

President's Message

John Schnittgrund

This time of year, is always busy. There always seems to be more items on the plate. We have a couple of events coming up and we hope to see a great many of you.

The Laughlin reunion was a great success. I am always glad to see the Arizona branch of the Retiree Assn. Even though we only get together one time each year, it has always amazed me how seamless our conversations seem to be. There is truly a Blue Brotherhood, and this event shows just how close we are. I think that this event is worth the effort, and we will try to make it better each year.

The Christmas Party this year is being finalized. We will have dinner and dance to the music of the Prime-Time Band. This is always a good time, and we hope to see a lot of friends on December 9, at the PPA Building.

I have had a lot of questions regarding some Federal Legislation on the Social Security Fairness Act of 2021, otherwise known as US HB 82. This bill has passed the House of Representatives and is currently in the Senate.

This legislation repeals the offset to Social Security benefits for those retirees who receive public pensions. This offset affects the Social Security benefits of Police Officers, Firefighters and teachers. These are the professions that do not pay FICA taxes and draw pensions from State or Municipal Funds.

The passage of the bill would return the offset to the pensioner. The national FOP, NAPO, and IAFF are lobbying for the passage of this legislation. We will keep monitoring the movement of this bill through Congress.

Laura Hall has begun the annual census for pension benefits. Please fill out the information and send it back in a timely manner to keep the integrity of the pension system.

We hope all of you have a great Thanksgiving and as always if there is anything you need, please let us know.