

Don't Rush Me



TAMPA RETIRED FIRE & POLICE ASSOCIATION



www.tamparetiree.com

I'm Retired

President:
Tommy DePolis

Secretary:
Barbara Jones

Treasurer:
Bobby Moody

Fire Vice Presidents:

Jim Bates
Billy Lynn
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Police Vice Presidents:

Don Gage
Grady Snyder
John Oliva

Webmaster:
Jerry Wotherspoon

Chaplain:
Frank Gray

Editor:
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TRF & PA
Po Box 891269
Tampa, FL 33689

President's Message:

In the past, several members have asked what their surviving family should do to make proper notification in the event of their death. As promised, I've dedicated this article to be used as a guide for surviving spouses and/or family members of retirees at the time of their death. The short, quick answer is "contact the pension office". And if you call them at (813) 274-8550 they will be very helpful in guiding you through the process. But most want to know what to expect, to relieve some anxiety through that difficult time. So, here it is.

After calling the pension office (during business hours) to inform them of the death of the retiree, they will send you a letter of condolences which includes the pertinent information concerning your eligibility for future benefits, and the amount (if any) of those benefits. If you are an eligible surviving spouse you will be told you will receive 65 percent of your spouse's retirement benefit; the amount of that benefit; and that it is for life or until you remarry.

Also, included with the letter will be an "Application for Surviving Spouse Pension Benefits", which you will need to complete and have notarized. When you return this completed application you will also need to include certain documents which are listed or included in the letter you receive. One of these documents will be a copy of the death certificate. So, I recommend you ask the funeral home for several extra copies of the death certificate because you will need them for other notifications, as well as the pension office.

The letter from the pension office should also tell you if any life insurance premium was withheld from the monthly pension check. If so, you may be eligible for a life insurance benefit from the City of Tampa. You should call the City of Tampa Employee Relations at (813) 274-8239 regarding this insurance policy and request the benefit.



TREASURER'S REPORT



Treasurer's Message:

The City of Tampa Retired Fire and Police Association annual membership dues are due for 2019.
Please forward a check for \$60 to the below listed address:

**TAMPA RETIRED FIRE AND POLICE ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 891269
TAMPA FL 33689**

Widowers of members are not required to submit dues to continue their membership including receiving the newsletter.

I wish all my brothers and sisters a prosperous 2019.

Bobby Moody, Treasurer
bmoody01@me.com
813-493-0307

(Cont. on Pg. 1)

The deceased retiree may have also belonged to other fraternal organizations which may or may not have death benefits. For example, one I know of for sure is the Fraternal Order of Police, Tampa Lodge #27, which currently has \$1,000 death benefit for its members. If you don't know for sure, find out from your spouse's friends if he/she belonged to any of these organizations, and if so, are you eligible for any benefits.

Each year the F & P Pension Fund sends retirees a calendar of board meeting dates, and pension benefit payments. On the back of the calendar is a brief newsletter with current information regarding pension benefits. The address, phone number and website of the pension office is listed under "contact us". If you are a retiree, keep this information handy, because there may be changes each year, and make sure your family knows where it is.

Lastly, I've been to too many funerals of retirees where no honor guard was present. Usually, it's because the surviving family members don't think to ask for one with the stress of dealing with the loss of a loved one. But I believe the retiree would have wanted one, and certainly deserved this honor. You can call the agency they retired from and request an honor guard, but you can't wait until the last minute. They need time to prepare and practice. To request an honor guard at the funeral contact TPD at (813) 276-3799 or TFR at (813) 274-7011.

I urge you to keep a copy of the information in this newsletter in a place where your surviving family will find it and use it in the event of your death.

Tommy DePolis

It is with much sadness and feelings of failure that I must inform our members that I and President DePolis were unable to make contact with an organization that would provide the necessary information for any individual families that needed assistance this Christmas season. Please do not misunderstand what I am saying, the religious organizations and the established charitable organizations need assistance, but they are unwilling to single out individual families in need. Their goal is to help all they are able to help, and do not wish to appear to single out individual persons or families to the detriment of others in their programs of assistance.

These organizations, rightfully so, prefer to receive monetary or food stuff donations, for them to distribute to all in need, so as not to neglect all seeking assistance.. One of the organizations contacted asked us to assist in an Outreach Program by providing 40-50 bag lunches to distribute to homeless individuals at Fletcher Ave. and 22nd St. on Saturday mornings. While this may be a kindly gesture, it was not something that was felt to accomplish our desired goal of , providing several families with a meal that could be shared as a family.

At this point in time, 17 December, we simply do not have sufficient time to locate and accomplish the goal which we set out to do. I/we are hoping that we can organize our efforts to do our community good. We also, as suggested by President DePolis, believe that any assistance that we can give should be given to folks within the City of Tampa.. This is suggested based on the simple answer that this is, "The City of Tampa Fire and Police Retirees Association", and as such, we should continue to direct our offers of help, as we did when we were active members of the Fire and Police Departments of the "City of Tampa".

We would like to extend our appreciation to David Sloane, Retired Firefighter for his attempt to assist our efforts to locate families in need of help.. David also donated a restaurant gift card to Liberty Manor. The gift card was delivered by Gene Wrenn after the November luncheon along with Items donated by Gene.. Barbara Jones delivered personal items to Liberty Manor after attending the Gold Shield Foundation luncheon. She was accompanied by President DePolis and Vice President Lynn.. All donations are greatly appreciated and cheerfully received by the veterans at Liberty Manor.

John 'JJ' Oliva



Attention TPD Retired Police Only

Our President Tom DePolis has indicated that he would like our members to come up with ways to help our community.

We have at least two members doing just that. Brother Dave Bryant, a Certified Firearms Instructor has been donating his time and expertise to allow our fellow Tampa Po-lice Officers to qualify under the H.R. 218 Law Enforcement Officer Safety Act. This LEOSA qualifications procedure is for honorably retired, 10 yeas plus active service Police, Sheriff, Federal Agents and any other formerly sworn LEO that has permanent residence in Florida . All of Dave's proceeds from this effort will be donated to the Boy Scouts of America.

The registration with Dave for qualifying can be done through email at SenseiDave@msn.com or phone: (813) 977-4700 . Dave will setup an appointment to qualify at Shooter's World Gun Shop in Fletcher Avenue. He will advise you what to bring and there is a small range fee, but all other cost are a donation to the BSA. \$30.00 or more, made out to the B.S.A.

Also, for TPD Officers ONLY, Retired TPD Kenneth Morman Police Training Specialist will also certify you at the Tampa Police Departments NEW range. The cost for qualifying is \$25. Check or money order made out to "RISE Tampa " . For registration TPD ONLY, contact Kenneth Morman at: Kenneth.Morman@tampagov.net or (813) 242-8442 . Remember the Tampa Police range is for TPD Only.

Jerry Wotherspoon, TPD retired.

Webmaster for www.tamparetiree.com





Senior Discounts



Ok, so you're now over 55 (officially the lowest age for some participating stores) and you know there are discounts for seniors. So, where are they?

First and foremost, you gotta ask for the "Senior Discount". To the kid at the counter, everyone over 30 looks senior, so they don't often ask if you are a senior. To be honest you should ask if they have AAA, AARP, Military, First Responder and just about anything discounts.

Here are a few known discounts.

Food: Eating out:

- **McDonald's: discounts on coffee and beverages (55+)**
- **Whataburger: free drink with purchase of a meal, depending on location (55+)**
- **Wendy's: give free coffee or other discounts depending on location**
- **Piccadilly Cafeteria – 10% discount with "Prime Time for Seniors" card**
- **IHOP – 10% discount (55+) and a menu for people aged 55 and over at participating locations**
- **Golden Corral: Senior discount varies by location**
- **Krispy Kreme Senior Discount: 10% off (50+) (age and discount varies depending on location)**
- **Perkins Restaurants: Fifty-Five Plus menu Offers special deals (55+)**
- **Subway: 10% off (60+) varies by location**
- **AND MORE**

Shopping:

Banana Republic, Kohl's, Marshall's and Stein Mart and MORE.

Hotels:

- **Marriott – 15% discount (62+). You can book online or call and ask for the senior discount**
- **Red Roof Inn – option of "senior rate" when you book online, may not be available for all locations**
- **Choice Hotels – 10% discount if you book in advance (60+)**
- **Hyatt Hotels – up to 50% off in participating locations. To qualify for this deal you have to make a reservation in advance and book for two people (60+)**
- **La Quinta – varying offers at participating locations (65+). Book online or call and ask for senior discounts**
- **Omni Hotels – varying offers at participating locations (55+)**
- **Motel 6 – 10% discount (60+). Call and book over the phone in order to get discount**
- **Wyndham Hotels – varying offers at participating locations (60+)**
- **Hampton Inns & Suites – 10% off when booked 72 hours in advance**
- **AND MORE**



SICK COMMITTEE

No news is good news - as of this date we have not had any reports of any retirees with any major injuries or concerning health issues. Additionally, we have no reports of any recent retirees' deaths. If we missed any, please bring it to our attention at the January Association Meeting.

We do have additional information on retired Fire Captain Mike Morris, he has transferred from the assisted living facility in Tampa to the Masonic Home of Florida, a retirement home in St. Petersburg. His cell phone number is 813-493-8142. He would enjoy hearing from his old friends and coworkers.

Billy Lynn
Fire Vice President



(cont from pg 5)

National Parks: (This is one of my favorites)

With this amazing perk, over 62s can use their age advantage to score a serious discount at America's National Parks.

It's time to tour Yellowstone, senior citizens, you can get an annual pass for just \$20 and a lifetime pass for \$80. This pass gives seniors access to all 2,000 federal recreation sites, including National Forests and grasslands.

The cost of the pass covers your entrance-fee, camping, usage fees for a driver and all passengers. You can take the grandkids camping for free whenever you like. Enjoy wildlife, gorgeous scenery and some well-earned peace and quiet.

Travel:

Airlines Southwest Airlines, United Airlines, Silver Wings Plus

Amtrak, Greyhound Bus and MORE

Much more is available: Telephone, Cruise Ships, and Movie Theaters

I always check for a discount. It doesn't hurt to ask.

Jerry Wotherspoon, Retired in 1986

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, Jan. 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, January 28th, at 11:00am.
Location is the Golden Corral at 11801 N. 56th St. Temple Terrace.

All are invited. Hope to see you there.

Some of those we recently lost....

Emilio Salabarria - 9/16/18 - Fire

Tony Lemus - 9/21/18 - Police

Rick T Duran - 10/19/18 - Police

Charles Campbell - 11/17/18 - Fire

Richard Joy - 12/1/2018 - Police

Patrick Coakley - 10/01/18 - Police

William Sandretzky - 10/15/18 - Police

Charles Campbell - 11/17/18 - Fire

Russell Lee Napier - 12/12/18 - Police



TAMPA RETIRED FIRE & POLICE ASSOCIATION

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, January 24th, 2019

Cubans & Crabs Dinner for Dinner at 6:30 PM

- Meeting to follow -

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

Parking Will Be On The East & West Side of the Building

(Bring a new retiree, they'll thank you for it!!!)

|||||

Anytown, US 12345-1234

123 Any Street

John Sample

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