



### Geauga Bluecoats Trustees

- Dick Blum
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- James Negrelli
- Greg O'Brien
- James Rosenberger
- David Trimble
- Tony Visconsi
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(Executive Secretary)

Thanks to Jim Kaufman and the Hillbrook Club for once again hosting the Annual Beer and Brats event for Safety Officers. Advisor and member, Chuck LoBello was the featured speaker. Topics included the importance of living wills and wills. Packets were available to the officers. We thank the Hillbrook staff for the great food and hospitality.



### Inside this Issue:

- Hillbrook Beer and Brats Event 1
- Geauga County Fair Booth 1
- Officer Holiday
- Cookie Delivery 2
- Legacy Society 2
- Hillbrook Pictures 2
- Corporate Matching Program 3
- New Members 3
- New Legacy Member 3
- Interview with Timothy M. McKenna Chief of Police - Chardon Police Dept. 4

### Geauga Bluecoats Has Successful Event at the Great Geauga County Fair

Geauga Bluecoats participated in the Great Geauga County Fair on Labor Day weekend. This event was a terrific outreach program and public relations tool for Bluecoats. Thanks to volunteers John Ralph, Gary and Lois Fishback, Jim Negrelli, Geauga County Officers and Geauga Fair Staff.



Jr. Fair King Rick Loveland and Jr. Fair Queen Elise Bruening drop by Geauga Bluecoats booth at the Geauga County Fair.

# **Geauga County Bluecoats and Heinen's Sponsor Holiday Cookie Program for Safety Officers in Geauga County**



**Geauga County Bluecoats and Heinen's will be sponsoring the Holiday Cookie Program for Safety Officers in Geauga County. Gary Fishback -Trustee of Geauga Bluecoats is heading up this project.**

**Heinen's will be donating homemade cookies and fruit from their famous bakery. The sheriff's department, police and fire departments in Geauga County will be receiving the goodies. Gary Fishback, David Trimble and Jim Negrelli will be delivering the holiday treats once again this year.**

**A big thank you to Heinen's for their kind support.**



**Enjoying an evening at the annual Beer and Brats event at The Hillbrook Club.**

## **Geauga County Bluecoats Legacy Society**

**Leave Your Legacy Now.**

**The Geauga County Bluecoats Legacy Society is a way to recognize those members that agree to donate a \$10,000 gift to the endowment fund. This special gift can be paid at \$1000.00 per year for ten years or faster if desired. This program will help build our fund so that we can stand ready to support the families of fallen officers in Geauga County, Ohio. To leave your special legacy, please contact us at (216) 381-1500 or email us at [wishjackson@aol.com](mailto:wishjackson@aol.com)**

## **CORPORATE MATCHING GIFT PROGRAM**

**Geauga Bluecoats welcomes the opportunity for our members to participate in their company matching gift programs. This benefit is a wonderful way to help**

**Geauga Bluecoats raise monies. If you are not certain that your company has a matching gift program--please contact your human resources department for further information. The process is usually very simple--and only requires a form. We would gladly help members follow up with any paper work. Please contact us at [wishjackson@aol.com](mailto:wishjackson@aol.com) or call (216) 381-1500.**

## **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

**DAVID AND MARTHA CATHCART, JON & LEIGH ANN DEETER,  
JAMES & JANELLE DOUGHERTY, JOHN & STEPHANIE GOODMAN,  
MICHAEL & KARRI HAJEC, DAVID & ANDREA MAHER, MICHAEL AND EILEEN NIESET,  
STEPHEN AND JAMIE PUTINSKI, GERARD DAHER & SUSAN LASCH,  
JUSTIN T. ROGERS III & LESLIE MAPES, PATRICK & JACKIE SEDLACK,  
JOHN SHEEHAN & SARA BOOKER, MICHAEL SHEEHAN,  
BRENT & DEBRA VAN SCOIK, WARREN & GAIL WERNICK  
RONALD WEINBERG & CHRISTINE CROISSANT.**

## **WELCOME LEGACY MEMBERS:**

**JOHN & BARBARA BURNS, HARRY CASHY, PAT PRESTON**

## **THANK YOU!**

**NEED A UNIQUE  
HOLIDAY GIFT!  
Make a donation to  
Geauga Bluecoats!**

### **Mark Your Calendar:**

**Geauga County Bluecoats  
will be participating  
in the annual**

**Chagrin Valley Jaycees  
Chili Cook Off  
Sat. Jan. 28, 2011.**

**Interesting in volunteering?  
Have a great chili recipe?  
Call (216) 381-1500**



**Pictures from the Great Geauga County Fair. Gary and Lois Fishback working the booth. Belle--is an eight (8) year old mare wearing a Geauga Bluecoats hat. She is a Haflinger Draft Horse. The alpaca is from Heaven Scent Farm.**



## Interview with Chardon Police Chief Timothy M. McKenna

City of Chardon Police Chief Timothy M. McKenna has had 33 years of police service. He has attended many numerous law enforcement trainings—with two highlights including the Police, Staff & Command School through Northwest Traffic Institute and the National FBI Academy Quantico, Virginia. He was one of the first D.A.R.E. Officers in Geauga County. In addition, he was an Emergency Medical Technician for 22 years.

Law enforcement is a family tradition. The idea of becoming a police officer stems from his father Lloyd J. McKenna who served at the Bratenahl Police Department—and retired in 1984 as Police Lieutenant. Chief McKenna proudly wears his father's Bratenahl uniform jacket with the Chardon Police Department patches. Chief McKenna states "Personally, I was raised in a great family atmosphere, I married an outstanding lady named Patricia Cahill (married 32 years), raised our own three (3) daughters-Kayleen, Bridget and Lauren. We have two (2) wonderful grandchildren, Tyler and Riley."

In 1978, Chief William E. Niehus hired Chief McKenna to be a full time dispatcher and part time patrolman. Chief McKenna states "An opportunity came up to work for the Chester Township Police Department, while still working part time for Chardon. I spent twenty-two months with Chester and was appointed in 1980 as a full time Patrolman in Chardon. In 1988, I was promoted to Sergeant, in 1996 I was promoted to Lieutenant, and in 2004 I was promoted to Police Chief."

Chief McKenna continues "During the early years on the force, I recall the officers breaking up numerous bar fights, responding to domestic calls and an occasional theft complaint. Today, crime has touched the City of Chardon like many other small communities. Theft cases are on the rise, traffic congestion, as well as traffic accidents are steady. The assaults and domestic violence calls do have their peaks and valleys with our economic climate. Working with juvenile offenders has changed with the juvenile laws and the process on how to handle our youth."

Chief McKenna states "The Chardon police department was established in 1947, when Village Council decided Chardon needed a full time police force. Council then appointed John R. Bohl, a veteran of the Ravenna Police Department, as Marshal and Chief of Police. Prior to Bohl's appointment, law enforcement duties fell upon a Village Marshal, elected by the citizens and a night watchman was appointed by the mayor. Chief Bohl was a very popular leader and was instrumental in having his officers well trained. Tragically, in 1966, Chief Bohl was stricken with a heart attack while on duty, at the scene of a multiple fatality traffic crash."

"Chardon's first police vehicle was a used 1936 Ford black Sedan with a gold outline of a maple leaf on the doors with the C.P.D. set in the side of the leaf. It was equipped with a siren and spotlight. Police headquarters consisted of a single room, on the second floor of Village Hall, originally built in 1908." Chief McKenna states. He boasts "Today, the new police facility is incorporated into the new Chardon Municipal Center on Water Street. The area assigned to the Police Department is approximately 6000 square feet. The facility is supported by state of the art communications for both police and fire—with computers that have connectivity throughout Geauga County. The Chardon Police Department now employs eighteen (18) sworn police officers (11 full time and 7 part-time); four (4) full-time dispatchers and six (6) part-time dispatchers; one (1) records clerk and (1) parking enforcement officer—who also serves as a crossing guard."

As a final comment, Chief McKenna says "I thank the Geauga Bluecoats and its membership for their support to the safety forces in Geauga County. I am old enough to remember when several attempts were made in the early 1980's to establish the first Bluecoats Organization and things sort of fluttered in the beginning. The safety forces have an outstanding benefit with our Bluecoats organization and their dedication to our families."