

The Benevolent Bulletin Fall 2013



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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President

Kevin Noll

Vice President

Michael Smith

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Fall Benevolent General Membership Meeting
will be held on

Tuesday, October 22, 2013 at 8:00 PM

The meeting will be held at
416 Atlantic Avenue, Freeport, NY



2013 Life Members with Board Members

From L to R: Kevin Muldowney, Kevin Noll, George Schmittzehl (Life Member), Victor DeJesus (Life Member), Donald Smith, William Walsh (Life Member), Edward Briggs, Jr. (Life Member), Joseph Primavera (Life Member), Timothy Jones and Robert Terry.

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President's Message

Dear Brothers & Sisters:

Our next General Membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 22, 2013, at 8:00 P.M. Following the meeting, refreshments will be served.

I am pleased to be able to serve a third term as President of the Benevolent Association and thank you all for your support. I am sorry to report that Kevin Muldowney had to resign from the position of Treasurer, but I am happy to welcome Michael Smith, who has been appointed to serve the balance of the term. As it has been in the past, this Board is committed to helping those members in need in any way possible. If you need assistance, please feel free to call one of the Board members or the Benevolent office at 516-771-5475.

Over the last two years (from January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2012), we assisted 48 members with vision care assistance totaling \$9,373.32. We also assisted 22 members during the period of April 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013 with disability benefits and indigent assistance in the amount of \$119,349.34.

Included in this newsletter, is the continuing series from our attorney Don Lohr regarding the publication by the New York State Bar Association in cooperation with the New York City Department for the Aging on the subject of benefits for elder New Yorkers.

In addition, please visit our website at FREEPORTFIREBENEV.COM for current updates.

I hope this newsletter finds you and your family doing well and we look forward to seeing you at the General Membership meeting on October 22nd.

Fraternally yours,

Donald Smith

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The following is a reprint, in part, of a pamphlet published by the New York State Bar Association in cooperation with the New York City Department for the Aging on the subject for elder New Yorkers.

16. NEW YORK STATE SCHOOL TAX RELIEF PROGRAM (STAR)

Provides an exemption from the school portion of property taxes for owner-occupied primary residences. All New Yorkers who own their own one, two or three-family homes, condominiums, or cooperative apartments, mobile homes or farms are eligible for the STAR tax exemption.

Basic Star Exemption:

Age: Any age.

Apply: By contacting local assessor's office.

Middle Class STAR Exemption: Rebate program

Age: Any age.

Resources: No limit.

Income: The rebate will be in varying amounts depending upon the locality and your income. Households with income over \$250,000 are not eligible.

Apply: Online or by mail to the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance.

Call (877) 678-2769.

Enhanced STAR Exemption:

Age: 65 or older.

Resources: No limit.

Income: Annual household income of \$87,860 or less.

Apply: To your local assessor's office or (518) 474-2982.

17. LIFE LINE TELEPHONE SERVICE - Reduces the cost of basic telephone service and connection charges for limited-income persons.

Age: Any age.

Eligibility: The Life Line Program is available to income-eligible telephone customers who participate in, or are eligible to participate in, any one or more of the following programs: SSI, HEAP, Food Stamps, Medicaid, Veterans Disability or Surviving Spouse Pension, Family Assistance, Safety Net Assistance.

Apply: By contacting your local telephone company business office.

Internet website at www.askpsc.com/, From that homepage, follow the links to the "Life Line Discounted Telephone Services".

NON-CASH BENEFIT PROGRAMS

Local Offices for Aging contract with providers who deliver meals for the homebound and meals in senior centers. Many local Offices for the Aging provide senior community service employment programs. Additionally, many local Offices for the Aging provide or contract to provide caregiver respite and expanded in-home services programs, as well as adult day services. Some local Offices for the Aging provide health insurance information and counseling programs. Most local Offices for the Aging operate or fund a retired senior volunteer program (RSVP). You should contact your local Office for the Aging for more information or visit the website for your local Office for the Aging. Usually, this can be found by going to the homepage of the website for the county in which you live.

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*Let us remember our departed members
who have answered their last alarm*



In Memoriam

John Elder

March 4, 2013

Member of Emergency Company No. 9

Charles Naumann

July 19, 2013

Member of Emergency Company No. 9

Joseph Dirusso

July 30, 2013

Member of Hose Company No. 5