

HAPPY THANSIVING & MERRY CHRISTMAS!



The Call Box



Official Publication of the Retired Seattle Police Officers Association

November, 2021 Volume 2, Issue 6

THE 77th ANNUAL RETIRED OFFICERS' BANQUET

A Night of Tradition, Fun, Memories & Friends



Honor Guard, Presentation of Colors!

The 77th Annual Retired Officers' Banquet was held on Wednesday, September 8th at the Nile Shrine Center in Mountlake Terrace. The ballroom was full with over 250 people in attendance. The banquet had been cancelled in 2020, due to the Covid Pandemic. There were several uncertain months leading up to this year's event, but due to the hard work and persistence of the RSPOA Board, especially Jerry Taylor, Nick Bulpin and John Nordlund, the event was able to happen!

The doors opened at 4:30pm and retired Officer Kevin O'Neill, the master of ceremonies, welcomed the crowd with music using the Nile's new sound system. Retired Sergeant John Guich conducted a fun raffle with over twelve members each winning \$100. After everyone enjoyed the cocktail hour, the Seattle Police Honor Guard conducted the Presentation of Colors and Flag Salute. SPD Chaplain Charlie Scoma led the group in a very moving prayer and invocation, thanking those in the room for their many years of service. The two buffet lines opened at 6pm and everyone enjoyed a delicious dinner prepared by the Shrine Center caterers.

Following dinner and desert, the official festivities began with RSPOA President, Jerry Taylor welcoming the crowd. Rich O'Neill then spoke about the importance of joining RSPOA, especially for newly retired LEOFF 2 officers. Rich gave a plug for The Call Box, encouraging everyone to get others to subscribe.

Kevin O'Neill then conducted a Roll Call, announcing the names of all those (143) who retired since the last banquet in September, 2019 and inviting those present up to the stage for a rousing applause. One of the long traditions at the banquet is recognizing the three lowest serial numbers in attendance. The awards were formerly sponsored by SPOG, but this year RSPOA took over the presentations. In the spirit of the Olympics, each recipient received a Bronze, Silver or Gold medal to go along with their gift certificate.

The Last Ring was next as Kevin solemnly read the names of the 68 SPD officers who had passed away since the last banquet. The Seattle Police Pipes & Drums bagpiper then played Amazing Grace to honor those officers.

Although the official festivities were concluded, many hung around to enjoy the bar, socialize and view the many poster boards which contained SPD pictures from years past. The poster boards were courtesy of Seattle Police Relief Association, which also helped sponsor the banquet. The event was a great success and we look forward to next years banquet, which will be held on Wednesday **September 14, 2022! Save the Date!**



Jerry Taylor welcomes the crowd!

(More pictures of the banquet on page 3)

The Call Box



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President's Message

By Jerry Taylor, President, RSPOA



We did it! The 77th Annual Retired Officers' Banquet was held on September 8th. Over 250 folks were in attendance. Everyone had a good time. It was a difficult event to put on for a number of reasons. The primary challenge was COVID. A lot of folks were uncertain or concerned. That was reflected in the diminished turnout—down about 200 folks from earlier years.

This has always been a Relief Association sponsored event but this year the RSPOA took a greater role in producing the event. Susan Magan had retired so our traditional caterer was no longer available. The kitchen at the Range was not able to provide the items needed by the caterer and several other factors contributed to a move back to the Nile. Nick Bulpin and John Nordlund stepped in and oversaw the production of the event. The Relief was not able to provide the level of staff support as in prior years, but they did not shy away from providing the crucial support needed to make the event successful. Many thanks to Fran Smith, Cynthia Costa and Traci Speziale from SPRA. The RSPOA looks forward to working with the Relief on the 78th Retired Officers' Banquet next September.

Thanks to John Nordlund, Nick Bulpin and Rich O'Neill. There were many more folks involved in putting this event on including Kevin O'Neill, Dan Oliver and Stephanie Coleman. The list could go on and on. Putting all the efforts together we had an outstanding event. Be sure to mark your calendars for September 2022 for the next one.

RAP – RSPOA Christmas Lunch

Our annual Christmas Lunch will be on December 8th at the Nile. Save the date. We will be sending out notices and providing more detail as the date approaches. It has been a long tradition for RAP and RSPOA to share this event. Plan on joining us.



Elections

RSPOA elections are held every two years on the odd year. So, the election will be conducted on December 8th at the Christmas Lunch. All seats, board and officers, are up for election. Thus far all current members have indicated they will run for re-election. One member of the board is experiencing some health issues and may not be able to run. So, if you are willing to serve, please let us know. Nominations will be accepted up until December 8th.

77th Annual Retired Officers' Banquet

LOWEST SERIAL NUMBERS IN ATTENDANCE



Gold Medal: Phil Cruse #1287



Silver Medal: John L. Sullivan #1346



Bronze Medal: Marty Spotanski #1534

A FUN NIGHT HAD BY ALL



Our Photographer,
John Nordlund



Master of Ceremonies,
Kevin O'Neill



Chaplain Scoma & Nick
Bulpin



Some of the Recent
Retirees



FROM THE PENSION OFFICE

PENSION NEWS:

Still no word about SPOG negotiations and SPMA is in active mediation.

Well over 200 people attended the September Retired Officers' Banquet. The reports are that the food, beverages and fellowship were great. Phil Cruz was the lowest serial numbered retiree in attendance. Number 2 was John L. Sullivan. Number 3 was Marty Spotanske.

RAP and RSPOA will sponsor a Christmas luncheon on Wednesday, December 8th, 2021. It will be at the Nile this year. The doors will open around 10:30 am. Contact John Nordlund or Nick Bulpin to reserve your seat.

According to RCW and Pension Board policy, you are only covered for "medically necessary" treatment or vaccines. Unfortunately, taking a voluntary COVID test for a pleasure/vacation trip/event is not covered.



Last Ring



Bob Armstrong #1516, retired Seattle Police Patrolman, passed away on July 2, 2021, at the age of 91. Bob was born and spent his early years in Wenatchee, before his family moved to Burien as he entered high school. He attended Highline High and played on their football team. After graduation, he held temporary mechanic jobs and then joined the Army in 1950. He served in the Korean Conflict. Bob was hired by SPD as a provisional patrolman in January 1954. He worked patrol for six months before he was assigned to Academy Class 32. Two of his academy classmates were Jack Stanton #1565 and Jerry Boyer #1422.

Bob served in patrol and on traffic motorcycles. He also landed a couple of stints as summer help in Harbor. In 1962 while detailed as temporary help in the Misdemeanor Warrants Office on the first floor of PSB, he met his wife Donna, who was working the Time Pay Window of Warrants. Bob vested with 21 years of service in 1975, to take a job in Warrants as a civilian and work alongside Donna. He worked there for a year. He then left city



Last Ring



employment because he got a job as Security Director at Bergman's Luggage on 3rd and Stewart. After a couple of years, he got a better job working security at the Fry Art Museum at 7th and Terry. Bob quit working in the mid 1980's to enjoy his retirement. He spent his time riding his motorcycle, painting and writing poetry. In fact, he won the Distinction Award from the World of Poetry Publishers. In 2011 Bob and his daughter Cynthia bought a house together with a large yard. Bob then worked on the house and gardened for the next ten years. He is survived by his two adult children Cynthia and Richard.

Jack "Silver" Fox #2596, retired Seattle Police Patrolman, passed away on July 6, 2021 at the age of 84. Jack was born and raised in Seattle where he lived in the central area. He attended Immaculate Conception grade school and then Seattle Prep and O'Dea for high school. After graduation Jack joined the Marines where he served from 1957 to 1959. Jack returned to Seattle and worked as a custodial counselor at the Youth Center and then in the Defense Division for Boeing from 1961 until mid-1964. At this time, Jack married his wife Dorothy on September 8, 1964. They moved to sunny California where Jack got a job as a driving instructor. After his son, John, was born in 1965, the Watts riots convinced them to move back to Seattle.

Jack was hired by SPD in 1966 and attended Class 51. After graduation he was assigned to the Central Precinct working relief both East and West, except for three months TDY to assist the new "Trainee" program the department started. In 1967 Jack worked Charlie Sector with Ray Roller #2690. During these years Jack's son Steve was born. Jack then worked with Larry Harvey #3189 on both 1st and 3rd watch for the next four years. When his blond hair turned silver, the squad nicknamed him the "Silver Fox". His daughter Jill was born about this time and in 1975 he transferred to Wallingford. His last partner was Ken Nicholas #2598. After Ken, Jack worked one officer cars in Nora Sector. Jack had a photographic memory, good street instincts and conscientious work ethic.

Jack worked every off-duty job, that fit in with his work and family schedule. His steady moonlighting job was



Last Ring



the Coleman Ferry Terminal. He did this off duty work so he could send his three children to Catholic grade school in Edmonds and later Blanchet. In 1992 after 26 years of service in patrol, Jack retired. Jack and his wife, Dorothy, had more time for themselves. They enjoyed traveling and working on their Edmonds home that they lived in for 50+ years. Jack was preceded in death by his son Steve and survived by his wife of 57 years, Dorothy, son John, daughter Jill and five grandchildren. Grandchild Ryan, Steve's son, is currently in the WSP Academy getting ready to graduate.

Bob Woolverton #2582, retired Seattle Police Patrol Sergeant, passed away on July 26, 2021, at the age of 82. Bob was born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri. His dad owned a bakery shop. He frequently treated the St. Louis cops to donuts and coffee. This exposure to officers motivated Bob to be a policeman at an early age. After high school, Bob joined the Army and served for nine years where he was part of the Army's Slow Fire .45 Bullseye Team. Bob was hired by SPD on May 25, 1966. After working the streets in Georgetown for three months he was assigned to Academy Class 51 with Bill Hebert #2364. Bob worked in patrol and on traffic motorcycles. During the 1969 Torchlight Parade, he made an arrest of a suspect blocking a float. A fight ensued and suddenly another suspect blindsided Bob with a club, fracturing his skull. Both suspects were arrested. Bob lived with the head trauma's aftereffects for the rest of his career. He also had another injury from being struck while riding his bike. In 1973, Bob was promoted to Sergeant and was assigned to East Central and then Wallingford, to work for Frank Jones #1885. When Frank became the Metro Captain he brought Bob into the Mounted Unit. There he had a horse roll over on him twice during the early 1980's. Bob left Mounted in 1985 to go back to Patrol first at the South Precinct, then the West Precinct. He finished up his career as Queen Sector Sergeant. For years he was a member of the Department's Pistol Combat Team. Incidentally, one of his squad

members was Bill Robertson #4688 whose father was one of the St. Louis cops that Bob's dad treated at his bakery shop. Bob retired on October 27, 1993, to enjoy his 40-foot cruiser. He also took up flying. What time was left over from maintaining his big boy toys, he continued to shoot. His house was filled with trophies. Bob was preceded in death by his wife, June, who died in 2014. He is survived by his son Bob Woolverton Jr, who was a Bothell Police Officer for 34 years. He rose to the rank of Captain. Now he teaches at the CJTC in Burien.

Emett Henry Kelsie #2794, retired Seattle Police Homicide Lieutenant, passed away on August 7, 2021, at the age of 76. Emett was born in Aiken, South Carolina. When he was five years old, his mother Mary and father John Henry moved to Seattle and bought a home in the "CD". Emett graduated from Garfield High School in 1962 where he played on the school's basketball and football team. Upon graduation Emett enlisted in the Air Force for four years in the Cryptography Unit. His listening posts for communist transmissions were Okinawa, Japan and finally Taiwan. His last assignment was Kelly Air Force Base in Texas. In 1966, he returned to Seattle and worked for Boeing as a riveter. Emett also worked for the Seattle Engineering Department for a short time.

Emett was hired by SPD on October 30, 1967. For his first six months, he worked patrolling Rainier Valley and the Central Area. He was then assigned to Academy Class 55, graduating in June 1968. He was again assigned to patrol the "CD" and Valley for the next three years. Emett transferred to Personnel as a Background Detective, but after six months, he requested a transfer to Georgetown to work 1st watch. During one shift, Les Yeager #2436 and Emett were sent to a dead body call. It was an old man that had passed away while sitting upright on his sofa. A neighbor lady found him. She escorted the officer's inside. While looking for contact information, Emett laid his police radio on the couch next to the victim. Suddenly the dispatcher started broadcasting. The neighbor lady jumped back and began screaming, "He's alive! He's alive!" and ran out of the house. Before the call was over, they ended up calling an aid car for her and the medical examiner for the victim. Emett stayed South



Last Ring



(Continued from Page 5)

for two years before being transferred to the “Tac Squad” in 1974. Two years later, he served as a detective in Checks and Forgery. After another two years, he was promoted to Sergeant and returned to patrol for three years. In July, 1981 he was assigned to the Burglary and Theft Squad. Emmett was well known in the Central Area and the Valley for being a no-nonsense cop. In 1983, he was reassigned to Georgetown 3rd watch. Around this time he stopped a car and the subjects were armed with shotguns. Emmett was able to disarm one of the suspects, but the other suspect fired another shotgun, striking Emmett in the arm. The pellets from that shotgun blast remained in his arm from then on.

When Cloyd Steiger #4313 reported for his first sworn workday, Emmett met him after roll call for a little orientation speech. He said “Just because you have that shiny badge that says police officer, you aren’t the real police until you prove yourself. That means you run in when “IT” hits the fan, not the other way. When a help the officer comes out, your ass better be there. Now get out on the street.” Cloyd did prove himself and Emmett became his mentor.

In 1984, Emmett married Evelyn and later that year was promoted to Lieutenant. He was the 3rd Watch Commander at Georgetown for the next four years. He was then assigned to the relatively new section- Gangs. He changed the focus from random patrolling and responding to shooting incidents, to building solid cases for prosecution against the most violent gangsters and their leaders. His Captain, John Mason #2884, agreed with this change of focus and structure to a more investigative strategy. When he got an irate politician calling about his troops, John tried to reason with the politician to no avail. Finally he retorted, “That’s it. If you don’t like my crew’s performance, see if you can get me transferred.” Emmett saw this was not going well so he snatched the phone away from John and began to pour oil on the kerfuffle. Emmett had a way of calming feelings. The caller hung up, still unsatisfied, but not so angry. John was saved from the threatened transfer effort.

In January 1997, Emmett became the Homicide Lieutenant. Again, his young protégé, Cloyd Steiger, worked for him. Emmett retired from Homicide in 2000 after 33 years of service.

He is survived by his mother Mary, who is 96, his wife of 37 years, Evelyn, daughters Leslie, Donna and Gael, son George, brothers Ronald and Harold, sisters Gloria, who was a PEO supervisor, Joyce and Sandra, 15 great grandchildren, and cousin Toni Harrell #4060.

SPOUSES:

Janet Hartzell, survivor of deceased Retired Detective Harold Hartzell #1310, passed away on August 22, 2021, at 94 years of age.

Karen McKenna, survivor of deceased Retired Detective Owen McKenna #2139, passed away on September 17, 2021, at 86 years of age.

June Moore, survivor of deceased Retired Detective Sergeant Jack Moore #1353, passed away on September 25, 2021, at 96 years of age.

Jeanne Sherwood, wife of Retired Detective Sergeant Dick Sherwood #2902, passed away on October 20, 2021, at 78 years of age.

For Complete Obituaries, go to:
www.rsboa.org

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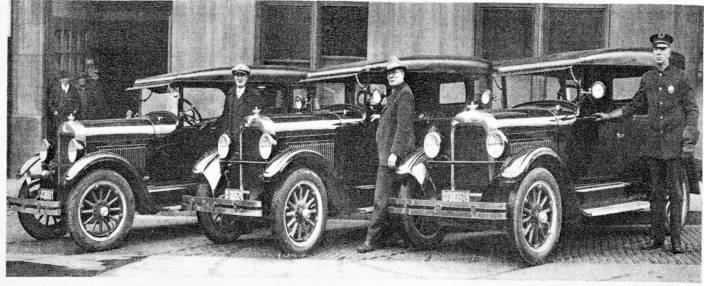
From the Police Museum

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

In 1925, the vast majority of Seattle's policemen were still walking their beats, however, detectives and supervisors were increasingly taking advantage of the highly coveted machines. The Seattle Police Department began purchasing autos in 1919 for "Flying Squad" detectives to pursue the increasing numbers of mechanized Prohibition Era criminals. The autos were additionally used by police sergeants, who would routinely transport their officers from headquarters to their respective beats and make sure they stayed there.

This ad from the Sands Motor Company of Seattle not only depicts the popularity of the automobile and its impact on modern policing, but also demonstrates the immense advertising benefits for dealers to have police posing next to newer models to increase sales. One of the more interesting aspects of this 1925 ad is the fact that SPD kept their cars for six years of continuous use before replacing them. The vehicles had soft-tops and wooden spoked wheels. There were no special police features on these cars back in those days and police ordered the same models offered to civilians.

If you have any historic police items that you would like to share with the police museum, please contact me at jamesSritter@gmail.com.



The NEW

The three cars pictured above are the new Studebaker Standard Six Duplex Phaetons recently delivered to the Seattle Police Department for use as prowler cars.

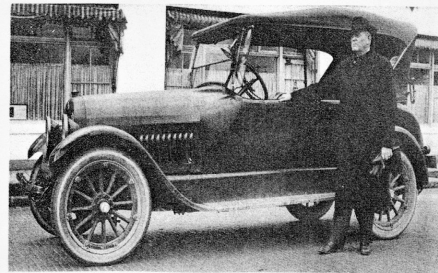
Studebaker

Below is pictured the 1919 Model Studebaker Club Roadster of Sergeant Homer L. Unland—six years old now and "running better than ever." Ask him!

The OLD

1925 Models

have new lines, more power, full balloon tires, easier controls and same dependable high quality.



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Academy Class #78
Top left to right: Recruits John Pirak, Dave Prideaux, Terri Moffitt, Toby Delgado, Joe Ayco, Bill Allen, Vicki Sadler, Rick Basel, Larry Umipig, Leslie Peters, Micki Lee, Mike Hori, Joanne Duffy, Tom Prichard
Bottom left to right: Sgt. Phil Hannum, Lt. Rusty Campbell, Recruits Doug Vaughn, Mike Ward, Norm Gow, Joe Fernandez, Jerry Fernandez, Tony Enders, Steve Kossian, Tim Dillon, Ted Jacoby, Rick Hinz, Marty White, Dan Bryant, Tac Officer Bill Shears, Capt. Bill Kramer

CLASS #78 Trivia Quiz: 1. How many future SPD Assistant Chiefs in this class? 2. Who in this class had a connection to the hit TV Show, Dallas? 3. Who has a son on SPD who is now a Lieutenant? (Answers Below, Upside Down)



Answers: 1. John Pirak, Dan Bryant & Ted Jacoby. 2. Joanne Duffy's brother, Patrick, played Bobby Ewing on Dallas. 3. Mike Ward's son, Randy, is a SPD Lieutenant.

Where Are They Now?

Tony Enders Serial #3972

Date of Hire: 9/1975 Date of Retirement: 3/2000

Academy Class #78

WHAT WERE SOME OF YOUR MOST FAVORED ASSIGNMENTS AND WHY?

To this day, after some reflection, my most favored assignment was in my first years of patrol working Queen Sector, 2nd watch. I learned a lot from some very seasoned cops. I don't think I had more fun doing the job than I did with that squad. My Sergeant was Sam Meln. Squad members were Dave Prideaux, John Moffat, Joe Collins, Larry Miller, Larry Jones, Debby Allen, Owen Burt and Norm Gow. I was involved in a high speed pursuit that started on 15 Ave NW and ended in Ballard. The perp hit my car, Burt's car, and several civilian cars. It was filmed by Harley Huggins as we came off the Ballard Bridge and the film made national news. When the dust settled after the suspect crashed, Sgt. Meln turns to Allen and says, "You have the paper!" The look on her face was priceless! After that assignment, I went to Inspections & Planning where Charley Linblom was my Lieutenant. That was a great group in that office. Charley was an avid golfer and he asked me if I wanted to learn how to golf. The next day he said we were going to "the range" and he had his clubs in his assigned SPD Dodge Omni. We drove to Bellevue to hit a couple of buckets "at the range!"

WHAT DO YOU MISS MOST ABOUT SPD?

The people! With the advent of social media, I stay in contact with most of the people I worked with during my career. If I am not serving time in "Facebook Jail," I am easy to find. I really did enjoy my time with SPD, however, I enjoy seeing those LEOFF 1 checks in the mail every month, even more.

LIFE AFTER SPD, WHAT DID YOU DO, WHERE DID YOU LIVE?

I was the Human Resources Director for the Archdiocese of Seattle after I retired. After getting enough quarters to collect Social Security, I took a break after the passing of my son. Norm Gow talked me into working as a driving instructor for the 911 Driving School and I did that for several years. My wife and I just relocated to Queen Creek, Arizona. If you are in the area, the bourbon is ready to pour and a cigar is waiting to be clipped.

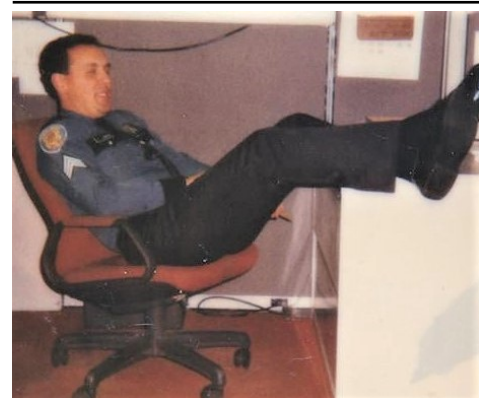
HOBBIES & ACTIVITIES

I still snow ski, fish and hunt big game. When not doing any of those things, we travel around in our 5th wheel.

If you would like to be featured in a future Where Are They Now article send an email to richO@rspoa.org



Recruit Enders, Class #78



Sgt. Enders "hard at work!"



Tony enjoying the retired life!

War Stories

By Detective Cloyd Steiger,
SPD Retired, #4313

I'd just arrived in the Homicide office for work on a morning in March of 1995, when a report came in of an officer-involved shooting at the McDonald's at 3rd and Pine. Bob Gebo and I jumped in a car and drove to the scene. As was expected at such an event on a weekday morning in downtown Seattle, the scene was abuzz with activity. The large window on the 3rd Avenue side of the restaurant was crowded with news cameras pointed inside, recording everything that occurred.

A narcotics detective had been conducting a buy inside the McDonalds. The suspect sold him what ended up being bunk. The detective confronted the suspect, who pulled out a gun and pointed it at the detective, who, in turn, drew his own gun and shot the suspect in the chest.

As it ended up, the "gun" the suspect drew was actually a lighter that looked like a gun. (Note to self: Never bring a fake gun to a real gunfight.)

To his credit, Norm Stamper was on the news a day or two after the shooting.

"If you point one of these at one of my officers," he said, referring to the pistol replica lighter, "expect to be shot."

The scene was still abuzz. I stood writing in my notepad, my back to the window through which all the cameras recorded our every move.

Tom Grabicki was the West Precinct commander. He walked into the McDonalds and up to me as I was writing.

"What do we have here, Cloyd?" he asked, facing the cameras outside the window.

"Well, Captain," I said without looking up from my notes, "It appears as though we have a McShooting."

His face strained as he fought, with not much success, to suppress a smile in front of the news crews.

"You're an a*#hole," he said between clenched teeth.

"What's your point?" I asked.

Picture Quiz

How many of these "new officers" can you name? They were part of the SPD Police Trainee Program.



RSPOA CALENDAR

Monthly Meeting	Nov 10 11:30 Nile
Happy Thanksgiving	Nov 25
RSPOA & RAP Christmas Party	Dec 8 1130 Nile
Merry Christmas	Dec 25
RAP meets every Thursday at the Nile, 11am.	



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Picture Quiz Answer



Top Row: (L-R) Sam L. Townsend, Ronald S. Sylve,
James Parnell. Seated (L-R) Harry C. Bailey, Phillip
C. Allen, James D. McNeal, Donald E. Houston



Fallen SPD Officers who made the ultimate sacrifice in the months of October and November.



OCTOBER

David Sires	10-16-1881
William T. Rumble	10-29-1947
Jerry L. Wyant	10-26-1976
Timothy Q. Brenton	10-31-2009

NOVEMBER

James Wells	11-28-1897
Trent A. Sickles	11-26-1935
Theodore E. Stevens	11-27-1935
Con B. Anderson	11-27-1936
Red H. Hull	11-15-1945
Robert R. Allshaw	11-11-1968

Editor's Corner

By Rich O'Neill
SPD Retired #4451

I had the privilege of being the guest speaker at the RSPOA October monthly meeting. I was proud to announce that The Call Box celebrated its 1st birthday with the September edition. One year ago, we decided to resurrect The Call Box after the Seattle Police Guild discontinued The Guardian, which had been a monthly staple since 1970. We have received a lot of positive feedback about The Call Box. I urge everyone to spread the word and encourage family and friends to subscribe. I am always looking for interesting interviews and stories, so drop me an email with your suggestions. RichO@rspoa.org

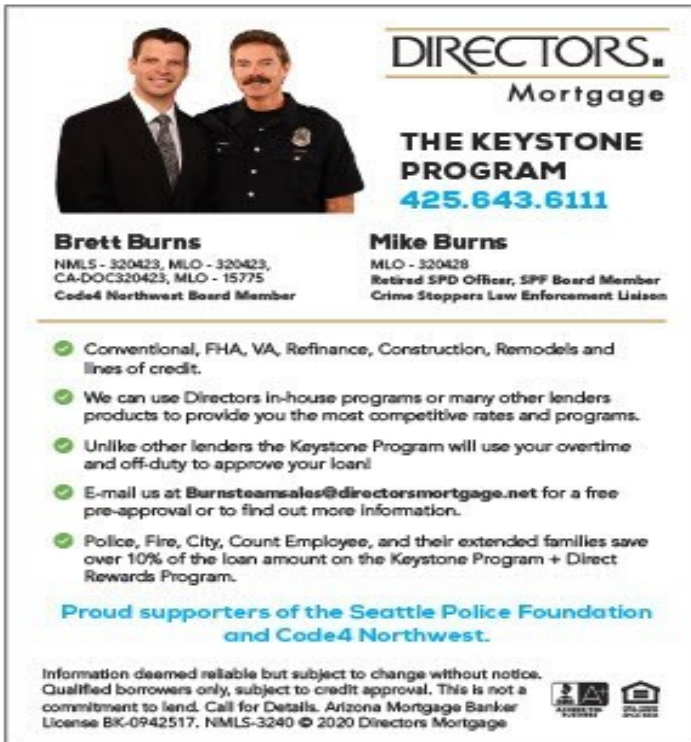
At the meeting, I also gave a short history on SPOG negotiations. I spoke about the importance of following the state law timelines, exchanging opening offers in a timely manner and building strong relationships with other unions and the politicians who will be voting to approve the deal. I discussed the SPOG contracts that I was directly involved with, namely the 2006-2010 CBA, 2010-2014 CBA, and the last contract the 2014-2020 CBA. None of those deals would have been possible if we had not assembled a good negotiation team and strategy. The formal exchange of opening offers in a timely manner locks each side in to their positions and prevents a countless flood of new issues coming to the negotiation table. We also had strong support from the other unions and we maintained good working relationships with the Mayor's Office and City Council. You negotiate with the mayor but at the end of the deal, you need five yes votes on the City Council to approve the contract. I have always felt that the Number 1 job of the union is to negotiate a good contract that gives the officers a wage increase, good benefits and improves their working conditions. Negotiations are give and take, but as one politician said to me when he was asking for changes in the contract, "Why is it always about money with you?" I replied, "Well, what else does the city have to horse trade?" Negotiations were monotonous at times, but in the end very rewarding and I am proud to have played a role in negotiating very good deals that benefited the officers and their families.

Our next Call Box will be the January edition, so let me be the first to wish you a Happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas. I hope you enjoy the true meaning of the holidays with those you love.

RSPOA

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