

The RMP

Representing Members Proudly
Published Quarterly

NYC VERRAZANO

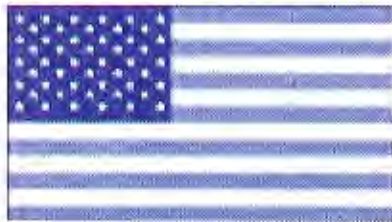


ASSOCIATION

Volume 6, Issue 3

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

July, 2007



Board of Officers

President	Richard Comnesso
Vice President	Anthony DeNatale
Recording Secretary	Jack Hellman
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Staten Island, New York 10306

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President's Message



Summer is here and Albany has failed us again. As most of you know, the Health Protection Bill to protect the NYPD retirees has again been vetoed. We had a large contingent of members in Albany on June 13. Your Vice President Anthony DeNatale, along with President Anthony Perrone of the Hudson Valley 10-13 confronted Peter Abbate. They wanted an explanation on why the Fire Officers were included and not the Police. His answer was astonishing. He stated that the Fire Officers wanted it. Does he mean that we did not want it? Abbate states that we are protected contractually. Let him show us where we are protected. The only protection we have is the Administrated Code which can be easily changed. We will not fight against this bill as even though it does not protect us, it is beneficial to others. We will not go against any bill that benefits any officer.

Continued on next page

I have been receiving questions regarding HR218, which is the right to carry your weapon throughout the country. A ruling has been made by the New York Criminal Justice Department which states that they will not honor HR218 due to liability issues. Once again lawyers looking for a buck are screwing up the works. Should you be involved in an action in another state, New York will not honor the range in which you qualified. The City is afraid of the liability that any action will cause. In other words, if you get involved, you are on your own. There are only a couple of states that are going to honor HR218.

Our 5th. Annual Golf Outing was held on June 11 at the Bunker Hill Golf Club. It was our largest yet with over 80 golfers participating. Richard Rodriguez of the NYPD PBA brought a foursome to participate. Chief Raymond Ferrari of DBB was also present and had a grand time. The prizes were top shelf and plentiful. We will once again be able to make a sizeable donation to the Police Relief Fund with the profits from our sponsors. Next year we hope to have a full shotgun so that all golfers will finish and eat at the same time. We had a semi shotgun this year and the time from the first group and last were not that great. Next year we are promised a full shotgun start and all the golfers will finish at the same time.

An outing of this size can not be run without the dedication of volunteers. Your Treasurer Anthony Franzese, Vice President Anthony DeNatale, Secretary Jack Hellman and yours truly spent days shopping and preparing for this outing. Another note of thanks to all the cooks, Ed Jordan, Don Vinci, Frank Polizzi, Ralph Caldarola, Ernie Fazio, Joe Mari and Joe Manfra. It was this teamwork that made this years outing a success.

I received a call from Tom Deeger of the Police Relief Fund. He will be at our October 17 meeting to accept our check this year. Tom will bring a couple of the Officers to enjoy a meal and speak with the members.

On this note, Joe Voza donated a Hoyle Lift to the Relief Fund which was greatly appreciated.

I hope that all our members have a happy, healthy and safe summer. A closing prayer for our departed Trustee Larry Tevault. We all wish his family the best as Larry will be sorely missed.

Richard Comness

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"	1-800-333-7586
Caremark	1-877-722-7911
Ref. 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	

Here's To Your Health!



by Anthony G. DeNatale

At our June 27, 2007 meeting, we were honored to have Dr. Kristie R. Finamore, Chiropractor, as our guest speaker. Dr. Finamore gave a presentation on the Chiropractic profession and fielded a wide range of questions from our members. Dr. Finamore then made available a TyTron C-3000 infra-red digital scan that detects heat differentials throughout the spine. Interested members received a free scan. Dr. Finamore plans to join the Verrazano as an associate member and will be attending meetings. Her office is located at 456 Arlene St. Staten Island, NY, 718-612-5006. She is the daughter of retired Lt. Dan Finamore.

Passing of Verrazano 10-13 Trustee Larry Teavault

It is with my deepest regret that I inform our members of the passing of Retired Detective and Verrazano Trustee Larry Teavault. I had the good fortune of working with Larry while in NSU-10. His easy going nature, politeness and knowledge of the job were imparted on many rookies who came through our command (not to mention the supervisors, too). On a personal note, I was proud to have worked alongside him while on the job and as a trustee to the Verrazano. Our deepest sympathy goes to his wife Joan and their children. May God Bless him.

Treasurer's Report

by Anthony Franzese

It's time to put the books away for the summer. So far we have had a good year financially.

Our trip to Atlantic City and our Annual Golf Outing were a great success. The line organizations came through for us with flying colors in sponsoring a hole, as did several of our local businesses. A listing of all our sponsors will be published in the next newsletter. A sizeable donation once again will be made to the Police Relief Fund at our October 17 meeting. Director Tom Deeger will be present along with a couple of the Police Officers.

Our Corresponding Secretary, Joseph Cammarata, came up with a novel idea in presenting our sponsors with a Certificate of Appreciation. Joe designed the same and several were already given out. The response was fantastic. Many of the certificates are now hanging on restaurant walls. Unlike many other organizations, the Verrazano 10-13 always will have open books for anyone to observe. Anyone who wishes to inspect our books just has to ask. As always, a year end financial report will be published in our newsletter.

Here's hoping all our members have a healthy and safe summer.

Recording Secretary's Notes

by Jack Hellman

March 2007

The meeting was called to order by President Rich Comnesso with a salute to the flag and a moment of silence for all sick and departed members. He then discussed our upcoming golf outing to be held on June 11. Also discussed was the bus trip to Albany and he requested as many members as possible to attend. Our semi annual trip to Atlantic City will be held on April 19. Members who plan to attend should get your money in as soon as possible. Once again the 120Pct. retirement and promotion party will be held at the Staten. Many of our members attend this function. Guest speaker Todd Tabacco, son of John Tabacco who was a retired MOS addressed the membership. Todd is running for the Assembly and requests our backing. Treasurer Anthony Franzese gave his treasurers report and we broke for dinner. When we returned from dinner, Vice president Anthony DeNatale gave a health & welfare report. No new items were discussed. The 50/50 was won by Rocky Valnotti, who donated a portion back to the Verrazano 10-13.

April 2007

The meeting was called to order by President Rich Comnesso with a salute to the flag and a moment of silence for all sick and departed members. He then reviewed the upcoming events such as the Atlantic City trip, the Golf Outing and the trip to Albany. The members were informed about the NYPD cardio vascular fitness centers. It would cost our members \$30.00 to join. A discussion was held on the current W2 forms sent out by the city. It was not marked "disability" for those who are out on ¼ pension. The members were instructed to call the Pension Section and the matter will be straightened out. Treasurer Anthony Franzese gave

his Treasurer's report. The members were informed on what it cost our organization to run a meeting. The members receive a hot meal prepared by Chef Al Russo, beer liquor, wine and soda. A motion was passed unanimously to charge the members \$10.00 to offset the costs. It was then announced to the members that they should solicit sponsors for the golf outing. The profits from this endeavor are donated to the Police Relief Fund. Health & Welfare Chairman Anthony DeNatale informed the members of a possible higher co pay. As soon as he gets an answer from the PBA, our members will be informed. The 50/50 was won by Mario Clemente and 2nd. prize by Terry Bennet. \$220 was raised for the son of Pete McGovern who needed a serious operation. We were informed that the child was doing well.

May 2007

The meeting began with the customary salute to the flag and a moment of silence for all sick and departed members. President Comnesso reminded us of the Mega Raffle tickets for the National 10-13 and to get them in as soon as possible. There were several of our members last year who were shut out. Rich then reminded us of the National Convention to be held again at the Friar Tuck Resort. The Atlantic City trip was discussed and all were informed of the good time that was had. Rich mentioned that we should not wait to the last minute on reserving seats on the bus. The Annual Golf Outing was discussed and the members were informed that it was a sell out. We are already working on the 2008 Outing so that all who want to participate may do so. Rich explained that we will expand the number of golfers next year. Rich again thanked Tony Franzese, Jack Hellman and Tony DeNatale for the running around they had done for this outing. The annual bus trip to Albany was discussed. We hope to fill a bus with members of the Verrazano and Hudson Valley 10-13. President Comnesso informed the members that word was received that there were plans to

civilianize the Police Relief Fund. It was discussed that civilians would not give as much care to our members as our brother officers. Letters will be written to Commissioner Kelly requesting that the Police Officers remain with the unit. Tony DeNatale spoke on the rumors coming out of one of the other organizations regarding the VSF. It was said that Police Officers who got out with $\frac{3}{4}$ would receive the VSF. As of this writing, it is untrue. There was no mention of $\frac{3}{4}$ officers receiving the VSF. Tony also stated that the merger between GHI and HIP is on hold. There are many kinks that have to worked out. Our members will be told of any new movement in this matter. After breaking for dinner, Officer Mike McHugh addressed the members and thanked them for the support they gave to P.O. Jack McGovern's son. The 50/50 was won by John Feiss and second place by Mike Paccione. Donations were made to the Joe "Buffalo" Bellestri scholarship.

Corresponding Secretary's Corner

by Joe Cammarata

Dear Fellow members,

It seems like yesterday since I sat down to write an article for the RMP. At that time I was just inducted into the ranks of your Board of Officers and to say the least it's been an adventure. I'm wondering when the benefits come. After all I am the corresponding secretary! Rich, Jack and Tony say they're coming. I'm still waiting. All and all it's been an interesting few months. The meetings, the Golf Outing, the Albany trip and the future plans of still more activities keeps me wondering but I'm enjoying it.

One of the things I said I would do when I wrote the last article was to keep everyone on their toes and remind them that when we return for the September (19) meeting we have only two months before another election. That I intend to

do! As far as documenting members and their families by political boundaries, we have completed Staten Island and have just about completed Brooklyn and the other boroughs. The outer states are a little difficult to get information on but with the help of George "Kevin" Calagera, one of our members who is also a New Jersey Councilman, Old Bridge, I'm sure we'll make progress at least in New Jersey.

You have no idea how important it is that we have the strength at the ballot box. During the Albany trip we all had a first hand look at how effective we could be. We met with several state Assembly persons and Senators and I have to admit the look of surprise was evident on their faces when I told them we have in excess of 750 members and have placed each in an Assembly District and an Election District, with 593 living in the NYC area. Believe me it gets their attention.

Speaking of attention, The Assemblyman from Brooklyn who represents Dyker Heights, Borough Park, Bensonhurst and Bath Beach known as the 49th Assembly District has appeared to be a road block in our attainting parody with teachers in respect to keeping our health benefits. We're following this closely along with Vice President Tony DeNatale to see if he's truly for us, or against us. For more information and his name see the Vice President's article.

I'll keep this writing short so you'll have more time to enjoy the summer fun with your family, but please be ready in September to become active with the election. I don't care what party you're affiliated with just register and VOTE! The politicians love nothing more than hearing. "...you can't change it, so I don't vote..." I'll have as many registration forms ready for you, your family and friends as you will need so please cooperate. Also let me know if you or a family member are interested in running for political office. I have experience and there would be nothing better than a Cop representing our interests in New York City, Albany or Washington..

Have a great Summer,
Joe Cammarata

The Joseph "Buffalo" Bellestri College Scholarship

APPLICATIONS:

The application is available in this newsletter or may be attained by contacting our office. It must be completed on provided application or an exact duplicate in size. Non-conforming applications will be discarded.

SPONSORSHIP:

Applicants must be sponsored by a member of the NYC Verrazano 10-13 Association in good standing for the past two (2) years.

ELIGIBILITY:

A son or daughter or a grandchild of member. Must be attending or enrolled in a College or University on a full-time basis for the 2007-2008 school year.

ONE ENTRY PER APPLICANT:

Only one application per applicant is permitted. If more than one application is received for the same applicant, all applications for that applicant may be discarded.

SAME FAMILY APPLICANTS:

Each eligible member of a family may participate. However, only one scholarship will be awarded per family each year.

VERIFICATION OF ATTENDANCE:

Winners will be required to verify school enrollment.

NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS:

For the 2007-2008 school year, two (2) scholarships each in the amount of \$500.00 will be awarded.

SCHOLARSHIP DRAWINGS:

Drawings will be on a lottery basis in order to give each applicant an equal chance of selection. Scholarship awards will be drawn at the NYC Verrazano 10-13 Association General Meeting on September 19, 2007, by the Scholarship Committee and viewed by the membership in attendance. All applications must be received prior to the drawing date. NO APPLICATIONS will be accepted at the meeting.

**NYC VERRAZANO 10-13 ASSOCIATION
JOSEPH "BUFFALO" BELLESTRI
MEMORIAL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION
2007-2008**

PLEASE PRINT

APPLICANT'S NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE # (WITH AREA CODE) _____

SCHOOL ATTENDING 2006-2007 _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE # (WITH AREA CODE) _____

NYC VERRAZANO 10-13 SPONSOR _____

ADDRESS OF SPONSOR _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE # (WITH AREA CODE) _____

RELATIONSHIP TO APPLICANT _____

YEAR JOINED NYC VERRAZANO 10-13 ASSOCIATION _____

RETURN APPLICATION TO:

**NYC VERRAZANO 10-13 ASSOCIATION
COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 061725
STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. 10306**

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Chairman	Frank Rapacciuolo
Co-Chairmen	Richard Comnesso
	Anthony DeNatale
	Anthony Francese
	Jack Hellman
	Joseph Masella

LOBBY DAY

by Vice President Anthony DeNatale

On June 13, 2007, myself and 45 members from both the Verrazano 10-13 and the Hudson Valley 10-13 made our annual pilgrimage to Albany for "Lobby Day." When we arrived, we met up with National President Jim Ferguson, National Albany Representative and Hudson Valley 10-13 President Tony Perrone, and Alliance of Public Retiree Organization President Ed Curran. I was very proud that we had the largest representation of any retiree group present.

This year, as in the past, Senator Hugh T. Farley has introduced a Bill (S-6029) which would provide permanent, statutory protection for the current Health Protection Benefits of all retirees from state and local governments. This Bill includes retired NYC police officers and firefighters. The problem this year is that Assemblyman Peter J Abbate Jr., Chairman of the Governmental Employees Committee, had decided to eliminate NYC police officers and firefighters from any Bill the assembly would back. His refusal to support an accompanying Bill to S-6029 was based on his belief that we are protected contractually. While being questioned by Tony Perrone, just prior to the start of the Lobby Day meeting, Mr. Abbate again stated his belief. Mr. Abbate also stated that our Bills do not have the backing of the line organizations. When asked which particular line organization or who had informed him of this non-support, Mr. Abbate could not supply any names. Tony also asked Mr. Abbate "why were the retired uniformed fire officers included in the current Bill?" Mr. Abbate replied "they wanted to be and had the backing of their union."

After breaking from the meeting, all of the Verrazano members present proceeded to Mr. Abbate's office. There we were met by his lead counsel, who informed us, in no uncertain terms that this Bill was dead and will never go anywhere. When I asked her the reason for this, she too stated we were protected contractually.

I then asked counsel to please furnish me with the copy of the contract giving us this protection. I informed counsel that our benefits were, in fact, protected by the NYC Administrative Code, not by contract.

At the very least, Mr. Abbate's actions are reprehensible and indicative of a complete lack of respect for the sacrifices made by both police officers and firefighters during their years of service to the city. After all his years of support for a health protection Bill, he has decided to do a complete one eighty and go against us. Mr. Abbate's non-support will always be remembered, especially at election time.

Where Mr. Abbate failed us, Assemblyman Joseph R. Lentol of Brooklyn has stepped up and introduced Assembly Bill A9287. This Bill would prohibit an employee from diminishing the health insurance benefits provided to retirees and their dependents or the contributions such employer makes for such coverage below the level of such benefits as of May 1, 2007. Mr. Lentol deserves a great deal of praise for stepping up and introducing this Bill. He is to be considered a true friend.

To sum things up, the state legislature is currently in summer recess and when it returns it will be sending Bills to the governor that do not include NYC police officers and firefighters. Mr. Lentol's Bill will definitely be met with opposition from Peter Abbate, head of the Governmental Employees Committee (Abbate can hold the Bill up in Committee). Tony Perrone has sent a letter to all the line organization president's informing them Assemblyman Abbate has informed us that the NYC Police unions and others oppose legislation for health insurance protection. Tony has asked for a meeting between the lines and our National for the purpose of obtaining a memorandum of support from each of them for a health protection Bill.

I will keep you informed of any other changes.



LOBBY DAY



2007





LOBBY DAY



2007



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ATLANTIC CITY BUS TRIP



APRIL 27, 2007



Lou Capriati, Manager of the Marina Cafe, with Bobby who tends bar at the Marina, proudly display their certificate of appreciation



Rich Commesso, President, VZ 10-13, presents a certificate of appreciation to Paul Montella, owner of Nucci's South



Tony Franzese, (l) Treasurer, VZ 10-13, and President Rich Commesso (3rd l), present Juan Estrella and Dave Diorio, who are finance and sales managers respectively with Dana Motors, with a certificate of appreciation for their extreme

SUDOKU

Puzzle #1

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Puzzle #2

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SOLUTIONS TO BOTH PUZZLES
LOCATED ON PAGE 16

CONDO FOR SALE MARCO ISLAND, FLORIDA

2 Bedroom, 2 1/2 baths for sale at the
Marco Villas II.

1st Floor: Living room, eat-in kitchen
with new microwave, refrigerator and
stove, 1/2 bath, enclosed Lanai to
private yard.

2nd Floor: 2 Bedrooms, 2 full baths,
new A/C, washer/dryer, hot water heater,
garbage disposal.

New tile 1st floor, new carpet 2nd floor.

1 mile to private beach and shopping.
Walk to park, YMCA, library, tennis courts
and 24-hour health care facility.

Fully furnished. **\$374,900.00**

WWW.VISUALTOUR.COM Tour # 508137

For further information,
call Tony Franzese at (917) 748-9552

Keep Informed

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

PUZZLE #1

3	6	8	7	2	1	5	4	9
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PUZZLE #2

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4	3	5	9	6	1	2	8	7
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9	6	2	3	7	8	1	5	4

SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

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



NYC Verrazano 10-13 Association
P.O. Box 061725
Staten Island, NY 10306
Tel. / Fax (718) 987-6354



SPONSORSHIP RATES AND APPLICATION

Business Card Ad.	\$125.00*
Quarter Page Ad.	\$225.00*
Half Page Ad	\$350.00*
Full Page Ad.	\$500.00*

BUSINESS NAME: _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS: _____

CONTACT NAME / TELEPHONE# _____

PLEASE INCLUDE BUSINESS CARD OR PHOTO-READY COPY

*Rates include one (1) year membership in the NYC Verrazano 10-13 Association.
 If you are a current member, please deduct \$25.00 from sponsorship rate.
 Please include remittance with this application and forward to above address.