Houston Police Burial Fund
2018 Annual Meeting

By Jay Gause

The Houston Police Burial Fund will have its annual meeting on Thursday January 11, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall located at 607 E. Whitney in Houston, Texas. All members of the Burial Fund are invited to attend.

Board of Trustee positions 1, 2, and 3 will be elected at this meeting. To run for a trustee position, one must be a member of the Burial Fund in good standing for at least two years and be present at the annual membership meeting, except as otherwise provided by the bylaws. Nominations will be taken from the floor at the meeting.

Additionally, the following amendments to the Burial Fund’s bylaws will also be voted on.

Amendment 1

Amendment 1 completely strikes out item 1 in Subsection B Lifetime of Section 2 Classification of Article III Members and replaces it with the below indicated new paragraph:

1. Any member of the Houston Policemen’s Burial Fund Association who upon completion of the number of years required to obtain the full pension from the Houston Police Officers Pension System, and having been a member of the Houston Policemen’s Burial Fund Association or its predecessor unincorporated Association for at least the same number of years required to obtain the full pension as stated above, and who actually retires from active duty with the Houston Police Department shall become a Lifetime member of the Houston Policemen’s Burial Fund Association. Entering a deferred retirement option program shall not be deemed as retiring from active duty. The Association will follow the current Meet and Confer agreement between the City of Houston and the Houston police officers’ majority bargaining agent to determine if a member in a specific phase down program is retired from active duty. Association members who have already obtained a Lifetime membership under previous versions of these bylaws shall retain their Lifetime membership.

Amendment 2

Amendment 2 completely strikes out the entire paragraph listed in Subsection B of Section 3 Good Standing of Article III Members and removes the letter A from the sole remaining paragraph currently labeled as Subsection A in Section 3 of Article III, to wit:

A. A member in good standing shall be one whose current dues and fees have been paid or a waiver has been granted by the board of trustees in accordance with the provisions of these bylaws.

Continues on Page 5
By now all members should be aware that the new pension plan for HPD retirees has fully taken effect by the passage of the Pension Obligation Bond (POB’s) issue by the citizens of Houston. The law, under, SB2190, was the fruition of extremely difficult negotiations with the City of Houston by HPOPS negotiators, Terry Bratton and Dwayne Ready, Trustees, along with John Lawson, Executive Director. Through their efforts, a Defined Benefit plan was retained for the members, and the plan will now receive the $750 million the city has owed HPOPS over a period of about 14 years.

Prior to the bond election on November 7th, the HPROA PAC participated in the process of communicating to the citizens of Houston the importance of the passage of the POB’s. This was accomplished by donating PAC Funds in the amount of $10,000.00 to Lift UP Houston Organization, and $1,250.00 to the PAC fund of Texans for Secure Retirement (TSR ), who paid for main stream advertisements and social media advertisements, respectively.

During the process of any type of negotiations, and after the completion of such negotiations, there are, and always will be, some criticism about the process and the results of the compromise produced. Here are some of the criticisms that produced rumors circulating before and after the election of November 7th, and the real facts on the issues.

* Retirees will not be eligible for a COLA until age 70, or older. There is a 3 year moratorium for those under 70. After three years COLA’s will return for all under age 70.

* HPOPS meetings are secretive and short. All Board and Committee meetings are publicly posted and open to the members and the public. Committee meetings are held on the second Tuesday and Board meeting is held on the second Thursday of each month, respectively.

* HPOPS does not have a diversified investment portfolio. HPOPS employs investment groups to manage investments in all areas that maximizes the highest return for investments. This year returns were over 16%.

* HPOPS Board member were not subject to recent legislative changes. All HPOPS members, active and retired, are subject to the same changes.

* Officers hired after October 9, 2004 will never get pension increases. The future cannot be predicted, but as officers get salary increases, so will pension benefits increase.

* The City of Houston is the main source of funding for the pension system. The City of Houston contributes in the amount mandated by law, as does employee contributions. Investments returns depend on good investing methods and diversity.

* HPOU and HPOPS did not share information during the legislative process.

The sharing of information was ongoing between HPOPS AND HPOU, along with coordination of information to the HPROA. All worked in concert with each other during the negotiations and legislative process. This was made difficult at times because of changes being offered on the legislation weekly, or daily.
A Message from Stephen Rayne, President HPROA

I hope you were able to attend our annual Hill Country Reunion that was held the last Saturday of October in Fredericksburg, Texas. We had over 200 people attend. The weather was good, the food was good, the silent auction was good, and the war stories get better each year. It is so good to see and talk with friends you have not seen for a long time. I want to thank Dee and Lamar Kimble for hosting the reunion and Rosalie and Matt Potell, our Entertainment Committee co-chairpersons, for their work to make the reunion an enjoyable and memorable event.

This year the City of Houston again put on a “9/11 Heroes Run”. As I mentioned in the last issue of the Retired Badge, we were invited to participate. Not run, needless to say, but to staff a booth and to set up and display our “Traveling Wall of Honor Memorial”. This memorial contains pictures of and information about all HPD Officers who have died in the line of duty. This memorial was constructed by HPROA member Nelson Zoch and several others. The event was originally scheduled to be held on September 9, 2017. Hurricane Harvey flooded out this date. The “Heroes Run” was rescheduled for Veteran’s Day, November 11, 2017. Myself, along with eight other members and board members, manned the booth that morning (see a picture on our website). Many people stopped to look and ask questions about the Officers on the wall. We look forward to participating in this event again in the future.

A quick reminder. The HPOPS election for two board positions is coming up. I do not know if this edition of the Retired Badge will get to you before the election. I hope it does. As you probably have already seen on our website, your HPROA has endorsed Terry Bratton and Dwayne Ready for these two positions. I was a witness to how important these two men were to our pension negotiations during the last legislative session. They spent countless hours working to protect our pension benefits. I hope you will cast your vote for them in upcoming HPOPs election.

Your HPROA is a family of volunteers who work to keep our retired police family informed and together. We will continue to look out for our retirement benefits, get needed information out to you as quickly as possible and try to have some fun while we do it. Come join us and get involved.

Steve Rayne, President
For Members and Their Families

What would happen to your retirement savings if you needed long term care???

For more information, call:
Garland Cole 512.327.3456
M.D. Beale 713.419.7455

7 out of 10 – More than half of Americans after the age of 65 are likely to need long term care services.¹

Long Term Care Pays – For out of pocket expenses you incur for care at home, in the Community, and in a long care facility such as an Assisted Living or Nursing Home, up to the Maximum Daily Amount you select. Benefit increase options are available to help meet future costs by keeping up with inflation.

¹T. Thomson et al, Long Term Care Perceptions, Experiences, and Attitudes among Americans 40 or Older (The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs, April 2013)

Address Change

Most retired officers are somewhat settled in their lives and in their homes. However, occasionally some of us find it necessary to make changes and move. Should you do so, please advise the HPROA of your new location. The HPROA can better serve you if we know where you are.

HPROA’s mailing address: P.O. Box 130787, Houston, TX 77219.
Phone numbers: (713) 802-2967, toll free number 1-866-856-7252.
Email: www.hpdretired.com

CALL (713) 802-2967 TO JOIN HPROA TODAY

JAN RICH
Attorney at Law
Personal Injury
Probate & Wills
Estate Planning
1533 W. Alabama, Suite 100, Houston, TX 77006
832-654-0718

NOT CERTIFIED BY THE TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION
B. Any regular member of the Houston Policemen’s Burial Fund Association shall have the right to retain his membership in the Association after severing his connection with the Police Department if such member has had ten (10) years or more of continuous membership in the Association, provided that he is not suspended for non-payment of dues and full payment to become a Life Member is made to Association within 90 days of severance.

**Explanation of Amendments**

In the opinion of the Board of Trustees, several factors have made the first amendment necessary:

- Due in part to an aging and shrinking police force, the ratio of dues paying members to lifetime members has become too small.
- The “rule of 70” could make this ratio smaller
- The Burial Fund would have great difficulty stopping payroll deductions based upon each individual member reaching a unique retirement eligibility based on the “rule of 70” versus the current system which operates predominantly based upon academy classes.

Amendment 1 would address all these problems by increasing the ratio of dues paying members to lifetime members and linking payroll deduction stoppage to actual retirement when most deductions are stopped automatically.

Amendment 2 deletes a section of the bylaws that would become obsolete with the passage of Amendment 1.

The Board of Trustees believes these amendments are necessary to keep the Houston Police Burial Fund healthy going into the future. The Board unanimously recommends the passage of these amendments.

You may submit questions or request a copy of the current bylaws by emailing jay.gause@ctrcc.com.

*Retired Lieutenant Jay Gause is the president of the Houston Police Burial Fund*

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**City of Houston Human Resources Insurance Department Contact Numbers**

HPROA Board Member Steve Toth has provided the below contact numbers for HPROA members who might have questions regarding their health insurance.

**Contact Phone Numbers for Retirees (Benefits)**

- **A-F** Maribel Gomez 832.393.6101
- **G-M** Alicia Solis 832.393.6102
- **N-Z** Kemp Lenued 832.393.6103
- **Front Desk:** 832.393.6000, Option #4
- **Email Address:** retireebenefits@cityofhouston.gov

- **Dwayne Cook** 832.393.6157

**CIGNA at City of Houston**

- **A-F** LaKeith Johnson 832.393.6192
- **G-L** Maria Rodriguez 832.393.6193
- **M-R** Ivan Flake 832.393.6191
- **S-Z** Sylvia M 832.393.6194
- **MyCigna.com** 800.997.1406

**Life Insurance at City of Houston**

- **Elizabeth Rodriguez** 832.393.6114
Academy Class #22

Class #22 graduated in late 1959 or early in 1960. The exact date is not known as some signed up for the HPBFA either on 12/16/1959 and some on 1/1/1960. There were sixty-seven young Officers most anxious to “hit the streets”. There were two females in this class-B.J. Jones and J.V. Greene.

The following were in this class but left HPD prior to earning a retirement-L.N. Hammer, G. W. Thompson, C.C. Mahaney, R.A. Payne, B.J. Jones, W.L. Hardy, B.L. Goodson, B.K. Schovajsa, E.R. McElroy, R.E. Hopkins, G.A. Simmons, A. Holiday, D.R. Perry, F.A. Ellis, J.D. Rollins and R.J. Helton.

One Officer from Class #22 was shot and KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY. He was Officer Floyd T. Deloach, who was working an approved extra job at a bowling alley on North Shepherd at Crosstimbers on June 30, 1965. He was twenty-eight years old and married with two young daughters. Five Officers from this class passed away while still active on the department. Those, along with their years of service and year of death were...


This class also had some longevity, with Arthur Price serving 44 years and James B. Haney serving 42 years at HPD. Two longtime Radio Patrol stalwarts, Ben Frank and Joe Davis, served for over 39 years. May the Good Lord continue to bless these fine Officers and their families.

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A Sister Goes Home

Bonny Montero was called home to serve our Father. Jim, Bonny’s loving and caring soulmate, stood fast to care for Bonny as she prepared to go home. On Saturday, September 16, 2017 at 10:00 a.m., over 60 active and retired officers gathered along with friends, family, and church family to see Bonny on her way. The services were attended by Father Chris Nguyen at St. Matthias Catholic Church in Magnolia, Texas.

Our Police Chaplain Montgomery was with Father Chris and family as everyone celebrated Bonny’s service to family, friends, church, and her beloved Houston Police Department.

After services were concluded, everyone stayed to visit—remember there were tears, but laughter was everywhere. They spoke of Bonny and Jim and their closeness. They recalled the red-haired police lady in the halls of 61 Riesner at her duty. The family, with many still serving at HPD, were present and speaking of Bonny and Jim and their special relationship.

I heard people of other faiths speak about the love, the closeness, the caring of all those gathered. Bonny must have been with us and so very proud to see all who knew and loved her and her family. We will gather once again at the time and place prepared for us all. Bonny will be smiling and waiting to welcome us home.

Till next time.

EJ

Nelson J. Zoch,
November 18, 2017
Hello again Retirees and Friends,

We just finished having our Annual Reunion in the Hill Country on October 28, 2017, hosted by Lamar and Dee Kimble with assistance from Frank and Paulette Van Volkom. It was a tad cool that morning, but Frank made sure the coffee was hot to help warm you up, and it was just perfect in the afternoon and evening. The lunch was catered by Boondocks and as usual it was a great lunch with catfish filets, fries, coleslaw and beans.

We had right at 200 attendees at the Reunion, not a bad gathering of friends and retirees. The silent auction items brought in 1,669 dollars and we had several donations from members who did not buy anything, but wanted to donate to the organization. These generous members donated 127 dollars, making our silent auction grand total: 1,796 dollars. Rosalie and I want to thank the members who graciously donated items to the silent auction.

I also need to thank some members personally who assisted in the set up on Friday of the silent auction tables: EJ and Delores Smith, Sue Gaines, Fred Welschburger, Victor and Margaret Landa. Their help made it easy to get out of the pavilion at a reasonable time on Friday.

The Saturday volunteers I need to personally thank are: EJ and Delores Smith, Victor and Margaret Landa, Sue Gaines, Barbara Cotten, Stephanie Leonard and all the members who helped with the silent auction bid sheets. Let’s not forget, at the front door, was Cathy Buckles and husband Richard, making sure you got a door prize ticket.

We all sat around and visited, listened to our President Steve Rayne, HPOPS Board Chairman Terry Bratton, and Executive Director W.M. "Bill" Elkin give us updated information on issues that are affecting us as retirees. At the same time, we had Delbert Logsdon wandering around the pavilion taking photos of all the attendees as they visited. And for that I do thank you, Earl sincerely.

We had numerous donations for the Door Prizes this year from members. Rosalie and I were very appreciative of the generosity. Here are the donations:

HPROA: 6 Mystery cash envelopes, Steve and Vicki Rayne- Pecan Pie, Barbara Tyler- four 50 Dollar Visa gift cards, Glenn Juenke, Burial Fund- two wine baskets and two single bottles of wine, Matt and Rosalie Potell- five wine baskets.

There was a donation to the HPROA Surviving Spouse Luncheon from Margaret Landa, The Retired HPD Ladies Luncheon, 77.00 dollars, Thank You.

The Surviving Spouse Luncheon is scheduled for Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at the Houston Racquet Club, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The next Scheduled Reunion is the Houston Reunion at the Police Academy at 17000 Aldine Westfield. It will be held on Saturday, April 28, 2018, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., hosted by Matthew and Rosalie Potell.

Have a Blessed Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Your Entertainment Committee: Matthew and Rosalie Potell

Just A Quick Note: Fredericksburg 2018 Reunion will be on the FIRST Saturday of the Month of October.
Swimming, Not Drowned, Says Hobo

From a Houston daily newspaper, July 8, 1959:

Harkless L. Charles, a red-haired hobo from Kentucky, slept among the brush and bloodweeds along Buffalo Bayou for 40 minutes Tuesday while five policemen dragged the water for his body. His traveling companion, also red-haired, had told police that Charles dived into the bayou from the Preston Avenue bridge after slashing his throat and wrists with a razor blade.

McCafferty and his crew of uniformed men got grappling irons and dragged the bottom. No body appeared. Then at 1:40 p.m., the bloodweeds on the opposite bank parted and Charles emerged, rubbing his eyes.

“Who are you looking for?” he asked McCafferty. “You,” said McCafferty. “Why, we just went swimming,” said Charles, “and then I went down the bayou.”

Detective McCafferty took both of the red-haired hoboes to jail. “I think they need some food and a chance to sober up,” he explained. The two travelers said they arrived here from Fort Worth on a freight train Monday night.

Since Homicide Detective J.R. McCafferty found two pairs of shoes and a safety razor, without a blade, under the bridge, this story seemed fairly probable. That is, there were two pairs of shoes on the scene but only one shoeless hobo, this one being Charles’ companion, Jack Golden, 27, of Memphis, Tennessee. So the owner of the other pair of shoes must be in the bayou.
How to Navigate Qualifying at the HPD Outdoor Qualification Pistol Range

By Anthony Kivela

Largely based on misinformation, a few retirees might be anxious about the process used by the Pistol Range regarding annual/biennial qualification. There’s no need to worry or be nervous since the process is standardized and fair to retirees. Part of anybody’s justifiable concern is the uncertainty of what lies ahead; thus, this article will hopefully explain in detail what you will encounter at the range.

Retirees must shoot the off-duty course, and I’ll later detail herein what that entails. The Retiree Certification Unit (RCU) personnel have asked that you NOT just show up to qualify without first completing the required paperwork and sending it in. Follow these steps:

Renewal Instructions: For HPD retired ID

Go to the HPROA website:
www.hpdretired.com
Scroll down left hand side to “Firearm Carry Renewal” click on it. (Takes you to Useful Links)
Scroll down to and select:
“HPD State & Federal Handgun Certifications Instructions & Application”
Print out and mail in.

There are five full pages of good information, including detailed instructions, blank forms, and Questions and Answers to common inquiries. The RCU personnel have asked that I remind retirees that although there is a place for notarization, if you are RENEWING at the HPD range, there is no reason to get the paperwork pre-notarized, the RCU personnel will be happy to do it for you at no charge. Simply send it in without a signature.

Keep in mind though, this applies only to renewals, new applicants are processed by Employee Services Division (ESD) at 1200 Travis.

Additionally, there is no reason to FedEx it or send it in using certified mail, just send it in via regular mail. Finally, if you send in the completed renewal forms the calendar month directly before your Federal and State handgun certifications date, the RCU will call you and advise that they are ready for you to come in to shoot, and whether you will need to be dressed for a new picture, (coat and tie for men, business attire for women).

When a new picture is required, the RCU has some donated suit jackets and ties on-hand that you can wear. If fact, they asked if you have any clean spare suit coats, dress shirts, or ties, they can always use extras, bring them in with you and donate them for others to borrow.

Now let’s presume that you have submitted your paperwork and you have been notified to come in to shoot. The range recommends that you dry-practice with your UNLOADED weapon prior to actually coming in to qualify. You’ve heard of all this before: Remember, don’t turn a semi-auto to the side when racking the slide back, but keep it pointed straight ahead. Clean the gunk out of the weapon(s) before qualifying, and simply, just be familiar with your weapon...after all, you will be expected to shoot it.

If you only carry a semi-automatic weapon, or just a revolver, you will be required to shoot 50 rounds in that specific type of weapon. If want to carry both an automatic and revolver, you will be required to shoot 50 rounds through each of these types of weapons, for a total of 100 rounds. The range will supply the ammunition in standard calibers like .38 special, .40, .45 auto etc.

Here are some new positive changes. Due to suggestions brought up by retirees, the range has made some very good common-sense adjustments. They realize that some retirees are no longer blessed with the mobility required to bend over repeatedly for reloading or picking up brass. Accordingly, they supply a rolling waist-level cart for all retirees to place their trays on. Additionally, range personnel bring out a brass sweeper after retirees shoot in order to pick up spent brass.

Here’s what retirees will encounter when shooting the 50-round qualification course:

1st Facing: 3-yard Line, two-hand, strong arm shooting, 15 rounds with a timed reloading of 30 seconds. This reloading is the only timed portion and your clips can be previously loaded with rounds (8 and 7 per clip).

2nd Facing: 15-yard barricade, only 5 rounds, two-hand, strong arm, aimed shooting, untimed.

3rd Facing: 7-yard Line, 30 rounds at your speed, two-hand, strong arm, aimed shooting, untimed.

The minimum qualification score for the revised course is 75%, so at the conclusion of your shooting, if there are 12 or more rounds from your total of 50 rounds that are out of the “7-ring”, you will not qualify. Nevertheless, based on the above reasonable facings, the qualification should be easy for most retirees.

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HPROA Event Calendar:
December 2017, January and February 2018

Thursday, December 7, 2017
HPOU General Membership Meeting

Thursday, December 14, 2017
HPOPS Board Meeting

Thursday, December 14, 2017
8:30am HPROA Board Meeting
9:30am General Membership Meeting

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL FROM THE HPROA.

Thursday, January 4, 2018
HPOU General Membership Meeting

Thursday, January 11, 2018
HPOPS Board Meeting

Thursday, January 11, 2018
8:30am HPROA Board Meeting
9:30am General Membership Meeting

Thursday, February 1, 2018
HPOU General Membership Meeting

Thursday, February 8, 2018
HPOPS Board Meeting

Thursday, February 8, 2018
8:30am HPROA Board Meeting
9:30am General Membership Meeting

REMINDER-HPROA HOUSTON REUNION TO BE HELD IN FEBRUARY. MORE INFORMATION FORTHCOMING.

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Let’s face it folks, at some time in our lives, we may regretfully have our driver’s license stripped away because we are unable to pass the driving exam. I don’t personally look forward to this, but I understand the necessity in preventing a person from driving who is too dangerous to other motorists, even if I am the person who loses his license for-cause. The same analogy can be applied to qualifying. If one of us gets too weak to fire more than one or two rounds, or disease or something similar causes us to uncontrollably shake to the extent that we can’t control in what direction that we shoot, it might be time for us to stop carrying a loaded firearm in public. Certainly none of us wants to inadvertently shoot innocent bystanders when we deploy our firearm. There is a good reason for each of the rules at the Pistol Range, and keeping other innocents alive is one of those reasons.

I have found everyone at the Retiree Certification Unit to be extremely understanding and helpful, inclusive of the Range Officers, their supervisor Sergeant Rob Sandoval, and their management team. If you have further questions, the RCU encourages you to call them, mornings are best (0600-1100 hrs.), Monday-Friday.

SPO Paul Cromwell  832-394-2500, or
SPO Bridgett Marshall  832-394-2507

At this time, the qualification times are 0630, 0800, and 1000 hrs., Mon-Fri., except the 1st Tuesday of the month (Remedial Day) and all city holidays.

HPROA New Members:
October and November 2017

October New Members:
Robert Bell, Alfonzo Cross, Ricardo T. Cruz, David Devora, Jeanne R. Gause, Antonio Guzman, Lawrence Lindquist, Robert Mireles, Kevin O’Brien, Duane

November New Members:
Steven Broussard, Adelberto Garcia, James J. Kravetz, Eric Olsen, and Frank P. Scroggins. (5)
When we retire from the most exciting career one could ever imagine, we tend to reminisce about past events in our life. These memories are usually triggered by current events we have read about or experienced. As it came time to get my next article ready for print, the Houston Astros dominated my thoughts. I thought about the many years I followed and cheered for this team and the first post season games I experienced.

The year was 1980, and I was working in Special Crimes, under the Criminal Intelligence Division. At the time, Officer Al Blair was assigned to this division and he worked an extra job for the Houston Astros. Because of strong pitching by Nolan Ryan, Ken Forsch and Joe Niekro, the Astros were in the divisional playoffs for the first time and tickets for the post season were in high demand. Knowing my love for the game, Al asked if I would be interested in buying tickets to the post season playoffs. Needless to say, I made a quick trip to the credit union and soon had four seats throughout the playoffs, all the way to the World Series if Houston could just pull it off.

Joe Morgan, Jose Cruz, Terry Puhl, Enos Cabell, Craig Reynolds, and Cesar Cedeno had the lumber to get our team past the Philadelphia Phillies.

However, a lot goes into being able to advance to the World Series.

The Astros split the first two games in Philadelphia with Game 2 going into the 10th inning before Houston won 7-4. The Astros returned back to Houston with the series tied at one win for each team. Game 3, the first playoff game in Houston, was a nail biter with neither team scoring through nine innings of play. In the bottom of the 11th inning Joe Morgan led off with a triple, the Phillies walked Cruz and Art Howe intentionally and Denny Walling lifted a game-winning sacrifice fly. Houston was now one win away from advancing to the World Series.

Needless to say, the National League Pennant tickets for Games 4 & 5 were very hot items. Both of these remaining games played into extra innings with the Phillies winning both Games 4 & 5, in the 10th inning. After winning Game 5, the Phillies advanced to the World Series and played the Kansas City Royals. After the extremely close division series, the Phillies easily won the World Series in six games. The Houston / Philadelphia National League Division Series (NLDS) went down in the history books as one of the most exciting divisional series ever played.

It was the most exciting series I had ever witnessed and I would like to again thank Al Blair for giving me the opportunity to experience these thrilling playoffs.

Houston would not advance to the NLDS again until 1986, when they battled the New York Mets. After the 1980 series, baseball extended the NLDS playoffs to the best of seven. The Astrodome hosted NLDS Games 1, 2, 6 and 7, and again tickets were hard to come by. At the time, I was assigned to the Special Thefts Division and I contacted Al to see if he could get playoff tickets for me again. The Astros front office had not extended the offer to their employees, so it looked like I would be in front of my television during the NLDS.

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However, Al came up with a plan, suggesting I work an extra job for the Astros. Since they needed extra officers, Al felt he could get me an inside job and he came through big time with a dugout assignment.

As a kid, I had idolized Yogi Berra and some of the other Yankee greats. In 1986, Yogi was one of Houston’s coaches. To be in the same dugout, with Yogi and some of the Astros’ all time greats, was something I would have paid good money for, instead I was being paid. It just doesn’t get any better than that. Well, maybe if we would have won the NLDS and advanced to the World Series.

The Astrodome hosted Game 1, and Mike Scott pitched a complete game allowing only five hits and no runs. Glenn Davis hit a homerun for Houston’s only score and the Astros prevailed in Game 1, with a score of 1-0. Nolan Ryan pitched the second game of the series and the Mets won 5-1. Houston’s only run was scored in the seventh inning off a Phil Garner single. With the series tied at one win for each team, they went to New York for Games 3, 4 and 5.

Game 3 was a back and forth game with the Astros leading 5-4 going into the ninth inning. In the ninth inning, Astros’ closer Dave Smith gave up a walk-off 2-run homer to Lenny Dystra and the Mets won 6-5.

In Game 4, Mike Scott was dominant, only giving up one run. Alan Ashby hit a two-run homer in the second inning and Dickie Thon hit a solo shot in the seventh to give Houston the win 3-1. With the series tied, Game 5 turned into a pitching duel between Nolan Ryan and Dwight Gooden. Each pitcher gave up only one run in nine strong innings. With the score tied at one each, they played into extra innings with neither team scoring until the bottom of the 12th. The Mets catcher Gary Carter drove in the winning run in the bottom of the 12th and New York won 2-1. Gary Carter would later be inducted into the “Hall of Fame”.

The Mets headed back to Houston needing just one win to advance to the World Series. If Houston could win Game 6, Mike Scott was scheduled for Game 7. It was not something New York wanted to happen. Scott was unhittable during the playoffs and they had no luck against him in two previous games.

In the Astros’ dugout, I watched as Bob Knepper kept the Mets scoreless through eight strong innings. Houston had taken a three run lead off of timely hitting by Phil Garner, Glenn Davis and Jose Cruz in the first inning, but in the top of the ninth inning New York tied the game at 3 runs each. The game went into extra innings and both teams were scoreless until the 14th inning. The Mets took a one run lead in the top of the 14th and Billy Hatcher homered in the bottom of the 14th to keep the score tied at four runs each. The score would remain tied until the 16th inning when the Mets scored three runs to take a 7-4 lead. The Astros came back scoring two runs in the bottom of the 16th inning. With the winning run on first and the tying run on second, Kevin Bass struck out to end the game. In 2011, Major League Baseball ranked this game as the fifth greatest game of the preceding fifty years.

Then in 1988, Craig Biggio played his first full season with the Astros. Craig would later be inducted in the “Hall of Fame”. In 1991, Jeff Bagwell made his debut with the Astros. The pair became known as the “killer bees” and both spent their entire career with the Astros. While they played for Houston the team advanced to the post season playoffs six times. The Astros played in their first World Series in 2005, and had some very exciting games. However, the 1980 and 1986 series still ranked at the top of my list of exciting series, until this year. In 2017, Jeff joined Craig in the “Hall of Fame” and both watched and cheered as their team won the World Series.

With season tickets for 2017, I rarely missed an Astros game. There was something special about this team that I hadn’t seen in previous seasons. In 2005, I had season tickets and attended every home post season game, including two World Series games. With all the great players who wore the Astros uniform in past years, it seemed we were always one or two outstanding players short. The 2017, season was different and I was convinced the Astros had the talent to go all the way. I again had tickets to the post season games and it would take something very special to make me miss a game, whether I was at Minute Maid or just watching on TV.

With the Astros and Yankees tied at 3 wins each, Saturday October 21, 2017, was a winner take all game. The winner of that game would go forward to the World Series. It was also the date of the Houston Special Weapons and Tactics (S.W.A.T.) Reunion and I had committed months before to be their guest speaker. The guys that worked in the early years of S.W.A.T. were a major part of the Houston Police Department’s history and this event fit my criteria of being “very special”. It looked like the Astros game would have to take a back seat and I honored my commitment to Ellis R. Johnson. Besides, I believed the Astros would win and I had tickets for the World Series Game 3 and 4, when the Astros returned to Minute Maid Park from Dodger Stadium.

According to the S.W.A.T. plaque, proudly displayed at the reunion, Houston S.W.A.T. was established on May 23, 1974. A copy of the letter from the chief’s office transferring the original members of S.W.A.T. was also dated May 23, 1974. The original members of that unit were Lieutenant Ellis Milan, R.F. Davenport, R.E. Noris, W.D. Simmons, G. Mclvain, J.R. Foster, J.A. Johnson, A.S. Reisner, J.M Campos, J.H. Binford, J.D. Lucus, R.E. Labue, R.D. Hughes, E.M. Pekar, B.J. Clark and W.L. McAnally.
S.W.A.T. was organized to respond to and manage critical situations involving shootings while minimizing police casualties. This new unit became very efficient in their assignment and soon became one of the premier S.W.A.T. units in the nation.

Despite the Astros playing for the American League pennant, there was a good turnout of officers and their spouses for this reunion. It was good to see old friends and acquaintances I had worked with over the years. “Burn in Time Smokers” prepared the food for the dinner and the food was awesome. The whole ceremony was first class and I even forgot about the Astros until Sandy Wall turned on the television while we were eating.

The game was in the fourth inning and the score was 0-0 with Charlie Morton pitching for the Astros. As we ate, the Astros headed into the bottom of the 4th inning and Evan Gattis hit a solo homerun allowing the Astros to take a 1-0 lead. As most people had finished eating, Sandy approached the podium and turned the television off. He announced it was now time for their guest speaker and I wasn’t sure how they felt about turning off the game to listen to me speak.

Before dinner, Sandy had asked each table to talk about an incident that occurred during their career. Jerry Comier and his beautiful wife Ali were at my table and Jerry told how S.W.A.T. was put in place to save lives. Jerry strongly believed his training saved his life. In Ellis Johnson’s first aid course, Ellis talked about the importance knowing first aid and having a “will to live” if you become seriously injured. These things are extremely important if you are injured during a firefight or major conflict. Medical personnel may not be available until the scene is secured.

The situation Jerry was talking about occurred after he transferred out of S.W.A.T.
The Value of Police Work, 1973

One night in 1973, Billy Cartwright and I were northbound on Stella Link, almost to Beechnut Substation to OD from a busy evening shift in Sunnyside when a call of “Robbery by Firearms in Progress” of a convenience store on Stella Link went out. We were two blocks away heading in the right direction. I grabbed the mike and advised the dispatcher that “753, we got it”. By the time that I hung up the mike, Billy was pulling into the convenience store parking lot. Through the plate glass window, I could see a Black male across from the cash register with his left arm resting on the counter and his right hand in his wind breaker pocket. The cash register drawer was open and the clerk was pulling out bills. The suspect was looking toward the front door. Further down to the right, there was another Black male at the magazine rack. He had a magazine open, but he was looking back and forth over the top of the magazine, obviously not reading it. So there are at least two of them and there are two of us. An even up deal, pre-bullet proof vest days, if this thing goes bad.

The suspect at the counter obviously saw us—uniformed cops and a marked police car. He proceeded toward us, through the front door. There was no time to work out a tactical plan. It was all instinct at this point. As the suspect came out the door, Billy and I parted ways, allowing the suspect to pass between us. Just as he passed us, we turned and knocked him face down, onto the pavement. Before he could “MF” us for the third time, I had the pistol out of the suspect’s windbreaker pocket and Billy had him cuffed.

Just as we deposited this suspect in the back seat of the patrol car, the “look-out” exited the door. We arrested and cuffed him without incident. At that time, we heard a motor reeving and tires squealing from behind the store. We guessed that this might be the “get-away” car and driver coming from behind the store to pick up the two hijackers. Billy got behind the wheel of the patrol car as I jumped in on the right. The get-away car driver obviously saw what was going down with his buddies, so he exited the parking lot and headed north on Stella Link. The chase was on. We ran him down fairly quickly and confirmed our suspicions about his role in the robbery. We arrested the driver, put him in the back seat of the patrol car with the other two, got a wrecker, filled out a tow slip, and had the car towed. We then drove back to the convenience store where it would be my job to make the original report since I was riding shotgun.

I went into the store and began taking the information from the store clerk for the original report. On the wall behind the clerk was a huge rack of cigarettes. At this time, I was about day three of trying to break a cigarette habit that I picked up a couple of years earlier as a Marine serving in Vietnam. In Vietnam, pretty much everybody smoked something. I smoked Marlboro reds. With all of the excitement and all, I needed a cigarette real bad. I decided that I would delay this habit breaking thing for another day or so. Besides, this was not the first time that I tried to quit smoking. I told the clerk to give me a pack of those Marlboro reds. The clerk tossed a pack of Marlboro reds on the counter, then he rung it up for FULL PRICE—75 cents. I paid him. It hit me like a sledge hammer. All that we just did wasn’t worth a pack of “half-priced” cigarettes to this guy. These people out here just really don’t give a sh..!

In route to Central, after the dust settled a bit, I had some time to reflect on what just happened. If I stay with this police business, I would have to make a game of it—play hard and play to win. Or get out. Being somewhat addicted to adrenalin, I ended up staying and playing the game for another 44 years, retiring in June just before the new pension law kicked in.

PS  I finally did quit smoking about 5 years after this incident when Lieutenant “Thunder” Tharling got a bunch of us Robbery Detectives to go out and jog in Memorial Park after work. I found out real quick that I could not smoke cigarettes and keep up with Thunder.

Unfortunately, Billy Cartwright passed away a few years after this incident, a victim of cancer. Billy was the most honest and verbally restrained Police Officer I have ever known. The worst thing I had ever heard him say was “gosh-durn”. If he was really upset, it was “gosh-durn, gosh-durn”. As a former Marine, I could not understand how he could do what we did out there with such a limited vocabulary!

RIP Billy C.

Sincerely,
Richard A. Rekieta

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### Birthdays & Anniversaries

**DEC**

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<td>5</td>
<td>Dorothy Niemeier</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Pat Williams</td>
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<td>13, 1929</td>
<td>Bobby Gene Lott</td>
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<td>Fred C. Sparks</td>
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<td>George Powers</td>
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<td>20, 1934</td>
<td>Morris Shofner</td>
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<td>James R. Walker</td>
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<td>Rick Walker</td>
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<td>24, 1977</td>
<td>Rebecca and Iffy Flores</td>
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<td>May Walker</td>
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<td>23, 1946</td>
<td>Sue and Forrest Turbeville</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>Margie Frank</td>
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<td>28, 1937</td>
<td>Earl Jones</td>
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<td>Don Cotton</td>
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<tr>
<td>3, 1954</td>
<td>D.G. Scott</td>
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<td>6, 1949</td>
<td>Carmen Cantu Lott</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Marie Fish</td>
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<td>9, 1937</td>
<td>Willie Joe Kovar</td>
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<td>16, 1947</td>
<td>Harry “Wo” Womack</td>
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<td>Carolyn Foster</td>
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<td>25, 1947</td>
<td>Steve Rayne</td>
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<td>29, 1977</td>
<td>Carey and Yvonne Ledet</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Mary Nichols</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>Ken DeFoor</td>
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Earl D. Musick
Attorney at Law
Retired Houston Police Lieutenant
Former Harris County Prosecutor
March 15, 1891

Officer James E. Fenn Shot to Death In 5th Ward ‘Dive,’ his Killer Hanged

By Nelson Zoch

On Saturday night, March 14, 1891, Houston Police Officer James E. Fenn was on duty, assigned to a Negro dance hall commonly known as the “Bill Davis dive.” While there, he observed an individual known to him and also known to usually carry a pistol. He approached this man and upon doing so, was shot. He was taken down the street to the offices of Dr. Duffau for medical treatment.

He gradually sank after reaching there, but remained in a semiconscious condition up to almost the last moment. He passed away at the doctor’s office, the remains were taken to an undertaker at once.

Police Chief Charles Wichman immediately headed up an investigation at the Bill Davis “dive” and dance hall. A key witness, Joe Walker, related the following:

“I was standing behind one of the violinists when Officer Fenn came over to me and said, ‘Hello, Joe, I thought you had gone home.’ I told him, ‘I thought I would stay a while longer.’ Officer Fenn saw a man he thought had a pistol and started for him. When he got close the man started to shoot. I did not notice the man closely, but I think he is a small man and wore a black hat. I afterward saw a man looking like him running towards the International and Great Northern bridge in the direction of the Fifth Ward.’

As the witness interviews progressed, police determined that the suspect possibly had an accomplice.

One witness reported that after the suspect shot Officer Fenn, this accomplice was nearby and was well acquainted with the suspect. After he was taken into custody and questioned, he provided officers with the name of the suspect, Henry McGee. Thus, the accomplice, Sam Ashwood, who was a close acquaintance of the suspect, became a key eyewitness to this murder.

A description of Henry McGee was obtained and distributed as well as it could be in those days. It was learned that Henry McGee was a waiter of recent employment at both the Capitol Hotel and Grand Central Hotel in the downtown area. He was described as being a Negro male, about five feet, six inches tall, slight build, small mustache, dark complexion, lame in the left leg from rheumatism, and walks with difficulty. His clothing at the time was a small, stiff black hat, black pantaloons, dark sack coat, white shirt with a handkerchief tied around his neck. He fled with what was believed to be the murder weapon, a .44-caliber Bulldog pistol.

Henry McGee made his getaway from the scene on foot, running toward the Southern Pacific crossing, making his way eastward. It was learned that he had a brother living in Beaumont and other relatives in Louisiana. His reported sightings in other parts of Houston were checked out with negative results.

There was likely a history between Officer Fenn and Henry McGee. It will never be known, but it was thought that McGee held a grudge against Fenn regarding an arrest that took place three months prior. McGee was heard to make a threat against Fenn. As was common in those days, those threats were likely shrugged off as part of the job. In today’s terms, it was “the nature of the beast.”

Following the death of Officer Fenn in the doctor’s office, the remains were taken to an undertaker at once.

The funeral was held at 10 a.m. Monday, March 16, 1891. The Knights of Labor held charge of the ceremonies. On Sunday, funeral notices were circulated which contained the following notice:

“The officers and members of the Pioneer Assembly No. 4215, Knights of Labor, are hereby requested to meet at their hall in the Fifth ward, Monday morning at 8:30 o’clock, for the purpose of attending the funeral of our deceased brother James E. Fenn. Officers and members of sister assemblies are invited to attend.”

Services would be conducted from the late officer’s residence beyond the Fair grounds. Burial followed at the Washington Cemetery, then known as the German Society Cemetery. A resolution passed by the Knights of Labor was printed in the newspaper of March 22. It read:

“To the memory of our brother, James E. Fenn, deceased: Whereas, it has pleased the Almighty Master Workman of the Universe to remove from our midst our brother, James E. Fenn, and Whereas, Pioneer Assembly and the order has lost a brave, true and faithful member and his family a kind, loving and affectionate husband and father: now therefore be it Resolved, that the members of this assembly extend their heartfelt sympathy to the family of our deceased brother in this their sad bereavement, and that a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the record of this assembly and a copy be sent to the family of our deceased brother; and be it further Resolved that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the daily press for publication, and that the charter of this assembly be draped in mourning for the space of thirty days.”

A newspaper account of the tragedy was headlined, THE DOGGERIES MUST GO. The story read:

Continues on Page 20
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Dear Sir Henry Pressley: Apology/Thanks

In the December 2016/January 2017 and the August/September 2017 publications of the Retired Badge, my name, E.J. Smith was affixed as author of two very fine articles. The first was written concerning Class No. 11 in 1954, the second was concerning the history of the Pressley family. As stated above, both articles were excellent in content and flair. The information contained was very informative and historical in nature. I enjoyed both as I always enjoy articles submitted by Henry Pressley.

Now the purpose of this piece was as an apology to you, Henry, for having been given credit for your fine work. But then I thought, wait a minute, Henry is known for being a sly fox. Could it be that this was intentional on this part? Was he testing the waters, the backwash, regarding his articles? I did notice that he was in close proximity at the HPPOA meetings as folks came up to thank me for the nice articles to which my name was affixed but I had not written.

I must admit that I enjoyed the attention, but then this guilt grabbed hold and I felt I should apologize to you for accepting credit for your work. But now, after careful consideration of Henry’s past, I rescind my apology and will simply end this piece with a thanks to you, Mr. Pressley, and keep up the fine work.

Till next time,
EJ

Continues from Page 18

“Chief Wichman has issued the edict which will drive them out of town. The wanton murder of brave Officer James E. Fenn in the Bill Davis dive (defined as ‘a disreputable place for drinking and gambling’) on Saturday night thoroughly aroused public sentiment against these places. Houston promises to be soon purged of them. It was the universal verdict yesterday that an efficient policeman had been slain, and that in the death of Officer Fenn, the seal of doom was stamped upon the dives of the city.”

Chief Wichman, heading up the investigation, received a tip after two days and nearly two nights of diligent search for the suspect. The chief got information that the suspect was at a Negro cabin in the First ward, a block north of Koesler’s store off Houston Avenue. The chief led a posse of officers in a raid of this cabin and arrested the suspect, Henry McGee. Newspaper accounts indicated that following the arrest, Chief Wichman suggested to McGee the propriety of just shooting him in the abdomen as he done Officer Fenn. McGee, of course, denied having done it that way. It is probable that in this day and time, an abdomen gunshot wound was nearly always fatal.

After the arrest, there was a good deal of talk about a mob forcing the jail and taking Henry McGee out and hanging him. The mob failed to materialize, which was fortunate since Harris County Sheriff Ellis was prepared for the worst, strongly feeling his sworn duty to protect the prisoner.

The date of the trial differs somewhat in several news publications. We can safely say that it took place during the week of April 21, 1891 in criminal court. Henry McGee’s attorney moved for continuance, but Judge Cleveland overruled him. The case then went to trial. Out of a venire of sixty men, the court had obtained nine jurors by 6 p.m. and recessed until 7:30 p.m. to choose one more juror before adjourning until the next day. The case against the prisoner was considered to be very strong. What the state had to do was prove the identity of the suspect, which the officers believe they could do without a doubt.

Once chosen, the jury considered the evidence and returned a guilty verdict, assessing Henry McGee the death penalty. McGee’s attorney filed an appeal and the appeals court ordered a new trial, which was set for the May 1892 term. Another jury again found McGee guilty and assessed the death penalty.

More details of both of these trials are summarized in the article which described the punishment received by Henry McGee. This lengthy newspaper article is rather graphic in the description. Here is the headline and complete story in the Galveston Daily News for Saturday, August 13, 1892:

HENRY MCGEE SUSPENDED-THE NEGRO CONVICTED OF KILLING OFFICER FENN IS DEAD

Detailed and graphic account of how the Law’s decree was executed Henry McGee, the murderer of Officer James Fenn, was hanged today in expiation of the crime and in accordance of the court. The sentence was primarily to have been executed last Friday, August 5, but by respite from the governor it was postponed to Friday, August 12, and therefore to take place today.

The newspapers this morning contained a special telegram from Governor Hogg saying he saw no reason why the sentence should not be executed and instructing the Sheriff of Harris County to carry out the law. It set aside all doubt that might have been entertained that the execution would not take place. The result was that many Houstonians began early to prepare to witness the execution.

Continues on Page 21
Tell It Like It Is

Just the other day at the HPROA meeting, I overheard two “more” senior retirees discussing several issues. Then one commented about Steve Rayne’s oft heard message about “kicking up dust” while moving forward at certain speeds. One of the retirees said “Heck, that’s a good sign. That means you’re still moving.” The second retiree said, “You know, that gets me to thinking about when I wake up in bed.” I often lay there trying to figure if I am getting up or just got to bed.

That got me to thinking about certain things such as noticing how law enforcement folks enjoy “telling folks.”

Now I know the most important part of communicating is listening, but not for us. Just cut to the chase and tell ‘em – nuff said – done and “say no mo” as Cedric Rodgers was so fond of saying. Another item of interest is how folks pronounce names. Amul in Czech country instead of Emil as in Emil Sliva. Or Mook instead of Mock as in Anthony Mock (German).

Then the police and their tags as in Gotch Eye for A.J. Burke, Ma Weaver for Bill Weaver, String for E.J. String Fellow, Kidlee for Doug Hudson, Pencil for J.W. Williams and Hammering Harry or Heavy Duty for Harry Caldwell. What? Where am I going with this?

Come on, Henry, as in Pressley, I know you like to keep it between the lines. (He’s real smart) Says things like “Gray clouds on the horizon are an ominous potent of an approaching deluge.” Dang it, Henry, who talks like that? Just say looks like rain – done. But as Ken White, the Conroe Flash now residing in Florida said once, “Don’t worry about lines, just say it and be done – don’t matter how you get there, just get.

Love you all and hope to see you at the next HPROA meeting, 2nd Thursday each month, 9:30 a.m. on Whitney at the KC Hall.

Till next time,

EJ

Sheriff Ellis had given out between fifty and one hundred passes to persons to witness the hanging, in order that the law might be fully complied with in this respect.

As early as 8 o’clock, people began to gather on the street extending in front of the jail. There were only a few at this hour, but their stopping and staring up into the jail door and windows attracted others. They were men, women and children, and nearly all Negroes. Soon drays, buggies and horsemen began to stop and swell the crowd.

First they were confined to the sidewalk bordering the jail yard. Soon that was full and the outer line of the crowd extended into the street, and finally stretched across and filled the opposite sidewalk. It became a multitude of men, women and children of all ages and colors. They clustered around drays and wagons thicker than anywhere else, because there they found something upon which they could lean or rest, and perhaps from which they could get a better view, if one point had any advantage over another.

Shortly after 9 o’clock officers were placed at the front gate to admit persons who had business on the inside or whose right to admission was unquestionable.

After the officers were inside one of the first to arrive was a brother of the condemned man, whose home was down about Lynchburg, near the mouth of Buffalo Bayou. He was ushered upstairs into the presence of his brother and sitting in front of the cell occupied by the condemned man, they talked of the terrible situation.

They were in the presence of others, including the death watch, and the conversation was audible to them all. Henry McGee talked cheerfully with his brother and among other things told him that Jailer Anderson would give him $3 or $4, a Bible and a Testament, they being about the only things of which he possessed.

They talked mostly about the subject of religion, and Henry assured his brother of his readiness for the terrible ordeal through which he would go to meet Jesus. The situation became quite affecting before the interview ended. He told his brother to take charge of his remains and bury them.

Henry was standing in his cell looking through the window over the crowd on Caroline street, but he turned, and in replying to an inquiry concerning himself he said: “I feel I can’t complain, can’t grumble, I feel first rate.”

“Are you ready for the terrible trial?” asked the correspondent.

“Whenever God is ready to do his will I am ready.”

No feature of the prisoner’s face indicated terror, dread, or fear. When talking he seemed happy. It was learned that had slept well during the night, had eaten a couple of eggs and a few slices of cake for breakfast and relished them.

Jailer Anderson appeared in front of the door and the prisoner asked if he could get a razor to shave. While the jailer stepped aside to see the Sheriff the prisoner forgot it and the matter was never mentioned again.

Addressing the News correspondent, he said: “I hope everything you say about me after I am gone will be correct. I want to appear before my Maker with that report to make my showing.”

Continues on Page 22
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Addressing the News correspondent, he said: "I hope everything you say about me after I am gone will be correct. I want to appear before my Maker with that report to make my showing."

Here he began in a low tone to hum a hymn, uttering at short intervals the names of God and Jesus. His voice was very weak and it was often difficult to catch his words. While humming he rolled a cigarette and asked for a match with which he lit it and began to smoke.

In answering a question he said: "I want to see my redeemer lives; I want to appear before him."

It was 9:45 when Elder Yates, one of his spiritual advisors, appeared and took his seat in front of the cell door. McGee was glad to see him and at once assured him of his readiness to go and the perfect freedom of his heart from fear. The minister repeated to him comforting passages from various parts of the Bible and impressed upon him the real importance of having truth in his heart and firm belief in God.

"Jesus said: 'Whosoever believeth in me shall not die but have everlasting life.' " At these words McGee knelt upon the floor and at once assured him of his readiness to go and the perfect freedom of his heart from fear. The minister repeated to him comforting passages from various parts of the Bible and impressed upon him the real importance of having truth in his heart and firm belief in God.

"Most Holy Father, you know the cause of our meeting here today; it is to witness the execution of one man who has shed another's blood. 'Whosoever sheds the blood of man by man his blood shall be shed. So says God our Father.' In the image of our father God we thank thee, because you govern all, and we hope you will recognize our brother to the Savior. We thank thee because you have these powers in heaven and earth; you have power over all flesh and all mankind. We pray this morning that you have mercy upon Henry McGee. And, O Lord, forgive his transgressions, if it please thee, God, for Jesus' sake. Be merciful, O God, and be with us here today.

The prisoner's face in the light showed that it had bleached a good deal. The shackles held his feet, he wore a brown shirt, striped pair of pants, socks without shoes or slippers. He was immediately taken into the bathroom, where he bathed and put on an entirely new suit of clothes. His face clearly indicated that the change pleased him and as he got into the new white shirt he smiled pleasantly. There was no attempt on his part to kill time or delay the proceedings. It was 10:20 when he began to dress and at 10:23 he stepped out of the little bathroom fully dressed. He wore a black suit, white shirt, collar, tie and gloves and gaiters, all new.

He was handed a chair and took his seat far from a window. Sheriff Ellis stepped in front of him and read the death warrant in a clear voice but not loud tone. The prisoner watched him and listened attentively to every word that was uttered. He sat with head leaning to one side.

Following these he read the governor's proclamation published in these columns this morning. At 10:40 o'clock both had been read to him.

At this juncture Rev. Watts, the leading spiritual advisor of McGee entered the room and immediately he and Rev. Yates had a whispered conversation. The three then united in singing a spiritual hymn. They stood and the prisoner showed some nervousness during the singing. He entered fully into the spirit of the lines. They sang a couple of verses and Rev. Yates prayed as follows:

"Most Holy Father, you know the cause of our meeting here today; it is to witness the execution of one man who has shed another's blood. 'Whosoever sheds the blood of man by man his blood shall be shed. So says God our Father.' In the image of our father God we thank thee, because you govern all, and we hope you will recognize our brother to the Savior. We thank thee because you have these powers in heaven and earth; you have power over all flesh and all mankind. We pray this morning that you have mercy upon Henry McGee. And, O Lord, forgive his transgressions, if it please thee, God, for Jesus' sake. Be merciful, O God, and be with us here today.

Bless all the officers who are here today and may the face of Christ shine in you when you meet in another world. Amen."

During the prayer the prisoner knelt upon one knee, supporting his right elbow on the other and resting his face in his right hand. They formed an earnest group, and others in the rooms showed the same earnestness. They arose and Rev. Watts at the conclusion of the prayer approached McGee and the following conversation ensued:

Rev. Watts: How do you feel in regard to death?
McGee: I am willing and ready to die. I feel no distress and trust myself to Jesus. I know that he will forgive me for my sins.

Rev. Watts: How do you feel toward your fellow man, as the sheriff, the jury and others?
McGee: I have nothing against them. I have nothing to fear and know that I will meet my Jesus.

Rev. Watts: The hour has now come for you to go. Did you kill Officer Fenn?
McGee: I did not kill Officer Fenn. I have told you this, elder, many times when you asked me. I can not tell a lie to you. I will tell the truth, elder, and I am ready to go in his place. Thank God, he may meet me, for I go in his place.

Rev. Watts: Would you like to see your wife?
McGee: No, I do not care to see my wife. Tell my sister goodbye. I will meet her in the glory land. I have no other word to send her.

Rev. Watts: Do you believe God will forgive you?
McGee: I feel that God has told me so. I feel in my heart that I am going clear to heaven. I feel that God has told me so, I know he has, I know it. I know that God loves me. I will soon have to die for another man.

Rev. Watts: You do not dread the hour of death?

McGee: Oh no, God stands to meet me in heaven. Jesus said he would be there. I know and believe the great God will be there. I do not feel scared about anything, no, I don't feel scared about anything. I want to give everybody satisfaction before I leave, but I know I can’t do it. I can’t satisfy all the people.

Rev. Watts: Do you feel satisfied that when you are hung on the gallows you will go to Christ?
McGee: I am depending on his word, yes sir.
Have you anything against anyone?

McGee: I have got nothing against this world.

Rev. Watts: Did you say you would like to see your sister?

Sheriff Ellis (interrupting): Your sister is in Galveston.

McGee: Oh, I am as happy as ever.

Rev. Watts: You found great virtue in prayer; you did not pray much before I visited you.

McGee: I couldn’t pray downstairs, the boys bothered me. I did pray there, but was glad Sheriff Ellis put me upstairs. I had more chance. I feel like a good man, now.

Rev. Watts: You claimed to have conversion in one night.

McGee: It was between 11 and 12 o’clock one night.

Rev. Watts: How did you know you were changed?

McGee: I couldn’t tell you how I felt, it was so good. I felt like I had just come out of it, thrown it off and was free.

Rev. Watts: Before conversion, how did you feel?

McGee: I couldn’t eat or drink anything.

Rev. Watts: What kind of impression did it make on you?

McGee: I felt very much relieved, nothing didn’t bother me and I felt good inside.

Rev. Watts: Do you feel ready to go?

McGee: Yes, I feel ready to go and good to everybody.

Rev. Watts: John the apostle says you can tell death from life and life from death when you love everybody.

McGee: Yes, Lord.

The prisoner here talked of his condition of mind and his future with cheerful enthusiasm, forcibly endeavoring to impress upon the minister the bright feeling of his heart. While talking of this condition he moved his arms and head with much animation and feeling.

Rev. Watts: Brother McGee, I am going read you “The Christian’s Future Home” to encourage you on your journey.

At the conclusion of the reading of the passage it was 10:57 o’clock and Rev. Watts said, “Brother McGee, would you like to tell your friends goodbye at the gallows?”

McGee: I don’t know whether it would do any good. I don’t feel like telling them goodbye.

During the reading of the encouraging words of the “Christian’s Future,” the prisoner sat and watched the minister intently, looking glad as the words uttered applied to his case.

At 10:58, Dr. Red, the county physician, entered the room and everything was in readiness to go upstairs to the scaffold. Drs. Geo. McDonald and Geo. Larendon came into the room at this time. During this time Rev. Watts was talking to the prisoner, telling him that if he believed in God he would be saved and there was no power that could keep him out of heaven.

In the meantime persons who had been given passes were allowed to enter the front gate and hurry directly up to the third floor, where the hanging was to take place. There was a great jam at the gate, and several policemen were on a strain to prevent the crowd from forcing their way into the yard. The trouble was to allow those who had a right to be there to come in, and at the same time keep the others out.

They were finally upstairs, and at 11:10 o’clock Sheriff Ellis gave the signal, and the minister, with the prisoner between them, and the deputies in front and behind, started to ascend the steep steps. The way was clear and the solemn procession moved without hindrance or delay upstairs. The prisoner walked with a firm step, though he leant on the arms of the ministers for support. The party reached the floor upon which the scaffold stood and moved directly up the steps leading to the gallows. Immediately upon the landing the prisoner stepped, following the indication of the sheriff, upon the trap door, the ministers taking their places in front of him and others around. There were nineteen on the platform.

It was 11:12 o’clock when they were all arranged. The prisoner first stood with his face toward Caroline street. In a few seconds he turned, overlooking the crowd and with his back to Preston avenue. He held his hands behind him and in one grasped a handkerchief. They trembled very slightly. As all were in place the Rev. Watts started the hymn:

“Oh, thy poor soul be not afraid. If God be with us there; We will walk through the dark country and never yield to fear.”

McGee joined them and sang in a firm voice. Rev. Watts then knelt down in prayer, and McGee kneeling on the trap door, the following prayer was offered by Rev. Watts:

“Ever wise and omnipotent father, we are gathered here this morning on a solemn and serious mission. We are here for the purpose of putting trust in the Lord Jesus Christ and we hope if it pleases his will that he will give him courage and assist him in this trying hour. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. He cometh up as a flower and is cut down in the midst of life. I am the resurrection and the life and though I may die I die not forever and my spirit lives. Though the worms may destroy our body our spirit will live and we will rise on the day of resurrection. Oh, Father, help him for God’s sake. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost I now commit Brother McGee in your hands. Save him the miseries of death, oh God. God bless the officers and those who are gathered here. In the name of the resurrection of Christ, Amen.”

The silence that followed was oppressive. Then the crowd with upturned faces and eager gaze watched everything that was done, every motion that was made by anyone. Jailer Anderson immediately began binding the prisoner’s hands behind him. With this the prisoner said: God bless everybody, goodbye, God bless you Sheriff Ellis, and turning his pinioned hands to one side he sought the Sheriff’s hand and shook it. He then said, God bless you Mr. Bob Sation, you have been good to me, God bless you, and you Mr. Anderson, you have been so kind to me, God bless you forever. God bless you all and with those the prisoner stepped off in his enthusiasm of the trap door, and overlooking the crowd said, God bless you all, I can’t blame anybody, I got myself into it.

He was easily moved back on the trap, and at 11:17 the knot was adjusted about his neck and the black cap pulled over his head. He stood firm all the time. His knees were pinioned by Jailer Anderson and he was ready.

Continues on Page 27
Still Not Enjoying the Benefits of Membership in the HPROA?
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
OR ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBER CORRECTION

Name ___________________________________________________________ Employee #____________________

Spouses name: ___________________________ Date Of Birth ____________ Date of Retirement ____________

Address ___________________________________________________________________________________________

City __________________ State ______ Zip Code ___________ E-mail ______________________________

Home phone (____) ___________ Work phone (____) ___________

(please circle) MALE FEMALE MARRIED SINGLE WIDOWED

If you are a widow and have remarried, please give full name of deceased spouse:
____________________________________________________________________________________________

(deceased officer)

I am presently enrolled in the D.R.O.P. program. (circle if applicable) YES NO
I understand that suggested membership is $100, ($75 yearly dues and a voluntary contribution of $25 or more will be made
to the PAC (Political Action Committee fund) for a total of $100 or more. Yearly membership will be renewable annually and
a reminder will be mailed prior to that date each year.
I am a person receiving a retirement benefit from the Police Officers Pension System, City of Houston, or presently enrolled in
HPD D.R.O.P. and hereby apply for membership in the HOUSTON POLICE RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION (HPROA).

Please fill in amounts and mail with CHECK payable to HPROA or CREDIT CARD INFORMATION. DO NOT SEND CASH.

Circle one: MasterCharge VISA Discover American Express Annual Dues $ 75.00

Name on card _______________________________________________ PAC Donation + $ ________

Billing Address ___________________________ Total Amount $ ________

City, State, Zip __________________________________________

Card Number ___________________________ Exp. Date ________ Signature ____________________________
HPROA Benefits

In June of 1994, during an annual get together of retired HPD officers in Crockett, Texas the Houston Police Retired Officers Association was born. It was born out of the need for retired officers to have the same type of organized representation that active duty officers have. The HPROA was created to give retired officers an official organization to represent them regarding matters affecting their pensions and medical benefits.

The HPROA is an independent association of retired HPD officers and is not a part of any other association, union or organization. The HPROA is a separate entity that respects and will work with other police groups to accomplish its goal. That goal being to protect and if possible improve the pension and medical benefits of retired HPD officers or their surviving spouses.

The HPROA is governed by a board of directors elected from within its membership and answers only to the membership of the association.

**Why should I join the HPROA?**

Membership Benefits

I. **ACTIVE REPRESENTATION IN AUSTIN**
   - Registered lobbyist working to protect existing pension benefits

II. **ACTIVE REPRESENTATION AT CITY HALL**
   - “Health Insurance
   - City’s obligation to contribute to Houston Police Officers Pension System

III. **SOCIAL EVENTS AND GATHERINGS**
   - Promoting fellowship among retirees by sponsoring reunions in the spring, summer and fall of each year, throughout the state
   - Providing a lunch, each year in August, at the annual HPROA election meeting
   - Sponsoring the Annual Surviving Spouse Luncheon to honor the families of all HPD officers who have passed away
   - Sponsor Police Week Memorial Reception

IV. **FAMILY ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE**
   - Current updates on members who are sick or shut-ins
   - Provide medical equipment for members in need
   - Participate in funeral visitations and arrangements
   - Present a brass memorial plaque to surviving spouse of deceased member

V. **OTHER BENEFITS**
   - Optional TMPA “Right to Carry” legal defense insurance
   - Website updates on local, state, or national events that effect retired officers
   - “The Retired Badge” (the official newspaper of the HPROA
   - Active and involved Political Action Committee (PAC)
   - Discounted Insurance Services
   - Members only directory
   - Email notification

**Do I qualify for membership?**

Eligibility for membership, in the HPROA, is based on the requirement that an applicant is honorably retired from the Houston Police Department, or is their surviving spouse, and qualifies to receive a pension benefit from HPOPS or the City of Houston Municipal Employees Retirement System. The benefit can be a monthly retirement payment, a surviving spouse’s monthly payment or the HPOPS member is currently enrolled in the DROP program.

**How do I become a member?**

1.) Applications may be submitted online at www.hpdretired.com by credit card only.
2.) Complete application form found on the next page and mail along with your membership fee.
3.) Contact the HPROA Office at 713-802-2967 or toll free at 1-866-856-7252 and request an application by mail.
4.) Mail application form, found in the Retired Badge (official publication of the HPROA.)
5.) Pick up an application at the HPROA monthly meeting held the second Thursday of each month at the KC Hall 607 E. Whitney.

CALL (713) 802-2967 TO JOIN HPROA TODAY
## Family Assistance and Burial Fund Contacts

### Family Assistance Unit:
Senior Police Officers Jennifer Smesny, 713-308-1237 and Jorge R. Lucero, 713-308-1240.

If unavailable, contact the HPD Command Center, 713-308-1500.

### Burial Fund:
713-308-1226. Leave message for someone to contact you.

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## Human Resources Benefits

**Monday thru Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

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<tr>
<th>Benefits</th>
<th>Phone Numbers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CIGNA</td>
<td>832.393.6000</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>800.997.1406</td>
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**DELTA DENTAL**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DHMO</td>
<td>844.282.7637</td>
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<tr>
<td>DPPO</td>
<td>855.242.1549</td>
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<td>deltadentalins.com/</td>
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**SUPERIOR VISION**

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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>800.507.3800</td>
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<td></td>
<td>866.265.0517</td>
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<td>superiorvision.com</td>
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## Killed in the Line of Duty

### December

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 12, 1901</td>
<td>Herman Youngst</td>
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<td>December 12, 1901</td>
<td>John C. James</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 17, 1929</td>
<td>C.F. Thomas</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 03, 1930</td>
<td>J.D. Landry</td>
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<td>December 01, 1936</td>
<td>James T. Gambill</td>
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<td>December 10, 1971</td>
<td>Claude Ronnie Beck</td>
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<td>December 09, 1989</td>
<td>J.C. Boswell</td>
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<td>December 24, 1995</td>
<td>Dawn S. Erickson</td>
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<td>December 07, 2008</td>
<td>Tim Abernethy</td>
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### January

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<tr>
<td>January 21, 1925</td>
<td>Pete Corrales</td>
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<td>January 25, 1927</td>
<td>Perry Page Jones</td>
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<td>January 12, 1954</td>
<td>Smith A. “Buster” Kent</td>
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<td>January 21, 1967</td>
<td>Louis Lyndon Sander</td>
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<td>January 31, 1970</td>
<td>Leon Griggs</td>
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<td>Robert Wayne Lee</td>
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<td>January 09, 1973</td>
<td>Antonio Guzman Jr.</td>
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<td>January 30, 1975</td>
<td>Johnny T. Bamsch</td>
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<td>Guy Patrick Gaddis</td>
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<td>Dennis Holmes</td>
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From the Morning Star:
John W. Eldredge, Editor • Houston, Saturday, April 20, 1839

We regret to state that an affray took place last night in which one of the City constables, Mr. Way, was stabbed by a Capt. Haigler, formerly of the Army. Mr. Way’s life, at this time, is despaired of. The circumstances, so far as we have heard them, are briefly these:

A row occurred in a house of ill fame in the occupancy of a f.w.c. named Nelly. Mr. Way went to the house for the purpose of quelling the noise, where he found Haigler in a furious passion breaking up the crockery and other utensils. Mr. Way commanded the peace, when Haigler turned upon him, drew a sword cane and stabbed him in the right breast through the lungs. Haigler was immediately arrested and put to jail to await his examination for commitment.

Frank Michaels, who had gone to the aid of the officer grabbed McGee and while they were struggling McGee handed the pistol to another negro to shoot Michaels, which he did, the ball going through the shoulder and causing death. The negro was immediately arrested and put to jail.

The court of appeals sustained the objections and reversed and remanded the case for another trial in the criminal district court of Harris county.

The second trial was heard during the May term of court in 1892. J. K. P. Gillespie and James V. Lea appeared for the state and C. W. Bocock and Uvalde Burns for McGee, the defendant. G. H. Tips was foreman of the jury. The death of Judge Cleveland having occurred last fall, Judge E. C. Cavin of Galveston presided at the second trial. McGee was again found guilty of murder in the first degree, with the death penalty assessed. Judge Cavin sentenced McGee for the second time July 2, 1891, to be hanged August 5, but he was respited to August 12. Henry McGee died on the gallows in 1892 for the murder of Houston Police Officer James Fenn.
<table>
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<td>Timothy Abernethy</td>
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<td>(LOD)</td>
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<td>Donald G. Easterling</td>
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<td>Paul Hensley</td>
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There is probably nothing more precious than the gift of friendship. Just take some time to contact your friends and let them know how much they mean to you... relive your memories, share in your joys and pass on a smile and hug. Your call, visit, and smile might be the best medicine that they receive that helps them make it through the day. Keep these retirees in your prayers and let us know when we have a retiree who is in need of our thoughts, prayers, and assistance.

October 12, 2017

Jim Hudson (9-12-17 rh) – We visited with Jim today by phone and found that he has been moved to La Hacienda Nursing and Rehabilitation Center located at 3730 W. Orem, rm#105. He was moved because his Medicare days had been used. He said that his wife Randi was told that their cost would be $169 per day, but when she advised them that they had United Health Care as a supplement they would be covered 100%. Jim stated that his infection was apparently under control and that they are scheduled to replace his hip and repair his femur in mid-October. He still is enduring severe pain. Please keep Jim in your prayers. His # is 281-610-1236.

Bobbie Lott: (9-23-17 nf) Bobbie fell some 3 months ago and broke his hip. He was hospitalized and was in a rehab center since that time until he was released earlier this week and is now at home being cared for by wife, Carmen and family. We delivered and set up a hospital bed at his home Friday for his comfort and convenience for caretakers. Bobbie still has a long way to go and needs our prayers for recovery.

Doug Bostock: (9-23-17 nf) Doug was recently diagnosed with Myasthenia Gravis, a chronic autoimmune neuromuscular disorder that is characterized by the fluctuating weakness of the voluntary muscle groups such as facial & neck muscles. Doug will begin a series of IV treatments Monday through Friday next week. Each treatment will take 4-7 hours to complete. We will update after his 1st treatment. In the meantime, we need to lift up our prayers for Doug as he fights this illness and that the medications will improve his overall health.

(10-1-17 nf) Doug has completed his 5 day IV infusion treatment for his disorder on Friday, 9-29-17 without any significant side effects. Hopefully, remission will follow. Any further treatment would be determined by follow-up visits with his doctors. Continue to pray for Doug’s full remission and recovery.

Jim Hudson: (10-1-17 nf) We visited with Jim this evening by phone. He will have an appointment with Infectious Disease doctors in a week who will determine if his wounds are clear of any infection. An all clear is needed for him to have surgery on Oct. 18th to replace and repair hip and broken femur. He continues to be in major pain and needs our continued daily prayers.

J. Wiley Douglass: (10-1-17 nf) We visited with wife Jean by phone and she reports that Wiley is now at home under her care, recovering from a stroke, with visits by nurses and therapists each week. He is taking calls. Wiley has been isolated for months without a phone available and getting a call from an old friend or partner would really be uplifting now so pick up your phone and give him a brief call at 281-782-3009.

Phyllis Hensen: (10-6-17 nz/nf) We have received an urgent request from Sue Shelburne, surviving spouse of Ike Shelburne, whose daughter, Phyllis, was diagnosed with MDS Luekemia and admitted to M.D. Anderson hospital on Sept. 8th and is being treated with experimental drugs. She is in dire need of blood platelets. If you are an eligible platelet donor, you are urged to contact the Blood Center or MD Anderson hospital for instructions. Please call me at 713-857-2924 if more info is needed.

Isaiah 41:10  Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am with you; I will strengthen you and help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

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Phyllis Hensen: 10-8-17 nf) Platelet donations for Phyllis have to be made at one of the three M.D. Anderson blood donation centers or catch a MDA blood drive in your area. Donations can be made at 2555 Holly Hall, 7 days a week from 10AM to 5PM. You can walk in or call 713-792-7777 to schedule an appointment. The main hospital at 1515 Holcombe, 2nd floor or 1220 Holcombe, 2nd floor will also work during the week. Phyllis is also now in need of whole blood. Please make a donation if you are able. She is in urgent need and your donation could help save her life. Keep her in your prayers. It was also determined that there is no age limit on donating.

W.J. Spaulding: (10-14-17 db) Hank Laird reported to Bostock that Spaulding’s home was flooded during Harvey and he is now in an apartment until his home is repaired. If anyone might have contact with him, please ask him to contact Bostock at 281-221-7466 or any member of the FAC team.

Delia Delano: (10-14-17 db) Hank Laird also reported that the surviving spouse of Richard Delano, Delia, was also flooded out and is now under the care of a daughter, retired HPD and a son, a deputy with HCSO.

Willie Joe Kovar: (10-18-17 nf) We visited with Kovar by phone this morning. He had his right hip replaced Monday evening at Scott White hospital in Bryan. He complained of pain in the hip area anytime he moved. He is going to therapy and improving each day. Hopeful to be dismissed in 3-4 days. He can be contacted at 979-207-0100, Room 448. Give him a call and keep him in your daily prayers.

Biopsies were taken with results due next week and a decision will be made as to next action or treatment. Surgeon believes there is still some infection or inflammation. Jim has suffered many months with this issue & apparently still has months to go.

UPDATE (11-5-17 rh) We spoke with Randi and she stated Jim is still fighting infection, which is a staff infection of the bone. She stated they are still giving him antibiotics 24 hours a day and they will continue to do so through the end of November. On December 5 they will do an aspiration and determine the actual level of infection at that time. If it is clear, then possibly they will be able to replace his hip and repair his femur. They are also dealing with his medicare and supplemental insurance running out within a week. Lift up your prayers for Jim and Randi.

Phil Camus: (10-14-17 nf) Phil is scheduled for surgery at Methodist Med Center on Wed. 10-18-17. A recent episode of double vision and subsequent tests has revealed that a bone in his neck is pressing against his carotid artery on the right side restricting the blood flow. Surgeons stated that all went as expected and full recovery is anticipated. We lift up our prayers for A.J.. UPDATE (10-20-17 nf) A.J.’s wife, Mary, reports that he is improving & will be discharged from Memorial Herman Woodlands on Sunday. He will be transferred to Park Manor in Conroe, a “post acute care” facility for extended physical therapy and expect him to be there only a few days. They thank everyone for their concern. Continue to keep A.J. in your daily prayers.

Jim Hudson: (10-20-17 nf/tk) Randi, Jim's wife, reports that Jim was scheduled to have his hip and femur replaced Wednesday. He went into surgery but the surgeon decided not to do the replacement due to “markers” that were previously inserted.
UPDATE: (10-23-17 nf) We visited with Phil by phone on Saturday after he had been released from the hospital following his surgery on Wednesday. He is at home mending and mobile but slowly. Surgery was successful and expecting full recovery. Continue to keep Phil in your prayers.

Doug Bostock: (10-23-17 nf) Doug will begin another round of IV infusions of medication for his disorder, Mysthenia Gravis. The IV treatment usually takes 4-5 hours each day Monday - Friday this week. He can take calls during the treatment so give him a call and lift him up. 281-221-7466. Keep Doug on your prayer list.

Guy McMenemy: (10-28-17 nf) Mac was admitted to North Cypress hospital last Monday, 10-23-17 where he was diagnosed with an ulcer on his esophagus that was bleeding. He remained in the hospital until today when he was transferred to Health South Hospital Cypress, 13031 Wortham at FM1960. They are using different meds to stop the bleeding that won’t interfere with the blood thinners that he has to take. Give him a call at 713-805-4422 and keep him in your prayers.

Michael Yanchak: (10-27-2017 DMB) Just talked to Gene Yanchak and learned that his Medically retired H.P.D. officer Michael Yanchak and member was just brought home from the hospital after having stones surgically removed from his Urinary system that he could not pass. He developed some coronary difficulty which is being straightened and corrected now with medication at home. The whole family, Mike and wife and Gene and Jeanette and all others would appreciate all and any prayers sent their way.

DEATHS DURING THE MONTHS OF OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2017

Thomas L. Schulte (Member), October 19, 2017

Bobbie G. Lott (Member), October 22, 2017

Lance W. White, October 27, 2017
Richard C. Rucker (Member), October 29, 2017
Judson B. Burns, October 31, 2017

Isaiah 41:10  Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am with you; I will strengthen you and help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

But now this is what the Lord says: Fear not, for I have redeemed you by name: You are mine. Isaiah 43:1

Kindness is free - Sprinkle that stuff everywhere. Anon

Don’t raise your voice - improve your argument. Anon

PLEASE KEEP ALL OF OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS

Don’t forget that our committee has medical equipment available for use. We have hospital beds, wheelchairs, scooters, walkers, shower chairs, potty chairs, crutches, and walking canes. If you have information about a retiree or family member that has a need for any of this equipment, PLEASE notify a member of the Retired Officers Assistance Committee.

Our Committee Members are:

Forest Turbeville  281.356.8800  Ron Headley  713.253.5749
Nelson Foehner  281.351.4669  Doug Bostock  281.890.7610
Ray Smith  281.731.1588
80TH ANNUAL MEETING

Join us as we take a look back at our 2017 achievements and prepare for the coming years with the election of officers and much more.

Date: February 13, 2018
Time: 7:00pm
Location: SPJST Lodge Pokrok 1435 Beall Street Houston, TX 77008

See us online at www.hpdretired.com

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