



CITY OF ALEXANDRIA
**RETIRED POLICE, FIRE AND
SHERIFF ASSOCIATION, INC.**

Founded in 1968



2010- First Quarter
**HOSE AND HOLSTER
PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Greetings all!

I hope that you have recovered from the holidays and are planning on having a fantastic New Year!

I realize many of you are busy, I know I am, but I ask that you take a moment of your time to think about what changes, if any, you would like to see take place within the Association. Some of you have said that going down to the Old Country Buffet for meetings is too far. If you would like to see the meetings move back to the city and know of a place that would be willing to provide us with a meeting space and a lunch that would not exceed \$10.00 per person please let me know. If we do move the meeting locations to something closer to the city then I would expect those of you who want us to move to start attending the meetings. Don't say you want the meeting moved and are willing to pay the \$20/25 that it will cost if you have no intention of attending. The Association is NOT going to supplement the additional cost of lunch if it exceeds the current \$12 we collect now. NOTE \$3 of this amount goes to the Association for expenses. We voted on NOT having the yard sale fundraiser and collecting a few dollars at each meeting to help with expenses.

I would also like to know if anyone is interested in having a cookout/picnic this spring/summer. Now is the time to start looking for a location for one if the membership is interested in it. How about a group getaway? Perhaps something as simple as a day at Charlestown or as grand as a cruise. If enough members want to do something we can plan something out.

Changing topics, if you know of any employee of the FD/PD/SD who have retired please let me know. The city is no longer providing this information to us so we have no way of contacting these individuals to recruit them.

This is YOUR Association. Please let it be more than just a tag line that appears in your obituary.

Mitzi

MINUTES- OCTOBER 2009

President Mitzi Nickle called the meeting to order with 29 members present. Everyone stood for the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence for all departed members.

President Nickle did the roll call of officers – all present with the exception of 1st V.P. Gene Stovall. There were no past Presidents at the meeting to be recognized.

President Nickle introduced the guest speaker Fire Chief Adam Thiel. Chief Thiel gave a synopsis on the following:

- After several studies a need for additional staff (total of 110) was recommended.
- An Engineering firm and other consultants looked at all the Fire/EMS stations and recommended 70 million dollars of facility improvements, which would be stretched out over 15 years. They are doing a number of other things internally to try and bring the department in line with contemporary practices. The fiscal crisis in the City is making this a real challenge.
- First new Fire Station in over 30 years will be dedicated on October 17 at Potomac Yards. This will be housed under a four story 65 unit apartment building (affordable housing) with a small retail space attached.
- A decision was made to create a new City department called the Department of Emergency Communications that will combine Police, Fire, as well as other departments of Communications. Recruitment is still open to hire a director of this department. A Board comprised of the Fire Chief, Police Chief, as Co-chairs and a number of other senior level personnel in their respective organizations will work with the Director of the Department of Emergency Communications.
- Capital Improvements-Engineering firm recommended demolition of four stations.
 - One of the stations recommended is 201 Prince Street. Since this is an historical station, it will not be demolished but will be renovated.
 - Station 203 Cameron Mills is slated to be demolished and completely rebuilt (pending finances).
 - Two other stations are slated pending budget approval.
- Planning is underway for a new Fire EMS Station 210 in Eisenhower Valley next to Police Range (possibly year 2012).
- In the process of hiring (12-24) new firefighters (called Firefighter Rescuer). Three positions are from a federal grant.
- After receiving and screening 1,137 applications, 1,000 are scheduled to take the test.

- Longest serving employee Battalion Chief Chris Leichtner retired last week with 41 years service.
- Developers are trying to redo the Beauregard corridor. One of the projects to be considered is a new Fire EMS Station somewhere on Beauregard.
- Hiring six new Communications Technicians.
- New ladder truck being fitted out now.
- Fire week ceremony Friday, October 9th at 11am at Ivy Hill Cemetery.
- Hosting 2009 Virginia Equity Diversity Conference October 15-16 at the Masonic Temple. A team was put together and received 17,000 dollars in donations.

President Nickle recognized the October birthdays. Jane Malik's birthday was today.

Secretary's Report – voted to accept as written.

Treasurer's Report – voted to accept as written.

Nominating Committee – Chair Jane Malik reported last year's Board Members are willing to run for another term (Mitzi Nickle, President/Gene Stovall, 1st Vice President/Mary Bryant, 2nd Vice President/Carl Dutzman, Treasurer/Pat Miles, Secretary). However, nominations are still being accepted. If anyone is interested, contact one of the committee members ASAP. Voting will be held in November at the meeting for members present.

Retirement Benefits - John Horvath has a conference tomorrow with an Attorney regarding disability benefits. He will report the results at the next meeting.

Sick – Cathy Webb's mother had surgery and is in rehab now.

Correspondence

- Received an e-mail from William McCarthy with a new email address.
- Police K-9 Unit Open House October 26 from 1-3pm.
- Wreath Laying Ceremony 11am tomorrow.
- Received an e-mail from George Chersin (Police) wanting to join our association. No vote was held pending his application.
- The Board of Lady's Managers requested the Association put an ad in their program. A vote was taken and accepted to place a half page ad for \$55.

Guests – Charlie Davis, his wife, Jeanne and Barbara Birney (Conrad Birney's wife) attended the meeting.

50/50 – Bob Darley won.

Door prize – was given out.

Next meeting will be November 12, 2009.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30PM.

Pat Miles, Secretary

MINUTES- NOVEMBER 2009

President Mitzi Nickle called the meeting to order with 30 members present. Everyone stood for the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence for all departed members.

President Nickle did the roll call of officers – all present with the exception of 2nd V.P. Mary Bryant. The President then recognized Ken Howard as a past President.

Secretary's Report – voted to accept as written.

Application - Received from George Chersin (Police) wanting to join our association. Vote held and approved to accept into membership.

Treasurer's Report – voted to accept as written.

Retirement Benefits - John Horvath reported they are looking for another Attorney to help regarding PD/Fire disability benefits.

Sick – George Toy is in the hospital with pneumonia and flu. Pat Miles had a mild stroke and has four discs out in her neck. Physical therapy is helping to regain the use of her right hand but she needs help taking the minutes of the meeting at this time. Special thanks to Jane Malik for taking notes at the meeting today.

President Nickle recognized the November birthdays in attendance. Happy Birthday to all including Mitzi (Nov. 9)!

President Nickle thanked Earl Walts for his service as Editor of the newsletter. Since he is stepping down at the end of the year we need a volunteer to take the position of Editor. Without one the newsletter may cease to exist. Please contact Mitzi if you are interested.

A motion was made by Ken Howard to go to an electronic version of the newsletter, but continue sending a hard copy to members who don't have e-mail effective first quarter 2010. This motion was seconded and passed. This will save the Association a lot of time and money.

New Business - Chair Jane Malik, Nominating Committee, reported the slate for next year's Board Members. A vote was held and approved and the following are the Board Members for next year (Mitzi Nickle, President/Gene Stovall, 1st Vice President/Mary Bryant, 2nd Vice President/Carl Dutzman, Treasurer, and Pat Miles, Secretary).

CONGRATULATIONS!

Guests – Tom Steele was visiting from Delaware. He thanked everyone and encouraged us to continue with the newsletter. It was good to see Andy & Edna Saulnier and daughter Vivian.

50/50 – Gene Stovall won.

Door prize – was given to Wayne Robey.

Meeting adjourned at 1:10PM.

Pat Miles, Secretary

MINUTES- DECEMBER 2009

President Mitzi Nickle called the meeting to order with 30 members present. Everyone stood for the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence for all departed members.

President Nickle did the roll call of officers – all present. The President then recognized Joe Mellender as a past President.

Secretary's Report and Treasurer's Report – voted to accept as written.

Correspondence – Received copies of The Railroad Evangelist Magazine and Ivy Hill Historical Society newsletter.

Sick – Mike Conner is in need of a kidney donor. Anyone wishing to be tested or would like to donate a kidney please see Mitzi after the meeting for information. Please keep Mike in your thoughts and prayers that a donor will be found soon.

Deaths – Ed Trice, Albert Smith (his brother is a member) and Katherine Gray (not members of the Association). Please keep their families in your prayers.

President Nickle recognized the December birthdays in attendance including Kathy West and Carl Dutzman.

Applications - received from George Burnham (Police) and Patrick (Sean) McGowan (Police). Vote held and approved to accept both into membership.

Newsletter - President Nickle reported that Kathy West and Beth Wilson are stepping in to take over the newsletter. Thanks ladies. Special thanks to Earl Walts for the great job he has done over the past several years.

No report of the committees this month.

Door Prize was given out. Also, everyone enjoyed doing the gift exchange.

50/50 – Kathy Stovall won.

Special Thanks – to Jane Malik for donating a 4-in-1 printer to the Association. This will be used at the office at Police HQ's for letters and correspondence.

Guests – Captain Luis Santano (Fire PIO) reported several upcoming events at the Fire Stations:

- On November 1st they officially moved into the new Fire House in Potomac Yards.
- Several retirements are forthcoming.
- All the staff duty officers have been trained in the PIO duties to talk to the Media and get Press Releases out. This would take pressure off the line Battalion Chiefs to concentrate on the incident and not worry about talking with the Media as well as making other notifications.

Meeting adjourned at 12:45PM.

Pat Miles, Secretary

"You know you're in a small town when the restaurant closes at lunch so the waitress can go home and eat. "

George Carlin



Liz Kirk



Kathy West and Mitzi Nickle



BIRTHDAYS

January

1, Dave Estes
2, Carroll Corbin
2, Fred Hoffer
3, Tom Steele
4, Roman Kaluta
4, Mary Sutton
5, Aubrey Holsinger
5, Steve Smith
8, Mary Bryant
8, John Griggs
9, Joe Martin
9, Charles Harman
11, Bob Darley
12, Joe Behan
12, Bob Malick
13, Tom Morehead
15, Bob Moseley
15, Derrill Scott
16, Gary Newcomb
17, Larry Brohard
17, Gene Hart
19, Ray Johnson
21, Todd Branson
22, Robert Minlionic
22, John Moton
24, Robert Fregoso
24, Joseph Roberts
24, Joe Watson
24, Bob Wynn
25, Paul Benarick
25, Jane Peren
26, Mary Lou Simpson
26, Doug Thompson
28, Trae Heath

February

1, Harry Burrier
1, Pat McGowan
2, Fred Wilson
3, John Streeter
4, Jerry Shockley
5, Pat Miles
5, Michael Pugh
6, Courtland Brown
7, Tommy Mills
7, Paul Story
10, Alice Benerick
11, John Cox
11, Larry Huffman
11, Ed Prokop
13, Joe Mellender
14, Albert Gaines
17, Dorothy Basham
19, Eugene Barnwell
19, Doug Powell
20, Jerry Schratz
21, Dave Glassman
22, Elizabeth Kirk
23, James Smith
24, Roy Jordan
24, Ed Templeman
28, Shirley Woodward
29, Byron McBride

March

1, Tony Maida
2, Pat Raley
4, Ray Scott
5, Bobby Luckett
7, Charlie Lloyd
11, Mike Clancey
11, Pop Feaster
11, George Sellers
11, Pat Walker
12, C.R. Renzi
15, Lennie George
16, Rosalie Ross
21, Mike Saller
23, Hugh Cason
24, Quentin Tabscott
27, Mike Conner
27, Ed Schomp
28, Dorothy Huffman
30, Marion Conrad
31, Gerald Wanzer



SICK CALL

Cathy Webb's mother had surgery.

George Toy was in the hospital with pneumonia and flu.

Pat Miles had a mild stroke and has four discs out in her neck.

Mike Conner is in need of a kidney donor. Anyone wishing to be tested or would like to donate a kidney please see Mitzi for information.

Please keep our friends in your thoughts and prayers.

LAST ALARM/LAST CALL



Ed Trice, Albert Smith (his brother is a member) and Katherine Gray (not members of the Association) all passed away. Please keep their families and their memories in your prayers.

POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Hassan Aden has been promoted to Deputy Chief.

The Alexandria Police Department celebrated the K-9 Units 50th Anniversary with an open house on Monday, October 26, from 1:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M. The event took place at the Police Department's K-9 facility, located at 1108B Jefferson Street.

There was a demonstration by current K-9 officers and their dogs.

Alexandria became the first department in the metropolitan area to establish a K-9 team in 1959. Currently, the K-9 Unit has seven active teams and one in training. All of the dogs are trained for patrol, which includes searching buildings, tracking criminals and locating missing people. In addition to being patrol trained, three of the dogs are also trained in Narcotics Detection and one is cross trained in Explosives Detection.

The Alexandria Police Department is the first local law enforcement agency in the national capital region to launch a new text analytic technology that will vastly increase its capacity to more effectively analyze and utilize huge volumes of crime data. Through a partnership with IxReveal, APD is implementing analytic technology software called uReveal,™ which is already being used effectively by major federal agencies, intelligence organizations, and corporations.

This technological tool allows analysts to rapidly and simultaneously analyze massive volumes of unstructured and structured data, digging deeply through the use of "concepts" to find insights that traditional systems routinely miss. "Concepts" created by analysts can include a broad range of details, including the names and nicknames of all known suspects (and even their tattoo patterns). The software enables crime analysts to search police reports for patterns, series and cross-matches, utilizing concept-related information found anywhere in the Police Department's Record Management System.

The Police Department will use uReveal™ to analyze the numerous police reports generated on a daily basis, based on analysis of years of historical data, as well as data from other jurisdictions. APD also will be able to collaboratively share concepts and findings with researchers in other organizations (locally and across the nation) who operate on different IT systems.

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

On Wednesday, Nov. 12, the Alexandria Fire Department hosted a Field Day to demonstrate Cross Fit, the strength and conditioning program recently adopted by the department. Firefighters, paramedics and other department employees demonstrated the new work-out routines they are using to meet the challenging physical demands of their jobs. While physical fitness and training have long been a part of their daily routines, this year, Alexandria's first responders are introducing Cross Fit, a program being utilized by the U.S. military as well as police and fire departments across the country. The department's Cross Fit program is funded through a grant from the Virginia Department of Fire Programs and will be the first such program offered in the region.

"Cross Fit's emphasis on positive, team-oriented, and functional fitness is an outstanding complement to our Department's focus on employee health, safety, and wellness," said Chief Adam Thiel.

In order to safely and effectively introduce Cross Fit, several fire department employees recently became certified Cross Fit trainers. They spend several hours each morning working with their colleagues on exercises that emphasize the movements they will later utilize at work, when lifting stretchers into ambulances or climbing ladders into burning buildings. For members of the fire department, improving strength and fitness not only improves their own health, but also the well-being of Alexandria's citizens and visitors whom they serve.

Cross Fit emphasizes constantly varied workouts that incorporate the entire body and utilize functional movements--the same kinds of lifting and bending that might be required on the job. Cross Fit can be adapted to fit anyone, so the most experienced and strongest participants can exercise right alongside people who have never been to a gym before. Even so, the strongest and most fit firefighters have found themselves pushed to their limits during recent workouts. A typical Cross Fit session might include throwing medicine balls, using a rowing machine, doing pull-ups, and lifting kettle bells. Cross Fit emphasizes workouts that involve several muscle groups at once, so a five-minute routine can have the same impact as 30 minutes of traditional weightlifting.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE NEWS

Tony De Cesare was promoted to Chief Deputy , effective October 3, 2009.

Sheriff Lawhorne, a community service enthusiast, learned the Meals on Wheels needed help on Tuesday, Oct. 22. He answered the call from the city's Senior Services, executive director Janet Barnett. Along with his daughter Mallory, Lawhorne delivered 15 meals. Other staff members who volunteered were Chief Deputy Tim Gleeson, who fed 15 seniors, George Burnham delivered 15 and Deputy Chris O'Dell delivered 11.

Menus for shut-ins included fruit, soft drinks and juices, sandwiches, fruit and Greek salads and milk.

The Senior Services program, in conjunction with the city, provides meals five days a week. "For the past year, we have provided meals through the generous donation from the Ronald M. Bradley Foundation. Our hope is to raise funds for weekends, so these folks will have a hot meal seven days a week, said Ms. Barnett. "We eat seven days a week without even thinking about."

Sheriff Lawhorne, a longtime supporter of this program, has also had his Inmate Work Detail, under the direction of Lt. Doug Schuler along with deputies Greg Zedalis, James Velez and George Wooden, to provide assistance in cleaning streets with snow removal. Lawhorne was also driving a snow removal truck during the weekend.

Lawhorne said, "Everybody should have to volunteer for this at least one day a month. It is a stark reminder of how unfortunate some of our seniors are. Me and my daughter Mallory did the Old Town route and most of our deliveries were to people who are in wheelchairs, on oxygen, immobile and lonely. Tim (Gleeson), George (Burnham) and Deputy Chris O'dell reported the same after making their rounds. Thanks for letting us help."

During the holiday season, beginning before Thanksgiving week, the Sheriff's Office has been involved with other deliveries of food throughout the city. In cooperation with IBM, Chief Deputy Lenny George and Deputy Monique Edwards were busy, too. They picked up turkeys for needy families and completed a canned-food drive. The food drive was instigated by Deputy Edwards who collected the items from the staff of the sheriff's office, largest ever for the Alexandria Sheriff's Office.

ODDS AND ENDS

If you change your mailing address, please don't forget to notify any officer of the Association so that we can continue to provide you with a newsletter.