



# THE EPITAPH



Serving the law enforcement community of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina & Northern Summit Counties

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Joe Mannion** | President / Member of the GCPOMS Executive Board / Board of Directors

Welcome to the GCPOMS *The Epitaph*, the official publication for the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society®. We had a great turnout at this years Memorial Service. I was proud of all the Officers who came and were a part of our service. It was nice to see all the Survivors who were able to attend. The day was beautiful and sunny. It was one of the best weather days we have ever had for the Memorial Service and Parade. I want to thank all of the participants and volunteers who made the day and week possible. We are already planning for next years events as we will be Honoring Our Fallen for the 39th year. Our Peace Officers Memorial Service will take place on **May 17, 2024**.

Thank you to **Mr. Jay Lucarelli** and **Minute Men Inc.**, **Rick Dechant**, Advisor for the Northeast Ohio Foundation for Patriotism (NEOPAT) and the **Cleveland Police Foundation** for their generous donations to help make police week in Cleveland happen.

In early June, **John Kikol** started the **COPS Ride** with a program and service at the GCPOMS Memorial site. John and COPS Ride donated the proceeds from the event among GCPOMS, C.O.P.S. of Ohio, and the Cuyahoga Community College Law Enforcement Academy. John, who organizes this event every year, is proud to show his support for all law enforcement officers and **Never Forgets our Fallen!**

If you attended the COPS Ride event you may have noticed GCPOMS new merchandise trailer. This trailer stores all merchandise, tent, tables and chairs, everything needed for merchandise sales used to promote and support GCPOMS and the Memorial in Memory of Our Fallen Heroes. Our trailer needed much repair and was replaced due to age and safety concerns. Donations assisted with the down payment which are much appreciated, and GCPOMS is accepting donations to help pay the remaining balance owed. The beautiful graphics were donated by **Mike Wiertel**, owner of **Liquid Image Corporation of America** located at 37th and Prospect Avenue in Cleveland. Thanks to Mike, who designed, made, and installed the graphics at no cost to GCPOMS.

I received a disturbing phone call on the morning of August 25th. The night before, the Cleveland area was hit by severe storms and reports of tornados. The caller advised that the GCPOMS Memorial and Park were struck by a tornado. I drove down to Huntington Park, and when I arrived, all I saw were trees and limbs down everywhere. The tall beautiful sycamore trees that adorned the Park were splintered, with their tops taken down by the massive wind. I am glad to say that the Memorial Walls were not damaged. One bench to the right of the walkway as you walk into the Memorial, was struck by one of the falling limbs, and there were limbs laying all around the front of the Memorial area. With all the damage throughout the Park, the north side of



the Memorial was untouched. The flowers looked as if they were just placed there. With all of the destruction that took place in the Park, I believe the good Lord above and the people whose names are on our Memorial Walls were not going to let a tornado ruin it. ***This incident shows even though our Heroes on our Walls are gone, they are still protecting our Memorial!***

There is fencing in place to this day blocking the entrance into the Memorial site area. Two of the sycamore trees that stand on each side of the Memorial are in the process of being removed due to the damage they sustained. The fencing is to protect people from the hazard of additional limbs that may fall.

Tickets are now available for the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society **3rd Annual Reverse Raffle**. The raffle will be on **February 17, 2024** at **St. Michaels Woodside Event Center** on Mill Rd. in Broadview Hts. For ticket information and purchase, contact a GCPOMS Board Member or go online at our website [www.HonorOurFallen.us](http://www.HonorOurFallen.us) or [GCPOMS.org](http://GCPOMS.org). Please take time to renew your membership dues.

In closing, I want to Thank You for Your Continued Support!

Stay safe and healthy,  
**Joe Mannion, President**



*"Keeping the Promise to Never Forget our Fallen Heroes"®*





# THE PROMISE TO NEVER FORGET OUR FALLEN HEROES

**Mary A. Lentz | Survivor / Editor of The Epitaph**

The Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society remembers and honors the Fallen Heroes of Police Officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice for the safety of the communities they served. We honor and remember Cleveland Police Detective William L. Foulks (EOW September 29, 1900) and Cleveland Police Patrolman Louis D. Weick (EOW December 10, 1903).

Cleveland Division of Police Detective Lieutenant Foulks, Badge #232, was killed in the Line of Duty at age 38 when a fight broke out between striking union members and non-union men who were hired to work the union members' jobs. Detectives Foulks and Powers were inside a nearby building looking for a suspect who was wanted by the police. Hearing shots fired, both Detectives ran outside, observed the gun battle and ran towards the fight.



**Detective  
William L. Foulks**

Detective Foulks grappled with one of the men fighting and took him to the ground. During the struggle, Detective Foulks fell on top of the battler, and the Detective's service revolver fell from his holster. The assailant grabbed the revolver and shot Detective Foulks and ran to a nearby livery stable where he was found by Cleveland Police Patrolman Thorpe, who also found Detective Foulk's service revolver with four spent cartridges in the shooter's possession.

Detective Lieutenant Folkes was survived by his wife Alpha and their six children: Daisy, Shannon, Raymond, Lucille, William L., Jr., and Lee.

Detective Foulks was appointed a Patrolman on January 7, 1892, Sergeant on January 1, 1898, Lieutenant on April 5, 1899, and Detective on April 7, 1899.

Cleveland Division of Police Patrolman Louis D. Weick, Badge #330, was killed in the Line of Duty from injuries he received on the previous day while attempting to break up a disturbance on W. St. Clair Avenue between W. 3rd and Ontario. Patrolman Weick was on foot patrol when a group of men were creating a disturbance outside a restaurant. As



**Patrolman George  
C. Effinger**

Patrolman Weick approached to investigate, all the men left with the exception for one who argued with Patrolman Weick. As the Patrolman was arresting the suspect, the suspect shot the Patrolman and fled the scene. Two CPD Officers, Patrolman O'Shea and Patrolman Becker, heard the shots and rushed to the scene and caught the shooter. The shooter fired three shots at Patrolman Weick, striking the Officer in the right side of his abdomen. Patrolman Weick fired two shots at the fleeing shooter, and the shooter returned fire.

CPD Plain Clothesmen Whelan and DeHeck placed Patrolman Weick on a passing Woodland Avenue streetcar, and the wounded Officer was taken to Cleveland General Hospital where he regained consciousness and made a positive identification of his killer before Officer Weick died in the Line of Duty.



*Badge Photos are the courtesy of Captain James P. O'Malley, President of FOP Lodge 8, Cleveland Police Memorial Badge Case of Fallen Heroes.*

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The December 2023 issue of The Epitaph will include the names of all 192 Fallen Heroes on the GCPOMS Memorial Walls.





## TORNADOES AND WINDSTORMS IN DOWNTOWN CLEVELAND

Between 11:59 pm on August 24th and 12:00 am on August 25th of 2023, an EF1 tornado with winds reaching 110 mph left a trail of damage, destruction, and widespread power outages from E. 71st and Chester Avenue to E. 89th Street and Euclid Avenue. Forceful winds from Lake Erie ripped through Fort Huntington Park and downed trees, limbs, and branches in the Park and

the area of West 3rd and Lakeside Avenue, breaking windows in the Old Court House and the Justice Center. The Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial remained intact and sustained no damage. There was not a rip or tear in the flags flying above the Memorial, but all around was covered with storm debris.



## FORT HUNTINGTON PARK: HISTORY AND MEMORIALS

One hundred ninety-two names of fallen Police Officers are etched onto the Walls of the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial representing heroism from Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina and northern Summit Counties. One hundred eighteen of the names are Cleveland Police Officers. The Memorial is appropriately located at the northeast section of Fort Huntington Park, named for Samuel Huntington, former Governor of Ohio (1808-1810) who was a member of the family that founded Huntington Bank in 1866. Samuel Huntington held many political offices, including Paymaster in the War of 1812. The Park also honors John T. Corrigan,

Cuyahoga County Prosecutor (1957-1991) who served 35 years as chief law enforcement officer and a total of 50 years as a dedicated public servant, courageous soldier in the Army in World War II, and as an Ohio State Senator.

Memorials in the Park also honor Jesse Owens, 1936 Olympic medalist with four gold medals who broke three world records and tied one, and Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry for his victory at the Battle of Lake Erie in the War of 1812 under whose leadership ensured American control of the lake for the rest of the War.

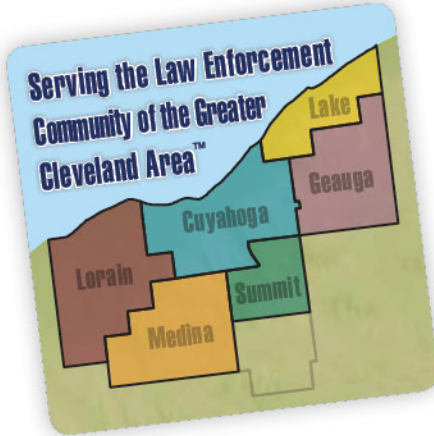


THE  
EPITAPH



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Mary A. Lentz | Survivor / Editor of The Epitaph  
[www.HonorOurFallen.us](http://www.HonorOurFallen.us)



## "Honor Our Fallen!" You Can Make a Difference! Membership for the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society

- Annual**    ☐ Individual Member \$25.00    ☐ Annual Business/Organization \$100.00  
**Lifetime**    ☐ Individual Member \$250.00    ☐ Lifetime Business/Organization \$750.00  
**Gift**    ☐ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Org. / Bus. \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

*Please make your check or money order payable to:*

**The Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society (GCPOMS)** | P.O. Box 6207, Cleveland, OH 44101  
216-337-3537 | [info@policememorialsociety.org](mailto:info@policememorialsociety.org) | [www.honorourfallen.us](http://www.honorourfallen.us)

*Please remember that The Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society (GCPOMS) is a 501(c)(3) volunteer based organization and your donation is tax exempt.*

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**"Keeping the Promise to Never Forget our Fallen Heroes"®**