

May, 2017

Greetings to One and All,

As we welcome the beginning of the Summer season I would like to a moment to recall the true meaning of Memorial Day. While we celebrate the long Memorial Day weekend we tend to consider it the unofficial start of summer, the beginning of trips to the beach and countless backyard barbecues. I suggest instead that we take a moment to focus on the more than 1 million veterans who died serving our country. The holiday that honors their sacrifice and the sacrifices made by their families should command more respect. Thank the next veteran you meet, they have earned our respect.

I would like to take a moment to recap the very busy Spring Season that we close out.

- The St Patrick's Day Parade was held on a beautiful day and enjoyed by those in attendance. There are photographs available online for anyone who would like a memento of the day. The link is: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B7tXoz7AOhgiVkrTclNUeGxGSFU> Hopefully next year we can work out the few kinks that necessarily come with change.
- Our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration coincided with our Annual Dance this past April. A large crowd was on hand to celebrate the anniversary and honor our award recipients, especially our Irishman of the Year, the late Reverend Monsignor James Kissane.
- The Pipe Band marched through Spring, appearing in approximately (15) events in just the month of March. The pipers and drummers have earned some rest and appreciation. Thanks.
- Several Board members attended the Fraternal Organization Days for two separate Police Academy classes that graduated in March and April. The Society is now (91) members stronger and we want to welcome them all aboard.

The Board has plans in the formative stages for a Summer cruise/trip. We will update you as the plans finalize. Our last meeting before the summer break will be on June 8<sup>th</sup> at Shafer's, in Port Jefferson. After our usual July and August recess, we will meet on September 14<sup>th</sup> at Shandon Court, in East Islip. On behalf of the Board of Governors, we wish you all a safe, happy and enjoyable summer.

Fraternally,

*Brendan O'Hara*

President