

NYCPD VERRAZANO



ASSOCIATION

Volume 6, Issue 6

Member of the National NYCPD 10-13 Organizations, Inc.

February, 2008

The RMP

Representing
Members
Proudly

Published Quarterly



Photo courtesy of Robert Storyguy



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The RMP is published quarterly by the NYC Verrazano 10-13 Association.

Send all correspondence to:
P.O. Box 061725

Staten Island, New York 10306

Tel./Fax# 718-987-6354



Hopefully this issue will find that you all had a happy and healthy holiday season. We had our annual holiday luncheon at the King Buffet and were entertained by "The Honeymooners". National President Jim Ferguson of the National 10-13 Association was present. President Frank Mahon of the Jersey Shore was also present, along with several members of his Board of Directors. Everyone had a grand time and the food was plentiful.

The National Coalition was invited to attend a meeting at the Governors Office. There is nothing to report at this time, but we will be having a National 10-13 meeting the end of this month. President Jim Ferguson will update the local President's on what is going on in Albany.

Continued on next page

All of you by now have received the 2007 VSF. Those of you who have reached the age of 62 and are retired for 5 years will have no COLA money taken out. After all these years, there are still rumors about the VSF. At our last meeting I was asked about the possibility of the VSF being cut back. Once again, there will be no cut backs in the VSF. This is a rumor of unknown origin.

By the time this newsletter has reached you, you will have received your new membership cards and a reminder to pay your 2008 dues. It is the dues that make our organization solvent to support our endeavors.

As of this date, we have contributed approximately \$15,000 to the Police Relief Fund. There is no need to go into the wonderful work that they are doing. I can't count the number of members who have utilized their services over the years. I only hear great plaudits on the job they are doing. This is one organization that we do not want to see cut of man power.

Our 2008 6th. Annual Gold Outing will again be held at the Bunker Hill Golf Club in Princeton, NJ. The tentative date will be June 9th. I would like to request that you set up your intentions as soon as possible. The management of Bunker Hill will give us a full "shotgun start" if we promise them a certain amount of golfers. For those of you who have attended past outings, you know what a great time is had. For those of you who have not attended, please support your organization by attending or by sponsoring a Tee or Green. The cost again will be held to \$100 a golfer and \$100 for a Tee or Green sponsorship. Anyone looking to help with the outing should contact me at the office phone.

Unfortunately we have lost several members during 2007. We try to keep up with these losses, but because of the geographic area of our organization it is sometimes impossible. Should any of our members or family know of a loss or sickness, please call our office.

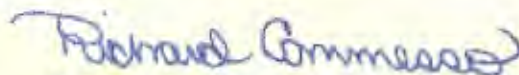
I am still getting queries about HR218 (carry bill). If you reside in New York, it is a dead issue. New York will not recognize any range in awarding the carry permit. As I have explained prior in this column, if you carry out of state, you are on your own. The City will not back you should you get involved. The same City that wants you to volunteer should some catastrophe take place. They are getting more and more like the FBI. A vacuum to take in our talent, but not reciprocating one bit.

It is a long time coming that I extend my thanks to our Executive Board. Were it not for them, we would be in a shamble. The tireless work performed in 2007 has made my job somewhat easy.

At our upcoming meetings, we plan to have the Dan Donovan, District Attorney of Staten Island speak. Dan has been unselfish in his efforts to put away some of the most ruthless perpetrators the Island has seen. We all tip our hats to Dan.

Our organization has been in contact with other 10-13's. I personally believe that there is strength in numbers. I am also in the belief that we should all fight for the same goals. This can only take place with open communication. This is not the Berlin Wall or the Wall of China. Compromise on both sides would be a great start.

I wish to extend a personal invitation for those members who have not been to one of our meetings to attend. They are informative, fun and you will eat well. Hoping to see new faces on Wednesday 2/20/08.



President

Vice President's Message

by Anthony G. DeNatale

Now that celebrating the Giants victory in SuperBowl XVII is over, it's time to get back down to business. On December 17, 2007, Ed Curran, President of the Alliance of Public Retiree Organizations of New York (to which the Verrazano 10-13 is a member of) received a phone call from David Weinstein, Counsel to the Governor. Mr. Weinstein proposed a meeting to discuss the retiree health insurance protection matter. The meeting took place on December 21, 2007 in the Conference Room, Governor's Executive Chamber, State Capitol, Albany. Present and representing Public Retirees were; Ed Curran, President of both the Alliance and the Retired Police Association of the State of New York, Stan Winter, President, Retired Public Employees Association, and Mike Fitzgerald, Executive Director, Retired Public Employees Association. Representing the Governor were; David Weinstein, Counsel to the Governor, Jeffery Mans, Assistant Secretary, NYS Labor Relations, and John Burke, Chief Budget Examiner, NYS Division of Budget. (the following are excerpts taken from Ed Curran's report which was sent to me)

After the Public Retirees representatives presented facts, circumstances and material in support of the need and justification, for public retiree health insurance protection legislation, Counsel Weinstein related certain concerns of the Governor's Office and others, relative to the recent retiree health insurance bills, vetoed by the Governor. This included concerns relative to flexibility, word interpretation, legal challenges, concerns voiced by representatives of New York State Health Insurance Program (NYSHIP). Throughout the meeting the Governor's Counsel was most cordial and receptive in responding to question posed to him by our representatives.

The Governor's Counsel had in his possession a copy of the report by the Temporary Task Force on Health Insurance For Retired Educational Employees, dated December 1, 1994 which resulted in teachers receiving the health insurance protection in 1994, which they still enjoy today.

It was most encouraging to be able to engage in this discussion the Governor's Counsel and others in attendance, and to learn that the Governor did not just veto our legislation and let it stand at that, but that he has a Counsel who is now attempting to resolve or correct certain concerns, that contributed to the veto. In this regard the Governor's Counsel invited our continued participation in an effort to come up with an acceptable solution.

As you can see from these excerpts the Alliance to which both Verrazano and our National belongs to, has been working diligently, that we too can receive this legislation.

Last years Health Protection bill has been introduced with new numbers; the old bill A-9393 is now A-6648 and old bill S-6457 is now S-6649.

SPECIAL THANKS

I would like to personally thank the 10-13 clubs of the National NYCPD 10-13 Organizations Inc. and the National itself, for the generous donations that were made on behalf of the late Peter Venechanos. Pete who was a Police Officer and retired from the 120 Precinet was tragically killed in December. Pete was a member of the Verrazano and a regular attendee at the National convention. To his wife MaryAnn and his family we extend our deepest sympathy,

Condolences also go out to the family of Verrazano member, retired P.O. Joseph C. Montano. Joe had a second career after the job, retiring from the U.S. Navy as a Senior Chief. He and I worked together in the Brooklyn South Task Force and were in both the Navy and Army reserves together. He was my closest friend for the past 34 years and I will miss him terribly.

God Bless Our Troops and God Bless America.

Treasurer's Report



by Anthony Franzese

Happy and healthy New Year to all of our members, family and friends. As we bring in the New Year, we are getting an early start on our biggest fund raiser. Our 6th. Annual Golf Outing will take place on Monday June 9, 2008. Once again the event will be held at the Bunker Hill Golf course located in Princeton, NJ. As you know, all of the profits from the sponsors go directly to the NYPD Police Relief Fund. We are asking your help in obtaining sponsors for this years outing. In the past 5 years, we have donated almost \$15,000 to them. Dana Lincoln Mercury will once again put up a 2009 Lincoln MKS for a hole in one scored.

The following is a list of the donations we have made in 2007, totaling \$8,100. Special thanks go out to our members who have made these donations possible:

Donna Bartucelli 10-13

Cooley's Anemia Foundation

Sean Diskin College Scholarship

Gregory Grant College Scholarship

Knights of Columbus Staten Island Council

Korean War Veterans

Mark Magrone 10-13

Peter McGovern 10-13

NYPD Police Anchor Club

NYPD Police Relief Fund

U.S. Marine Corp. Toys for Tots

Family of Peter Venechanos 10-13

Vietnam Veterans

World of Women S.I. Inc.

Hopefully you all received your new membership cards. Please pay your 2008 dues as soon as possible.

Recording Secretary's Notes

by Jack Hellman

The January meeting drew only 45 members. This is quite normal for a January. The Board had decided to serve for dinner hot dogs, onions, and sauerkraut. Everyone missed Chef Russo's banquet. We were promised that the banquet will return for February's meeting.

The meeting was called to order by President Rich Commesso with a salute to the flag and a moment of silence for all sick and departed members. President then discussed the state of our health benefits. Once again it was stressed that we must keep on top of the goings on in Albany. Rich touched on the IRS looking to get their hands on ¼ pensions. There was a preliminary ruling that the disability pension for civil servants injured "on the job" will no longer be completely tax-free. No final decision has been made at this time.

President Commesso informed the members that it would be wise to create an entry in our cell phones. ICE (in case of emergency) should be placed in our directory. EMT's have been instructed to look for this listing in case of an emergency.

A discussion was held regarding the possibility of changing the name of our organization. It was pointed out by several members that the name Verrazano confuses people with Police Officer's from the Tri Boro Bridge & Tunnel Authority. A lengthy discussion was held. It was decided to table the discussion for further meetings.

The 50/50 was held and won by President Commesso, who made a donation to the Joe Buffalo Bellestri Scholarship Fund. Dr. Lagmay won 2nd prize and also made a donation to the fund.

Just a reminder to get your 2008 dues in as soon as possible.

Corresponding Secretary's Corner

by Joe Cammarata

It was really a pleasure to see the many renewal notices that we received back from our members since the beginning of the year. Not only is it exciting that we are getting more new members but the old ones just keep coming back.

Still there's more good news. If you noticed on the application, there was a space for you to include whether or not you were a registered voter. The next question was, what party were you affiliated with? And finally how many voters are at your residence? These questions will be very important in the future. As you probably know from our letters and contacts that, the city will be looking to diminish their share of our medical coverage and once that happens who knows where it will stop. We also heard rumors that our Accidental Benefits may be taxable above and beyond the normal basic pay rate. Again at this time they're only rumors but certainly deserve our attention. Let's see what politician, if any, is going to jump on the side of the city worker and give us the guarantee that has been afforded the teachers and senior fire officers.

Speaking of politicians, before you know it November will be coming around and we'll be trying to see which of our local, state and federal representative are will to listen to us. We usually get promises every year that... "we're looking into it" ...and "we're trying our best" ... or... "you guys are the finest" "Of course, we're there for you" ...but I've yet to see concrete movement in our direction. After realizing that we're usually paid lip service and not much more, your board of officers decided to take a look at our options.

In November of 2007, we had a meeting and after a little grumbling and mashing of teeth decided to reach out to other 10-13's, Firefighter's groups and the FOP lodges in the area to see if we can get united support. In the past, there have been different personalities, bloated opinions and long standing grudges. It's time to stop and act as one. As I said in the past, if we could get cops, firemen, sanitation and other city workers we would have a force that no politician would dare ignore. As of now we don't. Hopefully by November, we could unite and present a sizable group of eligible voters to put the fear in our elected representatives.

Again, I would love to see us put up a candidate or even a few candidates. Next year will be a banner year for running. Term limits in the city has taken full effect and in Albany it's the two year mark. If you have any interest at all, please call me, I've done it before and it's really not a big deal. A lot of leg work, a little money and time but it's doable. Win lose or draw if we put up qualified people for several offices both city and state, we will get their attention.

Stand by for further developments and keep getting family and friends to register to vote. A politician loves nothing more than apathetic voters, who say, "my vote doesn't count" or "I don't want to get involved" and the famous one... "I'll get called for jury duty".

Remember: the less people that vote the less he or she has to appease. Let us, be the squeaky wheel.



**THOMAS M. DEGER, DIRECTOR
NEW YORK CITY POLICE RELIEF FUND
38-13 NORTHERN BOULEVARD
LONG ISLAND CITY, NEW YORK 11101**

March 13, 2007

Mr. Richard Commesso, President
New York City Verrazano 10-13 Association
517 Powell Street
Staten Island, New York, 10312

Dear Mr. Commesso,

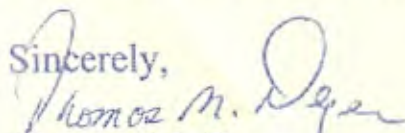
On behalf of all the New York City Police families that we service at their time of medical need, I would like to offer a sincere gratitude for all the efforts put forth by you and your organization. If it were not for the financial support your organization makes each and every year numerous Police families would be at the brink of a crisis due to their illness or injury.

The generous donation that you made last year enabled us to provide several Police families with the following medical products with which funding through normal channels would not be available :

- A/C – D/C nebulizers which give asthma and other patients with pulmonary disorders the ability to leave their home and be able to administer their medication at a moments notice.
- Pulse – Oximeters: this small, computer driven monitoring device can give the critical pulmonary or cardiac patient the accurate level of oxygen in their blood as well as their pulse rate at any moment. This information can be relayed to their physician for immediate treatment.

We can not thank you enough for your organizations continued support of our Unit and the patients that we proudly serve. Should you or your members have any questions or are in need of our assistance, please do not hesitate to call on our staff at 718. 626.9320.

Thanking you again, I remain

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Deger

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

NYPD General Information ... 1-646-610-5000
Pension Section 1-212-693-5100
Out of State, call Toll Free 1-866-692-7733
PBA Health & Welfare 1-212-349-7560
PBA Toll Free 1-877-844-5842
DEA 1-212-587-9120
SBA 1-212-431-6555
LBA & CEA 1-212-964-7500
Social Security 1-800-772-1213
GHI 1-800-358-5500
Empire Blue Cross 1-800-433-9592
Medicare "A" 1-800-433-9592
Medicare "B" 1-212-306-7300
Caremark 1-877-722-7911
Ret. Health Ben. (Rector St.).. 1-212-513-0470
Police Relief Fund /
Emergency Medical Sqd. 1-718-626-9320
or 1-718-626-9321
NYC Health Line 1-800-521-9574
VA Benefits 1-800-827-1000
NYC Pension Web Site:
<http://www.nyc.gov/html/nycppf/home.html>

Keep Informed

Visit our Website at
www.nycop.com
to find out all the latest
information concerning *your*
NYC Verrazano 10-13
Association!

2008 MEETINGS

All meetings start at 7:30 PM
on the third Wednesday of the month.

There are NO meetings in
July, August and December.

Wednesday, January 16
Wednesday, February 20
Wednesday, March 19
Wednesday, April 16
Wednesday, May 21

ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

Bunker Hill Golf Course
Princeton, New Jersey
Monday, June 9

NATIONAL CONVENTION

Friar Tuck Inn, Catskill, NY
Friday to Sunday,
July 25 - 27

Wednesday, September 17
Wednesday, October 15
Wednesday, November 19

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

Monday, December 29
King Buffet
Richmond Avenue,
Staten Island, NY

MEETING LOCATION

Knights of Columbus
S.I. Council
22 Hillside Terrace, Staten Island
(718) 317-0343



VERRAZANO 10-13

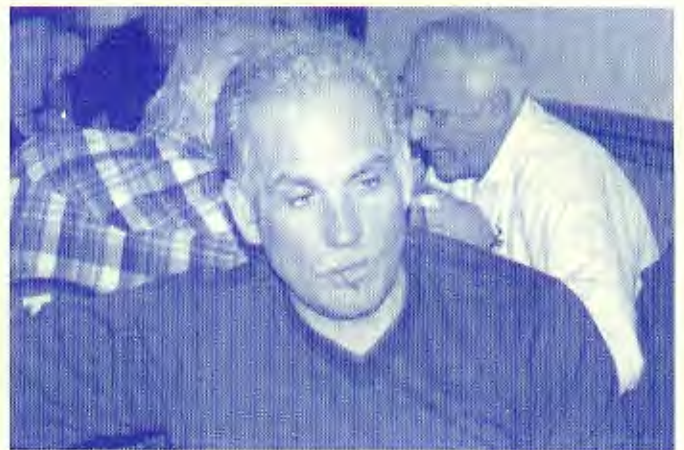


HOLIDAY LUNCHEON





VERRAZANO 10-13



HOLIDAY LUNCHEON





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HOLIDAY LUNCHEON





The 10-13 Club of Northeast Florida A Chapter of the National NYCPD 10-13 Organization, Inc.



Honoring Phillip Cardillo

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Cruise on the *Sovereign of the Seas* with NYCPD retired and active police officers plus family & friends as we honor a fallen comrade. Sponsored by the NE Florida 10-13 Club & Blizzard 93.3 FM

October 29, 2007

Mon Port Canaveral
depart 5pm

Tue Coco Cay 9hrs

Wed Nassau 7am

Thur Nassau depart 1am

Fri Port Canaveral
disembark 9am

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**NEW YORK CITY VERRAZANO 10-13 ASSOCIATION'S
6TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING
BUNKER HILL GOLF COURSE
MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2007**



SPONSOR A TEE OR GREEN

**SEND YOUR BUSINESS CARD OR INFORMATION ALONG WITH \$100 SPONSORSHIP FEE TO:
NEW YORK CITY VERRAZANO 10-13 ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 061725
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10306
TEL./FAX# 718-987-6354**



**ALL SPONSORSHIP PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED TO THE
NYPD POLICE RELIEF FUND
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SQUAD**

THE POLICE RELIEF FUND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SQUAD IS A BENEFIT THAT ALL ACTIVE AND RETIRED MEMBERS OF THE SERVICE RECEIVE (THIS BENEFIT INCLUDES SPOUSES, CHILDREN AND PARENTS OF ACTIVE AND RETIRED MEMBERS OF THE SERVICE).

BENEFITS INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO: AMBULANCE TO/FROM NEW YORK CITY UP TO 250 MILES FROM NYC; MEDICAL EQUIPMENT: OXYGEN THERAPY, PULMONARY AID SUPPLIES, WHEEL CHAIRS, ELECTRICAL HOSPITAL BEDS, CRUTCHES, CANES, TENS UNIT THERAPY AND OTHER DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT.

THE NYC VERRAZANO 10-13 ASSOCIATION IS A CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT 10-13 ORGANIZATIONS, INC. IT IS INCORPORATED AS A NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK. THE OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSOCIATION IS TO FURTHER THE WELFARE OF ALL HONORABLY RETIRED AND ACTIVE OFFICERS OF ALL RANKS OF THE NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT BY ENCOURAGING SOCIAL, CHARITABLE, EDUCATIONAL AND FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES AMONG THE MEMBERSHIP IN THEIR RESPECTIVE COMMUNITIES.

FOLD AND TEAR HERE

**KEEP A COPY OF THE FLYER FOR YOUR TAX RECORDS. TEAR OFF THIS STUB AND RETURN TO THE
NYC VERRAZANO 10-13 ASSOCIATION. ALL SPONSORS WILL BE ACKNOWLEDGED ON THE ASSOCIATION'S
WEB PAGE AT WWW.NYCOP.COM**

SPONSOR NAME _____ TOTAL CHECK AMT _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE # _____

**NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT
NEW YORK CITY VERRAZANO 10-13 ASSOCIATION'S**



**6TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING
BUNKER HILL GOLF COURSE
MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2008
"RAIN OR SHINE"**



- CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST • HOT DOGS AT THE TURN • ELABORATE BARBECUE AT THE 19TH HOLE • BEER, WINE AND SODA • PRIZES FOR LOW SCORES FOR MEN & WOMEN • 50/50 • RAFFLE • PRIZES
- MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE NYC VERRAZANO 10-13 ASSOCIATION**

ENTRY FEE: Mail checks for \$100 per golfer with this registration form *no later than May 31st* to:
NYC VERRAZANO 10-13 ASSOCIATION

PO Box 061725

STATEN ISLAND, NY 10306

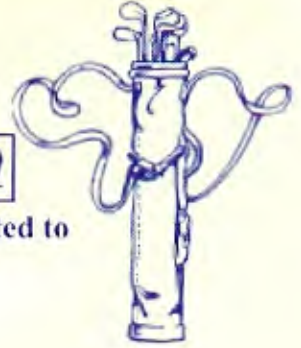
PHONE/FAX 718-987-6354

email: ereuss@st.rr.com



Late registrations and day of entries will cost \$125.00

Monies collected from entries who are *NO SHOWS* will be donated to the Joseph Bellestri College Scholarship Fund



REGISTRATION FORM

GOLFER _____ PHONE _____

GOLFER _____ PHONE _____

GOLFER _____ PHONE _____

GOLFER _____ PHONE _____

**IF YOU DON'T HAVE A FOURSOME, WE WILL PLACE YOU INTO A FOURSOME
AND CONTACT YOU ABOUT YOUR FOURSOME AND TEE TIME.**

**TO SPONSOR A TEE BOX OR GREEN, CALL THE NUMBER ABOVE OR CONTACT ANY OF THE
COMMITTEE MEMBERS BELOW. SPONSORSHIPS ARE \$100 PER GREEN OR TEE.**

GOLF COMMITTEE

- JACK HELLMAN, CHAIRMAN 718-356-9286
 RICHARD COMMESSO, CO-CHAIRMAN 718-979-1411
 EDWARD D. REUSS, CO-CHAIRMAN 917-273-8651



2009 Lincoln MKS



**Sink a "HOLE IN ONE" at our
6th Annual Golf Outing
to be held on
June 9th
at**



**Bunker Hill Golf Course
and you can drive away with this
beautiful**

**2009 Lincoln MKS,
generously donated by
*Dana Lincoln Mercury***



Jim Cognetta, Owner/Principal

David Diorio

Juan Estrella

Official Sales Rep for the

New York City Verrazano 10-13



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NYCPD VERRAZANO



ASSOCIATION

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Mention that you are a member of the NYC Verrazano 10-13 Association



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BUSINESS ADDRESS: _____

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*Rates include one (1) year membership in the NYC Verrazano 10-13 Association.
Please include remittance with this application and forward to above address.