



E-News Update

From the
National Fraternal Order of Police

December 13, 2011

NEW! Pups and Pennies Campaign Launch!

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Chuck Canterbury, President
Myrtle Beach, SC
Email: fopchuck@aol.com

Ed Brannigan, Vice President
South Amboy, NJ
Email: njfoppreserb@aol.com

Patrick Yoes, Secretary
Norco, LA
Email: pyoes@fop.net

Tom Penoza, Treasurer
New Castle, DE
Email: tomfop@aol.com

Frank Gale, Second Vice President
Denver, CO
Email: fgale@msn.com

Roger Mayberry, Sergeant-at-Arms
Valley Center, CA
Email: bear1233@aol.com

Joe Perkins, Chairman of Trustees
Owasso, OK
Email: jptpd217@aol.com

Grand Lodge
Fraternal Order of Police
National Headquarters

701 Marriott Drive
Nashville, TN 37214
1-800-451-2711
Phone (615) 399-0900
FAX (615) 399-0400
Email: glfop@fop.net
Web Site: www.fop.net

The ACVIM Foundation is launching a new annual campaign called Pups and Pennies, an awareness and fundraising opportunity originally started by police officers who wanted to raise monies for canine research. We need volunteers to approach and ask local K9 police units to help solicit local elementary schools for support. The volunteer and the K9

police unit would arrange with the schools to have an assembly on safety, highlight their K9 units and ask to help support canine research health studies so these K9 units can live long healthy lives. Large empty gallon containers of water will be distributed to schools for penny donations. These containers will be located at the schools in different secure areas where the students, faculty, family and friends can donate pennies into the containers. The school will be responsible for collecting the donations, emptying the containers when full, counting and depositing the monies into a bank account, and placing the containers back in their secure locations until the end of the campaign. Schools will hold presentations in the Spring during the month of April and present the K9 Units with a check from all donations collected. The ACVIM Foundation will contact local media in their communities for press opportunities.



This is an excellent opportunity to benefit the elementary school kids about the importance of philanthropy, service dogs, giving back to their communities, safety and financial responsibilities. This will also help the Foundation engage K9 police units, elementary school children and the public about Specialty Veterinary Healthcare while providing funding for one canine healthcare research study.

For more information on how to get involved, please contact Brian Heider at Brian@ACVIM.org.

Fallen Project

Thomas Marchese, a Sergeant with the Soledad Police Department in CA, is working to produce a feature documentary on the rapidly growing line-of-duty death rate among US law enforcement. His project aims to give these victims, their families and their partners a voice and a place in history. He and his team will be traveling to agencies across the US to tell the stories and they need our help to do this. This project is solely funded through officer and association donations. Please go to www.fallenproject.com for more information on this amazing venture.



E-News Update

PHILLY PROSECUTORS DECIDE AGAINST SEEKING DEATH PENALTY OF COP-KILLER

Chuck Canterbury, National President of the Fraternal Order of Police, expressed anger and frustration with news that Mumia Abu-Jamal, the criminal alias of cab driver Wesley Cook, who murdered Philadelphia Police Officer Daniel Faulkner almost thirty years ago, would not face the death penalty.

“While we understand and accept the decision of the Philadelphia District Attorney, it makes me angry that the courts and an endless appeals process will keep Cook from getting the penalty he so richly deserves,” Canterbury said. “This killer and his attorneys simply gamed the system to avoid the sentence his jury imposed. Parsing jury instructions from thirty years ago when there is no question of guilt makes a mockery of the criminal justice system.”

The U.S. Supreme Court ordered the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit to reconsider its decision and reinstate the death penalty for Officer Faulkner’s killer. However, after review, the Third Circuit Court upheld its own decision, leaving prosecutors to decide whether to hold a new sentencing hearing or agree to a sentence of life.

The Philadelphia District Attorney, Seth Williams, announced today, with Officer Faulkner’s widow Maureen and the Philadelphia Lodge #5 President, John McNesby, by his side, that his office would not continue to seek the death penalty in the case saying that it could go on for an “unknowable number of years.” Mr. Williams asserted Abu-Jamal’s guilt and said that he would “remain behind bars for the rest of his life, [where he] belongs.”

President McNesby released a statement supporting the District Attorney’s decision, saying, “Confronted with the possibility of a new death penalty phase and the same protracted appeals Lodge #5 feels this is the right choice. We hope Wesley Cook will fade into obscurity and the next time we hear from him is his obituary.”

“This is a travesty of justice, but the Office of the District Attorney, which pursued this case doggedly for thirty years, did not fail—the system failed them. We reluctantly accept their decision,” Canterbury said. “My thoughts and prayers today are with Maureen and all members of Danny’s family who have had to deal with this legal circus for three decades. I hope the decision brings her at least some measure of closure.”

Canterbury said that the National FOP, along with Philadelphia Lodge #5, would continue to support her and to honor the memory of their fallen brother, Daniel Faulkner.



National President Chuck Canterbury

Representing the Members Interests



Bi-partisan, cooperative efforts, and consensus building, are all phrases that have become almost extinct in the political arena of our great Republic. What party do you support, are you a liberal or a conservative, whose agenda do you follow? All questions we are asked as Leaders in the FOP. There is an answer!

The simple answer and the one I have maintained my entire career is that as an elected leader my agenda is that of the membership. My goals and our members' goals are synonymous. When asked about a position or a stance on any issue I must stop and remember that I am not only speaking for myself. Our members' opinions must have the top priority when faced with tough questions. The goal is to better the lives of our members.

On many occasions I am challenged by individual members who have wanted to know how I can work with people whose agendas may differ from my own personal beliefs. Again the answer is not hard. The decisions I make must be in the best interest of our members.

Please do not interpret this to mean that I am without an opinion. On the contrary, I have many strong opinions but it is imperative for me to stay focused on the mission of the organization and not my personal agenda.

On one recent position I took, a member chastised me, stating that I had to know that many of our Lodges were refusing to help their Government entities to reduce their fiscal woes by agreeing to concessions. He told me police unions were just greedy. Now the rub, he then chided me on our lack of passing the Windfall Elimination Provision. He went on to tell me he was entitled to collect his full benefit and we should be working on nothing but this issue.

This myopic viewpoint is not uncommon--many people not in leadership want to know. How does it affect me? How does it affect those in my circle? As leaders on a National level we must look for the option that benefits the majority of members. I do not mind that he feels entitled but it does bother me that he felt nothing else we were doing is important nor does he support his local's attempt to better the lives of the active cops. As a retiree he felt like he had already done his part.

During these times of uncertainty there is one thing I feel we can count on. If we do not stick together and support one another we all surely be in for more fights, the loss of benefits and the decay of working conditions. It is vital that we will all get involved, pool our ideas and resources and make sure we stay educated on the issues.

I want to wish all of you safe and happy holidays and I am hopeful that during this upcoming political season we will look to support only those politicians that support us. Please be safe.



National Secretary Patrick Yoes

Making a Difference this Holiday Season

It is hard to believe 2012 is already upon us. As we enter the Holiday Season, we each have much to be grateful for. For most, it is a time of happiness and family; yet for some, it is a painful time of the year. I would like to challenge everyone during the planning of your Lodge and Department holiday events, expand your guest list, to include retired or disabled officers from your agencies, lodges and communities. Show them that they have not been forgotten. Simply making phone calls to ensure they have everything they need this year, or arranging to get them to the holiday events, will brighten their holidays.



Help raise funds for the National FOP Foundation. 911 Media, our publishing company, has offered to donate \$1.00 to the National FOP Foundation for every member who signs up on FOPConnect.com. This is a companion to the National FOP Journal. Your information will never be sold to a third party. All advertising and inquiries through FOPConnect is reviewed and approved by the National FOP. Signing up takes only minutes and can do much to help fund the many projects made possible through the NFOP Foundation. This offer ends December 31st so please encourage your members to register.

The vast majority of 2012 Membership Cards have been mailed to your Lodge Secretaries for distribution to members. However, we are experiencing technical issues with our card printer. Service technicians are hard at work rectifying the problem. The remainder of membership cards should be completed soon. I thank you for your patience.

On behalf of my family and a very dedicated staff, I wish you a safe, happy and healthy Holiday and a prosperous New Years!





National Sgt at Arms Roger Mayberry

I want to thank Pat for putting this E-News letter together from the E-Board. I believe it is important to stay in touch with the membership and get up-to-date information out to you.

WOW... what about the Ohio FOP? They came together and worked hard to defeat ISSUE 2. I know this is old news by now but I wanted to point out what the FOP as an organization can do when we all work together on something. Think back: not too long ago there was a lot of talk about not working together and that everyone needed to work together for the members, not personal interest, that benefited themselves. Well I am proud to be part of the FOP and the work that was done by many when our backs were to the wall. The FOP seems to be one mean machine that has everyone on the same page again. We need to work to stay that way because we have not seen the last of the attacks on our benefits and collective bargaining. For everyone from local, state and the NFOP that helped in the Nov. 8, 2011 victory in Ohio, thanks and may God bless you.



Labor Services and the Education Committee moves into the High Tech world of training with Webinars.

The first seminar was rolled out on Nov. 3, 2011 to 250 FOP members.

Critical incidents, such as shootings, in-custody deaths, and car accidents, are an unfortunate fact of life for law enforcement officers. Knowing what to do from the time the incident occurs until the case is cleared can make the difference between returning to work or appearing before a grand jury. This session examined the issues surrounding responding to officer-involved critical incidents and the best practices for representing a member who has been involved in one. This webinar will help labor leaders and law enforcement officers understand their rights during a critical incident and the investigations that follow. If you missed the seminar you can go to www.fop.net and still get the information. You can also download the slides of the presentation.

The following three (3) Webinars are set for January, February and March 2012. I will let know very soon what else will be coming out the rest of the year. More info on how to sign up will be sent out with the announcement of each Webinar. The classes are limited to the first 500 attendees so don't wait and be left out.

January Webinar - Public Safety under attack: the Ohio Experience

January 3, 2012 at 4:00 PM EST

o Start with endorsements

o How SB5 moved in the legislature / what was done right and things that could have been done better in defeating ISSUE 2

February Webinar - Developing Future Leaders / How to get younger officers more involved

February 7, 2012 at 4:00 PM EST

March Webinar - The Five Steps of Organizing

March 6, 2012 at 4:00 PM EST

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