

**“ Standing Fast.” Retired But Still The Bravest.....the Gene O’Kane Division of FDNY Retired celebrates 45 years!**  
**Age is just a Number...we’ve never looked better. Come and join us.**  
**Membership application is available on our website**  
**[www.okanefdnyretirees.com](http://www.okanefdnyretirees.com).**

**WELCOME** to  
 “Standing Fast.” The  
 official newsletter of the  
 Gene O’Kane Division of  
 FDNY Retired, the first  
 and oldest FDNY retirees  
 organization in the U.S.  
 We have been chartered  
 in the state of Florida  
 since 1979.  
 Postal Address: FDNY  
 Retired, 2053 Blue Beech  
 Ct., Trinity, FL 34655



## Who Are We?

We are an organization of retired New York City Firefighters living on the west coast of Florida in the areas of Pasco, Hernando, Citrus, Pinellas, Hillsborough counties.

Although now retired, we share the bond of having had the privilege of protecting lives and property of the residents of the City of New York as members of the greatest fire department in the world, the FDNY. As retirees of the FDNY, in 1978 we banded together to form the first chapter of the FDNY RETIRED, received a charter from the state of Florida and named our organization after our founder, Gene O'Kane. Thus we are "THE GENE O'KANE DIVISION OF FDNY RETIRED." Our division is the oldest of all the divisions of FDNY Retired, one of nine divisions located in Florida and one of twenty six divisions scattered across the United States. We are also a member of the the "URFA, the United Retired Firefighters Assn. We welcome all FDNY retirees, of all ranks, retired volunteer firefighters from all other municipalities and non-firefighters to join us in friendship and brotherhood as members of our proud organization.

*Membership and Meetings:* Membership in the Gene O'Kane Division of FDNY Retired is open to all FDNY retirees of all ranks, paid and volunteer firefighters from all cities across the U.S.A., also non-firefighters are accepted as "Associate Members." Applications for membership can be obtained by completing the application located on our website and mailing it in as directed. Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month with the exception of June, July and August, at 7 p.m. at the America Legion "Paradise Post" located on Veterans Drive in New Port Richey, FL 34654.

**NEXT MEETING: 12/16/25, 5pm. Annual  
 Holiday Party**



[okaneclubfdny@icloud.com](mailto:okaneclubfdny@icloud.com)

email us for more info.

***OKANE BOOSTERS: reminder...if your number is a 11 it's time to renew! \*Indicates booster renewed.***

Boosters run for 12 months. The number following your name indicates when your Booster will expire. Thank you for your support. Anyone can be a booster. Family members, friends, etc. (Rev. 9/25)

- \*Chichester, Dan10 Members of E275 1963-1987
- \*Chichester, Dan10 Members of L126 1963-1987
- \*Chichester, Dan10 Members of E234 1963-1987
- \*Dunscomb Jim11 Honoring all members of E82
- \*D'Andrea, Jack10 Members of Ladder 126
- \*Incarnato, Charles10 Rockapulco - E268, L137 - Best on the Beach
- \*Incarnato, Charles10 On The Edge - E314 Members LOL
- \*Incarnato, Charles10 Never A Dull Moment E72, For Sure
- \*Incarnato, Charles10 Mid-town High Rise E8,L2, Batt8
- \*Incarnato, Charles10 The Bronx, must I say more? Great Memories
- \*Incarnato, Charles10 In memory of John Askin, E48, my friend and brother
- \*Kikis Louis1 E22/ L13 "The Yorkville Nine"
- \*Kikis Louis1 343 Never Forget
- \*Kikis, Victoria6 Honoring the memory or those who gave their all. 343 Never forget.
- \*Kikis, Victoria6 RIP Jeff Giordano - 9/11/01
- McCarthy William11 Members of L25, 9/11 Never Forget
- \*Martinsen Ron1 Mem BC Tom Neary L134
- \*Martinsen Ron1 Mem BC Chris Scalone E332
- \*Miccio, Rich6 Tom Gambino L163 - 9/11/01 - RIP
- \*Miccio, Rich6 L163/E325 - Woodside Warriors
- \*Nilsson Mike1 E303
- \*Nilsson Mike1 L 126
- \*Nilsson Mike1 deceased 343
- \*Ragusso Rob11 Honoring all members of E289
- Savarese Jim11 The Tin House Gang E-232/L176 BMA
- Savarese Jim11 Watkins St. E-231/L-120/44BN
- Savarese Jim11 Briggs Ave E79/L37/27BN
- Savarese Jim11 RIP Ron Quartuccio
- \*Tarantino Ron1 Mem Lou Tarantino
- \*Tarantino Ron1 Detective Sergeant James Van Valen
- \*Tarantino Ron1 Nick Barone

**YOUR MESSAGE COULD BE HERE. SHOW YOUR SUPPORT**

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**BY SENDING IN YOUR BOOSTER!**

**YOUR MESSAGE COULD BE HERE. SHOW YOUR SUPPORT**

**Send your Booster. (\$5.00 per message) to:  
Mike Doyle, Financial Secretary**

# HOLIDAY PARTY

It's Party Time! Join us for our annual Holiday Party...

Date: Tuesday, December 16, 2025

Time: 5pm

Place: American Legion Paradise Post, Veterans Drive, New Port Richey, FL.

Cost: \$10.00 per person. Family and friends are all welcome! Send your payment, payable to O'Kane FDNY Retired to:

Louis Kikis  
4973 West Breeze Circle  
Palm Harbor, FL 34683

Payments need to be received by 12/10/25.

There will be lots of delicious food and fun and games for all!





## Here is some information you should know.....

UFA Retiree Liaison Marty Tighe: 646-839-6577 or [mitghe@ufanyc.org](mailto:mitghe@ufanyc.org)

UFOA Retiree Liaison Jake Lemonda: 212-376-8400 or [JLemonda@UFOA.org](mailto:JLemonda@UFOA.org)

BHS WTC Monitoring and Treatment: 718-999-1858

BHS WTC Prescription issues: 718-999-1937

WTC Express Scripts ProgramL. 800-935-7179

### HEALTH INSURANCE UPDATES:

City of New York Aetna Medicare Advantage Plan is here to stay.

A recent mailing was sent to all participants with this great news. Thankfully we may all continue enjoying the benefits from this health plan. No changes have been made for 2026.

New NYCE PPO Health Plan (from the [nyceppo.com](http://nyceppo.com) website)

If approved, effective January 1, 2026, the City of New York will be offering a new health plan, replacing the current GHI CBP/Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield plan for active employees and **pre-Medicare retirees**. This new plan, NYC Employees PPO plan (NYCE PPO), will be offered by EmblemHealth and United Healthcare.

You can get more information of this plan by visiting the website: [Nyceppo.com](http://Nyceppo.com)



Happy Holidays From All Of Us  
To  
All Of You,  
Stay Safe And Be Well,  
.....Your O'Kane Club Board