



GENDARME

St. Louis Police Officers Association



The Official Publication of the ST. LOUIS POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION, FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE - Lodge 68

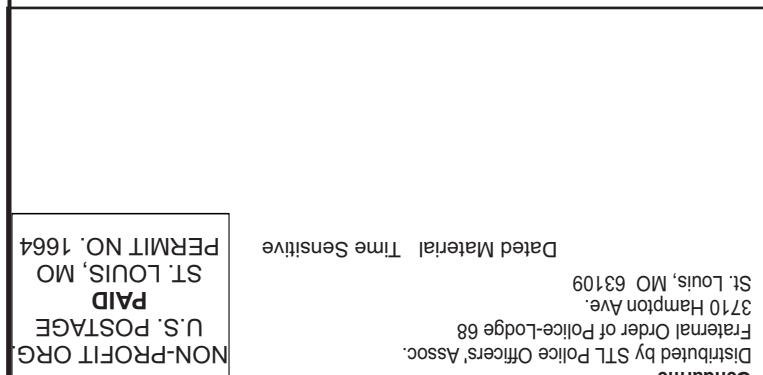
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May / June 2022

Vol. 52 No. 3

CELEBRATING THE 2022 MISSOURI FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE CONFERENCE IN PICTURES

JAY SCHROEDER ELECTED STATE PRESIDENT



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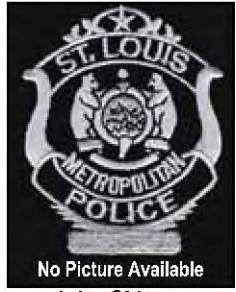
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Gendarme



"In memory of the Saint Louis Police Officers who have made the Ultimate Sacrifice"

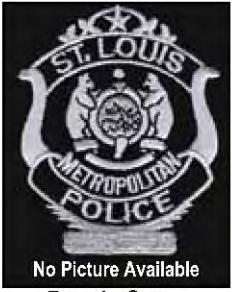
DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE



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John Skinner
1868

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Charles Printz
1879

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Dennis Crane
1900

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Richard Delaney
1901Louis Schnarr
1912Henry Smith
1914

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August Schwind
1918Thomas Ward
1919Roger Harty
1924

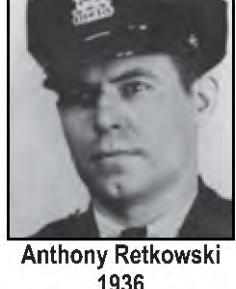
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Sidney Sears
1924

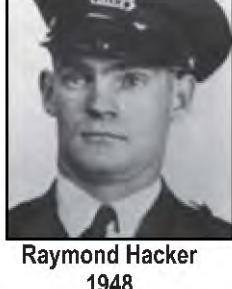
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William McCormack
1929

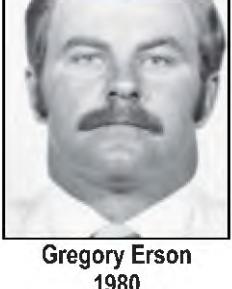
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Edward Schnittker
1930

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Anthony Retkowski
1936

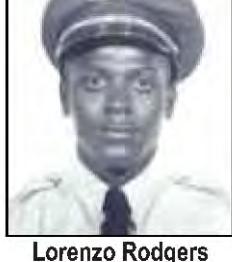
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Raymond Hacker
1948

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Gregory Erson
1980

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Johnnie Corbin
1985

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Lorenzo Rodgers
1990

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OUT
THERE!**

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

**July 27
August 31
6 p.m.**

E-BOARD MEETING

**July 27
August 31
4:00 p.m.**

VETERAN'S MEETING

**July 13
August 10
11:30 p.m.**

POLICE WIVES MEETING

**July 13
August 10
7 p.m.**

GENDARME

May/June 2022 Double Issue

**3710 Hampton Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63109
314-353-3200**

Guidelines for Letters to the Editor: All letters to the editor must be signed and verifiable by phone or personal contact. Freedom of expression is guaranteed within the bounds of good taste and the limits of available space. Upon request the author's name may be withheld from publication and confidentiality assured. The Gendarme takes no responsibility for the content of the letters in this section.

The Gendarme newspaper is the official publication of the St. Louis Police Officers' Association and is published in St. Louis. However, opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the SLPOA or the St. Louis Police Department.

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"The objective of the Saint Louis Police Officers Association shall be to advance the moral, social and material standing of the members of the Association by honorable and lawful means. As a labor organization the Association shall endeavor to achieve Collective Bargaining with Binding Arbitration." (Preamble of the Association's Constitution and By-Laws)

MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

PRIMARY CARE

As many of you have probably already heard, I'm taking an eight week leave of absence from the Association to focus on my Republican Primary Election for State Senate in the 22nd District (northern Jefferson County) on Tuesday, August 2.

While I'm away, the Association is in great hands.

Your division reps and their alternates are available to help with pretty much any need you have from the Association. That's not just true for our SLMPD commissioned members. Ed Hemkens and Danielle Hunt are always available to assist our Airport Police members and Weylin Harris and Jack Conway are on top of things for our police civilian members. Our members at the St. Louis County prosecuting attorneys office also know where to go for help on union issues.

If you have something more complicated than your division rep can address or you just can't track down your rep, Association president, Jay Schroeder, will be stepping-up to fill-in on union



issues while I'm away.

"Contract Corner."

As always, if you need an attorney for an OIS, an IAD interview, or for any other reason, call Martin Garcia on the Legal Phone at 314-420-1714.

Our devoted office staff is also available to help you with dues questions, Hall rentals, Gendarme subscriptions or any other membership need. While I'm gone, the Hall will operate on an abbreviated schedule and will only be open from 9am to 1pm on Monday through Thursday and will be closed on

Fridays. Jill will check the answering machine frequently and will get back to you promptly if you have some pressing need. The Association business office number is 314-353-3200.

As you've probably already figured out, we combined the May and June editions of the Gendarme into one issue due to my absence.

The July issue will have a couple of visiting columns in place of my two regular columns, "Message from the Business Manager" and

I want to thank the SLPOA membership and Executive Board for your endorsement of my Senate candidacy as well as our parent organization, the Missouri Fraternal Order of Police, who've also endorsed my campaign, as have our sister organizations representing firefighters, teachers, and just about every union in the St. Louis region. I'm proud of the work I did for law enforcement and for all Missourians during my eight-year tenure in the State House of Representatives, where I served until I was term-limited in 2015. The potential to serve in the Missouri Senate provides even greater opportunities to fight for cops and the good people they serve and protect.

That's why I'm running for office.

And, that's why I'm taking this time off to devote my efforts to this election.

To give my Primary, care.

While I'm gone, I'm confident, you'll still get great primary care for all your Association needs.

SLPOA ELECTION

Election Declaration of Candidacy are due in the office from August 1- August 5.

**The hall will be open 8:30am to 5:00pm,
August 1-5 for candidates file
their declarations.**

POSITIONS UP FOR ELECTION:

- Vice President
- Recording Secretary
- Treasurer

Divisions 2, 4, 5, 6, 10 and 12

Please send us your picture and bio when you file to be included in the Gendarme.



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Endorsements in the July Issue
of the Gendarme and
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Union Representing St. Louis Police Officers Welcomes Change in Leadership, Encourages Dialog

St. Louis, Missouri (May 19, 2022) – Reacting to the announcement that outgoing Police Chief John Hayden had set a June date for retirement and that Mayor Tishaura Jones had tapped Lt. Col. Michael Sack to serve as Interim Chief of the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, the union representing rank-and-file commissioned and civilian police employees in the city responded with optimism but also with caution.

The St. Louis Police Officers Association called the move a "welcomed change" but cautioned that nothing would improve if there wasn't a renewed effort to engage the police union in a meaningful, ongoing dialog about the future of the department.

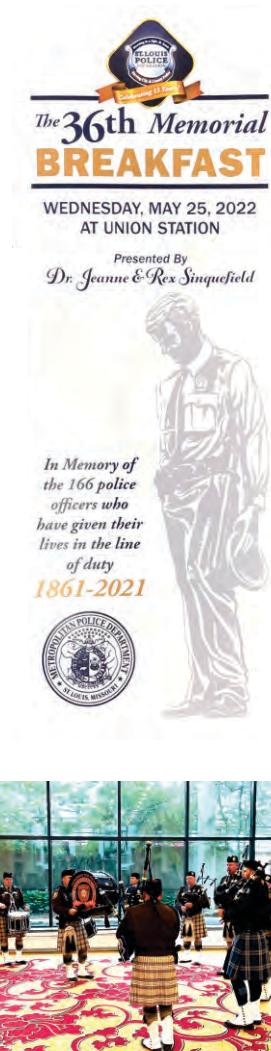
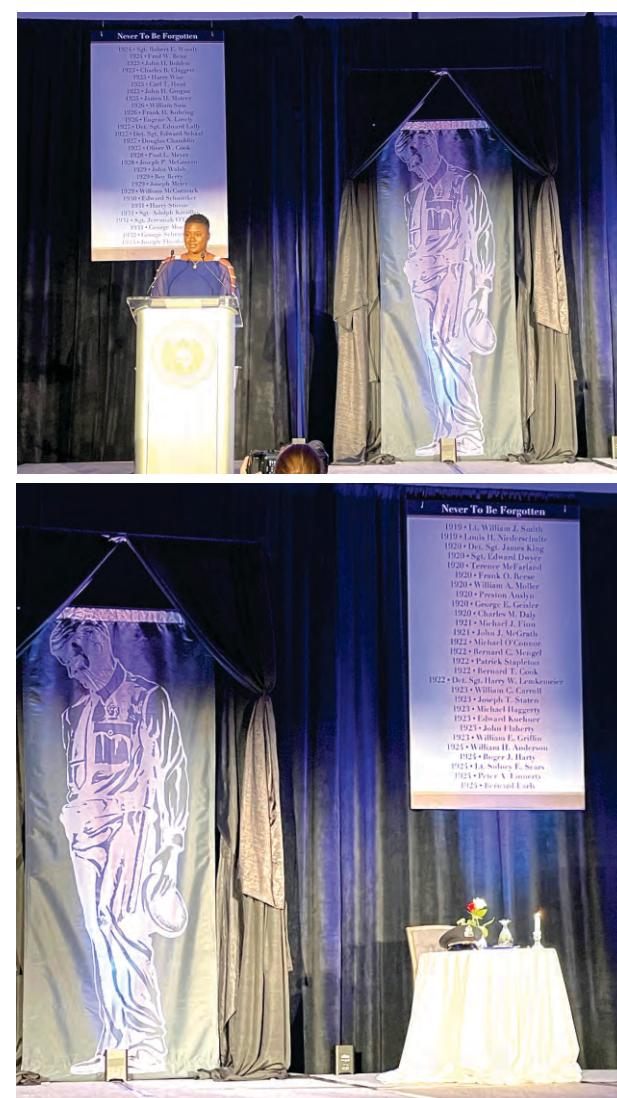
Police Association president, Jay Schroeder, said, "Our members, our police department and our city face significant challenges that require swift and decisive action. The department leadership has been ignoring those challenges. They're not going away and they're not getting better unless there is a collaborative effort between management and labor to address our many challenges. Nobody knows better how to make this police department work well for this city than our members. Nobody."

Schroeder continued, "We welcome change and we welcome Chief Sack. We want to work with him to make this a better place to work and a safer place to live. But, If this administration decides, as the last one did, to go-it-alone and embrace the status quo, then all of our efforts to return this agency to its former glory and to take back the streets from the criminals who rule them now, will be for naught. This is a time for bold, collaborative leadership. We are committed to that cause."

The Police Association plans to ask the incoming administration for a meeting with their leadership at the earliest possible opportunity. They also warned that if the union is not at the table with a voice on who the permanent police chief will be and how he or she is selected, the process is doomed to failure.

And, so is the city.

SLAIN POLICE OFFICER TAMARRIS BOHANNON'S WIDOW, ALEXIS, DELIVERED KEYNOTE AT SLMPD MEMORIAL BREAKFAST ON MAY 25



Photos by Jeff Roorda



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FADE OUTS

SGT. Linda D. Mopkins	200	04/10/2022
PO Dwain E. Wallace	442	04/10/2022

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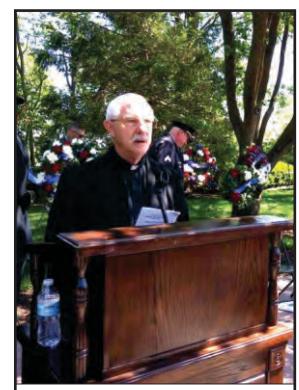


VOTED THE BEST SHOOTING RANGE IN MISSOURI

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Police Memorial

by Chaplain John Fava



Memorial Service:
Brother John giving
Invocation

Several events during the month of May bring sadness to many police officers and their families. The Candlelight Vigils and Memorial Services in Washington, D.C. and Jefferson City, and the Memorial Breakfast here in St. Louis are all tributes to Law Enforcement Officers who have died in the line of duty. We honor and thank these heroes for making the ultimate sacrifice.

It is always very moving to witness and/or participate in these events. The outpouring of gratitude and respect that is given to these heroes is admirable.

Why do we refer to these officers as heroes? What makes them so special?

We call police officers heroes because they chose a profession which many people cannot fully understand. The officers followed a path which most people would never take. However, law enforcement officers do this job because they care about other people, and they have a desire to make things better for others. As they go about their day, police officers may be trying to save a life, or they may be trying to give comfort to a person who is in distress. The bottom line is that they are concerned with the well-being of others, and they want the citizens to have a sense of security and feel safe.

Police officers do not consider law enforcement a job, but it is a profession or a career. Officers are

there when they are needed. They took an oath to serve and protect the citizens of St. Louis, and this gives them satisfaction and gratification. Officers also know that there are times when they must put themselves in harm's way as they carry out this oath. They are required to put their life on the line for people they do not know.

For some officers there came the day when they answered a call for service, tried to help a person in need, made a car stop, took action against a crime in progress, attempted to arrest a criminal, etc. The officers followed procedures and did everything that they were trained to do. But criminals do not care about rules, regulations, or other people. Their only concern is for themselves and trying to get away with anything and everything that they can. Unfortunately, and sadly, the end result was that a police officer died in the performance of his duties.

A colleague, fellow officer, and friend is dead. The tributes that are given to the officer are admirable and heartwarming. He is acknowledged for the work that he did and given the respect that he is due. The job, the department, and life go on, but it is not the same. There is a void which cannot be filled, and there is an officer that cannot be replaced.

The memories of what the officer did and said are always here to stay. The joy of knowing him and being by his side remains in our hearts. By remembering the officer and reminiscing about him, he is given immortality; and his spirit will live



SLMPD officers who attended the Memorial Service
(photo courtesy of Major Renee Kriesmann)

forever. His legacy will be passed on for generations. The pictures and name plaques on police department walls and law enforcement monuments are a lasting reminder of the officer's bravery, what he stood for, and what he died for.

It is a cliche, but life does go on. Police officers work 24/7 and 12 months a year, and there is still a job to do. Districts must be patrolled, calls for service need to be answered, and cases have to be investigated. Police officers are a dedicated group, and in spite of the sadness and grieving, they carry on with their duties. It takes a special kind of person to do that.

Let us pray that God will give eternal rest and peace to the dedicated officers who gave their all and died in the line of duty. And let us also pray that God will give consolation to those who are in mourning.

Please know that I pray for all police officers and their families every day. May God bless all of you.



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CONTRACT CORNER

CIVILIANS SUCCEED TO CENTUPPLICATE STATUS

by Jeff Roorda



Civilian Rep Weylin Harris (Radio Repair) turns two new applications over to Business Manager Jeff Roorda on June 1, raising civilian membership to the one-hundred mark; photo by Patrick Rice.

June 1 was kind of a normal day around the St. Louis Police Officers Association offices.

A few calls about Hall rental. A couple of deliveries. A copper who washed his calendar in the laundry and needed a replacement. The random change of address request for the Gendarme here-and-there.

And of course, the inevitable confused caller trying to report some non-emergency crime to us who got our number by mistake when they Googled "St. Louis Police."

As it happened, we also got a couple of membership applications that day, which is not out of the ordinary.

What was extraordinary about these applications though, was they were both from non-commissioned employees under our jurisdiction and that they represented the ninety-ninth and hundredth members of our Civilian Division.

That's a big milestone, one we've been chasing ever since the formerly unaffiliated union known as the CPD, which for many years represented police civilians, merged with the SLPOA on December 5, 2018.

We talk a lot in this "Contract Corner" column about our union contracts on behalf of SLMPD Police Officers and SLMPD Sergeants. But, unlike our commissioned members who we are in court on behalf of pursuing a lawsuit against the City for bad faith bargaining to determine the status of their contracts, our Civilian Division has an unexpired Collective Bargaining Agreement with the City that is still in undisputed full force and effect because the expiration dates on their agreements were staggered as a result of the merger.

It's quite possible we will be in court soon fighting for our civilian members' rights too if the City doesn't decide to start obeying the law when it comes to bargaining in good faith with our union and ALL of its bargaining units.

We're hoping the fact that the City is at the bargaining table now on behalf of our SLMPD commissioned and civilian employees, as well as our Airport Police Officers and Sergeants, is a good sign.

We really can't talk much about those negotiations because of the bargaining ground-rules both sides agreed to when the City came back to the table to negotiate the FY23 Compensation Ordinance but, suffice it to say, we remain skeptical as to the City's sincerity based

on our past dealings.

They're going to have to prove that they're serious about bargaining and addressing our critical staffing shortages and woefully inadequate pay when it comes to all five of our bargaining units.

In the meantime, collective bargaining and salary negotiations are just one of the many services we provide to our members.

Our police officers understand that and as a result, we are nearly at full penetration when it comes to commissioned membership.

But we have a lot of room for growth among our civilians, who may not understand all that we do for them when it comes to government affairs, community involvement, public relations, and member services. More importantly, we provide representation for civilians when they are summoned to their supervisor's office or called down to Internal Affairs.

Because serious allegations against civilians happen less frequently, the civilians opted to keep their dues down by using union reps for disciplinary situations instead of attorneys. As a result, our civilian dues are only \$10 per pay period.

That's a great bargain.

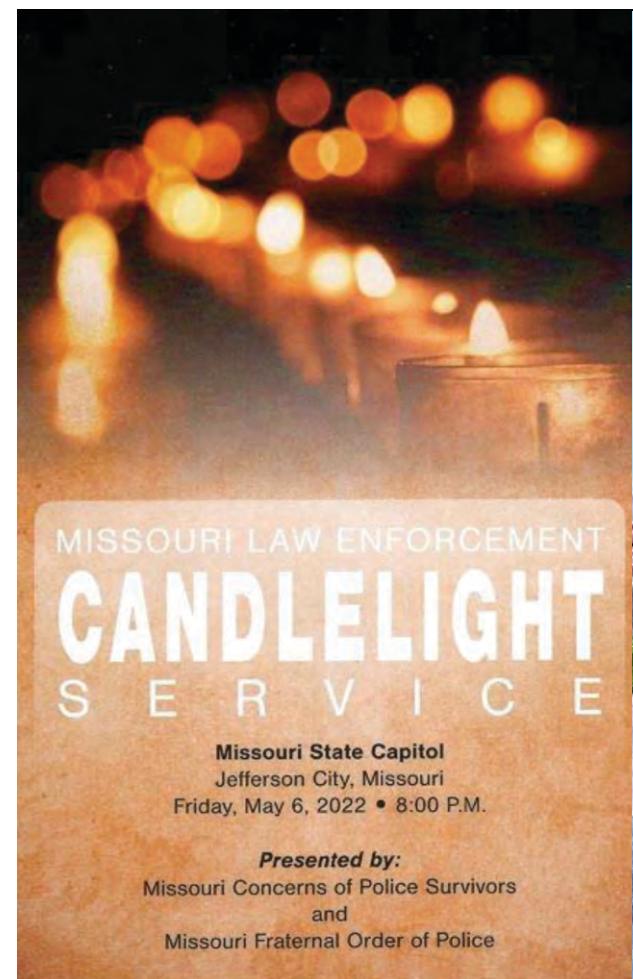
So, spread the word to the civilians you work with about joining the Association. That doesn't just include civilians who currently work for the Police Department. Any civilian position that was under the Board of Police Commissioners when we were under State control, like Fleet Services or Facilities Management, are eligible for membership in our Civilian Division.

Let's see if we can get our civilians up to a bi-centuplicate.

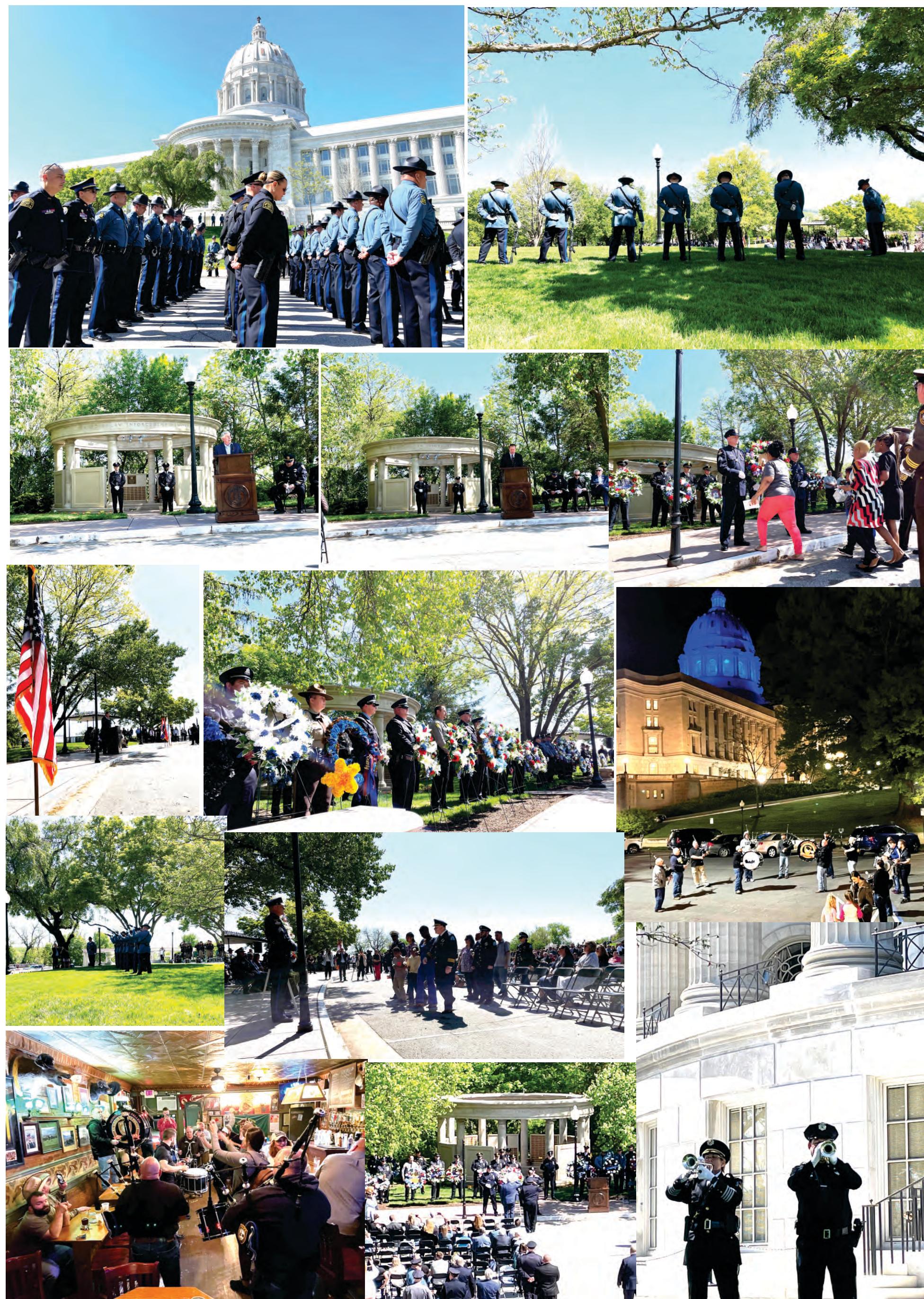
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MEMORIAL IN JEFFERSON CITY



GONE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

We stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us



Retired Sgt. Vernon G. Barton

BIRTH: June 23, 1940
DEATH: April 23, 2022

SLMPD 2022-24

Retired SGT. Vernon G. Barton
Surviving Spouse: Margaret Barton
Date of Employment: 06/21/1965
Date of Retirement: 07/26/1993
Assignment code: 2nd

Arrangements will be private.
Sgt. Barton was an Elder member of the SLPVA



Joe loved all five of his dogs and was a member of Saint Francis Catholic Church in Bourbon, MO.

Joe is survived by his wife Barbara Murphy of Leasburg, MO; four children: Joseph Murphy and wife Deborah of Waterlou, IL, Lisa Murphy of Valley Park, MO, Jennifer Sweeney and husband Phil of Fenton, MO, and Cindy Decarlo of Leasburg, MO; seven grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren; two sisters, Kate Kutzar and husband Ed of Washington, MO and Maureen Calame and husband Kevin of Fort Worth, TX; other relatives and many friends.

Along with his parents, Joe was preceded in death by two sisters.

Friends may send their online condolences to Joe's family at www.eatonfuneralhome.com

Officer Brian M. Strehl, SLMPD Retired

BIRTH: May 25, 1964
DEATH: April 24, 2022 (aged 57)

SLMPD 2022-25

Brian was a member of the SLPVA
Saint Louis, St. Louis City, Missouri, USA
RETIRED 6 Dec 2020
Florissant, St. Louis County, Missouri, USA



Retired Sergeant Joseph W. Murphy

BIRTH: February 7, 1947
DEATH: April 30, 2022

SLMPD 2022-26

Date of Employment: 02/12/1968
Date of Retirement: 03/07/2005
Assignment Code: 710

Sgt Joseph Murphy, SLMPD Retired

Sgt Murphy was a member of the SLPVA

Sergeant Joseph Murphy received his commission on February 12, 1968, and was in recruit class 101. He retired on March 7, 2005, from the Saint Louis Metropolitan Police Department. Sergeant Murphy served a total of 37 years and 24 days of faithful and dedicated service to the department.

Of note, his son, Joseph Murphy, followed his father into the field of law enforcement and became a second-generation officer with the same agency. His son later resigned his commission and is now a special agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Funeral arrangements are as follows:

Joseph W. Murphy, 75, of Leasburg, MO, passed away peacefully on Saturday, April 30, 2022, with his wife Barbara by his side, at the Crab Apple Village of Saint Clair.

Joseph William Murphy was born on February 7, 1947 in St. Louis, MO to the late Joseph and Delores (Barkley) Murphy. Joe served the Saint Louis Metropolitan Police Department as a police sergeant for 37 years, retiring on March 5, 2005.

He later met his wife, Barbara and they were united in marriage on February 11, 1998. Together they were blessed with 24 years of marriage.

Joe was a jack of all trades. He could build and fix almost anything. Joe loved Corvettes and was fortunate enough to have owned a 1977 red Corvette which was his baby.

After retirement Joe and Barbara made their final home in Leasburg where they spent time trout fishing at their favorite state park, Montauk.



Retired Sgt. Edward Charles DeVere

BIRTH: August 1, 1928
DEATH: May 3, 2022 (aged 93)

SLMPD 2022-27

Sgt DeVere was an Elder member of the SLPVA

Retired Sergeant Edward C. DeVere received his commission on August 19, 1957, and retired on August 22, 1987.

Assignment code: C.I.D.

No funeral arrangements at this time. Family may hold a Memorial in July.



Sergeant Clifford (Cliff) O. Sasenger, Jr., SLMPD Retired

BIRTH: June 9, 1949
DEATH: May 28, 2022

SLMPD 2022-28

Retired: April 18, 2004

Member SLPVA



Beloved husband of Susan L. Sasenger (nee Herzing) for 48 years; loving father of Caron (Eric) Ahlemeyer, Laurie Hangge and Andrew Sasenger; cherished grandfather of Bradley, Owen, Lucas and Spencer; dear brother of Randy (Debbie) Sasenger, Marlene Huebner, Annette (Tom) Steibel, Wanda (Keith) Diester and the late Wayne Decker.

Cliff was a Police Officer for The City of St. Louis for 33 1/2 years, retiring in 2004.

Memorials to Backstoppers, appreciated.

Retired Officer Anthony (Tony) Page

DEATH: May 30, 2022

SLMPD 2022-29

Officer Page was a member of the SLPVA

Information received from Eddie Smoot via John Johnson



More information will be shared when it becomes available.

(Cont. on pg. 13)

GONE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

We stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us



(Continued from page 12)

**Sergeant John (Jack) Nieman,
SLMPD Retired**BIRTH: November 17, 1934
DEATH: May 20, 2022 (87)

SLMPD 2022-30

SLPVA Elder Member

Retired 6/14/1993 (33 years)

Last assignment code 3rd District

**Retired Sergeant Anthony C. Rice**BIRTH: July 28, 1945
DEATH: June 16, 2022

SLMPD 2022-31

Date of Employment: 11/20/1967

Date of Retirement: 07/02/2001

Assignment Code: Homicide Section

**Lt. Charles R. Steele**

SLMPD 2022-32

Steele, Charles Richard, 83, Fortified with the Sacraments of Holy Mother Church on Friday, June 17, 2022.

Beloved husband of the late Linda Kay (nee Dugger) Steele; devoted father of Chuck (Nancy) and the late Kimberly; dear grandfather of Mikey; brother of Bob (Jane) Steele and Karen (Keith) Scott; dear brother-in-law, uncle, cousin, and friend.



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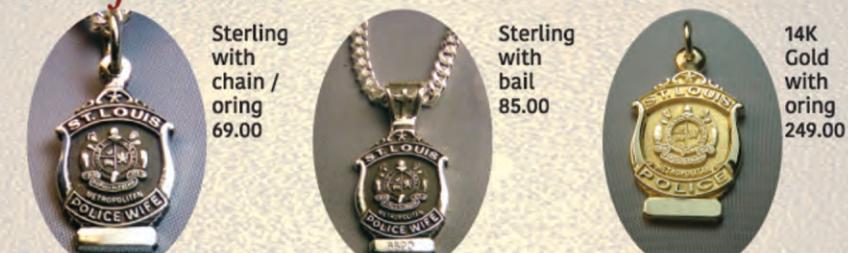
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The Official Publication of the ST. LOUIS POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION, FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE - Lodge 68

JULY 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4 HAPPY independence Day	5	6 CPD 7PM	7	8 PAYDAY	9
10	11	12	13 VETERANS MTG 11:30 AM POLICE WIVES 7 PM	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 PAYDAY	23
24	25	26	27 E-BOARD MTG 4:30 PM GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MTG 7 PM	28	29	30
31						

AUGUST 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 SLPOA ELECTION FILINGS OPEN	2 PRIMARY ELECTION	3 CPD 7 PM	4	5 SLPOA ELECTION FILINGS CLOSE PAYDAY	6
7	8	9	10 VETERANS MTG 11:30 AM POLICE WIVES 7 PM	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	PAYDAY	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 E-BOARD MTG 4:30 PM GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MTG 7PM			

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