

THE REPORT



Vincit Omnia Veritas

Maryland Troopers Association, Inc.

February 2011



President's Message

Greetings:

As many of you are aware, the Maryland Troopers Association and the Maryland State Police Alumni Association held our Legislative Reception in Annapolis on February 17, 2011. We are very happy to report that the reception went exceptionally well drawing a very large crowd of legislators and their staff. As always, the fare catered by Costas Inn for this event was a hit and helped to set the stage for some meaningful conversations. I would like to again thank the Board of Directors of the Maryland State Police Alumni Association for lending financial support to this year's reception. In these tough economic times, joining our collective resources to meet necessary expenses is certainly cost effective for both organizations. I would also like to thank Colonel Sheridan for joining us at the reception and attending the event.

Throughout the country, states are seeking solutions to the growing costs of funding defined benefit retirement systems.. In many of these states, drastic measures are being considered. As we have reported in past issues of the "Report", Maryland has established a commission to study the problems facing our system and to make recommendations to the legislature to ensure the sustainability of our systems. We have monitored the work of this commission from it's inception and will continue to do so until their work is complete. The legislative reports by our lobbyist will keep you abreast of the recommendations made and the resulting legislation which may be introduced. As time goes on, there may be a need for members to become more actively involved in the process of preserving our benefits. We hope that you will remain current on pending legislation that may have a negative impact on your future and make your opinion known to your legislative representatives.

That being said, I will once again ask all of our members to make an effort to become more involved in the organization by attending your local lodge meetings and to consider assuming a leadership role. The organization is only as strong as it's membership. We need the participation and experience of all our members to remain a strong and effective group. I would like to recognize and thank all our members who have shouldered the responsibilities as officers of local lodges. We truly appreciate your hard work and dedication. Until next time, I remain...

Fraternally yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Kirk Daugherty". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "M".

M. Kirk Daugherty
President

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The Maryland Troopers Association's February 2011 Executive Board Meeting was called to order on February 17, 2011 at 1600 hours by President Kirk Daugherty. Vice-President Chris Sasse, Secretary Treasurer Vicki Patterson and Executive Director Bob Devers were present. Roll call was taken by the Secretary/Treasurer and the following Lodge Presidents were present:

Tri-County - C. Horner; Lodge 1 - D. Cameron; Lodge 13 - D. Morris; Lodge 14 - R. Ruff; Lodge 15 - A. Michael, Lodge 17 - B. Gill; Lodge 19 - S. Murphy; Lodge 20 - E. Bredenburg; Lodge 40 - O. Artfitch; Lodge 51 - P. Grotte; Lodge 76 - J. McLeary; Lodge 88 - Excused; Lodge 96 - C. Creswell. With a quorum present, the President declared the meeting in order.

The minutes from the January 2011 Executive Board meeting were distributed and reviewed. A motion was made by Lodge 76 to adopt the minutes as recorded. The motion was seconded by Tri-County Lodge and the motion passed.

President

M. Kirk Daugherty

Kirk noted that he assisted with the WBAL Polar Bear Plunge telethon on January 29, 2011. He would like to thank all of our members who came out so early in the morning to participate in this most worthy cause.

Vice-President

Christopher Sasse

Chris also assisted with the telethon at WBAL and attended the February Finance Committee meeting in Pikesville.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Vicki Patterson

Nothing to Report

Executive Director's Report

Robert Devers

Nothing to Report

National Troopers Coalition Liaison

Charles Horner

I attended the National Troopers Coalition Spring 2011 Conference at the Omni Hotel in Austin, Texas on February 3 - 4, 2011. Below is a copy of the NTC Executive Directors

PSOB - During the waning days of the 111th Congress, the whirlwind of activity from around the country signified a last ditch effort to get many of the last two years' anticipated bills voted out of the Senate and the House. In the days leading up to the end of the 111th, the efforts of the NTC staff to get the Employer - Employee Cooperation Act of 2009 passed were tireless. Amongst, Brad Card, the Executive Board, the McGuiness team, no stone was left unturned. But, unfortunately, it was not to be. As usual, partisan politics played a major part in the timing of the release of the bill that was eventually voted down. And partisan politics was its downfall.

9/11 Health (Zadroga) Bill - We were successful in our collective lobbying efforts to get the 9/11 Health Bill passed. This also occurred at the last minute due to some grass roots campaigning efforts of many groups, led by the NYPD unions, NAPO, FLEOA, the NTC and many others. Although this bill did not affect any NTC member, we know those public servants who have suffered excruciating illnesses as a result of time spent at Ground Zero, will now have an additional ray of hope.

"National Trooper" Magazine - We are up and away with the inaugural issue of "National Trooper", the magazine. I need to implore all the states (those with magazines and even those without) who wish to submit articles for the first issue to be published shortly after the February meeting, to submit those articles to me as soon as possible (to: NTCExecDir@aol.com). I have requested that retired Delaware Trooper Jim Woznicki assist us with the mechanics of the magazine. Jim Woznicki has coordinated the Delaware State Troopers Association's magazine for the last fifteen years. With the assistance of McKnight Publishing, we have been able to publish at a very minimal cost. Of course, with the magazine comes the request for sponsorships. We have utilized as many contacts, friends, corporate and business sponsors as possible in order to facilitate. We have tried to minimize the number of corporate and business sponsors so as not to dilute the magazine. We are still at a point less than our goal to feel as comfortable as we wish in this project. The sponsorship efforts will continue. Conversations have been ongoing with

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On Star, Rosetta Stone, Lorillard, and others.

IRS Proposal - Our previous discussions have been to give the IRS and their current committee a different direction to proceed with this issue. We have discussed having them provide an exemption for police and fire (public safety). We are relying on legislators such as Senator Chuck Schumer (D - N.Y.) and others to assist us with the campaign to educate the IRS on why this is such a bad idea. Letters have gone out to the IRS and Senator George Miller to also point out our position. The extension of the regulation to governmental plans was opposed by a broad coalition of national organizations including the National Association of State Retirement Administrators (NASRA), National Council on Teacher Retirement (NCTR), National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems (NCPERS), National Council of State Legislatures (NCSL), the National Association of Counties (NACO), the United States Conference of Mayors (USCM), the National League of Cities (NLC), the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), American Federation of Teachers (AFT), International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), and the National Education Association (NEA)

Grants - We are currently working on a number of Grants and have invited the National Institute of Justice to Austin who will speak to us and hopefully provide more insight into the process.

PSA / D block - We are part of the Public Safety Alliance (PSA) The PSA reiterates the overwhelming and diverse national public safety organizational support for Congress and the Obama Administration to pass legislation that would reallocate the D Block to public safety. Representatives of the PSA will again travel to the nation's Capital this month to advocate for legislation that would allocate the D Block spectrum to public safety, along with funding to support the build-out and upkeep of a nationwide, mission-critical grade, interoperable public safety broadband network. This is one of the most critical issues facing public safety in 2011, and we need the NTC to help to urge Congress to pass legislation that will benefit our emergency first responders, and the people they are sworn to protect.

Website - We eagerly anticipate the "ribbon cutting" on the

new and refurbished NTC Website. At the recent Executive Board meeting held in Albany, N.Y., on November 1, it was approved to have the NTC website refurbished and upgraded. We will be using Mike Trepeta of Ace Marketing, 877-ACE-PROMO, www.acemarketing.net, to create a new site. As part of the project, Ace Marketing is going to substantially discount any state that does not have a website, that has one currently being constructed, or has an old, antiquated site, that they wish to have replaced. Ace Marketing provided demos at the Executive Board meeting and at the East Regional meeting held in Foxwoods, Conn., on November 8. All present were pleased with the presentation. As part of the creation of the new NTC site, Ace Marketing is offering to build a new / or replace a current state's system for \$750.00 (a one time creation cost) and a \$50.00 a month maintenance fee. This state site will feed directly into the new NTC site so your information will also receive national exposure.

The Delaware State Troopers Association and the Wisconsin Troopers Association have already signed on and you may contact either Tom Brackin or Glen Jones or any Executive Board member for their opinions and comments.

I would strongly urge any state that is considering shopping around for different website companies, to either contact Mike Trepeta or stand down on any further shopping until Ace Marketing's presentation before the entire membership.

Non NTC States - We have been in communication with the Nevada and Tennessee Trooper's Associations in hopes of garnishing support for membership. Reportedly, the next Western States meeting will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada, sometime in March, 2011. Members of the Tennessee Troopers have also been observed on the NTC Communicator, thus an interest shown.

Legislative Reception - Start thinking about coming into DC during May, 2011. We would like to hold a reception (most likely at Brad Card's offices) in conjunction with Police Week so that you may invite your federal representatives in for you and us to speak to them personally.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

By-Laws: S. Murphy - Nothing to Report

Finance: R. Devers for J. Diggs - On February 2, 2011 the

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Finance Committee held its monthly meeting at the MTA Office. In attendance were Finance Chairperson Jay Diggs, Bill Bernard, Earl Bredenburg, Pete Edge, Bob Kirk, Walt Mills, Mike Smith, Vice President Sasse and Executive Director Bob Devers.

MEETING DATES: March 8, 2011, 10am @ the MTA office; April 5, 2011, 10am @ the MTA Office

STATE OF THE MTA:

1. UBS Account – \$527,836

OLD BUSINESS:

1. The Board approved January's Finance Report
2. The 2011 Convention. – Nothing to report at this time

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Requests for Donations: None
2. FORM 106 REVIEWS:
 - A. Lobbyist Bernard Shaw's Form 106 for January 2011 in the amount of \$595.18 was reviewed. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept this report.
 - B. Executive Director Bob Dever's Form 106 for January 2011 in the amount of \$50.72 was reviewed. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept this report.
3. The Treasurer's Report for January 2011 was reviewed. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept this report.
4. Affinity Program with Bank of America BOA – BOA has decided not to renew our affinity program that expires on July 1, 2011 because "without national exposure and scalability we don't fit into their business model." As such, the use of the MTA credit card will no longer benefit the MTA when the contract expires. The Finance Committee will be exploring other affinity programs and we will keep you posted on developments.
5. The Finance Committee members are reviewing an Affiliate Partner Program involving energy. Should this prove to be beneficial to the MTA we will be

making a recommendation to the Board.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Time Start: 1000 hours Time Ended: 1230 hours .

President called for a motion to accept the Finance Committee Report as presented. Tri-County Lodge made the motion which was seconded my Lodge 76 and passed.

Legislative/Political Action: Bernie Shaw -

House Bill 72/Senate Bill 87 – Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2011, Administration - Altering or repealing specified required appropriations; altering the distribution of specified revenues; altering or repealing specified funding requirements; altering the authorized use of specified funds; authorizing specified fees; establishing a reformed contributory pension benefit for the new members of the Employees' Pension System and the Teachers' Pension System on or before July 1, 2011; etc. There are some aspects of this bill which will have an adverse impact and when it comes up, I will review it with the Board.

House Bill 166/Senate Bill 182 – Maryland Health Benefit Exchange Act of 2011, The Speaker, The President of the Senate, Administration - Establishing the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange as an independent unit of State government; establishing the purposes, powers, and duties of the Exchange; establishing the Board of Trustees of the Exchange; providing for the qualifications, appointment, term, and removal of members of the Board; establishing the powers and duties of the Board; requiring the Board to appoint an Executive Director of the Exchange, with the approval of the Governor, and to determine the Executive Director's compensation; etc.

House Bill 249/Senate Bill 199-State Retirement and Pension System – Direct Mailings by Retiree Organizations – Repeal of Sunset Provision, Delegate Proctor/Senator Glassman - Repealing the June 30, 2011 termination of provisions of law that allow retiree organizations to send direct mailings to retirees of the State Retirement and Pension System.

House Bill 303 – State Retirement and Pension System – Employee Contribution Rate, Delegate Stocksdales, et. al. Increasing the employee contribution rate for specified members of the State Retirement and Pension System to 7%

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of members' earnable compensation.

House Bill 305 – State Retirement and Pension System – Vesting and Eligibility, Delegate Stocksdale, et. al. - Increasing the number of years of service specified members of the State Retirement and Pension System must accrue to vest in specified retirement and pension systems of the State Retirement and Pension System from 5 years to 15 years; and altering the eligibility requirements that specified members of the State Retirement and Pension System must meet in order to qualify for a normal service retirement allowance.

House Bill 330 – Firearms – Detachable Magazines – Maximum Capacity for Ammunition, Delegate Gutierrez, et. al. - Altering the maximum capacity for ammunition in a detachable magazine for a firearm that can be manufactured, sold, offered for sale, purchased, received, or transferred; and altering the number of rounds of ammunition in a magazine or an assault pistol which, when used by a person in the commission of a felony or a crime of violence, results in that person being guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to specified penalties. Discussion was held concerning the impact this bill would have on those who currently own firearms with affected magazine capacity. The Board indicated that the bill should be amended to exempt current owners and if not, the MTA would oppose.

House Bill 334/Senate Bill 360 – State Retirement and Pension System – Completing and Submitting an Application for Service Retirement, Delegate Griffith, Senator Jones-Rodwell, Joint Committee on Pensions - Providing that a department head, the Secretary of State Police, or a State or county superintendent of schools may complete and submit an application for service retirement instead of disability retirement on behalf of a member of the State Retirement and Pension System who is unable to complete and submit a disability retirement application.

House Bill 335/Senate Bill 356 – State Retirement and Pension System, Military Service Credit – Eligibility, Delegate Griffith,/Senator Jones-Rodwell, Joint Committee on Pensions - Altering the criteria used to determine the eligibility of a member of the State Retirement and Pension System to receive service credit for military service so as to require 10 years of service credit in the State Retirement and Pension System through employment as a member of a State system.

House Bill 338/Senate Bill 359 – State Retirement and Pension System – Unclaimed Money – Former Members, Retirees, and Beneficiaries, Delegate Griffith/ Senator Jones-Rodwell, Joint Committee on Pensions - Authorizing the State Retirement Agency to post the names of former members, retirees, or beneficiaries of former members or retirees of the State Retirement and Pension System and the last participating employer of the former members or retirees on the State Retirement Agency's Web site if the former members, retirees, or beneficiaries are entitled to unclaimed money from the State Retirement and Pension System.

HB 435 – Optional Retirement Program – Supplemental Retirement Plans – Employee Contributions, Delegate Bohanan - Altering the methods available to members of the Optional Retirement Program for making employee contributions to supplemental retirement accounts.

House Bill 494 – State Retirement and Pension System – Vesting and Eligibility, Delegate Aumann - Altering the eligibility requirements that specified members of the State Retirement and Pension System must meet in order to qualify for a service retirement allowance; and altering the number of years from 5 years to 10 years of service that members of the State Retirement and Pension System must accrue to vest in specified retirement and pension systems of the State Retirement and Pension System.

House Bill 513 – Vehicle Laws – Single Registration Plate, Delegate Elliott, et. al. - Requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to issue a single registration plate to all classes of vehicles; requiring that the registration plate be attached on the front of tractors and on the rear of all other vehicles; and requiring the publisher of the Annotated Code to make specified corrections. The Board indicated that they would oppose this bill.

House Bill 586 – Income Tax – Subtraction Modification for Retirement Income, Delegate Gilchrist, et. al. - Altering the calculation of the maximum subtraction modification allowed under the Maryland income tax for specified retirement income under specified circumstances; including income from specified rollover individual retirement accounts in the subtraction modification under specified circumstances; applying the Act to tax years after 2010; etc.

House Bill 622 – Fairness in Taxation for Retirees Act, Delegate Krebs, et. al. - Including income from specified

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retirement plans within a subtraction modification allowed under the Maryland income tax for retired individuals who are at least 65 years old or who are disabled or whose spouse is disabled; altering the determination of the maximum annual benefit under the Social Security Act for specified purposes; applying the Act to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2010; etc.

House Bill 673/Senate Bill 699 – State Law Enforcement Officers – Collective Bargaining – Certain Police Employees, Delegate Clagett/Senator Klausmeier - Establishing collective bargaining rights for specified State law enforcement officers represented by the State Law Enforcement Officers Labor Alliance; specifying which police employees are eligible to participate in the collective bargaining process; establishing that the Act applies only to the negotiation of a specified memorandum of understanding; requiring specified individuals or entities to designate one or more representatives to participate as a party in collective bargaining; etc. The MTA would support this bill.

House Bill 727/Senate Bill 799 – State Retirement and Pension System – Retirees and Beneficiaries of Retirees – Annual Retirement Allowance Adjustments, Delegate Griffith/Senator Jones-Rodwell, Joint Committee on Pensions - Providing that annual retirement allowance adjustments for retirees of the State Retirement and Pension System shall be a specified amount under specified circumstances; requiring that annual retirement allowances for retirees of the State Retirement and Pension System be reduced by a specified amount under specified circumstances; etc. This legislation addresses the negative COLA issue allowing the Retirement System to defer any negative COLA to a positive COLA year.

House Bill 866 – Employees' Retirement System – Purchase of Service Credit – Former Members, Delegate Stein - Providing that specified former members of the Employees' Retirement System may purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System from September 1, 1971, through April 30, 1976, at specified costs; requiring specified former members of the Employees' Retirement System who choose to purchase service credit to pay to the Board of Trustees of the State Retirement and Pension System the specified cost for the service credit from September 1, 1971, through April 30, 1976; etc.

House Bill 884 – State Personnel – Collective Bargaining – Payment of Service Fees, Delegate Bates, et. al. - Prohibiting collective bargaining for State employees from including negotiations relating to the payment of service fees to an employee organization by nonmembers through the automatic deduction of the service fees from the wages of nonmembers.

House Bill 1061 – State Retirement and Pension System – Local Educators and Librarians – Local Employer Contributions, Delegate Kramer, et. al. - Proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution prohibiting the General Assembly from requiring any political subdivision of the State to pay the employer contributions on behalf of any employee of the political subdivision who is a member of the Teachers' Retirement System or Teachers' Pension System; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the State for their adoption or rejection.

House Bill 1155 – Pension Reform Act of 2011, Delegate Smigiel - Requiring the State to discontinue specified prescription drug benefits for Medicare-eligible retirees beginning in fiscal year 2013; prohibiting the Chief Investment Officer for the State Retirement and Pension System from hiring or renewing a contract with specified external investment managers on or after July 1, 2011; requiring that, on or after July 1, 2011, specified individuals are required to join the optional retirement program as a condition of employment; etc.

Senate Bill 540/House Bill 951 – State Retirement and Pension System – Optional Allowances and Designated Beneficiaries – Changes to Elections, Senator Colburn/Delegate Eckardt - Providing that retirees of the State Retirement and Pension System who retired on or before June 30, 2005, and elected to receive a specified reduced retirement allowance may change that election to a different specified reduced retirement allowance on or before December 31, 2011; providing that specified retirees of the State Retirement and Pension System may change the retirees' designated beneficiaries under specified circumstances; etc.

Senate Bill 6 – Optional Retirement Program – State and Participating Governmental Unit Employees – Participation, Senator Colburn - Providing that only individuals serving as Governor on or before January 18, 2011, are eligible for a defined benefit retirement allowance; providing that, on or

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after July 1, 2011, specified individuals are not eligible to join the Employees' Pension System, the Teachers' Pension System, the State Police Retirement System, the Correctional Officers' Retirement System, the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System, or the Judges' Retirement System; etc.

Senate Bill 448/House Bill 920 – State Personnel – Applicants for Employment – Criminal History Records Checks, Senator Pugh, et. al./Delegate Proctor, et. al. - Prohibiting the Judicial, Executive, and Legislative branches of State government from inquiring into the criminal record or criminal history of an applicant for employment until the applicant is selected for an interview; providing that the Act does not prohibit the Judicial, Executive, or Legislative Branch of State government from notifying an applicant for employment of specified information; etc.

Senate Bill 628 – State Health and Retirement Benefits – Public Employees and Retirees, Senator Miller - Altering the eligibility requirements for State employees receiving health benefits under the State Employee and Retiree Health and Welfare Benefits Program; requiring that by July 1, 2020, the State discontinue a specified prescription drug benefit plan available to specified retirees; requiring specified local employers to pay a specified portion of employer contributions for specified members of the Teachers' Retirement System or the Teachers' Pension System; etc.

Senate Bill 629 – Teachers' Retirement and Pension Systems, Local Employer Contributions, Senators Pipkin and Brinkley - Providing for the calculation of a payment of a portion of the employer contributions for local school board employees and community college employees who are members of the Teachers' Retirement System or the Teachers' Pension System; requiring counties to pay a portion of the employer contributions for local school board employees and community college employees who are members of the Teachers' Retirement System or the Teachers' Pension System; etc.

Senate Bill 680 – Public Safety – Regulated Firearms – Exemption from Training Course, Senator Brinkley - Providing an exemption from specified requirements to complete a specified firearms training course if an individual is a retired law enforcement officer of a unit of the federal government, the State, or any local law enforcement agency in the State.

Senate Bill 735 – State Retirement and Pension System – Optional Retirement Program – New Employees, Senators Pipkin and Brinkley - Providing that State employees beginning State employment on or after July 1, 2011, are not eligible to join the Employees' Pension System, the Teachers' Pension System, the State Police Retirement System, the Correctional Officers' Retirement System, the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System, or the Judges' Retirement System and are required to join the optional retirement program; etc.

Senate Bill 837/House Bill 1075 – Death Penalty Repeal, Senator Gladden, et. al./Delegate Rosenberg, et. al. - Repealing the death penalty; repealing procedures and requirements related to the death penalty; providing that in specified cases in which the State has filed a notice to seek a sentence of death, the notice shall be considered withdrawn and it shall be considered a notice to seek a sentence of life imprisonment without the possibility of parole under specified circumstances; providing that specified persons serving life sentences are not eligible for Patuxent Institution under specified circumstances; etc. Discussion was held and the Board indicated that the MTA would oppose this legislation.

Senate Bill 844 – State Retirement and Pension System – Transfer of Service Credit, Senator Stone - Providing that specified members of the Employees' Pension System may transfer specified service credit from the State Contributory Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System in a specified manner; requiring that specified members of the Employees' Pension System who transfer service credit complete and file certain forms with the Board of Trustees of the State Retirement and Pension System on or before December 31, 2011; etc.

Legal Advisory - C. Creswell for G. Tracey - Nothing to Report

Minority Affairs - Ron Ruff - Nothing to Report

Scholarship: Brian Kloos - Excused- As a reminder - Scholarship applications are available at the MTA office. Interested members and dependants should contact the office at your earliest convenience. Completed applications must be received prior to March 31, 2011.

Retirees: Dave Cameron - Nothing to report.

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SLEOLA - J. Dulay - We are back at the bargaining table and have had one session thus far with another scheduled for next week. There are a few things that we are pursuing legislatively. One is collective bargaining and another is the Governor's proposal to abolish the DROP for all new hires and non-vested members. A copy of the SLEOLA handout is attached. I have meetings scheduled with 30 key members of the General Assembly to give them some factual information concerning this proposal.

LODGE REPORTS

Lodge 1 - D. Cameron - An issue was raised at the Prince Frederick Barrack concerning the need for a camera and monitor so that the parking lot and rear door can be monitored by the duty officer.

Lodge 14 - R. Ruff - Ron welcomed Lt. Roland Butler to the Forestville Barrack and looks forward to working with him.

Lodge 20 - E. Bredenburg - Noted that the MSP came through with flying colors in their participation in the funeral for Retired Sergeant Dattilio. He was laid out in full uniform with all military honors. It went very well.

Lodge 40 - O. Artfitch - I would like to thank Sgt. Neil and Trooper Brown from the Waterloo Barrack for their assistance when my wife and I found ourselves to be victims of a crime in Baltimore. They came to our aid and made sure that we made it home safely.

Lodge 88 - B. Kloos - Brian posed a question to B. Gill, MTA SLEOLA Representative, concerning the implementation of the 10 hour day for specialized units within FOB. Brian indicated that he thought the rule applied to road patrol at field installations only but that he would check to find out for sure.

There were no other lodge reports

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion was held concerning the Legislative Reception and the scheduling of the February, 2011 MTA Board of Directors meeting. A motion was made by Lodge 1 to hold

the Board meeting prior to the reception at Miller Senate Office Building at 4:00 PM. The motion was seconded by Lodge 14 and passed.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

At 5:35 P.M. a motion to adjourn was made by Lodge 14, seconded by Lodge 14 and passed. The next scheduled meeting will be held on February 17, 2011 at the Miller Senate Office Building in Annapolis.



For all your cruise and land based vacation needs contact Dale and Donna Petty, your ACC Certified cruise specialist. We are an independently owned and operated full service travel agency and are here to help you plan your next vacation! We give all MTA members an on board credit to be used in any way you like in addition to all credits and amenities offered by the cruise lines! Sign up for email alerts at www.ChangesInLatitudeCruises.com for an additional credit on your first sailing! Have a question? Email us at LatitudeCruises@aol.com or call us at 386-668-9562.

Chesapeake Investment Advisors Martin Knight

If you have questions concerning the DROP (or any other investment issues), give Marty a call (410-810-0735). The best time to do the research is before your exit-date so very little time is lost reinvesting your assets. Marty can help your transition from active State Trooper to retired investor. And rest assured, he will always put your financial interests first.

Martin Knight
Chesapeake Investment Advisors
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Some Facts About the

DROP

As Governor, I will work with you to make your DROP plan more competitive.

Martin O'Malley
Oct. 2006

The **Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP)** was established by statute and contract in 2000. State troopers and State law enforcement officers (as well as many county and municipal police officers) are eligible to participate in the DROP. After supporting the DROP for many years, Governor O'Malley has proposed eliminating the DROP for non-vested current State law enforcement officers and all future hires.

Facts about the DROP:

- **Most importantly, the DROP is Actuarially Neutral: it does not cost the State any additional money and eliminating it would not save the State any money.**
- The Pension & Benefits Sustainability Committee reviewed the DROP in 2010 and recommended that the DROP should be maintained, NOT eliminated.
- The DROP results in lower monthly pension payments to participants after final separation since they collect a lower percentage of a lower salary than if they retired after the same number of years without participating in the DROP.
- In the DROP, troopers / officers "retire" but continue to work for their respective agencies.
- The DROP participant's retirement allowance is deposited into a DROP account which earns interest until the employee's final separation from State service.
- State Police and other State law enforcement agencies retain experienced officers longer than they would without the DROP since those officers have incentive to continue to serve.
- Agencies can plan for vacancies since a DROP participant has a definite retirement date.
- The DROP is offered by many county police agencies in Maryland. Eliminating it for State law enforcement officers will further hurt State Police recruiting efforts.
- It encourages fiscal responsibility and ensures officers are better prepared for retirement.
- Governor O'Malley's plan eliminates the DROP for State troopers and other State law enforcement officers but not for county or municipal police officers who are members of the Law Enforcement Officers Pension System (LEOPS - a STATE pension system).
- Elimination of the DROP would create a system that penalizes STATE troopers and STATE law enforcement officers, but continues to benefit county and municipal police officers.

DON'T DROP THE DROP



For additional information, please contact the
State Law Enforcement Officers Labor Alliance

www.sleola.com

Jimmy Dulay, President

(410) 897-0048

