



## City of Alexandria Retired Police, Fire & Sheriff Association, Inc. Newsletter

1st Quarter

2017

### President's Message



The long cold winter is finally behind us and I'm looking forward to some warm weather. Law enforcement members are reminded that LEOSA qualification is scheduled for July 6 and 7 starting at 7 AM each day. Check your email for additional details or contact me directly.

At the March meeting we were fortunate to have Police Chief Mike Brown as our guest. He spoke to the group on a variety of topics and answered questions from the membership.

Also, I want to remind everyone to watch your mailbox for the annual raffle mail out. This is one of the few ways the Association has to raise funds so I encourage everyone to participate. All you have to do is fill out each of five tickets with your contact information and return the stubs to us. The drawing will be held at the June 8 regular meeting and prizes are: first prize = \$1000, second prize = \$500, third prize = \$250, and fourth prize = \$125. Good luck everyone.

Finally, we have a great many activities planned over the coming months and I hope to see everyone there. Thanks for your continued support and please take the time to attend a meeting or visit the ROMEO Group on Tuesdays, Rocket Grill at 11 AM.

Ken Howard  
President

## Meeting Minutes - January 12, 2017

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Howard at 11:30 AM at the Springfield American Legion with 32 members present.

**INVOCATION** was delivered by Jim Fisher.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was led by President Howard.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:** All present.

**RECOGNITION OF PAST PRESIDENTS IN ATTENDANCE** included MK Bryant, Joe Mellender and Carl Dutzman.

**SICK REPORT:** Raymond Scott is home from the hospital and doing well. Thelma Mellender has been hospitalized.

**READING OF DECEMBER MINUTES** was waived by unanimous vote.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** The following organizations acknowledged ARPFSA expression of sympathy for members lost in the line of duty: CO State Patrol, Palm Beach, FL PD, LA County (CA) Sheriff, Detroit, MI PD, NY State Police, St. Louis County (MO) PD, Baton Rouge, LA PD, Miami, FL PD, Savannah, GA Fire Dept., Johnson County KS PD, & NJ State Police.

Pearl McNamara sent in a contribution of \$100 in memory of Sergeant Ed Cassidy (police).

**TREASURER'S REPORT** was delivered by MK Bryant and accepted. The annual audit of our books will be conducted in the coming months.

**OLD BUSINESS:** The holiday party had 119 attendees and was a big success.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. The membership requested that an invitation be extended to Mayor Allison Silbeberg to attend one of our regular meetings. President Howard will follow up with the mayor's office and report back at the next regular meeting.
2. New member applications for Janice McCreedy (police) and Alan Eldridge (associate) were approved.
3. Peter LaBoy asked for support for the annual Police Week Memorial Bike Ride to Richmond.

**FIFTY-FIFTY** was won by Secretary Liz Kirk and **DOOR PRIZES** were awarded to Peter LaBoy, Tom Moorehead, Carl Dutzman, Earl Walts & Jim Fisher. The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 PM.

## Meeting Minutes - February 9, 2017

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by President Ken Howard at 11:33 AM, at the Springfield American Legion Post, 6520 Amherst Ave., Springfield, VA.

**INVOCATION** was delivered by Donnie Upchurch.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was led by President Howard.

### **MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR LOST MEMBERS:**

APD Sgt. Ed Streapy passed away on January 20, 2017

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:** All present.

**RECOGNITION OF PAST PRESIDENTS IN ATTENDANCE** included MK Bryant.

### **READING OF REPORT OF THE SECRETARY:**

A motion was made, and seconded, to accept the Minutes as written w/o reading them.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. Donation of \$100 from Lisa Cassidy in memory of her father, Sgt. Ed Cassidy
2. Thank You from HEROS for our donation
3. Acknowledgement of sympathy cards received from: Detroit, MI Police, New Jersey State Police, Newton County, GA Police, and U.S. Marshalls Service.

**BIRTHDAYS:** February Birthdays were recognized

**TREASURER'S REPORT** was delivered by MK Bryant. Motion made, and seconded, to accept as read. Motion carried.

### **REPORT OF COMMITTEES**

1. **AUDIT:** Earl Walts & Jim Fisher delivered the Audit report for 2016. Accepted as read.
2. **BY-LAWS:** New changes mailed out with membership renewals.
3. **DATA BANK:** Nothing to report.
4. **LOGO:** Nothing to report.

### **MEETING ARRANGEMENTS**

Mary Bryant reported that the Springfield Hilton is interested in having us return for our annual holiday party. Membership voiced a suggestion of having the event at the Springfield American Legion. Follow up at the March Meeting.

**NEWSLETTER:** No report.

**SICK LIST**

1. Thelma Mellender is home from the hospital and would appreciate calls.
2. Cathy Webb is recovering from shoulder surgery and would appreciate calls.
3. Beth Wilson fell at home but is doing well.
4. Fred Wilson is not feeling well.

**WEB SITE:** Nothing to report.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Nothing to report.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Police Chief Mike Brown will attend the March meeting.
2. Liz King discussed the new AFD challenge coin and will gather more information for the March meeting.
3. Mayor Allison Silberberg has been extended an invitation to attend one of our regular meetings and will follow up in the coming months as her schedule frees up.
4. New members Ned Thompson (police), Gloria Hicks (Sheriff) & Shawn Lasher (Associate) were voted in.

**FIFTY-FIFTY** was won by Felton Gilliam.

**Door Prize** was won by Sandy Flynn.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned @ 12:30 PM.

## Meeting Minutes - March 9, 2017

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 AM by President Ken Howard at the Springfield American Legion Post. Forty-three members were present.

**INVOCATION** was delivered by Jim Fisher.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was led by President Howard.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Firefighter Charles Hicks and Fire Captain Hugh Cason were remembered.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:** All present.

**RECOGNITION OF PAST PRESIDENTS IN ATTENDANCE** included MK Bryant.

**READING OF FEBRUARY MINUTES:** A motion was made, and seconded, to waive the reading of the minutes. Motion carried by voice vote.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Acknowledgement of receipt of sympathy cards was received from the Orlando, FL PD and the Orange County, FL Sheriff.

**BIRTHDAYS:** March birthdays were recognized.

**GUEST SPEAKER:** Police Chief Mike Brown addressed the group on a variety of issues concerning APD.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** was delivered by MK Bryant. Motion was made and seconded to accept as read. Motion carried by voice vote.

### **REPORT OF COMMITTEES:**

1. Audit - Nothing to report
2. By-Laws - The results of the recommended changes will be delivered at the April meeting.
3. Data Bank - Nothing to report
4. Logo - Nothing to report
5. Meeting Arrangements - Mary Bryant reported that arrangements to host the 2017 holiday party at the Springfield Hilton on December 14 were in place.
6. Newsletter - The Spring edition will be coming out in April.
7. Retirement Benefits - Nothing to report.
8. Sick List - Arlo Lloyd is home from the hospital and accepting calls.
9. Web Site - Nothing to report.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Liz King reported that 20 Fire challenge coins were ordered. Additional coins are available for sale. The discussion to purchase coins for the Association to sell to raise funds has been tabled.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. A motion was made and seconded to donate \$1500 to the APD Youth Camp.
2. No new member applications this month.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS:** Nothing to report.

**FIFTY-FIFTY** was won by Jim Fisher.

**DOOR PRIZES** were won by Rusty Peverell & Marc Timbrook.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 PM.

## New Deputy Sheriffs Sworn In

by Amy Bertsch

The Sheriff's Office recently welcomed five new deputies to its ranks. On Monday, March 13, Clerk of the Circuit Court Edward Semonian administered the oath of office to Bennie Evans III, Tiara Logan, Elizabeth Oglesby, Emilia Ramirez and Matthew Vance during a ceremony at the Alexandria Courthouse. Sheriff Dana Lawhorne congratulated the recruits and then asked their family members and friends to join him in presenting their badges. APD Officer Bennie Evans also gave his son, Deputy Bennie Evans III, the badge he wore as an Alexandria deputy when he began his law enforcement career 23 years earlier. The new deputies will complete several weeks of training at the William G. Truesdale Adult Detention Center before attending the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Training Academy.



Photo: (l-r) Commonwealth's Attorney Bryan Porter, Deputy Tiara Logan, Deputy Elizabeth Oglesby, Deputy Emilia Ramirez, Deputy Bennie Evans III, Deputy Matthew Vance, Sheriff Dana Lawhorne and Deputy City Manager Debra Collins.



Photo left: Police Officer Bennie Evans presented his son, Deputy Bennie Evans III, with the original badge he wore when he began his law enforcement career as a deputy 23 years earlier.

# A Day In The Park

By Paul Story



Photo above: Charlie Hill Park located at Mt. Ida and Leslie Avenue.

In the early morning hours of March 22, 2017, they moved strategically into a Del Ray neighborhood unseen by most of the residents living there. There was a job to be done. Per SOP, they had developed an effective OPS Plan based on the Scout Team's detailed recon report. The APD Special Operations Team is accustomed to tough cases and they immediately recognized the unique challenges of this particular assignment. They have been here before and they knew success was going to require a full Team effort operating at peak effectiveness and efficiency. That said, the members of The Team are smart, fit, well equipped, capably led and fully confident in their operations plan. They arrive in force and quickly deploy the formidable resources of Fox and Cobra. The annual clean up of the Charles W. Hill Park had begun.

Indeed, there was a police operation at Charlie's park on the 22nd but there was no drama, no "breaking news", or enforcement activity. Tactical gear was replaced by paint brushes, rakes, shovels, chain saws, mowers and plastic bags - lots of plastic bags. There were no arrests in the customary sense. However, you might say the ravages of a long Winter was taken into custody and a small plot of hallowed land was, once again, made clean and safe for a neighborhood looking forward to Spring and Summer seasons.

March 22 is special and deserving of our attention. Corporal Charles Hill and his wife, Ginny, were active residents in the Del Ray community and they lived near the park. Among other things, Charlie served as the department's community liaison officer for Del Ray and he was an active member of the Del Ray Civic Association. Those of us who were fortunate enough to know Charlie remember him as someone you noticed in a crowd and truly a man who you would not forget once you met him. He was not one to stand on the side lines. He was out there breaking new ground and making many friends along the way.



His comrades in Special Operations keep his spirit alive and have *adopted* Charlie's park. Once again this year they fulfilled a promise to keep the park as Charlie would have wanted it to be kept. SOT will return every year to honor this commitment. They will not be alone because Charlie cast a big shadow and left a great many friends in his wake. I had the opportunity to chat with Chief Mike Brown as he painted one of the light poles in the park. He told me he feels very fortunate to have ended up leading a department so rich in history and tradition. He credited the retired cadre of retired officers with laying the foundations of tradition and camaraderie that keep these dreams alive.

A new plaque was commemorated this year and it stands in the center of the park. If you get chance, swing by Mt. Ida and Leslie Ave. to check it out and take a moment to reflect on an Alexandria Police Officer who gave everything he had and through those he touched, still gives today. See you next year.

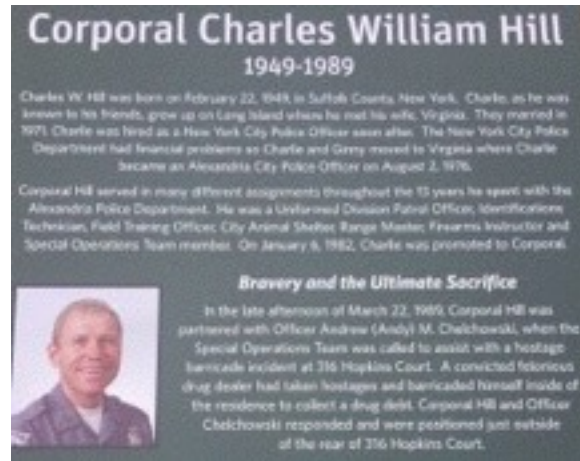


Photo above: Plaque commemorated March 22, 2017

## Police Week Activities Thursday, May 11, 2017

- 0900 Hours: Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Police Memorial in Waterfront Park; located in the park on the east side of 100 Strand Street.
- 1100 Hours: Police and Sheriff Memorial Service at The First Assembly of God Church, 700 West Braddock Road, Alexandria, Virginia.
- 1200 Hours: Luncheon honoring Police Department retirees, following the Memorial Service in the lower level banquet hall.

## American Legion Post 24 Honors Deputy and Firefighter

by Amy Bertsch

American Legion Post 24 recently honored two public safety employees for their exceptional service to the City of Alexandria. During an evening ceremony on March 8, Post 24 presented Deputy Deon Eaddy with its 2016 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award and Battalion Chief Jack Hoffman with its 2016 Firefighter of the Year Award.

Sheriff Dana Lawhorne, Fire Chief Robert Dubé, members of their command staffs and other colleagues attended the ceremony, as did Deputy Eaddy's wife and their two children.

Mike Mixon, who chairs the Post's Homeland Security Support Program, read citations recognizing Deputy Eaddy and Battalion Chief Hoffman, and Post Commander Doug Gurka presented each with a plaque and also read letters of congratulations from Mayor Allison Silberberg and Senator Mark Warner.

Deputy Eaddy was honored for his professionalism, dedication to duty, commitment to his colleagues, and exceptional training work. Battalion Chief Jack Hoffman was honored for his outstanding leadership, teamwork, commitment to training, and life-saving actions. After the ceremony, Sheriff Lawhorne and Chief Dubé congratulated the honorees and thanked Post 24 for recognizing their employees



Photo: (l-r) Fire Chief Robert Dubé, Battalion Chief Jack Hoffman, Post 24 Commander Doug Gurka, Deputy Deon Eaddy, Mike Mixon of Post 24, and Sheriff Dana Lawhorne at the awards ceremony.

## More Sheriff's Office News

by Amy Bertsch

In January, Sheriff Dana Lawhorne promoted several employees, including a new Chief Deputy. Congratulations to Chief Deputy Joseph Pankey, Captain Rawle Kelly, Lieutenant Felicia Mensah, Sergeant LaJuenne Sherzai-Harding, and Director LaTanya Ervin!



Photo: (l-r) Director LaTanya Ervin, Captain Rawle Kelly, Chief Joseph Pankey, Sheriff Dana Lawhorne, Lieutenant Felicia Mensah, Sergeant LaJuenne Sherzai-Harding

Congratulations also to Deputy Lisa Speed of the Judicial Services who was named Employee of the Quarter of 2016! Sergeant Larry Richardson nominated Deputy Speed for this recognition for her high level of professionalism, her positive attitude, and her efficiency and attention to detail. Sergeant Richardson also applauded Deputy Speed's focus, dedication and reliability which make her an invaluable asset to the Courthouse team.

The George Washington Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution awarded five deputies the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal at a luncheon on January 14. Deputy Joseph Runquist was honored for saving a choking woman while he was off-duty, and Deputies Cinie Bearden, Myrna Juarez, Manuel Lee and Devon Neckles were honored for saving an inmate who had hanged himself at the William G. Truesdale Adult Detention Center.

On January 21, the American Correctional Association's Commission on Accreditation for Corrections formally reaccredited the William G. Truesdale Adult Detention Center and recognized the Sheriff's Office for its management of the jail. During its winter conference, the ACA presented Director Michele McCarty and Accreditation Manager Debra Defreitas with an official Certificate of Accreditation following a review with Commission members.

Inmates got a head start on their reentry preparation by exploring services and programs at the resource fair at the William G. Truesdale Adult Detention Center on February 9. Organized by Inmate Services staff, the first-ever resource fair featured more than 20 exhibitors who offer legal, employment, health, training, housing and other services that can benefit ex-offenders as they return to the community. Then on March 9, one of the exhibitors returned to address the inmates during a special program. Kenneth Glover, an ex-offender himself who now works for Miller & Long Construction, discussed how he developed a plan for success and he also gave inmates guidance for their own successful reentry.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR:** City Human Resources will be mailing Open Enrollment notifications to retirees with non-Medicare City health coverage after the FY18 Budget is adopted on May 4, 2017). The notification will also include dates and locations for you to meet and speak with City, Kaiser and UHC representatives. If you are considering a change in coverage be mindful of the closing date to submit change forms. Change forms must be received (not post marked) in HR by the closing date.

## 2017 Police Unity Tour

The Police Unity Tour is a nationwide opportunity to raise money and awareness for the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund. APD continues to support the Police Unity Tour in 2017. Each rider/participant is responsible for raising \$1,800, which helps cover costs and a donation for the cause. The ride begins in Richmond on May 10 and ends at the Law Enforcement Memorial in DC on May 12.

Please consider showing your support by sponsoring an APD participant. Tax deductible donations can be made on line by credit card. For contributions by credit card go to <http://www.policeunitytourchapter4.com> Once the page is open, go to the tab “donate”; click on the link “donate to a specific rider or support member”; that will take you to a page where you are asked to enter the rider’s or support member’s name.

**Note:** those representing APD in 2017 are: Deputy Chief Shahram Fard, Deputy Chief David Huchler, Retired Officer Peter Laboy (support member) and Officer Bobby Opsut.

Once the name is entered, click on the name of the rider/member; it will redirect you to the personal fundraising page for that rider; click on the link at the top of the page “Donate Now”; fill out the donate page with all required information and click continue. That should take you to a confirmation page. The deadline to sponsor a rider is May 1.

You can also support the APD Team by making a donation via check payable to: Police Unity Tour Chapter 4. The Sponsor Donation Form link follows. Forms will also be available at monthly meetings through April or by contacting MK Bryant. Send contributions by check to Police Unity Tour, Inc., Chapter IV; P.O. Box 706; Fairfax, Virginia 22038.

<http://www.policeunitytourchapter4.com/resources/Documents/Sponsor-Donation-Form-2017-09122016.pdf>

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Another opportunity to support the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund is participation in a raffle for the opportunity to win an AR Rifle (the winner of the AR Rifle must be a sworn or retired law enforcement officer and proof of law enforcement status will be required before taking possession), a Beretta shotgun, a Glock handgun, and a Sig Sauer handgun.

Tickets are \$10 each and can be obtained by contacting Officer Bobby Opsut at [robert.opsut@alexandriava.gov](mailto:robert.opsut@alexandriava.gov) or by phone (571) 212-8828. The drawings will be held in Richmond at the 2017 Police Unity Tour kickoff on May 9th. All winners must be able to legally possess their prize. Guns will be transferred to a gun dealer near the winner. The winner will then be required to undergo a background check before taking possession. The deadline to purchase raffle tickets is May 1.

## New Association Members

### Welcome aboard to:

Alan Eldridge (Police-Associate)  
Gloria Hicks (Sheriff)  
Shawn Lasher (Police-Associate)  
Janice McCreedy (Police)  
Ned Thompson (Police)

## Deceased Association Members

Ed Streapy, APD, January 21, 2017

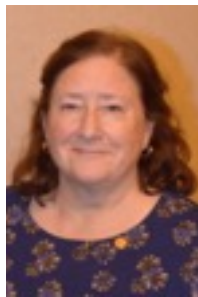
Hugh Cason, AFD, February 24, 2017

Charles Hicks, AFD, March 6, 2017

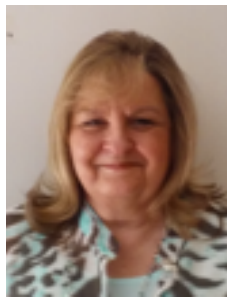
## 2017 Board Members



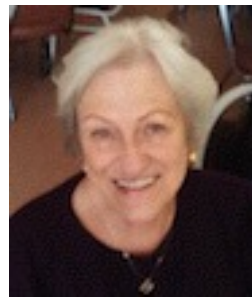
Kenneth Howard  
President



Jane Malik  
1st VP



Pat Miles  
2nd VP



Liz Kirk  
Secretary



Monroe Bryant  
Treasurer

## Upcoming Events

### ARPFSA Monthly Meetings:

April 13, 2017 - American Legion Hall, Springfield, VA

May 11, 2017 - Meeting cancelled due to Police Week Activities

June 8, 2017 - American Legion Hall, Springfield, VA

Weekly Informal Luncheons - just drop in and see old friends: Every Tuesday @ 11:00 am -  
Rock It Grill, 1319 King St. Alex, VA

**City of Alexandria Retired Police,  
Fire & Sheriff Association, Inc.  
P. O. Box 1632  
Alexandria, VA 22313**