



North Carolina: Charlotte-Mecklenburg FOP Lodge #9

March 2009 Newsletter

2009, Number 3

In This Issue

- Next membership meeting: Tuesday March 3rd at 1830 hours: Dinner will be served at 1745 hrs
- **NO smoking during the membership meetings!**
- Important issues for all: State Legal Counsel to discuss concerns within local departments; Legislative issues; drawing for the Glock handgun raffle.

Lodge #9 News (click on links)

[Legislative Report](#)

[Blue Light Lounge at the FOP](#)

[Lodge #9 - AUXILIARY](#)

[Sick and Distressed](#)

[Educational Opportunities](#)

State Lodge News

Grand Lodge News

Merchandise

Contact Us

Ronnie Stinson-Lodge Secretary

ronniestinson@att.net

Hello and welcome to the March edition of the FOP Lodge #9 Newsletter. Please remember we have a membership meeting next Tuesday, March 3rd, dinner served at 5:30p.m. and the membership meeting starts at 6:30p.m. Plan to attend and let your voice be heard regarding issues that affects your job. I have invited NC FOP State Lodge Legal Council, Rich Hattendorf to be on hand to respond to legal questions that you may have regarding employee rights. Regardless of what police / sheriff's department or you may work for this meeting is for you, the member, to be heard and have your concerns addressed.

The Legislative season has started both in Raleigh and Washington.

Washington DC

The 111th Congress started in January and already the National FOP has our Collective Bargaining bill introduced. H.R. 413 "Public Safety Employer- Employee Cooperation Act" has been introduced in the House; we're still waiting on the Senate version but are hopeful it will be introduced soon. This bill would require states to collectively bargain with public safety (police, fire, and medic) on issues such as pay, benefits, working conditions, transfers. This will have a major effect on the way we do business here in North Carolina. This past week NC FOP members traveled to Washington DC and met with every Congressman / woman and both Senators from North Carolina to introduce them to our legislative priorities for the 111th Congress. Please take a few minutes to write your Representative and ask them to support H.R. 413. I'll keep you posted on the Senate bill when it is introduced. The quickest way to email, is visit the House of Representatives and the Senate web sites; there you will find short cuts to write your representative or senator. You can locate both at www.house.gov or www.senate.gov.

Top Legislative Priorities for the 111th Congress

- Social Security Issues
- H.R. 413 the "Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act"

2009 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: (Vacant)

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)

GLOCK DRAWING THIS TUESDAY!!

The Lodge will be holding the drawing for the Glock handgun raffle at the lodge meeting on Tuesday March 3rd. Come to find out if you won!

- Legislation protecting due process rights for law enforcement officers

Please check the National FOP web site for complete information all the bills supported and opposed by the National FOP at www.fop.net.

Raleigh

The 2009-2010 Legislative Session started on January 28th. NC FOP has a legislative priority list similar to the National Lodge. Our list includes the following:

- 25 year Retirement
- State Collective Bargaining Bill
- Due Process for Law Enforcement Officers
- Appointment of an FOP Member to the NC State Criminal Justice Training and Standards Commission
- Pay Roll Deduction for paying dues to professional organizations (FOP , IAFF and some others)

As of this date the only bill introduced from our priority list is H.B. 130. This bill, if passed would allow one person from the FOP to sit on the NC State Training and Standards Commission. We have argued for a number of years of the FOP should be represented on this commission, many other law enforcement organizations have seats on the commission and we feel we should as well. Some argue that since the FOP hires defense attorneys to represent officers in hearings in front of the commission we should not be involved. We argue that is all the more reason to allow the FOP to be a part of the Commission, any hearing involving an FOP member our representative would be excused from voting, however they would be involved in other decisions.

Please take the time to visit the NC Legislature web site at www.ncleg.net and locate your State Representative and ask them to support issues that affect our jobs.

I hope to see you at the meeting.

Randy Hagler

- **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 <http://ncfoplodge9.com/>
- The FOP annual \$10 Grand Giveaway (formally known as the Truck Raffle) is scheduled for Saturday, May 30th

NEW CLASS ANNOUNCED
Stanly Community College will offer a new online in-service course, Cyber Threats: Tracing an Email, from Monday, April 6th until Saturday, April 25th. It is free to sworn law enforcement officers. CMPD's Sergeant Walt Suarez is the instructor. To register, contact Christi Almond at calmond5263@stanly.edu or 704-991-0269. Class size is limited, so register early!

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.

[\(click to return to top\)](#)

BLUE LIGHT LOUNGE at the FOP

[\(click to return to top\)](#)

***Starting Friday February 20th, 7:00p - 10:00p
FREE Latin/Salsa lessons!***

- 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

[\(click to return to top\)](#)

- 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

[\(click to return to top\)](#)

- The Lodge lost a valuable member of our board with the passing of Chaplain Scott earlier this month. Chaplain Scott was well known and respected by many agencies, police and pastoral, within the community and will be missed by all.

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

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

[\(click to return to top\)](#)

Stanly County Community College

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

Stanly Community College will offer a new online in-service course, *Cyber Threats: Tracing an Email*, from Monday, April 6th until Saturday, April 25th.

It is free to sworn law enforcement officers.

CMPD's Sergeant Walt Suarez is the instructor. To register, contact Christi Almond at calmond5263@stanly.edu or 704-991-0269. Class size is limited, so register early!

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/>

[\(click to return to top\)](#)

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/>

[\(click to return to top\)](#)

- 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

[\(click to return to top\)](#)

- 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.