



THE INFORMER

VIRGINIA STATE POLICE ASSOCIATION

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February 2005

VSPA Conference to be held March 11-13

Don't miss out on the 31st Annual Virginia State Police Association Conference scheduled for March 11-13, 2005 at the Ramada Plaza Resort Oceanfront in Virginia Beach.

Highlights of this conference include honoring Sen. John Chichester, who has been a long-time supporter of the Virginia State Police. We are going to make Senator Chichester an honorary member of the Virginia State Police Association.

We also will hear from both the Republican and Democrat candidates for Governor. Former Attorney General Jerry Kilgore and Lt. Gov. Tim Kaine will speak at our Saturday events.

Lt. Gov. Kaine will address the members at the Saturday brunch.

Former Attorney General Jerry Kilgore will be the guest



Ramada Oceanfront Hotel in Virginia Beach

speaker at the Saturday evening dinner.

Theme for this year's conference is Celebrate America with a Red, White and Blue Theme.

Registration forms are in this issue of The Informer or by calling the VSPA office at (804) 320-6272.

We will also have the vendors showing off the latest in police supplies, including gear and wearpons.

Hope to see you there!

Contest for free reg. fees for first-timers

For the third year in a row, the Virginia State Police Association is encouraging those who have never attended a VSPA conference to enter for a complimentary conference registration.

Anyone who is a VSPA member may enter the contest for a complimentary conference registration as long as they have not attended a conference before.

To enter, send your name, address and telephone number to: VSPA Conference Contest, 6944 Forest Hill Ave., Richmond, VA 23225.

The deadline to register for the contest is Feb. 25, 2005. See form on page 5.

VSPA board focuses on issues

Dear Membership:

The New Year has arrived and the VSPA is working on our 2005 legislative agenda. In January, we met with some of the leaders in the Senate and talked with them about our concerns and issues.

Since this is a short legislative session, we are focusing on health care issues. There have been several bills already introduced to address these matters.

Senator Wampler has introduced a bill which provides health care at state expense to our 85 disabled retirees.

Senator Potts has introduced a bill to increase health care credits for all retirees.

There also have been some bills introduced to enhance the retirement multiplier. Wayne will further discuss our legislative activities during his update in this newsletter.

We are using the Internet to communicate with our members in a timely manner. We are sending out legislative updates, board minutes and other pertinent information via e-mail.



If you are on our e-mail list, you are already up to speed on what has been happening during this legislative session. For those of you who aren't, we encourage you to get on our e-mail list to keep informed and get active in your VSPA.

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During the past several months, the VSPA has been working on

expanding benefits to the members.

We are now in the process of finding an insurance company that will provide long term care insurance for our members at a group or discount rate.

We are establishing a new scholarship program for VSPA members only. This scholarship will be for VSPA members who are in good standing and furthering their educational goals. We will keep you informed on the progress of the above listed member benefits.

We have negotiated an agreement with Oakley allowing our members to purchase Oakley eyewear through the VSPA at 50% off retail prices.

Also, we have added a variety of new items to our merchandise room. Come by the office and see what is new or visit us on the web at www.vspa.org.

Take care. Looking forward to seeing you at the conference.

Ed Haith

Legislative update from VSPA

The 2005 Session of the General Assembly is winding down. And the Virginia State Police Association still has a number of issues before both Houses of the Legislature that are alive and well. I have attempted to keep our members apprised of the various bills, including their patrons, that have been introduced.

These bills cover a variety of topics from the provision of health care to our disabled retirees and the increase in the health care credits for all retirees to a number of bills increasing the retirement multiplier. Some of those bills and their current status are as follows:

(Note: HB = House Bill, SB = Senate Bill)

HB 1521 – Delegate Callahan (R-Fairfax) Increases multiplier from 1.7 to 2.0 for 25 or more years of creditable service and retains the supplement. Tabled in House Appropriations.

HB 1626 & HB 1627 – Delegate Putney (I-Bedford) Removes the current cap of \$120 for health insurance credits and raises the credit from \$4 per year to \$6 per years. Passed House, now before Senate.

HB 1637 – Delegate Callahan (R-Fairfax) Increases multiplier to 2.7, eliminates the minimum retirement age with 25 years of creditable service and eliminates the supplement. Rolled into HB 2660.

HB 1738 – Delegate Cosgrove (R-Chesapeake) Provides for the

reimbursement of health care costs to those 85 disabled/retired Troopers effective 7/1/05. Passed House unanimously. Now in Senate.

HB 1866 – Delegate Morgan (R-Gloucester) Increases health care credit for 25 or more years of creditable service from \$4 to \$7 per year and increases cap from \$120 to \$210. Rolled into HB 1626 & 1627.

HB 1996 – Delegate Griffith (R-Salem) Creates tiered system of retirement by incrementally increasing multiplier from 1.7 to 3.0 at 5 year breaks starting at 25 years and concluding at 40 or more years of service. Tabled in House Appropriations.

HB 2309 – Delegate Griffith (R-Salem) & SB 1291 – Senator Edwards (D-Roanoke) Identical bills that define hypertension to include stroke, cerebrovascular accident or any cerebral vascular event. HB 2309 killed in House Commerce & Labor Committee. SB 1291 passed Senate. Now before House.

HB 2660 – Delegate McDonnell (R-Va Beach) Increase multiplier to 2.7, removes minimum age for retirement with 25 or more years of service and eliminates supplement. Tabled in House Appropriations.

SB 727 – Senator Potts (R-Winchester) Increases health care credits from \$4 to \$6 per year and removes cap of \$120. Killed by Senate Finance.

SB 878 – Senator Wampler (R-

Bristol) Provides for health care coverage by the State for those 85 retired/disabled Troopers. Passed Senate unanimously. Now in House.

SB 1043 – Senator Martin (R-Chesterfield) Increases health care credit from \$4 to \$6 per year of creditable service and creates new cap of \$180. Killed in Senate Finance.

This list is not all of the bills we are monitoring; however, they are certainly some of the most important. We also are monitoring bills that concern a variety of law enforcement issues.

The VSPA is sending out emails daily updating our members on these and other matters. If you are not on our email list, please provide us with your current email address so that we can add you to the distribution. Also, you can check on the progress of these as well as any other legislative matter by going to <http://legis.state.va.us/>.

If you feel particularly strongly about any of these issues, I recommend you contact your Delegate and Senator immediately. A complete listing of the members of the General Assembly is included at the aforementioned website along with their contact information.

I will provide a complete legislative briefing at the conference. Hope to see you there.

Wayne



Trooper J.G. Armstrong arranged a visit to a Fredericksburg hospital to distribute Trooper Teddies to hospitalized children for the holidays.

Area 5 Troopers give hospitalized children Trooper Teddies

Virginia State Troopers, Sergeants, and Special Agents brought Trooper Teddies, coloring books, and large boxes of crayons for children who were hospitalized during the holidays.

Sean Fregoso, the second division representative for the Virginia State Police Association, donated the Trooper Teddies for the program.

Trooper J.G. Armstrong, who is assigned to Area 5,

Fredericksburg, implemented the event. Trooper Armstrong said he got the idea when he received a mailing asking for a donation.

“Children’s Hospital sent me a letter asking for a donation so they could buy teddy bears for sick children. I sent in a donation and thought it would be nice to do the same for kids here. I was really shocked when my daughter offered her personal Trooper Teddy to give away; I

was surprised that she was that considerate at such a young age.”

In attendance at the event were Sergeant Les Tyler, Trooper Debbie King, Agent Sean Fregoso, and Trooper Armstrong. The involvement of troopers’ spouses helped make this event so successful. Sandy Armstrong and Teresa Tyler purchased coloring books, crayons, and took time off to help distribute the trooper teddies.

VSPA offers pre-paid legal plan/ID theft plan to retirees

The Virginia State Police Association has joined forces with Greg Brewer of Pre-Paid Legal Services Inc. to provide retired VSPA members access to a discount pre-paid legal service and identity theft protection plan.

This program is similar to the program offered to current members of the Department,

which was not available to retirees until now. For a monthly fee, members have access to a variety of services from attorneys enrolled in the plan including writing letters on your behalf, writing a will, etc.

There also is an additional option, called the Identity Theft Shield, which provides a

constant monitoring of members’ credit reports and identity restoration if someone steals your identity.

For more information on these plans, contact Greg Brewer at (703) 237-2705 or check out his website at <http://www.greg-brewer.com/>.

New blue wristband supports COPS, slain officers' families

Camdenton, MO, - Concerns of Police Survivors has developed and is marketing a blue wristband to enable people to display their support for the surviving families of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty.

The bands are inscribed simply, "COPS . . . Healing, Love, Life Renewed."

The idea was presented to COPS by the United States Secret Service Employee Recreation Association, sponsors of the annual NPC-50, a national law enforcement team relay race that also benefits COPS.

USSS-ERA Executive Director Kam Flynn said, "We think that COPS and survivors need to know that we support

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The bands are inscribed simply, "COPS...Healing, Love, Life Renewed."

them all year, not just during the NPC-50 race. America needs to be aware that law enforcement officers make the ultimate sacrifice between 150 and 160 times each year across this country. Concerns of Police Survivors has been around for over 20 years helping surviving families

rebuild their lives. COPS has kept law enforcement's promise to take care of our own by helping survivors heal and rebuild their devastated lives. COPS is providing a living memorial for the officers who have been slain."

The wristbands are available in youth and adult sizes.

Each pack of 10 is \$20.

The order forms are available at: www.nationalcops.org/pr01.htm.

For more information about Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., or to help support COPS' programs, contact COPS at (573) 346-4911, or e-mail cops@nationalcops.org.

Visit the COPS website at www.nationalcops.org.

VSPA 30th Annual Conference Free Registration First-Time Attendees Contest

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Contest entries are due by 5 p.m. on Feb. 25, 2005. Send entry to: VSPA Conference Contest, 6944 Forest Hill Ave., Richmond, VA 23225, Attn: Sandra Winfree. Entry forms may be faxed to: (804) 320-2616 or emailed to Sandrawinfree@vspa.org. Winners will be selected in a random drawing. Prize is non-transferable.

RAMADA®

PLAZA RESORT O C E A N F R O N T

Virginia State Police Association

DATES: March 10 – 13, 2005

RATES: \$79.00 Oceanfront
 \$79.00 Pool view / City view
 \$99.00 Tower Club
 \$129.00 Two Room Suite
 \$189.00 Three Room Suite

Single or double occupancy plus 13% tax per room, per night, plus \$1.00 Virginia Beach City Lodging Tax per room, per night. Each room is now equipped with a permanent in-room safe. A nominal daily fee of \$1.05 (a security warranty charge) provides every registered guest room with \$5,000 worth of protection against forced entry for items secured in the safe. Children under 18 free in parent's room. \$10.00 extra for each adult over double occupancy per night. \$.50 per local call.

The above rates will be in effect three days prior to your scheduled arrival date and three days after your scheduled departure date only. CHECK-IN AFTER 4PM, CHECK-OUT BY 11AM.

Type of Room Desired: 1st Choice _____ 2nd Choice _____
Smoking _____ Non-Smoking _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone Number _____ Email _____

Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Name _____ Signature _____

Your credit card will be processed for the first night's stay including tax (Most major credit cards accepted).

ARRIVAL DATE _____ DEPARTURE DATE _____

of Adults _____ # of Children _____

Rooms are reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. One night's deposit by check or credit card is required with each reservation. Release date for unreserved rooms is **February 9, 2005**. Any reservations received after this date will be accepted on a space available basis.

Make your check payable to: **Ramada Plaza Resort**
5700 Atlantic Ave
Virginia Beach, VA 23451
Attn: Lizz Gladney, Reservations Manager
Fax: 757-428-2921

Cancellations must be made no later than **THREE** days prior to your arrival date or your first night's deposit will be forfeited.

The Virginia State Police Association
31st Annual Conference
March 11-13, 2005

Conference Registration Form
RAMADA PLAZA RESORT ~ OCEANFRONT
Virginia Beach, Virginia

CONFERENCE

Conference Registration Fee is \$100 per couple until 3/7/05 afterwards \$150 per couple and \$50 for single until 3/7/05 afterwards for \$100 for single

Name of Association Member: _____
(as you wish it to appear on nametag)

Name of Association Member/Guest: _____
(as you wish it to appear on nametag)

Home Phone#: _____ Work Phone #: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: VA Zip Code: _____

E-mail Address: _____

6TH ANNUAL PRESIDENT'S CUP GOLF TOURNAMENT

March 11, 2005 at 9 a.m.

If you are interested in playing, please contact Roy Kyle at 276.429.2470 or by e-mail at rlkyle@naxs.com
PENDING WEATHER – MONIES WILL BE COLLECTED THE MORNING OF THE TOURNAMENT

SEATING ARRANGEMENTS

Please seat the following persons at my table (maximum of FIVE couples per table)
(Seating Arrangements will be honored upon receipt of payment with registration!)

- 1.) ME AND MY SPOUSE/GUEST
- 2.) _____
- 3.) _____
- 4.) _____
- 5.) _____

CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

Friday Night

Buffet # _____
(theme – Celebrate America
Red, white and blue)

Saturday's Events

Awards Brunch/Lunch # _____
Wine Tasting Seminar # _____
Sat. Night Dinner # _____

PAYMENT METHOD

Cash: \$ _____ (Walk-ins Only)

Check: \$ _____ (Make Checks Payable to VSPA Exp. Date: _____)

Charge: \$ _____ M/C or VISA Card Number: _____

Mail to VSPA; Attention Sandra; 6944 Forest Hill Avenue; Richmond, VA 23225 or Fax (804) 320.2616
For conference questions, please call Sandra @ (804) 320.6272

VIRGINIA STATE POLICE ASSOCIATION

6944 Forest Hill Ave., Richmond, Va 23225

2005 Membership Form

*****Please complete entire form. This form helps us keep your record up to date.*****

Last Name First Name MI Social Security No. Sex: Male Female Today's Date: Address: City: State: Zip: Telephone: Work Home E-mail: Marital Status: Married Single No. of Dependents: Your Birth date: Division No.: Area No.: Rank: Status of Employment: Full-Time Retirement Status: Regular Retirement Retired Disability

I. MEMBERSHIP STATUS (Please check one):

- New Membership Dues: \$10 Enrollment Fee + see prorated schedule at the bottom of the form.
Annual Membership Dues & Retired Members who have not received severance grant: \$120
Lifetime Members (Previously paid lifetime fees)
Retired Membership Dues: \$60 (This amount is paid after the member has received Severance Grant)

II. METHOD OF PAYMENT (Please check one):

- Enclosed is my check, payable to VSPA in the amount of \$ Check No.
MasterCard or Visa charge \$ Account No.

Signature exp.

- My dues are currently being deducted from my paycheck
I would like my dues to be deducted in equal amounts of \$10 per month from my paycheck. (Should I decide to stop my payroll deduction contact the VSP payroll Dept.)

Signature

- Please check here if you do NOT want your dues to be utilized by the Political Action Committee.

Prorated dues: ~ Available ONLY to those joining for the first time:

Table with 2 columns: Month and Amount. Rows: January \$120, February \$110, March \$100, April \$90, May \$80, June \$70, July \$60, August \$50, September \$40, October \$30, November \$20, December \$10.

Dues are \$120 regardless of when paid. In addition to the prorated dues listed above for first time members. First-time members must pay a one-time enrollment fee of \$10.

For Office Use Only

- Lifetime
Annual Renewal
Retired Renewal
New Member

Membership Coordinator

Payment: Dues Deduction Check Cash Charge

Please return to keep files current