

ATTENTION TO ROLLCALL

Association of Retired Police Officers of D.C. Inc.

14035 Canal Rd. SE
Cumberland, MD 21502
Toll Free 877-283-1065

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December 2015

Work Continues to Stop Treasury's Attack on Our Members' Pensions *Please Pray for Success*

There have been some developments since our last newsletter. 1st Vice President Bob Arscott did indeed arrange the meeting with Congressman Chaffetz, who heads the House Committee that is responsible for the District. I accompanied the retired D.C. Firefighters to a meeting with Congressman Stenny Hoyer in October to discuss this issue as well.

The good news is that both Mr. Hoyer and Mr. Chaffetz have agreed to support a legislative fix to stop Treasury. We have developed the language that would prohibit Treasury from collecting any past overpayments or reducing any future retirement payments if they had not begun the process within 10 years of the retirement of the member they are targeting. All of our affected members have been retired for more than 10 years so all reductions would be stopped and pensions would be restored to their previous levels.

This would happen after the law is passed. Mr. Chaffetz is trying to have the law passed by the end of this year.

The bipartisan support that is coming from Mr. Chaffetz and Mr. Hoyer will be very helpful to us all.

At 10AM on Wednesday, November 4th, I joined a conference call with the staffers of the Government Reform Committee of the House of Representatives. This committee, chaired by Congressman Chaffetz, is responsible for oversight of the District of Columbia.

The purpose of the conference call was to brief the Democratic staffer about our situation. She was interested and surprised by what Treasury is doing. They plan to review the language that has been proposed in order to assure that it will protect all of our affected members from the reductions in their pension which they are currently experiencing, as well as prohibiting

Treasury from collecting any overpayments they may feel are outstanding.

The call went well and shows us that the Democrats and Republicans are working together on this for us.

While it is by no means certain, the problems the Congress has had in fashioning a budget for the federal government for 2016, may provide an opportunity for Mr. Chaffetz and Mr. Hoyer to convince the leadership of the House of Representatives to allow them to tuck the language, which is being crafted to solve our problems with Treasury, into an omnibus appropriations bill.

The omnibus appropriations bill must be passed before the Congress adjourns for Christmas in order to prevent a shutdown of the federal government. It is reported that both Republicans and Democrats are working to pass the omnibus bill in order to avoid the shutdown.

Once the House of Representatives passes the omnibus spending bill, it must go to the U.S., Senate for review and a vote. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate must pass the omnibus bill so that it can go to the President for his signature.

The House and Senate leadership are working closely together as the omnibus bill is being drafted in the House of Representatives to eliminate as many differences as possible before the House votes on their bill. They are doing this to speed the Senate's consideration of the House bill when it is passed so that the Senate and House may adjourn and go home for Christmas knowing the federal government will not shut down in their absence.

Please keep prayers going up that our efforts will deliver success and relief for our affected members.



Increase in ATM Skimming Fraud and Safety Tips

December, 2015

With the holiday season upon us, unfortunately this brings an increase for potential fraud. We want to fully keep you updated on issues that may have impacted your area. We have been alerted by our card processor of a significant increase in skimming device fraud committed at convenience store ATMs in our area (District of Columbia and Baltimore metropolitan areas) and throughout the nation. Although none these cases were committed on Police FCU owned or affiliated ATMs, we like to keep our membership up to date and provide tips to reduce the chances of becoming a victim. Police FCU continues to stand as your trusted financial partner and provider of world-class service.

What is ATM Skimming?

ATM Skimming involves the attachment of electronic devices on or around the ATM for the purposes of capturing both the magnetic strip data contained on the back of a debit card as well as the PIN number that is entered by the customer when using the ATM. The devices used to capture the information will vary in shapes, sizes and designs but are made to be unobtrusive or mimic legitimate devices.

ATM Safe Use Tips:

- Regularly monitor your account activity using online banking (using your PC, Smartphone or Tablet)
- Avoid suspicious or unfamiliar ATMs
- When approaching an ATM, check for obvious signs of tampering in the areas of the card slot or PIN pad
- If you see anything suspicious or unusual, note the location and report it to the financial institution and law enforcement.

Use these helpful tips to keep your information safe and secure this holiday season and throughout the New Year.

Wishing you a Prosperous New Year!

Police Federal Credit Union

THE BEST CHRISTMAS OF ALL

For many, Christmas can be so lonely because loved ones are no longer with us to share it.

I hope this poem can bring you some comfort.

Janet

FIRST CHRISTMAS IN HEAVEN

I see the countless Christmas trees
around the world below
with tiny lights like Heaven stars
reflecting on the snow

The sight is so spectacular
Please wipe away that tear
For I'm spending Christmas
with Jesus Christ this year

I hear the many Christmas songs
That people hold so dear
O', the sounds of music can't compare
with the Christmas choir up here.

For I have no words to tell you
of the joy their voices bring
for it's beyond description
to hear the angels sing.

I know how much you miss me.
I see the pain inside your heart.
But through our memories so dear,
we are never far apart.

I can't tell you of the splendor
or the peace here in this place.
Can you just imagine Christmas
with Our Savior.....face-to-face?

I'll ask him to light your spirit
as I tell him of your Love.
Then I'll pray for 'One another'
as you lift your eyes above.

So please let your heart be joyful
and let your spirit sing
for I'm spending Christmas in Heaven
and I'm walking with the King.

Author Unknown

A/Chief William R. Dixon

A Eulogy by his grand daughter, Carol Ann Welsh

Creating a summation of my grandfather's life is an impossibly daunting task. Even in death, his memory looms large. There's an old joke that Grandad always liked about President Calvin Coolidge, a notoriously terse man. At a dinner party, Mr. Coolidge is approached by a woman who says to him, "I made a bet with my friend that I could get you to say more than 3 words." He replies, "you lose." So, in honor of my grandfather, a man of few, but deliberate words, I'll attempt to be succinct.

Grandad was born in Idaho. When he was 7 years old, his family moved to DC for employment. Great-grandmother decided Grandad was too old to still carry a teddy-bear and tried convincing Grandad that his teddy bear simply wouldn't fit in the car with all their other belongings. He saw through this thinly veiled ruse and for the days preceding their road trip, Great-Grandmother and Grandad took turns hiding the bear from one another. When they finally got into the car and left the state, they both believed they'd bested the other. My grandfather told me this story, some 50 years later as we stood in his bedroom. He smirked as he reached into his closet and presented that very same teddy-bear. This story illustrates several prevailing facets of his character: his unyielding stubbornness, widely regarded as the most distinctive of all Dixon traits, his penchant for collecting, and his ability to get his way while simultaneously having others believe they'd gotten exactly what they wanted as well.

He was especially adept at letting our grandmother think she'd gotten her way. In high school, Grandad was a masterful dancer on roller skates and had plenty of admirers. However, he married his high school sweetheart, Clarisse, whom we grandkids eventually nicknamed Mumball. They were inseparable. He even attended



4-23-1931 - William R. Dixon - 11-25-2015

the Citizen's Police Academy with her in retirement. Although their occasional matching outfits were easy to spot, few noticed the simple kindnesses they gifted one another. When I was a kid, we travelled to Williamsburg - a location they loved and returned to year after year. Grandad pretended to just happen upon a fig tree - knowing that they were Mumball's favorite fruit. He picked ripe figs from the tree and, using the pocket knife he always carried, cut them so we could all share. A week later, when we'd returned to Maryland, Mumball just happened to want to try the recipe for the exact peanut soup we'd eaten in Williamsburg - even though Grandad & I were really the only ones who'd enjoyed it.

Shortly after my Grandparents were first married, Grandad got a job selling Hoover vacuums door to door. By his own admission, he was an abysmal salesperson. The job dictated that he could either repair the customer's existing hoover or sell them a new one and gain the commission. Well, there was a never a Hoover that he couldn't fix. He'd spend hours fixing the vacuums, even manufacturing makeshift parts where none existed. Once he spent an entire day replacing every single part on a vacuum rather than sell a new one to an older woman he knew could ill afford one. He was just too honest, too hardworking.

I think he only ever sold one vacuum, to himself, and he gave it Mumball. They easily had that vacuum for 30 years. While he was certainly guilty of keeping useless items around with the intention of finding a use for them, he did see value in things no one else did. He also saw value in people where no one else saw it either.

While climbing the ranks of the Metropolitan

Continued on Page 6

TIME TO PAY YOUR ANNUAL DUES

If you have not already done so, it is time to pay your annual dues. This, of course, does not apply to Life members or Associate members. (For those members, who are new, Life membership is no longer available and Associate members are the spouses of deceased members.)

If you do not know whether you have paid your 2016 dues even after checking your records, send me an email at jhankins@laborcops.com (please note my new email address).

TO PAY BY MAIL: Please make your checks payable to AORP. Dues are \$35 per year. You can pay ahead if you like, just indicate in the memo section of your check how many years you are paying. All mail goes to: AORP, 14035 Canal Road, SE, Cumberland, MD 21502

TO PAY ONLINE: Sign on the AORP website. Click on HELP located on the far right in the blue banner over the cruiser. Next, click on USER PROFILE and scroll down a little below the icon and click on the Renew Membership in gold lettering.

411 JANET

There is a reason why all the important phone numbers are listed on the second page of every ROLLCALL and on the back cover of the Membership Directory. Can you guess why?

OPTICAL/DENTAL QUESTIONS?

If you participate in the AORP Group optical/dental programs and have questions, please direct them to our Broker, S.F. & C. Insurance Associates on 410-337-7577. Calling United Health Care or the AORP, will not get them answered.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

If you did not receive the new Membership Directory, please email Janet at jhankins@laborcops.com with your name and mailing address. This is the preferable way for me to be notified. If you do not have email, please call the 877-283-1065 number and leave a message. Please speak in a clear, loud voice and repeat your full name and phone number twice.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR RESPONSE

Thank you for your generous donations to offset the cost of publishing the 2015 Membership Directory. If you want to make a donation, you can include it in your dues renewal check – just indicate it in the memo section.

You can, also, make the donation online by going to the AORP website, click on MEMBERSHIP (in the blue banner), and then click on MERCHANDISE.

Paying online is not an order for a copy. If you have not received your copy, be sure and email me with your name and address or call us on 877-283-1065 and leave a message with the info.

CHANGES AT THE DCRB

In a continuing effort to provide the best service possible, the DC Retirement Board has undergone some changes.

First of all, they have put in a new phone system. This new system records all phone conversations. Whenever you contact the DCRB, be sure and get the name of the individual you are speaking with and note the date and time you are making the call.

If you have a complaint on the service you receive, please contact Gary Hankins at ghankins@laborcops.com or 202-438-1492. Provide him with name of the individual you spoke with, and the date and time of the call, and the nature of your complaint.

Additionally, the DCRB has hired approximately 20 part-time employees to handle the increase in calls due to Open Season.

CHANGES IN THE AORP BOD

With the passing of our Second Vice President, Bill Dixon, Gary has appointed Trustee Ed Reddick to fill that position. Additionally, Al Kelly has been appointed as Trustee to fill Ed's position.

HOW TO CONTACT THE AORP

You can reach the AORP by emailing jhankins@laborcops.com or calling 877-283-1065. This phone line is set up to only take messages and then emails them to my computer. No one is going to answer your call no matter how many times you try.

Please leave a clear message and repeat your name and phone number twice. I will return your call as soon as possible. Please make sure your message box is not full. If it is not working or you do not have an answering machine, let me know a good time to reach you.

ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

At the September General Membership Meeting, nominations were accepted for the two Trustee positions up for re-election. Dave Shannon and Paul Angell were nominated by Clay Goldston, and seconded by Don Blake. As there were no other nominations, Clay Goldston made the motion that Dave and Paul be elected by acclamation. Manuel Rivera seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

HOW TO FIND OUT IF YOU HAVE FEGLI

FEGLI is the Federal Employees Group Life Insurance. This is the insurance you signed up for when you joined the MPD. Most of us took the BASIC coverage into retirement. The BASIC amount is based on the salary you were making at the time of retirement.

We pay for the BASIC coverage until we turn 65. After 65, we continue to have the coverage, but no longer pay for it. However, the face value of the coverage begins to reduce at a rate of 2% a month until it is worth one-fourth of the original value.

In a previous newsletter, it was recommended that you contact the office that handles the OPM FEGLI program to verify your coverage. Many reported that they were unable to get through to anyone or were told that they “don’t cover police officers”. This is incorrect information that is still being provided, even after a supervisor was contacted and indicated he would inform those handling the telephones.

The D.C. Retirement Board (DCRB) can provide information on whether you are covered under FEGLI. They can be reached on (202)343-3272 or toll free on (866)456-3272. (Please see related article on Changes at the DCRB.)

AORP
14035 CANAL RD. SE
CUMBERLAND, MD 21502

TELEPHONE
1-877-283-1065

WEB PAGE
AORP.ORG

IRS 2006 PENSION PROTECTION ACT

Remember, if you are paying for your health insurance through your retirement annuity, you are allowed to take up to \$3000 of the portion of the premium you paid, off the top of your taxable income. If you paid less than \$3,000, you may only take the amount you paid.

Questions should be referred to your tax consultant or researching the 2006 Pension Protection Act under IRS.

This does not apply to our Associate Members, only retired law enforcement.

NASTY VIRUS INFECTS WEBSITE

Despite the strong anti-virus protection we have on our AORP website, one managed to get through causing extensive damage. The virus was so complex, our website had to be shut down for several days while our super tech guru’s attempted to eradicate the problem.

Please keep your anti-virus protection up-to-date on your on computer. Also, please close the website out when you are not using it. Many of you leave the site up and running all day long which can so slow it down. Thanks!

EQUALIZATION VERSUS COLA

With the recent increase for those under Equalization, many have contacted the AORP to find out why they didn’t get the increase. Here’s why.

If you retired before February 15, 1980, you are under Equalization. This means that when the active MPD members get a pay increase, you get an “equal” increase in your retirement annuity.

If you retired on February 15, 1980 or after, you are under the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA). This means that at the end of each year, the Consumer Price Index will determine how much of an adjustment will be made. The good news is gasoline prices have been relatively low over the past year. The bad news is that the cost of gasoline has been so low that it is keeping our COLA very low. The 2016 COLA will be determined around February. If there is an increase, it will be effective in March and will appear in the April 1st annuity payment.

BREATH - Continued from Page 3

Police Department, Grandad would request a certain officer be transferred under him each time he moved precincts. Everyone was all too eager to grant the transfer request since it was widely believed that this guy was the laziest man on the department. Finally, another officer asked Grandad why he always requested this guy because everyone thinks he's lazy, to which Grandad replied, "Well, he is." Grandad went on to say that because he was so lazy he always figured out the fastest, easiest way to do things. Grandad considered him an essential member of his team. Grandad had a knack for fostering skills in those working for him and allowing them to work to their potential. He was the rare hands-off supervisor who proffered as much respect as was afforded to him. No job was beneath him and he helped wherever and whenever he could. Morale was always high wherever he commanded due to his concern for his fellow officers and the hardships of their families. His calm demeanor was revered. He was methodical and inquisitive. He was the quintessential police officer and an exceptional leader. An officer who worked for Grandad described him as "a fair, pipe-smoking, mild mannered gentlemen who earned the respect from citizens and officers alike." When he first joined the department, Grandad walked a beat in the 12th Precinct NE. This was before the era of the radio walkie-talkie so he walked his beat with a whistle. But he also carried a set of tools with him which he used to fix kids' bicycles on his beat. He always took his duty to protect and serve very seriously. He had an unfailing sense of justice. He inspired 2 of his daughters and 3 of his grandchildren to become police officers too.

He had a voracious appetite for knowledge. Even after completing his bachelor's degree, he continued auditing classes just for fun. Granddad loved historical documentaries, especially about the Wild West. He loved learning everything there was to know about a subject and he seemed to know at least a little bit about everything. As a young man, he made a vow to read every single word on every single placard on every single exhibit in the Smithsonian. Despite a dogged effort, he soon found this task to be physically impossible since they changed exhibits faster than he could get through all of them. Still, he maintained a membership to the Smithsonian Museums and enjoyed bringing his grandkids into the city for a day of exploring. He would take us to Constitution Hall to listen to the military band perform marches. He took us to the Kennedy Center and Ford's Theatre. He had a love for this city and a love for this country. He witnessed firsthand the historical changes DC experienced from the civil rights protests in the '60s to the assassination attempt on Reagan.

Sometimes it is hard for me to reconcile this image of grandfather as the serious, stern man everyone called "Chief". He could be very silly at times and he had an insufferable sweet tooth. He hid caramels in his car, had every sugary cereal ever invented, and even had bubblegum flavored toothpaste. He loved licorice, pie, especially pecan pie, and, of course, ginger snaps.

Although he never met a meal he didn't like, his favorite thing of all was fresh corn on the cob with butter. He once said he could live in a corn field if he had a knife, matches, and a stick of butter. He frequently visited his cousins on their farms in Indiana and Illinois and not so secretly held fantasies of being a farmer too. He liked staying close to his country roots with creamed chip beef on Sundays and a steady soundtrack of Johnny Cash, Loretta Lynn, and Patsy Cline. When he lived in Palmer Park, he got tractor magazines in the mail. When he moved to Clinton, Maryland he chose a home adjacent to a small farm. He finally settled on a home in Upper Marlboro, Maryland that used to be a farm and he finally bought that tractor he'd always been eyeing.

He was a veritable pied piper of the neighborhood. Animals of all species were immediately drawn to his presence. It helped that he filled his pockets with various treats every time he went out for a walk. Dogs would run to the edge of their fences and wait. The horses would gallop to the edge of their pens, anxious to get some carrots and a rub on the nose. Deer, squirrels, hunting beagles, rabbits, birds - they all flocked to his yard to linger and have a snack. Our childhood dog would escape from our yard just to go pay him a visit. When Grandad visited someone else's home even their pets would sit by his feet. We always joked that animals and small children immediately liked him. The truth is, everyone was immediately at ease with his kind, unassuming manner.

It's hard to think that I'll never hear him walk into the house and say, "hey, honey", or go to breakfast with him, or bake him ginger snaps. Although he too would regret missing those things, he wouldn't want us to be sad for him today. He lived a good life. He had a successful career. He has a loving family. His death was not tragic. He will surely be missed but hopefully we can all take solace in the fond memories we have of him and in the legacy he's left behind.

IN MEMORIAM

Since the last quarterly newsletter, the following members, or their spouses, have been added to the list of those who have answered their last Roll Call and have gone on before us. Our deepest sympathy is extended to their family and friends.

NAME	RETIRED	DEPT	RANK	ASSIGN	DOD
Victor Kuklis	04/01/78	MPD	OFF	7D	09/17/15
James B. Amburgey	03/01/65	MPD	OFF	UNK	10/08/15
John T. Bates	04/30/76	MPD	OFF	COMM	10/14/15
Clyde R. Pulsifer	02/01/95	MPD	DET	CID	10/29/15
Arthur T. Smith	08/29/80	MPD	DET	CID	11/18/15
Tom Cartledge	01/06/85	MPD	DET	7D	11/21/15
William R. Dixon	10/12/86	MPD	A/C	AH	11/25/15
Richard E. Tilley	03/01/80	MPD	INSP	PROP	11/26/15
Peter S. Paterno	02/37/81	MPD	SGT	TD	11/27/15
Curtis D. Cooper	07/31/71	MPD	UDSS	WH	11/28/15
Earl D. Gould	01/28/89	MPD	DET	CID	12/04/15
Joseph J. King	09/01/77	MPD	SGT	6D	12/07/15

NAME	SPOUSE	DOD
Carol Jane Lengle	Norman F. Lengle	09/29/15
Margaret L. Greenwasy	Donald B. Greenway	11/01/15
Earle R. Bannister Sr.	Patricia L. Bannister	11/27/15
Alecia A. DeLorme	Richard F. DeLorme	11/30/15
Barbara I. Mazur	Joseph E. Mazur	12/06/15

NAME	WIDOW OF	DOD
Barbara Nairn	Harry Nairn	07/13/15
Ethel Bershak	Albert Bershak	10/10/15
Martha E. Siebert	Robert F. Siebert	10/23/15
Barbara A. Cass	Melvin R. Cass	11/04/15
Bessie H. Brickman	Jacob Brickman	11/17/15
Frances S. Lanier	Glenard E. Lanier	11/27/15

NOTIFICATION OF DEATHS

No matter what your type of membership, please request your loved ones to notify the AORP upon your passing. Ask them to contact Janet Hankins on (202) 438-1494. I can assist them with the notifications that will need to be made; and, make sure that any money due your estate is located.

HAPPY HANUKKAH
&
MERRY CHRISTMAS

FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MAY 2016 BE YOUR HAPPIEST NEW YEAR,
FILLED WITH GOD'S BLESSINGS.
SEE YOU ON WEDNESDAY JANUARY 6TH
AT THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING.

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