



THE SHIELD

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE BALTIMORE RETIRED POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

SERVED WITH HONOR

SUMMER 2017

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Summer is winding down; kids are going back to school; and Christmas is only a few months away. Where has the year gone? It seems like only last week that I was writing the Spring President's Message. The older I get, the quicker the days fly by; just when I need them to slow down!!! Farmer's Almanac states that the Northeast is in for a cold and snowy winter; so does the National Weather Service. My old bones are praying they are wrong.

1. As the summer ends, so do our meetings at our current location. Our two good friends, Bob and Linda Limmer, have owned and operated Heritage Gardens Catering Service since 1991. We have been spoiled by their generosity, attention to detail, and excellent services for over twenty-six years, but sadly, they have decided to retire. We wish them the best in their well-deserved decision and we will miss seeing them every month.

We have looked at almost twenty halls for our new home. There were many nice places and some not-so-nice places. Some were not large enough, some had traffic problems, and some had various other issues.

Upon completion of our investigation into the above mentioned halls, the Committee reported to the Board their findings and the best overall new location is the American Legion #130 at 8666 Silverlake Drive, Perry Hall, MD 21128.

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the hall's previous commitments, our meetings must move to the third TUESDAY of each month at 7:00 p.m.

If you have never been to this hall, you will think you are travelling to see the Wizard of Oz, but it's really very simple...just follow the road (it's not a yellow brick road though). The road ends at a nice hall with

plenty of room for parking and handicap accessible entranceways. We have nicknamed this new hall "The Legion in the Woods." It's a peacefully quiet building nestled in a forest of trees.

We had to violate our By-Laws, Article IV, Meetings Section 4 because of how this set of circumstances came about, but we had no other choice.

2. Through the efforts of our lobbyist, Mr. Frank Boston, I was able to meet with Baltimore City Councilwoman, Mary Pat Clarke. She is working closely with us regarding our healthcare issues, i.e. why we are going to be removed from the prescription plan in 2020. An investigative hearing will be brought before the City Council to help foster a resolution to this major problem for our members and widows. When this hearing occurs, we urge you fill City Hall. We will keep you informed of the date and time. If you do not attend and stand up for your benefits, you are letting them know you do not care and they win the battle.

That's all I have for now. Directions to the new meeting hall are on page two. We hope to see you there on September 19th, 2017.

Daryl Buhrman

**WE ARE NOW UP TO 780 MEMBERS WHO
RECEIVE EMAIL UPDATES! THANK YOU!
If you would also like to receive updates,
please email J8518@aol.com**

**BALTIMORE RETIRED
POLICE BENEVOLENT
ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE BOARD
P.O. Box 6217
Baltimore, MD 21206**

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DIRECTIONS TO THE NEW HALL (The Legion in the Woods)

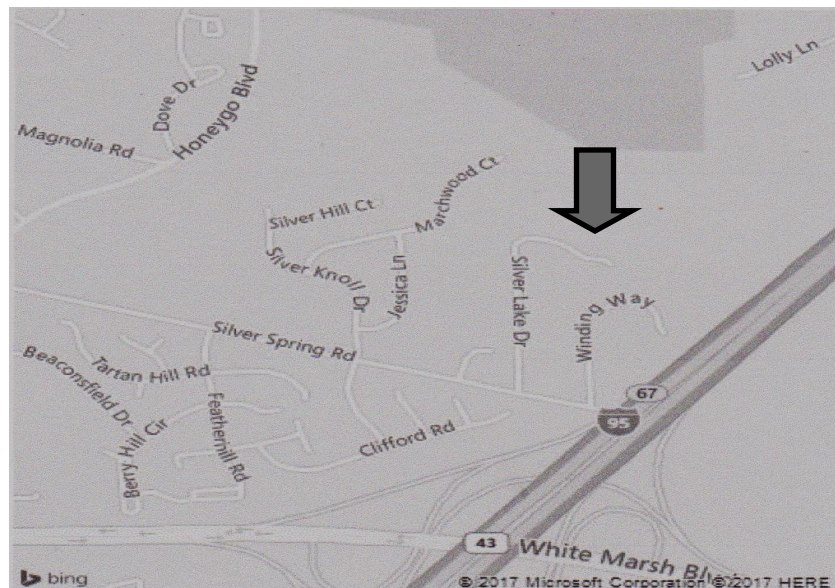
From Belair Road: Head South on Belair Road towards Perry Hall if coming from Harford County area. Turn left onto Honeygo Blvd. Turn left onto Silver Spring Road. Turn left onto Silverlake Drive. Follow to the end. Signs along road will direct you.

From Belair Road: Head North on Belair Road towards Perry Hall if coming North from the City area. Turn right onto Honeygo Blvd. Turn left onto Silver Spring Road. Turn left onto Silverlake Drive. Follow to the end. Signs along road will direct you.

From I95: Exit at #67 MD43/White Marsh Blvd. towards US-1. Keep right and bear onto Honeygo Blvd. Turn right onto Silver Spring Road. Turn left onto Silverlake Drive. Follow to the end. Signs along road will direct you.

From I695: Exit at 31C towards White Marsh. Turn onto Honeygo Blvd. Turn right onto Silver Spring Road. Turn left onto Silverlake Drive. Follow to the end. Signs along road will direct you.

For further information, visit www.perryhallamericanlegion.org.



**POLICE : KNOCK KNOCK
ME : WHO IS IT
POLICE : ITS THE POLICE
ME : WHAT DO YOU WANT
POLICE : WE JUST WANNA TALK
ME : HOW MANY OF YOU ARE THERE
POLICE : 2
ME : THEN TALK TO EACH OTHER**

HONORING TWO SPECIAL PEOPLE

By Daryl Buhrman

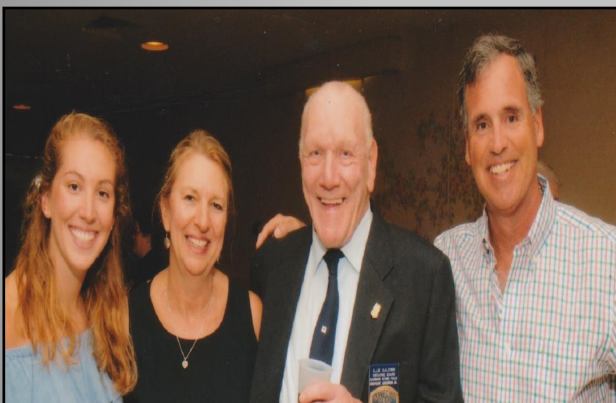
On June 21, 2017, at our monthly membership meeting, it was our honor to bestow commemorative plaques to our Brothers, Mr. Richard Nevin and Mr. Ellis Baldwin for over twenty-five years (each) of volunteer service to the BRPBA.

Both men joined the BRPBA in 1992 serving on Committees before becoming officers of the Board. Richard Nevin has held various Board positions, including President. Ellis (Ditty) Baldwin was named Sargent at Arms in 1994 and has served in that capacity since.

Friends and family joined us in this celebration, resulting in the largest membership meeting the BRPBA has ever had (217 attendees).

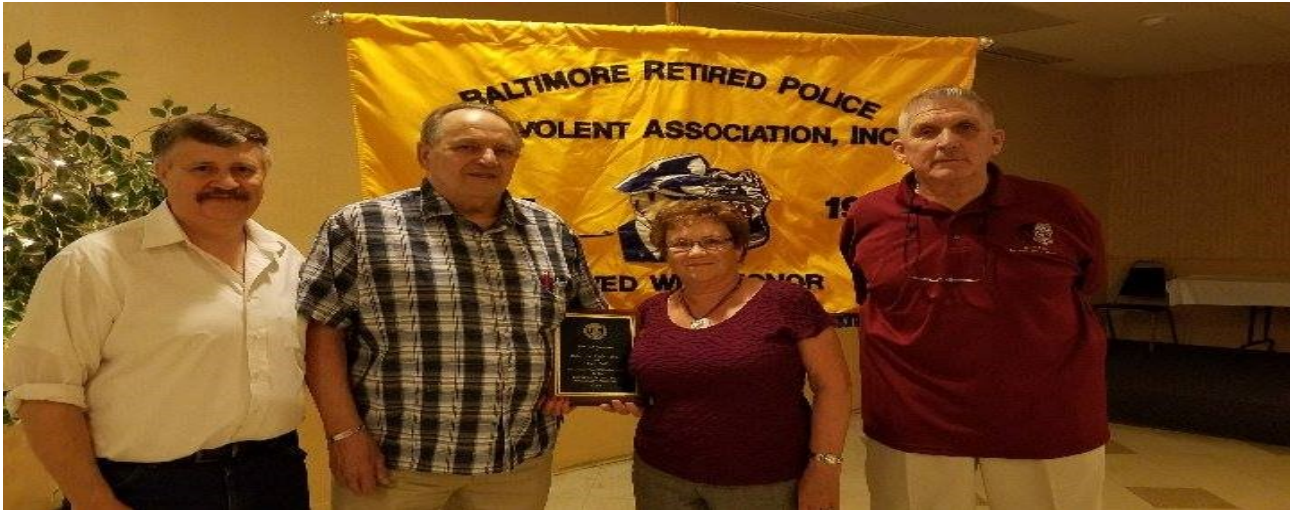
We will always be eternally grateful to these two fine gentlemen for their unfailing dedication. Being a volunteer not only helps the membership, but bestows a personal reward that cannot be measured.

Thank you again, Mr. Baldwin and Mr. Nevin.



SAYING GOODBYE IS HARD

By Patrick Youells



On May 17, 2017, Robert (Bob), and Linda Limmer were presented with a plaque as a token of gratitude from the Baltimore Retired Police Benevolent Association for their 30 years of service to our organization.

We are so very grateful that these two-great people dedicated their venue and good food for our monthly meetings. This, of course, includes the two Bull and Oyster Roasts that were done twice each year.

Now for the bad news. Bob has advised us that the company that owns the building that Heritage Gardens occupies is raising Bob's rent far too much for Bob and Linda to continue business and they have decided to retire. This means that our organization now must find a new venue.

Daryl addresses this in his President's Message along with directions.

A grateful thank you is sent to Bob and Linda. Enjoy retirement.





Newsletter

July 2017

WHERE TO KEEP IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS, ETC.

We all have important documents that we need to safeguard and that we need ready access to. Below is a list of such items and where they should be kept. Be sure to let your family and / or legal representative know where these items are and how to get to them.

<p>Safe Deposit Box (in a bank)</p>		<p>Fire Safe Box (in your house)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <u>Copy</u> of your Will (I recommend putting your <u>original</u> Will on file at the Register of Wills Office in your county or city); ● Life Insurance Policies; ● Homeowner's Insurance Policy; ● Marriage License/Certificates; ● Divorce Decrees; ● Child Custody Papers; ● Military Discharge Documents; ● Birth & Death Certificates; ● Adoption Documents; ● Deed to your Home; ● Stock & Bond Certificates; ● Back-up disks or drives of your important computer files; ● Photos/Video Tapes of the contents of your home; ● Certificates of Deposit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <u>Copy</u> of your Will (I recommend putting your <u>original</u> Will on file at the Register of Wills Office in your county or city); ● Health Care Decision Documents (Living Will, Medical Advance Directive, etc.); ● Personal Financial Power of Attorney or Durable General Power of Attorney; ● A <u>copy</u> of everything in your wallet (i.e., social security card, credit cards (front and back), health insurance card, AAA card, etc.); ● <u>Copy</u> of Life Insurance Policies; ● <u>Copy</u> of Homeowner's Insurance Policy ● <u>Copy</u> of your Deed to your house ● Loan Documents for secured loans; ● <u>One</u> key to your safe deposit box (a duplicate key should be given to a trusted relative <u>living in a different house</u>); ● Passports; ● A list of everything that is in your safe deposit box; ● Any other important documents you wish to keep. 		

Note: Because of recent changes in Maryland law, your old "Living Will", "Advance Directive: Appointment of Health Care Agent", "Advance Directive: Health Care Instructions" and "Durable General Power of Attorney" may not contain the information or wording that your doctor, hospital, and/or legal representative now need. If you do have any of these "old" documents, I strongly suggest that you contact your attorney to have them reviewed / updated / replaced.

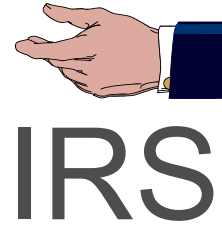
IRS WILL START USING PRIVATE DEBT COLLECTORS.

For years now, I have been telling you that if you get a phone call from someone saying that they are from IRS and want you to pay (more) taxes, you should hang up and ignore them, because IRS doesn't make phone calls. Now IRS is changing that. Starting in 2017, IRS has contracted 4 private debt collection companies to try to collect old tax debts that IRS has given up on.

For taxpayers, the problem is, if you get a phone call saying you owe more taxes, how can you tell if it is legitimate or not? Generally, such phone calls will still be a scam. But if the following criteria apply to you, then it may be real.

1. You really do owe money for prior years' taxes; and
2. IRS has sent you letters in the past trying (unsuccessfully) to collect those taxes; and
3. You receive new letters from IRS and from a Collection Agency telling you in advance that they will call.

If the 3 criteria above do not apply, my advice to "hang up" still applies. If you do get letters from IRS and/or a Collection Agency, contact me before you do anything else. And if you are unsure or have any questions, call me.



MARYLAND PROPERTY TAX BILLS

All Maryland homeowners should be receiving their property tax bills this month. But if you live in **Baltimore County**, your bill could be incorrect! The Baltimore County Office of Budget and Finance says some of the bills contain system-generated errors. (Generally, those incorrect bills are higher than they should be.) Residents are asked to disregard those incorrect bills.

Baltimore County officials say that new property tax bills will be sent to all Baltimore County homeowners, with revised information as necessary. The process of correcting and mailing is supposed to take up to approximately four weeks. Baltimore County officials say that they have already contacted the majority of mortgage companies regarding the error, so if you have a mortgage and you pay your property taxes through your escrow account, you may not notice the problem. If you pay your property taxes yourself, however, and you pay early, you may be paying too much. The County says it will refund any taxpayer who pays the wrong amount because of the errors.

Some property owners pay their taxes in July to take full advantage of the discount for paying early. Baltimore County will be extending its discount period through August for homeowners who pay their bills in July or August. If you live in Baltimore County, you may want to wait until you get your new bill to pay your property tax bill.

Howard County is also experiencing problems with their property tax bills. However, the problem in Howard County will simply delay the sending out of the bills by about 10 days. The amounts should be correct. No other Maryland County is reporting any problems.



This quarterly newsletter provides business, financial planning, and tax information to clients and friends. None of this general information should be acted upon without first determining its application to your specific situation.

For additional copies of this newsletter or further details on any article, please contact me.

THE POLICE

Maligning police these days amounts to a popular, if not required, sport for some people. Most of us do not really appreciate law enforcement unless we encounter a crisis. Only then do we understand how desperately society depends on those who protect and serve.

Nothing disrupts families more than mental illness. Just after an injury ended my police career, my wife, Sally, gave birth to Andrew. He suffers from paranoid schizophrenia. He hears voices and develops bizarre delusions. He becomes extremely violent.

In 1998, when our older son was in a coma at Shock Trauma, I had to get a protective order to keep Andrew out of the house because of his behavior. Shortly after that, he went to jail and then to prison, only being released in 2016. He could not comply with post-release requirements, and he moved from one group facility to another, often being expelled because of violent behavior.

When he vanished for a while in 2016, I had police (who else?) watching and looking for him. I had police (who else?) checking the morgue. I had police (who else?) on standby to stay with my wife in the event that I had to go to the morgue to identify my son's body. No one else had the capability or willingness. No one else had that level of compassion. Certainly no one else had the competence.

On Christmas Eve, 2016, I got a call from the Weinberg facility telling me that Andrew had found his way back there. He did not look good. But at least we knew where he was and that he was alive. We knew that he would not be cold and hungry – or dead – on Christmas day.

It did not last. Andrew became violent and dangerous to the other residents. The facility had to expel him. Once again, we did not know where he was.

Eventually, he made his way to our neighborhood. We could not allow him in the house. It was too dangerous. Then, in February, he hurled a rock the size of a brick through our front window as my wife was saying the Rosary for him. She asked him why he had shattered the window. He cursed at and threatened her. The police responded almost instantaneously to arrest him and to protect my wife.

Afterward, I personally went to see the court commissioner who treated me dismissively. Nonetheless, Andrew stayed in jail over the weekend. The following Monday, I went to Andrew's bail review, and the judge remanded him with no bail.

I wrote the prosecutor, describing the situation. I got a call from a young lawyer in the office. After I talked to him, I decided to review the law myself. I found a statute that permits civil commitments of up to a year for people who are both incompetent and dangerous – although there is obviously no guarantee that will happen, particularly with the shortage of psychiatric beds in Maryland.

Then my wife, extremely upset and heartbroken, and I went to court on the day of his trial. I tried to tell both the

prosecutor and the public defender about the civil commitment statute. I could not have a productive conversation with either one.

When the case came on for trial, the prosecutor and public defender had a whispered conversation with the judge. Then the prosecutor whispered to me that he wanted me and my wife to consent to an arrangement by which Andrew would plead guilty, agree to stay away and pay us \$200 in restitution for the window. I told him that his suggestion was disappointing and offensive. A long discussion among the lawyers and the judge followed, and the judge remanded Andrew for an examination by the court psychiatrist.

I copied about 1000 pages of Andrew's medical records relating to his paranoid schizophrenia and violence and had them hand-delivered to the psychiatrist. He never acknowledged receiving them. Apparently Andrew got some evaluation.

When we returned to court, the prosecutor said he had not seen the court psychiatrist's evaluation. The public defender apparently skimmed it. It said that our violent and paranoid schizophrenic son, who had threatened and assaulted both me and my wife, was perfectly competent. That made him ineligible for any civil commitment.

After a guilty plea to malicious destruction, which only carries a 60 day sentence, the prosecutor asked me to make a victim impact statement. I did, and in the middle of it, my son's caring and helpful public defender objected. Then, because he had no choice, the judge released Andrew. The public defender then told him to walk from the Towson District Court to the Baltimore County Detention Center about a half a mile away and to grab a ride to the Helping Up Mission in downtown Baltimore.

A few months later, when our 10-year-old granddaughter was sleeping over at our house, a large crash jarred us awake at 3:30 AM. Our son had attempted to hurl a full-sized garbage can through the front window. Shattered glass covered our living room.

I again notified both the police and the prosecutor. A supervisor in the State's Attorney's Office, someone I had known for decades, apparently too busy to call me, sent me a perfunctory email expressing a belief the civil commitment statute did not apply. I did not see that answering would achieve anything.

The police response differed markedly. Since the incident, the Baltimore County police have constantly checked on the well-being of the family. If they see the door open, front or back, they get out of their cars, come up to the house and check to make sure we are safe. On the midnight shift, they stop by constantly, even sitting in front of the house to do paperwork. In the morning, if the door is open as I am eating breakfast, a police officer taps on the screen door to make sure I am okay.

The commanding officer of the Towson Precinct has personally looked for, and briefly located, my son. His

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

officers have taken him to the hospital for brief commitments; all the law allows. The police, every one of them, have done everything they could to take care of my family.

Every day police protect all of us, never asking for anything, really, in return. Receiving thanks surprises them. Yet most of the time, they get – we get – vitriolic calumny from so-called “progressives.”

Stay proud of that badge. When you say a prayer, when you light a candle, remember, always remember, the police.

Mike May

Exercises for independent seniors

'Keep your chin up' is not just a saying for senior independent living; this can help in our everyday relaxing time. Sit up straight, lean the head back as far as is comfortable. Uh, oh...didja hear those creaks? Feel the 'pull' in the front neck muscle? Then lean the head to one side..hold..then the other side...hold. Continue doing this simple exercise couple times a day, EVERY day. Ease up if soreness develops.

A simple and easy way for independent living seniors to tone the leg muscles is: Lie flat on your back, legs extended straight up with toes pointed(easy does this when beginning, a slight bend if necessary); try to keep your hips, knees and ankles in a straight line. With your toes always pointed, bend first your right knee, and bring your foot as close to your buttock as possible; raise leg to beginning position, then repeat with the left leg (note, the opposite leg should be kept straight in the air, muscle tight). Repeat with both legs four times, then flex the feet and repeat exercises four more times, each leg. Bring legs down and relax before standing. These exercises can be done on a continuing basis for firming and toning your legs.

INSURANCE UPDATE

We published information regarding the **City's Basic Life Insurance** plan in the Spring 2017 newsletter. Employee Benefits recently informed us of some changes that may be helpful to you. Please see below:

Employee Benefits has notified the **F&P** of a change regarding the **City of Baltimore's life insurance**. Minnesota Life and Securian Life have adopted the brand of their parent company, Securian Financial Group, Inc. (Securian).

Employees and retirees will not see any change to their life insurance coverage amount or premium rates as a result of this change, but you will see the new identity reflected in the company's correspondence and materials. Employees and retirees should continue to contact Employee Benefits to report a death; **however, they will no longer be handling beneficiary forms.**

Employees and retirees can manage their Group Life insurance beneficiaries online using Minnesota Life's secure website www.LifeBenefits.com/baltimorecity

Simply enter your **User ID** and **Password** in the **Account Log On section** to gain access to the website.

- Your **User ID** is COB followed by a number assigned by Minnesota Life.
- Your initial **Password** is your 8-digit date of birth followed by the last four digits of your Social Security Number. For example, If your date of birth was August 2, 1960 and the last four digits of your Social Security number were 1234, you would enter 080219601234 as your password.

If you do not know your user ID, forgot your new password, or have any questions, please contact Securian directly at **1-877-494-1754** for assistance.

On the next page is a copy of the updated **Retiree Beneficiary Designation** form. This form can used to designate all coverage or you may complete separate forms for Basic Coverage and Supplemental Coverage should you elect different beneficiaries. Employees and retirees must mail all beneficiary forms directly to:

Securian Financial Group, Inc.
Group Insurance
400 Robert Street North
St. Paul, MN 55101-2098

Retiree Beneficiary Designation

Minnesota Life Insurance Company - A Securian Company
 Group Administration Department
 400 Robert Street North • St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2098

MINNESOTA LIFE

Employer City of Baltimore		Policy number 34019	
Insured's name (last, first, middle initial)		Social Security number	
Street address	City	State	Zip
Insured's date of birth		Insured's telephone number	

This designation applies to:

Basic Term Life

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Print or type in the space below, the full name, address, relationship to the insured, and share % of each beneficiary to be named. If identifying a class of beneficiaries, such as children, identify each person currently included in that class.
2. Sign and date the completed form.
3. Return to Minnesota Life using the address above or fax to 651-665-4827.

CHANGE BENEFICIARY REVOKING ALL PRIOR DESIGNATIONS

The primary and contingent beneficiary(ies) determines the order in which beneficiaries become eligible to receive death proceeds. Surviving beneficiaries in any category share equally with beneficiaries in the same category unless otherwise specified. Use of the word "Children", without modification, includes only your biological children of first generation and adopted children. For revocable designations, this signed beneficiary designation, when accepted by Minnesota Life, is the only form needed to elect or change a designation under this policy. No other documents are required.

Name beneficiaries by category. To receive death proceeds, a beneficiary must survive the insured. In the event a beneficiary does not survive the insured, that beneficiary's portion shall be equally distributed to the remaining beneficiaries within that category. In the event of simultaneous death of the insured and a beneficiary, the death proceeds will be paid as if the insured survived the beneficiary.

The same person cannot be named as a primary and a contingent beneficiary.

PRIMARY BENEFICIARY(IES) - The person or persons named will receive the proceeds

Beneficiary Full Name & Address	Relationship	Share % (for primary beneficiaries must total 100%)

Total = 100%

CONTINGENT BENEFICIARY(IES) - If the primary beneficiary(ies) is no longer living, the benefit is paid to this person(s)

Beneficiary Full Name & Address	Relationship	Share % (for contingent beneficiaries must total 100%)

Total = 100%

Policyowner's signature required X	Date
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RETURN TO MINNESOTA LIFE FOR ENDORSEMENT

What is a Volunteer?

Dictionary.com defines a Volunteer as: A person who voluntarily offers himself or herself for a service or undertaking.

Why do people Volunteer?

In the “old days”, volunteers were often people who had lots of time to spare and were looking for something to do. Women often filled these rolls long ago when they were not in the work force and women still volunteer more than men, but nowadays, it’s becoming more and more important for both men and women to fill the needs of the community for a variety of reasons.

What does Volunteering do for you?

People volunteer for many reasons, sometimes altruism, sometimes personal, but always for a purpose. For many it’s a way of giving back.

Most popular reasons people volunteer:

- Achievement/stand up and be counted
- Recognition and feedback
- Personal growth/satisfaction
- Giving something back/feel involved
- Friendship & support/be part of a team/feeling of belonging
- Make a difference/create a better world for others/be an agent of change
- Contribute to a cause you care about/assure progress
- Use your skills in a productive way/develop new skills.
- Explore new areas of interest/Expand your horizons
- Strengthen your resume/gain status

Whatever your reasons for volunteering, it takes very little of your personal time to help others, but the satisfaction you achieve by knowing you did something good, that you were an integral part of something important, cannot be measured.

Why are we writing this article?

Because the BRPBA needs volunteers. We need people to stand up and become a part of the organization. A few of our Board members are reaching an age where they would like to “retire” from volunteering their time. And still others have health issues that preclude them from giving of themselves, no matter how much they would like to continue on.

Volunteering to become a member of the Board requires very little of your time, but the benefits you reap are many. The single most important benefit for you is the satisfaction of knowing you have ensured the continuation of an organization that’s sole purpose is to help our membership. Whether that help comes from making sure there is no loss of benefits through the City, keeping the membership informed of important news regarding life for the working officer nowadays, or helping a member who is in dire straits, you have made sure that yourself and your retired Brothers and Sisters in Blue are taken care of.

Can you give a couple hours of your time a month? Can you stand up and be counted? Go down in the history books of the BRPBA as someone who cared enough, not only about yourself, but also about others’ futures?

The list above shows what you can gain by volunteering with the BRPBA. Once you become involved, you will understand the personal satisfaction achieved by helping others. We cannot and will not let the BRPBA go down in flames. We need your help.

Please come be a part of the BRPBA. We need your expertise. Contact Daryl Buhrman at bigfoot571s@yahoo.com (410-803-2293) or Patrick Youells at cody7762@hotmail.com (410-668-7620) with any questions. Thank you!

345 PEOPLE NOW TAKE ADVANTAGE OF INSTANT UPDATES AND MAKE CONNECTIONS ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE. SO PROUD!
LOOK FOR US AT "MEMBERS ONLY BRPBA" AND SEND A REQUEST TO JOIN.

REMEMBER CHANGE OF VENUE FOR MEETINGS!!!!

AMERICAN LEGION HALL, POST 130.

8666 SILVERLAKE DRIVE

PERRY HALL, MD 21128

7:00 P.M. TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 19TH!!!!

WANT TO PLACE A FREE AD? PLACE
YOUR BUSINESS CARD OR FOR SALE
ITEM IN THIS SPACE .
(Send to P.O. Box 6217, 21206.)



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Manager



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WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

August Beyer	James E. Guntner
Tracy Byrd	Laurie Gutberlet
Christopher Emick	Michael Harren
Veronica Green	James Kelly
Gregg Grueninger	Norman Meads

CONTACT INFORMATION:

President: Daryl Buhrman 410-803-2293
1st VP: Richard Nevin 410-876-1027
Distress Fund 410-803-2293

Website www.brpb.com

Email Address: J8518@aol.com

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Please remember, monthly meetings may be canceled due to inclement weather when:

- Baltimore County Schools are closed because of snow or inclement weather; or,
- There is a snowfall after schools are dismissed and the Baltimore County snow emergency plan is placed in operation.

SICKNESS OR DEATH OF MEMBER

Please arrange for someone to call Ditty Baldwin at 410-666-7279 whenever a member is sick. This is the only way our Association is aware of it. Remember, upon your death, your spouse or immediate family should notify the Police Personnel Board at 410-396-2546.

Newsletter Chairman:

Patrick Youells
(cody7762@hotmail.com).



WITH OUR NEW STREAMLINED DISTRESS FUND APPLICATION, IT HAS NEVER BEEN EASIER TO ASK FOR HELP.

CALL DARYL BUHRMAN, 410-803-2293 WHEN YOU NEED A HELPING HAND.



CONNECTION CORNER



Want to reconnect with those you used to work with? Want to send a special message? BRPBA has started this page to help you get the message out there! Email David Eastman for more information on this new program (daman858@gmail.com).

Retired Sgt. Richard O. Price II send his regards to all his old friends in the BPD. He can be reached at roprice2@gmail.com

I have been retired now almost 27 years and I miss all my friends from the department. Working with them were some of the best times of my life. Those that have left this life makes me sad. Those still around, I wish them well and God speed. Bob Hall, Traffic Division. Retired 11-30-1990. theduke526@gmail.com

Retired Officer Paul Valeri says hello to all his old side partners and friends. Paul is in the landscaping and property maintenance business in the Baltimore area. You can find him on Facebook.

Retired Sgt. Larry Mize spends his spare time writing poetry. He says it is a great stress reliever. He can be reached at larrymize@gmail.com.

*Cries go unheard
As the bullets fly
Mothers cry...
As their children die
Bodies in the streets
Day and night
Somehow the madness
Doesn't seem right
No rhyme or reason
To the killings going on
No place is safe
At least not for long
Downtown or Brooklyn
East or West sides
Pity Baltimore's families
Left wondering why
Cops on the beat
Haven't a clue
Mayor goes to Vegas
What's a citizen to do?
The city is hurting
Filled with trash and debris
Not safe to walk the streets
Not for you, not for me
Don't have no answers
Just a helpless sigh
No one is willing
To give Love a try*

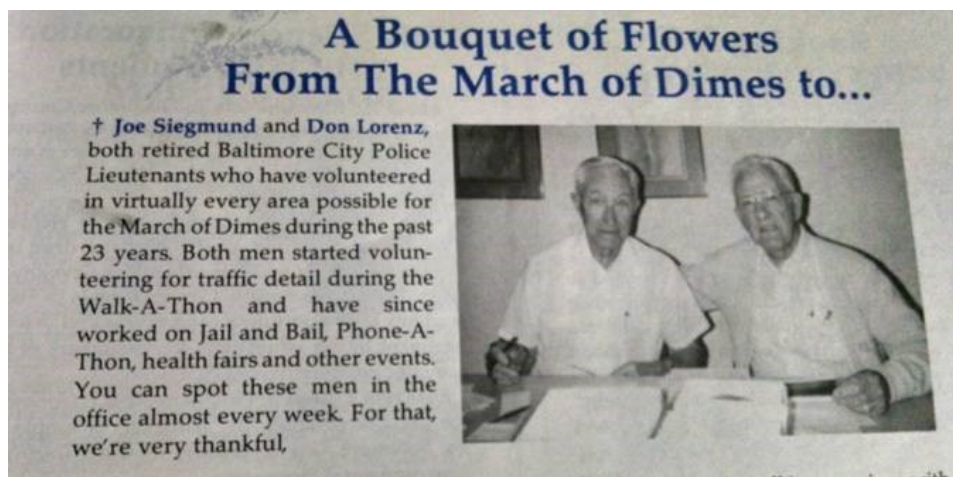
LT. JOSEPH SIEGMUND, JR.

The BRPBA would like to acknowledge a great milestone for one of our members, Mr. Joseph Siegmund, Jr. Born on August 9, 1917, the third of 11 children, Mr. Siegmund recently celebrated his 100th birthday. What a fantastic achievement!

Mr. Siegmund graduated from Baltimore Polytechnic in 1938. He served in the US army during WW II as a Tech Sergeant in Patrons 4th Armored Division, one of the units of the Third Army that broke the German's siege of Bastogne. After discharge, he joined the Baltimore City Police Department where he retired as Lieutenant after twenty-seven years of service. While with the department, he started volunteering with the March of Dimes for their yearly walkathon, a task he gladly performed for 40 years (See Picture below with Don Lorenz, who we lost in 2014).

Following retirement from the police department, he worked at MBNA credit card division and was instrumental in the move to the new headquarters in Delaware. Additionally, he served six years as president of the BRPBA (1986 to 1991) and eight years as a member of the Board of Trustees for the Fire and Police Employees' Retirement System.

Thank you Mr. Siegmund for a life of dedicated service for the betterment of mankind.



Craig Anthony Chandler
 William Henry Torbit, Jr.
 Thomas Russell Portz, Jr.
 James Earl Fowler, III
 Troy Lamont Chesley, Sr.
 Anthony A. Byrd
 Brian Donte Winder
 Thomas G. Newman
 Crystal Deneen Sheffield
 Michael Joseph Cowdery, Jr.
 Kevin Joseph McCarthy
 John David Platt
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CHECK THE WELL-BEING: A Series Dedicated to the Children of our Fallen

How many times did you get that call for "Check the Well-Being?" When you check the well-being... and find that the person was 10-7... and must go make a notification... and you see they had children. Whether it be an adult child or young child, seeing their faces when notified could break your heart. Have you ever wondered what happened to those children that lost their parent?

According to the Officer Down Memorial Page, the Baltimore Police Department has had 136 police officers killed in the line of duty. That is 136 families that have lost a father or mother while fighting the Battlefields of Home. We concentrate on the widow/widower, but what about the children of these officers. How did their father/mother's death affect them in their childhood and adult life?

My intention for this newsletter was to have our first story in a series of interviewing children of our fallen officers, but schedules would not allow this to happen. My first article will appear in the next newsletter as I wanted the first article to be about someone close to me and holds a special place in my heart.

I have many interviews to do so if anyone would like an article written from a LOD officer's family, please contact me. There are so many stories, so many families.

Kenny Driscoll gave us an idea for future articles: The effects on a family of an officer who was severely injured in the line of duty. I am very interested in pursuing this also, but one project at a time.

I am looking forward to these projects and know you are as well.

Kathy Conrad
kirwin3367@aol.com

Thomas J. Burns
 Joseph Daniel Benedict
 Fred R. Unger
 Elmer A. Noon
 John B. Bealefeld
 Joseph C. Waldsachs
 William S. Knight
 William J. Woodcock
 William L. Ryan
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 Franklin Fullum
 John Christopher
 John H. Richards
 Joseph Clark
 James Murphy
 Robert M. Rigdon
 Benjamin Benton
 William Jourdan
 John O`Mayer
 George Workner

THANK
YOU

In 1992, Nick Caprinolo, Jr., joined the BRPBA never knowing how important his role would be within the organization, but he served us well.

On Dec. 21, 2016, the BRPBA honored Nick with a plaque for his years of service; most importantly, his six years holding the position of President of BRPBA. Along with countless other duties, he fought hard for our benefits and pension during his terms as President, and for that we are grateful. Thank you, Nick.



CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR WANT TO RECEIVE EMAIL UPDATES?

Are you in the process of moving? Please notify the BRPBA of your change of address so that you won't miss any important mailings. Also, if anyone would like to be included on the email updates, please send us your email address.

Name: _____

Old Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

New Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

New Phone Number: (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

Personal E-Mail Address: _____

Return to: BRPBA, P.O. Box 6217, Baltimore, MD 21206

I haven't failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work.

DISTRESS FUND NEWS

WHAT DOES ONE TICKET DO?

In a week or two, we will be mailing out our 2017 Raffle tickets. You are probably tired of hearing this, but we sincerely ask that you buy at least one ticket. If each one of our members bought one ticket, the Distress Fund would receive over \$2,000.00. This may seem a petty amount to you, but to the widow we recently helped with her medication, it was a lifesaver.

Imagine if you will, that your yearly income is \$16,000 or less. From that, try to figure out how to pay for everything. After your monthly bills are paid, could you still afford medication or food, or even clothing? Intimidating to think about, isn't it?

In addition, each year the Distress Fund gifts widows we have helped in the past with gift cards at Thanksgiving and Christmas to help them have a holiday they deserve. And recently we started a program where we also send a gift card at their birthdays; just a small token to brighten their day.

These small measures mean so much to them and their words of grateful appreciation are worth the time and effort to oversee this Raffle each year.

Our Distress Fund has helped countless members and widows in times of need, and it will continue to do so as long as we have the support of our membership.

As we have also stated in the past, if you do not believe in gambling, we honor your beliefs, but a kind donation in lieu of ticket purchase is also greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,

Daryl J. Buhrman
Chairman, Distress Fund

THANK YOU



Proudly state your retirement from the Baltimore City Police Department by purchasing your own license tag. Visit our website for more information at: www.brpba.com under Member Information or call Daryl Buhrman at 410-803-2293.

IN MEMORIAM

Forensic Scientist III Marta Iwashko, (06/22/17)

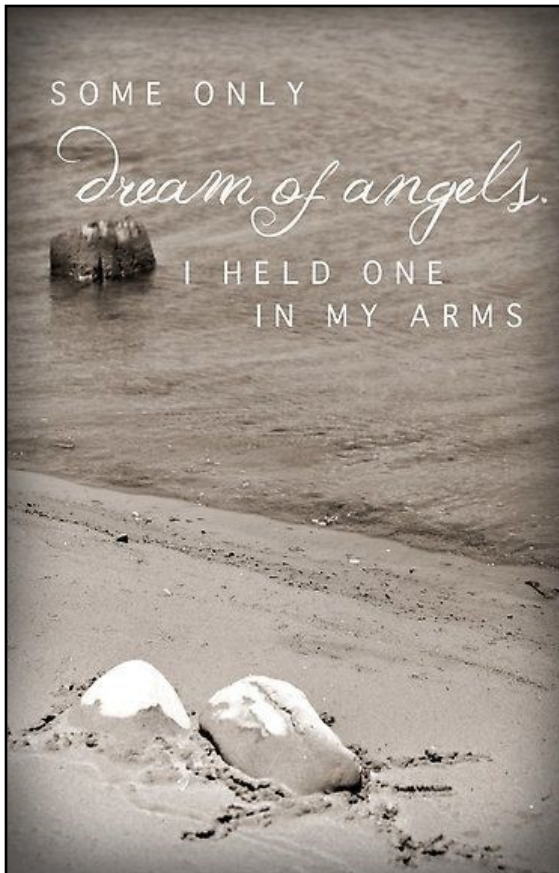
Robert A. Miller, Jr. (07/15/17)

*Frank W. Rochford (DOD unknown)
Son of member William Rochford*

George Schaffner (07/18/17)

Sgt. William Smith (07/31/17)

*Mrs. Patricia Wiley (05/29/17)
Wife of member William Wiley*



BRPBA FINAL ROLL CALL

Thomas Cave (07/02/16)

James Freeman (07/27/17)

Dorsey Goins (08/10/33)

Walter Grabowski (06/10/17)

Richard Hite, Sr. (08/16/17)

John Korona (6/20/17)

Edward O'Halloran (06/10/17)

James Picek (05/25/17)

Charles Reed (07/18/17)

Robert Rogers (07/29/17)

Ernell Thornton (07/24/17)

Tarshia Townes (05/16/17)

Arthur Vidler (06/15/16)

David Wallace (06/24/17)

Anthony Yankowsky, Jr. (05/26/17)

As you go about your day, we ask that you take a moment and remember all of those who have passed in the Line of Duty across this great country. They have given the greatest sacrifice. To them, we say...
Thank You and Rest Well.



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General Meetings on the third Tuesday at American Legion Post 130,
Perry Hall, MD. Please join us!***