

# Retiree Outlook

VOLUME 2007.09, SEPTEMBER 2007

## Annual Police Retiree BBQ/Picnic Planned for Oct. 6

The annual Police Retiree Barbecue/Picnic is scheduled for Saturday, October 6, 2007 at Hogg Park in Quitman, TX.

To reach the park, take US Highway 69 north from Tyler to Mineola; then go north on State Highway 37 for about 8 miles to Quitman. The park is off State Highway 37 about 6 blocks south of the Wood County Courthouse.

For more information, call Bobby Joe Dale at 972.291.1657, Karen Graham at 214.924.4104, or Cline Wright at 903.878.2945.



## Retiree and Wife Named Top Citizens of Van Zandt County



*Albert and Lou Ellen Bliss*

Congratulations to Albert and Lou Ellen Bliss. They were named Man and Woman of the Year by the Van Zandt County Commissioners Court. Albert Bliss retired from the DPD as a Sergeant in 1987.

The Blisses run the non-profit recycling entity, the Canton area Reclamation Station. The couple started their professional recycling efforts in 2005, with the specific goal of providing jobs for special needs adults, as well as improving the community. The couple also serves special needs adults through a ministry at their church, First United Methodist of Canton.

## Benefits Counselor Remembered

On Monday, August 20, Pension System Benefits Counselor **Kathy Bannon** passed away, after a prolonged illness.

Kathy was born March 5, 1947 in New York City to Rudolph and Mary Hillebrenner.

Kathy joined the Pension System in March of 2003, after working in business,

health care, payroll systems, and the computer services industry. Kathy attended the University of Texas in Austin.



She is survived by her son, daughter-in-law, five sisters, a brother, and many nieces and nephews.

## IN MEMORIAM

Nadine Ballard  
Widow of  
Clifford J. Ballard  
Police - Retired

Adelle Coker  
Widow of Charles B. Andres  
Police - Retired

Richard W. Gray  
Fire - Retired

Billy Alvis Johnson  
Fire - Retired

Johnnie H. McCoy  
Police - Retired

John B. Nelson  
Police - Retired

Harold W. Pitchford  
Fire - Retired

Eleanor Stringer  
Widow of  
Henry H. Stringer  
Police - Retired

Virginia Withrow  
Widow of  
Bennie F. Withrow  
Fire - Retired

## When the Pensioner Dies

One of the most difficult situations in life is handling the death of a loved one. In addition to the shock of losing your spouse or parent, there's the task of making all the final arrangements and settling the finances.

A big concern to pensioners is the welfare of their families in the event of their death.

Police and Fire Pensioners and their families are fortunate to have an extra support system involving Police and Fire Chaplains.

Additionally, your Pensioner Advocate, Gale Paul, or your Assistant Pensioner Advocate, Yvette Hall will assist survivors with phone calls and pension forms for possible survivor benefits.

### *Who to Call:*

- ***The Dallas Police & Fire Pension System***

Gale Paul or Yvette Hall

214.638.3863 or  
1.800.638.3861

Notify us as soon as possible after the pensioner's death. We are available Monday – Friday, 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

- ***Fire-Rescue Department***

Chaplains:

David Smith, 214.670.8850  
Robert Winters, 214.670.8851,  
Ray Edwards, 214.670.4263

- ***Police Department***

Family Service Officers:

Sr. Cpl. Reed Higgins,  
Sr. Cpl. Julie Arnott,  
214.671.4438 or Sr. Cpl.  
Gina Lasby, 214.671.4435

## City Health Insurance and Medicare Info for Those Approaching 65

By Gale Paul, Your Pensioner Advocate



Are you currently covered by City of Dallas retiree health insurance? Will you celebrate your 65th birthday this year or next? If you answered yes to both questions, please read on!

I hope the following information will help you through the process of changing coverage.

1. Your Medicare will be effective the 1st day of your birthday month. If your birthday is the 1st, then your Medicare is effective the 1st day of the prior month.

2. If you are currently receiving a Social Security check, a Medicare card will automatically be mailed to you.

3. If you are not receiving a Social Security check, please contact Social Security, 1.800.772.1213, three months before your birthday month. You can be on Medicare and wait until you are at "full retirement age" to receive your Social Security retirement.

4. Medicare includes: Part A – hospitalization, skilled nursing facility care, blood, hospice care, and home health care; Part B – physician services, inpatient and outpatient medical and surgical services and supplies,

physical and speech therapy, diagnostic tests, durable medical equipment.

There's no monthly premium for Medicare Part A if you have earned 40 credits (quarters) into the Social Security system. You may be eligible to draw on a spouse's account (even an ex-spouse) if she/he receives Social Security benefits or is eligible to receive them.

Part B does have monthly premiums. For 2007, the minimum monthly premium is \$93.50. Medicare will announce the cost for 2008 premiums in November.

5. The Medicare Supplement Plans require you to have both Medicare Part A and Part B. The City of Dallas offers Medicare Supplement Plans through AARP and also Medicare Complete "HMO" Plans through SecureHorizons.

You choose the Medicare Supplement Plan that is best for you.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The City does not allow a retiree or spouse to continue with their PPO or EPO coverage after their 65th birthday.

6. Couples can split their coverage. For example, the retiree changes to a Medicare

## CONGRATULATIONS NEW RETIREES!

### *FIRE-RESCUE*

John M. Bell

Robert A. Davis

Jeffrey W. Harrington

Richard W. Towery

Sidney R. Whitaker

### **POLICE**

Robert S. Holt

Steven C. Hull

Rex E. Post

Dana S. Whitaker

Supplement Plan offered by AARP and the spouse remains on the PPO Plan, since she/he is not yet 65 years old.

7. Three months prior to your 65th birthday month, call AARP and/or SecureHorizons, identify yourself as "A City of Dallas retiree or the spouse of a City of Dallas retiree", and request an application/enrollment packet.

(AARP 1.800.392.7537 or SecureHorizons 1.800.792.9492)

Review the information and decide which Medicare Supplement Plan is best for you.

*Continued on pg.6*



Jim Stone

Larry Slocum



L.Z. Taylor



J.R. Marlow

Bill Barnes



Jackie and Pat Johnson



Kenny Fort

Archie Kelly



Tommie and Judy Elliott



Greg Holliday



Judge Maurice "Chrome" Harrell



Pat and R.B. Wilson



Shirlie and Sammy Rankin

# OCTOBER 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Retired Police Annual BBQ/ Picnic (See pg. 1)
7 Retired Police and Firefighters Association Meeting	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 REGULAR BOARD MEETING	19	20
21	22	23	24 "Young at Heart" Police and Fire Widows and Widowers Luncheon	25 Retired and Active Police Breakfast	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**7** DALLAS RETIRED POLICE AND FIRE FIGHTER ASSOCIATION MEETING  
 Sunday, Oct. 7, 1 P.M. at the Salesmanship Club, Tenth and Beckley (Oak Cliff), Dallas

**18** REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
 Thursday, Oct. 13, 8:30 a.m.  
 2301 N. Akard Street, Dallas

**24** "YOUNG AT HEART" LUNCH  
 Wednesday, Oct. 24, 11:00 a.m.  
 Highland Park Cafeteria (formerly Casa Linda Cafeteria)  
 Buckner & Garland Road, Dallas

**25** RETIRED AND ACTIVE POLICE BREAKFAST  
 Thursday, Oct. 25, 9:00 a.m.  
 Circle Grill, I-30 and Buckner, Dallas

# Good News From Your Fellow Pensioners

## Anniversary Wishes

**Robert and Sherry Jaffe** celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on August 29. Bob served with the Dallas Police Department from 1955 until 1982.



*Robert and Sherry Jaffe*

**Robert and Ann Foster** celebrated their 40th Wedding Anniversary on August 19. Bob served with the Dallas Fire Department for 32 years. They have 3 children, 6 grandchildren, and 2 great grandchildren.



*Robert and Ann Foster*

Please send **Good News** items by e-mail to:

**info@dpfp.org**

or to:

**Dallas Police & Fire Pension System,**

**Attn. Kevin,**

**2301 N. Akard Street,  
Suite 200, Dallas,  
Texas 75201**

*(Submitted items are printed as space permits)*

### *City Health Insurance and Medicare... (continued from page 3)*

Complete the application and return to either AARP or SecureHorizons.

8. Next, call the City of Dallas Benefit Service Center, 1.888.873.7692. (I recommend you call the day you mailed the above application.) You will inform the BSC representative when your Medicare will be in effect and which Medicare Supplement Plan you selected. Also, advise if your spouse will continue with her/his city coverage.

9. **CAUTION:** If you select one of the AARP Medicare Supplement Plans – you will not have a Prescription Plan.

The City of Dallas offers an Enhanced Medicare Pre-

scription Plan. There is no deductible and the retail co-pays are as follows:

-- *Most generic drugs are \$10.00*

-- *Preferred name brand drugs are \$25.00*

-- *Non-preferred, specialty drugs are \$50.00*

The prescription mail order service provides a 90 day supply at two times the monthly retail co-pay. Also this plan has continuous coverage through the “gap/doughnut hole”.

The Monthly premiums for the City of Dallas Enhanced Medicare Prescription Plan are:

-- *Retiree \$76.47*

-- *Spouse \$152.94*

Or, you may decide to obtain an individual Medicare Prescription Plan. Your pharmacist can help you determine which Plans cover your specific drugs.

10. Lastly, remember as a retiree, the City of Dallas continues to pay a portion of your monthly premium for city sponsored coverage. Also, retiree health insurance deductions are at the end of the month, for that month.

Thanks,

*Gale*

*Gale Paul,  
Your Pensioner Advocate*

# Dallas Retired Police and Fire Fighters Association



*Leslie Warnock  
President*

We were honored by having representatives from the Texas Border Volunteers at our meeting, where they presented a very interesting and informative program regarding the problems along the Texas border with Mexico.

Steve and Jean Swan presented a slide presentation regarding some of the functions the Texas Border Volunteers are involved with and facts and figures regarding illegal entry into the United States. Gary Henderson was the coordinator of the program. It was very informative and perhaps “eye-opening” to those that were in

attendance. We have asked if they would like to come again after the first of the year – and they said yes!

All members and guests that attended this meeting wish to give Dick Langran a big thanks for getting the Texas Border Volunteers to come and present their program.

The attendance for this meeting was down a little due to the Holiday weekend, but we had 41 members present and 5 guests. Our guests were: Steve Swan; Jean Swan; Gary Henderson; Bob and Ann Foster. Congratulations to Bob and Ann Foster on their 40th Anniversary.

Come join us on the first Sunday of each month at

1:00 PM at the J. Erik Johnson Salesmanship Club, 106 Tenth Street at Beckley, Dallas Texas. You won't be disappointed, and you will meet and make new friends, and perhaps reacquaint some of your old friends, have fun, fellowship, and wonderful food furnished by the members of our association. If you have a special culinary favorite, prepare and bring it to the meeting, we will be very happy to sample it!

*Leslie L. Warnock  
President of Dallas RPFPA*

## Golf Anyone?

All interested 50 and older Fire and Police Retirees are invited to participate in a Golf tournament at Buffalo Creek Golf Course in Rockwall on Thursday, October 25. The format will be a four-man scramble with a shotgun start. A putting contest begins at 7:30 a.m., and the tee-off time is set for 8 a.m.

The total cost is \$45.00 per player, which includes cart, green fees, lunch and prizes. If you would like to register or receive more information, call Archie Kelly at 972.722.3229.



*Pictured from left to right are Dick Langran (Fire Retiree), Gary Henderson, Steve Swan, and Jean Swan (Texas Border Volunteers). The photo was taken by Leslie Warnock.*

## From the Administrator

By Richard Tettamant, Pension System Administrator



In this month's newsletter, we fondly remember one of our staff members, Kathy Bannon, who passed away last month. Kathy was one of our Benefits Counselors, and always displayed such a positive attitude. She will be dearly missed (*see story on page 2*).

Also, this is the time of the year that we set the budget for next year. The Board reviewed the 2008 Administrative and Professional Services budgets at its September 13th meeting. First reading of the budget will be at the October 18th Board meeting. The second and final reading will be at the November 8th meeting.

The proposed budget may be changed or amended at either the October or November meetings. These meetings are opportunities for you to provide input to the Board. The budget will be considered on each date at 10 a.m. at the Pension System office, 2301 N. Akard Street, in the first floor Conference Room.

There is good news for those in DROP. The Board approved an increase in the DROP interest rate to 10%, effective October 1.

As always, call us if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Richard Tettamant, Administrator

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

GERALD BROWN  
Chairman

STEVEN G. SHAW  
Vice Chairman

GARY W. EDGE  
Deputy Vice Chairman

JOHN M. MAYS  
RECTOR C. McCOLLUM  
GEORGE J. TOMASOVIC  
STEVEN H. UMLOR  
RICHARD H. WACHSMAN

RICHARD L. TETTAMANT  
Administrator

BRIAN F. BLAKE  
Assistant Administrator

DONALD C. ROHAN  
Assistant Administrator

EVERARD DAVENPORT  
General Counsel

MIKE TAYLOR  
Chief Financial Officer



RETIREE OUTLOOK  
VOLUME 2007-08  
SEPTEMBER, 2007

PUBLISHED BY THE  
DALLAS POLICE &  
FIRE PENSION SYSTEM

CALL US AT  
214.638.3863 OR  
1.800.638.3861

WWW.DPFP.ORG  
INFO@DPFP.ORG

2301 N. AKARD ST.  
SUITE 200  
DALLAS, TX 75201

FIRST CLASS  
PRESORT  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT #2454  
DALLAS, TX