



North Carolina: Charlotte-Mecklenburg FOP Lodge #9

February 2009 Newsletter

2009, Number 2

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- Next membership meeting: Tuesday February 3rd at 1830 hours: Dinner will be served at 1745 hrs
- **NO smoking during the membership meetings!**
- Important issues for all: upcoming State Lodge Board Meeting, National Conference in Long Beach, National Collective Bargaining bill, NCFOP legislative agenda for the next two years and many other issues that need to be discussed.

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Contact Us

Ronnie Stinson-Lodge Secretary

ronniestinson@att.net

Hello, and welcome to February edition of the FOP Lodge #9 Newsletter.

We continue to receive dues payments for 2009 FOP dues, if you have not paid, your member benefits have stopped. Please don't take a chance, get your lodge dues in as soon as possible. It only takes a second to need the kind of assistance the FOP can provide.

Please remember the membership meeting is coming up this Tuesday (February 3rd) dinner is at 5:45pm and the meeting starts at 6:30pm. There is never a charge for dinner, we just want the membership to attend and participate. After all it is your lodge come have a say how its run. Some of the agenda items for this meeting are: upcoming State Lodge Board Meeting, National Conference in Long Beach, National Collective Bargaining bill, NCFOP legislative agenda for the next two years and many other issues that need to be discussed.

Ten members from North Carolina FOP attended an event on Wednesday, January 28th at the Raleigh Convention Center to celebrate the start of the 2009-2010 Legislative Session. This was a great opportunity to meet with State Senators and Representatives to introduce them to our legislative priorities for the next two years. The meeting was not as well attended by the legislators as in years past but there were many present. This type of face to face contact is good but is only a start. Please take the time to log on to the North Carolina General Assembly web site (www.ncga.state.nc.us/) and learn who represents you in the House and the Senate. These folks need to hear from cops on a regular basis to know what's important to us.

On the National level, the 111th Congress has just started their two year legislative session. There are many new faces in Washington, a couple from North Carolina included. It's a little early to tell where North Carolina's two newest members (Hagan in the Senate and Kissell in the House) will land but we are in the process of scheduling appointments with all of the NC Delegation to talk about law enforcement issues. Those

2008 FOP LODGE #9 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Randy Hagler
Vice President: Skiddie Hurd
Secretary: Ronnie Stinson
Treasurer: Ken Clark
State Trustee: Todd Walther
2nd Vice President: Don Penix
Past President: Larry Walker
Chaplain: Tyrone Scott

Trustees:

Andy Martin (07)
Mark Michelac (07)
Buster Tanner (07)
John Melekian (08)
Scott Geiler (08)

Guards:

John DeCatsye (07)
Karl "Stretch" Haynes (07)
Ben Pepitone (08)
Will Parker (08)

SUPER BOWL PARTY AT THE LODGE!!

The lodge will be open this Sunday for the Super Bowl party! There is a new large flat screen TV to watch the game. There will be a nominal cover fee, with drinks and foods available. The lodge will open at 1600 hours, with door prizes awarded every quarter. \$10 cover fee!

meetings are scheduled for February 22-24, 2009 during the National FOP's annual "Day on the Hill". Of particular interest is the H.R. 413 Employer – Employee Cooperation Act, better known as Collective Bargaining for Public Safety Officers. Visit the web site to stay up to date on the bill as it moves through the house at www.house.gov or www.senate.gov. These web sites will give you the up to date information on the bills in both the house and the senate. You may also log on to www.fop.net and check out the members' only section. From there you can register to receive the National Lodges' Grassroots Update sent out every Friday to keep the membership informed on our top legislative priorities.

Our best and most productive way of staying informed is by good attendance and participation at the monthly meetings. By attending and discussing what's going on around the various departments FOP #9 represents we can better serve the membership. If you can't make the meeting but have issues important to everyone please do not hesitate to email the lodge ncfop9@aol.com or me at ronniestinson@att.net

Take Care and be Careful,

Randy Hagler, President
FOP Lodge #9

FOP Lodge #9 Web Site

We continue to update our local lodge web site so please take a look and let us know what you think. Visit us at ncfoplodge9.org. The Lodge will be open for all Panther games on Sundays.

- The FOP annual \$10 Grand Giveaway (formally known as the Truck Raffle) is scheduled for Saturday, May 30th 2009 same location as last year, the Oasis Temple, University City area.

Upcoming North Carolina FOP events:

| | | |
|---|----------------|------|
| 2009 Spring State Board to be determined | Wilmington | Date |
| 2009 Fall State Board to be determined | Winston-Salem | Date |
| August 2009 | Long Beach, CA | |

- Hendricks Honda is offering to pay \$400.00 to the State Lodge for any member that purchases a vehicle on line through the link on the State website. The State Lodge

agreed to keep \$200.00 and give \$100.00 to the local lodge and \$100.00 to the member.

<http://www.ncfop.org/>

- The Lodge will hold a handgun raffle for members. Tickets are available at any membership meeting and at the bar at the Lodge. Five (5) tickets and a return self addressed envelope will be mailed to each member with their 2009 membership card in December 2008. Each member is asked to support the Lodge by purchasing the tickets and mailing a check for the five tickets. The drawing will be at the March 2009 membership meeting. The tickets will be \$5.00 each and 5 tickets for \$20.00. The raffle will be available to all Lodge # 9 members and other FOP members. The winner must be able to obtain a gun permit.

The newsletter is produced each month. All articles should be e-mailed to ronniestinson@att.net Note that this is a new address for Ronnie Stinson, Lodge Secretary.

Become involved: Join a committee!

We continue to work on placing people willing to work on the various committees which are listed below:

- **FOP Lodge 9 Club** (Chair Skiddie Hurd, Larry Walker and Don Penix) This committee is responsible for the bar and acts as mediator for the Club and the Board of Directors.
- **Political Endorsement** This committee will examine the political environment in Mecklenburg County as well as all of the cities and towns in the county. Information gathered through this committee will be used by the membership to endorse candidates that will best represent law enforcement in our county.
- **Recruiting** This committee will be asked to coordinate the recruiting efforts of Lodge #9. The more members we recruit, the more power we have as a group. The more representatives we have in the county, the more effective and beneficial our discussions are with those who are listening.
- **Lake** The lake property is important to the membership, especially those that use the property. This committee acts as overseer of the lake

property and deals with issues such as concerns of misuse. (If anyone has a riding lawnmower that they would like to donate to the Lodge for use at the lake, please contact the lodge.)

- **Awards** For too long our members have not been recognized for outstanding work. This committee will examine ways to recognize officers for outstanding work.
- **Fund-raising** (Chair Ken Clark) This committee will examine ways that the Lodge raises money and recommend other projects.
- **Newsletter** (John DeCatsye, Ronnie Stinson and Randy Hagler) Communicating and keeping the members of the FOP Lodge informed is critical; please consider serving on this most important committee.
- **Merchandise** (Buster Tanner, Meba Thompson) FOP Lodge #9 attempts to keep merchandise available to the membership for purchase.
- **Community Affairs** This committee will examine our work in the community. How are we giving back to the community?
- **\$10,000 Grand Giveaway** (Chair Andy Martin) This event is our biggest fundraiser of the year. Help plan this event.

Please consider serving one of these committees, you can make a difference.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

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BLUE LIGHT LOUNGE at the FOP

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OPEN THIS SUNDAY FOR THE SUPER BOWL PARTY AT 1600 HOURS FOR A \$10 COVER FEE!!!

- Open 5:00 PM Tuesday – Friday
- **Effective now** – Kat’s Karaoke every Friday night at the Lodge from 9:00 1:00. We have had a lot of fun. Come

and join us.

- Free Pool on Tuesdays – Drink Specials every night
- **Rent the lodge!!** It's available to all members.
- Excellent facility! Great rates!
- Graduation Parties, Weddings, Birthdays
- Contact: Tina Parker, Blue Light Lounge Manager @ 704-376-3838

AUXILIARY #9

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- FOPA meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month.
- Membership dues are \$35.00 per year.
- The newly elected Charlotte Mecklenburg Lodge #9 FOP-Auxiliary Board was installed at the August meeting by Vice-President Skiddie Hurd. Congratulations to all the officers elected:

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| President – | Jackie Stinson |
| Vice-President – | Ann Haynes |
| 2 nd Vice- President | Sylvia Whitt |
| Secretary- | Carolyn Williams |
| Treasurer- | Candy Spoor |
| Chaplin- | Beverly Driggers |
| Sgt-Arms- | Etta Johnson |
| Trustee- | Melody Joyce |
| Alternative Trustee | Sylvia Smith |

Questions about the FOPA may be directed to Jackie Stinson, JSTINSTAR@BELLSOUTH.NET 704-724-7752 or 704-263-2016

SICK AND DISTRESSED

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Our prayers and deepest condolences for our members & families that have lost loved ones.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

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Stanly County Community College

<http://www.stanly.edu/cjc>

**Criminal Justice Associate's Degree—
ENTIRELY ONLINE!**

Stanly Community College was the first community college in NC to offer its entire CJ Associate's Degree completely online. Contact former CMPD Sergeant Kim Hammett, at (704) 991-0164 or at khammett8505@stanly.edu for more information.

Further your career! Increase your pay! Call today!

Central Piedmont Community College

<http://www.cpccsafetytraining.com/>

CPCC is offering many of the criminal justice and OSHA mandated classes for law enforcement on-line. To register for these classes, or to learn more about taking these classes on-line, please go to <http://www.cpccsafetytraining.com/> . You can access information about the courses by clicking on the registration link. CPCC will be offering these courses each semester in 2007. To find out about all of CPCC's law enforcement in-service classes, e-mail Doug Norwood at Douglas.norwood@cpcc.edu

STATE LODGE NEWS

<http://www.ncfop.org/>

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- The State office is located at 1500 Walnut Street Cary, NC 27511 The phone number is: 919-461-4939 (Office) and 800-628-8062 Fax number is: 919-461-4958

GRAND LODGE

<http://www.fop.net/>

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- The National Lodge has contracts with the following companies that should provide cost savings to our members while raising money for the FOP:
 - Avis Car Rental
 - Enterprise Car Rental
 - FOP Prescription Drug Program
 - Caliber Press Discounts for Street Survival Seminar
 - FOP-RHS Retirement Health Savings Program
 - John Hancock Long Term Care Program

All of these programs are now in existence and information can be obtained by logging on the Grand Lodge Web Page

<http://www.fop.net/>

MERCHANDISE

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- National FOP merchandise is available at the Lodge.
- Merchandise is on order for the Lodge. The committee is asking women for sizes so that they can order items for them and have some of the most popular sizes for the show cases. Contact the Lodge. Thank you for your support.
- FOP Auxiliary has a wide variety of merchandise also on display.
- **Blue Line** Merchandise is now available at the Lodge.