events for Police Week are the Candlelight Service on May 13th and the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service on May 15th.
- **National FOP Board of Directors Meeting and State Presidents Meeting – August or September 2024 in Charlotte, NC.** This meeting will bring NFOP Board of Directors and the State Presidents together for three days of meetings. We are still in the planning stages for the meeting but it will be in the uptown Charlotte area. Any FOP member is welcome to attend and are encouraged to join us. If you have never attended a National Board meeting, this would be a great opportunity to stop by and take a closer look at how your organization is run. If you are interested, please give me a call and I will give you additional information.
- **NCFOP State Conference and Board of Directors Meeting – September 15-19, 2024 in Cherokee, NC.** Our 2024 Fall Board of Directors meeting and State Lodge Biennial Conference will be held in Cherokee at the Harrah's Hotel and Casino. This meeting and conference, like our last State Conference, will run from Sunday to Thursday. The Board of Directors will meet on Monday (9/16) and the State Conference will be Tuesday and Wednesday (9/17 – 18) and delegates will leave on Thursday (9/19).

Please plan to attend as many of these events as you can. Only the training seminars have a cost associated with them. All of the others are open to all FOP members and your attendance is requested and appreciated.

Take Care and Stay Safe.



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Phil Wiggins

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Fraternal Order of Police
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On Thursday, December 14, I attended the FOP Durham Co. Lodge 2 Retiree Christmas Party for all DPD retired employees. It was a joy seeing friends we have not seen since last year or longer. We caught up on what was happening in our lives, with some good news and some sad. As time went by, I began to look and listen to what was happening throughout the room. People were laughing, smiling and enjoying themselves as they were remembering some of the fun things during their career with DPD. Being in the company of friends seemed to take our minds away from some of the troubles we were facing, and we were able to focus on many of the fun and pleasant times we shared. This filled our hearts with joy, peace and took away some of our pain. We were being encouraged through our laughter.



Proverbs 17:22 (NIV) *"A cheerful heart is good medicine but a crushed spirit dries up the bones."* Laughter is a gift from God, and it is a way that we can stay encouraged. I find it to be good medicine for our souls.

We are dealing with so many personal difficulties in our lives, like sickness, or marriage and family issues, that it is easy to let depression or pain slip in and take away our joy. This is why I believe it is important to stay connected to friends. These friendships can help take away our anxiety, and help us manage our stress, fear, and depression. God's word is not to be overlooked. Psalm 42:5 *"Why am I discouraged? Why is my heart so sad? I will put my hope in God! I will praise Him again."*

Stay connected to good friends and your local church family and do not neglect the reading and studying of God's word. It will ease your pain, and bring joy, comfort, and strength to your dried bones (Proverbs 17:22). When we feel like we do not know what to do, turn it over to God. The bible tells us in Romans 8:26-28 *"But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will."*

It's my prayer that we reflect on this past year and look for ways we may be able to bring peace, joy, and contentment during the new year 2024 to others that cross our path.

God's Blessing!!

Chaplain Phil Wiggins
NC State Lodge Chaplain

(Photos of Lodge 2 Retiree Christmas Party on next page)

Lodge 2 Retirees Christmas Party Photos



L to R, Phil Wiggins, Rick Lockamy, Faye Wiggins, Raymond Holleman, Terry Mangum, and Mary Jane Mangum.



Retiree Luncheon attendees.



Retiree Luncheon attendees.

National Lodge Update

By Dennis McCrary – NC National Trustee

The end of the year has now come and the FOP continues to be the real voice for law enforcement in our nation. The National Board of Directors met by webinar on December 14 and I will cover some of the more important items that were discussed in this article.



The bad news is that as of this meeting there have been 360 officers shot in the line of duty in 2023. This is a significant increase from this time in 2020. The only bright spot is that the improved equipment we now have and the excellent emergency medical care that is now available, prevents most of these from being fatal to our officers. North Carolina has had 8 officers shot and our hearts go out to them and their families. All officers still working please be careful out there. There has never been a more dangerous time for those serving our communities. The startling statistic is that an officer is shot every 22 hours in this country.

The FOP is making progress on H.R. 82 Social Security Fairness Act. We now have 300 cosponsors for this bill and the Ways and Means Subcommittee just held a hearing on moving the bill forward. President Yoes testified at that hearing and the committee seemed to make it clear that the current policy on the Winfall Elimination Provision and Government Pension Offset mistreats government workers. All signs seem very positive for moving this legislation forward in the new year. We have 49 cosponsors in the Senate and need to get 60 to get closure for the bill but will only need 51 to pass the legislation. Members can go to FOP.net to see a transcript of President Yoes' testimony and find out more about this legislation.

Day on the Hill has now been scheduled for March 4-6, 2024. The event this year will be held in conjunction with the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) and will begin with a reception on Sunday evening for both groups. Many fire fighters are also adversely affected by the current Social Security policy and it was decided that both groups would visit Washington at the same time to demonstrate how important this legislation is for public safety personnel. There will be a rally at the Capitol at 1000 hours on that Tuesday to show support for the changes that are needed. Please make plans now to attend this event and visit your congressmen to press FOP issues.

Members are reminded that those who have retired and are eligible for Medicare can get a plan through Aetna for medical coverage. Those who may be interested in this insurance should go to FOP.net to get more details.

The National FOP will be making a new type of health insurance available to pre 65 members in early 2024. This "Blue Line" coverage is now being used by a number of FOPs and will make some much-needed coverage available to members.

The national COPS office had provided a grant to the FOP to develop peer support training for officers across the country. This Power in Peers 40-hour course has now been finalized and the first pilot course will soon be held. Please stay tuned for more information on this program.

Our National FOP Legal Plan is strong and continues to grow. The number of legal cases is not growing but the cost of those that we do have is increasing. We have two cases that will be approaching the 3-million-dollar mark. This is why it is so important for no police officer to be working without being a member of the FOP Legal Plan.

Vice President Joe Gamaldi has done an in-depth interview with CBS about issues with recruiting and

(Continued on next page)

National Lodge Update (Continued)

retention of officers in today's climate. This spot should be aired some time in January. Joe does a great job of representing our members in a spirited manner!

The listing for new National FOP committees just came out and North Carolina FOP was very fortunate to be very well represented in the group that will help to lead the FOP for the next two years. Listed below are the committee assignments for North Carolina members.

Chaplaincy Committee – Phil Wiggins

Constitution and By-Laws – Terry Mangum / Chair

Disaster Assistance – Dennis McCrary / Chair

DART Team – Scott Gerson

DART Sub-Committee – Food Preparation – Chris Schenk

DART Sub-Committee – Maintenance, Inventory, Supplies – Scott Gerson

Diversity Committee – Robert Gaddy / Chair

Diversity Committee – Bernard Roe

Diversity Sub-Committee – Community Engagement – Bernard Roe

Federal Officers Committee – Richard Guy

Legal Aid – Chet Effler / Chair

Legislative Committee – Randy Hagler

Memorial Committee – Greta Philbeck

Memorial Committee – Carlos Ortiz (Carlos actually lives in TX but is a member of NC #9)

Memorial Sub-Committee – Credentialing – Greta Philbeck / Chair

Recruitment Committee – Byron Highland

Recruitment Committee – Randy Hagler

Recruitment Committee – Southeast Region – Randy Hagler / Chair

Urban Policing – Dan Redford

I updated the National Board on information President Hagler and I had about plans for the Fall National Board meeting to be held in Charlotte. We have been in contact with several hotels in the uptown area and have met their sales persons and visited two. National President Yoes advised he would like to hold the meeting September 5-8 (1st choice) or August 29- September 1. This is necessary as we will be voting to endorse a presidential candidate and the candidate needs as much time as possible to use our endorsement. We will keep you advised as our plans for this meeting are developed. We are looking forward to hosting our National Board of Directors/State Presidents and showing them some true southern hospitality.

Most of you know that I serve as Chairman for the National FOP Disaster Relief Committee. I have been processing claims for the horrible tornado that struck Tennessee in the last few days. Some of our members' homes were severely damaged and I ask that you keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

On a personal note, I consider it an honor to represent each of you as your National Trustee. I will be running for reelection to this position at our State Conference this Fall in Cherokee and would respectfully ask for your vote. Please let me know if I can be of any service to you or your lodge.

Conference Year Preparation

By Kevin Hornaday – Chairman Constitution and By-laws Committee

Happy New Year! By the time you are reading this, you have enjoyed time with friends and family and hopefully received everything you hoped for during the holiday season. As we enter 2024, we are already preparing for our Biennial Conference that will take place in August.

For a lodge to have voice and vote at the State Conference, your lodge must be in compliance with Article 6, Section 5 of the State Constitution, which says:

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) Article 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 item 1-5 must be cleared by the State Secretary and Chairman of the Constitution and By-Law Committee before having voice and vote restored. (Amended 8/15/2014)

As a reminder, lodges should have minutes submitted to the Constitution & Bylaws Committee by February 29, 2024. Your lodge should submit either six or twelve sets of minutes, depending on what is permitted by your Constitution and Bylaws. If you don't have a meeting in a particular month, you must document that. Minutes cannot be submitted until they are approved.

Taxes – Taxes should be completed as soon as you are able. For lodges with a January to December fiscal year, your taxes are due May 15th. For lodges that have a July to June fiscal year, your taxes are due November 15th. I will be posting detailed guides for both minutes and taxes in the members area of ncfop.org. If you have not signed up, come join us!

Members and the lodges assigned to them (Updated September 2023):

Kevin Hornaday (46), kjhornaday@gmail.com Lodges 1, 6, 9, 14, 18, 19, 23, 40, 53, 58, 65, 68, 73, 79, 84, 93, 97

Carl Pope (26), legend022858@yahoo.com Lodges 2, 8, 10, 64, 74, 77, 85, 92, 98

Frank Sancineto, (41) F6978@aol.com Lodges 5, 24, 47, 62, 70, 76, 81, 87, 88

Reginald Harvey, (59) rharvey903@gmail.com Lodges 16, 51, 52, 54, 69, 72, 78, 83, 89

BlueNote Information and Submission Dates for 2024

Executive Editor – Terry Mangum

Happy New Year wishes to my Brothers and Sisters. Let this be your year to submit an article for the BlueNote!!! I personally thank and offer my appreciation to every person who contributed articles, photographs, and Lodge activities for the BlueNote in 2023. These contributions are what make each issue of the BlueNote possible, because without submitted articles and photographs, there would be no publication. So, thank you for your commitment to our State Lodge and the Fraternal Order of Police.

You do not have to be a Local Lodge or State Lodge officer to contribute articles or photos. So, I encourage all of our readers to submit articles to your BlueNote publication.

Submitting an article is a simple and painless process. E-mail your article or information to my e-mail address terrymangum@frontier.com by the due date and I will prepare your article for publication. How simple and easy is that? If necessary, I will edit what you send to me to make it more publication worthy. You can also submit 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 are the Article Submission Due Dates for the remaining 2024 issues of the BlueNote.

Article Submission Due Date for 2024:

March/April issue: Due by February 16, 2024

May/June issue: Due by April 19, 2024

July/August issue: Due by June 21, 2024

September/October issue: Due by August 23, 2024

November/December issue: Due by October 18, 2024

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.



From the North Carolina FOP Foundation

By Marty Wilson – NCFOP Foundation Treasurer

Congratulations to Lodge 9 member Matthew Blaich for winning the Panther Tickets that we raffled off. We did not make as much as we had hoped, but every little bit helps. Thanks to all who bought Raffle Tickets.

We have set up our Annual Golf Tournament for May 3, 2024. It will be held at Reems Creek Golf Course again. More information is available on the Tournament Pamphlet in this issue of the BlueNote. I am issuing a challenge to all of the Local Lodges in the State to be a hole Sponsor for \$100.00.

Now is a good time to be getting Scholarship Applications to the Foundation. We will be starting to make Decisions at the next Board Meeting.

(Golf Tournament Information - Next 2 Pages)



4th Annual CAPTAINS CHOICE GOLF TOURNAMENT FUNDRAISER



Blue Ridge Mountains Golf with a Touch of the Scottish Highlands

Nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, Reems Creek Golf Club offers a relaxing and picturesque setting for a day on the links. The golf course was constructed by Hawtree & Sons, a renowned British firm that sculpted a layout reminiscent of the look and feel of the Scottish Highlands. Elevations found here provide the most spectacular views of the surrounding mountains!

Our new fleet of golf carts have GPS systems to help you execute the perfect shot! Our renovated clubhouse and grill will be a relaxing venue to recount the shots of the day! Experience the challenge of Reems Creek. The mountains await! **Holes: 18 Par: 72 I Yardage: 6,492**

MAY 3, 2024

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

REGISTRATION OPENS AT 7 AM

SHOTGUN START AT 8:30 AM

LUNCH DIRECTLY FOLLOWING

AWARDS AND PRIZES DURING LUNCH

CONTEST

HOLE IN ONE

CLOSEST TO PIN

CHIP RAFFLE

The North Carolina Fraternal Order of Police Foundation is a 501c3 non-profit organization. Our primary purpose is to exist as a benevolent foundation for the purpose of assisting children of North Carolina Fraternal Order of Police members (officers), which have been killed or permanently disabled in the line of duty. The funds will go to assist in the children's higher education expenses through scholarships as well as to support members (officers) that have encountered a personal loss from a natural disaster.

Besides benefiting the children with scholarships, there is also a benefit to the contributor. The North Carolina Fraternal Order of Police Foundation Inc. is a 501C3 charitable organization and all donations are tax deductible. We do not use profession91 telemarketing services, therefore, all funds donated come directly to the Foundation and your financial donations are perpetual.

**NCFOP
Foundation Inc.
74 Parker Cove Road
Asheville NC 28787
ncfopfoundation@gmail.com**

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CAPTAINS CHOICE GOLF TOURNAMENT FUNDRAISER

REGISTER NOW

If you are interested in registering a team for this event, please contact James Wingo at ncfopgolf@gmail.com
Please provide the names of the players and the team Captain. This will assist with check in as well as lunch.



ENTRY DEADLINE
26 April 2024
REGISTER NOW!
\$400 Per Team



WHAT'S INCLUDED?

GOLF - RANGE BALLS - GOLF CARTS WITH GPS
LUNCH: CHOICE OF 3 ITEM MENU
PRIZES - GOODY BAG

MULLIGANS / FORWARD TEES?
YES...FOR A SMALL PRICE.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



ACE SPONSOR - \$1500

Advertising
Four Tee Signs
One Team Entry (Four Golfers)

EAGLE SPONSOR - \$1000

Advertising
Two Tee Signs
One Team Entry (Four Golfers)

EAGLE SPONSOR - \$1000

Advertising
Two Tee Signs
One Team Entry (Four Golfers)

BIRDIE SPONSOR - \$450

One Tee Sign
One Team Entry (Four Golfers)

TEE SPONSOR - \$100

One Tee Sign

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor for this event, please contact James Wingo at ncfopgolf@gmail.com

A Different Look for North Carolina in Congress

By Wayne King – State Legislative Agent

In January 2025, North Carolina's congressional delegation will look extremely different. Filing for office recently closed and five Members from both parties are calling it quits as Members of Congress.

One of North Carolina's longest serving Members, Rep. Patrick McHenry (Republican) has announced his retirement. McHenry has served mainly western North Carolina in Washington since 2004. McHenry is a high-profile Member and serves as Chairman of the influential House Financial Services Committee. McHenry recently served as Pro Tempore of the U.S. House of Representatives after the ouster of former Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-CA).



Congressman Dan Bishop (Republican) who has represented the Charlotte area in Congress since late 2019 when he won a special election has also announced he is leaving Congress. Bishop is a unique Member who has served as a Mecklenburg County Commissioner, State Representative, State Senator and presently a Member of Congress. Bishop has filed to run to be North Carolina's next Attorney General which is being vacated by current Attorney General Josh Stein who is seeking to be North Carolina's next Governor.

The next three that are leaving Congress are Congresswoman Kathy Manning (Democrat), Congressman Jeff Jackson (Democrat) and Congressman Wiley Nickel (Democrat). All have served just one term in Congress. Congressman Jeff Jackson has announced his intentions to seek to be North Carolina's next Attorney General. Jackson previously served in the State Senate and has a primary on the Democratic side to seek to represent his party.

In a very unusual move, Congressman Wiley Nickel, who served previously in the State Senate, recently announced his retirement from Congress and announced he is seeking to be North Carolina's next U.S. Senator in 2026. Senator Thom Tillis (R-NC) is up for re-election in 2026. All three Democrats have blamed the recent redistricting plan passed by the NC General Assembly as reasons for the retirement announcements.

We can certainly expect North Carolina to be a hot bed for primaries around North Carolina for Congress this year. The primary election is slated for Tuesday, December 5th.



Catawba County Lodge 26 Activities

By Carl Pope – Lodge 26 President

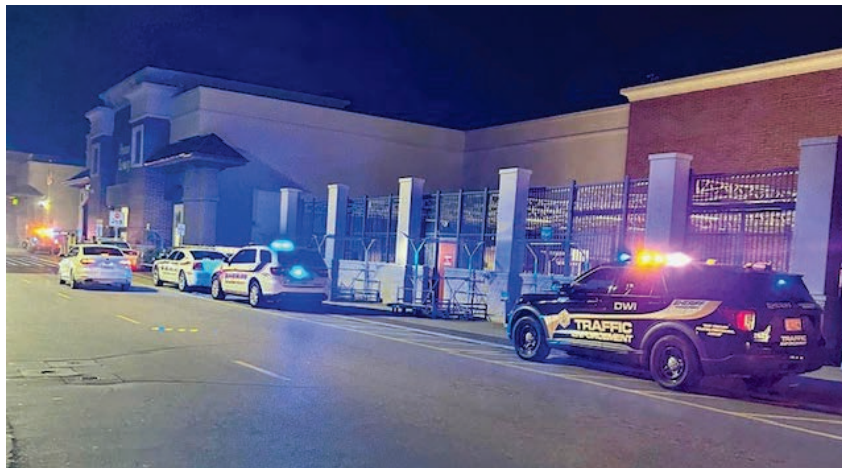
Members of Catawba County Lodge 26 provided Thanksgiving food boxes to 115 needy families within Catawba County on November 17th. This is one of Lodge 26's annual community events. The three photos are from our Thanksgiving food boxes event.



Harold C. Enloe Lodge 1 FOP Cops and Kids

By Lynn Wilson – Lodge 1 Secretary

Harold C. Enloe Lodge 1 was welcomed by Walmart in Weaverville again this year. We conducted our annual FOP Cops & Kids Christmas event for a number of very appreciative children. Board members, members, and officers from area agencies participated. Agencies in attendance were Woodfin PD, Biltmore Forest PD, NC Wildlife, Buncombe County SO, and Asheville PD. Thank you to everyone involved at Walmart, including Santa Claus and The Grinch.



Durham County Lodge 2 Activities

By Terry Mangum – Durham County Lodge 2 State Trustee

The Executive Board of Durham County Lodge 2 hopes that all of our members across the State of North Carolina had an enjoyable and safe holiday season. We wish all of you a Happy and Safe New Year.

To begin our Christmas celebrations, on December 2, Durham County Lodge 2 held our annual FOP Cops and Kids shopping event. The event was again held at the Target store located at 4037 Durham Chapel Hill Blvd. in Durham. This annual event affords Lodge 2 with another opportunity to share and give back to our community. We were able to provide a Christmas shopping experience for 55 deserving area children provided by the Durham Rescue Mission. These children were able to shop for gifts and clothing which they would not have otherwise received. There was an abundance of members and law enforcement officers present to assist the children with their shopping from the Durham Police Department, Durham County Sheriff's Office, North Carolina Central University Police Department, and the University of North Carolina Police Department.

Durham County Lodge 2 Executive Board members participating in the FOP Cops and Kids event were President Bobby Gaddy, Immediate Past President Mike Evans, Recording Secretary Jose Montoya, Treasurer Mark Sykes, Lodge Trustees Maria Stevenson and Chris Thompson, Chaplain Phil Wiggins and State Trustee Terry Mangum.

Then later that evening on December 2, Lodge 2 held our annual Christmas Party for our members at Tobacco Roadhouse in Durham.

Durham County Lodge 2 rounded out our Christmas celebrations on December 14 with our annual Retirees Christmas Luncheon for all of our retired law enforcement officers and their guests. This year's event was again held in the Fellowship Hall at Duke Memorial United Methodist Church on Chapel Hill Street. It was really enjoyable to spend time with old friends. One very special friend in attendance was Raymond Holleman.

As many have heard me discuss over the years, I credit Raymond Holleman with saving and revitalizing Durham County Lodge 2 from the brink of extinction. For a little history on this, Durham County Lodge 2 was reorganized in March 1980. At that time, the State Lodge was in the process of withdrawing our Charter because the lodge was inactive. However, a group of officers, spearheaded by Raymond Holleman, joined together and were determined to save Lodge 2. We elected new Officers and Raymond was elected the new Lodge President. Under his leadership, we began an aggressive membership drive, initiated member work projects to raise funds, and began attending State and National Lodge meetings and functions. Durham County Lodge 2 went from the depths of potential nonexistence to becoming the second largest Lodge in the State of North Carolina. Another bit of interesting information on Raymond Holleman – Raymond was also my Best Man when Mary Jane and I married on February 2, 1985.



L to R, Mary Jane Mangum, Raymond Holleman, and Terry Mangum.

(Continued on next page)

More Photos from Lodge 2



Law enforcement participants from Durham PD, Durham SO, NC Central University PD, and University of NC Hospital PD.



Families and law enforcement participants.



Executive Board members in attendance, left to right, Recording Secretary Jose Montoya, Treasurer Mark Sykes, Immediate Past President Mike Evans, Trustee Maria Stevenson, President Bobby Gaddy, Trustee Chris Thompson, Chaplain Phil Wiggins and State Trustee Terry Mangum

(Continued on next page)

More Photos from Lodge 2



Old retired guys, left to right, Mark, Bobby, Phil, Terry, and Mike.



Durham PD K-9 Corporal Mues and K-9 Hoss sporting his Christmas Antlers.

Retirees – Did You Know

By Martin “Marty” Wilson – Retirement Committee Chairman

When signing up for Medicare at age 65, there is a process. There are four parts and they are Parts A, B, C, and D. You can sign up for Medicare on the Social Security Administration website. Here is a quick break down of the Parts of Medicare:

Part A – is Hospital insurance. Part A is free if you worked and paid Medicare for at least 10 years. You may also be eligible because of your current or former spouse's work.

Part B – is Medical insurance. Most people pay a monthly Premium for Part B. The exact Premium depends on your Income Level.

Parts C and D are run by private companies and the Federal Government approves each plan.

Part C – is known as Medicare Advantage. It is an alternative to Parts A and B that bundles several coverage types, including Parts A, B, and usually D. It may also include: Vision, Hearing and Dental.

You must sign up for Part A or Part B before enrolling in a Medicare Advantage Plan.

Part D – Helps cover Prescription cost. You must sign up for Part A or Part B before enrolling in Part D. You may find all the information and more on the Social Security Administration Website. And it is best to get it done before you turn 65. You can sign up for Medicare 3 months before you turn 65.

If there is anything we can find out for you, just ask us. You can reach us at volfan2596@aol.com or 828-712-1298.

Greetings from the Immediate Past President

By Terry Mangum

Happy New Year!!! As we begin this new year, I would like to wish all of my Fraternal Order of Police Brothers and Sisters across the great State of North Carolina a healthy, prosperous, and safe 2024. In this new year, we must all continue our work of promoting and protecting our most noble profession and the Fraternal Order of Police.



To end out 2023, I participated in Durham County Lodge 2's annual FOP Cops and Kids on December 2. Then on December 14, I attended Lodge 2's annual FOP Retirees Christmas Luncheon. This event is for all of our retired law enforcement officers and their guest. Both events were well attended.

A few of the upcoming events we will be participating in this year are listed below:

- The National State Presidents Meeting and 2024 Spring Board of Directors Meeting will be March 13-17 in San Diego, California.
- The 2024 State Lodge Spring Board of Directors meeting will be April 5-7 in Charlotte.
- The Fall National State Presidents Meeting and Fall Board of Directors Meeting will be held in Charlotte in late August or early September, 2024. Exact dates TBA.
- The 2024 Fall Board of Directors meeting and State Biennial Conference will be September 15 – 19, at Harrah's Cherokee Casino and Hotel. This is a Sunday thru Thursday meeting.

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.

**A happy and prosperous New Year
to all of our Members**



**May 2024 bring renewed health,
hope and happiness**

A Message from Your Chairman of Trustees

By John R. Byrd Sr.

Brothers and Sisters,

I hope this message finds everyone Safe, Healthy and Hopeful and that you enjoyed the holidays with friends and family. The world around us is changing at warp speed. Please be diligent and careful out there.

Some important dates to mark on your calendar are:

1. April 5-7 in Charlotte will be our Spring Board meeting. This will be a very important meeting with a lot of important issues to discuss. As always, if your Trustee cannot attend, you can send any Active Member in good standing to represent your Lodge. Remember, it does not cost your Lodge anything to send someone because the State Lodge pays for it.
2. Tuesday, April 23 in Kannapolis will be our 2nd Annual Celebration Of Life Service in partnership with COPS. Please make every effort to have your Lodge represented. More details will be provided in the future.

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

- October 14 attended the North Carolina Boys Academy Fundraising Banquet and presented them a donation check from Lodge 74.
- Attended a Memorial Committee meeting at the Samarcand Training Center on October 19.
- Sent a BlueNote article to brother Mangum on October 20.
- Attended Lodge 74's bi-monthly meeting at the Old South Restaurant in Butner on October 24
- Sent Trustees an email on December 4 with dates for the upcoming Trustees Meeting at the Spring Board Meeting in April and our 2nd annual Celebration of Life Service in April.
- Attended Lodge 74's raffle drawing on December 13. Thanks to everyone who supported us.
- Attended Durham County Lodge 2's annual Retiree Christmas Luncheon on December 14.
- My Lodge address is changing effective January 1, 2024. Our landlord has raised our rent so I will be running Lodge 74 out of my house.
- Sent a BlueNote article to brother Mangum on December 15.

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 you as your Chairman of Trustees.

Congratulations to lodges and members across the state for the good work in your communities.



Charlotte-Mecklenburg Lodge 9 FOP Cops and Kids 2023

By Randy Hagler – Lodge 9

On Saturday, December 9, members of Charlotte-Mecklenburg FOP Lodge 9 held our annual FOP Cops and Kids event at the local Target-Northlake Mall location. Families were given the opportunity to come alone to shop for their kids or they could bring their kids to shop, it was their choice. We do this knowing that many of these children will only receive the gifts that were purchased through this program and we wanted them to be able to enjoy the surprise on Christmas morning.

We were able to provide these parents with \$75.00 for each child for the purchase of toys and/or clothing. Our families were recommended for the program through the child's school or from our officers working in the community and knowing children that needed some help. At our FOP Cops and Kids event this year, we were able to serve 167 children who may not have otherwise had any Christmas presents at all.

We would like to thank our many corporate sponsors that make this program possible every year.



(Continued on next page)

More Charlotte-Mecklenburg Lodge 9 Photos



Rocky Mount Lodge 46 FOP Cops and Kids 2023

By Greg Brown – Lodge 46 State Trustee

It is always a wonderful feeling when you see a child's face on Christmas morning as they see the first present that has been placed around the Christmas Tree for them to open. For many children they never have that feeling because they never have any presents to unwrap. Most of these children are in a situation which is out of their control and cannot be helped.

This is where Rocky Mount Lodge 46 has stepped in throughout the years to assist parents who find themselves unable to provide for their children during the holiday season. Eight families and 15 children came out to participate in our annual FOP Cops and Kids event on December 9 at FOP Lodge 46 in Rocky Mount.

Lodge 46 was able to provide each child with wrapped gifts which included necessities, such as clothes, coats, shoes, bedroom linens, and toys that the family may not have been able to provide for them. Each child was given the opportunity to sit with Santa and Mrs. Claus, to tell him what they wanted for Christmas. After the children in each family finished unwrapping their gifts, their family was given a box of food and a turkey for them to fix a Christmas dinner.

Our members and our local law enforcement believe that this event breaks down the barrier between law enforcement and the community. It shows them the more personal side to a law enforcement officer and it also shows that they are human as well. It is very humbling to see the smiles on the faces of the children when they are unwrapping their gifts.

Lodge 46 President Tim Braddy has been participating for more than a decade in the annual holiday event. He stated, "This day is one of several good things that law enforcement do in the community. The experience allows children to see officers in a different light other than cases where police are called to a home in an emergency. The purpose of this is to bring the community closer to the police department and law enforcement. We want our children to see that everything we do isn't bad. We also want them to know that no matter where we are in uniform, they can walk up and talk to us anytime because there is no reason to be scared of us. The joy that it brings to the children is priceless. That's why we work so hard fundraising, to help the children experience a wonderful Christmas."

Braddy acknowledged that the FOP Cops and Kids event is a positive event for the officers as well. He stated, "This is also a great experience for the officers because if they didn't care, they wouldn't be here. Like myself, they are not getting paid to do this, but they are here because they want to help out our community. That is why you do this job. It is not about money or glory. This is showing we are out here making a difference."

All the families chosen reside in the Nash, Edgecombe, and Wilson County area. The children selected for our event were truly deserving and their parent or parents are trying their very best to make ends meet but have had some sort of setback in life.

We would like to thank the following for participating in this year's FOP Cops and Kids to make it a successful event. The Rocky Mount Police Department, Nash County Sheriff's Office, Blue Knights Chapter XXI, and many of the members of Lodge 46 along with their family.

(Photos from Lodge 46 Continued on next page)

More Rocky Mount Lodge 46 Photos



TRIVIA

We Have A WINNER!!!

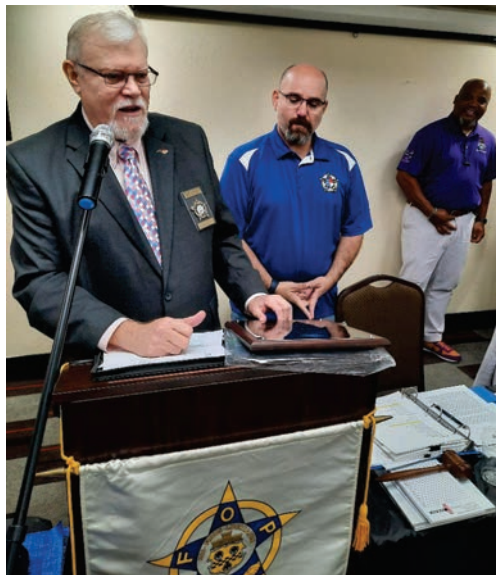
We Have a WINNER!!! I am pleased to announce that we have another 2023 repeat winner for the November/December issue of our Trivia contest. **Byron Highland**, State Trustee of Pitt-Greenville Lodge 69, is the **Grand Prize Winner** of the BlueNote TRIVIA contest. **Byron** was the first to correctly identify the three individuals in the Trivia photograph as 2nd Vice President James Shores, National Secretary Jimmy Holderfield, and Immediate Past President Terry Mangum.

Many thanks to everyone who participated in the November/December issue of **TRIVIA** and sent in a response.

If you have not won a **TRIVIA** contest, do not give up because 2024 could be your year to win one. So, keep playing and submitting your answers and maybe you too can be a BlueNote **TRIVIA Grand Prize Winner** like **Byron Highland**.

Remember, you should send in your responses as quickly as possible, since the **TRIVIA** guesses come in with lightning speed. I hope to see your name listed as the BlueNote **TRIVIA Grand Prize Winner** in the next issue.

Let The Fun Begin!!!
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 three (3) individuals in this photograph?

If you can identify these individuals, just send an email to terrymangum@frontier.com with your answer along with your name and the number of your Lodge.

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

The correct **TRIVIA** answer will be posted in the March/**April 2024** issue of the BlueNote along with the name of the **first** individual submitting the correct answer. Good Luck!!!