



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

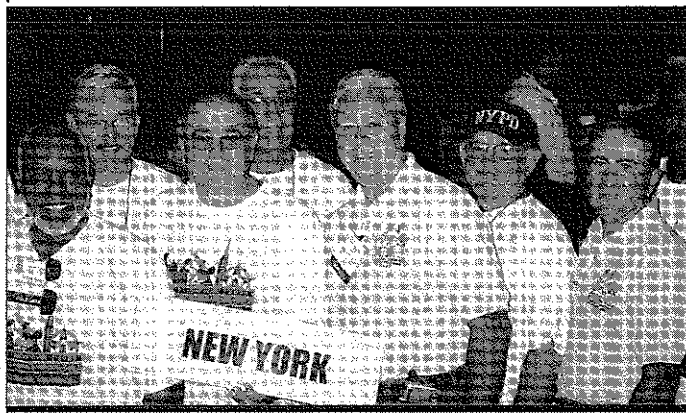


WHAT A WONDERFUL DAY: Good weather, good food and great people equal a very successful picnic. That's what we had on August 16th. With over one hundred members, family and friends in attendance a good time was had by all. I heard someone say you have enough food here to feed an army, well a couple of regiments must have shown up because at the end of the day there wasn't a morsel left. We received a lot of positive feedback and that's what makes all the hard work worthwhile. Thanks for your

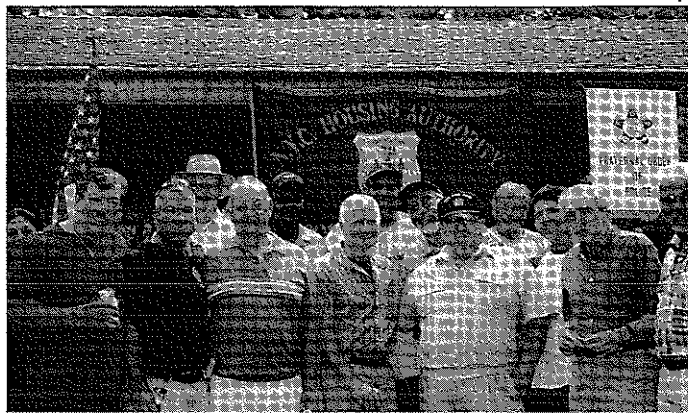
support. **A RETIRING POLICE OFFICER:** I received this email a few months ago and I thought I'd pass it on; When a good officer leaves the line, and retires to a better life many are jealous, some are pleased and yet others who have already retired wonder. We wonder if they know what they are leaving behind, because we already know. We know for example that after a lifetime of camaraderie that few experience, it will remain as a longing for those times past. We know in the law enforcement life there is a fellowship which lasts long

after the uniforms are hung up in the back of the closet. We know that even if you throw them away, they will be worn with every step and breath that remains. These are the burdens of the job. You still look at people suspiciously, still see what others do not see or choose to ignore and always look at the rest of the law enforcement world with a respect for what they do, only grown in a lifetime of knowing. Never think for one moment you can escape this life. You are only escaping from the "job" and being allowed to leave active duty. So what is wished for you is

that you ease into retirement, but in your heart never forget for one moment that "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God" and you are still a member of the greatest fraternity the world has ever known. **CONGRATS ARE IN ORDER:** Matt Caldwell has been promoted to Captain. Can those stars be far behind. Hmm, General Caldwell has a nice ring to it. **AN OLD FOLKS REMINDER:** Medicare recipients are reminded to apply for reimbursement of their premiums. If you have not already done so send (see President on page 2)



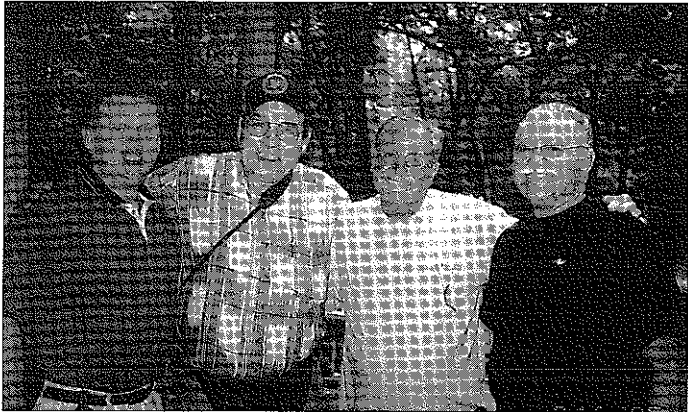
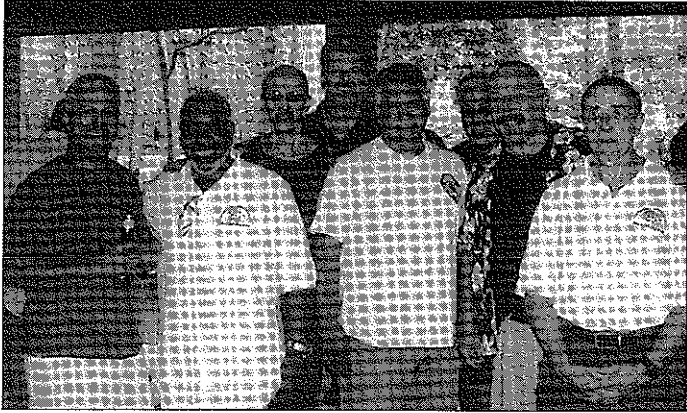
Some of our Conference Delegates - Left to right- Jim Ross, Pat Flatley, Nick Capezza, Gil Prince, State President Frank Ferreyra, Bob Goldman, Pat Cirincione, and partially hidden, Henry Lavan.



From the Picnic - Left to right - Laura Shechter, Jose Faria, Mike Suppes, Archie McCormick, Jerry Suppes, John Wortham, Mike Lagiovane, Bob Chavis, Charlie Guria, Mike Torre, Nick DeStefano, Ron Hochberg, Bob Hughes, and Jerry Schmotzer.

visit our website at www.fop997.org

Family Picnic - 2005



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ANDREW MELILLO
PRESIDENT

NICHOLAS CAPEZZA
1st VICE PRES

BRUCE RAHEB
2nd VICE PRESIDENT

PAT FLATLEY
NYS TRUSTEE

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TREASURER

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COUNSEL

RABBI LEONARD BLANK
CHAPLAIN

MSGR. EDWARD J. NOLAN
CHAPLAIN

MSGR. NICHOLAS SIVILLO
CHAPLAIN

President (continued)

a copy your Medicare card to City of New York, Health Benefits Program, 40 Rector Street, 3rd floor, New York, N.Y. 10006. You should have received last years reimbursement this August. If you did not contact them.

HOLIDAY PARTY: We'll have our luncheon early this year so that it won't conflict with other affairs. See enclosed flyer for place, date and time. Hope to see many of you there

Please keep the victims hurricane Katrina in your prayers.

Andy

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

As you know, the FOP National Conference was held from Aug 1st through Aug 4th in New Orleans. Our Lodge was represented by our President, Andy Melillo and 9 delegates, and our Secretary, Pat Cirincione who went as a delegate for the NYS FOP. All totaled, NYS had over 130 delegates on the floor the day of the vote. The business meetings were orderly with much national business accomplished. However, the NYS FOP's main focus was concentrated on the national election. The entire national board, with one excep-

tion, ran unopposed. The one contested position was for Vice President. Obviously, in light of the untimely death of President Steve Young several years ago, the position of VP is an extremely critical position. The incumbent, Ken Rocks of PA, had done a satisfactory job in the position; however, we did not support some of his philosophy, so we backed and campaigned for Dave Hiller of Michigan for the position. The campaigning was spirited with pro and con for each candidate. However, when the votes were counted, Dave Hiller was the clear winner, defeating Rocks by several hundred votes. This bodes well for the NYS FOP. Hiller sought and

coveted our support, and we produced. Because we are a fraternal state we don't really ask the National for much. However, it's nice to know that we are recognized and respected, and that we have good friends on the National FOP Executive Board if we ever need them. Fraternally, Lodge #997 Delegates to the National Conference.

Editors Note: For the record, the new Executive Board of the Grand Lodge FOP is as follows: President - Chuck Canterbury, VP - Dave Hiller, 2nd VP- Mike Taylor, Secretary - Pat Yoes, Treasurer - Tom Penozza, Sgt. at Arms - Frank Gale, and National Trustee Chairman - Mike Burnett

The Big Easy, the home of Bourbon Street and Mardi Gras - Will it ever be the same?

I can't believe that it's been less than a month (when I wrote this article) since we left New Orleans after the FOP National Conference. I'm deeply saddened by the pictures that I see on TV of the widespread and extreme damage caused by Katrina. If you've ever been to NO you know that it was one fun city. It's hard to believe that these flooded streets, that just a few weeks ago held our delegates, will ever be the same again. During the conference one of the events provided by the LA FOP was held in the Superdome - now they're talking about tearing it down. The conference itself was held in the Morial Convention Center - now it's a shambles. And the human tragedy is beyond toll. This city of 500,000, for the most part, has been evacuated because the buildings are uninhabitable, the streets flooded, and bodies litter the landscape. So many people lost everything. One of the ladies who worked with us at the Wyndham Hotel e-mailed

me that she lost her home and that one of the only things she was able to save was the NYS FOP shirt that I had given her, and that she was wearing it proudly. Boy, did that hit home! Speaking about hitting home, I heard from Frank Ferreyra, our State President, that over 200 New Orleans Police Officers lost their homes. And the media has reported that dozens of officers have just walked off the job - some never to return - and at least 2 NOPO's have taken their own lives - unable to cope with the stress and devastation. Being from NY and having witnessed the horror of 9/11, and having heard, first hand, the experiences of my friends who were there, I think I can understand what these officers must have gone through. It's a tribute to them that as many of them reported for duty and stayed, as did. What fortitude it must have taken to go to work, and then stay there for days on end, when you've lost your home and you don't know where your

family is.

Several years ago the NOPD had a scandal because of corruption - corruption caused by low pay and poor working conditions. However, these conditions did not excuse the corruption, and the NOPD took its lumps and cleaned up its act. Now what I would like to see is all the local officials and community leaders who were quick to condemn the NOPD then, to come out now and tell it like it is - that if not for the brave and dedicated men and women of the NOPD, men and women who put the well-being of the city and its residents before the needs of their own families, the Big Easy would be no more!

Will the Big Easy bounce back to its former glory? Only time will tell. But I for one, think that with the example set by the dedicated men and women of its PD, New Orleans, like a phoenix rising from the ashes, will be back bigger and better than ever!!! God Bless. Fraternally, Pat

visit our website at www.fop997.org

DUES & NEWS

Just a reminder - **2006 dues** are now being accepted. Renewal for Active

Members is \$30, and for Associate Members it's \$35. New Active Membership is \$40, and New Associate membership is \$45 (note: new member fees include a one time \$10 administrative fee). See insert page for more details.

Our next **luncheon** will be held on Wednesday,

Plan to attend our FOP luncheon at Ricardo's Wednesday, November 30 2005

Nov. 30th at Riccardo's Restaurant in Astoria. We came back to NYC for our Spring Luncheon due to repeated requests by our members, and we were not disappointed. We had well over one hundred guests and Riccardo's provided a fine meal. Because of the turnout and our outstanding treatment by Riccardo's we decided to do it again. If you missed the last one - don't miss this one. Come and visit with old friends and maybe make some new ones. See insert for details and a reservation coupon. Hope to see you there. The Executive Board.

PROMOTIONS

Former Members of the HPD continue to excel in the NYPD.

TO INSPECTOR

**Michael McEnroy
Charles Rubin***

To the promotees we say "Congratulations," and continued success in your careers. You make us all proud.

*LodgeMember

-Note: If you are a member of the lodge and we missed your promotion, let us know and we'll include you in a future newsletter.



Florida Reunion?

Between our members living in Florida and those in New York who may wish to get away for a few days, the idea of a Florida reunion has surfaced. We are thinking of having it in the Orlando area this winter, possibly the end of January. (Sample fare from JFK to Orlando on Jet Blue is \$99 each way). If anyone is interested please contact Gordon Nash at Gnash100@aol.com



**FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE
NYC HOUSING POLICE
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