

THE ASSOCIATION OF FORMER NEW JERSEY STATE TROOPERS APRIL 2020

# COVID-19

The November 2019 outbreak of a coronavirus in Wuhan, China quickly grew to be an eye-opener for everyone. Few among us have witnessed a virus so contagious and deadly that we really didn't believe it to be much of a threat. Not here, not in the United States of America, not while political leaders argued over the hopeless impeachment of President Donald J. Trump, **#45**. While our country drew to a virtual disbelief, watching feckless politicians argue, China drew upon its military forces to enact a mandatory lockdown of the Wuhan Provence to stop the spread of this viral contagion to other regions of its vast country. Unfortunately, the lockdown did not preclude untold numbers from leaving Wuhan for other parts of the world. Within a few days, cases were being reported everywhere, including America. Once the first cases were diagnosed here in the U.S., President Trump rightly closed our boarders to incoming flights from China, but COVID-19 was already here and spreading fast.

This story isn't news to anyone. We've all experienced it first-hand and it has impacted each of us. We've repeatedly heard about how drastic the virus has affected some, and so little to others. Few really know if they have been infected and probably won't until testing has taken place. "Social Distancing" has become the order of the day and is considered the best method towards "flattening the curve." Financially, we've all taken a hit, some more than others, but hopefully the economy will bounce back in short order once the country gets back to normal. When that will happen is anybody's best guess. All-in-all just keep the faith!

Here in New Jersey the coronavirus has struck hard, second only to New York. So hard, Governor Phil Murphy signed a series of Emergency Executive Orders which in essence closed down most of the state. Those Executive Orders established a "State of Emergency," precipitating the shut-down of all non-essential operations conducted by the New Jersey State Police, transforming the Outfit into a reactionary force to the COVID-19 pandemic. Stopped were all regulatory and licensing functions conducted by the NJSP, and most other agencies. While it has been circulated that automatic extensions will be granted in these matters, please don't take anything for granted. Submit your applications and/or renewals when they are due. There is no sense calling Division Headquarters, no one is manning those units, they have been reassigned until the pandemic is over. Be patient.

A lot has transpired over the past several weeks, and who knows how much longer this State of Emergency will last. Many of our first responders and medical personnel across the board have been tirelessly aiding those stricken by this virus at great peril to themselves and their families. Some have contracted the virus, and others have even paid the ultimate sacrifice. As such, and in an effort help those who have courageously helped us all, the Former Troopers Association, our Heritage Foundation, and the True Blue and Gold Gift Shop have designed a COVID-19 TEE SHIRT, "Supporting First Responders & Medical Personnel!" These shirts are currently for sale by the True Blue and Gold Gift Shop. Proceeds will be donated to worthy New Jersey First Responders and Medical Personnel via the N.J. Former Troopers Heritage Foundation! Help us help those who have been on the front lines of this pandemic. Buy a shirt today! See pics of the COVID-19 TEE SHIRT on page #32 of this publication.

Online purchases visit: <u>https://true-blue.shoplightspeed.com/covid-19-support-tee-shirt.html</u> Multiple purchases & pickups - email: <u>trueblueandgold@outlook.com</u>

## **COLONEL'S COMMENTS**



Greetings State Police Family,

Although I typically draft all of these articles from my desk in Building 15 at Division Headquarters, today I am writing this from my laptop as I sit at my kitchen table on a Sunday morning with the sun warming my back as it shines through my sliding glass door. Although this unprecedented Coronavirus crisis has shaken us all from our normal routines, there is a peace and a calm that has come over me this morning, knowing that I am writing to a family that is all too familiar with bringing about calm and order to chaos. We are troopers...that is what we do!

Over the past month, I have witnessed the men and women of our Outfit, both enlisted and civilian, working tirelessly to support every aspect of the State's collective response to this pandemic. Beyond the Department of Health, our members remain shoulder to shoulder with commissioners and representatives from each and every Department throughout the state government. Not a day goes by that a Cabinet

member does not express their gratitude and appreciation to me with regards to their interactions with our members and our ability to immediately and effectively respond to their needs. The Division's role serving as the Office of Emergency Management has never been more critical than it is now and I am grateful that we have such dedicated men and women that have inherited the knowledge, commitment and passion to serve that has been passed down by the generations of troopers that have come before us. I am also grateful that the "torch of service" all of you handed down to all of us is what will ultimately ensure we succeed in not only this mission, but in all of our missions yet to come.

Our most recent Command Staff meeting, which for the first time was held as a conference call, offered me the opportunity to speak with the phenomenal leaders I have the privilege to work with every day. I will share with you the same remarks I offered them. First and foremost, take care of yourselves and your families. It is our families, including the State Police family that will support us all through this. This crisis also offers us an opportunity to serve as examples to others as to what patience and perseverance looks like in times of uncertainty. May it also focus our attention to reassess and reset not only our priorities, but also our purpose. As mentioned already, it is our job to bring a sense of calm and resolve when others find themselves in fear and disarray. I will conclude this article as I did my call with the Command Staff and that is with a bit of a twist on a quote attributed to President Ronald Reagan: "Some people spend an entire lifetime wondering if they made a difference...Jersey Troopers don't have that problem!"

God bless you all and as always, stay safe out there! Colonel Patrick J. Callahan #5243

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## **PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

In this difficult and unprecedented time, I hope that all our members and the entire State Police Family are well and protecting themselves from this virus. Unfortunately, some of our members fell ill to the virus. A few have passed, others continue to fight, but most have recovered.

The FTA leadership has partnered with the Division to provide as much information as we can to keep everyone informed. We have utilized our FTA website, bulk emailing, and the Association's Facebook page to deliver pertinent information to the membership.

On behalf of the entire FTA and its' members, I want to acknowledge the excellent work that Colonel Callahan, his staff, and the entire State Police are doing to combat this virus. As always, the Division continues to take a leadership role to protect the great citizens of New Jersey and we are so proud of them.

The Board of Directors had to make very difficult decisions regarding cancelling most of our events. The Logo Merchandise Store has been closed and is only filling orders received via the website. Our office is also closed. Patti is working remotely to continue providing our members with services without interruption.



Prior to the virus, the FTA was involved in many significant and exciting projects. We had formed a consortium to go forward with the construction of our Columbarium project at the Museum and Learning Center. Various companies committed to donating their expertise, labor, and material to complete the project prior to the 100th Anniversary. I appreciate their commitment and I know that they are all ready and willing to proceed when we endure this virus.

We were also progressing with the issues surrounding HR-218 and the RPO. Furthermore, your leadership has opened a dialogue with the Governor and Senator Sweeney relative to the status of the COLA. I know that the world as we knew it will never be the same. However, I assure everyone that when we get through this period, we will continue in the most aggressive manner to proceed forward with these goals and objectives.

I want to personally thank and commend the FTA Boards of Directors and all the committee members for all their hard work and diligence during this uncertain time. We have all pulled together to do a job as we were trained to do as Troopers. Remember, active or retired, we all bleed Blue and Gold, and we will always be part of the Outfit. NOTHING, including this virus, can ever take that away from all of us.

I would also like to thank Terry Hennessy for his years of faithful service to the FTA, our Heritage Foundation, and to our True Blue and Gold store operation. Best of luck for a well-earned, and deserved retirement.

Lastly, Rhonda, I, and the entire Soranno family want to wish all of you and your families the very best. Please stay safe and may God bless you all.

Warmest Regards, Nick Soranno



The FTA Spring General Membership Meeting has been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We will notify everyone when a new date has been scheduled.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE EDITOR**

Greetings Everyone. On behalf of the Officers, Directors, and our Staff, I hope your are well and weathering the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in true Jersey Trooper fashion. For those who have been exposed to the virus and are fighting through it, and especially to those who have succumb to this highly contagious virus, our prayers are with you and your families. This contagion has hit our country hard. **We are all in this together!** As we fight through the quiet of "social distancing," the isolation of closures, shutdowns, or quarantine, the loss of loved ones, or the financial strain of our mostly closed economy, please be mindful that in our solidarity we are one Outfit of Jersey Troopers! As always, if you are in need of assistance, or just need someone to talk to, we are only a phone call away. Remember you are not alone in this event, we are all Jersey Troopers, and remain true to our motto of, Once a Trooper, Always a Trooper.

This pandemic has created concerns and adjustments across the board, and while you may not realize it, our Association has undergone quite a few adjustments since our last newsletter was published. Since the roll-out of our new Web Site, several adjustments and additions were undertaken, resulting in a user friendly, interactive site that affords the general public an excellent overview of our Association, and our membership an in-depth access to information, account updating, and ease of event registration and membership renewal. A thorough overview of the new Web Site has been prepared for you by Bob Wilk, and can be found on page #8 of this publication.

As previously reported, Al Della Fave is our new Public Information Officer and handles all aspects of our Social Media, including: Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Thanks to Al's expertise and tireless input, these sites are exploding with information and a following that has grown exponentially, and continues to do so daily. Read more about our Social Media platform in an article prepared for you by Al, on page #7 of this newsletter.

As you are all well aware that the COVID-19 pandemic has closed most aspects of social life as we knew it, our Association has also been hard hit. No one could have anticipated the level of contagion or the speed with which this virus moved into the mostly metro areas of our country. In the days leading up to and during the March 10 & 11, 2020, Florida Winter Party, central Florida was virtually virus free. By Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>, reports began coming in, cruises were cancelled, Disney World and Universal announced they would be closing on Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup>, and the Orlando, Florida area turned into a virtual ghost town. It happened that fast. I know, my wife Sandy and I were there. In fact, I drafted and dispatched the first COVID-19 Update letter from my hotel room at the Wyndham next to Disney Springs on March 15<sup>th</sup>.

By the time I returned home on March 18<sup>th</sup>, it was plain to see that major adjustments would need to be made. Via a telephone conference call meeting, the Board of Directors tabled the growing threat and made decisions. The FTA Office and the True Blue and Gold Store were closed until further notice. Thankfully, Patti MalDonado agreed to move our FTA Office into her home and continue our administrative operations remotely from there. Additionally, Jackie Snyder agreed to continue administering the True Blue and Gold Ecom sales and shipping operation on an as needed basis. Lastly there were events to address; the Troop 'A' Get-Together scheduled for April 30<sup>th</sup>, and the Troop 'B' Get-Together scheduled for June 4<sup>th</sup>, were cancelled with consideration for potential rescheduling at a later date. Unfortunately, the FTA Annual Picnic scheduled for June 20<sup>th</sup> was not that easy and was cancelled until next year. The Spring General Meeting scheduled for May 2<sup>nd</sup>, while not a social event is required under our FTA Constitution and By Laws. As such, that meeting was postponed and will be rescheduled at later date, once the threat of the coronavirus has passed. We will keep you posted as to when that General Meeting will take place.

While most have only been dealing with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic since mid March, I think its important to note that our FTA Office has been dealing with its effects since January. The first order of FTA "Prestige Membership Cards" included everyone that renewed their membership during the months of November and December 2019. That order went out in January. Unfortunately, delivery of those cards was held up thanks to

shipping restrictions, and we did not receive delivery of the cards until mid March, when we closed our Office. I'd like to thank Patti for personally handling the processing and mailing of those cards from her home.

While much of the news fixates on the COVID-19 pandemic, as does a large portion of this newsletter issue, other happenings have occurred within our Former Troopers Association. The 2020 New Year brought the resignation of a longtime fixture on our FTA Board of Directors. After serving for fifteen-years, first as a Director, and then as Treasurer, Lt. John T. "Terry" Hennessy, #2109 (*Ret*) retired. Terry was instrumental in virtually every aspect of FTA business at one time or another. In 2013, along with Major Joseph J. Craparotta, #1631 (*Ret*) and Lt. Harry McCurdy, #2117 (*Ret*), Terry served as an Incorporator, Trustee, and Treasurer of our charitable non-profit, the N.J. Former Troopers Heritage Foundation. Two years later, Terry was there for the formation of our for-profit, the True Blue and Gold Logo Merchandise Sales entity. Having worked closely with Terry since joining the Board, I can honestly attest he has always been there for everyone he comes in contact, and I have valued his assistance and counsel over the years. On behalf of the Officers, Directors, Staff, and the Membership of our Association of Former Jersey Troopers, I'd like to wish Terry a well deserved rest from all the work he's done over the years, and hope he continues to be that familiar face at our FTA events and functions.

#### Thank you Lt. John T. "Terry" Hennessy, #2109 (Ret) for your Service!

Subsequent to Terry's departure, during our Board Reorganization Meeting of January 23, 2020, our then Sergeant at Arms, Trooper I William T. Trump, #2416 (*Ret*) graciuosly volunteered to move up into the Directors chair and fill Terry's vacancy. With that, President Soranno appointed Captain Patrick J. Reilly, Jr., #3570 (*Ret*) to the office of Sergeant at Arms. A unanimous approval by the Board solidified both positions. Welcome Aboard Gentlemen!

Committees and subcommittees are a very important aspect of organizations such as our's. They afford Board Members with pertinent information and advice towards making decisions relevent to FTA business. One such committee is our Former Trooper of the Year Subcommittee. Reorganized in 2018 to include only past recipients of this prestigious Award, this five-member subcommittee is tasked with the review of submitted nominations and the recommendation of each year's recipient. The March 30, 2020, passing of Captain Charles A. Kuyl, #1894 (*Ret*) left a vacancy to this important subcommittee. As such, President Soranno has appointed Major John D. Hunt, Jr., #3709 (*Ret*), our 2019 Former Trooper of the Year to fill the vacancy. Welcome Aboard John!

As you well know, I continue to keep in contact with our own 'Marathon Man,' and 2016 recipient of the FTA Former Trooper of the Year Award, Lt. John Ouweleen, #1759 (*Ret*), and here's the latest updates from John:

In the December edition, I spoke about my cancellation of the 124<sup>th</sup> Boston Marathon in favor of competing in the Abbott World Marathons Majors, Wanda Age Group World Championship in London England. The reason being was, the two races were only 6 days apart. The result was that I backed out of the Boston Marathon, knowing full well that I could not competitively participate. In early March, the entire long-distance running world began to change. As result of the COVID-19 pandemic, major marathons around the world began to cancel and postpone their races. Originally it was Tokyo, Jerusalem and Rome that cancelled, and Paris postponed until the fall. Then on March 12, 2020, the announcement that affected me was made. The 124<sup>th</sup> Boston Marathon scheduled



for April 20, 2020, was postponed until September 14, 2020. The next day, Abbott WMM, Wanda announced that they would also postpone their race. Since it was being conducted under the umbrella of the 2020 Virgin Money London Marathon, which also postponed, No London, No Wanda.

Then the good news came!!!!! The 2020 Virgin Money London Marathon/Abbott WMM Wanda was rescheduled for October 4, 2020. Outstanding!!!! Twenty-days between Boston and London. So, I have since contacted the Boston Athletic Association and advised that I will return and compete in the 124<sup>th</sup> Boston Marathon, on September 14<sup>th</sup>. Looking forward to "toe the line" for both races.

On February 2, 2020, I competed for the second year in the "Gulf Coast Games for Life" track event in Bradenton, Fl. The race is a qualifier for the Florida Senior Games that will be conducted in Ft. Lauderdale on December 13, 2020. I was fortunate to collect three gold medals in the 400, 800, & 1500 meters. I'm in!

Okay mark your calendars, September 14, 2020, the 124<sup>th</sup> Boston Marathon; October 4, 2020, the 2020 Virgin Money London Marathon; and December 13, 2020, the Florida Senior Games in Ft. Lauderdale. Make sure your cheering for Johnny O on those dates, especially when he's in London! He may even hear us all the way across the pond! We'll be rooting for you John, every step of the way!

The 100<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary will be commencing in less than a year. This will be a fantastic time for the New Jersey State Police and every Jersey Trooper Active or Retired. If you have any pictures or documents that you would like to share for the 100 Year Anniversary Book please email a copy of same to <u>100years@ftanjsp.org</u>!

Lastly, I would like to correct a mistake that occurred in our December 2019 newsletter. In the article titled: <u>Visit with Trooper I Thomas Iskrzycki, #2068 (Ret)</u>, Trooper I Iskrzycki's Badge number was mistakenly listed as #2068. A Jersey Trooper's Badge number is a most sacred thing, an identity if you will, and never to be taken lightly. Trooper I Thomas J. Iskrzycki's correct Badge is #2066. My sincere apologies to Trooper I Iskrzycki, his family, and anyone else who was offended by this mistake.

Lt. George J. Wren, Jr., #3680 (Ret)

## FEATURED MEMBER(S)



### COLONEL JUSTIN J. DINTINO PASSES

In our last issue of this newsletter, our Featured Member(s) included Colonel Justin J. Dintino, #1152 (Ret), and the October 31, 2019, celebration of his 91<sup>st</sup> birthday and his donation of the "Col. Justin J. Dintino Repository of Organized Crime Literature" to the New Jersey State Police, during a ceremony attended by many active and retired Jersey Troopers, dignitaries, family and friends. The celebration at the Sea Girt Academy, included guest speakers: Colonel Patrick J. Callahan, #5243; former NJ Governor, James J. Florio; former NJ Attorney General, James R. Zazzalli; and former NJ Director of Criminal Justice, Edwin H. Stier, who each addressed a packed house inside the classroom building. All reiterated how Colonel Dintino was the right person at the right time to lead the NJSP. His tenacity to thwart organized crime, institute community policing, and protect the civil rights of all citizens were paramount to the Outfit during his leadership. Despite overcast skies and rain, the organized event was a celebration of the man and his many endeavors towards the betterment of his fellow man.

Almost three months later Colonel Dintino passed away following complications from injuries sustained in a fall at his home. He was a remarkable man, and in true State Police fashion, Colonel Callahan made sure his predecessor received a proper send off. Again, under overcast skies, Colonel Dintino received a traditional State Police Funeral, one certainly befitting a leader of his caliber, a funeral steeped in Honor, Duty and Fidelity.

#### Thank you Colonel Justin J. Dintino, #1152 (Ret) for your Service, Leadership, and your Friendship!

## **MEDIA MATTERS**

In an effort to highlight and expound on the recent implementation of our FTA Social Media platforms and the roll-out of our new FTA Web Site, I've decided to add a new section to our periodic newsletter. **Media Matters** will focus on keeping the membership up to date with these new mediums, and how to best navigate and add to their effectiveness and efficiency in keeping the membership apprised of past, current and future information. As such, I've asked our Public Information Officer, Al Della Fave, and Web Site Committeeman Robert Wilk to draft the following informational articles on each area of new mediums now afforded to every FTA Member. Lt. George J. Wren, Jr., #3680

### Why the FTA has Chosen to Embrace Social Media

Let's start with one simple fact: today it is imperative that an organization/business have a social media presence. It is an essential piece of an effective marketing strategy to grow the health and size of an organization.

Social platforms help connect with your members and those most important to the FTA's success. With <u>more</u> than three billion people around the world using social media every month, it's no passing trend.

As the FTA's social media administrator, I've found it is not important we know every intimidating buzzword or have the magic number of followers, but it was of the utmost importance we get started immediately and simply show a sincere effort to connect to members, family and supporters. This formula has already shown the power of a robust social media platform by not just increasing followers, but most importantly driving membership.

Here are the five major reasons why investing in social media is a wise FTA move:

#### 1. Builds Organizational Awareness

Retirement can already be a very difficult time. Retiring Troops or even those active members need to easily be made aware of the basics about us - what we stand for, what we can offer in post "Outfit" employment support and bottom-line if the dues are even worth paying. There is no more effective tool then Social media in boosting our visibility among potential members. It enables us to reach a wide audience with a minimal amount of time and effort. And it's free to create an organizational profile on all the major social networks, so we have nothing to lose.

#### 2. Communicates Authority

Prospective members are increasingly savvier and more discerning about which organizations they desire to join or support. Today's tech savvy generation spends considerable time online viewing social media, their opinions are shaped by website and social media browsing. We want them to find rich sources of information and a group overflowing with organizational pride. This can only be accomplished by setting up robust social media platforms that we update frequently with relevant content to build our brand and make sure we make a positive first impression, showing that our organization is strong, knowledgeable, and approachable.

#### 3. Shows Authenticity

Members aren't interested in dry, corporate-style social media posts. Followers want to hear from those who have walked in their shoes. They want the earning of the sacred "Golden Triangle" to shine through most everything we share on social media. They want our brand voice to shout loud and clear our pride in having served in the New Jersey State Police. Just as important they want that pride to overflow into their family and friends. Social media platforms, when accessible and active, does all this and provides members a sense of strong family support - hence #FTAFamily.

#### 4. Encourages Engagement

We must experiment with new ways to connect with our members, family, friends and supporters. This has been our strongest push in our social media efforts. PLEASE, members reading this, you can be of great help. I beg you to strengthen our organization by sharing your social media content/posts with us.

#### 5. Provides Support

Finally, it is our hope that Social Media will help us successfully break down communication barriers between the FTA Officers and our members. Today, we want our members to easily find multiple sources and communication channels they are most comfortable with in order to solve problems or find information. We firmly believe our commitment to social media will help us in our commitment to serving our membership. We cannot expect our members to be happy with yesterday's organization. We pledge to develop our reputation as a responsive, caring organization offering support through robust social channels to include:

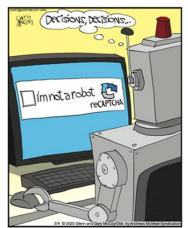
- > A system for tracking member comments, questions, and complaints on social media.
- > To respond as quickly as possible to questions and concerns.
- > Go out of your way to be positive and helpful.
- > Listen to criticism and make members feel heard.
- > Know when to resolve public conversations in private messages.

Major Albert Della Fave, #4040 (Ret)

## **FTA Web Site Overview and Important Instructions**

The FTA is enjoying a historical period of great challenges and growth. The new commitment to the needs of our members has resulted in new and old Troopers wanting to join or rejoin the FTA. Not only are the membership rolls swelling, but highly skilled Troopers are offering their talents to help fellow members. Every time someone throws their knowledge and experience into the pot by joining a committee, the possibility of us reaching our goals comes closer and closer. We are all in this together, working for each other.

This past year the FTA Web Site was overhauled and updated. One of our highest priorities was to make the site more user friendly. We want those who visit the site to have an enjoyable experience and move through the tabs quickly and with little effort. Visitors should be able to locate and identify the information they are seeking almost immediately. The site is divided into the Public and Members Only sides. Every time you load the FTA site, <u>https://www.ftanjsp.org</u>, you will immediately be on the Public site. This site contains very important, informative and timely information for all who are interested in our Association of Former New Jersey State Troopers. To access the Member's Only side, you must be an active member of the FTA and have the proper password. The Member's Only side contains information that is specific to the membership and not available for public posting. *Any time you see the blue captcha box containing five skewed numbers you must type those five numbers into the box above it! It's a security feature!* 



The tabs and shortcuts were designed to be an instant identifier of the information that tab is linking to. For example: the "About" tab at the top of the page explains the Mission of the FTA. The bullets are a list of commendable activities that are discussed and updated at almost every meeting. Any curious visitor to our site that eagerly clicks multiple tabs to see what happens, will notice that there is a level of redundancy. For example: we have an "Event" tab at the top of the page, an Event Calendar in the middle and an Announcement section at the bottom. All three of these might say "FTA Summer Picnic." Clicking on anything related to the summer picnic will take you to information about the picnic, a registration form and a payment link. This redundancy was created on purpose because web site users all have different ways of conducting their searches. Having more than one option allows users easier access to our information.

### **Understanding the Site:**

- Anything written in **BLUE** is a link. Clicking on **BLUE** words will open a new page that is pertinent to the words clicked.
- The words across the top of the page, (Home, About, Events, Officers, Memorials, Links, Contacts, Shop and Foundation), will open a page pertaining to that category.
- The Member's Only tab will open the sign in and password information for the Members side of the site.
- The "Join Us" tab opens a page that will allow you to join the FTA or renew your membership. If you are a current or past member it will partially load your account information and allow you to update and complete your profile. Finally, it will allow you to pay by credit card through Paypal or mail a check.
- The **Calendar** lists all important FTA and State Police social events, important deadlines and general information. Clicking on any event on the calendar will take you to the event info and a Registration page.
- We all hold the **Memorial Section** in a special place in our hearts. This section was created with the highest level of honor due the Fallen Heroes listed therein. The section allows you to search by name or year. If you click any Trooper listed, you can read that Trooper's Memorial.
- The **Announcement** box is the quick hitter, posting the hottest information available to the general public. The FTA actively works on issues pertinent to all troopers. Legislation, health benefits, Pensions, COLA, social welfare, and much more. Our goal is to make the dissemination of breaking information quick, accurate and fluid. We will use all means possible to include the Web Site, Social Media platforms.
- The **Mission Statement** at the bottom of the page and the **About Us** tab at the top will address who we are and what we are about.
- The **Shop Now** and **Foundation** tabs take you to the **True Blue and Gold Ecom store** and our **Heritage Foundation**. All Donations are accepted through the Heritage Foundation. All sales of State Police Merchandise are consummated through the True Blue and Gold store.
- Lastly, we list our sponsors at the bottom of the page. Please consider patronizing these professionals. It's important we express our appreciation and gratitude for the untold help and support they give us. Click on any of their business cards or on their newsletter advertisements and you will be hyperlinked directly to their web site where you can view their services.

The **Member's Only** side of the website is the most exciting. This is where members can search and receive the most accurate and timely information, answers, research, and anything and everything that pertains to a retired Jersey Trooper. The FTA Leadership, Board of Directors and Committees are actively working on a broad range of topics and strive to post breaking news in real time as it happens. Not only are we working on the most obvious of topics, but we listen carefully and are open to the worries and concerns of all our members. Every member of the Former Trooper's Association should feel comfortable passing forward any issue they need additional information on, or more importantly if a member has an expertise or knowledge in any area that we can share for the benefit of all please bring that to our attention. Navigating the Member's Only page is easy. Here's a road map to the information:

• The **Home Page** is the first page that opens. It has a motivational statement from President Nick Soranno. It also has a "**Member's Announcements**" tab. Remember anything in **Blue** is an active link. Once you click on it more information will appear. The **Calendar** is also available here, so you do not have to return

to the public page. You can and should click the "**Subscribe**" link to join the FTA Mailing List and receive email notifications and messages.

- If you are a savvy social media user there is a link on the homepage to connect with the FTA Facebook, Twitter and/or Instagram pages.
- At the bottom of the Home Page are links to our **Sponsors**, the **Heritage Foundation** and the **True Blue and Gold Store**.
- There are six tabs across the top of the page; Member Home, Contacts, Last Patrol, Bulletin Board, Information and Photos.
- By clicking the **Member Home** tab, you will be returned to the Member's Only Home Page.
- The **Contacts** tab provides you the contact information for the FTA Officers, Board Members, active past presidents as well as a link to send an email to the FTA.
- The Last Patrol tab lists in chronological order the passing of our fellow Jersey Troopers.
- The **Bulletin Board** tab takes you to the hottest information. Members can post information as it happens. It also allows for discussions as you can add, edit or clarify posted information. This should be checked as often as you can. The photo tab has photos from past events and historical pictures.
- The **Information** tab will give you a drop-down menu with eleven menu choices. After clicking the Information page down arrow, drag your cursor down to the item you are interested in and left click on that item. A new page will open.
  - ✓ FTA Forms, provides much need documents such as the 911 Disability Pension Registration, Scholarship Applications, Memorial Association Paver Program and other informative forms.
  - ✓ **Meeting Minutes**, provides the meeting minutes from past FTA General Meetings.
  - ✓ **Newsletter**, provides past FTA Newsletters for review.
  - ✓ **Triangle**, allows you to pull up past Triangles.
  - ✓ Bessie's Corner, pertaining to everything Pension and Healthcare related.
  - ✓ **Roster**, is a listing of all FTA Members by badge number or name.
  - ✓ Roll Call, is a listing of every Jersey Trooper by badge number, from Colonel Schwarzkopf, #1 to our latest academy graduates.
  - ✓ **Documents**, provides the FTA By-Laws, FTA Estate Planning Handbook (which all should read and utilize), The FTA Retiree Handbook, the FTA Constitution, Bylaws and others.
  - ✓ **Legislative Links**, provides all state and federal legislative contacts.
  - ✓ The Become a Sponsor line allows more generous businesses to join the supportive and honored group we now have.
  - ✓ The **Links** tab offers you the Home page of all organizations who have joined together with the common thread of love and respect for each other.
  - ✓ Lastly, the **Photos** tab offer some historical photographs as well as some from recent FTA events.

While there have been a few glitches since the initial roll-out of the new FTA Web Site, they have since been addressed, corrected, and even a few enhancements were added, thanks to our Webmaster, Jim Vincent. Jim and his crew did a wonderful job on this project and we anticipate many years of use by our members and the general public. If you haven't taken the opportunity to explore our new Web Site, please do so. We think you'll be pleased.

Trooper I Robert R. Wilk, #3503 (Ret)



## FTA TRADEMARK INFORMATION



Since obtaining the Trademark Rights to the above depicted FTA & NJSP logos, our Association of Retired Jersey Troopers has come under various levels of scrutiny and inuendo as to their actual rights and use. Without going into a long, drawn-out explanation, here's a brief history of how this all played out. The expressed authority to manufacture and sell New Jersey State Police logo related merchandise was appointed to the FTA in 1991 by Colonel Justin J. Dintino, #1152 and Attorney General Robert J. DelTufo, following an in-depth State Police investigation into the unauthorized activity of active NJSP personnel involved in the purchase and sales of said merchandise. Subsequent administrations have ignored that decision and granted authority and permitted various private vendors, and even active NJSP personnel to resume the manufacture and sales of State Police related merchandise. While FTA leadership was well aware of these happenings, the infringements were minor, and thus no regulatory action was taken. As long as the proceeds of such sales were going to NJSP related charitable benevolences, the FTA saw no reason to infringe upon members of "our Outfit" engaged in such activity, and passively permitted it. However, in 2014, FTA leaders realized that too many vendors were profiting from the manufacture and sale of NJSP related merchandise. This concern was brought before Colonel Joseph R. Fuentes, #3190 who agreed to support the FTA's trademarking of the three prominent logos of the New Jersey State Police.

Applications for Trademarks Rights to the Former Troopers Association logo, the NJSP Badge logo, the NJSP Shoulder Patch logo, and the NJSP Honor, Duty, Fidelity logo were made by the FTA in 2015 and subsequently approved by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in 2015 and 2016, granting the Former Troopers Association exclusive rights to the manufacture and sale of the stated logos. While few have realized it over the past several years, many independent vendors have been served with ceased and desist letters, and their continued sales have been stopped. However, it is a never-ending job to regulate this activity, often resulting in consultations with our corporate counsel and tedious administration of regulatory processes. Unfortunately, some within "our Outfit" have viewed the trademarking of these logos as an affront to their unchecked charitable and/or profitable enterprises. This has never been about anything more than a means to protect these cherished logos from those seeking to profit on the backs of "Our Outfit of Jersey Troopers, Active or Retired." Anyone who thinks differently is wrong! However, in an effort to bring everyone up to speed and establish a protective and cooperative working environment, the Former Troopers Association will be hosting an organizational meeting to address this issue once the COVID-19 pandemic has passed. The FTA Board is always thankful for any and all information concerning potential infringement on these logos and would appreciate a call to our office, or an email contact via our web site on such activity. Thank you.

Lt. George J. Wren, Jr., #3680 (Ret)

## N.J. FORMER TROOPERS HERITAGE FOUNDATION, INC.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Heritage Foundation was proud to announce the implementation of our second annual 50/50 CASH Raffle to be drawn during the FTA Annual Picnic on June 20, 2020, at Liberty Lake. Well, three weeks into our ticket sales the State of New Jersey shut down and has left us in a bit of a predicament. While we do anticipate some sort of an extension by the State's regulators, it doesn't appear that they will be amicable to extending our drawing date much past June. As such, and as only a small number of tickets were actually sold, we have decided to cancel this year's 50/50 CASH Raffle and start fresh in 2021.



In other business, after serving for almost five years as a Trustee Director, and after permanently retiring to Florida, Mr. David Goldberg graciously offered to resign from his position, so that someone more able to be involved could take his place. As such,

and after careful consideration, Nick Soranno and I discussed the availability of joining our Board with LTC Nicholas Theodos, #3463 (*Ret*), who has cordially accepted the appointment. Thank you, Mr. Goldberg for your service and benevolence to our Foundation, and Welcome Aboard LTC Theodos!



### TRUE BLUE AND GOLD, INC.

The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic forced the closing of Our Logo Merchandise Store until further notice. However, our Ecom Store is still readily available to accommodate your Internet shopping, and purchases will be readily shipped to your home. In an effort to help those New Jersey First Responders and Medical Services Personnel, The FTA, Heritage Foundation, and True Blue and Gold, have designed at COVID-19 Tee-Shirt to raise funds to help those who have been helping all of us. COVID-19 Tee Shirts are

available via Online purchases at <u>https://true-blue.shoplightspeed.com/COVID-19-support-tee-shirt.html</u>, or for multiple purchase & pickup – email: <u>TrueBlueandGold@outlook.com</u>. Pictures of the COVID-19 Tee Shirt can be found on page #32 of this newsletter!

Since the inception of True Blue and Gold in 2015, I have served on its Board of Directors and as Corporate Secretary. It has been a great experience and I have enjoyed being a part of establishing this for-profit business towards supporting the charitable benevolences of our N.J. Former Troopers Heritage Foundation. However, the time has come for new ideas and new interests to become a part of our business journey. Happily, I am proud to announce the installation of two new members to the True Blue and Gold Board; Director and Secretary, Lt. Frank J. Cordero, #4683 (*Ret*), and Director, Major Glenn M. Miller, #3126 (*Ret*). While I will no longer be serving on the Board, everyone knows I'm readily available to lend a hand should the need arise. Welcome Aboard Frank and Glenn! *Lt. George J. Wren, Jr., #3680 (Ret)* 



### THE 2019 STATE POLICE HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE



The annual State Police Holiday Open House took place on Saturday, December 14, 2019, at the State Police Museum and Learning Center. The event drew a somewhat small showing of Enlisted, Retired, and Civilian Employees (past and present), and their families, who braved the rain and overcast skies to helped usher in the arrival of the Christmas Season to Division Headquarters. As in the past, and in true State Police form, jolly old Saint Nicholas, accompanied by his lovely wife Mrs. Clause, arrived courtesy of "NJSP Troopcars," as the Aviation Bureau was grounded due to thick fog. Even Rudolph errored against flying in such poor weather! However,

back at the Log Cabin, children of all ages waited eagerly to sit on Santa's lap, each hoping that he would grant their wish with a special present come Christmas morning. If you haven't attended this great event, do yourself a favor and bring the family to Division Headquarters, and start off the Christmas Season come December. The kids and the grandkids will certainly let you know just how great the event really is!

## THE 2020 ANNUAL FLORIDA WINTER PARTY



The Florida Winter Party was held on Tuesday, March  $10^{\text{th}}$  and Wednesday, March  $11^{\text{th}}$ , 2020, at the Crown Plaza Melbourne Oceanside. Festivities began on Tuesday, March  $10^{\text{th}}$ , with a reception cocktail party and buffet dinner from 4 - 11 p.m., that included a DJ for attendees dancing pleasure. A reunion brunch & meeting followed on Wednesday, March  $12^{\text{th}}$ , 11 a.m. -2 p.m.

During the meeting, President Nick Soranno gave attendees a presentation accompanied by overhead flow charts, of the organizational structure of the FTA, our Heritage Foundation, and the True Blue and Gold Sales Operations, and how each of these three entities operates to the overall benefit of our membership. FTA Vice President and Chairman of the Heritage Foundation George Wren followed with a presentation of the first three Window Plaques to recipients, John Ouweleen, and Joan & Bill Trump, bequeathed in thanks and recognition of their gracious benevolence to our charitable foundation. Thank you again - John, Joan and Bill! Later that evening, attendees gathered at Squid Lips Restaurant in Melbourne for a pleasant dinner and quite a few laughs. Happily, there were several newcomers to this year's Florida Winter Party, however attendance was at an all-time low of only forty-eight attendees. *Pics courtesy of Barbara Kornek and George Wren*.



For more pics visit: https://www.ftanjsp.org/newsletter/FTAFlorida2020.pdf

## SAVE THE DATES

## **TROOP "A" OLD-TIMERS GET-TOGETHER**

The A 2020, at consider pandemi

The Annual Troop "A" Old-Timers Get-Together originally scheduled for Thursday, April 30, 2020, at the Frog Rock Golf & Country Club, Hammonton, N.J., has been cancelled with consideration for potential rescheduling at a later date, due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. We will notify you if a new date is scheduled.

## STATE POLICE MEMORIAL SERVICE



The Annual State Police Memorial Service scheduled to take place at 11:00 a.m., May 1, 2020, at the Museum and Learning Center Memorial Garden has been cancelled with consideration for potential rescheduling at a later date, due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. We will notify you if a new date is scheduled.

## **TROOP "B" OLD-TIMERS GET-TOGETHER**



The Annual Troop "B" Old-Timers Get-Together originally scheduled for Thursday, June 4, 2020, at the La Strada Ristorante, 1105 Rt. 10 EB, Randolph, N.J., has been cancelled with consideration for potential rescheduling at a later date, due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. We will notify you if a new date is scheduled.

## FORMER TROOPERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL PICNIC



We regret to inform you that subsequent to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic the FTA Annual Picnic previously scheduled for June 20, 2020, at the Liberty Lake Picnic Grounds, Bordentown, N.J., has been cancelled. Due to the extensive planning and scheduling involved in putting together the annual picnic, it will not be rescheduled this year, but will return in 2021.

Lt. George J. Wren, Jr., #3680 (Ret)

## TROOP "C" OLD-TIMERS GET-TOGETHER



The annual Troop "C" Old-Timers Get-Together is still scheduled to take place at the American Legion Post #129, 2025 Church Road, Toms River, N.J., on August 19, 2020 at 6:00 PM. Any changes due to health issues at that time will be reported on the FTA Website and Facebook. This will be great opportunity to renew friendships and camaraderie following the recent traumatic events. The cost remains at \$20.00 for members with pre-registration, \$25.00 at the door. Non FTA Members will pay \$30.00 at the door. To register via the FTA Website, go to https://www.ftanjsp.org/events/ and use form TROOP C 2020 RF after July 1<sup>st</sup> 2020.

## HEALTH, SECURITY & MISC. INFO.

## **RPO INFORMATION**

Subsequent to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have received several inquiries asking if the NJSP Firearms Unit will be issuing an extension on Retired Police Officers (RPO) carry permits. While the Firearms Unit has been closed for the past few weeks, we understand that an extension is currently being tabled by the Attorney General and the Governor's Offices. However, the following notice was recently posted on NJSP Web Site, at: www.njsp.org, Retired Law Enforcement Officer Program (RPO) page: **The Firearms Investigation Unit** 

is continuing to process license and permit applications. However, these applications may experience delays due to the COVID-19 response efforts. Please contact your local police department for specific questions regarding your application. If you need further assistance, you may email your inquiry to firearmsinvestunit@gw.njsp.org and we will respond within five business days. Please be patient as they process your applications and renewals.

### VISITATION PROGRAM

The Association of Former New Jersey State Troopers in cooperation with the New Jersey State Police developed the Visitation Program in 2009. The program was designed to check on the wellbeing of retired members and to lift the spirits of those who may be seriously ill, homebound, or in need of some old fashion camaraderie by their fellow Jersey Troopers. Visits are scheduled utilizing both active duty uniformed personnel and representatives from the Association. The Association currently maintains lists of retired volunteers in north, central and southern New Jersey to draw upon for visits. Visits can be scheduled via a request from any FTA or family member, or a friend. In respecting the privacy of our members these visits will only be conducted with his or her approval. The FTA is also looking for additional retired volunteers to assist with visits to our members. Visitation requests and/or volunteers may contact the Former Troopers Association office by telephone at 1-609-882-2000 X:2220. Your assistance in this endeavor is greatly appreciated.

**Bessie's Corner** 

### Bessie's Corner will return in September!

### SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

### FTA 2020 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM

The Association of Former New Jersey State Troopers in conjunction with the N.J. Former Troopers Heritage Foundation is pleased to announce the awarding of up to twenty-five scholarships requisite to the Association's 2020 Scholarship Program. Only those students that are seniors and will be graduating from High School in June 2020 are eligible to apply. Student applicants must be the child, grandchild, stepchild, or step-grandchild of a member in good standing of the FTA. These awards can be used for the study of any curriculum while attending a state accredited college or university, anywhere in the USA. The award will be paid directly to the student.

This scholarship program is particularly important as it directly benefits the continuing education of FTA Members' descendants. 2020 Scholarships will consist of a \$1,000 award to the outstanding applicant in honor of our former FTA Benefits Consultant, Debra Chesko. This year we will also introduce an annual \$1,000 Trooper William L. Carroll, Jr., #3296 award in memory of all our fallen comrades, thanks to the very gracious \$10,000 educational donation made to our Heritage Foundation by Bill's widow and Heritage Foundation Trustee, Michelle Carroll. Additionally, up to twenty-two, \$500 scholarships will be awarded to students whose Grade Point Averages and extracurricular activities are exceptional, with the remainder of the scholarships awarded by a random drawing.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, applications will be extended until May 15, 2020. Applications can be found on our FTA "Members Only" web site under "Forms." Completed applications must be received no later than the May 15, 2020 deadline. <u>Scholarship winners will be announced via an FTA UPDATE Announcement on the FTA Web Site and Bulk Emailing after May 24, 2020.</u>

If you have any questions, please call a committee member: Ernest Volkmann – Chairman @ (732) 254-5322, Ken Wondrack @ 732-223-5259, Michael McLaughlin @ (609) 820-3040, or Dave Scureman @ (201) 323-6795.

## Association of Former New Jersey State Troopers Educational Fund Scholarship Program

The Association of the Former New Jersey State Troopers Educational Fund, Inc. has been committed to provide educational scholarship opportunities and interest free loans to eligible State Police family members for several decades. The scholarship program will continue to offer scholarships to any child or grandchild of a New Jersey State Trooper (Active/Retired), who is living or deceased as set-forth in its By-Laws. The program consists of (5) annual scholarships being awarded, each in the amount of \$1,500.00. The scholarship is open to any student presently attending a college and maintaining a GPA of at least 2.5, and to any high school senior with an equivalent grade who plans to enroll in a state accredited college or university, anywhere in the USA. Selections are based on a lottery drawing, which shall include all applications submitted that meet the stated criteria.

Applicants benefitting from the drawing will receive a formal notification by the Treasurer of the Fund along with a check payable to the applicant. If for any reason the applicant should change their mind about pursuing or continuing a college education, the money shall be returned to the Fund.

The Association also administers "interest-free" education loans to eligible widows, widowers, and dependent children of members of the New Jersey State Police who were killed, died or were retired for reasons of accidental disability, while on active duty with the New Jersey State Police.

All applications must be mailed to the Association of Former New Jersey State Troopers Education Fund, Attention: Robert Kilmurray, Secretary, 812 Briarcliff Avenue Point Pleasant Boro, New Jersey 08742. Applications for the 2020 drawing are do prior to April 30, 2020. Applications for scholarship and "interest-free" loans can be found on the FTA website.

## **COMICS & CONSIDERATIONS**

### The Lockhorns April 11, 2020



"I COULDN'T HAVE BEEN GOING THAT FAST ... MY HUSBAND'S NOT TREMBLING."

Seasonal flu is now a pandemic that lasts for years and years because you've got so many people that it's jumping back between northern and southern hemispheres and moving itself around the world. By the time it gets back to where it started, it's changed sufficiently so that people are no longer immune.

~ Nathan Wolfe

If a severe pandemic materializes, all of society could pay a heavy price for decades of failing to create a rational system of health care that works for all of us.

~ Irwin Redlener

This is a pandemic. I felt it was a pandemic long before it was called a pandemic.

~ Donald Trump

You will notice the next couple pages contain some new advertisements from business sponsors that have a history of treating members of "our Outfit of Jersey Troopers" with great respect and gratitude. Each has a history of dealing with our members and will afford you every courtesy available. To get a thorough understanding of their business, simply click on their advertisement, or their business card if you are on our FTA Web Site and you will be taken directly to their business web site via a hyperlink connection. It is through their generosity that we are able to keep the rising costs of publishing this newsletter to a minimum. Please remember that when you have the opportunity to frequent their business. If you are aware of any business that would like to advertise within these pages and on our FTA Web Site, please direct them to the FTA Web Site "Become a Sponsor" information.

Thank you

## Take the Stress Out of Financial Planning

KnoxGrove

PATH FORWARD



Christina A. Nash

Knox Grove Financial, LLC 2 Tree Farm Road, Suite B100 Pennington, NJ 08534 P: 609-216-7440 F: 609-910-4275

To schedule an appointment to talk about your financial future, call my office at 609-216-7440.

### SETTING A CLEAR PATH

Do you have an advisor managing your investments but find that you need a more holistic plan to meet your retirement needs and financial goals? We work with our clients to improve their overall financial situation, creating plans that help you live out your retirement dreams.

#### We can be your guide.

- Making it Last How do you keep what you've worked so hard to earn?
- Retirement Income What are your retirement goals and how will you get there?
- Retirement Income Do you understand how the new rules can help you max out your retirement?
- Charitable Planning Choose where, what and how to give to charities that resonate with your values.

Securities and investment advisory services offered through Royal Alliance Associates, Inc. member FINRA/SIPC. Royal Alliance Associates, Inc. separately owned and other entities and/or marketing names, products or services referenced here are independent of Royal Alliance Associates, Inc.



EXCLUSIVE FORD & CHEVY PROGRAM PRICING THIS PROGRAM INCLUDES: \*UP FRONT NO HASSLE PRICING \*FORD & CHEVY REWARDS PROGRAMS \*PARTS/SERVICE/ACCESSORY DISCOUNTS \*DONATIONS TO POLICE CHARITIES & EVENTS

VISIT US ONLINE GENTILINIMOTORS.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: JUSTIN CANDELORO | PROGRAM DIRECTOR OFFICE: (609) 861-9000 EXT: 202 JUSTINCANDELORO@GENTILINIMOTORS.COM

## NEW JERSEY STATE TROOPER Appraisal Refunded at Closing up to \$495

#### **Dear Trooper:**

Please allow me to introduce myself and Prime Time Mortgage Corp. I have had the privilege of being personally involved with the mortgage related needs of New Jersey State Troopers and L.E. since 2004. The mortgage lending environment has changed dramatically over the course of the last few years. The needs of consumers have also changed. It is no longer possible to "place an order" for a mortgage loan. Federal and State Regulators demand meticulously originated mortgage loan files for the extension of new credit. My expertise and reputation with dozens of Troopers rests upon making the process as painless as possible. We are direct lenders.

Whether you are a first time homebuyer with a 3% down payment or a seasoned homeowner in need of a refinance, I will help you navigate the process. Prime Time Mortgage Corp. offers Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac conventional and jumbo loan programs with fixed interest rates. FHA, VA, USDA and Reverse loan programs with fixed interest rates are also available. Each Trooper has unique needs. It is my job to identify the correct loan program. Most importantly, special consideration is given

Prime Time Mortgage Corp. 275 Route 22 East Springfield, NJ 07081 We do not offer unqualified access to credit. Subject to underwriting and appraisal approval. We arrange loans with third party providers. Licensed Lender by the N.J. Department of Banking and Insurance, Registered Broker by the N.Y. State Banking Department.11.7.19 A+ rated MEMBER OF THE BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

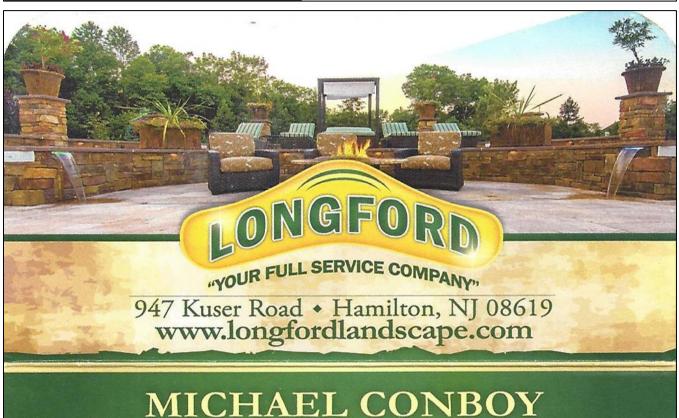
## CALL 973-699-1983

to New Jersey State Troopers, New Jersey State Employees and their families. Competitive loan terms with NO closing costs are made available. I will also provide a proposal with low closing costs so that you are able to make an educated decision. The nicest phone call that I get is when a Troop is simply looking for advice. If you are already working with another lender, I am happy to help you understand the loan terms and provide reassurance. I pride myself on the fact that there is never any pressure to do business with Prime Time Mortgage Corp. Please keep us in mind for any mortgage related needs. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me anytime directly at 973-699-1983 anytime 24(7):365.

Sincerely, Louis G. Schornstein Vice President NMLS #5490



T: (888)999-1929 F: (973)218-0022 NMLS#5463



Owner

## **AUTO SHIELDS**



The ASSOCIATION OF FORMER NEW JERSEY STATE TROOPERS, INC., in fellowship with TRUE BLUE AND GOLD, INC., has authorized the sale and display of the pictured Auto Shield. Each shield bears a registration number assigned to the buyer. Proceeds benefit the many charities undertaken by the FTA organizations.

To purchase a shield, simply contact **TRUE BLUE AND GOLD, INC.,** @ (609) 882-2000 X:3067. Each shield now costs \$148.94 (shipping, handling, and sales tax included).

## STATE POLICE MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION PAVER PROJECT

If you're still looking for that special gift or can't decide on what to buy the person who has everything, don't worry. Phase II of the State Police Memorial Association's 'Walk of Honor' still has room.

You can help support the Memorial Association while leaving a lasting tribute to a Trooper or special person by purchasing a personalized engraved paver. Pavers have been installed in the new walkway and are engraved on site. Your paver will forever remain an important State Police landmark. Reserve your spot today and give the gift that will last a lifetime. For more information and order forms call on Adele at (856-547-2135), at <u>adelegolf@gmail.com</u>, or see the order form on our website.



### LETTERS TO THE FTA

December 31, 2019

Dear Nick Soranno and the Former Troopers Association,

Thank you very much for the gracious award of the Former Troopers Association Scholarship. As I continue my education at the University of Pittsburgh, this gift will help me immensely. I am especially grateful to receive the opportunity to continue my grandfather's legacy in public service as I advance on the pre-medical track at the University of Pittsburg.

Sincerely, Ashley Martin Granddaughter of William A. Martin, #1787

DSFC James J. Sweeney, #1913

In Memory Of

Beloved Husband, SGT Frank J. DiGiandomenico, #2438

Major Gregory Stith, #1813

#### Beloved Husband, Trooper John W. Staas, #1382 Respected Son, Trooper Joseph A. Staas, #3148 Eleanor J. Waladkewics Appreciation of NJSP working in her hometown, Plumsted, NJ. Margaret Maquet SFC Emil J. Deak, #1091 Charles Pugliese, #1862 Colonel Clinton L. Pagano, #1116 LTC Louis H. Taranto, #1594 W.C. Wells, #2725 SFC Emil J. Deak, #1091 Stanley Adams, #1316 Trooper Raymond P. Fiola, #1399 LTC Louis H. Taranto, #1594

21

Linda Champion Proud daughter of (Tpr. II James R. Champion, Sr., #3855)

Amount

\$100.00

\$150.00

\$150.00

\$50.00

\$50.00

\$50.00

\$15.00

\$50.00

\$50.00

\$100.00

\$50.00

\$50.00

March 20, 2020

Doris Kalwaitis and Daughters

God Bless you all,

Thank you!!!

Mr. Coyle – Sir,

Contributed By

Judith DiGiandomenico

Mazie Staas

...

"

Andrew Andaloro, #1875

we spoke on the phone!

Thank you so much for the beautiful tile of my Dad, and especially thank you for your very kind words when

QUARTER CENTURY CLUB MEMORIAL DONATIONS

(SFC Carl J. Kalwaitis, #1035)

Thank you for the kindness and blessings I received. The plaque and pictures are beautiful. The great years

Just to know that the Former Troopers Assoc. was there to answer questions and to give advice that I truly needed.

The troopers at his viewing and the car escort at his funeral was such a great tribute to his life. And the beautiful tile you provided will always be a reminder of his life with the N.J. State Police.

Thank you again for being there for me and my family.

he served were wonderful. Many thanks you do for all the families.

Barbara Loftus (Lt. Timothy J. Loftus, #1570)

January 2020

March 20, 2020

family.

No words can say how thankful I am for your kindness and help during a very trying time for me and my

FTA

FTA

Dorothy Dimeo-Crawford Diane Buzzard Fran Mara Robert Wilk, #3603 Brian J. Kelly Michael Fedorko, #2375 Gail Carrigan & Patti Maldonado Col. Carl Williams, #1872 "

Margaret A. Trevors

Beloved Husband, Captain Kenneth P. Crawford, #1965	\$50.00
LTC Louis H. Taranto, #1594	\$25.00
Captain Frank J. Mara, #1296	\$100.00
For the Good of the Order	\$30.00
For the Good of the Order	\$90.00
77 <sup>th</sup> Class, NJSP	\$100.00
Colonel Justin J. Dintino, #1152	\$100.00
Captain Charles A. Kuyl, #1894	\$50.00
LTC Roy D. Bloom, #1832	\$50.00
Lt. Walter F. Trevors, #1557	\$100.00

### LAST PATROL

SGT NORMAN C. HOWELL JR., #1535



**HOWELL JR., NORMAN #1525,** passed away on Wednesday, 27 November 2019. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 15 July 1957 as a member of the 52<sup>nd</sup> Class and retired at the rank of Sergeant on 1 February 1983. He proudly served in the United States Air Force and served for four years. He is survived by his wife of 62 years Helen, his children Edward and Penny and his granddaughter Jamie. SGT JAMES MUIR, #2497



MUIR, JAMES #2497, passed away on 26 December 2019. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 17 October 1969 as a member of the 79th Class and retired at the rank of Sergeant on 1 August 1989. He proudly served in the United States Air Force for two years as a Staff Sergeant. He is predeceased by his wife Rose Marie and his son Michael. He is survived by his children Kevin, James Jr., Pamela and Scott and his grandchildren. Jade. Jessica. Maggie, Kelsey, Catie, Cristina, Caitlyn, Michael, Tess and Justin and his brother William Muir.

LT MICHAEL FALLON, #3775



**FALLON, MICHAEL #3775,** passed away on Wednesday, 26 December 2019. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 4 March 1983 as a member of the 100<sup>th</sup> Class and retired at the rank of Lieutenant in 2013. He is survived by his wife of 34 years Laura, a daughter Kimberly and a son Michael. He is also survived by three brothers, Jay, Mark and his twin brother Major James Fallon, #3628 (*Ret*).

## SGT EDWARD J. RAGAUCKAS, #4568



**RAGAUCKAS, EDWARD J., #4568,** passed away on 28 December 2019. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 7 July 1987 as a member of the 107<sup>th</sup> Class and retired at the rank of Sergeant on 1 July 2012. He is survived by his parents Vincent and Trudie Ragauckas, two sisters Kathy Ragauckas and Rachel Sharkey and a son Tyler.

## LT TIMOTHY J. LOFTUS, #1570



**LOFTUS, TIMOTHY J., #1570,** passed away on Saturday, 4 January 2020. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 24 March 1958 as a member of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Class and retired on 1 April 1990 at the rank of Lieutenant. He proudly served in the United States Navy from 1952 to 1956 and the United States Naval Reserves from 1956 to 1960. He served as a Master Sergeant in the New Jersey National Guard and was assigned to the Inspector General's Detachment in Trenton from 1979 to the present day. In 1975 he was awarded the New Jersey Policeman of the Year from the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He is survived by his wife Barbara; and sons Timothy and Thomas, a daughter Susan. and seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

## TPR I EDWARD B. LUKEMAN, #3905



LUKEMAN, **EDWARD B.**, **#3905**, passed away on 6 January 2020. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 21 January 1984 as a member of the Highway Patrol Class and retired in 2006 at the rank of Trooper I. He proudly served in the United States Navy for four vears and was honorably discharged. He is survived by his wife Debra, two sons Edward B, Jr. and Sean, a daughter Heather, two grandsons Josh and Dalton, and three granddaughters Mandy, Lilly and Alexis. He was predeceased by his brother Paul, grandson Joey and granddaughter Samantha.

## LT THOMAS M. HOLVICK, #1708



HOLVICK, THOMAS М., #1708, passed away on Friday. 17 January 2020. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 2 October 1961 as a member of the 58th Class and retired on 1 June 1991 at the rank of Lieutenant. He proudly served in the United States Marine Corps Reserves. He is survived by his wife Patricia, two stepdaughters Stacey and Melissa, his sons Anthony and Michael, four grandchildren Alex. Anthony Katherine and Elizabeth.

## LT JOSEPH D. KOWALIK, #1105



**KOWALIK, JOSEPH D., #1105,** passed away on Friday, 10 January 2020. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 24 June 1952 as a member of the 41<sup>st</sup> Class and retired at the rank of Lieutenant on 1 December 1980. He proudly served in the United States Army. He is survived by his wife Betty Lou.

## CAPTAIN ROBERT G. RICH, #2885



RICH. ROBERT **G.**. **#2885,** passed away on 21 January 2020. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 22 June 1973 as member of the 88th Class and retired at the rank of Captain on 31 December 2002. He proudly served in the United States Army National Guard where he attained the rank of Sergeant. He was predeceased by his first wife Kathy and they had three children Scott, Craig and Ashley. He is survived by his second wife Carol Ann, sons Scott, Craig and daughter Ashley and six grandchildren Jace, Nash, Macie, Brynn and Holden and a brother Chris.

## COLONEL JUSTIN J. DINTINO, #1152



**DINTINO**, JUSTIN J., **#1152,** passed away on 24 January 2020 after a brief illness. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 1 December 1952 as a member of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Class. He was the 10<sup>th</sup> Superintendent of the New Jersey State Police appointed by former Governor James Florio in 1989. He was recognized nationwide as an expert in facing organized crime issues. He was selected by President Ronald Regan to serve on the 1983 Commission on Organized Crime. Besides his career in the State Police, he served for six-years as the General Chairman of the Law Enforcement Intelligence Unit, an international organization. Subsequent to his retirement, he was appointed a Commissioner with the New Jersey State Commission of Investigation. He is survived by his wife Doris, four sons Justin Jr., Robert, Dennis and Joseph, a daughter Eileen, six grandchildren and ten greatgrandchildren.

## TPR I THOMAS R. MUEHLEISEN, #4994



**MUEHLEISEN, THOMAS R., #4994,** passed away on Monday, 27 January 2020. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 10 February 1989 as a member of the 112<sup>th</sup> Class and retired on 1 June 2012 at the rank of Trooper I. He is survived by his wife Mary; children Jessica, Marsha and Bryan, TJ and Kayla, Ashley and 14 grandchildren.

## SGT CHARLES R. HERDER, #1369



**HERDER, CHARLES R., #1369,** passed away on Tuesday, 4 February 2020. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 20 December 1954 as a member of 47<sup>th</sup> Class and retired at the rank of Sergeant on 1 April 1976. He proudly served in the United States Army during WWII where he served in the Pacific Theater. He was predeceased by his two wives Phyllis Irwin and Elizabeth Hansen, his daughter Lisa and his grandsons Joseph and Michael. He is survived by his son Arthur, his daughter Tracy, eleven grandchildren, and twelve great-grandchildren.

## SGT KEITH R. KAUFFMAN, #1444



KAUFFMAN, KEITH R., #1444, passed away on Tuesday, 4 February 2020. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 19 August 1955 as a member of the 49th Class and resigned from State Police Service on 14 April 1964 at the rank of Sergeant. He proudly served in the United States Coast Guard during the Korean war. After leaving the State Police he became the Director of the Camden City, New Jersey PD. He is survived by his wife Jane.

## SFC JOHN F. BRENNAN, #2768



**BRENNAN, JOHN F.,** #2768, passed away on 7 February 2020. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 17 December 1971 as a member of the 86<sup>th</sup> Class and retired on 1 October 1998 at the rank of Sergeant First Class. He is survived by his beloved wife of 55 years Margaret, two children, Michael and Eileen and two grandchildren, Adeline and Natalee.

## DSFC RICHARD H. CABRI, #2603



National Guard. He is survived by his daughter and son-in-law Renee and Robert Kise, a stepson and daughter-in-law Michael and Jill Guenther, seven grandchildren and a brother Raymond Cabri and two nephews.

## DSFC GEORGE W. DIX, #1323



**DIX, GEORGE W. #1323,** passed away on 23 March 2020. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 20 August 1954 as a member of the 46<sup>th</sup> Class and retired at the rank of Detective Sergeant First Class on 1 May 1979. He proudly served in the United States Marine Corps. He is survived by his wife of 65 years Marie, two daughters Karen Dix and Lori Barber, and four grandchildren Danny, Chelsey, Marie and Chase.

**CABRI, RICHARD H., #2603,** passed away on Sunday, 8 March 2020. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 24 July1970 as a member of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Class and retired on 1 August 1995 at the rank of Detective Sergeant First Class. He proudly served in the United States Army as a member of the

## TROOPER PATRICIA M. ERSCHEN-VLIET #3487



**ERSCHEN-VLIET, PATRICIA M. #3487,** passed away on 29 March 2020. She enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 27 June 1980 as member of the 96<sup>th</sup> Class and resigned on 25 May 1984 at the rank of Trooper. She is survived her former husband Lieutenant Harold R. Vliet #3469 (*Ret*), two children Lindsay Fleming and Harold Vliet, and three grandchildren Nolan, Emma and Brody Fleming.

## DSFC RONALD R. TAYLOR SR., #1914



**TAYLOR, RONALD R. #1914** passed away on 30 March 2020. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 25 May 1964 as a member of the 64<sup>th</sup> Class and retired on 1 July 1986, at the rank of Detective

Sergeant First Class. He is survived by his wife Carol, his sons Ronald Jr., Chris, and his daughter Caron, four grandchildren Rianna, Kaitlyn, Zoey, Alexa and Reya, and greatgrandchildren Justin and Kye.

## CAPTAIN CHARLES A. KUYL, #1894



**KUYL, CHARLES A. #1894,** passed away on Monday, 30 March 2020. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 25 May 1964 as a member of the 64<sup>th</sup> Class and retired on 1 May 1993 at the rank of Captain. He proudly served in the United States Air Force. He is survived by his wife Karen Ann and son SFC Alfred R. Kuyl, #5730.

## LTC ROY D. BLOOM, #1832



BLOOM, ROY D. #1832, passed away on Friday, 3 April 2020. He

enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 3 March 1964 as a member of the 63<sup>rd</sup> Class and retired at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel on 1 August 1995. After his retirement from the State Police he became Director of Banking and Insurance for the State of New Jersey. He was predeceased by his wife of 60 years He is survived by his Sandra. children Jennifer, Robert and DSFC Brett C. Bloom, #5239, and his six grandchildren Christine. Christopher, Gloria, Alexander, Nicholas and Kaileigh.

## CAPTAIN THOMAS A. LAWSON, #991



LAWSON, THOMAS A. #991, passed away on Friday, 3 April 2020. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 18 December 1950 as a member of the 38th Class and retired at the rank of Captain on 1 May 1977. He proudly served in the United States Army Air Corps during WWII. He was a tail gunner on a bomber, flying 23 missions. He was predeceased by his wife Hazel, a son Thomas Jr., a daughter Bonita Shaw, a brother William E. Lawson and a sister Lucille Lockward. He is survived by two daughters, Susan Asselta and Betsy Sale, ten grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren.

## CAPTAIN PETER E. BAKER, #1600



**BAKER, PETER E. #1600** passed away on Saturday, 4 April 2020. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 24 June 1959 as a member of the 55<sup>th</sup> Class and retired at the rank of Captain on 1 September 1989. He proudly served in the United States Navy. He is survived by five children Patty (Wolfe), James, Kathleen (MacDowell), Connie and Meg (Chambers) along with 13 grandchildren and 13 greatgrandchildren.

## LT WILLIAM H. FOX, #2241



**FOX, WILLIAM H. #2241,** passed away on Wednesday, 8 April 2020. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 1 December 1967 as a member of the 74<sup>th</sup> Class and retired at the rank of Lieutenant on 1 October 1996. He proudly served

in the United States Navy aboard the submarine USS Jallao. He is survived by his wife of 52 years Lee, a daughters LeeAnne Jones and Billie Fox, a son Rhett Fox, brother Thomas Fox and five grandchildren.

## SSGT SCOTT TULKO, #5537



**TULKO, SCOTT #5537,** passed away on Tuesday, 7 April 2020. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 4 April 1997 as a member of the 116A Class and retired at the rank of Staff Sergeant in 2013. He is survived by his father Sergeant William Tulko, # 2131 (*Ret*), his mother Patricia, a sister Erin and two brothers Bill Tulko, Fort Myers, Florida PD and Ryan Tulko now serving on the Lavalette, NJ PD.

## SFC JAMES G. McCAFFREY SR., #1109



McCAFFREY, JAMES G. #1109, passed away on 11 April 2020. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 24 June 1952 as a member of the 41<sup>st</sup> Class and retired at the rank of Sergeant First Class on 1 July 1983. He proudly served in the United States Navy on board the USS Pocono during the Korean War. He is survived by his wife Edith, six children James, Jr. Jane, John, Kevin, Mary Ellen and Patrick. Also, four stepchildren Eugene, Michael, Steven and Barbara, twenty grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his first wife Bernice in 1959, his parents James and Jane McCaffrey, brother James, sister Elizabeth and his daughter Nora.

## LT LEROY W. VANDERMARK, #2189



VANDERMARK, LEROY W. #2189, passed away on Saturday, 11 April 2010. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 5 May 1967 as a member of the 72<sup>nd</sup> Class and retired at the rank of Lieutenant on 1 May 1993. He proudly served in the United states Air Force. He was predeceased by his wife, Meredith. He is survived by his daughter Lauren Ayers and three sons David, Kurt, and Kevin, five grandchildren Zachary, Kate, Erik, Sydney and Kolter, three great-grandchildren Aubrey, Zoey and Xander. He is also survived by his brother Larry.

## DSFC RICHARD VANDERCLOCK, #2761



**VANDERCLOCK, RICHARD** #2761 passed away on Monday, 13 April 2020. He enlisted in the New Jersey State Police on 26 June 1971 as a member of the 85<sup>th</sup> Class and retired on 1 July 2000. He is survived by his wife of 46 years Maureen, his sons Rick and David; his brother Robert, his sister Joy and four grandchildren.

### FRIENDS & FAMILY

**Catherine J. Szynal**, loving mother of SSGT Frank R. Szynal, #3152 (*Ret*), passed away on December 12, 2019.

Lola Marie Theodos, loving mother of LTC Nick Theodos #3463 (*Ret*) passed away on Monday, January 27, 2020 at home. She was a Teletype Communications Officer for the Newark Police Department for 16 years retiring in 2000.

**Sandra N. Bloom**, beloved wife of LTC Roy Bloom #1832 (*Ret*) and loving mother of DSFC Brett C. Bloom, #5239 passed away on February 5, 2020.

**Josephine DeBiase**, loving mother of Lt. Joseph DeBiase #3522 (*Ret*) passed away on February 24, 2020.

**Eleanor Baker**, beloved wife of Captain Peter E. Baker, #1600 (*Ret*) passed away on April 2, 2020.

Helen Fuentes, loving mother of Colonel Joseph R. Fuentes, #3190 (*Ret*) passed away on April 10, 2020.

**Dawn Lee Wilt**, loving mother of Phyllis Wilt Houck, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent, passed away on April 3, 2020.

### **OFFICERS**

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1963-1964	RAYMOND J. WIRTH, #451	1982-1983	John A. Smith, #803
1964-1965	Prior Dougherty, #397	1983-1984	WILLARD L. MCELROY, #627
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1966-1967	Alexander R. Bolen, #457	1985-1986	RAYMOND GRACE, #761
1967-1968	William P. Kelly, #243	1987-1989	Sam Cunninghame, #1396
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1969-1970	PAUL L. BELLOCCHIO, #743	1992-1993	John McGrath, #961
1970-1971	CHARLES H. SCHOEFFEL, #84	1994-1995	PHILLIP O'REILLY, #733
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1972-1973	John Fitzsimmons, #700	1996-1996	WILLIAM O'CONNOR, #1114
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1978-1979	John C. Crawford, #256	2012-2017	Sal Maggio, #2177
1979-1980	CARL A. DERESKEWICZ, #521		

## THE ASSOCIATION OF FORMER NEW JERSEY STATE TROOPERS

P.O. Box 7852 West Trenton, New Jersey 08628 609-882-2000 x:2220 <u>fta@ftanjsp.org</u>

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