

# THE 10-4

## A NEWSLETTER OF THE CRANSTON POLICE RETIREE ASSOCIATION



FOUNDER and HONORARY PRESIDENT – RICO MACCARONE

Issue 11, Volume 1  
May 1, 2018

TOGETHER WE SERVED



TOGETHER WE REMEMBER

### 2018- 2019 CPDRA Dues

Please send your \$25.00 check or money order to:  
CPDRA  
C/O Peter Sepe  
374 Congdon Hill Rd.  
Saunderstown, RI 02874

Date for sending in dues for this year is July 30, 2018. THANK YOU.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Meet Det. Paula Duffy</i>	2
<i>X-Cops Breakfast Info</i>	2
<i>Changing of the Guard</i>	2
<i>Attention to Orders</i>	3
<i>Inside Story</i>	4
<i>The Line Up Gallery</i>	4
<i>Dues Application</i>	4

## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Although our presentation has changed, we hope you'll find our new 10-4 format still informative and interesting.

For those that could not attend, here is a brief overview of what transpired at our last CPDRA Meeting:

With the minutes of our last meeting being accepted, our financial report was presented to the members. Presently we have \$5,118.35 in checking and \$1,795.67 in savings. Our total assets to date are \$6,914.10. For those members with email, I will be sending our 2017 financial sheet

for your info.

In an attempt to reach retirees who are not a member of the CPDRA, an email/mail-out was sent last year to increase membership. A total of five new members have now joined our association.

Twenty-one CPDRA shirts were purchased and mailed out to our loyal out-of-state dues paying members. To minimize the cost to the association, the shirts were paid for by the President; with only the CPDRA paying for the shipping.

With our desire to expand the CPD memo-

rial, we now have received a quote of \$7,200.00 to accomplish this task. While this does include landscaping and placement of the stones, it does not include any engraving. Presently we are working with the city and the department on possible funding assistance to complete this project.

While the above information does not include everything discussed at the meeting, I will be sending out a detailed meeting minutes in the very near future.

Thank you,  
Pete Sepe, President

## COLONEL KENNETH MANCUSO HONORED

On a beautiful night last year, retired CPD Colonel, Kenneth R. Mancuso was inducted into the RI Law Enforcement Hall of Fame.

Colonel Mancuso started his Law Enforcement career in 1965. Rising through the ranks, he was promoted to Colonel in 1986 and retired in 1992.

Upon retirement, he served as an Adjunct Professor for Roger Williams University and then as the Director of Security for the RI Convention Center.

Sir, congratulations on this prestigious award; YOU DESERVE IT.

It was an honor to work and serve with you.



Colonel Mancuso

**Honorary President:**  
Rico Maccarone

**President:**  
Peter Sepe

**Vice President:**  
James Perry

**Secretary:**  
Gertrude Fitta

**Treasurer:**  
Mark Sepe

**Managing Editor, 10-4**  
James Ignasher

**Board Members:**  
Robert Baccari  
Richard Gallo  
Gary Nottarianni  
Vincent McAteer Sr.  
Floyd Smith

**Printing:**  
FEDEX, Warwick,, RI

**CPDRA Finances to Date:**

**Savings: \$1,795.75**  
**Checking: \$5,118.35**

**CPDRA Expenditures:**  
**\*Flowers for CPD Memorial: \$125.00**

**\*RI Criminal Just. Hall of Fall Add for Col. Mancuso: \$250.00**

**\*CPD Memorial Engraving: \$136.00**

**\*10-4 Mail out and Admin Supplies: \$136.00**

**\*RI Department of State Treasury: \$20.00**

**\*Postage for Out of State CPDRA Shirts: \$86.00**

**\*Annual Web Site Fee: \$100.00**



## MEET DETECTIVE PAULA DUFFY

In this month's 10-4 we are recognizing Detective Paula Duffy.

Detective Duffy graduated from Burrville HS and then attended RI College earning a Bachelors Degree in Sociology and a minor in Criminal Justice.

On November 23, 1990 she began her CPD career where she spent twelve years in Patrol. In 2002,

she joined the Detective Division.

During her twenty-seven year police career, Detective Duffy has received several Chief's Letters and 1st and 2nd class citations. In 2016 she received a Life Saving Award where she was recognized by the department, the RI VFW and the RI Monthly magazine.

In here spare time, Detective Duffy enjoys swimming at the YMCA, reading and volunteering with helping animals in need.

On behalf the CPDRA, we thank Detective Duffy for her dedicated service and outstanding career. **Stay safe and good luck in the future.**

Photo not available at this time.

## X-COPS BREAKFAST REMINDER

Once again we would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that the guys are still meeting for breakfast on the last Tuesday of every month.

The location for this event is 99 Rolfe St,

Cranston, RI (Mezza Café).

Retirees usually arrive around 8:30am and depart around 10:00am.

If you have a chance, please stop by for some good food and great talk.



## CHANGING OF THE GUARD

As we begin our new calendar year, there has been a change to an officer and board positions.

After serving five years with outstanding service and dedication, Gary Nottarianni has stepped down

as our Vice President. In his place, Jim Perry has now volunteered to assume his position.

We would like to take this opportunity to personally thank Gary for everything his has done

and welcome Jim to his new position.

In turn, Gary has agreed to stay on as a CPDRA Board Member where his common sense approach will be greatly appreciated.

In 1995 the department went through a uniform make over, part of which included a new uniform patch design. The prototype pictured at the right was submitted for consideration, but was rejected in favor of the current patch worn by Cranston officers.

Of the six prototypes that were produced, only two are known to have survived.



## “Attention to Orders” - NEVER TO BE FORGOTTEN



During each issue of the 10-4 Newsletter, we will take this opportunity to honor those CPD members who are no longer with us and who continually placed their lives on the line to serve and protect the citizens of Cranston, R.I.

**Officer Russell B. Gross.** Born in Newport and growing up in Providence, Russ was the son of the late William H. and Alice (Brown) Gross. He was a graduate of Hope High School and a veteran of the US Army Air Corps having served during WW II. As a member of the department, Officer Gross was a members of the International Brotherhood of Police Officers and the Fraternal Order of Police. Officer Gross is survived by his loving son Russell B. Gross Jr. and numerous relatives. Russ passed away on June 20, 2017.

**Officer Cheryl J. Zola.** Officer Zola was born in East Lansing, Michigan and raised in New York and Warwick, RI to the parents of Joseph and Joan Zola. At the age of 29, Cheryl was hired onto the Cranston Police Department where she honorably served the citizens of Cranston until her retirement. Officer Zola is survived by her parents, two sons Jeremy and Jared Sturdahl and their spouses Chrystal and Dorrae, four grandchildren, and four spouses. Cheryl passed away unexpectedly on February 4, 2018.

**Detective Frank Zito.** Born in Providence, he was the son of the late Frank J. and Elena (Gallo) Zito. Detective Zito joined the department in 1968 and retired with the rank of Detective after 28 years of service. Frank was survived by his wife Phyllis (Glasberg) Zito, his loving sons John F. Zito and his wife Glo of LaMesa, CA, Ronald F. Zito of Cranston, and his cherished granddaughter Penelope A. Zito of North Providence. Frank passed away peacefully on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 at the Port St. Lucie Medical Center in Florida.

Does anyone have a copy of **Bruce Andersen’s** obituary? We need it to add him to the memoriam section of the website. Please contact us with any information. Thank you.

### John Bigbee—Cranston’s First Chief of Police

The office of Chief of Police in Cranston was created in 1886, however, the Chief’s job wasn’t as we know it to be today. His job was originally that of a prohibition agent!

John Bigbee was a man active in local affairs and politics, and wore, as the saying goes, many hats. The positions he held included Fish and Game Warden, Police Constable, Constable to Serve Civil Process, Liquor Enforcement Officer, Truant Officer, Overseer of the Poor, and Town Sergeant—many at the same time.

In the early days of the Cranston Police Department, it was the Town Sergeant who commanded the police constables. This was an elected position with elections occurring every June. In 1886 an anti-alcohol prohibition movement gained political headway in Rhode Island and Cranston appointed a group of constables dedicated to only enforcing liquor law violations. These men were in effect, prohibition agents. Cranston then established the office of Chief of Police. It was the Chief’s job to command the prohibition constables,, while the regular police constables would still be under the command of the Town Sergeant. One would think this caused a separation of power within the department, but John Bigbee was elected both Chief and Town Sergeant, and held both positions until his death in 1908.

The position of Town Sergeant was merged with that of the Chief when Cranston became a city in 1910.

Chief Bigbee was the first Cranston officer to die in the line of duty. In November of 1908 he was injured while fighting a fire at a farm on Gansett Avenue. The wound became infected, and he died of “blood poisoning” on December 11, 1908.

He’s buried in St. Mary’s Cemetery.

Constable William O. Towne served as temporary chief until the June, 1909, elections.



Chief John Bigbee

# THE LINEUP GALLERY



Off. Steven Agresti



Off. Henry Luther



Off. Conrad Schinse



Off. Fred Simmons



Off. Ralph DeBlasio



Off. Edward Campbell



Off. Joseph Maciorowski



Off. Paul Trainor



Off. Russ Gross (D)



Sgt Thomas Lanzi (D)



Sgt Charles Beckman (D)



Off. Clifford Schultz (D)

**LEGEND: (D) after a retiree's last name in the "Line Up Gallery" indicates the officer has passed away.**

## 2018—2019 Dues

In an effort to update our membership data base, please complete the below information on this form. Once completed, (Please Print), detach the form and send it with a \$25.00 check or money order to CPDRA, C/O Peter Sepe, 374 Congdon Hill Rd., Saunderstown, RI 02874.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_.

Mailing Address (Include zip code): \_\_\_\_\_.

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_.

**Date for submitting your dues for the 2018—2019 is July 30, 2018.**