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"The Club with a Heart"

THE HUNDRED CALL

RALPH A. GIANANTI
 President

VOLUME XXXVI, NO. 3 Phone (860) 633-8357 Fax (860) 633-8350 e-mail: hundred@portone.com www.hundredclubofct.org Joseph A. Owens, Editor JULY 2004

Memorial Service Notes 1896 Death



Though no law enforcer in Connecticut lost his/or her life in the line of duty during the past year, a name was added to the memorial on the grounds of the Connecticut Police Academy in Meriden,

during ceremonies May 19. The name is Officer Florence B. Sullivan of the Danbury Police Dept. The date of his death is listed at Sept. 8, 1896.

Danbury Police Officer Gary Guertin, while conducting research at the Danbury Museum and Historical Society, came across information that Mr. Sullivan, who was brutally beaten by five men, had died from injuries sustained while on duty. This was made clear when the local government compensated his family. Last November Danbury Chief Robert L. Paquette submitted *(continued on page 2)*

"Hundred Call" Now Online

Meeting Reminder

The Hundred Club's annual meeting and cocktail party will be held Thursday, Oct. 21 at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, Cromwell. The committee planning the event is continuing to develop the program.

Committee Chairman Peter H. Guerra and President Ralph A. Giansanti are asking members to reserve the date. They noted that last year the meeting was held on a Wednesday evening. It is on a Thursday evening this year. The event will begin at 6 p.m. and conclude at 8 p.m.

Messrs. Guerra and Giansanti emphasized that remarks by club officials will be brief. Members are encouraged to bring guests.

Full details will be published in the next issue of *The Hundred Call*. ■

Electronic Option Details Explained

Members of The Hundred Club now have the option of receiving *The Hundred Call* online instead of a "hard copy" via the mail.

Managing Director William E. Sydenham, Jr. said that members who wish to take advantage of the electronic option should visit the club's website, www.hundredclubofct.org. From the home page the member should select the "Newsletter Articles" link where the instructions for a signup page will be located. After completing and submitting the brief form, the member will receive an e-mail asking for confirmation of the member's subscription.

After electing the online newsletter option, each time an issue of *The Hundred Call* is published members will receive an e-mail containing a direct link to the current issue.

Mr. Sydenham emphasized that if an issue is of particular interest to a member, the member can call or e-mail the club's office and request a hard copy.

The Board of Directors believes that if a substantial number of members decide to receive *The Hundred Call* by way of their computers there could be a significant reduction in the printing and postage expense related to *The Hundred Call*.

Shortly after The Hundred Club was launched in 1967, the officers and directors decided that a publication was needed to keep members informed of the club's activities. ■



Danbury Chief Robert L. Paquette – New Haven Chief (Ret.) William Farrell – Danbury Officer Gary Guertin.

30th Annual Golf Day July 28 at Tunxis

For the 30th consecutive year The Hundred Club will conduct its annual day of golf. Two separate tournaments will be played at Tunxis Plantation Country Club, Farmington, on Wednesday, July 28. Both events will get underway with a shotgun start at 10 a.m.

As has been the practice for many years there will be prizes for the longest drive in both tournaments and the tee shots closest to the pin on designated par 3 holes.

In addition to awards for the individual low gross and low net scores, the low gross team scores will be recognized. The best scores of three golfers in the foursome will be tabulated. This 3-ball team play was introduced last year and, according to the Golf Committee, was a popular addition.

Sponsors Openings Data on Page 4

The fee for golfers is \$125. This includes use of a golf cart, greens fee, lunch (on the course) and the steak dinner. Non-golfers are invited to enjoy the lunch and dinner. The fee is \$40. The free raffle will be held during the dinner.

Managing director William E. Sydenham, Jr. said all golfers should arrive and register at least 30 minutes early. Coffee and breakfast pastries will be available. Also, the driving range and putting green will be open.

The Hundred Club held its first golf tournament in 1975 at Banner Lodge, Moodus. It was organized by Managing Director Carroll E. Shaw. He called it "A Day in the Country." Non-golfers were invited to use the swimming pool, tennis courts and other recreational facilities at the resort operated by Jack Banner. ■

Will President Win?

There is little doubt that President Ralph Giansanti is one of the best, if not the best golfer, to hold an office in The Hundred Club. In 2002 he won the tournament played on the White Course at Tunxis Plantation Country Club. His score of 70 was two under par and brought him first prize in the Gross Division. A year earlier a par 70 on the Green Course was

Col. Lynch Appointed Commanding Officer

The new commanding officer of the State Police, Col. Edward J. Lynch, is a veteran of 32 years of service in law enforcement. His appointment to the top position was announced by Public Safety Cmsr. Arthur L. Spada. He said that Gov. John Rowland wholeheartedly concurred with it. Col. Lynch will also serve as a deputy commissioner of the Public Safety Dept.



Col. Edward
Lynch

Col. Lynch succeeds Col. Timothy F. Barry, who recently retired after 24 years in the State Police.

Col. Lynch began his career in law enforcement as a military police officer in the U.S. Army. Following three years of duty he returned to civilian life in 1976 and joined the Farmington Police Dept., where he served for six years. He then became a member of the State Police.

Currently in his 22nd year in the State Police, Col. Lynch has had a variety of assignments. He was a resident trooper in Burlington; a detective in the Statewide Narcotics Task Force; patrol supervisor at Troop A in Southbury and Troop L in Litchfield; recruit coordinator at the State Police Training Academy and later executive officer at the academy; commanding officer at Troop I Bethany; and chief of staff, the Office of Field Operations; and commanding officer of both the Central and Western Districts.

Prior to being named commanding officer, Col. Lynch was in charge of the Office of Field Operations with the rank of lieutenant colonel. He holds a Masters Degree in Management, with a certificate in conflict resolution from Cambridge College. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Va.

Col. Lynch is 50 years old. He and his wife of 30 years are the parents of one daughter.

Mr. Spada also announced that two other veteran members of the State Police have been promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel and assigned to headquarters in Middletown. They are Lt. Col. Vincent McSweeney and Lt. Col. Ralph Carpenter. ■

good for second place.

A sitting president has never won a Hundred Club golf tournament. Golfers are wondering if club history will be made this year. ■

MEMORIAL (continued from page 1)

Mr. Guertin's findings to the Law Enforcement Memorial Committee which approved the request to add Mr. Sullivan's name to the Roll of Honor.

During the program, Gov. Rowland paid tribute to Gov. (Ret.) Bill O'Neill. Speaking to the gathering of law enforcers, families and friends of law enforcers who lost their lives in the line of duty, the state's chief executive declared, "Gov. Bill O'Neill is always here at this event. He is committed to the men and women in law enforcement. It is a passionate commitment. He shares their concerns and the concerns of their families."

Looking in the direction of Mr. O'Neill, who was seated on the stage, Mr. Rowland said, "On behalf of the State of Connecticut, Gov. O'Neill, we thank you."

Mr. Rowland also hailed the late Chief State's Atty. John M. Bailey, who died during the past year. The governor declared, "Each and every day Jack Bailey carried out his duties with a passion for justice and a compassion for people working in law enforcement and the judicial system."

In his prepared remarks Mr. Rowland recalled visiting the site of the World Trade Center a few days after the terrorists' attack. He expressed pride in the response of public service workers and other volunteers from Connecticut who, within hours of the collapse of the buildings, went to the site and joined in the effort to rescue people and later to recover bodies and remove rubble.

He noted that at that time throughout the country there was a genuine concern for one another which he said has dissipated. He expressed the hope that it would reemerge.

In conclusion Mr. Rowland emphasized that in Connecticut the men and women who devote their lives to protecting the lives and property of others and make the ultimate sacrifice are not forgotten.

Other speakers included Mr. O'Neill, Chief (Ret.) William Farrell, who is chairman of the Law Enforcement Foundation; Chief State's Atty, Chris Morano; U.S. Atty. Kevin O'Connor; and Col. Edward J. Lynch, State Police commander.

Chief (Ret.) Robert Kosienski, Meriden Police Dept., was master of ceremonies and Rev. Edward Goetz, chaplain, Middletown Police Dept., delivered the invocation. ■

Ceremony Honors Fallen Law Enforcers



Letiera Agosto – Officer José Agosto



Gov. (Ret.) Bill O'Neill – Gov. John Rowland



Mrs. Kim Dingwall – Mrs. Jeannine Williams – Miss Carolyn Aselton



Waterbury Police Pipes & Drums



Michael Wolf



Elaine & Joseph Sachatello



Lt. Col. Vincent McSweeney



Mrs. Susan Mingione – William Mingione



John Trovato – Robert Carey – Jamie Seixas



Col. (Ret.) Joseph Perry – Lt. Edward Bunnell



Mary & James Martin



Cmsr. Arthur Spada – U.S. Atty. Kevin O'Connor



Dan Marchitello



Ruth Gordon – Chief James Strillacci

President Hails Club's Tradition

In 1988 the Giansantis — Ralph and Patricia — attended The Hundred Club's annual dinner meeting. They were impressed by the messages delivered by the speakers, including the speech by Gov. Bill O'Neill.

A few weeks later Mr. Giansanti asked his father-in-law for some additional details about the club and its activities. He had gone to an excellent source — Richard H. Brown, a longtime member. "After



Ralph Giansanti

talking to him I knew that I wanted to be part of the organization," related Mr. Giansanti. Not only did he join immediately, he became an active member and is currently the club's president.

Mr. Giansanti said that few, if any, other organizations in Connecticut can match The Hundred Club's record of helping families in time of crises. "The club has an established tradition in which every member can justifiably take pride," he contended.

During his presidency, Mr. Giansanti is seeking to make the club's programs better known to volunteer firemen and their families. "The volunteers provide a great service to their communities. I

believe it would be beneficial to them and their families if they were aware of The Hundred Club and the role it plays in the aftermath of a line of duty death."

The founder and chief executive officer of Harvest Capital, a brokerage firm with headquarters in Wethersfield and branch offices along the East Coast, Mr. Giansanti, as a youth envisioned a career in professional baseball. Following graduation from South Windsor High School he was the fifth selection of the Atlanta Braves in the draft. A second baseman, he rose to the top in the Braves farm system before an eye injury derailed his career.

He played a few seasons in Italy and won a position in that country's Baseball Hall of Fame. When not playing ball, Mr. Giansanti studied at the University of Milan where he earned a degree in International Finance. Earlier he had attended Central Connecticut State University, New Britain.

Upon his return to the United States he worked for a brokerage firm and soon realized that he had the wherewithal to launch and direct his own company.

A man imbued with time-tested values, Mr. Giansanti credits his parents, the late Ralph Giansanti, Sr. and his mother, Mrs. Lee Giansanti, with instilling in him the moral strength to follow the right path in life.

Mr. Giansanti is involved in several organizations designed to help others. He is active in the Connecticut Heart Association; Ricky's Relief, which is devoted to assisting challenged youth; and Ray Allen's Foundation, established by the former University of Connecticut and the current NBA basketball player to provide opportunities for youths.

"I've been fortunate in many ways. I have a wonderful family. And, please include my father-in-law Dick Brown. He is a remarkable man."

The Giansantis live in Avon. They have two children, Ralph III and Brooke. Their father reads a passage or two from the Bible to them every night at bedtime.

There can be no mistaking the appreciation Mr. Giansanti has for the way he was raised by his parents. He is proud that practically every amateur baseball league in South Windsor owes its origin one way or another to his father. His son is following in his footsteps. Earlier this year the Connecticut Sportswriters Alliance honored Mr. Giansanti for his contribution to sports programs for youths in Avon.

Mr. Giansanti, who is partial to bow ties and close-cropped hair, admitted that family members and friends have asked, "Ralph, why do you put yourself second so often?" He merely shrugs his shoulders and goes about following his instincts. ■

CUT & RETURN THIS HOLE SPONSOR REGISTRATION SLIP



THE HUNDRED CLUB OF CONNECTICUT'S 2004 GOLF TOURNAMENT TEE SPONSOR

Wednesday, July 28, 2004

Thank you for your support and interest in becoming a Tee Sponsor for The Hundred Club of Connecticut's golf outing being held at Tunxis Plantation Country Club on July 28, 2004.

Please complete the following form and return it along with your check in the amount of \$100.00 made payable to: **The Hundred Club of Connecticut, Inc.**

Following the tournament, the Tee Marker (Flag) will be mailed to you as a memento.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: __ Zip: _____

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