Memorial Society Announces Expansion of Memorial

By Kathy Delaney

The Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society announced its plan for an expansion of their Memorial, which stands at Lakeside Avenue and West 3rd Street and honors the lives of 184 officers who were killed in the line of duty from Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina and Northern Summit Counties.

“It has come to our attention that there were as many as nine officers who made the supreme sacrifice, but whose names are not on the wall for various reasons. Their time to be honored is overdue, and we are taking steps to honor their sacrifice,” said Chas Lane, President of the GCPOMS.

Statistics document that a police officer is killed in the line of duty every 58 hours in the United States. Sadly, we know the reality is that more names will be etched in stone in the future. Two additional pillars will be added to the current memorial, ensuring space for the nine officers as well as names to be added for years to come.

Please help fund the expansion to the police memorial to ensure the sacrifices of all our fallen are never forgotten.

Your $20 donation will go directly to the expansion fund, and your name will be listed on the patron page of our web site. GO TO: http://www.policememorialsociety.org and place your ad today! Or mail to: GCPOMS, 1300 Ontario Street, CLE, Oh 44113.

Together we can make this project happen, and pay a long overdue tribute to the fallen heroes whose sacrifices were almost lost to history.

Anyone wishing to become a sponsor or donate to this project at any level can contact Kathy Delaney, Executive Director at 216.538.6798, or kdelaney@policememorialsociety.com.

Please stand with us as we keep “The Promise”…

to never forget our fallen heroes.

Volunteering Opportunity

The GCPOMS is blessed with an outstanding corps of volunteers dedicated to keeping the promise to never forget our fallen heroes and working to ensure that our annual PMC is the best it can be. They also have a lot of fun in the process.

Anyone interested in becoming a GCPOMS volunteer is encouraged to contact us at info@policememorialsociety.com.

Cleveland International Tattoo

May 16, 7:00 pm.
Playhouse Square
State Theatre
Quantico

USMC Band Returns

Call the Playhouse Square box office for tickets at 216-241-6000
## Board of Directors

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<tr>
<th>Executive Board</th>
<th>Trustees</th>
<th>In Memoriam</th>
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<td>Charles W. Lane, Jr.</td>
<td>Daren Beichler</td>
<td>Norman A. Drew</td>
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<td>President</td>
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<td>Peter Lawer</td>
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<td>John Dean</td>
<td>Jake Jones</td>
<td>William R. Sweeny</td>
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<td>Vice President</td>
<td>David Lisk</td>
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<td>Kathleen Coughlin Delaney</td>
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<td>Recording Secretary</td>
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<td>Jennifer Wypasek</td>
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### The Promise

*is published by the Society for its Members and Supporters*

**GCPOMS**

1300 Ontario Street

Cleveland, OH 44113

Phone: 216-623-3333

Email: info@policememorialsociety.com

Visit our websites:

- www.honorourfallen.us
- www.policememorialsociety.com
- www.tattoocleveland.com

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**Peace Officers Memorial Society Announces 2015 Awards Recognizing Excellence**

Each year the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society recognizes individuals who best exemplify the ideals and virtues that are held in the highest regard in law enforcement — those who have served their community and fellow man with dignity and the utmost professionalism. The GCPOMS proudly announces the 2015 awards recipients who will receive their awards during the 30th Annual Police Memorial Commemoration, May 9-17, 2015.

- Mr. Jason Salupo
  *Owner/Operator of West Park Station Restaurant & Bar*
  *The Patrolman Norman A. Drew Memorial Man of the Year Award*

- Chaplain Richard Bartley
  *Pastor and Executive Director of the Village Grace Mission Center in Cleveland*
  *Chaplain of the Village of Bratenahl Police Department*
  *International Chaplain for the Blue Knights Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club Inc.*
  *The L/Cpl. Andrew Nowacki Memorial Veteran of the Year Award*

- Lieutenant Paul Shepard
  *Fairview Park Police Department*
  *The Anthony J. Johnson Sr. Memorial Police Officer of the Year Award*

- Mr. Vincent J. (Jim) Milano, Jr.
  *President of Milano Monuments*
  *The Samuel H. Miller Lifetime Achievement Award*

- Mr. Tom Dean and Mr. John Dean
  *GCPOMS President's Award*

- Mr. Mark “Munch” Bishop
  *Host of ESPN Cleveland Tonight*
  *Honored Friend Award*

Recipients will be recognized at the Awards Reception on Saturday, May 16, at 4:30 pm, in the lobby of the State Theatre, just prior to the Cleveland International Tattoo. This invitation only event emcee will be Allan Fee.

Thank you everyone for your dedication and service and especially this year’s award recipients.
The Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society would like to recognize the great teamwork done by Det. Tom Harrington and Lieut. Paul Shepard of the Fairview Park PD, who never gave up on solving a 2007 case of the most heinous of crimes in, the murder of a 67 year old woman, whose body was then set on fire.

Cold Justice, hosted by TNT, agreed to come to FPPD and help. At the end of September they followed Shepard and Harrington around for two weeks while they re-interviewed witnesses and took another look at the evidence they had.

The show was instrumental in refocusing the investigation and brought resources they did not have before.

On October 22, 2014 the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor agreed to accept the case. On December 30, 2014, Shepard appeared in front of the Grand Jury who indicted the suspect on Murder, Aggravated Arson, Felonious Assault, Theft and Tampering with Evidence charges. The suspect, Timothy Sheline, was arrested on December 31, 2014. He is currently in Cuyahoga County Jail on a $1,000,000.00 bond. “It was a good feeling to call the daughters of the victim to make them aware of the arrest. Many people played a part in the investigation that led to this arrest; it was truly a team effort.” Said Shepard.

Note: Paul Shepard is a longtime GCPOMS volunteer and the recipient of the GCPOMS’ 2015 Anthony J. Johnson Sr. Memorial Police Officer of the Year Award.
Cleveland Patrol Officer Tim “Doc” Ryan was seriously wounded but thankfully survived a gunman’s bullet. There are scores of officers from the Greater Cleveland area that have not been as fortunate. The Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society works to ensure that their sacrifice will be forever remembered. Please join us as we “Honor Our Fallen!”

You Can Make a Difference!

Visit Our Website at www.policememorialsociety.com

The Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society was formed to achieve the following goals:

- Honor all law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty.
- Provide assistance to the families of police officers who die in the line of duty.
- Provide assistance to police officers seriously injured in the line of duty.
- Establish and maintain the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial, dedicated on May 14, 1993, to honor the fallen law enforcement officers of Greater Cleveland...Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina and northern Summit counties. The memorial is located in Huntington Park, West 3rd and Lakeside Avenue in Cleveland, Ohio.
- Assist law enforcement agencies with the planning and implementation of Line of Duty Death funerals.
- Create a public awareness of the hazards of the law enforcement profession.
- Sponsor the Annual Greater Cleveland Police Memorial Commemoration.
- Improve police-community relations.
- Further the law enforcement profession by sponsoring educational, development, training, and humanitarian programs.
- Promote fellowship in the law enforcement community.

The GCPOMS is a non-profit, charitable (501-C-3) volunteer-based organization. Your donation is tax deductible.

OFFICER FATALITY UPDATE

January 1 thru April 23, 2015 vs. January 1 thru April 23, 2014

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<tr>
<td>Total Fatalities</td>
<td>36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Firearms-related</td>
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<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Traffic-related</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>+13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>+38%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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2015 Fatalities to Date

36

0% Change

ANNUAL

- $20.00 Individual
- $75.00 Organizational/Business
- Gift $____________

LIFE

- $200.00 Individual
- $750.00 Organizational/Business

Membership Drive for the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society

Name: ____________________________________________

Org./Bus.: ______________________________________

Contact Person: __________________________________

Street: _________________________________________

City, State, Zip: ________________________________

Telephone: _____________________________________

E-mail: _________________________________________

If you are interested in becoming a GCPOMS volunteer, please check this box and we will contact you.

Please make your check or money order payable to:

The Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society (GCPOMS)
1300 Ontario Street, Cleveland, OH, 44113
This year marks the 19th annual Police Unity Tour (PUT). Founded in May 1997 when 18 law enforcement officers hopped onto their bicycles and pedaled over four days from Florham Park, New Jersey to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C., with the motto “We Ride For Those Who Died”, the tour was formed with the hope of raising public awareness, and to honor the sacrifices of law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty. Its secondary purpose is to raise funds for the national memorial. The tour has grown to over 1,800 survivors and law enforcement personnel, all of whom either ride or provide aid by way of motor vehicle support, food, and hotel accommodations, among other valuable roles.

This year, Barb Apanites, the surviving daughter of Cleveland Police Detective John R. Apanites, Jr., EOW: 4/07/1969, will be participating in her third tour. On May 9, she will begin the 280-mile bike ride from Florham Park, NJ, and on May 12, she and other members from 9 PUT chapters nationwide will ride into the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. Because of their commitment, PUT has raised approximately $16 million since its inception.

All PUT members wear a blue metal bracelet etched with a fallen officer’s name and End of Watch date. Barb will be riding in memory of all fallen officers from Greater Cleveland. In the past two tours, Barb has worn bracelets in honor of Bedford Hts. Detective Sergeant William A. Prochazka, EOW: 11/10/75, Cleveland Patrolman Philip Patrick Maher, EOW: 5/29/75, and of course, her dad.

This year, Barb will ride in memory of Cleveland Police Patrolman Anthony Jerome Johnson, EOW: 10/21/81, and Cleveland Patrolman Joseph Phillip Tracz, Jr., EOW: 9/28/70.

If you would like to help Barb raise money for the PUT, please visit her fundraising site at: http://my.policeunitytour.com/BarbApanites2015PUT

To learn more about the history of the Police Unity Tour and its 9 chapters, please visit: http://policeunitytour.com/

In March 2012, The Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society (GCPOMS) and the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles announced the availability of the “Honor Our Fallen” specialty plates. Designed to honor all law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty, they help to raise public awareness of the dangers our law enforcement officers face daily. A portion of the proceeds helps further the mission of the GCPOMS and ensures that we keep the promise to never forget their sacrifice. Special thanks to Senator Tom Patton for introducing the legislation to make the plates available.

On January 24, 2013, we were notified that we had met our initial goal of 500 plates sold. This was an important step since the state would only continue to make them available if 500 were sold by the one year anniversary. We exceeded our goal with 1,329 plates sold.

We thank everyone for their support and ask that when it's time for Ohioans to renew your license plate, please purchase your own “Honor Our Fallen” license plate. These specialty plates can be purchased by anyone who supports law enforcement by going on line at www.OPlates.com, or call 800-675-8247, or through the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. Ask the staff at your Deputy Registrar's Office for the “Honor Our Fallen” specialty plates when renewing/buying your vehicle's license plates.

You may also exchange your current plates for this specialty plate at a reduced rate of $36.75.

Special License Plates Help To Raise Public Awareness

![Image of license plate]
Join the Law Enforcement Community as we Honor our Fallen Heroes for the 30th Anniversary Police Memorial Commemoration

**SATURDAY, MAY 9**

**GRAVE MARKER CEREMONY AND PLACEMENT**
Police Memorial Square (Huntington Park), 8:00 a.m.
Join us for a short ceremony to kick off National Police Week and then disperse to cemeteries for placement of markers & flags on the graves of officers from our region that died in the line of duty. For questions or to volunteer, contact John Dean, 216-272-4469 jddean511@cox.net

**MONDAY, MAY 11**

**CANDLE LIGHT VIGIL**
Huntington Park at Police Memorial Square
W. 3rd & Lakeside – 8 p.m.
Join us as we honor and remember all of our Fallen Heroes who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 13**

**2015 STREET SURVIVAL SEMINAR**
To be determined – check our website for updates. Wednesday and Thursday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
The goal and purpose of the 2-day Calibre Press Street Survival Seminar is roofed: Keep officers alive and give them the tools to enjoy a successful career in law enforcement.
Contact Steve Hirst, streetsurvival2013@gmail.com

**THURSDAY, MAY 14**

**CLEVELAND POLICE MEMORIAL SERVICE**
Cleveland Police Headquarters, 1300 Ontario St., 10:55 a.m.
Report at 10:30 a.m. Sponsored by FOP Cleveland Lodge 8

**2015 STREET SURVIVAL SEMINAR**
See above for information.

**FRIDAY, MAY 15**

**POLICE MEMORIAL PARADE**
Lakeside Ave. Westbound from E. 12th to W. 3rd St., 10:30 a.m.
Line Lakeside Ave. (Police Memorial Way) to support and honor law enforcement. See units of Pipes and Drums, marching bands, color guards, police cars, special response vehicles and more.
Contact Don Searle, 330-416-1029, custac2@aol.com

**MEMORIAL SERVICE**
Police Memorial Square (Huntington Park) 11:30 a.m.
Following the parade, all are invited to attend the Memorial Service to show support and honor those who have died in the line of duty.
Contact Joe Munnin, 216-389-0246, jmannion@policememorialsociety.com

**LUNCHEON FOR PARADE PARTICIPANTS**
FOP Lodge 8 Hall, 2249 Payne Ave. — Immediately following service.
Sponsored by FOP Cleveland Lodge 8

**POLICE FELLOWSHIP STEAK ROAST**
CPPA Hall, 1303 W. 58th St. Sponsored by the Cleveland Police Patrolmen’s Association and the Chicago Police Emerald Society. Party and entertainment from opening to close.
Contact Michelle Tighe 440-777-9604 for tickets. $25 p/p

**SATURDAY, MAY 16**

**POLICE COLLECTORS SHOW**
DoubleTree by Hilton Cleveland Downtown–Lakeside
Grand Ballroom
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Check out the police memorabilia, patches, pins and more for trade or sale. Adults $3, children under 12 free.

**CLEVELAND INTERNATIONAL TATTOO**
State Theatre, Playhouse Square – 7:00 p.m.
W. 3rd & Lakeside – 8 p.m.
Join us as we honor and remember all of our Fallen Heroes who have made the ultimate sacrifice.
Enjoy the stirring sounds and pageantry of the Pipes & Drums, marching bands, drill teams, dancers and choruses. A heart-pounding and high energy salute to our safety forces, our armed forces . . . our Country! Featuring the Quantico USMC Band!
For tickets, call the box office at 216/241-6000 or 866-546-1353 www.tattoocleveland.com

**AFTER TATTOO CAST PARTY**
PorterSharks Live! Contact Kathy Delaney, 216-538-6798,
Free admission.

**AFTER TATTOO PARTY**
The DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel
Cleveland Downtown-Lakeside, Grand Ballroom, 10:00 p.m.
Join the parade of cast members and march to the party.
Contact Jamie Tavano, 440-567-3592, jtmarvin03@yahoo.com

**SUNDAY, MAY 17**

**POLICE MEMORIAL MASS & BREAKFAST**
St. Mary’s Berea, 250 Kraft St., Berea, 9:30 a.m.
Dress uniforms requested. Breakfast served immediately following.
Hosted by the Greater Cleveland Safety Forces Holy Name Society.

Contact Don Searle 330-416-1029, custac2@aol.com

**THE DOUBLE TREE BY HILTON HOTEL**
Cleveland Downtown - Lakeside is the host hotel from opening to close.
Contact Michelle Tighe 440-777-9604 for tickets. $25 p/p

**SPONSORED BY:**

**HOSTED BY:**

Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society
Ripping Off the Scab

By Sheila Nowacki

Here it is, 2015, ten years since Ace was killed by a roadside bomb. In some ways, it feels like a lifetime ago, but most times it feels like yesterday. As we get ready for the 10th Heroes for Andy gala, I have been going through pictures, video and memories. Along with doing that, we had our annual reunion to remember Andy with those Marines from his unit that live close enough to gather and remember. The chain that binds these warriors is a special one, with the links being war, protection, love of one another and Ace.

Some ask why we would rip the scab off of our emotions after ten years. A scab indicates healing. You never recover from a loss of someone you love so dearly so there really is no “scab”. The hole in our lives that occurred with the loss of Andy never healed over as the void remains. Life becomes different. We learn how to function with a hole in our hearts.

That initial anguish had to change or we could not live our lives. Grief for us transformed to remembrance, a way to share Ace with others and to keep that loving spirit with us. Every time we look back, we can share a part of Andy with others that did not know him. Is it always fun to reminisce? Absolutely not but in this case, there are always more smiles than there are tears. We need to have the pain so that we can really appreciate and recognize happiness.

Yesterday, we did more laughing than crying. How can you not laugh when you talk about Ace and his antics like making a human battering ram or making a game out of changing chem lights in a port-a-potty?

I struggled with words today as it can be so difficult to explain feelings, especially feelings about the life and death of my son. My motivation was to hopefully help anyone who might happen on this blog that is struggling with pain of loss. There is no timeline for grief but eventually that grief needs to be sustainable in order to live.

“Grief is in two parts. The first is loss. The second is the remaking of life.”
— Anne Rolphe

“There is nothing to be unhappy about.”
— Andy “Ace” Nowacki

Semper Fi,
Ace’s Mom

Editors Note: Marine Lance Cpl. Andrew W. Nowacki was killed Feb. 26, 2005 by enemy action during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Andy graduated from Brush High School in Lyndhurst and was a police officer in Grand River, about 25 miles northeast of Cleveland. The GCPOMS annually awards the Lance Cpl Nowacki Memorial Veteran of the Year Award to honor his service and memory.

2015 Street Survival Seminar

By John J. Thomas, aka J.T., CPD Retired #687

This year marks the 20th seminar in 20 years. Calibre Press started to host and sponsor this excellent training, here on the north coast of America in January 1992. This has made it possible for nearly 10,000 local, state, and federal law enforcement officers, correction officers, the military and the private sector to receive the best training possible to stay safe and survive.

Calibre Press will continue to have the training during the Police Memorial Commemoration here in Cleveland to honor the fallen and their families.

Please pass the word so that all of the members of the GCPOMS and all of northeast Ohio can receive this training.

If you have any questions or concerns on group discounts please contact Steve Hirst at Calibre Press at 847-833-5163 or streetsurvival2014@gmail.com
The 2015 Cops Ride charity motorcycle rally will be Sunday, June 28, 2015. The seventh annual ride has a new route and ending destination. The ride starts at the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial in downtown Cleveland, travels through Cuyahoga County ending at South East Harley Davidson in Bedford Heights.

This year’s ride is to benefit the Ohio Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors. All the proceeds from the ride will go directly to Ohio COPS. Concerns of Police Survivors provides resources to assist in the rebuilding of the lives of surviving families of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty, as determined by Federal criteria. Furthermore, C.O.P.S. provides training to law enforcement agencies on survivor victimization issues and educates the public of the need to support the law enforcement profession and its survivors.

The Cops Ride board would like to thank its sponsors, volunteers and most importantly its participants who joined us and made our sixth ride a success. We raised $8,000.00 for the National Law Enforcement Officer’s Memorial Fund. Cops Ride is a Cleveland area non-profit organization composed of volunteers from both the law enforcement community and the private sector. Cops Ride’s goal is to offer an enjoyable and safe motorcycle ride every year as a fundraiser for various law enforcement related charities.

Registration begins April 15, 2015 online on our website and at participating locations. Please check our website WWW.COPSRIDE.COM for an updated list of registration sites and information about the ride. Riders registered before June 15, 2015 will get a free t-shirt. The cost is $20 per rider, not per bike. Men's size XXXL and larger will cost an additional $5. T-shirts will be sold the day of the event.

If you would like to make a donation or have a question, you can e-mail us at info@copsride.com or call Mark Krumheuer or Guy Turner at 440-871-3311.

Thank you for your continued support.

PO Wen Jian Liu, 84 Pct NYPD—posthumously promoted to Detective First Grade at his funeral. PO Liu was assassinated along with PO Rafael Ramos, 84 Pct NYPD as they sat in their police car outside a housing development on 12/20/14.

There was no warning, no provocation.
They were killed because they were NYC Cops.
May they rest in peace!

Police Fellowship Steak Roast
Friday, May 15
6:00-8:00 pm.
CPPA Hall
1303 W. 58th St.
$25
Call Michelle at 440-777-9604 for tickets
The snow is melting, the birds are starting to sing again and Spring is finally here and that means one thing — the Police Memorial Commemoration is right around the corner. Start making your plans now to participate in this year's events.

Those events include the Memorial Parade and Memorial Service on Friday, May 15. Once again the parade will begin staging at the corner of E. 12th and Lakeside in front of the DoubleTree Hotel at 9:00 am. The parade will step off at 10:30 am taking the usual route westbound to Police Memorial Square for the Memorial Service. If you are driving a cruiser in the parade, please stage your vehicle on East 12th south of Lakeside.

If you would like your honor guard to march, they can just show up that day at staging time. They will be assigned an area to stand by for their insertion into the parade. All law enforcement including local, state, federal and correctional agencies are invited and encouraged to participate as are all military units. Any SWAT and police specialty vehicles are encouraged to participate as this offers an opportunity to provide community awareness about law enforcement. If you are bringing a large truck, armored vehicle or command bus, please see one of the parade coordinators at the staging area for assigned placement.

The GCPOMS asks you to spread the word among your family, friends and co-workers. Whether you are participating in this year's events or merely observing, please come and help “Keep the Promise” to memorialize our region’s fallen heroes and to never forget the sacrifices that they made.

Society is hosting a new event for 2015, in conjunction with our 30th Annual Police Memorial Commemoration. You, your family, friends, and colleagues are invited to attend and participate in a candle light vigil honoring our fallen law enforcement officers from the Greater Cleveland area on Monday May 11, 2015 at 8:00 PM. The hour long ceremony will commence at sunset and pay tribute to the 186 officers whose names are inscribed upon the columns of our Memorial. This vigil will not only honor our fallen heroes, but will also serve as tribute to their survivors and the 53 communities and law enforcement agencies for whom our fallen served.

The vigil is open to the public and will be held at the GCPOMS Memorial Site located in Huntington Park at the northeast corner of Lakeside Avenue and West 3rd Street Cleveland, Ohio. Candles will be provided to those who attend until the supply is exhausted. The vigil is designed as a standing honorarium and seating will not be provided. Those requiring seating are encouraged to bring a lawn chair or other type of portable seat.

Please contact Tim Hassing, Candle Light Vigil Coordinator thassing@policememorialsociety.com for additional information.

NEW EVENT - 2015 CANDLE LIGHT VIGIL
Join Us in Honoring Our Fallen Heroes

2015 Peace Officers Memorial Parade
"Light Up" Your World and Honor the Fallen

State Theatre, Playhouse Square
For tickets, call the box office at 216/241-6000 or 866-546-1353
www.tattoocleveland.com
Remember to keep GCPOMS informed of events and activities of other police and law enforcement organizations. We will use our email campaigns and Facebook to get your information out to our members, volunteers and supporters. Send your event information to info@policememorial society.com. We reserve the right to edit all submissions.