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RDNY NEWS

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

As the dog days of summer begin to approach and depending on when this newsletter hits your inbox or mailbox, I would like to wish everyone a happy Memorial Day or hope that everyone had a great Memorial Day. Personally, I plan on attending the air show at Jones Beach for my Memorial Day celebration. I've been going to the show with my family for many years and it never disappoints. It's a great day at the beach, everyone is patriotic, American flags flying all around and planes from WW II to present day, including some show planes doing amazing acrobats in the air. The show starts off with one of the military branches parachuting in from high above landing smack dab on a big X right in the middle of everyone. Simply amazing. Then there are a bunch of planes showing off what they can do, an air sea rescue is demonstrated, and the show finishes this year with the United States Navy Blue Angels. If you have never seen them, or an air show in general, I highly recommend it. And besides the crowd being very patriotic, they are also very pro police. It's nice to be around like-minded people . But what ever you choose to do for Memorial Day, don't forget the true meaning behind it – to honor those that have given their lives so that we can enjoy the freedoms that we have. To all of the RDNY veterans, thank you.

I apologize for not holding a general meeting in May. We were attempting a hail Mary for our honoree, and I thought that we had a good chance, but it just didn't work out. We were attempting to get Dave Portnoy from Bar Stool Sports for raising and donating \$750,000 to the Diller family. He is a worthy honoree, and we will keep on trying.

By now, everyone who had not paid their 2024 dues received a letter in the mail. To those of you who paid up, thank you. To those of you who have not, please do so. We purge or membership every so often and you don't want to be purged, do you? Or wake up with a horse's head in your bed....

Our June meeting will be conducted aboard the Celtic Quest on June 7. This is the RDNY annual fishing trip. We always get a good turnout, let's make this year the best one ever. Even if you don't fish, it's a fun day on the water and getting some sun on the sun deck. Yes, there is a sun deck. Bring your kids and friends too. (see flyer)

In years past, we held a summer rooftop cigar event at the Monarch Rooftop Bar in NYC. This year the RDNY will be supporting With Arms Wide Open for their cigar event at the Monarch on June 17th (see flyer). For those of you not familiar with WAWO, they are a fraternal NYPD organization whose mission is to support NYPD members who have special needs children. They are a fantastic organization with great resources and support for MOS who desperately need any and all help they can get raising their children and dealing with the vigor's of being an NYPD police officer. So please, join us and WAWO for a smoke under the stars just feet away from the Empire State Building.

July 29th is the RDNY world famous golf outing. In August, myself and the board get a break, and will enjoy our summer. Come September we are back! I have already set up our September meeting, I like to plan in advance. As you know the RDNY meets on the second Wednesday of the month, but in September the second Wednesday is 9/11. I made a command decision and chose not to hold our meeting that day. We will have our meeting on the first Wednesday, which is September 4th. We will be back in Staten Island at The Point Tavern and will be honoring NYPD Sgt. Joe Imperatrice, founder of Blue Lives Matter. More to come on Joe and his contributions to law enforcement officers in need in my September newsletter. If you can't wait until then you can always download past president Kevin Schroeder's podcast from WABC radio, Cop Talk. (https://wabcradio.com/podcast/cop-talk/). Kevin interviewed Joe a few weeks ago. Kevin is up to 70 podcasts so far and going strong. He does a great job, and they are fun and informative to listen to. I guess there is life after President of the RDNY.

Example 8 Reep up the good work Kevin.

Many other fraternal organizations like to talk to their members about what's new in health care, prescription drugs, retiree benefits, etc. I have chosen to do the complete opposite. My reason is simple, that is not the mission of the RDNY and I don't want to give out bad information. The DEA does a great job keeping its membership informed and also fighting for their members, active and retired. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to the DEA. The RDNY usually posts important news from the DEA on our Facebook Page, website, and e-mail blasts. But remember, the RDNY is generally a group of retired detectives networking and having some laughs over a drink and a meal. We like to stay in our lane. But I will give out some free advice that I have had some experience with. Make a will. Designate a health care proxy. Designate a power of attorney. Confer with an elder attorney. Make sure all of your beneficiary's are what you want. Things change over time. Stay healthy. Collect as many pension checks as possible!!

In last month's newsletter, I told you that the RDNY would be working on getting members access to discounted pet insurance, the finishing touches are being put on it as we speak. As soon as it's ready, I'll let you pet lovers know!!!

Lastly, our 4 scholarship winners will be chosen at the golf outing (remember with the kindness of Mechanic and Associates the new award will be \$1000 each) and we will also be drawing the winner of the Jet Blue raffle. No need to be there to win.

From the entire Board of Officers and me, we wish you and your family a wonderful summer, filled with beach, BBQ, family and friends and poolside cocktails.

Enjoy this month's edition of Talking Wilde by the one and only Johnny Wilde.

Rich Santangelo, President

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I'm sure everyone remembers the French Connection. It was





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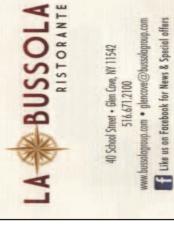


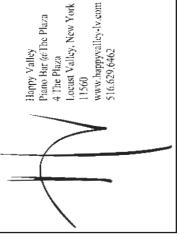


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all about great detective work. But did you know about the Italian Connection? It all started with the election of Tom Scotto, former DEA Union President. After him it was Michael Palladino and then Paul DiGiacomo. These were the last three presidents of the DEA. As you can tell by the vowels at the end of their names, they were all Italian and their Boards consisted of all nationalities and races. And they all had a connection to Jackie Boy, Jack Healy, who was a mentor to all in the DEA who knew him. He passed away long before his time. He was Vice President of The DEA and a great friend. Old timers will remember when the DEA Office was on Broadway near City Hall and very small. If you needed some forms you had to look in the closet. No computers. Thank God for two ladies who worked for the DEA: Helen and Laura who knew where everything was. Thanks to Tom Scotto, that changed and we now own our own building at 26 Thomas Street with a great staff and Health Benefits office run by Sharon who has been with the DEA forever. A lot of changes took place. I remember going to a Squad as a white shield and members of the Squad who were also white shields had been there 10 years without getting promoted to Detective. If you didn't have a connection you had to wait. There was no 18-month bill. I believe the DEA started negotiating with a 52-month bill but it became the 18-month bill. Many detectives were made due to this bill. I believe we are the only municipality that still has this bill.

The DEA also had a lot to do with detectives getting promoted to 2nd and 1st Grade. Maybe they made them an offer they couldn't refuse. That was in the movie, right. You know dealing with the City is not easy. You have to fight for everything you get and these 3 Presidents have always fought for its members including the retirees. I know we have our gripes and issues but they have always had our backs. All three Presidents supported the RDNY all these years. And one other thing, they have never forgotten those who gave it all. They treat the Widows and Children of these Heroes like family and they never forget. They are at all the DEA functions. Paul DiGiacomo treats them like he's their father. He is always looking out for them. He is the head of the Family, the Godfather. These three Presidents, Tom Scotto, Mike Palladino and Paul DiGiacomo are the reason we are known as the World's Greatest Detectives. Paul is leaving the DEA at the end of June due to hitting the age. A new president is coming up, Scott Munro and his Board. He may have a O at the end of his name but he is not Italian. Let's support him and his Board as we want them to support us. Good Luck to them.

*** Wishing that Tom, Mike and Paul enjoy their retirement for many years. They earned it. God Bless!

BEYOND THE TRUTH

You know we can talk about it all the time but unless you really see it or experience it you don't believe it to be the truth. But let me tell you it is really happening. Crime is rampant in New York. It can't be controlled if you don't have law and order. The criminals know what's going on and they take advantage of it. They did away with bail, broken windows, stop and frisk and just about every other crime deterrent. This helped criminals, not citizens who have to put up with these criminals. Don't these politicians see this or are they just blind to the truth. With all this going on, the Mayor visited Rome. He had a visit with the Pope. Could you envision the Pope sitting in his big chair saying "What the heck is he doing here and why when all this is going on in NYC"? Politics! Politics!

AND JUSTICE FOR ALL

Look, I don't care if you are Republican, Democrat or some other Party. How could you not see this? As members of Law Enforcement, we have all seen cases overturned because of witnesses being ruled as unfit to testify. Drug users are caught lying. Yet DA Bragg, who won't put criminals who commit violent crimes in jail, has a case he is prosecuting in NYC that has a known prostitute and a scammer testifying along with a lawyer who was sent to jail for perjury recently, and has a vendetta against the person being prosecuted. Is this fair? What has happened to this country? And it is being held in liberal NYC with the jurors living in Manhattan. So much for justice for all. Make America Great Again, maybe?

IN OUR PRAYERS

We lost a great man last month, Father James Lloyd, a Paulist Priest for 75 years. He was the Chaplain for the RDNY for 20 years in the beginning years. Well-known for his sense of humor and supporter of the NYPD. He died on April 26, 2024 at the age of 103 years old. A couple of days before he passed, he requested a hat from the RDNY and some pins. He was a recipient of our ARDY years ago. I went to his wake at the Paulist Church on 59th Street and Columbus Ave. and put our RDNY hat and the NYPD hat that I brought on the altar. He made a personal eulogy about himself a few years ago for when he passed and lo and behold, he proudly had our RDNY pin on his jacket. His Funeral Mass was on You-Tube along with his video of his eulogy. He will surely be missed. Whenever he sent me a letter he ended this way.

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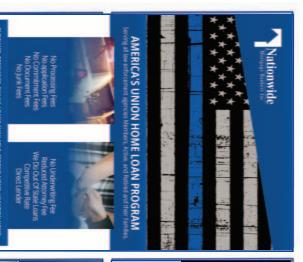
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