



The Call Box



Official Publication of the Retired Seattle Police Officers Association

March 2021 Volume 2, Issue 2

A SALUTE TO 51 YEARS OF SERVICE!

By Call Box Editor Rich O'Neill



Not many people can say that they worked for the same employer for 51 straight years, but that is what Mike Hargraves accomplished with the Seattle Police Department. His career spanned 16 police chiefs, 12 mayors and five Popes! Mike recently sat down for an interview with me to detail his amazing career.

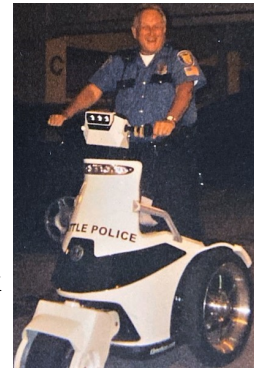
After graduating from high school, he suffered an injury while in college and ended up enlisting in the United States Marine Corps. Mike was sent to Vietnam and while serving with a rifle company he was awarded two purple hearts for injuries sustained in combat. After returning home, Mike worked different jobs at Safeway and in the lumber mill at Weyerhaeuser. A friend of Mike's dad, SPD Officer Ken Wallenberg, encouraged him to take the test for SPD and the journey began. Mike was hired on 10-14-68, which was his 22nd birthday and given serial #2974.

Mike started the academy as a member of class #57 which was held on the 2nd floor of the Public Safety Building. Some of Mike's academy mates were Ken Jacobsen, Gary Arnold, and Doug Keys, who was the class president. Mike's first assignment was in patrol, downtown, on 2nd watch. Mike said the grand jury trials were happening and he seemed to get shuffled with different partners because some days "a guy would be at roll call and the next day he'd be gone!" Some of the of-



ficers he worked with were Ed Francis, Owen Li-reback and Clay McDonald.

Mike worked for 16 different police chiefs. He was hired by Frank Ramon and his favorite chief was Frank Moore. Mike liked him because he came up through the ranks and was very fair and consistent. Mike also liked working during the Patrick Fitzsimons era.



Mike worked all the different precincts in patrol and remembers working the old Georgetown Precinct on 12th Ave S where a "Shepard Ambulance" address guide book was essential in order to find some of those south end locations.

In the early 70's Mike discovered "moonlighting" or as it is now called, "working off-duty." He remembers working a concert on July 26, 1970 at Sick's Stadium which featured Jimi Hendrix and Janis Joplin. In 1972 Mike applied to transfer to the Seattle Center Unit. Mike had been working different events out there, but was kind of surprised when Lt. Wally Long approved his move. For the next 33 years Mike worked in the Seattle Center Special Activities Section. Mike worked with Mike Massa and one of his favorite officers, John Foley. Mike said John was "one stubborn old Irishman" but he had a "heart of gold." Just about every concert that passed through Seattle found Officer Hargraves providing security for their gig. He worked the very first event ever at the Kingdome, a Billy Graham Crusade in May of 1976 and then a Paul McCartney & Wings concert at the Dome a month later. Some of the big-name singers and groups that Mike provided security for in-

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The Call Box



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President's Message

By Jerry Taylor, President, RSPOA



We have been dealing with a bill in the legislature that impacts both LEOFF 1 & 2. The bill was poorly constructed and had only one sponsor and, as such, could not survive to reach the floor. It is Senate Bill 5453 and is currently in the Senate Ways & Means Committee but considered dead at the time of this writing.

(See: <https://rspoa.org/pdf/5453.pdf>)

There are two important reasons for reviewing this bill and its position in the legislature. First, and foremost, it is a LEOFF1/TRS1 merger proposal and demonstrates the continued attack of LEOFF 1. Second, it reveals a bit of the legislative process and explains the need to remain vigilant whenever the legislature is in session.

As of February 24, 2021, **it appears the bill is dead**. These things, like a creature from some horror movie, do come to life even after we have driven a stake through its heart. So, here are the stages of a bill's death. First, if it is a policy bill it must meet the policy bill standard and have a hearing before a cutoff date. If it is a fiscal bill it survives a bit longer until the fiscal cutoff date. At this point a bill is generally seen as dead. There remains one further path to revival. It is called Necessary to Implement The Budget (NTIB).

The Bill

This bill, now dead, had two areas of interest to our members. The following is the content from an article that was written prior to its death.

For LEOFF 2

The bill would increase the pension multiplier from 2% to 2 1/2% for service years 15 to 25. Additionally, it proposes a direct payout of \$20,000 for each member. Sounds good does it not? The trick is it applies only to active members so that most of you who read this paper, being already retired, will not partake.

A second negative is that this proposed benefit enhancement will utilize all the LEOFF 2 resources. That means that when the time comes for pension contribution adjustments that cushion will not exist.

This bill may die in committee or get attached to a budget agreement later in the session so, as of now, it is an idea but one without strong support. It certainly pays to watch it carefully.

For LEOFF 1

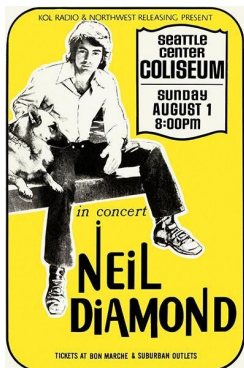
The bill is a nightmare for LEOFF 1. It takes all the assets out of the LEOFF 1 fund and combines them with TRS 1. This retirement system shall be known as the merged LEOFF 1/TRS 1 retirement plan.

(Note: LEOFF 1 is currently funded at 141% while TRS 1 is funded at 65%. Once combined they would both be funded at about 94%. These percentages

(Continued on Page 8)

From Page 1,- Hargraves

cluded The Rolling Stones, Elvis Presley, and Neil Diamond. It was while guarding the back stage door at a Neil Diamond concert in the 80's that Mike recalls a



“memorable, funny encounter.” It seems there was a group of young women who were determined to get back stage to see Neil. Mike kept telling them no, but they kept pleading with him to let them backstage. Suddenly one of the girls dropped her dress to try and gain admittance. Mike laughed and told her “no, not even that will get you backstage!” Most concerts and events were fun to work but Mike remembers some of the worst events were actually the in-person pre-concert ticket sales when fans would line up for days before the sales window even opened.

Mike worked most of the Seattle Supersonics games at the Coliseum where he usually was assigned to the visitor's locker room. In 1978 the Sonics lost in the NBA finals, but returned the following year to be crowned World Champions . Due to the huge crowds, some of those games were held in the Kingdome. Mike enjoyed making friendships with many of the players. “Downtown Freddy Brown,” Jack Sikma, Gus Williams and the Sonics trainer, Frank Furtado. Mike still hears from some of the players to day.

Mike pointed out that for the Seahawks games in the Kingdome he was usually assigned to the lower press box while Larry Harvey got the coveted “upper press box where the food was served.” He was there from the Jim Zorn days until they moved

to the new stadium.

If a major event was in Seattle, the chances are that Mike was working it. The King Tut Exhibit at the Seattle Center in 1978, the Goodwill Games in the summer of 1990 and the NCAA Men's Basketball Final Four in the Kingdome in 1984, 1989 and 1995. It was during one of the NCAA games that Mike said he was called upon to inform some world famous “VIPs” that they did not have the proper credentials and they had to leave their seats. Looking back, this was the art of “de-escalation” before anyone assigned a fancy name to it.



With all the thousands of events, Mike is probably best known by many baseball fans as the SPD officer in the Mariners dugout, but he started out working the upper 3rd deck in the Kingdome. He worked the first ever Mariners' game on April 6, 1977. He worked nearly every game and eventually worked his way down to the dugout assignment in the mid 80's and stayed there for many years. Mike said he only spoke to the players if they initiated conversation as he



figured, “they are at work and so am I.” His favorite game was, of course, when the Mariners made the playoffs for the first time beating the Yankees in the Kingdome on October 8, 1995 before a sold-out crowd of over 57,000

fans. His favorite manger was Lou Piniella who was serious and didn't interact too often. Mike's favorite Mariner player is Kyle Seager who was very friendly and would often engage in conversation with Mike.



Mike received a unique honor when the Mariners had him throw out the ceremonial first pitch on September 11, 2018, which was his last season working the dugout.

Mike went 33 years without taking a single sick day, which has to be a record! He attributed that to the fact that he enjoyed coming to work and didn't want to miss one of the events or games that he was assigned to work. In 2005, a new commander uprooted the Seattle Center Unit and forced him to transfer. Mike transferred to the North Precinct and thanks to Captain Rob-in Clark, worked 1st watch on a foot beat in Lake City. He also staffed the mobile precinct. The North Precinct remained home for the remainder of his career. Mike retired on 12-27-2019!

When I asked about the “best supervisors” that he has worked for, Mike broke it down like this: Best Sergeant was H.J. “Big Andy” Anderson, from the 1970s. He was a “working sergeant” and treated everyone fairly. Best Lieutenants were Bob DeForrest and Pat Murphy. Best Captains were Charlie Lindblom, Dan Oliver, Jim Robinson, and Robin Clark.

(Continued on Page 6)

FROM THE PENSION OFFICE

1. The 2021 Reporting Form, Secondary Insurance Form and Emergency Contact Form packet will be mailed to you this Spring.

2. The 2020 1099R Tax form from DRS will be available online starting 1/25/21 or you can sign into your DRS account at drs.wa.gov/oaa then select the 1099R link from the main menu. There you can view or print your 1099R form. If you have not received your form via snail mail by February 15, 2021 call DRS toll free at (800)547-6657. Those that have a line of duty disability retirement do not receive a 1099R form because DRS is exempted by the IRS from sending them. However the City of Seattle must send every Prior (hired before October 1970) Act RCW 41.20 qualified retiree a 1099R even those retirees with line of duty disability retirements by the end of January 2021. If you have not gotten your City 1099R form contact Stephanie at (206)348-8018 or stephanie.coleman@seattle.gov.

3. LEOFF 1 retirees are also covered through UMR for government approved COVID-19 vaccine shot(s). If the provider will not charge Medicare or UMR directly causing you to pay upfront afterwards fill out the UMR Simple Form for reimbursement. The shot costs are for the 2 dose course: the first shot costs \$16.94. The follow up shot costs \$28.39. For the single shot vaccine dose the total cost is \$28.39.

4. LEOFF 1 retirees If you have not sent in your 2020 Medicare Part B reimbursement request yet the Pension Office needs it ASAP

5. No word yet about SPOG beginning negotiations. Its contact expired in December 2020. The SPMA resumed negotiations late last month. It's over a year since the SPMA contract expired.

6. Myrle Carner #2810 retired again. The first time was on 12/27/97 after 30 years on the Department. During his last ten service years he initiated and managed the Department's Crime Stoppers Program. Then he went full time to Crime Stoppers/Washington's Most Wanted as the civilian manager on 1/2/98 for 23 more years. His last show was January 15, 2021. He

plans on continuing coaching the King's High School Golf Team; which, he's done for the last 19 years. He has taken the team to the state tournament every year winning three times. Now he will also be the equipment manager because he just completed his Certified Golf Technician Training. This qualifies him to make, upgrade and repair clubs. Myrle is planning to attend all the Golf Association's matches looking for club throwers or golfers blaming their sticks. He figures this could be a gold mine!



Last Ring



Terry Wilson #2670 retired Seattle police patrol officer (Chief Dispatcher) passed away on January 20th. He was 77 years old. Terry was hired on February 7, 1967 and retired after 26 years of service on January 19, 1994. Terry's co-workers in Communications, describe him as being a highly competent radio dispatcher and a true gentleman. He is remembered as being a mentor to the new employees. Terry's wife Bev, informed the pension office that no services are planned at this time.

Joy Mundy #4433, Retired Seattle Police Sergeant passed away on January 18, 2021 at 72 years of age. Joy fought a very courageous 20 year battle with cancer. She was hired on May 13, 1980 and retired on September 30, 2005. Sgt Mundy came to Seattle PD via the way of Watkins Glen, New York. Joy and her husband, Karl Schneider spent many years traveling in their RV and their beloved cat, Dusty, was right alongside of them.

Albert "Al" Williams #4071, Retired Seattle Police Homicide Detective passed away on January 17, 2021 at the age of 74. Al was hired on December 10, 1976 and retired on January 18, 1995. Al was a very quiet man. Not many knew he wrote a couple of books about the Civil War. His homicide partner for several years was John Nordlund. Future memorial service information may be published when available.

Ray Loso #3489, Retired Seattle Police Officer passed away on January 17, 2021 at 78 years of age. Ray was hired on September 25, 1970 and retired on a Line of Duty Disability on March 3, 1979. Ray was detailed to patrol Golden Gardens which he did with relish. He and his partner cleaned up the late-night beach parties. Ann, Ray's wife, will notify us of any future celebration.



Last Ring



Waldo Morell #2543, retired Seattle police patrol officer, passed away on Wednesday, December 9th at age 84. Wally was hired on January 31, 1966 and retired after 24 years of service on February 21, 1990. Wally's daughter, Marie, informed the pension office there will be no services.

Larry Cotton #4425 retired Seattle police patrolman passed away on January 30th in Everett, WA. Larry was hired in 1980 and retired after 25 years of service in 2005. He spent his career working in the West and North Precincts and for a time was a member of the SWAT/ERT team. Larry and Candace were married for 43 years. A private family service will be held in the distant future.

Richard "Rich" Heideman #6651, retired Seattle police officer, passed away on February 10th at the age of 72. Rich was hired on March 20, 2000 and retired on August 27, 2009. He spent his career working in patrol. Rich's wife of 48 years, Chris, advises there may be a service in the future.

Steve Martin #4629, Retired Seattle Police Sergeant passed away on February 19th at the age of 60, one day before his 61st birthday. Before being hired on the department in January 1982, Steve had a chance to play baseball for the St. Louis Cardinals. During tryouts he suffered a shoulder injury. Steve worked West Patrol for three years during which time he participated in numerous buy/busts in the downtown open air drug markets. This prepared him to be recruited into the department's first formal anti-crime team. In December 1993 Steve was promoted to sergeant. He served in Communications, Juvenile, IIS, Pawnshop/Property Recovery and Crime Analysis. Finally, in 2008, Steve was able to return to the North Precinct until his retirement in June 2012. No matter where he was assigned, Steve was highly regarded as a patrolman, student officer trainer, and a sergeant. Steve is survived by his wife Mahala, four children and several grandchildren. No services are planned at this time.

Charles "Ray" Connery #1344, retired Seattle Police Assistant Chief, passed away on February 20th at the age of 92. Ray was hired on the department as a patrolman on March 31, 1952. He worked in patrol for ten years before being promoted to sergeant just before the World's Fair in 1962. Four years later, Ray was promoted to lieutenant. Ray was made captain in 1968.

A year and a half later, he was promoted to assistant chief. Then, after a year, he was reduced back to captain. In October 1973, Chief of Police George Tielsch promoted Ray to major. He kept his oak leaves for six years. Then, Chief of Police Pat Fitzsimons made Ray an acting assistant chief of police and finally a permanent assistant chief. After a year, Ray had enough. After serving 28 years and 5 months, he retired. Ray is survived by his daughters Timora and Daryl.

Jack N. Moore #1353, retired Seattle police detective sergeant, passed away on February 23rd at the age of 95. In early 1943 Jack enlisted in the Marine Corps and saw action on Midway Island and Okinawa. He joined SPD in March 1952. Jack worked patrol for 11 years then in February 1963 he was assigned to the Detective Bureau. He was promoted in May 1968 and returned to patrol for two years. Jack returned to investigations in 1970 and remained there until his retirement on March 30, 1977, exactly 25 years of service. Jack enjoyed retirement for almost 44 years. He is survived by June, his wife of 69 years, along with his son Scott and daughter Kathleen.

Surviving Spouse Last Ring:

Marion Maxwell, the surviving spouse of Retired Lieutenant Myron Maxwell #928 (he passed away on December 2, 2018) passed away on December 23, 2020 at the age of 89. There will be no services.

Janet L Marion, surviving spouse of deceased retired Detective Ed Marion #2059, passed away on January 3, 2021 at 75 years of age. No services were announced.

Mary Sorenson, surviving spouse of deceased retired Sergeant Neal Sorenson #1595, passed away on February 4, 2021 at the age of 86. No services were announced.

(For more detailed information on each person in the Last Ring, please go to www.rspoa.org)

And Until We Meet Again, May God Hold You in The Palm Of His Hand.

From Page 3-Hargraves



The biggest change in policing during his career was the technology which was mainly a good thing. On the negative side was the “watering down” of the ability for officers to make decisions on the street and all of the “micro-managing and second guessing” of officers.

In retirement, Mike and his wife, Suzie (who still works as a PEO) enjoy travelling and skiing.

Looking back on the 51 years, Mike acknowledged that he never once thought he would work that long. Mike attributes his longevity to a positive attitude and mindset. When asked for advice for young officers he said “learn as much as you can and try as many different things until you find something you really like to do.” Above all, “make the most of it!” Mike Hargraves certainly made the most of a very memorable 51-year career!



From the Police Museum

By Officer Jim Ritter, SPD Retired, #4710,
President: Seattle Metropolitan Police Museum

Recognizing a Hero

Policing has traditionally always been a thankless job. Even by today’s standards, life-threatening events for Seattle’s policemen in the early 1900’s was ever-present and did not always involve human dangers. The public’s gratitude was also equally apathetic , except on rare occasions.

Such was the case in 1915, when one of Seattle’s finest was walking the city’s downtown streets and heard the pandemonium of screaming citizens reacting to the team of runaway horses rapidly approaching a young child crossing the street. The youth, unaware of the pending danger, was quickly pulled out of the path of the panic-stricken steeds and was likely saved from certain death.

As a symbolic gesture of appreciation, Seattle’s mayor awarded the policeman the “Key to the City”, a 12” hollow key-shaped flask made of tin with a strategically placed cork on the tip. In addition to being publicly recognized for his bravery, the officer likely carried his key with him on the beat, rewarding himself with an occasional swig from his prized possession while telling stories of that memorable day.



If you have any historical information and/or artifacts you would like to share or contribute to the Police Museum’s efforts in preserving SPD history, please contact me at 206-949-9143 or at jamesRritter@gmail.com.



Seattle Center Unit Mid 1980's

Top Row: Mark Bailey, Ron Testerman, Bob Martinson, Lee DeShw, Ted Gormley, Bob Garner. Front Row: Floyd Walker, John Foley, Dick Reith, Admin. Gayle Kay, Mike Hargraves, Joe Fernandez, Joe Nicholas, Steve Quint

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Michael Burke Serial #3140 Academy Class: 60

Date of Hire: 5-6-69, Date of Retirement: 6-13-03

If you would like to be featured in a future WATN article send an email to richO@rspoa.org

What were some of your memorable assignments and why?

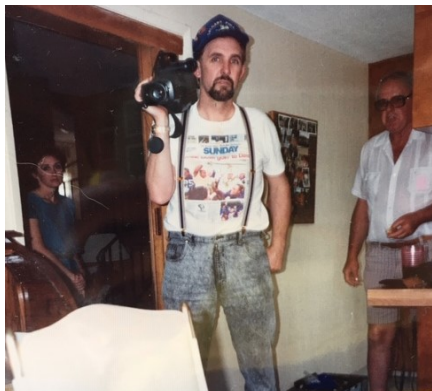


Operation Space Needle in regard to book-making while in the Vice Squad. Traffic and being on the Motorcycle Drill Team. I really enjoyed arresting sex offenders, while in the Sex Offender Detail.

What do you miss most about SPD?



Of course the camaraderie especially as a young patrol officer. On 1st watch we might meet at Northlake Pizza. On 3rd watch we might meet at a secret location with "libations." We'd play basketball at the Wallingford Boys & Girls Club at 4a.m. I had the key!



After SPD, what did you do and where did you live?

We traveled to Washington, D.C. and New York City. We spent a month in a house on the beach in Teacapan, Mexico. Followed by the Baja and Southwestern USA in our VW Eurovan! We spent time in Europe visiting the beaches at Normandy, England, Scotland and of course Ireland. We cruised from Seattle through the Panama Canal and then took Amtrak with stops in Savannah and Philadelphia. During this time, I worked for Seattle Blue with a variation of jobs, too many to mention. I volunteered as a Project Alert Detective for the National Center for Missing & Exploitation. I have been called, "Grandpa Mike" as a watchdog at Beverly Elementary for the past 8 years. I was a driving instructor for nine years. I returned to SPD from 2014-2018 as a civilian background detective, thanks to Captain Nolan and Detective Chris Wrede. Before the pandemic, I was an usher at the Driftwood Players and a logger and volunteer at the Edmonds Historical Museum. I'm glad we stayed in Edmonds as I've been able to conduct monthly poker games in my garage.

"It's an Edmonds Kind of Day!"

Hobbies & Activities?

Sailing lessons. Beer brewing at Gallagher's. Lots of dog walking. I am still an avid reader. Texas Hold Em with my buddies! Travelling to New Zealand, Vero Beach Florida, Disneyland, Pac -12 Tournament in Las Vegas and an Alaskan Cruise! I have enjoyed life! I miss The Guardian and I am very happy to have The Call Box!



From page 2, President

are only calculated every two years so the numbers might be slightly different, but the outcome is the same.)

The legislation is careful to point out and insist that there would be no changes in the benefits provided by the plans. The problem is Washington State does not have a good record of meeting its pension funding obligations.

Prior to enactment of the Pension Funding Reform Act in 1989, contributions to the TRS Plan 1 were made on an ad hoc basis. For the nine biennia (18 years) extending from 1973 through 1991, the full funding requirements of PERS, TRS, and LEOFF were satisfied by the legislature only once. Actual contributions ranged from a low of 60 percent of the required amount in 1973-75 to a high of 95 percent in 1979-81.

After passage of the Pension Funding Reform Act, the legislature embarked upon a 12-year period (1991-2003) of funding 100 percent of the actuarially required contributions. However, in the 2001-2003 and the 2003-2005 biennia the legislature again created a gap between the actuarially required contributions and the amounts appropriated for expenditure, funding the retirement systems at the 70 percent level for 2003-2005.

We do not currently have the data for the intervening biennia, but the continued status of seriously underfunded proves they have not honored their own promises. We see the legislature now attempting to circumvent the UAAL payments by creating the so called TRS 1/LEOFF 1 merger.

It is clear that the legislature does not want to fund the pensions and it becomes obvious that this underfunding is likely to continue as the legislature continues to fail to meet its obligations.

This is, of course, why LEOFF 1 members are frightened by the proposed merger. We simply cannot trust the legislature to fund the pensions properly. LEOFF 1 has been fortunate to be one of the pension systems where the funding has been adequate. It should stay that way.

Pension funding is a complicated process based on actuarial data and long-term income calculations. There are, however, a couple of established rules.

First and foremost, the money in the pension system belongs to the members and their beneficiaries and can only be used for their exclusive benefit. That is why you will always find an underfunded pension to be result of the failure to put money into the system, not from taking money out. The state likes to not put money into the system. They do it all the time. That is what they want to do here. This bill would relieve the state from the obligation to fund TRS 1 and leave enough space to not bother with funding it for several years. They do this by taking money out of LEOFF 1. And that is a no-no.

WAC 415-02-756: No assets of the retirement system may be used for or diverted to a purpose other than the exclusive benefit of the members and their beneficiaries at any time prior to the satisfaction of all liabilities with respect to members and their beneficiaries.

The State thinks it owns the money in the system, the Cities & Counties think they own the assets, and the members and beneficiaries think they own it. The issue remains undecided and could well send this bill to the Supreme Court.



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Fallen SPD Officers who made the ultimate sacrifice in the months of February and March.



Editor's Corner
By Rich O'Neill
SPD Retired

It seems almost every time the legislature is back in session, some politician tries to make a run at our pensions and that is why it is so important to have the RSPOA fighting for us down in Olympia. While some organizations stayed silent about the pension bills, President Jerry Taylor was busy keeping the RSPOA members informed with emails and updates. Many officers do not realize that once they retire, neither SPOG nor SMPA, represents them or their interests. Again, that is why it is critical for all retired officers to join the RSPOA. These attacks on our pensions will not stop and we all need to stay united and informed. If you know any retired officers who are not members of RSPOA, encourage them to sign up now!

As I was putting together this issue of The Call Box I was struck by the number of our brothers and sisters in the Last Ring. I had the pleasure to know and work with several of the officers who recently passed away. In this time of COVID, when funerals and gatherings are very limited, we all need to keep the grieving families in our thoughts and prayers. Funerals and Celebrations of Life ceremonies are an important part of the grieving process when the family can see just how many people their loved one touched during their life. When this pandemic is finally over, I hope we can all gather, especially with the families who lost a loved one and tell them just how much their loved one meant to us. I'm hoping the Retired Officer's Banquet will return in the fall and that will be a great opportunity to remember all those in The Last Ring.

As a reminder, the Call Box is published every two months or six times a year. I thank all of you for the many emails of support. If you have any ideas for a story or any fun pictures, please email them to me. The Call Box is mailed to every RSPOA member, free of charge. If you have friends or family who would like to get a copy, the yearly subscription is only \$36.00. Have them send their check to RSPOA, PO Box 25268 Seattle, WA 98165. We now have three companies that are advertising in The Call Box. If you know any other businesses who like to be part of our publication, have them contact me at RichO@rspoa.org.

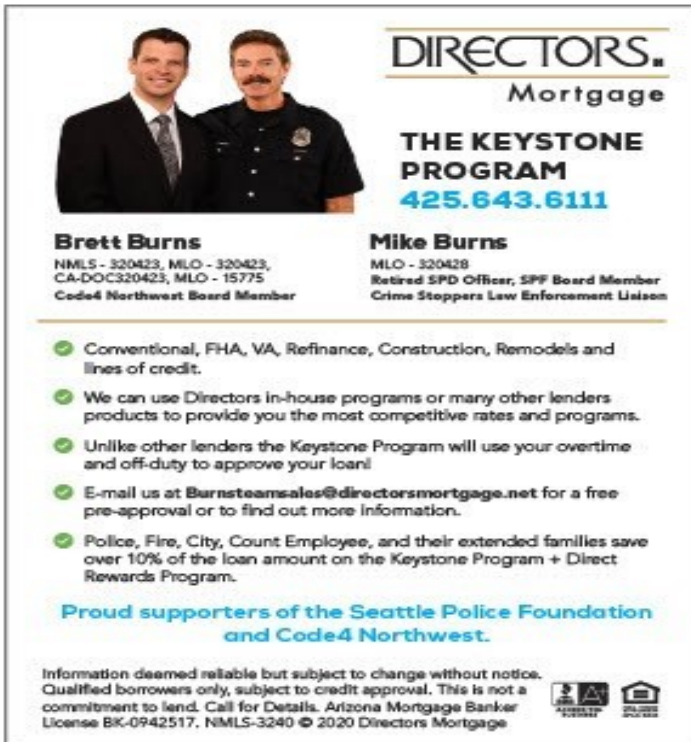
Spring is in the air! Our next issue will be in May! Until then, enjoy yourself and stay safe!

<u>FEBRUARY</u>	
Judson P. Davis	2/23/1911
Fred D. Carr	2/25/1973
<u>MARCH</u>	
Charles O. Legate	3/17/1922
Olof F. Wilson	3/31/1935
Frank Hardy	3/12/1954
John E. Bartlett	3/9/1968
Gary Lindell	3/13/2002
Jackson V. Lone	3/16/2005

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