

A Lodge UPDATE



Issue 20

Quarterly Newsletter from The FOPA of Ohio

February 2024

From the President

Greetings Members,

Our winter board meeting was last weekend and I want to thank our State Secretary-Treasurer Elaine Domonkos for taking charge. I was unable to make it due to some mobility issues, but I look forward to seeing you all at our state conference in July.

Speaking of state conference, I'm really looking forward to this year. At our last conference we decided to have a round table discussion outside our formal meeting. This will be a great chance for us to exchange ideas about fundraising, growing our membership, and ways to better support our FOP lodges. That along with being an election year, should make for an exciting conference!

Last year we requested all lodges to send in a copy of their bylaws, so far we only have them from 16 lodges. Having a copy of your bylaws helps us to assist you when questions or issues arise within your lodge. We've had a few situations this year when a lodge has reached out for assistance, and it was difficult to help because no one could seem to locate their bylaws. Each lodge's bylaws, so we need them to be able to offer our guidance and suggestions. If your lodge has misplaced them through changes in leadership or any reason, please let me know. We will see if there is anything on file, and we can always help to draft a new set if necessary. Not only should the state lodge have a copy, they should be available to your membership as well. Please send them in if you haven't yet. They can be mailed to the state office or emailed to myself or Secretary-Treasurer Domonkos.

Make sure to check out the raffle on page 7. It was sent in by Brother Jay McDonald from the FOP. Please consider supporting their raffle.

Fraternally,

Theresa A Drennen, State President

Election Year

This is an election year for our organization. All positions on the executive board will be open for nominations and districts will hold separate caucuses to appoint their district trustees. Any member can run for office providing they are a delegate. So if you are interested in running for an office on the executive board, or running for trustee, make sure you are listed as a delegate from your lodge to attend the state conference. The office of State President does require that anyone running has served previously on the state board in some capacity.

We've already received notice from a couple of members that they will be seeking an office. Anyone considering running is welcome to submit a letter of intent to include in the May newsletter. Please have any submissions in Word format and any photos in JPEG or PNG format. Entire submission must be half a page maximum.

If you are interested getting involved, but not ready to hold office, consider serving on one of our committees. We currently need a few people for the scholarship committee and for the awards committee. Please reach out with any questions about the committees or if you would like more information about any of the positions on our State Board.

State Secretary-Treasurer Report

Greetings from your Secretary/Treasurer, Elaine Domonkos.

I hope everyone is keeping warm. At least there is minimal snow (in my area). Hopefully, I won't have to shovel this year.



The Winter Board meeting was last weekend. We had a small turnout, but it was nice to see some new faces. Speaking of the Winter Board meeting, the State FOPA lodge submitted a second per capita payment to the State FOP for an additional 617 members. This payment reflects per capita sent in from June 2023 to December 2023. We will start presenting two per capita payments to the State FOP twice a year. The Winter Board meeting will have the per capita received after the state conference. The payment presented at the State Conference will reflect the per capita received from January to the month of conference. By doing this, we can make certain that the State FOP is getting the payments that are due to them.

Some of my correspondence may be a repetition, but I want to make sure that everyone has this information:

- **E-MAIL**

My email, specific to FOPA business is up and running. Please start using the following email for any correspondence you may have: 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 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)

- **PER CAPITA PAYMENTS – MEMBERSHIP CARDS**

A new year is upon us and we should now be submitting the per capita for all members who have paid for their 2024 membership. The membership cards have been sent and each lodge should have received the cards. In speaking of the membership cards – IF you have any cards that needs corrected or cards for a new member, please keep the following in mind:

- DO NOT contact Denise Young requesting new cards or corrections. All requests for new cards or corrections, need to go through me! NO EXCEPTIONS!
- 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 serve your lodge to add this member to the data base and submit their per capita immediately following their joining of your lodge.
- Contact me for any card corrections, need for additional disbursement forms or questions.

Again, a reminder: *ALL CHECKS NEED TO BE MADE PAYABLE TO: FOPA of Ohio Inc!* Please do not make your checks payable to the FOP - checks need to read FOPA. We are two separate entities.

One more reminder: ALL per capita payments need to be accompanied with a list of who is being paid for. Example: If you submit a payment of \$100, you should have a list of 5 name to accompany this payment. If it is for a new member, then the address of the new member (in addition to their name) needs to be included as well.

Why do I continue to repeat this? I still have lodges that do not send in the names of those being paid for. Let's all try to get on the same page with this if we could.

- **2024 - ELECTION YEAR**

The 2024 State Conference will be our next Election. During this conference, we will be voting on our Executive Board, and Trustees. If you would like additional information on a particular office, please let me know, as I would be happy to review it with you. Please consider running for a position. If you're leery, start out by running for Trustee to get some experience under your belt. We are always looking for members who want to help with the State Board. I do plan on running, once again, but please do not let that stop you!

I have received one Letter of Intent so far for the office of Vice President, Tammy White of Lima Lodge #8 would like for members to consider her for the position of Vice President. Her resume is included on the next page.

State Secretary-Treasurer Report

Continued from page 2

Tamara J White

OBJECTIVE: To officially enter the 2024 State FOPA Board elections for the office of Vice President.

ENDORSEMENTS: I have been endorsed by State FOPA Immediate Past President John Nicholson in this endeavor. I am endorsed by F.O.P.A. Lodge 8 President Laura A. Ball and F.O.P. Lodge 21 President Darrell M. Ball.

LODGE EXPERIENCE:

I have been a member of the George B Quatman FOPA Lodge #8 in Lima, OH since March 27, 2015.

I have held numerous board positions for Lima Lodge #8, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Trustee.

In September 2022 I took over the position of Secretary for Lima lodge #8. I was tasked with over hauling our entire membership and bringing it current with the FOPA website and organizing all secretary functions of the lodge

In July 2023 in addition to the Secretary position I took over the Treasurer position for Lima lodge #8. I was tasked with over hauling all accounts and separating funds to be more transparent.

I have implemented an online accounting system that is efficient and more accessible to all the executive board.

I am currently serving as both positions, Secretary and Treasurer

I was named FOPA Member of the Year for Lima Lodge #8 in 2018

I was named Ohio State FOPA Member of the Year in 2023..

I have been the coordinator for the annual FOP/FOPA purse bingo for 6 years. This is our 6th year and has brought in a profit of over \$10,000 for the past 4 years. We are able to donate to various organizations within our community with these funds. Currently this is the biggest fundraising event we have for our FOPA lodge.

During the past year I have coordinated the lodge's first Memorial Day parade float and the first Labor Day parade float which focused on support for law enforcement. . I also coordinated a booth at our county National Night Out showing our support for law enforcement in our community.

Within the last few months I have been part of forming a 501(c)3 for our FOPA lodge making it easier for organizations to contribute funds to our fundraising efforts. I am currently a member of the FOPA Charities board.

I spent many years as a member of The 750 Corp which was a board that managed the building, grounds and property of the FOP #21 and FOPA #8.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

For many years I volunteered for numerous events with the Allen County D.A.R.E program, helping with photo ID's, taking photos and putting the ID together along with many other community events they were involved in. This was an excellent opportunity for community outreach as a liaison between law enforcement and the community.

For many years I volunteered as a basketball coach for the younger females in our home school district. Traveling to tournaments and teaching the girls fundamentals along with priceless experiences building their confidence and social skills.

I have served on the Village of Riverwalk condominium board for 3 years where I live along with being the manager of the clubhouse facilities there.

Thank you,

Tammy White
Lima Lodge #8 Secretary/Treasurer

Secretary-Treasurer Continued on page 4

State Secretary-Treasurer Report

Continued from page 3

- **2024 STATE CONFERENCE**

The 2024 State Conference will be held in Columbus (Dublin area), July 20 – 23, 2024. The FOPA has secured a block of rooms at the Hyatt Place. (This is the same hotel that has been used the last couple of times that the conference was held in Columbus. The room rate \$119 per night (plus taxes). You can begin making your reservations now. This will be the overflow hotel to the FOP, so make your reservations early to make sure your room is secure. You can call the **Hyatt Place at 614-799-1913** or you can go online as well. For those of you who are Trustees, we have already secured your room. Your confirmation number will be given to you at the Winter Board meeting.

We will be having “hospitality” immediately following the Monday session. There will be no alcohol served during this time or in this room. Please note that alcohol is not permitted in this room. You can have it in your personal room, but we cannot have it in the meeting room. We will have more information as it becomes available.

- **ACCEPTING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS**

We are now accepting applications for the 2024 Scholarship Award. Please let your FOP know and encourage those officers that have a senior in high school to apply. They are eligible for the state scholarship even if they were awarded their local lodge scholarship.

We are also in need of members who wish to serve on the scholarship committee. You don’t need to do much, as it is done at your pace. We forward the scholarship application to each person on the committee to review. It is towards the deadline date that gets the busiest – deciding who should be awarded. If interested, please let me know.

BANK BALANCE FROM OCTOBER 01, 2023 – DECEMBER 31, 2023

- **General Checking Account**

Beginning Balance	\$94,475.13
Ending Balance	\$95,626.50
Difference	\$1,151.37

The payments made during this time period ranged from the State Conference officer expenses, (lodging expense, officer travel.) This balance does not reflect payments that have been made in January. We have had many deposits reflecting per capita during this time.

- **Scholarship Checking Account**

Beginning Balance	\$14,058.14
Ending Balance	\$14,058.14
Difference	\$.00

This time period does not show any installments made. However, there were three payments made in January. The next newsletter will reflect the payments at that time.

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) or phone 614-323-5557 if you have any questions and/or concerns.

Fraternally,

Elaine Domonkos

FOPA State Secretary/Treasurer

Erie County Lodge #35

FOPA #35 has been supporting Wreaths Across America for several years. The lodge donates their own funds and raises money to specifically support this cause. They also help to lay the wreaths on the graves at the Ohio Veterans Home in Sandusky.

This year, Lodge #35 Treasurer & State Trustee Mary Meade was a keynote speaker at the wreath laying ceremony. Lodge #35 was also mentioned as a key donor to Wreaths Across America at the Ohio Veterans home.

If you would like more information on Wreaths Across America or would like to contribute to their yearly fundraising efforts go to: www.Wreathscrossamerica.org/OH0161

Great work Trustee Meade and FOPA Lodge #35



FOPA #35 Treasurer and State Trustee Mary Meade



Pictured Front L to R : FOPA member Holly Price, Mary Meade, Fran Bergmoser, Cari Ritzenthaler, and Lodge President Tim Meade Back: FOP 17 member Matt Dunn



FOPA #35 member Fran Bergmoser

Lima Lodge #8

Jack Somerville was awarded an honorary membership to FOP #21 for close to 40 years of part time law enforcement service to the Lima community and a lifetime supporter of law enforcement in Lima. Jack has been a member of FOPA Lima Lodge #8 since 1985. He has served as President, Vice President and Trustee over the years. He is a highly valued member of our community and lodge. Congratulations Jack well deserved!!



Pictured L to R : FOPA member Jack Somerville and FOP President Darrell Ball

Would you like to see your lodge or a member featured here? Deadline for submissions for the May 2024 issue is April 15th. Please email submissions to ALodgeUpdate@gmail.com

Please see submission details on page 7 for more information.

Fundraisers

Brothers and Sisters of the FOP Associates,

The Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio Foundation is the charitable organization that raises much needed funds for the peer counseling support that is provided to first responders who have been involved in a critical incident. We accomplish that through our golf outing and other activities, like this gun raffle we are doing now. The raffle prizes are three firearms and only five hundred tickets maximum will be sold. Each ticket is \$20.00 and the winner will be pulled when all of the tickets are sold.



If you would like to purchase a ticket, please email Rob Hawley at rhawley@fopohio.org and Rob will get you lined up with the tickets you need. However, do not wait too long as the tickets are going fast!

#401

Thank you for supporting the
FOP of Ohio Foundation

Raffle Winner

NAME

ADDRESS

(614) 224-5700

PHONE

#401

FOP of Ohio
2024 Gun Raffle

Smith & Wesson
Model 640 357 Magnum
J-Frame Revolver

Glock 28
380 ACP Subcompact
10 Round Pistol

Sig Sauer
P365X 9 mm
Optic Ready Pistol

*Winners must pass a background check to claim prizes.

\$20 Winner's Choice of Remaining Prizes. Guns will be picked up at Vance Outdoors.
Drawing will take place on Facebook live once all the tickets are sold.

per ticket Only 500 tickets sold

Would you like to see your lodge's event or fundraiser featured here?
Deadline for submissions for the May 2024 issue is April 15th.

Please email submissions to ALodgeUpdate@gmail.com

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

*A*Lodge UPDATE



Newsletter Submissions

If you would like to see your lodge featured or would like to recognize one of your members please let us know! We are happy to share your stories as well as your events and fundraisers.

Submission Guidelines

- ◆ The quarterly newsletter is sent out the first week of February, May, August and November. Any submissions are due no later than the 15th of each month prior to publication.
- ◆ If you would like to see your lodge or member featured, we have questionnaires to help. Let us know if you're interested and we can email the questionnaire forms.
- ◆ Picture submissions need the names (and positions if lodge officers) included.
- ◆ Fundraiser and event submissions need a contact phone or email that will be published for members to contact if they need more information.
- ◆ If your local FOP lodge or Auxiliary lodge would like to share their fundraisers, we will be happy to include those as well. These will also need a point of contact included.
- ◆ Please make all submissions in Microsoft Word format or in text format.
- ◆ All submissions and inquiries can be sent to ALodgeUpdate@gmail.com