



Police & Fire Retirees of Ohio, Inc.  
P.O. Box 627  
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

Toll Free 1-888-309-7041  
(614) 866-1352 Local  
Email: [pfrostateoffice@gmail.com](mailto:pfrostateoffice@gmail.com)  
website: [pfro.com](http://pfro.com)



Organized April 1948  
Benefiting over 20,000 Retirees

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## President's Message

Hello Members,

I am hoping this newsletter finds everyone healthy this year. We have gone through a few changes this year. As of May, our leased office was sold. Until we find a permanent office space, we are working from a temporary location. **Please mail future correspondence to our P.O. Box 627, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068.**

### PFRO Corporation News

At our July 2021 Quarterly meeting we drew the following winners, Michael Toth, Joyce Greer-Britton, Martha Kreger and Thomas Fitzgerald. **Congratulations** to all of our *scholarship raffle winners*.

**Our Scholarship winners for 2021 are:** Noelle Albright, father Lawrence Albright; Sherri Artis, father Stephen Skeldon; Josephine Durbec, grandfather David Grimm; Madalyn Kerr, mother Amy Kerr; and Sierra Minotti, grandfather Dennis Minotti. **Congratulations to all!** We will be sharing more about our scholarship winners in our October issue.

I want to thank, **Cops, Kids & K-9's** organization for donating \$500.00 to help us provide an additional scholarship this year. Sherri Artis has been awarded this additional scholarship.

### Playball News

Unfortunately, our Playball outing was cancelled this year. We are planning on 2022 for the next Playball. We look forward to seeing everyone next year at the ball field!

### OP&F Pension News

On January 4, 2021, the OP&F installed the newly elected Trustees to the board; Mark Drum, Retired Delaware Police Department; Tanya Czack, Active Parma Heights Police Department; and John Deal, Active Cincinnati Fire Department. **Congratulations**, we look forward to working with these new trustees.

Summer 2021, Mary Beth Foley, former OP&F General Council, has been selected as the Executive Director of OP&F Pension Fund. Congratulations Mary Beth and we look forward to our continued relationship with you. Other news, Aon announced they have agreed to sell its Retiree Health Exchange business to Alight. OP&F stated: Retirees should be familiar with Alight, as they have serviced the Health Reimbursement Arrangements for retirees eligible for the health care stipend. The acquisition is expected to be seamless.

All communication will still be co-branded with

### President

Gary L. Monto  
Toledo

### 1st Vice President

Bill Biasella  
Akron

### 2nd Vice President

Chester Ashton  
Cleveland

### Secretary

Anna Romito  
Akron

### Financial Secretary

Richard Anthony  
Canton

### Sgt. At Arms

Judy Allen  
Zanesville

### Trustees

Bob Allen  
Zanesville

Ralph Casto  
Columbus

Wayne Graff  
Cincinnati

Paul Hillenbrand  
Columbus

John Lassiter  
Akron

### District Vice Presidents

1st District  
Earl Muster  
Akron

2nd District  
James Flynn  
Youngstown

3rd District  
Tiffin

4th District  
G.A. Edwards  
Columbus

5th District  
Dayton

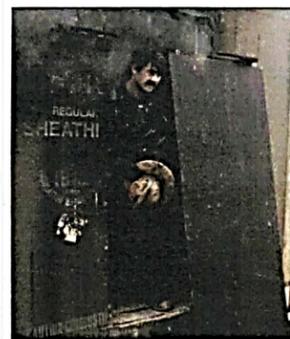
6th District  
Larry Winegardner  
Lima

7th District  
Cleveland

8th District  
Terry Baker  
Cincinnati

**Legislative Agent**  
Byers Minton & Associates

CAPTAIN LEE CURRY



RESCUE AND  
FIREHOUSE MEMORIES  
THE COLUMBUS FIRE DEPARTMENT

The book talks about how the fire department was run: different fires and rescues, training, history of fires, past and present, and the danger of the job, along with a lot of funny stories in and around the fire department.

• • •

**CAPTAIN LEE CURRY** had more than thirty-five years in the fire service. He has made numerous rescues and saved a lot of lives. He served on one of the busiest rescues and was on the comb squad for twenty-five years. He has done about every job in the fire department.

Captain Curry started as crash rescue crew member in the USAF. After discharge, he was a firefighter on the Newark and Columbus (Ohio) Fire Departments. When he started in the old fire department, the equipment was a lot different than it is today and has now moved on to a more modern department.

Links for book on line  
[www.authorhouse.com](http://www.authorhouse.com)  
[www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com)  
[www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com)

## Updates from OP&F Pension Fund

### More options now available for retirement interviews

OP&F continues to ease the restrictions that were necessary during the pandemic, including the resumption of in-person retirement interviews at our headquarters in downtown Columbus.

While our members education area is conducting a limited amount of interviews, virtual retirement meetings have become a popular option. An OP&F staff member can connect with a member and their spouse with their smart phone, tablet or computer.

OP&F has developed brief video instructions on how to access a video conference. These videos are available at the Plan for your Retirement page on the OP&F website. A link to these videos is also included in the email sent to members confirming the appointment.

### OP&F going paperless for monthly benefit statements

Beginning this summer, OP&F will no longer mail benefit statements to retirees when their benefit amount changes. Instead, an email will be sent alerting the member that a new monthly statement is available in the secure member area of the OP&F website. Besides saving money, this method protects members' personal information.

The new process will begin with an email in late July alerting those members with a benefit change that their August 2021 statement is available online to view, download or print. No personal member information will be included in the email, just a link to log onto the secure Member Self-Serve portal at [op-f.org](http://op-f.org).

**Retirees who prefer it can call OP&F and request that a statement be mailed.**

### Newsletter distribution

During the May 26th OP&F Board of Trustees meeting there was a question about who receives the quarterly Member's Report newsletter.

It is our goal to send this publication to all OP&F members via U.S. mail, including active members, retirees and survivors. For the spring 2021 newsletter, the mailing list included 60,515 names, plus an additional 200 names of interested parties that are not OP&F members (these include legislators and bargaining units, among others).

For each of these mailings, we do receive a small quantity returned to us because of an incorrect address. For these, our Member Services Department works to contact the member and update the address we have on file. Please call **1-888-864-8363**.

**Marco Miller, OP&F Retired Fire Trustee**

### AMBA Is Here for Your Benefit

Since 1981, Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA) has provided supplemental coverage for active and retired educators and public employees nationwide. It's good to know that your association has partnered with AMBA to give you a full menu of benefits such as Medicare supplements, dental, vision, cancer, and home health care as well as special discounts on travel, dining, electronics and more. There's no obligation, so why not see what benefits and discounts are available to you? To learn more, call AMBA at 1-866-684-5267 or <https://amba-review.com/pfro>

**Bonnie Norris or Jim Cain will contact you to help!**

Please allow **6-8 weeks** for your merchandise. You can combine merchandise and any other items in one check or credit card order.  
 Please mail and make checks payable to: **Police & Fire Retirees of Ohio, Inc., PO Box 627, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068**

TOTAL _____ Check # _____	<b>2021 Merchandise/PAC</b>
\$ _____ Dues - <b>\$25.00</b> Member	\$ _____ Polo w/logo <b>\$21.00</b> M L XL / <b>\$24.00</b> XXL
\$ _____ Dues - <b>\$25.00</b> Spouse	\$ _____ Polo w/PFRO <b>\$21.00</b> M L XL / <b>\$24.00</b> XXL
\$ _____ PFRO Donation	\$ _____ Windjacket <b>\$40.00</b> M L XL / <b>\$45.00</b> XXL
\$ _____ PAC Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Pullover <input type="checkbox"/> Zip-up w/hood (Navy only)
\$ _____ Decals \$1.00 (No Shipping fee)	\$ _____ Fall/Spring Jacket <b>\$40.00</b> L XL / <b>\$45.00</b> XXL
\$ _____ Angel pins Police ___ or Fire ___ <b>\$5.95 each</b>	\$ _____ Sweatshirt <b>\$25.00</b> M L XL / <b>\$30.00</b> XXL
\$ _____ Blue Crystal Police Angels <b>\$5.95 each</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Crew <input type="checkbox"/> Hooded (Navy only)
\$ _____ Blue Crystal Fire Angels <b>\$5.95 each</b>	\$ _____ T-shirt short sleeve <b>\$18.00</b> M L XL / <b>\$22.00</b> XXL
\$ _____ Charm bracelets Police ___ or Fire ___ <b>\$14.95 each</b>	_____ Red Shirt _____ Navy Shirt
\$ _____ Shipping <b>\$4.50 for total Pin order</b>	\$ _____ T-shirt long sleeve <b>\$22.00</b> M L XL / <b>\$26.00</b> XXL
\$ _____ License plate frames # _____ <b>\$18.00 each</b>	_____ Navy only
\$ _____ Hat <b>\$15.00</b>	\$ _____ Shipping <b>\$9.00 for Merchandise</b> (hats, mugs, windshirts, sweatshirts, shirts, license plate frames)
\$ _____ NEW Black Stainless Steel Mugs (20 oz) <b>\$15.00 each</b>	

**Credit Card #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Exp. Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **V-code** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$1.00 fee** \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_ Mastercard \_\_\_\_\_ Discover \_\_\_\_\_ American Express

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Member Id: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Retired From \_\_\_\_\_ Police \_\_\_\_\_ Fire \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of retirement: \_\_\_\_\_

**PFRO Corporation**

Gary Monto, Managing Director  
 Bill Biasella, Assistant Director



**The Scholarship raffle winners/sellers - 2021**

- January** winner/seller: John Brady
- February** winner/seller: Roger Matz
- March** winner/seller: Kathleen McCabe
- April** winner/seller: Tim Brown
- May** winner/seller: Michael Toth
- June** winner/seller: Joyce Greer-Britton
- July** winner/seller: Martha Kreger
- August** winner/seller: Thomas Fitzgerald

**2021 Scholarship Winners**

- Noelle Albright, father Lawrence Albright
- Sherri Artis, father Stephen Skeldon
- Josephine Durbec, grandfather David Grimm
- Madalyn Kerr, mother Amy Kerr
- Sierra Minotti, grandfather Dennis Minotti

**Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund News**

as stated in their Summer 2021 Member's Report, page 4

OP&F's health care partner, Aon Retiree Health Solutions, will again host webinars in September to explain health care options for eligible OP&F members. Health Care Webinars scheduled for September. Dates and times are listed below. Members are asked to choose the date and time most convenient, then register and get instructions online at [MyExchangeConnection.com/OP-F](http://MyExchangeConnection.com/OP-F) or call Aon at 1-844-290-3674. Once you register for a webinar, you will be emailed the link, phone number and access code to attend. Each webinar is conducted by an Aon professional who will be happy to answer any questions you have during your selected session time.

Medicare Schedule		
Date		Time
Wed., Sept. 15		10 a.m. ET
Fri., Sept. 17		10 a.m. ET
Wed., Sept. 22		2 p.m. ET
Fri., Sept. 24		2 p.m. ET

Pre-Medicare Schedule		
Date		Time
Wed., Sept. 15		2 p.m. ET
Fri., Sept. 17		2 p.m. ET
Wed., Sept. 22		10 a.m. ET
Fri., Sept. 24		10 a.m. ET

**Legislative News**



Legislative Agents:  
 Byers Minton & Associates  
 107 South High St, Suite 450  
 Columbus, OH 43215  
 (614) 824-4508 [info@byersminton.com](mailto:info@byersminton.com)

**We need your help.** Our Political Action Committee is in jeopardy of running out of money, and we are counting on you for your support to remain an active and effective participant in the political process.

Today, more than ever before, our participation in the political process is critical to the welfare of our retirees, and no contribution is too small. Elected officials and regulators make decisions every day that impact our membership, and term limits have created a revolving door of new elected officials.

By contributing, you are joining with other retirees and leaders in our community in demonstrating to political candidates that our membership is engaged in the political process and ensuring our elected officials understand the perspective of Police and Fire Retirees of Ohio.

Your PFRO leadership team has been busy working with the OP&F Board, addressing pressing issues regarding your health care, Medicare supplements, and other matters of importance to you. We have succeeded on these efforts in the past, but our ability to continue carrying out our purpose depends on you as an active member of PFRO.

We need to continue to support those legislators that have been supportive of our retirees, as well as work with new legislators to keep them informed of our positions and concerns. This is an organization working for you and with you. **Please help us by supporting our political action committee.**

We thank you for the consideration, and please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

**Legislative Tracker current to 7/15/21**

- HB 14** Retirement Systems (Grendell, D.) Regarding state retirement system fiduciary duties, Public Employees Retirement System management fees and employee pay, and creating the Committee on Pension Salaries and Fees. Introduced and Referred in House (2/4/21: Financial Institutions)
- HB 17** Firefighter Cancer (Patton, T.) Regarding charging workers' compensation experience in firefighter cancer claims. Committee Hearing in House Insurance (3/10/2021; CONTINUED)
- HB 22** Obstructing Justice (LaRe, J., Wilkin, S.)

To expand the offense of obstructing justice to include failure to follow a lawful order from a law enforcement officer or diverting a law enforcement officer's attention. Passed in House (6/25/2021; 61-32)

**HB 109** Criminal Penalties (Abrams, C., Carruthers, S.) To increase penalties for certain assault, vandalism, and riot offenses, to allow peace officers to bring civil suits against person participating in a riot, and to prohibit bias motivated intimidation of first responders. Committee Hearing in House Criminal Justice (6/24/2021; CONTINUED-AMENDED)

**HB 157** Municipal Taxes (Jordan, K., Edwards, J.) To modify municipal income tax employer withholding rules for COVID-19 related work from home employees. Referred in Senate (6/2/2021; Ways & Means)

**HB 184** OPF Disability (Carfagna, R.) To revise Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund disability determination procedures. Referred in Senate (6/28/2021; Insurance)

**HB 225** Income Tax (Edwards, J., Hall, T.) To grant income tax credits to persons who serve as volunteer peace officers, firefighters, or emergency medical service technicians. Committee Hearing in House Ways & Means (5/11/2021; CONTINUED)

**HB 337** First Responders Bonus (Riedel, C., Plummer, P.) To provide a one-time bonus award to eligible first responders and to make an appropriation. Referred in House (6/10/2021; Finance)

**SB 16** Civil Actions (Schaffer, T.) Regarding assault or menacing committed or directed against, and targeting, an emergency service responder, family member, or co-worker, the offense of unlawfully impeding public passage of an emergency service responder, and the inclusion of Casino Control Commission gaming agents as peace officers under the standard definition of that term. Referred House (6/10/2021; Criminal Justice)

**SB 38** Tax Credit (Schaffer, T.) To allow an income tax credit for law enforcement officials and volunteer firefighters who purchase safety or protective items to be used in the course of official law enforcement or firefighting activities. Committee Hearing in Senate Ways & Means (2/17/2021; CONTINUED)

**PFRO Merchandise**

Prices listed in Item descriptions **DO NOT** include shipping/handling.

Shipping Fees: **\$4.50 for TOTAL pin order;**  
**\$9.00 TOTAL for all other Merchandise.**

See our website at [www.pfro.com](http://www.pfro.com) for colored photos.



T-shirts are NAVY BLUE/RED with the PFRO Logo on the left chest and "Police and Fire Retirees of Ohio, Inc." written on the back.

T-shirts short sleeve: M, L, XL \$18.00, XXL \$22.00  
 T-shirts long sleeve (Navy Only): M, L, XL \$22.00, XXL \$26.00



**Firefighter Charm Bracelet:**  
 Silver plated bangle with Angel in Dress Blues and Fire Symbol charm.  
**\$14.95**



**Police Charm Bracelet:**  
 Silver plated bangle with Angel in Dress Blues and handcuffs charm.  
**\$14.95**



**Hats** are navy blue with the PFRO logo.  
**\$15.00 each**



**License Plate Frames** are chrome frames with Police in blue ink, Fire in red ink, and Retirees of Ohio in black ink.  
**\$18.00 per frame**



**"New" 20 oz Black Stainless Steel**  
 Travel Mugs with white Police & Fire Logo  
**\$15.00 each**

Not pictured: Angel Pins  
 Check out our color photos on our website at [pfro.com](http://pfro.com)