



The Call Box



Official Publication of the Retired Seattle Police Officers Association

January, 2024 Volume 5, Issue 1

A Chat with Marlynn McLaughlin #3016

The Last Woman Hired For The SPD Women's Bureau

Q. Marlynn, where did you grow up and what did you do before joining the SPD?

Born in Seattle and grew up in Bothell where my Dad was the Mayor for most of my teen years. I graduated from Bothell HS in 1961. I was one of 5 classmates who went on to become Seattle Police Officers. Jim Clark, Ken Nicholas, John Pederson, and Dave Sorenson. I went to college and got a degree in Sociology. I did office work for Blue Cross before being hired by SPD on January 13, 1969.

Q. What made you want to be a police officer?

I originally wanted to be an airline stewardess so I could travel, but I found out I was too tall at 5'11". I had a cousin who was a policewoman in Michigan and police work seemed interesting.

Q. When you were hired, did you go to the academy right away?

I was hired along with Burdena De Waard and we joined Marnie Oslin for Class #58 which ran from March to May in 1969. We were given a small badge, aluminum handcuffs and a .32 Cal revolver. I was the last policewoman hired under that classification in the old women's bureau.



Class 58. Top Row L-R, B. DeWaard, T. Brentson, R. Testerman, D. Halvorson, R. Hudepohl, R. Reith, M. Johnson, T. Blair, W. Biggar, A. Espinosa, M. Bolger, **M. McLaughlin.**

2nd Row: R. Niemiec, F. Kampsen, T. Miller, B. Fenner, M. Broyles, Sgt. H. Hirschberg, Sgt. W. Tanner, Dir. R. Skaggen, Ofc. J. Street, M. Oslin, T. Hubbard, R. Johnson, H. Monta, J. Rye.

Bottom Row, M. Brasfield, J. O'Connor, J. Hoffard, K. Guynn, H. Sloan, R. Shepard, I. Citron, J. Kriney

The Call Box



RSPOA

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President Taylor has yielded his regular column to RSPOA Secretary-Treasurer, Nick Bulpin to explain the new dues structure.

Ringling In

By Nick Bulpin, RSPOA Sec-Treasurer

It has been over 11 years since we have had the need to raise the RSPOA dues to meet the costs of providing the benefits and services to our members. On October 24th of this year, the RSPOA Board of Directors met to critique the successful Retired Officers Banquet on September 20th. Thanks to the efforts of Rich and Kevin O'Neill, along with the help and support of the Relief Association, the banquet was a great event for all who attended. The pavilion never looked better. Discussion took place on what improvements could be made to make next year's event even better. The cost of the 79th annual banquet was reviewed, and suggestions were made for consideration for improvements.

The present financial status of the RSPOA came under review and it was determined that we have encountered substantially increased costs this year. Not only with the banquet, but there was a change of food service/caterer and rental space at the Nile/Shrine location. Other establishments were investigated that would meet our needs however, we discovered the increases were universal no matter the venues.

The RSPOA membership meets monthly for a buffet lunch with an occasional guest speaker, along with business updates and reports of pension issues. This is also a good time to maintain the camaraderie we all enjoy that is the envy of many groups like ours.

Discussion surrounded the need to raise membership dues to maintain the present programs. After several suggestions it was decided \$10.00 per month would be adequate. A motion was made to recommend a monthly dues increase from \$3.00 to \$10.00 be presented to the general membership for approval. Our by-laws require a vote of approval at a regular scheduled meeting. This meeting occurred on December 14th, 2023 and the dues increase was approved. The dues increase will take place January 1st, 2024. Life-time memberships will not be affected. For those enrolled with DRS dues deductions, the increase will appear on March 1st check. City checks for prior time will reflect the annual increase on February 2024 check.

For those who pay their dues annually by check, the current dues payments will be honored and expire after 12 months then \$10.00 per month will be needed. An e-mail or a letter will be sent out to individuals indicating expiration of current dues when paid with cash/check. A DRS enrollment form will be provided to have dues deducted from state checks. We encourage members to utilize the DRS deduction form as it greatly reduces the burden of managing membership status.

Q. Where was the academy held?

The academy was held on the 3rd floor of the old public safety building.

Q. Who were some of your academy classmates?

Besides Marnie and Burdena, some classmates were Jack Kriney, Mike Brasfield, T.C. Miller, Al Citron, Frank Kampsen, Howard Monta and Dick Niemic.

Q. You had many years in investigations. Can you tell us about a few interesting investigations?

While still in the academy I was assigned to the “Dirty Old Man Detail” at the Seattle Public Library downtown. I also worked as a decoy on an illegal abortion sting operation. After the academy, the women were assigned to the Women’s Bureau and I worked Juvenile Investigations. While there I worked off-duty at concerts for Lt. Wally Long and later, Lt. Bob DeForest. I worked the Rolling Stones, Elvis Presley, Tom Jones, The Beach Boys, Elton John and Chicago. My sergeant, Carl Olson, transferred to Intelligence and I went with him. I gathered information on Motorcycle and Asian gangs. I also did surveillance on demonstrations. I worked with Secret Service on presidential visits. I was hired to work private security for Led Zeppelin during their 1977 tour. I got to travel on their private plane, rode in their limos and “partied” with them in Arizona. I transferred to Property Recovery Squad /Pawn Shop. I recovered some interesting stolen items such as a parachute, a wooden Indian and a NBA Championship Ring belonging to ex-Sonic, Spencer Haywood.

**Q. You also worked Traffic Enforcement. Tell us about that assignment?**

After about 18 years in Investigations, I was invited by Sgt. J.J. Hill to try traffic and the PM Enforcement Squad. It was a big change as after years in plain clothes, I had to wear a uniform. I learned how to operate radar, issue citations and investigate accidents. My call sign was “Tom 65.” I worked all the traffic events like Seafair, Goodwill Games and all the Seahawks and Mariner games. One night, I made a traffic stop and discovered the driver was Chief Fitsimmons. We had a pleasant conversation and of course I didn’t issue a citation, DUH! Later on, he backed me on several stops in the Central District. Both violators were impressed that the Chief of Police was “my backup!”

**Q. You trained and went to patrol late in your career. What was that experience like?**

After three years in Traffic, I transferred to patrol and worked the North Precinct. Since this was the first patrol assignment of my career I had an FTO to complete my training and help me make the adjustment. I worked for Sgt. Cindy Tallman and worked with Mike Thomas as 2-Nora-4. In 1993, Mike and I received an award for our work with a troubled juvenile. I absolutely loved patrol and when Sgt. Howard Monta took over the squad, I got to work as an FTO and occasionally as an Acting Sergeant. One day, working with Jeff Lobb, we arrested a suspect who had rammed Motorcycle Officer John Abraham. The suspect had tried to flee, but we caught him and I had the pleasure of holding him at gunpoint. He went to jail and we later learned he was wanted on another homicide.

Q. You worked for many police chiefs. Who was your favorite and why?

Frank Ramon was the Chief who hired me, but my favorite was George Tielsch. He was a “policeman’s policeman” and always supported the troops. I also liked Frank Moore and Bud Vandenwyer.

FROM THE PENSION OFFICE

Pension Office News:

1. Happy New Year everyone, all of us in the pension office are wishing you a healthy and happy 2024!
2. The 2023 Medicare Reimbursement forms were mailed on December 1, 2023. Please complete if you are eligible and email policepension@seattle.gov, fax 206-460-6900 or send in the US Mail to our office for reimbursement.
3. Annual Reporting Forms will be mailed in April 2024.
4. The first LEOSA Qualification date is set for February 20, 2024. We will announce the other dates in a future edition. LEOSA lines shoot at 1000 & 1400 hours at the SPD Range. Guns must be inspected prior to going on the course. Arrive at least 45 minutes early.



Last Ring



Dix Baker #1760, Retired Seattle Police Sergeant, passed away on April 28, 2023, just a few weeks shy of his 90th birthday. Hired: 1-28-57 Class #37, Assignments: Patrol East, Patrol Diver, DWI Squad, Promoted to Sergeant in 1979, DWI Squad, Street Vice, Patrol. Retired:5-12-83 after 26 years of service. Dix is survived by daughters Mary Ke, Kathy, Teri, and sons Mark and Keith, as well as seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.



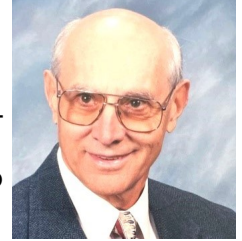
Eldon Doty #2588, Retired Seattle Police Patrol Officer, passed away on August 17, 2023, at 80 years of age. Hired:6-27-66, Class #51, Assignments:Patrol Downtown, Public Information Office, North Precinct, Retired: 2-2-79 after 12 years of service. Eldon is survived by his wife of 43 years, Rosalina (Sally), two sons, Ken and Sean, and his four grandchildren.



Last Ring



Charles "Chuck" Scheuffele #1864, retired Seattle Police Detective Sergeant, passed away on August 17, 2023, at 89 years of age. Hired:9-2-58 Class #39, Assignments: Patrol Georgetown West Seattle, promoted to Detective in 1968, Special Patrol Squad, promoted to Sergeant in 1973, Robbery & Homicide. Retired:5-14-88. Chuck was predeceased by his wife Joyce and son Steve and is survived by his son Don, daughter Tammy, daughter-in-law Teresa, two grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.



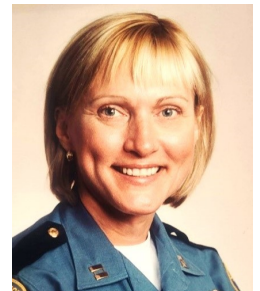
Don Meyers #2566, retired Seattle Police Officer Hostage Negotiator passed away on August 19, 2023, at the age of 76. Hired: as a cadet 3-28-66, Class#60, Assignments: Narcotics, Patrol Central District, West Precinct Patrol, King Sector Walking Beats in 1910 Uniform, Harbor. Retired:6-29-94 after 28 years of service. Don is survived by his wife of over 53 years, Maureen; daughters Melissa, Jennifer, and Colleen; and two grandsons and three granddaughters.



Will Witt #6049, Retired Seattle Police Officer, passed away on August 13, 2023, three weeks shy of his 58th birthday. Hired: 12-2-94 Class#426, Assignments: Patrol North Precinct, Academy Instructor, Traffic DUI Squad, Enforcement Unit, Commercial Vehicle Enforcement. Retired: 8-28-18 after 24 years of service. Will is survived by his parents, Lillian Witt, and Willie Witt; children, Katherine, Caden, and Courtney; sister, LaShawn; brothers, Jon, and Kevin; and the many who knew and loved him.



Cynthia Miller #4064, retired Seattle Police Assistant Chief, passed away August 26, at sixty-nine years of age. Hired: 12-10-76,Class#85, Assignments: Patrol West Precinct, promoted to Detective in 1980, Burglary Unit, Promoted to Sergeant in 1984, 3rd Watch West patrol, promoted to Lieutenant in 1989, promoted to Captain in 1994,Property Crimes, Homicide,



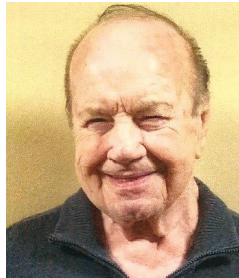


Last Ring



North Precinct Captain, IIS, Promoted to Assistant Chief in 2002, Investigations Bureau. Retired:6-23-05 after 29 years of service. Cindy is predeceased by her son, Brendan. She is survived by her husband, Rich, her sister, Carolyn, and a dear friend of 40+ years, Elise O'Neil.

Al Schrader #1897, retired Seattle Police Homicide Detective passed away on August 23, 2023, at the age of 88. Hired: 1-2-59, Class#40, Assignments: Patrol Central Precinct, Special Squad, Fraud & Bunco, Homicide, Intelligence, Industrial Relations, Mayor's Security. Retired:3-20-84 after 25 years of service. His son, John, preceded Al in death. He is survived by his two daughters, Debi, and Lisa, two sons, Rick, and Steve, nine grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.



James Dunn #2675, Retired Seattle Police Patrol Officer passed away September 1, 2023, at 81 years of age. Hired:2-7-67, Class#53, Assignments: Patrol Georgetown Precinct, Patrol East Precinct, Radio Dispatcher, South Precinct Patrol west Seattle. Retired: 5-24-85 after 18 years of service. Jim loved his family dearly and is survived by his wife of 19 years, Stephanie; five children, Connie, Jimmy, Beret, Dawn, and Ashley; seven grandchildren; and one great-grandson.



Survivors:

Evelyn Wilson, widow of deceased retired Assistant Chief Milton Wilson #1253, passed away on December 16, 2023, at the age of 93.

Spouses:

Denise Baggen, wife of retired police officer Ken Baggen #2523, passed away on December 1, 2023, at the age of 66.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE!

For a complete version of each Last Ring, please go to www.rsboa.net



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From the Police Museum

By Officer Jim Ritter, SPD Retired, #4710,

“One Adam-12” Responds to Seattle

During the tumultuous 1960's & 70's social and political unrest resulted in increasing tensions between the public and police. To combat the negative images portrayed on television towards law enforcement, “Dragnet” producer, Jack Webb, created “One Adam-12.” It was one of the first Hollywood shows to depict a more positive and accurate version of police work to the public. Unlike its predecessor, Dragnet, and other earlier police dramas, Adam-12 was designed to appeal to a younger crowd by casting popular actor Martin Milner as Officer “Pete Malloy,” and his rookie partner, “Jim Reed” (Kent McCord) as two Los Angeles police officers on routine patrol. The series ran during prime time from September 21, 1968, through May 20, 1975, and was fully endorsed by the LAPD which recognized the series as a public relations dream. Following the series' conclusion, it immediately went into syndication and can still be seen today. The first photo shows retired SPD Asst. Chief Roy Skagen (left), with Martin “Marty” Milner. The second photograph depicts a star-struck police recruit, Marlynn McLaughlin, with Milner (seated). These pictures were taken in May of 1969 during Milner's visit to Seattle to promote the new “Adam-12” series. In between his on-air appearances at various Seattle TV stations, Milner dropped by SPD and spoke to academy Class #58. He praised the recruits for their bravery and service to their community, signed autographs, and discussed the nuances of being an actor while working with Hollywood legends such as John Wayne, Susan Hayward, Patty Duke, and many others. Milner was also well known before his “Adam-12” debut by playing the lead character on the TV series “Route 66” and other well-known shows of the era. For those police show enthusiasts, “Adam-12” can still be seen daily on ME-TV in the late afternoons. Also, special thanks to Roy Skagen for providing these photos, and sharing his wonderful memories from throughout his career.



If you have any historic police artifacts that you would like to share, donate, or sell to the Police Museum, please contact me at jamesSritter@gmail.com, or at #206-949-9143.

80th Annual Retired Officer's Banquet

SAVE THIS DATE!

SATURDAY



SEPTEMBER 14, 2024

AT THE SPAA RANGE PAVILION

HELP WANTED: Those who would like to volunteer in the planning, organizing and production of this event are asked to contact Kevin O'Neill (206-218-8920) or Rich O'Neill (206-992-9516)

A Message From SPRA

By SPRA President, Detective Fran Smith

Rising costs have inevitably impacted SPRA condo operating expenses. Consequently, the SPRA Board of Trustees has, after careful and considerable deliberation, voted to raise the rental rate for the condos. Rates will increase by \$25 per night for each condo; the monthly rate for the Phoenix condo will be \$2,300. This rate increase will apply to all new reservations, beginning November 15, 2023. The rate will remain unchanged for members that already have a signed 2024 rental agreement or are in process of finalizing a 2023 rental agreement before November 30, 2023. Deposits to hold reservations, cleaning fee, and damage deposits will remain unchanged.

The new rates will be as follows:

Maui	\$175 per night
Chelan	\$150 per night
Whistler	\$150 per night
Sun River	\$150 per night
Phoenix	\$150 per night
Phoenix	\$2,300 per month during the months of low occupancy

The Board would like to emphasize that despite this new rate increase, SPRA does not make a profit on these rentals as condo usage is a member benefit. The SPRA condo rental rates are still the lowest in their respective areas for comparable units. The SPRA Board knows that the quality and value of the five condos to its over 1,500 members and their friends and families (Active and Retired) remains one of our Associations greatest benefits.

For more condo information and to sign-up, please go to:

www.reliefassociation.org

2024 RSPOA CALENDAR

Monthly Meetings are held at The Nile on the **2nd THURSDAY of each month** at 11:30.

Jan 11, Feb. 8, March 14, April 11, May 9, June 13, July 11, August 8, Banquet Saturday Sept. 14, Oct. 10, Nov 14, Dec. 12.

\$10 admission for a great lunch, guest speakers and the "Guich Raffle."

RAP Meets Every Thursday at the Nile at 11am

SPD Retired in Arizona

Plan the Next "SPD 931"

SAVE THE DATE:

April 10th and 11th, 2024 for the 3rd Annual SPD 931 and golf get together in Gilbert Az.

Golf on the 10th will be organized by Shane Anderson and Todd Jakobsen. Info will be available as the date gets closer.

Kim Anderson has been in touch with **Catching Flights Bar and Grille**. They are looking forward to seeing us again on April 11th.

More information will be shared on AZ SPD FaceBook page as well on Blue Line 206 Facebook page as the dates get closer.

You can also contact Sally Bryant at: sallyjo5131@gmail.com

Picture Quiz

Can you name the three SPD Officers in this 1988 British Columbia Golf Tournament?



PICTURE QUIZ ANSWER



L-R, Bob Lowman #2870, George P. Johnson 2924, Unknown Canadian Officer, & Garry Arnold #2929

Q. Who were some of your partners?

I worked in Juvenile with Don Parkin. I also worked with Carolyn Byron (“Lady B”) and Mary (James) Hallowell, who is my friend for life. In the Intelligence Unit, I worked with Al Schrader.

Q. Who was your favorite supervisor and why?

Some of my favorite supervisors were Sgt Carl Olson, Sgt Howard Lishchke and Sgt Cindy Tallman. They all taught me a lot about police work and treated me with respect.

Q. What is the biggest change in policing since you started your career?

The biggest change from when I started is probably DNA and smartphones.

Q. What did you do when you retired?

I retired on January 13, 1998. I volunteered at “Equi-Friends Therapeutic Horseback Riding for the Handicapped” in Snohomish. I was originally hands on with the horses, but then moved into fund raising for the organization and was on the board of directors. We raised \$100,000 at an auction at the Comcast Center Ballroom in Everett. This became a passion of mine and I ended up buying an Arab Geeding and donating the horse to the program. One of our horses, Luther, ended up going to the SPD Mounted Unit. When our program lost funding, I was heartbroken. I ended up volunteering with Stanwood Therapeutic Riding. Retired SPD and former Mayor of Mountlake Terrace, Jerry Smith, got me involved with the “Tour De Terrace” Seafair Celebration. I chaired the car show for 15 years. I also joined the Lion Club and worked many of their events, including their booth at the Monroe Fair. I also was a member of a Hawaiian equestrian group, “Colors of Hawaii Kau Lio Pau Riders.” We wore traditional Hawaiian costumes and rode in various parades.



Q. Looking back over your career, is there anything you would have done differently?

The only thing I would have done differently is probably go to Patrol sooner. It was a lot of fun and extremely rewarding.



Q. Any advice that you would give to a young person today thinking about a career in policing?

It is too bad there are so many problems involved with police work today. It was such a great career. Defunding has made it difficult to really encourage young people to consider a career in Law Enforcement.



Q. Tell us about your family?

My brother and his wife live in Bothell and my sister has two daughters and they live in Mill Creek and Snohomish. I have ten great nieces and nephews who are scattered all over. I wish they lived closer as we have a lot of fun when we do get together.

Q. Hobbies? Things you like to do?

When I retired I debated buying a motorcycle or a horse. I opted for the horse, but the first time I rode her I ended up in the emergency room with a deflated lung, cracked ribs and a broken collar bone. (Maybe should have bought the motorcycle?) I recovered and had the horse for 17 years riding in various events

on the coast and in Roslyn, WA. I enjoy the Mariners, Seahawks, rodeos, concerts, reading and crossword puzzles. I especially enjoy travelling with my boyfriend around the state.

Q. What do you miss most about being on SPD?

Of course, I miss the camaraderie with the people I worked with. I do miss catching a car thief and taking him out of the car at gun point and then ordering him onto the ground into a mud puddle, face first! It would be fun to do that one more time!

Marlynn, Thank you for this interview and for your incredible service!

Picture Quiz

Can you name these two K-9 Officers?



R.A.P.

Retired & Active Police



Annette Schenck and her son, Shelby, enjoyed the RAP Christmas party.

RSPOA EMAILS?

Do you get RSPOA emails? Do you get the Call Box mailed to your home every other month?

If not, contact Nick Bulpin to make sure we have an updated mailing address and email address for you. (206-919-6425 or bulpin@comcast.net)

Emails contain important information like Last Ring notifications as well as timely information on pension & legislation issues in Olympia.



RAP President, Pepper Prahmus, welcomes the crowd to the RAP Christmas Party Festivities.

Picture Quiz Answer



On the left with the helmet is Officer Larry Franklin #2735 and on the right is Ofc. Gary Billie #2745

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War Stories

By Detective Cloyd Steiger, SPD Retired, #4313

In April of 1995, I was called to the scene of a homicide on S. Donovan St. in South Park.

It was a dark and stormy night when I pulled up to the scene, an older house on a hill that reminded me of the Munster's house.

Paul Kloss was the patrol sergeant and showed me inside. The victim lay on his back on the bed, dressed only in his briefs. There was a large gaping hole in his chest, but there was no blood. That told me the wound was post-mortem.

He lived with two other young men. When he didn't show up for work, one of them came home and found him.

This wasn't my case. John Nordlund and Gene Ramirez were the primary detectives.

A few days later, I was working nights. The other detectives had left for the night, and I was finishing up a few things before going home myself when the office phone rang.

I answered it.

It was one of the victim's roommates, Paul Paulinkonis.

"Can I come up and talk to you?" he asked.

I put him in an interview room and started talking to him. He admitted that he'd shot the victim, but it was in self-defense.

I let him go through the story.

He said he was fearful and in his room. He went to the victim, who was in bed. He thought the victim would kill him, so he shot.

I drew a diagram of the house. I pointed out that he had to go past the front door and to the victim's bedroom. The victim was in bed and unarmed when he was shot.

I asked about the gaping wound.

"After I shot him," he said, "I tried to cut the bullet out, but I couldn't find it."

If he'd rolled the victim over, he'd have seen the bullet was just under his skin in the back.

Paulinkonis was convicted of the murder. His mother and sister were already in prison for killing his father. Maybe they could be cellies.

RSPOA MEETINGS

The RSPOA Meeting for November featured Dave Reichert as guest speaker. Dave spoke about his long career in law enforcement as a member of the Green River Task Force and as King County Sherriff. Dave also spoke about his time in the U.S. Congress. Dave, who is running for Governor, spoke about his vision for Washington and he fielded questions from the overflow crowd.



Tag Gleason talks with Dave.



Dave & Jerry Tretivek



Dave and Robin Clark



Dave speaks to the RSPOA Crowd



Full House

The RSPOA December meeting was all business. The Board of Directors were approved for a new 2 year term. New to the board is Kevin O'Neill #5206. Those in attendance also heard a presentation on the RSPOA dues structure and they approved raising the monthly dues to \$10 per month. This is the first dues increase in over a decade.



December Meeting



Kevin O'Neill joins the RSPOA Board



**Fallen SPD Officers who made the
ultimate sacrifice in the months of
December and January.**

December

Arthur K. Ruchhart

EOW: 12-27-1914

Lawrence E. Kost

EOW: 12-12-1915

Ellsworth W. Cordes

EOW: 12-31-1932

John T. Clancy

EOW: 12-28-1949

Nick B. Davis

EOW: 12-18-1984

January

Volney L. Stevens

EOW: 1-14-1921

William T. Angle

EOW: 1/21/1921

Neil C. McMillan

EOW: 1-21-1921

James O'Brien

EOW: 1/21/1921

Arthur B. Luntsford

EOW: 1-20-1923

Editor's Corner

By Rich O'Neill
SPD Retired #4451

Happy 2024! I remember on the department when we wrote reports and tickets by hand, it always took me a few weeks and a jar or two of "whiteout" to write the correct new year on the forms. RSPOA Sec-Treasurer, Nick Bulpin, detailed the need for the new dues structure on page 2. I just want to add to Nick's remarks by highlighting a few other things. As Nick stated, our RSPOA dues have been the same for over eleven years! Is there anything in our lives that costs the same as it did 11 years ago? I can't think of anything that has remained unchanged for that long. Heck, gas and groceries seem to go up every month. The RSPOA Board of Directors are all volunteers and Nick Bulpin does an incredible job managing our finances as the treasurer. He gives a summary of our financial situation at every monthly meeting and he will show the books to any RSPOA member, upon request.

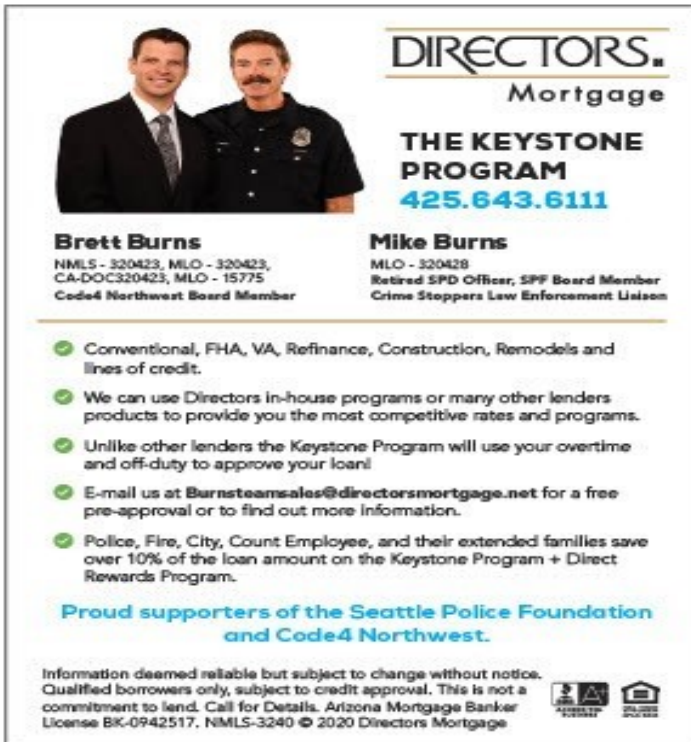
Several years ago, when the Seattle Police Guild discontinued The Guardian, many retired officers were upset, as that paper had been continually issued since it was founded by Dick Rovig in 1970. The RSPOA stepped in and resurrected The Call Box. I volunteered to be the editor. All RSPOA members get the Call Box mailed to their home every other month as part of their dues. We receive many compliments about The Call Box and we hope to be able to keep it going for years to come. As you can imagine, printing and postage costs have gone up. The previous dues of just \$3 per month was not covering it, along with all the other things that RSPOA does.

I think the most important thing that RSPOA does is to stay on top of pension issues in Olympia. Every few years, some politicians try to make a run at the surplus funds in both the Leoff 1 and Leoff 2 accounts. RSPOA President Jerry Taylor maintains contacts in Olympia and has been able to protect our pensions. Last year, he was able to work with those contacts and other groups to get a benefit enhancement check (min \$25K) issued to each retiree. A fact of life in politics is this: If you want to be able to get their support, you have to be able to support them in their campaigns. RSPOA needs the funds to be able to support those who will support our issues. Lastly, part of protecting our pensions is to have funds in a savings account, in case we have to hire attorneys if a lawsuit is ever necessary. For all of these reasons, as well as those that Nick Bulpin stated, I hope everyone sees the need for the modest dues increase. I hope to see you at the monthly meetings and if you know of any retired SPD officer who is not an RSPOA member, encourage them to sign-up!

RSPOA

C/O Nick Bulpin
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