

# A Lodge UPDATE



Issue 24

Quarterly Newsletter from The FOPA of Ohio

February 2025

## From the President

Greetings Members,

It was nice to see everyone at our Winter Board Meeting last week in Columbus. In my last newsletter entry I mentioned that we will be closely monitoring EIN (IRS) compliance. We discussed the matter during our board meeting and a bylaw change was proposed. We also discussed the potential bylaw change regarding the compensation of the State Secretary-Treasurer. We had the first reading of these potential changes during last week's board meeting, the second will be at the Spring Board Meeting in May and the final vote will be during the first business session of our State Conference in July. More information, including the proposed changes, is outlined in the last three pages of this newsletter. Please take the time to read them over, the delegates will be voting on these at our conference.

Many of you are aware of the shooting that took place in St. Clair Township on January 22nd. A four-year-old girl lost her life and St. Clair police officer Derek Wetzel was shot and is looking at a long road to recovery. In the wake of this tragedy the FOP Ohio Foundation is collecting donations for the officer and for the family of the little girl. You can make a donation by visiting [FOPOhio.org](http://FOPOhio.org). If you can't make a donation please keep this officer and the families involved in your prayers.

We hope to see many of you at our upcoming meetings first at the Spring Board Meeting May 2nd-3rd in Canton, and then at our annual FOP-FOPA State Conference July 13th-15th in Sharonville.

Fraternally,

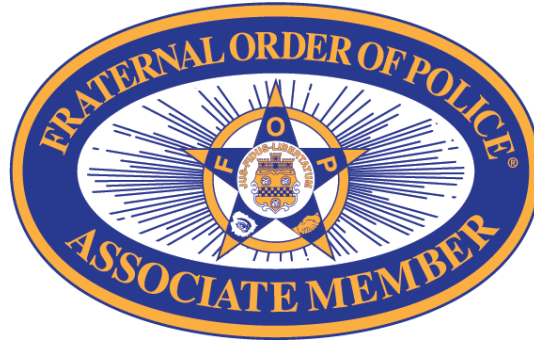
Theresa A. Drennen, State President

## FOPA Challenge Coins



We have challenge coins for sale! Coins are \$10 each or 2 for \$15. If your lodge would like to purchase a larger quantity please ask about bulk pricing. Proceeds benefit the FOPA State Lodge general fund.

# State Secretary-Treasurer Report



*Greetings from your Secretary/Treasurer, Elaine Domonkos.*

I hope everyone is keeping warm and that the lodges are getting off to a great start!

Per capita is starting to roll in which is why this repetition. I would not continue to keep putting this in my messages, but I continue to see these things come through:

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

- All per capita payments for 2025 need to be mailed to Denise at the FOP office. She will then process any new member cards (if needed) and then forward the payments and documents to me for deposit. The address to **send ALL per capita** is 222 E Town St; Columbus OH 43215. Per Capita payments **MUST BE PAID TO: FOPA OF OHIO INC!** I cannot stress this enough as we are still getting checks payable to the FOP and Auxiliary. We are not them. We are the Associates and your per capita payments need to reflect that, please.

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

1. DO NOT contact Denise Young requesting new cards or corrections. All requests for new cards or corrections need to go through me! NO EXCEPTIONS!
2. New Member cards will be completed **once the per capita for the new member has been received by the state**. Again, no exceptions. Therefore, it would be useful for your lodge to add this member to the data base and submit their per capita immediately following the joining of your lodge.
3. Contact me for any card corrections, need for additional disbursement forms or questions.
4. Please note that members who have been *Reinstated* are not to be considered a new member if they have had a few years between being a member. *New members* are members who have *never* been a member of the FOPA. We want to make sure we do not duplicate the cards that print every year.

## **Mark Your Calendar – Important Dates to Remember**

**March 1** – First Per Capita Payment Due (for those who don't send them monthly)

**May 3** – Spring Board Meeting – Holiday Inn, Canton – 9:00 am

**June 1** – Second Per Capita Payment Due - (MUST be Received in order to Attend Conference!)

**July 13-15** – State Conference – Sharonville, Ohio (Cincinnati) – Delta Hotel – Details to come

**October 1** – Final Per Capita Payment for 2025

*Continued on page 3*

# State Secretary-Treasurer Report

Continued from page 2

## E-MAIL

Please use the following email for any correspondence you may have:

[FOPAOhioStateSecretary@gmail.com](mailto:FOPAOhioStateSecretary@gmail.com)

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

## BANK BALANCE – October 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024

### General Checking Account

Beginning Balance	\$92,413.84
Ending Balance	\$91,837.21
Difference	\$576.63

The deposits from this time were more than this difference, however, we had expenses including printing of the cards, postage.

### Scholarship Checking Account

Beginning Balance	\$21,570.72
Ending Balance	\$21,570.72
Difference	\$ 0

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

**Elaine Domonkos**

FOPA State Secretary/Treasurer

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

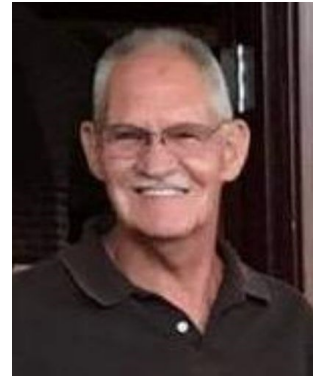
**Deadline for submissions for the May 2025 issue is April 15th.**

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

## In Memoriam

### William Teetz, Zanesville Lodge #16

William A. Teetz Jr., 81, of Zanesville, died at 1:35 A.M. on Friday, November 22, 2024, at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center. He was born February 5, 1943, in Zanesville, a son of the late William "Art" A. Sr. and Evelyn (Findley) Teetz. Bill was a proud veteran of the United States Army. He was a member of the Eagles FOE #302 and the FOP Lodge #5 and served as secretary and treasurer for forty years. He worked for Integrity Supply Company for over thirty years, Roekel Company for five years, and retired from the automotive department at Sears. Bill enjoyed hunting and cooking. He loved cruises, and visiting Myrtle Beach and Las Vegas.



He is survived by his wife of forty-three years, Pamela S. (Moyer) Teetz whom he married November 21, 1981; two children, Terry (Petra) Teetz and Tonya Teetz; three stepsons, Ron (Jennifer) Dalzell, Brad Dalzell, and Eric Dalzell; daughter-in-law, Tina Dalzell, and nine grandchildren, Joshua, Jessica, James, Sydney, Jordan, Cameron, Weston and April. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his stepson, Kris Dalzell; one grandson, Alex and his brother, Tom Teetz.



### Fran Heimerl, Newark Lodge #10



Fran, a parishioner of St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church, died at the Selma Markowitz Care Center of Hospice of Central Ohio on Sunday, November 24, 2024. She was born in Columbus, Ohio on March 11, 1965, to the late Patricia Ann (Murphy) Heimerl.

A graduate of St. Francis de Sales Elementary School and Newark Catholic High School (1983), Fran received her associate's degree from The Ohio State University Newark. She worked with State Farm Insurance for 16 years before joining the Newark Division of Police as a clerk in the Detective Bureau, and in 2011, a Public Safety Officer in the Administration Bureau. She was the "face" of the bureau and was affectionately referred to

as "Candy Fran" for the weekly supply of snacks she personally kept stocked for all of her fellow employees. She was a member of the F.O.P. and past president and member of the Heath Lions Club. Fran was a true citizen of her community which she was proud to be a part of. She attended countless Newark Catholic High School sporting and school events and never lost her love for the Green Wave. Her social calendar was never empty, and one was always met with a kind smile and joyful conversation when seeing her about the town. Fran was generous with her actions and never expected things in return. Although her time here was shorter than most, Fran truly lived every minute of it. Her friendship will be missed.

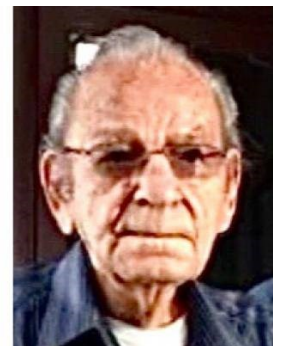
She is survived by her uncle and aunt, John and Penny Murphy; cousins, Tom Sachs; Tabitha (Brian) McQuade, Lauri Martin and her children; Tyler, Meredith, Michael, and Tristan Martin; many lifelong friends; and her extended family of co-workers from the Newark Police Department whom she dearly loved.



### Rudy Notturiano, Capital City Lodge #5

Rudolph (Rudy) Joseph Notturiano passed away peacefully on November 14, 2024 at the age of 97. He was preceded in death by his wife Ruth and son Thomas. Rudy is survived by son, Rick; daughter, Jodell Welle; and daughter-in-law, Molly. He also has three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Rudy was a proud WWII Army Veteran. He retired from General Motors after working there for over 50 years. Rudy enjoyed his time being involved in the Abruzzi Club and Fraternal Order of Police. May he rest in peace.

Rudy joined the FOPA in 1975 and was a past president of his Lodge and always volunteered for all of their events. His son Tommy was one of the first SWAT officers in the area. Rudy was a great asset to Capital City #5 and will be dearly missed.



## Around the State

### Lima Lodge #8

We awarded our FOPA Lima Lodge #8 member(s) of the year to Beth Seibert and Bill Miron. They have been instrumental in taking on our 31 guns in 31 days fund raiser. This event brings in much needed revenue to our lodge to be able to pay for the operating expenses. We are indebted to both of these individuals for taking on such a huge task.

Our lodge continues to grow through our community outreach efforts and various activities we do throughout the year. In November 2024 we swore in 4 new members, and 5 more in January. What a great way to start the year!

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

**Congrats to Beth and Bill, well deserved, thank you for all you do!**

**Welcome New Members!!**



Beth Seibert & Vice President Bill Miron



L to R: 1st picture Lodge President Laura Ball and new member Samantha McDaniel. 2nd Picture New members Lisa Pangle-Farnholtz, Beverly Adeniyi, Akeem Adeniyi, Bruce Wilhelm and Kevin Jones. 3rd Picture New members Mike Gantz, Donavan Moore and Nancy Rex

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

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

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

# Around the State

## Erie County Lodge #35

As they have for several years, members of Lodge #35 helped to lay wreaths at the Ohio Veterans Home. The Lodge has supported Wreaths Across American for many years now. They are one of the top contributors at the this location. Because of that they asked Lodge #35 Treasurer & State Trustee Mary Meade to speak at their ceremony.

They were able to hold their December lodge meeting at the newly renovated Sandusky Police station and court. Lodge #35 members also supported Sandusky Police Department's winter coat drive.

*Submitted by Tim Meade Lodge #35 President*



L to R: Members Ginger Gerhardstein , Mary Meade, Holly Price, Fran Bergmoser, & Tim Meade

## Great Work Lodge #35



Mary Meade speaking at the Wreaths Across America ceremony



Members tour the new station L to R: Mary Dahلمان, Elaine Costante, Paula Fuhr, Laura Porter, Christine DeSalle, Holly Price, Fran Bergmoser, SPD Chief Jared Oliver, Mark Dahلمان, Mary Meade, Cari Ritzenthaler, Marc Ritzenthaler, & Tim Meade



Holly Price and Mary Dahلمان dropping off coat donations

## Upper Ohio Valley Lodge #102

Upper Ohio Valley Lodge #102 came out to support their FOP parent lodge #97 for their 37th annual shop with a cop event.

*Submitted by Amy Stover Lodge #102 President*

## Great Job Supporting your FOP and the community!



### Local Lodge EIN Compliancy

Each individual lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police Associates of Ohio must have its own tax identification number through the IRS, known as an EIN (Employer Identification Number). Each year to remain compliant with the IRS, each lodge must file with the IRS. For most lodges that means filing a 990-N, which is an electronic postcard. If this form is not filed for three consecutive years, that lodge will receive a letter of revocation from the IRS stating they are no longer compliant. Once that happens, it is a time consuming and sometimes costly process to regain compliance.

EIN Compliancy has been an ongoing issue for the FOPA, with several lodges no longer compliant or in danger of losing their compliance. Though we frequently remind lodge of this matter, the problem is not being taken seriously. Beginning in 2026 lodges that are not compliant will face suspension from the State FOPA. This means these lodges will not receive their membership cards, will not be able to purchase emblems, and will not be able to send delegates to the annual state conference.

Lodges that are no longer compliant and have received revocation letters from the IRS will be receiving letters from the state board in the next few months advising them that they are not compliant and suggested steps to begin the process to regain compliance. Their parent FOP lodge will also receive a letter informing them of their FOPA lodge's status.

Lodges that are close to losing their compliancy will be receiving email reminders.

It is important to note that it is the responsibility of each individual lodge to file each year. The State Board cannot do it for you. We will be happy to advise and assist you, but the responsibility falls on the lodges. It is important that whomever in your lodge is responsible for filing, shares the login information with another lodge officer or keeps it somewhere it can be accessed. We suggest having a list of all pertinent info that you share with you FOP lodge. By doing this you can ensure that when there is a change in officers, you will still have access.

This matter has been discussed with the State FOP and they support our efforts to make all of our lodges IRS compliant.

**\*\*The following proposed bylaw change was discussed and had it's first reading at the winter board meeting. The second reading will be at the spring board meeting. The final reading and vote will be during the first business session at our state conference.**

### **Proposed Bylaw change regarding EIN compliance**

#### **ARTICLE X -Suspension, Revocation of Charter, and Reinstatement of Subordinate Lodge**

##### **Section 1 (current wording)**

Any subordinate lodge may be suspended, or its Charter revoked for non-payment of per-capita tax and assessments, or for any other cause deemed sufficient by the Executive Board of the State Lodge. Upon suspension of a subordinate lodge for any reason whatsoever, title to and possession of all books, records and assets of said lodge, whether real, personal or mixed, shall immediately vest in the State Lodge and the District Trustee or any State Officer designated by the State President shall immediately take possession of said books, records and assets in the name of the State Lodge and deposit same with the State Secretary-Treasurer of the Fraternal Order of Police Associates of Ohio, Inc.

#### **ARTICLE X -Suspension, Revocation of Charter, and Reinstatement of Subordinate Lodge**

##### **Section 1 (proposed wording)**

Any subordinate lodge may be suspended, or its Charter revoked for non-payment of per-capita tax and assessments, non-compliance with IRS, or for any other cause deemed sufficient by the Executive Board of the State Lodge. Upon suspension of a subordinate lodge for any reason whatsoever, title to and possession of all books, records and assets of said lodge, whether real, personal or mixed, shall immediately vest in the State Lodge and the District Trustee or any State Officer designated by the State President shall immediately take possession of said books, records and assets in the name of the State Lodge and deposit same with the State Secretary-Treasurer of the Fraternal Order of Police Associates of Ohio, Inc.



## Proposed Bylaw Changes Secretary-Treasurer

**\*\*The following proposed bylaw changes were discussed and had their first readings at the winter board meeting. The second readings will be at the spring board meeting. The final readings and vote will be during the first business session at our state conference.**

### **Proposed Bylaw changes regarding Secretary-Treasurer's compensation**

#### **Article VII Duties of the State Secretary-Treasurer (Treasurer's Duties)**

##### **Section 2 (current wording)**

He/She shall expend funds only upon presentation of itemized vouchers approved by the President and Vice President of the State Lodge. Upon receipt of these vouchers, he/she shall immediately issue checks and mail same, which bear his/her signature.

#### **Article VII Duties of the State Secretary-Treasurer (Treasurer's Duties)**

##### **Section 2 (proposed wording)**

He/She shall be paid four hundred and fifty dollars (\$450.00) annually He/She shall expend funds only upon presentation of itemized vouchers approved by the President and Vice President of the State Lodge. Upon receipt of these vouchers, he/she shall immediately issue checks and mail same, which bear his/her signature.

*\*\*This wording is the same wording used before the positions were combined.*

#### **Article VI Duties of the State Secretary-Treasurer (Secretary's Duties)**

##### **Section 1 (current wording)**

He/She shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the Executive Board and the State Conference.

#### **Article VI Duties of the State Secretary-Treasurer (Secretary's Duties)**

##### **Section 1 (proposed wording)**

He/She shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the Executive Board and the State Conference. He/She shall send a report of these minutes to all Lodge Secretaries and State Board Officers within 30 days of each respective meeting.