On behalf of the Board of Governors, I would like to wish you all a healthy and prosperous 2017. This year is a milestone for the Society as we celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our founding. We started with the original eighty-two charter members and have since expanded to over a thousand. There have been many events that have come to define our Society and I am sure there will be many more to come.

This past year concluded with a flurry of activity. The Holiday Raffle was a great success due in part to your support and the hard work of Jimmy O'Leary. The prizes have been delivered to all the lucky winners. We received almost one hundred Scholarship applications. All the scholarships winners were notified and the scholarships have been awarded.

**Dinner Dance:** This year our annual Dinner Dance is being held at Villa Lombardi's 877 Main Street, in Holbrook, NY. The dance will be held on Friday, **APRIL 21**<sup>st</sup>, **2017** from 6:30 p.m. to 11:30 pm. This year we are proud to honor the Reverend Monsignor James Kissane as our Irishman of the Year. We will also honor Police Officer Mark Collins, of the Emergency Service Section, as our Valor Award recipient. Sergeant John McGrath and Police Officer Patrick Halpin, of the SCPOES Pipe Band, will be honored with the Tom Finn Service Award. There will be music by Andy Cooney and a special presentation commemorating our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The price is \$90.00 for an individual and \$175.00 for a couple. This year's journal will contain an Anniversary supplement. The journal ad contracts will be mailed out soon. Please consider taking an ad and/or asking a local business you support to take an ad. The journal is the sole means we have to fund our annual scholarships.

**St Patrick's Day Parade:** The NYC Parade is rapidly approaching. We will provide the meeting place and time when it is confirmed. We are providing **one** bus for transportation to and from the parade/fellowship. Please contact Nick Aspromgos at (631) 807-9267 or Mike Homan at (631) 220-4849 to reserve and pay for a seat. The bus always fills so it is first come, first seated.

**Super Bowl Boxes/Challenge Coins:** There are still some Super Bowl boxes and Coins available. Contact John Brunkard for your box and Glenn Kirkpatrick for your coin.

**Glen Ciano Memorial Blood Drive:** We have been asked to inform you that there will be a blood drive in the memory of Police Officer Glen Ciano on 02/11/2017 between 0800 and 1400 hours. The drive will be held at the Commack Fire Department, 6309 Jericho Turnpike, in Commack. We support this event and suggest you bring a friend to help honor Glen Ciano's memory.

Fraternally,

Brendan O'Hara

President