

SUPERIOR OFFICERS ASSOCIATION RETIRED

City of New York Police Department

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NO. 76

JAN - JUNE 2016

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Treasurer Emeritus

*Marvin SartoriusDeceased

SOAR Luncheon

SOAR's next luncheon will be held on **TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2016, 12 Noon**, at our new location, **VERDI'S OF WHITESTONE**. Address, map and directions are on page 8. **Guest Speaker will be Robert Sens-Castet, Deputy Executive Director, NYPD Pension Fund**. For cost of luncheon and other details, see Ed Rybak's column on this page.

SOAR Is On The Move

At long last, we can report that the SOAR leadership has found a new location to hold our luncheons. We will utilize an old mnemonic device which is used by candidates taking promotional exams requiring responses to essay type questions. This device is known as NEOTWY. Thus, in the interest of providing a lot of information as briefly as possible, we can report the following:

When: Tuesday, June 7, 2016 12 Noon as usual.

Where: Verdi's of Whitestone, 149-58 Cross Island Pkwy., Whitestone NY Tel. (718) 746-6000.

Who: SOAR members and guest.

What: Luncheon, guest speaker, camaraderie in a professional manner; a dining experience.

How: Change in our lives is often difficult to handle, but not in this instance; consider it an upgrade if you must.

What will you get in return for this change? The location is quite accessible in Whitestone, Queens and has sufficient parking spaces with valet service available. The menu basically consists of a sit-down dinner including choice of an appetizer, pasta, salad and a choice of such entrees as chicken, eggplant, parmigiana, shell steak, pork chop, broiled salmon & shrimp scampi followed by an occasion Casata Cake topped off with coffee, tea and Espresso. Note that in addition, there will be red & white Italian wines, bottled beer, along with flavored soda throughout the entire luncheon.

Why: This price is \$42.00 per person including taxes and a 20% gratuity.

At our former luncheon location that closed, some of the above was absorbed by our organization which accounts for the disparity in pricing. In addition, this price is within the present range of costs at most desirable eateries today.

The above was arranged after visiting several catering establishments. Verdi's has an excellent reputation for its food, ambiance, and can handle up to 200 people at a given time. Several SOAR members have visited Verdi's and recommended it to us. So...do come with your spouse or significant other and we'll all be one happy family.

By the way, if you desire a table of 8-10 people, kindly call SOAR before hand at (718) 352-7627. Once we indicate the number of people coming, we will be responsible for payment to Verdi's. Your cooperation is necessary. Finally, changes are being made now, including the addition of several new members to the Board of Directors and the addition of over 100 new members to SOAR. Thank you for your support for these many years.

Ed Rybak, 1st Vice President

SOAR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION ON PAGE 7

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FOR JUNE, 2016

How quickly time passes! It doesn't seem that it's been over six months since I announced to you that Koenig's had informed us that the restaurant was permanently closing and that our venue for SOAR's luncheons for over twenty years would cease to exist.

Within weeks of my announcement, I received comments from many of you, who had attended our luncheons over the years, expressing your disappointment and recalling memories of luncheons gone by, guest speakers who had appeared and members who were no longer with us.

Based upon the consensus of the opinions that were received, it was apparent that the tradition of SOAR sponsoring periodic luncheons for the benefit of its members who reside within the metropolitan area should be preserved. Accordingly, the Board of Directors resolved to seek a suitable venue to continue these traditional luncheons that had been so well attended at Koenig's over the years. At a meeting of the Board, several venues in Nassau, the Bronx and Queens were preliminarily suggested and considered, based upon various criteria, such as cost, the menu, location, access and private parking.

With these factors in mind, I asked Ed Rybak, our first Vice President, to contact the owners of Verdi's Restaurants, which has catering establishments in Nassau and Queens, to evaluate the suitability of both locations for our luncheons. Ed reported his findings to the Board, which after due deliberation, concurred with Ed's recommendation that Verdi's in Queens be selected as the venue for the June 7, 2016 luncheon.

At another site in this newsletter, you will find additional details about the luncheon and its cost, which is \$42.00 per person, including taxes and gratuities, if paid at the door.

I've visited Verdi's, met with the owner and savored some of the items that will be served on our luncheon menu. It was in all respects, a pleasant and worthwhile experience. I hope to be able to share the SOAR luncheon experience again with you and your guest at Verdi's on June 7th.

About the same time that I received the disappointing news from Koenig's, I received some very uplifting news from two of our Board members; namely, Jesse Peterman and Larry Loesch. By way of an introduction, a continuous problem for retiree organizations such as SOAR, has been our inability to interact directly with the NYPD, in general and more particularly, with regard to our ability to contact active members as they approached their retirement. Succinctly, SOAR and similar retiree organizations had no direct means to reach out through the Police Department bureaucracy to contact the only potential source for new members. Inevitably, the number of new "recruits" to retiree organizations has continued to dwindle.

Under the auspices of Commissioner Bratton and the collective efforts of Captain Robert Sans-Caset, the current Director of the Pension Section of the NYPD and SOAR Directors Peterman and Loesch, a program has been instituted by the NYPD to mail a letter on Police Department stationery to all NYPD retirees, who are potential members of SOAR. The letter, which is authored by me, serves to introduce SOAR from its twenty-five year historical perspective and sets out the inherent benefits to the recipient of maintaining a continuing organized association with other retired police officers via membership in an organization that fosters and supports their common interests.

I am pleased to inform you that the mailing, which was sent out in late January, reached over Five Thousand retirees of the NYPD that are prospective members of SOAR. To date, we have received applications and dues from over 160 new members!

In my opinion, this voluntary association by the Police Department with a retiree organization may symbolize a recognition by the NYPD that in a time when unruly factions seek to denigrate and vilify police officers in the eyes of a whimsical public, there is a viable association with a cadre of retired police officers to whom "Blue Lives" will always matter, which can be developed and nurtured. We can certainly seek ways to build on this bridge between "active" and "retired" police officers.

In recognition of this historic joint venture, I have asked Captain Sans-Caset to be our guest speaker at the luncheon at Verdi's on June 7th. At that time, he will address the current recruitment program as well as other pertinent pension issues of concern to us all.

I urge you to attend and take this opportunity to meet many of the new members, who we hope will join us. As an inducement, if you purchase your ticket(s) in advance from SOAR by mail prior to May 31, 2016, the price will be reduced to \$35.00 per ticket. The organization will incur the addition cost as our way of saying "Thanks". On June 8, 2016, the day after our luncheon, our companion organization in the National 10-13 Clubs of America, the New York 10-13 Club will hold its annual golf outing at the Clearview Country Club. We are



From The Call Box

By Jack Coughlin

NYC and Municipal Labor Committee Agree To Increase Health Care Cost Effective July 1, 2016

As part of New York City's efforts to generate \$3.4 billion in health care savings, the Municipal Labor Committee (MLC) and the New York City Office of Labor Relations agreed to significant changes to NYC's active and retiree's health plans effective July 1, 2016.

According to NYC, although the new agreement will increase co-pays for specialty care and emergency room visits for both active and retired NYC employees including NYPD retirees, routine checkups and preventive care tests will be more affordable when using health plan doctors.

Beginning July 1, 2016, the current hospital emergency room co-payment of \$50.00 per visit is being raised to \$150.00 per visit. If a patient is admitted to the hospital from the emergency room, the entire co-pay will be waived.

For a physician speciality care visit, the current \$20.00 will be raised to \$30.00, while the primary care and mental health co-pays remain at \$15.00. Preventive care visits and procedures will have no co-pay.

Furthermore, to provide access to low cost and primary care, NYC entered into an agreement with EmblemHealth to provide access to all the physicians at their 36 Advantage Care Physicians locations in and around the City with no co-pays.

However, to help address the costs and over-utilization of high cost radiology procedures like MRIs and CT scans, the co-pay is being increased to \$50.00 and diagnostic laboratory testing and

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MEMORIAL DAY TRIBUTE TO OUR TROOPS



In Flanders Fields

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.*

NOTE: In Flanders Fields was written by Lt. Col. John McCrae, a medical officer in World War One, to commemorate the deaths of thousands of young men who died in Flanders, Belgium.



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physical therapy services co-pays is being increased From \$15.00 to \$20.00.

Finally, since The Call Box not only understands retirees health insurance costs cannot be increased and NYPD retirees are not members of the Municipal Labor Committee (MLC) that negotiated the above increases, we question the legality of the above changes in NYPD retiree's health care benefits.

Presidents Message cont. from pg 2

encouraging our golfing members, new and old, to consider making these events a "two day affair". If you're interested in playing as a member of SOAR, please contact SOAR Director Rich Garland at (631) 724-0107 or (631) 896-9678.

For the past several months, the organization has been developing our website, entitled SOARNYPD.org. I anticipate that the website should be fully functional within the next three to four months, at which time the website will be utilized as the primary source of disseminating information among the members. The website will concurrently permit members to correspond directly with the website and the Board of Directors, creating an opportunity for a more timely and efficient communication network within the organization.

Fraternally yours,
Ron Schule, President

**Happy
Father's
Day**

The Art of the Scapegoat

Scapegoat: A person or group that is made to bear blame for others'; a definition all too familiar to a wide scope of affected individuals ranging from race, ethnicity to even religion. Even so, this modern age has seen that phenomenon broadened even further, with professions, more particularly 'law enforcement' professionals now drawn into this insidious category. Killer cops? Some collective diabolical 'mind set' to murder and oppress people based on some sick racial motive? The actions of an individual cop, even if tragically unintentional, presented as evidence of both personal and collective culpable intent, coupled with limited means of effective repudiation? All issues that need answers.

Consider this: In 2015 police officers nationwide, after enumerable law enforcement public contacts and virtually millions of arrests, many against dangerous armed felons, killed just fewer than 1,000 people (NYPD had less than 10), the overwhelming majority in completely justifiable circumstances. A significant number but nonetheless it appears that all that's needed to undermine, and even in some cases condemn all police officers is an event, any cherry picked isolated event, coast to coast, that feeds into the "all the news that's fit to sell" category, even when of the 'hands up', 'don't shoot' manufactured category. The art of the scapegoat; cops lives ruined, examples made of pre judged officers based on a critical pre conceived subjective script and all performed with relentless skill and remarkable impunity. A host of unchallenged hypocrites accusing cops of stereotyping people while doing the same to them in the very same breath, but with far more dire consequences towards those personally targeted "to be made examples of".

In contrast, according to reputable studies, far more people die in the hands of 'medical professionals. Indeed nationally, medical malpractice deaths range from over 200,000 from doctor errors alone, to 440,000 per year when all other categories are factored in. Further, with sociological factors including race, income and 'social standing' added in, disparities in survival rates become even more despairingly acute. A profession ripe for a media event and broad attacks by critics? Think again! Can anyone even imagine any individual medical professional subjected to a headline, some even fictitious 'to provide impact' attacking their personal character and professional reputation without public lament and a parade of lawsuits? Better still, nameless components of the Goldman Sachs Financial Empire promoted a "flawed" financial product, one that helped create chaos, with even international implications and no personal information is forthcoming as to fault and/or possible culpability? Where is the 'hands out', 'don't short', headline?

Some might argue that the 'public' nature of police/public contacts are more constant and visible and that mistakes, abuse and even crimes that are committed by cops are more likely to draw scrutiny and public angst. Further, some administrative and legal constraints restrict communication, even statements regarding even high profile incidents, thus further feeding frustrations, pretended or not. There is of course some truth in that analysis, witness the recent rioting and resultant 'run away' criminal activity (Ferguson Mo., Baltimore Md., Chicago Ill, St. Louis Mo., among others) that emanate from perception, factual or not, regarding police/community relations, but should our police face the

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consequences of a communities personal and societal shortcomings relatively isolated, and even when in crisis, in an official silence that implies admission of wrongdoing or even consent to hostility? Is it fair that public rioting, political pressure or even media sensationalism can be a determining factor in how law and justice standards are applied? What other profession is asked to bear this actual and potential hideous personal burden (and all at an insulting 1% compensation offer, giving the current 'American 1%' political debate a whole new satirical perspective)? How far of providing a comfort zone for politicians avoiding blame is too far? Ditto some police executives. Indeed, is there any rationale that excuses shameless scapegoating of anyone, particularly to those critical to our societies well being, and still expect effective performance?

What about Legal Recourse?

Note that in Chicago a police officer subjected to an assault with a baseball bat has sued the estate of the deceased perpetrator (from funds garnered as settlement from the city that succumbed to what some regard as a shakedown) for damages regarding suffering by the officer, both physical and emotional. All eyes should be following this path to redemption and poetic justice, especially by those in a position to do so. Lastly, people responsible for promoting, permeating or protecting (1st Amendment issues aside) these blatant and harmful unfounded accusations deserve attention and steps towards accountability. Legal precedence and relief is one answer; public confrontation, including from, first and foremost, public officials, then police managers, union reps., and

SOAR SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS 2015

Rich Garland

I want to thank all the members of our organization who generously donated money to this program. The Board of Officers wishes to thank Karen De Gaeta in funding a scholarship honoring her father the late retired Lt. Joseph L. De Gaeta.

At the September 2015 luncheon meeting the drawing of the SOAR Scholarships was held.

The winner of the Lt. Joseph L. De Gaeta Memorial Scholarship was Erin Beatty of Williston Park, New York. Erin is attending Adelphi Univeristy She was sponsored by his grandfather Robert J. Beatty. .

The winner of the DCI Ron Fenrich Award was Andrew Hurdman of Hawarth, New Jersey. Andrew is attending Seton Hall University. He was sponsored by his grandfather Camillo Mango.

The winner of the DI Richard Olpe and Sgt. Meryl Olpe Award was Daniel Molloy of Napierville, Il. Daniel is attending Miami University of Ohio He was sponsored by Thomas Molloy his grandfather.

The winner of the Lieut. Michael Lynch Award was Dylan Malmquist.. He is attending Notre Dame University. He was sponsored by his grandfater.

The winner of the Mrs. Mary Moore Award was Melissa Simonson of Staten Island, New York. Melissa is attending Marist College. She was sponsored by her grandfather John Ellis.

The winner of the Lieut. Marvin Sartorius Award was Karly Abraham of Rumson, New Jersey. Karly is attending Brookdale Community College. She was sponsored by her grandfather Robert Abraham.

organizations like ours, is the other.

As per COMPSTAT up to 4/03/16; the NYC crime news YTD is good. Against already historic lows, even with overall felonies up slightly +2.3 %, homicides are down -20.9 %; shootings down -12.1%; robbery down -1.7%. Congrats due all around for keeping our city reasonably safe...

Sincerely, Capt. (ret) Robert Mescolotto, Esq.

DUES "R" DUE


This year, the responses to our request has been great and we appreciate the prompt payment many of our members have made. It makes our job a lot easier.

Dues for 2016 are payable January 1,2016 and is only \$25.00 a year. Additional contributions to our Scholarship Fund and Political Action Committee (PAC) are always welcomed.

Please remember that retiree organizations are the only ones who can represent you in the never ending battle to protect the benefits we paid for during our active years of service with the NYPD.

Fraternally yours,
Jack Coughlin, Treasurer






NEW YORK 10-13 ASSOCIATION

Will be holding a Golf Outing
at Clearview Golf Course on Wednesday,
JUNE 8, 2016 --- Price \$ 125.00

Includes: A round of Golf - Carts - Lunch
(Hamburgers & Hot Dogs) served for 4 hours
Hot Buffet dinner with wine to follow
Beer, Soda & Water served all day
2 Hour open bar at dinner
Shotgun Start: 1:00 PM
Prizes for the following:
Closest to the Pin
Longest Drive
Closest to the Line
Make your own Fore (4)-some



Registration and Lunch will begin at 12:00 PM

Dinner will be served after 6:00 PM

SIGN UP EARLY - DON'T BE LEFT OUT

For Additional Information Contact:

NY 10-13 Office----718 343-7271

Joe Conlon----- 516 655-2611

Mike Pirone ----- 516 317-1823

Larry McNamara----516 352-0537




SOAR SCHOLARSHIP FUND APPLICATION

Due to the generosity of SOAR members, the Board of Directors is again able to offer (5) \$1000,00 Scholarship Awards for the coming school year in honor of the following: Deputy Chief Ron Fenrich Award, Lt. Michael Lynch, DI Richard and Sgt Meryl Olpe Award and the Mary E. Moore Award and Lt. Marvin Sartorius-Board of Directors Scholarship.

Through the generosity of Karen De Gaeta, a 6th scholarship will be awarded in honor of Karen's father, retired NYPD Joseph De Gaeta.

To be eligible for a SOAR scholarship, the candidate must be a child, step-child or grandchild of a SOAR member in standing or the child, step-child or grandchild of a member of the New York City Police Department killed in the line of duty. The child must be entering the first year of college. If interested in obtaining one of these scholarship, please fill out the application below.

Student's Name _____ Last Four SSAN _____

Street Address _____ Town _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

DOB _____ Tel No () _____ College _____

Freshman Year Starts: _____ SOAR members name _____

NYPD member Killed In The Line of duty _____

Relationship to student: Father _____ Mother _____ Grandparent _____

NOTE: mail applications to our SOAR P.O. box listed on the front of this newsletter. All applications must be received by September 1, 2016. Winners will be selected by lottery at our Fall meeting.

The SOAR Board of Directors reserves the right to limit Scholarships due to financial conditions.

Soar Scholarship

Paul Sonn	25.00	Robert Johnson	25.00	Patrick Biggins	25.00
Saverio Pascale	5.00	James Sullivan	20.00	Paul Kennedy	5.00
Philip Lynch	5.00	Donald Skuza	10.00	Enrico Cucco	10.00
John McGivney	15.00	Noel Theisinger	13.00	Daniel Sullivan	5.00
Nicholas Athanasidy	25.00	James Hegarty	25.00	James Serra	15.00
James Gillespie	10.00	Arthur Mathews	10.00	Donald Kuhn	15.00
Joseph Maccone	25.00	Charles Beehn	10.00	Mathew McPartland	50.00
Thomas Conrad	5.00	Craig Griffin	5.00	Robert Gibbons	15.00
Robert Burke	25.00	Robert Shine	25.00	Phyllis Schiefer	10.00
Leroy Callier	25.00	Edwin Donovan	15.00	John Wales	10.00
Norman Thomas	5.00	William Wroblecki	25.00	James O'Brien	5.00
Raymond McGinn	15.00	Gerald Mayer	5.00	Raymond McCauley	25.00
Alfred Baker	5.00	John Stefanowski	15.00	Charles Archambault	10.00
Jerry Castagliola	5.00	Steven D'Antonio	15.00	Louis Rosse	25.00
Carmine Tabacco	10.00	Walter Stone	15.00	Thor Stratton	25.00
Walter Szachacz	5.00	Pasqual Cirincione	15.00	Patrick Egan	25.00
Philip Tambasco	5.00	Stephen Gavora	10.00	Salvatore Lanzarone	15.00
Charles Derienzo	5.00	Anthony Messina	25.00	John Debona	5.00
Barry Noxon	25.00	Francis Falanga	5.00	John Hartigan	25.00
Joseph Blozis	15.00	Michael Borrelli	75.00	Michael Sapraicone	75.00
Gerald McIntyre	5.00	John O'Sullivan	5.00	James O'Connor	5.00
Thomas McTernan	10.00	Edward Deacy	5.00	Edward Ryan	10.00
Raymond Meaney	10.00	Henry Torres	5.00	Chris Sandel	125.00
Frederick Leerhsen	10.00	Frank Donohue	5.00	<i>In memory of Earl Sandel</i>	
Theodore Farace	100.00	Martin Cass	10.00	Leo Poje	15.00
Eric Nordhaug	10.00	James Levey	25.00	Richard Mazur	10.00
Bruce Wells	10.00	James Campbell	15.00	Robert Houlihan	25.00
Gino Delsignore	10.00	Daniel Mari	10.00	David Ingrid	20.00
Camillo Mango	10.00	William Taylor	100.00	George Templeton	25.00
Michael McKeon	5.00	Nicholas Dimuro	25.00	Thomas Burke	25.00
Thomas Fitzgerald	10.00	Catherine Hoffman	50.00	Robert Treubert	5.00
James O'Flaherty	5.00	Jennie shepherd	50.00	Joseph O'Leary	25.00
John Schreiner	40.00	Edward Roge	25.00	Patrick Whalen	25.00
Alfred O'Donnell	10.00	Luis Cavell	15.00	Denis Moynihan	5.00
Martin Dunn	5.00	Henry Meyer	20.00	Humberto Arroyo	25.00
Robert Egan	5.00	James Clarke	25.00	Edward Gross	25.00
Lenny Gregory	10.00	Karen Facompre	25.00	Don Schroeder	50.00
		Michael Tancredi	5.00	Richie Garland	200.00
				John Moore	100.00

Names of PAC contributors will included in next newsletter

Map and Directions to Verdi's Restaurant

149-58 Cross Island Pky. Whitestone, Queens, NYC - Tel. (718) 746-6000

Going West From Long Island

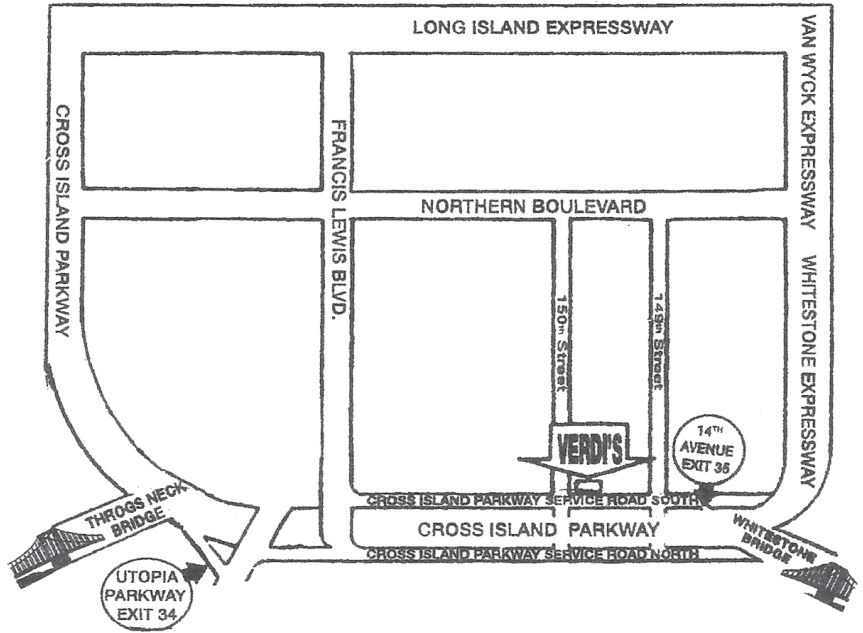
Long Island Expressway to Cross Island Parkway. North on Cross Island Parkway Service Road to 149th Street. Make a left and then another left onto the Cross Island Parkway Service Road South. Verdi's will be on your right hand side.

Going East From New York City

Take the Grand Central Parkway, Long Island Expressway or Belt Parkway to the Van Wyck Expressway to Exit 35 (14th Ave Francis Lewis Blvd) and proceed straight on the Cross Island Parkway Service Road South. Verdi's will be 2 blocks ahead on your right-hand side.

Going South from the Bronx

Take the Whitestone Bridge into Queens. After crossing the bridge, bear left and get onto the Cross Island Parkway Service Road South. Verdi's will be 2 blocks ahead on your right-hand side.



SUPERIOR OFFICERS ASSOCIATION RETIRED (RET.) N.Y.P.D. (S.O.A.R.)

City of New York Police Department

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MEMBERSHIP / RENEWAL APPLICATION

Date _____

Name _____

Home Phone _____

Address _____

Mobile Phone _____

Email _____

Rank _____

Annual Dues \$25
(Jan thru Dec)

New Member ____ Renewal ____

Date of Retirement _____

Additional for Scholarship Donation \$ _____ PAC Donation \$ _____

Signature _____