



**LICKING COUNTY FOP
LODGE #127**

**STATE FOP LODGE OF THE YEAR
2007, 2010**



**LCFOP#127 Newsletter
January/February 2011**

www.fop127.com - www.fopohio.org - www.grandlodgefop.org

"Face adversity promptly and without flinching, and you will reduce its impact. Never run from anything and never ever quit."

Winston Churchill

Collective Bargaining Reform

Collective bargaining reform is upon us. This is no longer a debate about if it might happen, the debate is now when it is going to happen. The legislative team for the State Lodge has met with Sen. Shannon Jones and learned the following information about items in her draft of a collective bargaining bill. It has been assigned as Senate Bill 5:

- Elimination of collective bargaining rights for all state employees. The FOP represents about 900 members who are State employees.
- Eliminate pension pick-ups.
- Eliminate your ability to bargain for health care. You would be required by law to pay 20% of what-ever your employer provides. You would no longer be able to participate in negotiations about plan design or level of benefit.
- Binding Arbitration would be eliminated. Instead, you would negotiate as usual until after the fact-finder report. If both sides do not agree to the fact-finder report, the employer would implement all or PARTS of the report unilaterally and you would just keep negotiating with no end in sight.

The FOP has formed a coalition of all major police and fire associations across Ohio. We have hired a consultant to help us mount a campaign to save our binding arbitration rights and other aspects of the law. (Please know today that some aspects of the law will change, our goal is to preserve the absolutely vital parts of the law that we need.) We have begun to devise a strategy for the legislature. We are moving forward to try to protect your standard of living. It seems that facts get in the way of a good argument but, in the last five years there have been thousands of contracts negotiated for non-striking units and only 85 went to binding arbitration. There does not seem to be a legitimate reason for this massive push against collective bargaining. The FOP is going to call upon you to help with this campaign. We will need your help in this grassroots campaign. Calling legislators, knocking on doors, writing letters, sending emails. It will take all of us working together to protect our rights. WE NEED YOU TO BE ENGAGED IN THIS FIGHT. WE CANNOT DO IT ALONE. THE STATE LODGE CANNOT WIN THIS WITHOUT YOU. BE LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION.

The cost of this coalition/campaign to the FOP is around \$160,000.00. The State FOP Lodge has placed an assessment on each of the local lodges of \$7.00 a member to cover this cost. The cost to our FOP Lodge would be approximately \$1,750.00 to cover our approximate 250 members. At our lodge meeting on 02-07-2011, a motion was passed to collect the assessment from our members, \$7.00 a piece. Our budget is tight, as is everyone else's, but we don't have an extra \$1,750.00 to absorb this cost. Everyone agreed at the meeting that \$7.00 a member was a small price to pay for what is going to be the fight of our careers for our collective bargaining rights and our pensions.

For frequent updates you have several choices; send your email address to dlogan@fop127.com to be added to the email list, on Facebook you can "join" or "like" the pages "Protecting Ohio Protectors" or "Fraternal Order of Police Ohio". I will forward emails as I get them and both the Facebook pages are updated regularly.

Beasley Lounge - Key Cards, Drawings, etc...

The Beasley Lounge is now open at 6 pm and closing no later than 1 am on Monday's. Jen Michael will be your bartender. We reserve the right to close early if we do not have enough business. Call ahead (740-345-0416) and make sure we are still open or to let the bartender know you and your group will be coming in. So, come down on Monday nights and enjoy some time with your friends.

The key card system is up and running, as of February 1st, you WILL need your "blue" key card to enter "The Beasley Lounge". The key card serves several purposes; 1) we are a private club for members (and their guests) only, we must protect our liquor license, 2) security for the bartenders, 3) members with the "blue" key card have paid their dues. If they don't have one, then their dues aren't current and this can be addressed so they get their dues paid, 4) it will keep non-members out of "The Beasley Lounge" while events are going on in the Blue Line Banquet Hall. We thank everyone for their patience while this is implemented. As with any change there is always a little discomfort we hope everyone can adapt to having their key card with them to enter "The Beasley Lounge" and it doesn't take away from their experience while they are patronizing the FOP.

The Tuesday \$2 weekly drawing is currently over \$400.00, it only costs \$2.00 to get signed up. The Tuesday \$1 weekly drawing, is over \$250.00 and costs just \$1 to sign up. Both drawings are every Tuesday night at 8pm, unless it is a meeting night and then the drawings will follow the meeting.

The end of month drawing for February is Friday 02-25 at 9pm. We will have at least four pots of \$500.00 to try and give away to a lucky member. The end of month drawing only costs \$5.00 to sign up. You can sign up for any of the drawings anytime the Beasley Lounge is open, you don't have to wait for the night of the drawing.

We have Bell's Winter White Ale (wheat beer) on tap and it is the last keg of the Winter White Ale for the season. Oberon will be back out I the Spring. We also have New Holland "The Poet" (oatmeal stout), Coors light, and Bud Light on tap. We also have your favorite bottled beers and well drinks.

Hours of operation - Monday 6p-1a (Jen Michael), Tuesday/Wednesday 4:00p-1a (Jenni Emde), Thursday 4p-1a (Heather Angus), Friday 4p-1a (Jen Michael), Saturday 6p-1a (Amber Knerr or surprise??)

President
Darrin D. Logan
Newark PD

Vice President
Mark Emde
Heath PD

Secretary
Erik McKee
Newark PD

Treasurer
Paul Davis
Newark PD

Past President
John Mason
Heath PD

Sgt. At Arms
Jay Gowans
Retired LCSO

Chaplain
Cliff Biggers
Newark PD

Lodge Trustees

Retired
Jim Landis
Retired LCSO

Small Agencies
Scott Fulton
Adult Probation

Heath PD
Mark Phillips

Newark PD
Adam Pfannenschmidt

LCSO
Marc Brill

Pataskala PD
Mike Reitz

Granville PD
Shawn Wilson

Pension Reform Introduced in the Ohio House

Ohio House Representative Lynn Wachtman of Napoleon has introduced House Bill 69, which will increase your costs and reduce your benefits in all five Ohio public pension systems. These reforms are due to the mandate that each system be 30 year funded. OPERS was already 30 year funded but have decided to introduce a bunch of re-forms anyway, including the following:

- 50 years of age with at least 25 years of service
- Cola matches the CPI, not to exceed 3%
- 5 year Final Average Salary
- Disability changes
- Purchase of service must be actuarially neutral
- Increase the amount earned each year to gain full credit for a year of service credit

Ohio Police and Fire were not 30 year funded and the Fund produced a plan to get them to 36 year funding levels (which is slightly worse than 30 year funded) and they were roundly attacked by members of the Ohio House. So, more reforms will be presented shortly. The OP&F plan includes:

- An increase in member contributions from 10% to 12.25%, upon effective date of pension reform legislation
- Raising normal service retirement age to 52 from 48 for new hires
- Delay cost of living adjustments (COLA) until age 55 (except for beneficiaries)
- Changing the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) interest rate to the 10-year Treasury rate, with a cap of 5%
- Redefine "average annual salary" as the highest 5 years of contributions (from 3 years) for those members with 15 years of service or less
- Changing the minimum DROP participation period to 5 years (from 3)
- Eliminate COLAs while participating in DROP
- Tie health care premium subsidy to years of service
- Reduce the percentage of member contributions that are credited to DROP accruals
- Create a variable percentage health care contribution to achieve a 36-year pension funding period

Please visit the pension system websites to get the full details and information about the proposed changes. **Important! Each member needs to know that the bill may not include just those things that have been recommended by the pension systems. The bill will likely include provisions relating to pension pick-up, so called "double-dipping," and other things that are not related to the health of the pension plans. They are changes that will not be done to preserve your pension.**

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation - Battle of the Badges - FOP Challenge

The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation is asking all F.O.P. Lodges across Ohio to show their solidarity and support for Ohio law enforcement by sponsoring a team or pledging \$100 for the 2011 "Battle of the Badges" event. "Battle of the Badges" is an exhilarating stair climbing competition where hundreds of firefighters and law enforcement officers form two person or four person relay teams and race up 40 flights of stairs in Columbus, at the Rhodes Tower, Ohio's tallest building. The toughest competitors tackle all of the flights on their own and the fastest solo climbers are awarded medals by Arnold Schwarzenegger during the Arnold Sports Festival — the largest multi sports festival in the world. Every FOP Lodge who sponsors a team or pledges \$100 before February 23rd will be listed in the program of this high profile event. Checks made out to "CFF" can be mailed to:

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
740 Lakeview Plaza Blvd, Suite 225
Worthington, OH 43085



To register a team or for more information, please go to: <http://www.centralohioevents.com/climb>

Seeking Inaugural "Century Club" members - State FOP

The FOP of Ohio Foundation has started the "Century Club" to raise money to pay for our charitable outreach, including CIRS. The Century Club is limited to the first 300 people who reserve a position in the Club. Those people will be entered into a weekly drawing for \$50, they will get a special lapel pin and will have a chance to win BIG at that the upcoming launch party at our 2011 State Conference. Please reserve your number now by contacting Nick DiMarco at ndimarco@fopohio.org. Your contribution will likely be tax deductible as well, (seeking 501(c)(3) - Charity designation) so don't delay and join today!

LCFOP#127 on Facebook

There are also many recent links to articles being published around the state about collective bargaining and pension reform. Take the time to read some of them to be informed. We are now on Facebook. Look up Licking County Lodge #127 and join our group. There are pictures from events, postings for drawings, a discussion board, and other valuable information. This is another way to be in contact with our members, since we do not have emails for everyone.

LCFOPA#10 on Facebook

Licking County F.O.P.A. #10 is now on Facebook. Look them up and join the group. There will be pictures, posting, and other pertinent information for the FOPA members, since emails have not been furnished for all the members.

Upcoming Events

2011

Jan 1 - New Year's Day

Jan 4 - LCFOP#127 Executive Board Meeting @ 6:30pm

Jan 4 - FOPA #10 Monthly Meeting @ 6:30pm

Jan 4 - LCFOP#127 Monthly Meeting @ 7:30pm

Jan 4 - Weekly Drawing after monthly meetings

Jan 11 - Weekly Drawing @ 8 PM

Jan 18 - Weekly Drawing @ 8 PM

Jan 25 - Weekly Drawing @ 8 PM

Jan 28 - End of Month Drawing @ 9 PM

Jan 28-29 Winter Board Meeting in Columbus

Feb 1 - LCFOP#127 Executive Board Meeting @ 6:30pm

Feb 1 - FOPA #10 Monthly Meeting @ 6:30pm

Feb 1 - LCFOP#127 Monthly Meeting @ 7:30pm

Feb 1 - Weekly Drawing after monthly meetings

Feb 8 - Weekly Drawing @ 8 PM

Feb 12 - Valentine's Day Party @

Feb 15 - Weekly Drawing @ 8 PM

Feb 19 - Jack of Hearts drawing @9pm

Feb 22 - Weekly Drawing @ 8 PM

Feb 25 - End of Month Drawing @ 9 PM

Feb 26 - Polar Bear Plunge (Special Olympics)

Geneva-On-the-Lake, OH

Feb 26 - Jack of Hearts drawing @9pm

Mar 1 - LCFOP#127 Executive Board Meeting @ 6:30pm

Mar 1 - FOPA #10 Monthly Meeting @ 6:30pm

Mar 1 - LCFOP#127 Monthly Meeting @ 7:30pm

Mar 1 - Weekly Drawing after monthly meetings

Mar 5 - Climb For A Cure (Cystic Fibrosis Foundation)

Mar 5 - Jack of Hearts drawing @9pm

Mar 8 - Weekly Drawing @ 8 PM

Mar 12 - Jack of Hearts drawing @9pm

Mar 15 - Weekly Drawing @ 8:00 PM

Mar 19 - Jack of Hearts drawing @9pm

Mar 22 - Weekly Drawing @ 8:00 PM

Office Hours

Wednesday
8 AM until 4 PM
Mary Stare, Admin. Assistant

Beasley Lounge Hours

Mon 6 PM - 1 AM
Tue - Fri 4 PM - 1 AM
Saturday 6 PM - 1 AM
Closed Sun & Mon

255 South 6th Street
P.O. Box 944
Newark, Ohio 43058-0944

Office: 740-345-4831
Beasley Lounge/Fax: 740-345-0416
Contact the President at:
dlogan@fop127.com
(Or cell # 740-404-8511)