



The Billy & Spanner



GOODBYE 2020

By Ray Storms

As we close out 2020, I think this is a time for self-reflection. This has truly been a year like no other and when I stop to think about it, a year particularly tough for retirees. The effects of the pandemic are especially acute for our age group and place in life, and as such, really impacted our Association.

One of the cornerstones of the Association is building and maintaining social relationships. For the first time that I can remember, we were forced to cancel the Annual BBQ the Christmas Luncheon as well as the now annual Folsom BBQ. On top of that, we've missed all the opportunities to connect at our monthly meetings over lunch and speakers.

While the work of the Association carries on, I do miss seeing all of you. And I do worry that the lack of social contact will take its toll on the health of us all. While it may not sound incredibly exciting, it has been nice to see members join our monthly meetings via Zoom video conference. If you are able, try dropping in on one of the membership meetings. The business portion is typically short and there is some time to say hey to some of your old friends.

I hope everyone has a safe holiday, that you all stay COVID free and I'm wishing us all a much, much better 2021!

KAISER SENIOR ADVANTAGE PLAN NEW BENEFITS

By Jim Spence, Director for Health Care

If you are a Kaiser Senior Advantage Plan member you should have received a letter in the mail outlining the two new benefits that you are entitled to beginning January 1, 2021.

First, Kaiser is offering free rides to the doctor's office at no cost. To qualify, you must be a KPM member and be going to a medical service covered under the plan such as doctor's appointments, labs, X-ray's or picking up medications/medical equipment. To schedule, you call 1-877-930-1477. The plan covers 24 trips.

Second, you can now get fresh, healthy meals delivered to your home after an inpatient visit at a hospital or skilled nursing facility at no cost. This occurs by referral from your care team after discharge from a facility. The benefit covers 3 meals per day for up to 4 weeks for a total of 84 meals.

We will also post copies of the letter on our website for your reference and email to the membership.

visit our website at www.retiredsjpoff.org

I'M DEAD. NOW WHAT?



The Association continues to give away this book.

A useful and helpful planner to give you peace of mind. It has important information about your belongings, business affairs, and wishes. It helps organize vital details about contacts, health and financial issues, etc. Contact Walter Bugna at believe42218@earthlink.net if you want a copy. Please include your name, current phone and current mailing address in your e-mail.

JOIN THE SAN JOSE POLICE EMERALD SOCIETY

By Brian Hyland, President, San Jose Police Emerald Society



The San Jose Police Emerald Society (SJPES) invites you to join our organization. Our primary mission is to offer support to families of fallen officers and first responders. We also keep the memories alive of our fallen heroes by attending and often times, originating memorials so they will never be forgotten.

This is done by:

Showing a physical police presence and musical performance by the Society's bagpipe and drum band in ceremonies and memorials of fallen active duty and retired officers and first responders.

Building community bonds, partnerships, and understanding through sharing knowledge of San Jose police history, Emerald Society history, and Irish/Celtic culture.

Maintaining open communication with community groups, the business community, and the public to build support for first responders and support for the police profession.

The SJPES is open to all law enforcement officers and first responders from any agency, active and retired, regardless of ethnicity. Non-sworn or civilian personnel who support the Emerald Society and law enforcement mission and values are also welcome as associate members.

The San Jose Police Emerald Society organization is comprised entirely of volunteers from the law enforcement community who receive no salary or benefit.

To become a member or for more information go to www.sjpes.org . Click on the Become a Member tab on the top of the page. Your membership is tax deductible as we are a 501(c) 3 charitable organization. For questions, please contact us at sjpoliceemeralds@gmail.com.



NEW ADDRESS

We have been notified of a new mailing address for the San Jose Fire Museum.

**San Jose Fire Museum
PO Box 579
San Jose, CA 95106**

To stay up to date on the Fire Museum, check out their website:<http://www.sjfiremuseum.org/>

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RETIREMENT

REID J. BIERSDORFF, Police Officer, 25.23* years of service.

DAMIAN BORTOLOTTI, Police Sergeant, 27.82* years of service.

LISA D. GANNON, Police Lieutenant, 27.78* years of service.

DONALD GUESS, Police Officer, 24.80* years of service.

ROBERT E. IMOBERSTEG, Police Lieutenant, 27.42* years of service.

MICHAEL H. KIHMM, Police Captain, 26.19* years of service.

KEVIN LAUNDRUE, Police Officer, 28.17* years of service.

LEONARD J. LIM, Police Officer, 26.97* years of service.

PAUL R. MESSIER, Police Lieutenant, 27.30* years of service.

ERIC J. QUAN, Police Sergeant, 26.34* years of service.

JOSEPH P. SCHNEIDER, Police Sergeant, 25.49* years of service.

FRANCO VADO, Police Officer, 25.26* years of service.

JOSE L. VARGAS, Police Officer, 26.18* years of service.

DOUGLAS S. WEDGE, Police Lieutenant, 27.42* years of service.

REMEMBERING RETIRED FIRE ENGINEER CRAIG SHELTON

By Larry Samarron, Treasurer

For those of you who haven't heard, Craig Shelton passed away recently. He was my friend, my partner, and my mentor at Station 18 for many years. I can still hear his laughter after entertaining him for a moment. As was the case when I was cooking in the kitchen and an alarm comes in, and everyone scrambles to their rigs and takes off, Craig, in the light unit, is stepping on the horn for me to hurry. Sound familiar? Well, I burst through the hallway door, run to the light unit, jump in, buckle up and say, "Ready, let's go," Craig says, "Do you know where you are going?" in his usual calm voice. Instantly I jump out of the rig and start running to the teletype machine, and somehow I trip and start stumbling forward, trying to maintain my balance. This awkward dance lasts for about 20 feet, then I dive straight out, arms outstretched, head up and slide on the apron floor for another few feet coming to rest at the alarm/teletype counter. I get up, grab the printout, race back to the light unit. Craig is having a hearty laugh. Somehow, he manages to ask if I'm okay? Where are we going? For the rest of the drive to the incident he is laughing and telling me how funny the whole scene was. Afterall, he had a front-row seat.



We had many laughs and shared many stories in that light unit. I can still hear him saying, "Now Larry, we don't do things that way," and he would constantly remind me, "Larry, who's the engineer and who's the firefighter?" Craig was a hard-working, dedicated man who knew his job well and freely shared his knowledge and experience with anyone who asked. When a job needed doing, he was there; when a discussion was needed, he had input; he never shied away from responsibility. I'm proud to have worked side by side with him at Station 18. I'm proud to say he was my friend, and I wish I had stayed in touch. To Peg, his wife, I say, I'll miss Craig and will share his stories. He still lives in my heart.

FREE STRETCH AND RELAXATION CLASS ON JANUARY 24, 2021

Via ZOOM | Julie La Blanc | Retired SJFD Engineer

What a year this has been! Many of us are sitting more and perhaps experiencing additional aches and pains. Sometimes I have to remind myself to move it or lose it and other times to relax and rejuvenate my body and mind. Our association often includes articles about self-care and options to ease stress. Personally, I have found that stretch and yoga are a nice supplement to other forms of exercise that I enjoy. The yoga studio that I attend has found a way to continue to offer classes to its members via Zoom and I thought it would be nice to share this with my fellow retirees. Dragonfly Yoga Studio in Livermore has offered to provide a free class to association members on Sunday January 24, 2021 from 4:00 - 4:45 pm. If you are interested in stretching and relaxing please contact me by 1/22/2021 to sign up for this free class. All you need is a device (laptop, tablet, phone) to log into Zoom and various props such as blankets, pillows and cushions from your sofa. The teacher from Dragonfly Yoga will guide us through a class and just maybe you will find a new way to take care of yourself. Have a safe holiday and wishing you all a healthy 2021! Please send your interest to my email address at jewlzwims@yahoo.com.



ASSOCIATION
OF RETIRED SAN JOSE
**POLICE OFFICERS
& FIREFIGHTERS**

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visit our website:
www.retiredsjpoff.org

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JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT VIRTUAL MEETING

Our monthly membership meetings are now held virtually on Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please join us for our upcoming meetings. You can join from your computer, tablet or even your phone. Every attendee is automatically entered into a drawing for a \$10 coffee gift certificate card.

Participating is easier than you think, and meetings have been shorter due to the new format. Our next meeting is Thursday, December 10, at 11 AM. The login information will be emailed out to all members closer to the actual date of the meeting. If we don't have your email, make sure we do. Email Board Secretary Dale Foster at secretary@retiredsjpoff.org to get on our list. See you on Zoom!

CONDOLENCES

George A. Graham, Police Lieutenant, retired September 4, 2010, died September 13, 2020.

Jess M. Sanchez, Police Officer, retired January 26, 2008, died October 7, 2020.

Ron Shannon passed away on 11-23-2020. Ron retired with 25 years of service.

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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John Shuman, VP of Police	vppolice@retiredsjpoff.org
Walter Bugna, VP of Fire	vpfire@retiredsjpoff.org
Dale Foster, Secretary	secretary@retiredsjpoff.org
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DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

Don Bartels, Tim Miller, Mike Moffett, Jim Spence, Gary Johnson
Ken Jacksteit, Jerry Ellis, Director Emeritus

WIDOWS & ORPHANS OFFICERS

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VP (SJA) Maxwell Magnus	650-773-3271
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Treasurer (SJR) Jerry Ellis	408-730-9974
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POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President - Ernie Alcantar, Vice President - Steve Windisch,
Sec-Treasurer - Larry Lundberg, Sgt at arms - Bob Moir www.sjba.net