



# THE PROMISE

Never Forget Our Fallen Heroes

*Serving the law enforcement community of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina & northern Summit counties*

## Grave Marker Placement Committee Continues Their Work!

*By Tom Dean*



Members of the Cleveland Heights PD salute their fallen brother, PO Thomas F. Patton II, CHPD, EOW: March 13, 2010.

The Grave Marker Placement Committee has really been an ongoing task these past several years. Through committee member searches, 99% of our fallen hero's graves have been located. Along with finding the graves, many heart wrenching biographies have been discovered and it is truly amazing to read these stories. John and Jodi Danko have put together a great way to track all the officers for the GCPOMS Marker placement which helped tremendously. There is still one officer, Ernest L. Ford, Cleveland Police Department, EOW: 9/19/1928, whose exact resting site has not yet been located. It has been determined he is buried in Clearview Cemetery

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*By Charles W. lane, Jr. (Chas)*

### 29<sup>th</sup> Annual PMC May Be the Largest Ever!

This May's 29th Annual Greater Cleveland Police Memorial Commemoration (PMC) may challenge the Silver Anniversary event held in 2010 as being the largest ever! In addition to the regular schedule of events, we are also hosting the National Police Collectors Show (NPCS) and the national conference of the Police Car Owners & Operators Association of America (PCOOA).

The NPCS is a greatly expanded version of our annual police memorabilia show. Collectors from across the U.S.A. will converge on Cleveland Public Auditorium for this two-day show on Saturday and Sunday, May 17 and 18. For information and/or reserving a table, go to [www.2014nationalpolicecollectorsshow.net](http://www.2014nationalpolicecollectorsshow.net).

The PCOOA is dedicated to the preservation and exhibition of antique and classic LE vehicles. They will join

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### 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](mailto:info@policememorialsociety.com).



### Cleveland International Tattoo

May 17, 7:00 pm.  
Playhouse Square  
Palace Theatre

### Quantico USMC Band Returns

Call the Playhouse Square box office for tickets at  
**866-546-1353**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### In Memoriam

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***The Promise***  
is published by the  
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GCPOMS  
1300 Ontario Street  
Cleveland, OH 44113

Phone: 216-623-3333

Email:  
info@policememorialsociety.com

Visit our websites:  
www.honourourfallen.us  
www.policememorialsociety.com  
www.tattoocleveland.com

Editor: Michelle "Myki" Van Wormer

## PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL SOCIETY ANNOUNCES 2014 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 2014 awards recipients who will receive their awards during the 29th Annual Police Memorial Commemoration, May 15-18, 2014.

- Mr. John C. Kikol  
*Retired CEO and President of CleveTrust Realty Investors and Attorney*  
**The Patrolman Norman A. Drew Memorial Man of the Year Award**
- Major Jeffrey D. Houston  
*U.S. Army Reserves & Wadsworth PD (Retired)*  
**The L/Cpl. Andrew Nowacki Memorial Veteran of the Year Award**
- Sergeant Mark Krumheuer  
*Westlake PD*  
**The Anthony J. Johnson Sr. Memorial Police Officer of the Year Award**
- Special Agent Stephen D. Anthony  
*Special Agent In Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Cleveland Division*  
**The Samuel H. Miller Lifetime Achievement Award**
- Edward B. Sullivan  
*GCPOMS Trustee, and East Cleveland PD (Retired)*  
**GCPOMS President's Award**
- Colin Berger  
*Mercyhurst University student*  
**Pete Lawer Memorial Scholarship**

Recipients will be recognized at the Awards Reception on Saturday, May 17, at 5:30 pm, in the lobby of the Palace Theatre, just prior to the Cleveland International Tattoo. This invitation only

reception's emcee will be Allan Fee from Q104.

Thank you everyone for your dedication and service and especially this year's award recipients.

**twitter**

**We are now on  
Twitter**



**Follow us  
@GCPOMS**

## POLICE MEMORIALS IN OUR REGION

### Euclid Police Memorial

The Euclid Police Department has a proud history of outstanding service to the community. As LE officers do everywhere in this great country, their members place themselves in harms way for the safety and protection of the public.

On October 10, 2007, one of Euclid's Finest made the ultimate sacrifice. Patrolman George Brentar, was tragically killed in a motor vehicle accident when his car slid out of control and caught fire as he was attempting to stop a traffic violator.

Shortly after his funeral, Chief James Repicky formed a committee consisting of EPD members, tasking them with creating a permanent memorial in George's honor. The chief led the campaign to raise the funding through donations from city residents and businesses, and on Memorial Day 2008, the George Brentar Memorial Garden was dedicated. It is located in front of the Euclid Police Station.

Although George's memory will forever be part of those who were fortunate enough to have known and worked with him, the memorial garden ensures that future generations will be reminded of his dedicated service and sacrifice.



**For the story about Patrolman Brentar and other LEOs from our region who have died in the line of duty, go to [www.HonorOurFallen.us](http://www.HonorOurFallen.us).**

**Editor's Note:** The loss of a police officer in the line of duty is a tragedy that not only affects their families, but also affects the community. Thankfully, there is a heightened awareness of the hazards our police officers face daily. It's gratifying that the public recognizes the sacrifice these officers make, and the dangers that our LEOs face daily.

A segment in each edition of the "The Promise" will feature a memorial from our region. Fittingly, there are many memorials in the Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, and northern Summit counties, and we plan to feature a different memorial in each issue.

We ask your assistance by sending a photo of the memorial from your agency or organization with basic information so we can include them in future issues. Please forward a few photos of your memorial in jpeg or pdf file and information to Jennifer Wypasek at [jenn8272@sbglobal.net](mailto:jenn8272@sbglobal.net).

### GCPOMS Partners with The Officers Down 5K Foundation

The Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society is pleased to announce our partnership with The Officers Down 5K Foundation. Their mission of honoring America's fallen law enforcement heroes and their efforts of benefiting the Officers Down Memorial Page is in line with our mission to honor and remember the line of duty deaths from the Greater Cleveland area. Both organizations will benefit from this partnership as together we promote the Officer Down 5K scheduled for Sunday, October 19, 2014. Please watch for more information by email, Facebook and Twitter.



*Police Memorial Dedication Ceremony*

*When: Friday, May 16th, 2014*  
*Time: 9:00 A.M.*  
*Where: Willoughby Police Department*  
*36700 Euclid Avenue*

*Please arrive at WPD by 8:30 A.M. for fellowship*

*A caravan to the GCPOMS parade will follow the ceremony*



# GCPOMS Featured Volunteer *Mary Libens*

By Bonnie DuBreuil

This month we want to thank Mary Libens for all the volunteer work she does for GCPOMS and especially the Merchandise committee.

Mary got “hooked” after attending her first Guns and Hoses event (fundraiser for the Cleveland Police Pipes and Drums and the Cleveland Firefighters Memorial Pipes and Drums) with her brother Ed\* over 14 years ago. At the event she met Sue Knapp and Joan O'Donnell (2013 Volunteer of the year) who talked her into volunteering.

Mary volunteers because she believes in the motto to Honor our Fallen. Mary explains, “I want to make sure we don't forget the sacrifices of those whose job it is to protect and serve.” Mary's involvement has taken her on several GCPOMS sponsored trips including several trips to Ottawa Canada for the Canadian National Police Memorial, Washington DC for the National Law Enforcement Memorial activities and a trip to Toronto when they dedicated their own Police Memorial in May of 2006.

Mary says she has really enjoyed getting to know the other volunteers and their families and her travels with GCPOMS have given her that opportunity. She also enjoys the Cleveland International Tattoo and says that's the event she enjoys most during the Police Memorial Commemoration (PMC).

When Mary is not volunteering with the GCPOMS, she also volunteers with the Cleveland National Air Show, works full-

time at Medical Mutual as a Systems Development Coordinator supervising programmers in the IT department and working part time as a Security Guard at the Powerhouse for the last 7 years.

Mary grew up and currently resides in the Cleveland West Park area. She went to St. Mel and Our Lady of Angels for grade School, attended St. Augustine Academy in Lakewood and then earned her degree at Cleveland State. Mary comes from a family of Firefighters and Police Officers, including her late uncle, Cleveland PO Charles Gallagher.

The Merchandise Committee operates all year at various events and fundraisers and Mary has always been willing to step up and offer assistance. This year at the PMC, the merchandise committee will be especially busy due to the addition of the National Police Collectors Show. You will find Mary helping to fill the extra shifts so be sure to say thank you when you pick up your merchandise.

Mary would also like to encourage young people to get involved with the



GCPOMS. There are many volunteer opportunities and the reward is meeting a lot of other great volunteers while helping to keep the promise to never forget.

Thanks Ed, Mary and Sue. Mary is a great asset to the Merchandise committee and the GCPOMS.

*Editor's note: Ed is now Captain Edward Libens of the Cleveland Fire Department.*

## OFFICER FATALITY UPDATE

### Preliminary 2014 Numbers — March 31, 2014

	2014	2013	%Change
Firearms	11	12	-8%
Traffic	11	8	+38%
Other	7	5	+40%

2014 Fatalities  
to Date

29



Up 16%

# Police Unity Tour — 2014

Barbara Apanites

This May, four officers from the Cleveland Clinic Police Department and the surviving daughter of Cleveland Police Detective John R. Apanites, Jr., EOW: 4/07/1969, will be participating in the 18th annual Police Unity Tour. The PUT is a two to three hundred mile bike ride that honors all law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty. On May 9, Barb Apanites of the Chapter I division will leave from Florham Park, New Jersey, and on May 10, Cleveland Clinic Officers Ryan Myers, Chris Cepik, Tom Lynch and Matt Bene of the Chapter IV division kick off their ride from Richmond, Virginia. On May 12, over 1,700 PUT members from various chapters across the country will ride into the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C., as the 2014 National Police Week commences.

Founded in 1997, the Police Unity Tour grew from 18 riders to nearly 1,700 as of 2013. Because of their commitment and motto, "We Ride For Those Who Died," PUT has raised approximately \$14 million for the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. PUT's primary mission is to increase the public's awareness and honor our fallen brothers and sisters who have made the ultimate sacrifice. Its



secondary purpose is to raise money to provide continued maintenance and care of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C.; support research to find fallen officers "forgotten by time"; promote officer safety programs; and build the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Museum.

This will be Barb Apanites's and Ryan Myers's second ride, while Ryan's teammates embark upon their first tour. Apanites will be riding in memory of all fallen officers from Greater Cleveland, her father and the father of her high school

friend Trish Maher, Cleveland Police Patrolman Philip Patrick Maher, EOW: May 29, 1975.

Visit [policeunitytour.com](http://policeunitytour.com) and donate to Chapter I for Barb Apanites or Chapter IV for the Cleveland Clinic Officers.

To find the direct links, visit [www.policememorialsociety.com](http://www.policememorialsociety.com) and go to the News and Updates page.

The Cleveland Clinic Police have dedicated their ride to all 810 known fallen officers in the state of Ohio. They have created apparel with the number 810 to honor their sacrifice.

**Please wish them well for a safe ride.**

## Grave Marker Placement Committee

*continued from page 1*

located in Uniontown, PA. The search is ongoing and input is always appreciated. The committee is looking forward to marker placement day which takes place the Saturday prior to the Police Memorial Commemoration on May 10, at 8:00 am. Any survivor, family member, volunteer or supporter that would like to be part of this year's ceremony and placement, please contact John or Tom Dean, [jtdean511@gmail.com](mailto:jtdean511@gmail.com) or [metalht@windstream.net](mailto:metalht@windstream.net). All departments are encouraged and welcome to participate. Thank you to all the volunteers and others who have made this project a success. Stay safe!

## President's Message

*continued from page 1*

local collectors for a great addition to the parade and other events.

I encourage everyone to participate

and/or attend the events of the PMC and experience first hand why it is reputed to be one of the finest in North America!

**Start National Police Week**  
by joining us for the  
**Grave Marker Ceremony**  
on Saturday, May 10, 8:00 am.

Gather at the Memorial at Police Memorial Square  
at West 3rd and Lakeside in downtown Cleveland.

*Volunteers encouraged and welcome.*





## SURVIVOR'S CORNER

### Remembering Cleveland Police Officer Derek Owens

By Tracy Johnson

On March 1, 2008, PO Derek Owens was shot and killed in the line of duty. This year marked the sixth anniversary of his death. The city of Cleveland along with his family and friends remembered him with a memorial service at the Fourth District Police Station Monument on Saturday, March 1.

The program started with a prayer. Then the announcing of the color guards while the bagpiper played. There were speakers from the city of Cleveland and Officer Owens' daughter Sydni spoke on behalf of the family. She spoke eloquently about her memories of her dad while her family looked on with pride.

A wreath was laid at the monument by his family; wife Ericka, daughter Sydni, son Chandler, mother Barbara, and father Wayne. They also laid a rose for his sister Dawn and her family who lives out of state.

Badge 746 has been retired by the Cleveland PD. Let him never be forgotten.

## The Closet

By Sheila Nowacki

Why did "the closet" scare me so much? No, I did not think that there was a monster in the closet, ready to jump out at me, which might have been the case when I was five. No, there was nothing particularly horrible in the closet either. What the closet did contain was Ace's "stuff", stuff that would have memories and images of Ace, in spades! Just the simple act of opening those bi-fold doors was difficult; a lifetime of emotions kept tumbling out. Why yesterday was the day, I really do not know. It just was after nine years of evasion, procrastination, reluctance, cowardice . . . whatever you choose to call it.

Nate and I took bags and boxes and began pulling out bits of Andy, bits that have been in hiding for nine years. We carefully took out each item and decided which pile it would go in; his, Pete's, mine or the donation bag. On the shelf, the first thing Nate grabbed were boxes of ammunition. No gun, just ammo. The handcuffs were next. I looked over a few minutes later and there was Nate, one wrist encircled with a locked handcuff and frantically searching for the key! (Have I ever mentioned that Ace, Nate and Pete are a LOT alike?) Well, no key was obvious on the top shelf so we forged on pulling things out, Nate wearing a handcuff and me still wearing the face of reluctance.

We found evidence of the time he spent in North Carolina in the form of tacky Myrtle Beach t-shirts; many turtleneck sweaters (Ace went through phases and he went from nothing could touch his neck to turtlenecks!); his vintage 1980's print pants; the shoes that went with the pants;

various jeans; a new soccer shirt with the tag still dangling; a backpack; a pair of size 12 shoes (Andy wore a size 10); an assortment of Marine clothing including the "Who's your Baghdaddy?" Operation Iraqi Freedom t-shirt with the sleeves cut out; a very odd blanket with exotic blossoms on it and a police Zippo lighter. Of course there were letters that school kids had sent along with letters sent by me and some paperwork from the Corps that his Dad now has safely filed. My undoing though, despite seeing Ace in each piece of clothing as we folded it, was the infamous blue bathrobe. I know it is hard to believe, but it still SMELLED like Andy after all this time! This is the same bathrobe that he wore in Iraq; he wore it to take a shower with his flak jacket underneath it, according to his buddies. He donned it just sitting around, as evidenced by the photos that we have. He really liked his bathrobe!

Well, the closet is done. We will someday pull the boxes out of the attic that the Marine Corps packed and sent from Iraq, but that is something we will tackle at a different time. Those boxes are still scary to me, but will not hold the same memories as I did not share those times with him. I only know of those years through my treasured letters, saved emails, conversations, pictures and stories related by his Marine brothers.

I understand why I had to wait nine years now. Any sooner and the feelings that were unleashed would have undone me. Today the ache in my heart is manageable. In years past, the closet would have made that pain unbearable. Today, I am relieved and happy that Nate

and I were able to share so many Ace memories together. We laughed a lot and cried just a little bit and now feel a sense of accomplishment.

When I need to feel a hug from Andy, I will now put on the blue bathrobe. By the way, Nate finally was freed of the handcuff by his Dad, who had the key.

*"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.*



# Welcome To Cleveland – PCOOA National Convention

The Police Car Owners of America car club is conducting their 2014 National Convention in Cleveland, May 15 – 18, 2014, in conjunction with the Police Memorial Commemoration. The PCOOA vehicles will participate in the Memorial Parade and be displayed at various GCPOMS events throughout the weekend.

The PCOOA is a non-profit association dedicated to the preservation and appreciation of vintage police vehicles and to the promotion of a positive image of police officers everywhere. They are the only international car club dedicated exclusively to police vehicles. Formed in 1991, the club numbered 60 members in the first three months and over 200 by their first anniversary. Today, PCOOA Chapters exist throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and the Netherlands. It is a car club in the simplest form; there are no official meetings or paid

officers, just a group of collectors with the common interest of owning former police vehicles. Club members display their vehicles at local and regional car shows and other community events. All members are encouraged to share their cars with the public whenever possible, as restored cruisers are a great “PR” tool for law enforcement and an occupation that receives far too much bad press.

The club assists its members in locating emergency equipment, door markings, and former police vehicles for the restoration process. Members are encouraged to check with local enforcement concerning local laws related to the operation of their vehicles and stresses good common sense as the best equipment to have in a collectable police vehicle. The club shows strong emotional support for law enforcement and emphasizes zero tolerance towards police impersonators,



wannabes or anyone that would bring discredit to law enforcement or the Police Car Owners of America.

You can see the vehicles of the PCOOA and local collectors in and after the parade, at the CSUPD-FOP Luncheon Car Show, and the Fellowship Steak Roast “Friday Night Lights Cruise-In.”

## Cops Ride 2014

*By Paul Shepard*

The 2014 Cops Ride charity motorcycle rally will be Sunday, June 29, 2014. The Sixth annual ride has a new route and ending destination. The ride starts at the Greater Cleveland Peace Officer Memorial in downtown Cleveland, travels through Cuyahoga and Lorain Counties ending at Lake Erie Harley Davidson in Avon. The ride will benefit the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund ([www.nleomf.org](http://www.nleomf.org)). The mission of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund is to generate increased public support for the law enforcement profession by permanently recording and appropriately commemorating the service and sacrifice of law enforcement officers; and to provide information that will help promote law enforcement safety.

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 1, 2014 online on our website and at participating



locations. Please check our website [WWW.COPSRIDE.COM](http://WWW.COPSRIDE.COM) for an updated list of registration sites and information about the ride.

Riders registered before June 15, 2014, will get a free t-shirt. The cost is a \$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 volunteer to help, make a donation or have a question you can e-mail us at [info@copsride.com](mailto:info@copsride.com) or call Mark Krumheuer or Guy Turner at 440-871-3311.

Thank you for your continued support.



### Police Fellowship Steak Roast

**Friday, May 16**

**6:00-8:00 pm.**

**CPPA Hall**

**1303 W. 58th St.**

**\$25**

**Call Michelle at  
440-777-9604 for tickets**

*This year we will be joined  
by the Police Car Owners of  
America and their vintage  
police cars.*





Join the Law Enforcement Community  
as we Honor our Fallen Heroes for the  
**29TH ANNUAL POLICE MEMORIAL COMMEMORATION**  
**MAY 15 – 18, 2014**  
[www.honorourfallen.us](http://www.honorourfallen.us)

**SATURDAY, MAY 10**

**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 [jtdean511@cox.net](mailto:jtdean511@cox.net)



**WEDNESDAY, MAY 14**

**2014 STREET SURVIVAL SEMINAR**

DoubleTree Downtown-Lakeside, 1111 Lakeside Ave.,  
Cleveland. 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 twofold: Keep officers alive and give them the tools to enjoy a successful career in law enforcement. Contact Steve Hirst, [streetsurvival2013@gmail.com](mailto:streetsurvival2013@gmail.com)

**THURSDAY, MAY 15**

**CLEVELAND POLICE MEMORIAL SERVICE**

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

**2014 STREET SURVIVAL SEMINAR**

See above for information.

**HEROES WELCOME RECEPTION**

Horseshoe Casino, 100 Public Square, Cleveland, 7:00 p.m.  
Enjoy an evening of getting reacquainted and meeting new friends.  
*Free admission.*

**FRIDAY, MAY 16**



**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](mailto: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 Mannion, 216-389-0246,  
[jmannion@policememorialsociety.com](mailto: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  
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
*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.

**SATURDAY, MAY 17**

**NATIONAL POLICE COLLECTORS SHOW**

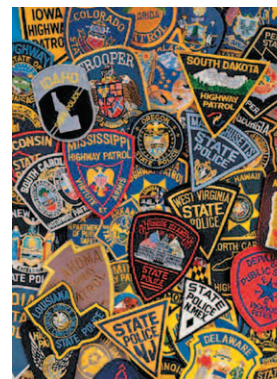
Cleveland Public Auditorium  
500 E. Lakeside Ave.

Sat. May 17, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sun. May 18, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Show will feature over 250 tables of  
displays tables of displays of Law  
Enforcement Insignia, Patches, Badges,  
Toys, Memorabilia, Speciality Shirts,  
License Plates, Model Cars, Uniforms,  
Handcuffs, Nightsticks, and other law  
enforcement collectables and memorabilia.

For Tables contact Sgt. Tony Gorsek,  
216-228-4553,  
[agorsek@city.cleveland.oh.us](mailto:agorsek@city.cleveland.oh.us)



**CLEVELAND INTERNATIONAL TATTOO**

Palace Theatre, Playhouse Square  
1615 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, 7:00 p.m.

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.  
[www.tattooocleveland.com](http://www.tattooocleveland.com)



**AFTER TATTOO CAST PARTY**

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, [jtmartin03@yahoo.com](mailto:jtmartin03@yahoo.com)  
*Free admission to Tattoo performers and attendees.*

**AFTER TATTOO PARTY**

CPPA Zone Car Lounge, 1303 W. 58th St., Music and dancing.  
*Free admission.*

**SUNDAY, MAY 18**

**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.*

The DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel  
Cleveland Downtown-Lakeside is the host hotel for  
the 2014 Police Memorial Commemoration  
216-241-5100  
[doubletree.hilton.com](http://doubletree.hilton.com)

**SPONSORED BY:**



HOSTED BY: GREATER CLEVELAND PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL SOCIETY

RFV 4-25-2014



## 2014 Peace Officers Memorial Parade

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 16. 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 is fortunate this year to share the parade with the Police Car Owner Operators of America (PCOOA) and the National Police Collectors

Association. The PCOOA is planning to have between 50 and 100 vintage police cars in this year's parade. The vehicles will be on display after the memorial service, so bring your camera.

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.

## NATIONAL POLICE COLLECTOR SHOW

*By Tony Gorsek*

The police collectables hobby is an international phenomena with devotees numbering in the thousands, some far more serious than others. Did you know that an old California police patch recently sold for over \$3,400? Highly prized old badges can go for far more!

For many years, the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society (GCPOMS) has hosted a police collectables show to provide yet another venue for members and friends of law enforcement to get together and enjoy each others' company. This small local police collectables show is generally held on Saturday in the ballroom of the host hotel. There you would find over 70 tables filled with patches, badges, t-shirts, hats, toy cars, and all manner of police collectables.

Every year, hobbyists gather for the big annual police collectables show which moves from host city to host city. In 2012, GCPOMS sent a small delegation to St. Louis for the annual National Police

Collectors Show. The delegation was fortunate enough to make a successful pitch to bring the "Big Show" to Cleveland in 2014.

The 2014 National Police Collectors Show comprising 251 tables will be held in Cleveland Public Hall on Saturday, May 17, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and Sunday, May 18, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Collectors and hobbyists who have reserved a table will be able to set up on

Friday, May 16, from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Admission is \$5 and free for children 12 and under. If you have never been to a police collectables show, it is truly a sight to behold. Don't let your unwanted collectables gather dust or be forgotten in the back of some old drawer. Bring them to the show where they can get some love and you can get some money. Buy, sell, and trade. For more information go to [www.2014policecollectorsshow.net](http://www.2014policecollectorsshow.net)

### Lifetime Members Recently Joining

Charles Davis

Joel Edelstein

Richard Flaherty

Bruce Gilson

John Graves

Xavier Kestler

Don Kopchak

Kristen Little

John Petranek

Chuck Piskura

Melanie Ross

William Russell

Michael Schroeder

Jamie Tavano

Barry Dbentley

Martha Grzelak

Noah Jones, Jr.

Charles Lilley

James McManus

Toni Mills

Terry Stephens

Patrick Sullivan

# Special License Plates Help To Raise Public Awareness

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 as of March 1.

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](http://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.



## Honor Our Fallen PLATE COUNTER

**1329**

**as of March 1, 2014**

**You helped us reach our goal  
of 1,000 sets of plates  
by March 1, 2014.**

## 2014 Street Survival Seminar

This year marks the 19th 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](mailto:streetsurvival2014@gmail.com)

*By John J. Thomas, aka J.T.  
CPD retired #687*

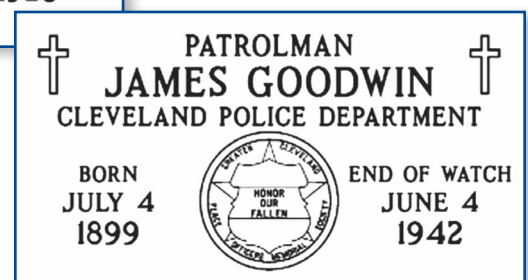
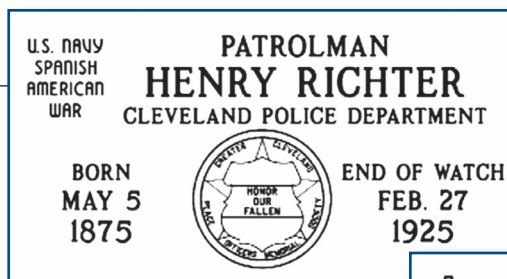


## Headstones for Heroes

Milano Monuments and the Grave Marker Committee have finalized plans to start production on providing headstones for eight fallen police officers who don't currently have a permanent marker. Milano Monuments has generously agreed to manufacture and install the headstones at no cost to GCPOMS. In addition to Milano Monuments contribution, three of the four cemeteries where these officers are

buried, Knollwood Cemetery, Riverside Cemetery, and Calvary Cemetery, have all donated their setting fees. Thank you to those organizations that are making this project possible!

*By Tom Dean*





Greater Cleveland Peace Officers  
Memorial Society  
1300 Ontario Street  
Cleveland, OH 44113



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**Join the  
GCPOMS  
today!**

**Email  
Jennifer at  
jwypasek@  
policememorial  
society.com.**



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| May 9     | - North Olmsted PO Jack Justice Fundraiser, St. Clarence Church Hall, North Olmsted, 440-716-4187 for tickets, \$25, 6:00 pm.  |
| May 10    | - The Hooley on Kamm's Corners, Kamm's Corners, Cleveland, 216-252-6559 or thehooley@kammscorners.com, Noon-8:00 pm.   |
| May 14-15 | - 2104 Street Survival Seminar, DoubleTree-Lakeside Hotel, Cleveland, 847-833-5163, 8:00am-5:00pm  |
| May 15-18 | - Police Memorial Commemoration 2014 (see center of this newsletter)   |
| May 25    | - 10th Annual Firefighters Memorial Ride, Firefighters Memorial on Alfred Lerner Way, Motorcycle staging 9:00 am, Ceremony 10:30 am 440-263-8121 or kiksharley@aol.com |
| Jun. 21   | - Annual Vintage Police Vehicle Show, Cleveland Police Museum, 216-623-5055, Free admission, 10:00 am-3:00 pm.   |
| Jun. 29   | - 6th Annual "Cops Ride," Ride begins at Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial, 440-263-8121 or kiksharley@aol.com 11:00 am.                                       |
| Aug. 24   | - 2nd "Ohio Motor Officers" Poker Run, 440-263-8121 or kiksharley@aol.com  |
| Sep. 7    | - 13th Never Forget 9/11" Location TBD, 440-263-8121 or kiksharley@aol.com   |
| Sep. 27   | - 3-Mile Ride on Pavement (horseback ride, limit 200 horses), Cleveland Mounted Police Ride, Muny Parking Lot, Cleveland, 216-623-5633, \$25, 9:00 am.                 |
| Nov. 15   | - Third Annual CPF Gala, Grand Ballroom of the Renaissance Hotel, Cleveland  |

**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@policememorialsociety.com.  
We reserve the right to edit all  
submissions.**