

Notes from Spring Board Meeting

The Board of Trustees met at the Sawmill Creek facility this past weekend and here are some notes (not minutes) from the meeting

- The FOP has entered into a program with YTB travel. This program is a web based travel program that will have a prominent link on our web site and you can click there to book travel, be it flights, hotels, cars, flowers, etc... you can buy off the web. The FOP of Ohio will receive a commission from each purchase. The FOP asks that you check that web site before you book travel, etc. and compare the prices from the established travel web sites like Expedia, Orbitz. If the prices are comparable, you the FOP of Ohio travel website. I have used it and saved some money on a recent trip to Myrtle Beach. Look for the link soon on our web site. Any revenue earned through this program will help to pay for our FOP programs like the CIRS team, Special Olympics, Easter Seals, etc...
- Andy Haley, a part time employee of the FOP, is graduating from OSU and will be headed off to Texas to build ethanol plants. He will be leaving us obviously and we will sorely miss him. Congrats to Andy on his graduation and good luck in his future.
- Mike Taylor, 2nd Vice President of the Grand Lodge, reported that the National Executive Board was considering a proposal from solicitor CDG to offer a license plate medallion to contributors. The Board voted to have Taylor voice our opinion that this is a bad idea and to offer anything similar to the FOP symbol to non-members is unsafe and unwise.
- ICMA is offering the Blueline 457 plan (deferred compensation) that is lower cost than the Ohio plan, allows members to borrow against your assets in the plan and local lodges can receive some revenue from this plan. Please contact Nikki Wharton at NWharton@icmarc.org
- The Ohio FOP has entered into a partnership with U.S. ComCorp, a company that produces a program called "SchoolAlert." This program utilizes technology to contact parents if there is an emergency at school. The federal government look as if they are going to give us a grant to help administer this plan for U.S. ComCorp. After Virginia Tech, this is going to be a popular thing for schools to get into. The same company produces a program called "ChildAlert" that is billed as a faster, more comprehensive Amber Alert. What this program does is to send voice, email and text messages to anyone who would sign up to receive them in the case of an abducted child. The FOP will partner on this as well.
- The Board approved submitting a Constitution and By-law change to make our elections take place on the even numbered years, instead of the odd numbered years as it is now. The purpose of this is to allow a newly elected State Lodge leader some time to get on his/her feet before going to a National Conference in a couple of weeks after his/her election, amongst other things.
- Leadership seminar at State Conference will feature National President Chuck Canterbury teaching Parliamentary Procedure and Mark Weaver, teaching media relations. See you there.
- Lodge 9 has purchased a new facility and they are working to get National FOP training to be held at that facility.
- Scott Tipton has been endorsed by Lodge 9 for the Vice President position.

- Troy Mineard named disaster relief coordinator for Ohio FOP. He will work with the State Board to get more information about the needs for disaster relief purposes and will work with district trustee in the event of a disaster.
- Rick Grochowski proposed looking into a legislative initiative to examine a voluntary program where local governments could buy into the state health care system. The legislative committee was directed to investigate this possibility.
- Paul Hlynsky was endorsed by Lodge 7 and 8 for the Vice President Position.
- Trooper Lodge 146 has been disbanded
- State Board upheld decision of lodge to expel a member. Out of this grievance, came another constitution and by-law change proposal. The National does not allow attorneys to participate and our C/B specifically does. The proposal removes the permitting language for attorneys to participate in grievances.
- Articles for OPM have a deadline of May 18
- 2 members of Lodge 186 who were shot in the line of duty are recovering, Brother Beisel was in attendance and got a standing ovation.
- Torch Run is June 21-23, Tent Town is June 22/23, Poker Walk is September 28-30. Lodge 38 challenge of \$250 per Lodge for Torch Run stands.
- BWC is a major problem for LEO's. Looking for a solution.
- The legislative committee will send letters to regional and municipal transit authorities regarding wraparound advertising on buses that diminish ability to see in the buses
- Kathy Harrell election to Pension System coming this week. VOTE!!!
- Dan Mitchell was appointed to fill the vacant VP slot through the conference.