



North Carolina: Charlotte- Mecklenburg FOP Lodge #9

November 2008 Newsletter

2008, Number 11

In This Issue

- Next membership meeting: Tuesday November 4th at 1830 hours: Dinner will be served at 1745 hrs
 - **NO smoking during the membership meetings!**
- Important issues for all: News concerning the recent press release pertaining to Chief Monroe; Golf Tournament a success: Shop With A Cop-Christmas
- Become involved-join a committee!

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Contact Us

Ronnie Stinson-Lodge Secretary

ronniestinson@att.net

A letter from Skiddie Hurd, Vice President:

Brothers and Sisters,

In recent days, most of you have heard news media reports that the FOP has called to question Chief Monroe's Degree.

As a result of some of our members asking the FOP Board of Directors what they intended to do, or if we were going to take a position on the issue, your Board members felt in fairness to all it's members we should at least call into question the validity of the degree since VCU had conducted their investigations and several of it's staff had resigned as a result. We then directed President Hagler to compose a news release.

We were asking the City of Charlotte and our City Manager to do their job and correct the situation. We are NOT saying that Chief Monroe is doing a bad job; we are NOT saying he is not a capable man or leader. Do NOT read anything into this, other than the question: Does Chief Monroe have a valid degree?

Any one of our members with a valid degree who applied for a position would expect all other applicants to meet the standards and qualifications set forth for that position. An equal playing field should exist for all.

All of our active members are well aware of the vigorous and invasive back ground investigations we went through to become Law Enforcement Officers. We should expect no less from our city fathers when they narrow down a field of applicants for the position of Chief.

If a degree is a requirement in order to hold any position we MUST adhere to the rules for the sake of the integrity

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)

THE FIRST ANNUAL FOP LODGE 9 GOLF TOURNAMENT AT COWANS FORD COUNTRY CLUB



of our department and our officers. Our City fathers will ultimately decide the outcome of this issue, but we have at least made the voices of our membership heard with respect to doing the right thing. It cannot be a requirement for some and not for others. The FOP does not set city policy, nor do we decide job requirements. We strive for the betterment of all Law Enforcement Officers and try to assure you are treated fairly and equally no matter what the situation.

As a Board, we make the best decisions we can based on information we receive from you, our members. That being said, all the more reason for you to get involved, attend meetings and let us know what concerns you may have. Your concerns are our concerns.

For the protection of our members, we have not, do not and will not give out our membership roster. Hope to see you at our November meeting, Tuesday, November 4th.

Respectfully,
Skiddie Hurd
Vice President

THIS IS A COPY OF THE NEWS RELEASE CONCERNING CHIEF MONROE:

Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department finds itself in a most unusual situation involving the Chief of Police, Rodney Monroe. Questions concerning the validity of Chief Monroe's Bachelor degree awarded by Virginia Commonwealth University have been made public.

The Fraternal Order of Police represents more than 1,600 law enforcement officers from various agencies throughout Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, many of which work within CMPD. Recently a lot of our officers have felt their integrity has been called into question as well as that of Chief Monroe's. The City of Charlotte prides itself on choosing those applicants who are properly qualified for employment within CMPD; we should expect no less from those at the top of our organizational chart.

CMPD has earned the respect of law enforcement agencies across the country and many are watching to see how our city officials handle this atypical problem. Members of the FOP urge the City Manager, Mayor, and other elected city officials to uphold their oath of office by thoroughly investigating this situation and taking proper corrective action. Not only do the men and women that wear the badge deserve resolution with this issue the citizens we are

Tournament Director Stretch Haynes setting up the putting contest.



Golfers register for the tournament.



sworn to protect do as well.

The FOP is the largest Law Enforcement Organization in the country with more than 327,000 members nationwide.

President; FOP Lodge #9
Randy Hagler
704-609-0890

- Our first annual golf tournament was held Monday, October 13th at Cowans Ford Country Club. We had 22 teams turn out in support of this fund raiser for the lodge. The winning team with a score of 54 was: Sennett, Busker, Estes, and Kee! A delicious bar-b-que dinner was enjoyed after a great day of golfing and prior to awards being presented. Thanks to the Golf Tournament Director, “Stretch” Haynes for a doing such a great job, as well as to all who volunteered to help out!
- **Shop-with-a-Cop / Christmas** will be held at Target at University Place on December 20, 2008 at 0900hrs. Any member knowing of a needy family can contact Committee Chairman, Ben Pepitone through the Lodge at 704-376-3838.
- Dennis McCrary is now our National Trustee for the State lodge and because of his new position, he is resigning as State Trustee for Lodge 9. Nominations were taken for his replacement. The following members were nominated: Todd Walther and James “Andy” Martin. An election was held and Todd Walther is your new State Trustee.
- Several CMPD sergeants have filed a grievance with the Department of Labor (DOL) about overtime pay. This is the first step in the process.
- Dennis McCrary reported that the State conference focused on the statewide political races with many candidates speaking and asking for our support.
- An amendment was passed placing the NCFOP Immediate Past President on the Executive Board of the State Lodge.
- Karl “Stretch” Haynes offered a word of thanks to

The Bar-B-Que is prepared for the golfers.



our National President, Chuck Canterbury for speaking out on the Elizabeth Dole situation.

- A committee has been formed to get Lodge #9's website up and running. Members of the committee are Chairperson John DeCatsye, Cathy Hope, Kevin J. Flanagan, Doug Dellinger and James "Andy" Martin. The internet committee is up and running. The website is www.ncfoplodge9.org. Tom Costello is working with the committee and wishes to sell underwriting to support the website and its operation. Let us know what you think.
- 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.
- The Blue Knights News: Charlotte Chapter III of the Blue Knights is supporting a motorcycle ride for one of its members whose young brother is suffering from Osteosarcoma Cancer. On Saturday, November 8th you are invited to meet at the FOP Lodge on Hawthorne Lane at 8:30am and ride to Iron Horse Motorcycle in Monroe. The Poker Run is entitled "Have a Heart for Samy" after 10 year old Samy Munoz whose sister is a Charlotte Blue Knights member and a police officer with Stallings Police Dept. Learn more about Samy and the ride at <http://www.haveaheartforsamy.com/> Everyone is invited to meet at the lodge and ride to Iron Horse together.

Congratulations to these members for their successful election at the State Conference

Don Penix	Past President Immediate
Randy Hagler	State Vice president
Dennis McCrary	National Trustee

Upcoming North Carolina FOP events:



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

- The “10-13 Club” is planning a dinner cruise on the Lady of the Lake on November 8th. Boarding is at 1900 hrs. And the dinner and cruise is \$32.00 plus tax and tips. Anyone interested should contact Harvey Kaitowitz.
- 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.

Mindset of a Police Killer

(Provided by our Canadian partners)

On Dec. 21, 2001, Cst. Dennis Strongquill and his partner Cst. Brian Auger were on patrol near Russell Manitoba. They observed a pickup truck coming towards them which failed to dim its high beams and tuned around to stop the vehicle. Unbeknownst to the members, the pickup was stolen and operated by Danny Sand with his brother Robert Sand and Robert's girlfriend, Laurie Bell as passengers. The trio had been on a crime spree of B&E, robbery and auto theft across Alberta and Sask.

Upon pulling over the vehicle and before the members could get out, the passenger, Robert Sand, jumped out and opened fire on the police vehicle with a sawed off 12 gauge shotgun (one of 11 rifles and shotguns the suspects

had in their vehicle).

Upon taking the fire, the members tactically repositioned by reversing the police car out of the kill zone.

Unexpectedly, the suspects began chasing the police vehicle. The suspects chased them into the town of Russell, ramming the police car as they were attempting to pull into the parking lot of Russell Det. Robert Sand jumped out of the stolen pickup and fired multiple rounds from the 12 gauge shotgun into Cst Strongquill's side of the car. Cst. Strongquill subsequently died from multiple gunshot wounds. Cst. Auger returned fire causing the suspects to disengage, fleeing the scene. A massive manhunt ensued with more shots being fired at members. The incident ended in Sask where the suspects were located in a motel. Danny Sand was shot and killed by "F" Div ERT when, armed with a rifle, he climbed onto the roof of the motel and was about to fire at other members. Robert Sand and Laurie Bell were arrested.

The following is an excerpt of Sand's jailhouse journal. It gives an interesting insight into the mind of a cop killer and his attitude towards the police and the killing of a police officer. It was only a matter of chance that the incident occurred in Manitoba as Sand's original plan was to go to British Columbia. This incident is also a graphic reminder that a deadly incident can come to us at any time and without warning.

Excerpt;

I had a rather odd....realization today. I was in one of my moods. So I asked to see the pictures again of my case. There are pic's of trucks burnt, crashed shot up etc. Homes broken into, property of ours and others. And of course pics of the dead cop, shot up cop car and Dan. Now I've seen them before and without emotion, I've no more tears to shed. But I was looking at this man, on a table. And he had several shot gun wounds, to the side, back, chest etc. And I started to think, he's just a man, and shouldn't be dead. He had a family and friends, and now he is a body on a table. I realized it's not the man I'd hated, but the uniform he wore. His flag, colors of war. But seeing him without his uniform...I felt bad for the loss of his life.

But then I flipped to the pics of Dan, and my thoughts changed again. Because now I felt that the other man is right where he should be. And losses on both sides are always expected, only Dan took my place. And when I looked upon the cop car I felt pride, and remembered the battle. I remembered how these enemy soldiers fled in fear and cowardess. I saw how much damage I'd caused to their unit and smiled, from the knowledge, that the enemy isn't as strong as they want us to believe. But they should beware. That the moment they fly there flag, wear their

uniform. That there at war and people die in war, everyone has their enemies.

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 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.