

•Don't Rush Me•



TAMPA RETIRED FIRE & POLICE ASSOCIATION



www.tamparetiree.com

I'm Retired

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Billy Lynn

Secretary

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Treasurer

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Bob Valdes

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Larry Vincent

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President's Message

Just a couple of things to update our members on since our last newsletter. One, our quarterly meeting has been changed to the 4th Thursday of the month from the 1st Thursday. This gives us the opportunity to update our members and have the most recent information in our newsletter due to changes in the pension meeting schedule.

There has been the election of new Trustees at the pension fund. Firefighter Mark Bogush was elected Chairperson. Congratulations to Mr. Bogush on his election. He is a senior Trustee and has been a Trustee for a long time. He is very capable and has a lot of knowledge and has demonstrated the ability to exercise common sense in solving pension issues. Again, congratulations on accepting the responsibility of this very important position.

Eric Griner was elected as Vice Chairperson. Congratulations to Mr. Griner for his outstanding past performance as the former Chairperson. I am sure he will continue to be a positive influence as a Trustee on our fund for a long time. Job well done.

Mrs. Lattimore was elected as the Secretary. Mrs. Lattimore is a new city appointee by Mayor Buckhorn and seems to be interested in the position and demonstrates a professional demeanor.

The RNC overtime payment owed by the city has been paid in full. The employee's portion of the payback started this calendar year on a schedule worked out by the city and pension fund.

Our association has donated \$500.00 to Randy Bells' daughter. There were several fundraisers for her liver transplant and we were happy to be part of this effort. We certainly need to participate and take care of our own. We hope she is doing well.

As of this writing, no decision has been made by the Florida Supreme Court on the pending Parker lawsuit. The hearing was held on the 5th of February 2014. They will decide who pays the legal fees of Wayne Lee Thomas, the pension fund or the money in the common fund as the 2nd DCA ruled. Any changes or additional information will be updated at our association meeting on the 24th of April.

The pension office staff is still doing an outstanding job and there are no indications of any existing or potential problems.

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Treasurer's Report

I am pleased to say that we have had a quiet beginning to 2014 without any issues arising that effect the Association. Your association board continues to attend the monthly pension board meetings and all appears to be running smoothly. President Lynn will provide more detail as to the activities of the pension board.

As all members should be aware the association membership dues are being collected for 2014. If you do not have a new membership card that expires on 31 Dec. 2014, then you have not submitted your dues for this year. I remind everyone that the membership runs from, 1 January 2014 - 31 December 2014 and all members are due now. Dues have been slow coming in and several members have not paid for several years. While we do not collect dues in arrears, it is only fair that if you receive a newsletter and attend quarterly meetings, that you support the association.

The association has contributed \$500.00 to the transplant fund of Detective Randy Bell's daughter. Detective Bell was Killed in the line of duty along with Detective Ricky Childers. The association also supported the , "Defender's LEMC 10th Annual National Rally", to be held in Tampa, The "Defenders" support the, "Florida Sheriff Boys and Girls Ranch" and the "National Law Enforcement Memorial Fund". As part of this contribution our association will be featured on the Defender's support banner during the rally and have had a link to our site placed on the Defender's web page. We are always looking for worthy causes to support and have done so in the past and will continue to do so in the future.

Hope to see everyone soon. Don't forget the Spaghetti dinner in July.

JJ

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At the pension meeting on the 27th of March, Committee 1 made the recommendation to offer acting Plan Administrator Tiffany Earns the position full time with the salary and benefit package to be negotiated. A very good decision.

The 13th check is still working its way through the system. We will find out in May if we will receive the 13th check in June so let's hope for the best.

We have had an increase in the attendance at our monthly lunches at the Golden Corral. Please attend these lunches if your schedule permits. Several of our board members and retirees continue to attend all pension meetings and we are looking forward to more retiree attendance.

Respectfully,

Billy Lynn





50/50 DRAWING

Will be held at the Membership Meeting
so bring a couple of extra bucks.

Pension Board Meeting

The Pension Board will be holding their
monthly meeting on Wednesday, April
23rd at 1:30pm.

Location 3001 North Boulevard.
Come on by, the pension board loves company.

REMINDER

The Retirees monthly luncheon will be held on Monday, Apr 28th, at
11:00am. Location is the Golden Corral at 11801 N 56th St, Temple Terrace.

All are invited. Hope to see you there.

IN MEMORIAM

Some of those we recently lost....

Norman Brown, 10/9/13, Police

Gary Pohl, 10/12/13, Police

Leander Adema, 11/2/13, Fire

Gail Krikava, 11/13/13, Police Spouse

Rachel Perez, 11/15/13, Fire Spouse



ATTORNEY JOHN DINGFELDER for CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

We have a friend who is running for Circuit Court Judge. He is JOHN DINGFELDER, and he is asking for our support. We should support his efforts 100%. I will need to relate to a bit of past history to point out why we should be supporting John.

We can all remember the year 2004 when the issue of an increased pension multiplier was a hot topic. As Retirees, we were assured by the unions that we would get the increased multiplier if it was raised. The multiplier was raised for the "Actives," but we Retirees were left out. We moved forward and took our case to the City Council and raised a "Fairness" issue. It was stunning to see the members of City Council turn a deaf ear to our plight, all but one. During the hearings before City Council, John Dingfelder was the only one who came to our defense. He even proposed that all pension members should get a raise in the multiplier to 3% instead of the 3.5% being asked by the unions. He stressed that a raise to 3% was fair to ALL pension members and leaving the Retirees out of the loop was bad policy. This seemed to be a very good compromise for both active and retired members. There was no support from the other 6 members of City Council who seemed to forget that they govern over all and not just the few.

Besides the abuse by the other 6 members of City Council, John was criticized by his peer council members for his suggestion to grant a fair and equal multiplier increase to all fund members, not just the active fund members.

These were hard times. The City Council turning a deaf ear to the plight of the Retirees was just part of the story. The other part was played by Mayor Pam. The Mayor did meet with the representatives for the Retirees and listened to our request for equal treatment but she was not swayed. She even agreed to meet with us again but we were never ever able to pin her down for a time to meet and discuss a resolution to this issue. To say the deck was stacked against the Retirees would be an understatement.

So now you have the history. Now back to the reason for this article. JOHN DINGFELDER needs our support and has earned our support. When we Retirees needed help, John was the only one who lifted a finger to try to help us and insert fairness into this entire matter.

John is an honorable man who will apply his ethics and professionalism in all his dealings with the best interests of all as the common goal. IN SUM, we all need to help John with our donations and time to get him elected to this Judgeship, which he has earned.

ELECTION DATE: AUGUST 26, 2014.

Larry A. Vincent

V.P Police, RF&PA

SURVIVOR'S CONTACT LIST

Upon the death of a pension member, the surviving spouse is left with several decisions concerning survivor's pension, life and health insurance, funeral arrangements, and other personal matters. Having helped the widow of a close friend in 2010, I thought a current list of phone numbers and names you will need to contact, along with a couple of suggestions would be helpful.

CONTACT THE TAMPA FIRE AND POLICE PENSION BOARD OFFICE (813-274-8550) to request "SURVIVOR'S PACKET". When you go to the office, you will need:

- A. copy of marriage license—most of us have been married a long time and have no idea where to find our marriage license. Now is the time to locate it or obtain a duplicate.
- B. copy of certified death certificate (the pension office will photocopy the original "certified death certificate and return it to you. NOTE: you will need extra copies of certified death certificates (not photocopy) for each life insurance company. The funeral home will provide extra copies per your request. I suggest you purchase a few extra as this is the easiest way to obtain them, approximate cost is \$10 each.
- C. Driver's license or positive identification showing you are the beneficiary is required.
- D. Bring a blank "VOIDED" check along with a completed Direct Deposit Authorization (enclosed in survivor's packet) so pension benefit can be direct deposited to your checking or savings account.
- E. Complete a W-4P tax withholding certificate (enclosed in survivor's packet).
- F. Health Insurance Enrollment Form (survivor's packet) only if health coverage is carried through the City, presently United Health Care.

PHONE NUMBERS YOU WILL NEED:

Fire Department Headquarters (personnel)	813-274-7008
Police Department Headquarters (personnel)	813-276-3429
Fire Department Union Office (Local 754)	813-229-7540

Lori, secretary, will help you determine if member had life insurance through union.

Police Benevolent Association Office	813-228-8900
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Ann, secretary, will help you determine if member had life insurance through union.

Fire Department Benevolence Office	813-933-4763
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Don Snipes-- secretary	727-243-3768
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You will need copy of certified death certificate and beneficiary's driver's license or positive identification.

City of Tampa Human Resources	813-274-8239
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Latanya Fowler-- secretary. Check for "elective" life insurance offered at time of retirement. Claim forms: available from Latanya. You will need copy of death certificate and driver's license.

REMINDER: UPDATE ALL BENEFICIARIES!! IF YOU HAVE FAILED TO CHANGE YOUR BENEFICIARY, THE INSURANCE COMPANY WILL PAY THE PERSON NAMED AS THE BENEFICIARY.

Bob Valdes, Fire VP



TAMPA RETIRED FIRE & POLICE ASSOCIATION



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, April 24, 2014

BBQ Chicken and all the fixins

Dinner At 6:30 PM

Meeting To Follow.

FOREST HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, LARRICK HALL
709 W. Linebaugh Ave

TRF&PA

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