

I'm proud to announce that the new President of our lodge will be our current State Trustee, Doug Weaver. Doug brings a lot of dedication and experience to the table and will serve our membership well. The remainder of the Executive Board will remain the same with the exception of the Lodge Chaplain. Our current Chaplain has decided not to accept the nomination for the position. There will be a vote at the January Monthly Meeting between the two nominees for the position: Robert "Bodie" D'Andrea and Frank Lombardi.

We had great success on the labor front in 2016. The contracts that were negotiated were advantageous to our members and we prevailed in two arbitration cases in which our members were unjustly terminated. Both were reinstated to full duty. Unfortunately, there were two other cases in which members were terminated during internal investigations. Neither of those members notified the lodge that they were under investigation or requested legal counsel until after the termination. I bring that up to point out that no matter how trivial you think a case may be or how much you think your administration is on your side, you need to have representation during any investigation; after you're terminated is too late. You should have received a quick reference card with contact information for both emergency and routine situations in this mailing. Please e-mail me if you did not receive one: karl@fop43.org. I'll send you one.

As a reminder, please keep your address and contact information up to date. We do not receive updated information from your agency. There are online forms available for updating your information on our website. You can also sign up for our e-mail list on our website. As we move into 2017, it's our goal to increase the information being provided to our members in order to keep everyone informed.

For those of you who haven't been to the lodge in awhile, we've nearly completed all of the renovations that have been in the works. The lodge is a great place to hold an event or just to drop by to use the Member's Lounge. Our Member's Lounge has Cable TV, Pool Table, Ping Pong, Foosball, Poker Tables, Darts, free soda and draft beer and best of all new A/C units. You can request your free access card for the lounge on our website or e-mail your request.

In closing, I just want to say Thank You to all of our members. We're a membership run organization and without your input we could never be as successful as we've been during these last few years. Best wishes you all of you and your families. Above all else, **STAY SAFE OUT THERE**. We're working in some very challenging and uncertain times. Your primary job is to go home to your families at the end of your shift!

Sincerely,

Karl Lounge, President



Nolan's Pub 5th Annual St. Patrick's Day 5K
 March 19, 2017 10:00 a.m. 230 Main Street, Safety Harbor






Fun for the whole family!
FREE race t-shirt with registration
A FREE BEER or ROOT BEER
 and a race souvenir at the finish line
 For more information visit:
www.FOP43.ORG/5k

ALL proceeds will benefit:
and other organizations




