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"The Club with a Heart"

THE HUNDRED CALL

TIMOTHY L. PRETE
President

VOLUME XXXVIII, NO. 3 Phone (860) 633-8357 Fax (860) 633-8350 e-mail: hundred@portone.com www.hundredclubofct.org Joseph A. Owens, Editor JULY 2006

Convention Center Site For Meeting



Convention Center Overlooks Connecticut River

Officials of The Hundred Club are anticipating a large gathering for the annual membership meeting Wednesday, Oct. 18. The event will be in the form of a luncheon at the new \$271 million Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford. The social hour will begin at 11:30 a.m. The Annual Meeting Committee, chaired by Peter H. Guerra, is urging members to **reserve the date — Oct. 18.**

Last year, for the first time in the history of the club the yearly session featured a luncheon. The decision to depart from an evening get-together was made after the committee and other club officials sought the opinion of a cross-section of members and reviewed the present practices of other organizations.

Mr. Guerra and other members of the

committee were pleased by the reaction of members and their guests to the new format and location. During the social hour many people enjoyed the opportunity to view the Connecticut River from high above the streets of Hartford.

The Hundred Club is one of many Connecticut-based organizations that have convened in the center, which opened in June 2005. Though built primarily to host large national and regional conventions and trade shows, the center's 14 meeting rooms, which surround the ballroom, are being utilized by professional groups, business and charitable organizations, executive boards of corporations and community associations.

During its first year the center was the

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Memorial Ceremony Focuses On "Heroes"

On a bright spring day members of the criminal justice system in Connecticut expressed their thanks that no new names were added to the Law Enforcement Memorial on the grounds of the Police Training Academy, Meriden. No law enforcer in Connecticut was killed in the line of duty last year.

Chief (Ret.) William Farrell of the New Haven Police Dept. declared, "We have been blessed this past year. We are here today to keep in mind the memory of the men and women whose names are on the walls of the memorial. We must never forget them." Mr. Farrell is chairman of the Police Chiefs Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation.

Norwich Police Chief Louis J. Fusaro, president of the Police Chiefs Association, explained that the annual ceremony is a means of paying homage to the lives of fallen law enforcers and the sacrifices they made. He reminded the gathering that holidays, birthdays and weekends are "difficult times for the loved ones they left behind."

Public Safety Comsr. Leonard C. Boyle paid tribute to the men and women who choose to enforce the code of conduct by which the American society exists. He asked his listeners to constantly remember the sacrifices by members of the services which protect the lives and property of others.

Making her first appearance at the event, Kimberly K. Mertz, special agent in charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, New Haven Division, noted that she has been in Connecticut for only a short time. She said

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Tim Prete, Club's President, Has Many Talents

Timothy L. Prete is a man of many talents. A senior vice president and partner at Wachovia, a worldwide financial institution with \$500 plus billion in assets, Mr. Prete is a writer, poet, community activist, athlete, philosophical thinker and above all else a devoted family man.



Tim Prete

For Wachovia this soft spoken gentleman of 46 years specializes in assisting hospitals and other medical care organizations to meet their financial needs. Among his many responsibilities he co-chairs Wachovia's Medical Segmental Group which focuses on the unique requirements of hospitals and the medical profession.

Dedicated to sharing his knowledge and ability to help organizations meet their objectives, Mr. Prete, in addition to serving as president of The Hundred Club, is active in the Hartford Urban League, the Connecticut Children's Hospital and the Hartford Symphony. He credits a fellow banker, John Small, with encouraging him to be an active member of The Hundred Club. Originally he had been introduced to it by an uncle, Lawrence Pelletier, a member.

He believes that the influx of new members, many from the younger

generation, bodes well for the future of the club. The desire of some to help shape the club's policies, he said, has brought about a "balanced board." He explained, "There is an excellent mixture of young people and experienced members establishing policy. I am particularly pleased that the incoming president, Chris Cobb, is one of the younger fellows who has gained valuable experience by holding various other offices."

Mr. Prete believes the club is keeping abreast of the demands faced by families of its "Fallen Heroes." The increase in the death benefit to \$10,000 is cited by Mr. Prete as one example. He believes the club's education program, which provides up to \$25,000 per school year for students, is among the finest of its kind in the country.

Concerned about the weakening of the ties that bind families together and families to their communities, he sees the membership of The Hundred Club as a community which is having a positive impact on the lives of others. "We are people working together to help families in their time of need."

Regretfully, he contended, not enough of this spirit is taking place today. Part of the reason, he said, is the environment in which 21st Century families live. "Kids are growing up too fast. It's time we said, 'Let kids be kids.'" Mr. Prete has put his thoughts down on paper in a manuscript he entitled "Where Have All The Tree Houses Gone?" He is confident it will be

published when he has time to have serious discussions with publishers.

When the Pretes' young daughter, Bailey, was expressing fear of darkness her father put his creative talents to work and penned a poem in which explained the fun and games that could be enjoyed only in the dark.

Born in Hartford, Mr. Prete grew up in West Hartford and envisioned a career as a professional tennis player. He suffered a torn ligament in his knee while competing in a professional event in Newport, R.I. A magna cum laude graduate of the University of Rhode Island, he started his career in banking at Burritt Mutual Savings, New Britain, as a commercial loan officer. Along the way he was recruited by the former Connecticut National Bank and later worked under the banner of First Fidelity and First Union before Wachovia arrived on the Connecticut scene.

A "scratch" golfer (for non-golfers, a "scratch" player is expected to have a gross score of par or better) Mr. Prete resigned his membership at The Tournament Players Club, Cromwell, to devote more time to his family. He is married to the former Denise Matera. They have four young children and live in Avon.

In a final word, he noted that since its origin in 1967 The Hundred Club has benefited from the unselfish service of people who in their quiet way seek to ease the pain of others when tragedy strikes. ■

MEETING (continued from page 1)

host for approximately 300 events and more than 250,000 people entered the impressive structure at 100 Columbus Boulevard.

According to Katie Blint, director of communications, the activities during the initial year have far exceeded expectations. The success of the center, she explained, is due in part to the fact that it can accommodate 20,000 people at a trade show and provide the desired atmosphere and food for a small luncheon meeting.

The Hundred Club's Meeting Committee hopes that members who could not attend the 2005 meeting will make a special effort to be present Oct. 18 in Connecticut's premier new building. Members are reminded that guests are welcome. Additional details will appear in the next issue of *The Hundred Call*. Formal invitations will be mailed several weeks in advance. ■

Golf Tournaments Scheduled Aug. 1

The Hundred Club's two separate golf tournaments will be played Tuesday, Aug. 1 at Tunxis Plantation Country Club, Farmington. There are openings for individuals and foursomes.

Play will be on the Green and White courses and will begin promptly at 10 a.m. with a shotgun start. Players are asked to arrive 30 minutes early and report to the Registration Desk.

The entry fee is \$125 per player which covers the golf cart, greens fee, lunch (on course), steak dinner and prizes for the best gross and net scores. The social hour in Table Green will begin at approximately 3 p.m. Dinner will be at 4 p.m. The fee for non-golfers is \$40. The popular free raffle will take place shortly before dinner. ■

Sponsors Sought For Golf Events

The Golf Committee announced that there are openings for firms and individuals interested in sponsoring a hole during The Hundred Club's two separate golf tournaments Tuesday, Aug. 1 at Tunxis Plantation Country Club, Farmington.

A blue and gold banner with the club's emblem and the sponsor's name is displayed on the sponsored holes. In all, 36 holes are available for sponsorship. These nylon flags are later given to the sponsors. The cost is \$100.

Interested parties should contact Managing Director William E. Sydenham, Jr. at the club's headquarters in Glastonbury. ■



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that all law enforcers — state, local and federal — are bound by common values and “That is why we do the job we do.” She asked that all “Fallen Heroes” never be forgotten.

Atty. General Richard Blumenthal recalled that he has participated in the event every year he has been in office, 15 years in all. He said the ceremony honors men and women he considers “Connecticut’s Heroes” and praised the committee for continuing to honor them.

Mr. Blumenthal also recognized the support Gov. (Ret.) Bill O’Neill provided law enforcers and his work in behalf of the establishment of the memorial.

Chief State’s Atty. Christopher Morano spoke about the pain and suffering endured by family and friends when a law enforcer is killed. He declared that it is the duty of prosecutors to seek a full measure of justice for the guilty parties.

U.S. Atty. Kevin O’Connor reminded the audience that, while there were no line of duty deaths in Connecticut last year, more than 100 law enforcers were killed in the country. In closing, he hailed the members of the State Police and municipal police training classes present and asserted “Someday they will be the backbone of the law enforcement system in our state.”

Chief (Ret.) Robert E. Kosienski of Meriden served as master of Ceremonies. Benediction was delivered by Rev. Edward Goetz. ■

Wreath Presented

Col. Edward J. Lynch, commandant of the State Police, and Chief Leonard E. Gallo of the East Haven Police Dept., presented the wreath in front of the granite memorial which honors the law enforcers who lost their lives in the line of duty. ■

National Anthem

Officer Kristine Beres of the Norwich Police Dept. and State Police Trooper Jeff LaPorto sang the Naional Anthem. ■

Honor Roll

Mrs. Barbara Gordon of the Police Chiefs Enforcement Foundation and Chief Louis J. Fusaro of the Norwich Police Dept. read the names on the Roll of Honor — the law enforcers who lost their lives in the line of duty. ■



FBI Agent Kimberly Mertz — Cmsr. Leonard C. Boyle



Chief (Ret.) William Farrell



Atty. Gen. Richard Blumenthal



Harry Boardsen — Col. Edward Lynch



Chief Louis Fusaro



Barbara Gordon — Shawn Tompkins



James and Mary Martin



Margaret Cari — Mary Beth Hunter



Caroline Quilty — Jim Quilty — Jodi Graziani



Speakers Platform



State Police Training Recruits

New Canaan Honors Two "Fallen Heroes"

Two officers who lost their lives in the line of duty were honored during the third annual Law Enforcement Memorial Service in New Canaan. The officers were Chief Louis Drucker and Officer James A. Martin.

Mr. Drucker was fatally shot Jan. 25, 1888 when he was attempting to arrest a bootlegger.



Chief Edward Nadriczny — Lauren Martin

Mr. Martin lost his life July 24, 1991. During a violent storm he was placing flares on roads to warn people to stay clear of electrical cables that had been knocked down by falling tree limbs. When he approached a stalled vehicle he came in contact with a live cable and was electrocuted. Mr. Martin, 36, was survived by his wife, Lauren and their two children, Stephanie and Chris, and his parents, James and Mary Martin, all of Shelton.

Chief Edward Nadriczny said at the ceremony, "Police officers are ordinary people who are, at times, required to exhibit courage in the pursuit of their mission to safeguard the lives of the citizens they serve."

Chris Martin placed a wreath at his father's gravestone near Police Headquarters. Mr. Martin's name is on The Hundred Club's roster of "Fallen Heroes." ■

Special Bumpers On Police Cruisers

State Police cruisers that patrol high traffic areas on Rtes. I-84, I-91 and I-95 have been equipped with special push bumpers.

Public Safety Cmsr. Leonard C. Boyle said these cruisers will be able to move disabled vehicles out of the traffic lanes while investigating accidents. Troopers will continue to wait in the breakdown lane until a tow truck arrives.

Mr. Boyle said push bumpers have been installed on cruisers in several states. The cost to outfit 371 State Police cruisers was \$75,000. ■

Mentoring Program Highlights Listed

Officials of The Hundred Club are continuing to consider the possibility of establishing a mentoring program. In the April issue of *The Hundred Call* Atty. Joel E. Janenda announced the details of his proposal.

Mr. Janenda, club president in 2003, who has remained active on the Board of Directors, emphasizes that it is necessary for the policy makers to determine whether or not there is sufficient interest and willingness to participate among members to start and maintain the program he and other club officials envision.

Among the supporters of the proposal is President Tim Prete who views it as a logical extension of the club's activities, provided it has the enthusiastic support of the membership.

The highlights of the proposed mentoring program, as outlined by Mr. Janenda, follow:

PROVIDE assistance and direction for family members seeking career advice and information. **Example:** Young people interested in law enforcement could have the benefit of consulting members with law enforcement experience. **Example:** A new widow or widower seeking to return to the workforce or change his or her career could receive practical assistance regarding opportunities and advice related to reaching a stated goal.

PROVIDE assistance in defining educational goals. **Example:** Young people would have the benefit of the extensive experience of mentors who would explain the education required for certain professional careers and trades.

PROVIDE assistance in selecting and gaining admission to college and other educational institutions. **Example:** Alumni could offer special insight into admission procedures, the curriculum and policies of a school.

PROVIDE assistance in making financial decisions following the death of a spouse or parent. **Example:** The extensive knowledge and experience of many members in financial matters could benefit and, perhaps, protect families who require guidance.

PROVIDE short-term employment as unpaid interns or as paid summer employees for student members of Hundred Club families.

Before the club goes forward with the actual development of a mentoring program, Mr. Janenda said officials must determine the availability of volunteers. Members interested in participating should contact the headquarters by e-mail: hundred@portone.com (subject Mentoring) or by regular mail to The Hundred Club, P.O. Box 419, Glastonbury, CT 06033. ■

Correction Officer Receives Honor

Correction Officer Edward Arasimowicz was awarded the Medal of Honor by Corrections USA, a national nonprofit coalition of correction organizations.

Mr. Arasimowicz received the medal May 16 during ceremonies in Washington, D.C. He was honored for rescuing a co-worker.

According to Correction Dept. officials, an inmate in the Correction Center in Hartford grabbed Lt. Cynthia Scarmozzino, a correction officer, by the neck and held a sharpened toothbrush inches from her face.

Mr. Arasimowicz saw the attack on a security camera, raced to the scene and knocked the inmate to the floor and freed Ms. Scarmozzino.

The names of six Correction Dept. officers are on The Hundred Club's roster of "Fallen Heroes." ■

• REMINDER •



Annual Meeting Oct. 18