

January 14, 2009 General Membership Meeting

1. Roll Call of Officers

President	Tommie Haffelder - A (Broken Leg)
Past President	Robert Wisian - P
Vice President	Henry Tomlin - P
Secretary	
Treasurer	Randy Malone - P
Sgt. at Arms	Ernie Hinkle - P
Board	Bill Whitaker - P
Board	Norman Toungate - P
Board	J. W. Thompson - P
Board	James Paap - P

Due to Brother Haffelder being absent from the meeting, Vice President Henry Tomlin conducted the meeting.

2. Reading of the minutes

Motion made by Brother Toungate to accept the minutes of the November 2008 meeting as written, Second by Brother Wisian.

Discussion – None

Approved by voice vote.

3. Membership report: (Resignations and new members)

Of the current 422 retired Austin Officers who meet the qualifications for membership 241 members have paid their 2009 dues. In 2008 we reached a high of 242 members. In addition we have 16 Honorary Members. We have 28 who were not members in 2008. We had to drop of 46 from 2008, as some members have not yet paid their 2009 dues.

4. Reports of Committees-

Benevolent Committee – Ben Vega –

A.P.R.O.A. bi-monthly Benevolent Committee

Report, Date January 14, 2009.

- 1). Louie White was very sick in Seton Hospital on 11/23/08 I visited him. He was very weak but able to speak. I took him a get-well card on behalf of A.P.R.O.A.
- 2). Jim Andrist (our association secretary) DIED on 12/3/08, after an extended stay in I.C.U. at Seton Hospital. His funeral services were on 12/8/08, Forest Oaks Memorial Park, Austin, Texas.
- 3). Allen Bridges (APD retired and Hays County Sheriff, died of an apparent heart attack on 12/6/2008. His funeral services were on 12/10/2008. Burial was in Drippings Springs, Texas.
- 4). Betty Collins (honorary member) was back in south Austin Hospital prior and during the Christmas Holidays. I phoned and spoke to here husband Don on 12/29/08 and he said that Betty was home and improving.
- 5). Tommie Haffelder (our APROA president, fell in his back-yard and broke a leg (below the knee and above the ankle), this occurred approx one week before Christmas 2008. He is getting around with a walker.
- 6). Robert Wisian (past APROA president) had prostate surgery. I saw him at our monthly breakfast at El Gallo on 1/7/09 and Wisian said his surgery was (3) weeks ago. He said he is doing fine.
- 7). Louie W. White (APROA member) died On 12/29/08 at Seton Hospital. His funeral services were on Jan. 3, 2009, Capital Park in Austin, Texas.

8). Robert (Bob) Cervenka (APROA member) Died on Jan. 1, 2009. His funeral services were on Jan 4, 2009, at Forest Oak Memorial Park, Austin, Texas.

9) Elmer "Joe" Joseph (Former APD officer) died on 1/3/09. His funeral services were on 1/07/09, under the direction of Cook-Walden Funeral Home 6100 N. Lamar, Austin, Texas.

THIS HAS BEEN A VERY SAD TIME FOR ALL OF US. FOUR APD RETIRED OFFICERS AND ONE FORMER APD OFFICER, HAVE DIED, WITHIN ONE MONTH.

This is my final report as benevolent committee chairman. It has been a pleasure working with all of you. I need to step down and take a break, and let another member to take over this assignment. I had already resigned at the Nov. 2008 meeting. I agreed to stay on until the APROA meeting of Jan. 14, 2009. So my resignation is effective today. Final Notice.

Respectfully,

Ben M. Vega 457

Entertainment Committee – Randy Malone – Our next event has been planned for Saturday May 2, 2009, 12 noon, food served at 1pm. As in the past the event will be free for APROA members and one of their guest.

Kenny Williams sent us information on the Travis County East Metro Park, which is outside of Manor. We are going to check this location out to see if it could be used for one of our larger gatherings. If anyone else knows of a possible location north which we may be able to use please contact one of the Board members and let them know about it.

Legislative Committee – Pete Morin – No report

Motion made by Brother Freudenberg to accept the Committee Reports, Second by Brother Crenshaw.
Discussion –None
Approved by voice vote.

5. Treasurer Report - Copies attached to minutes

Motion made by Brother Keene to accept the Treasurer's report, Second by Brother Pendergrass.
Discussion - None
Approved by voice vote

6. Communications and Bills –

Thank You card from Andrist family
Thank You letter from Blue Santa
Thank You letter from Hospice Austin
Thank You Letter from Special Olympics
Thank You Letter from Meals on Wheels

7. Unfinished Business – None

8. New Business

APA President Wayne Vincent spoke to the membership about some of the plans he had for the APA. Brother Vincent stated he wanted officers to get out into the public to help improve on the working police officers image. He plans to have a team of speakers who start making meetings throughout the City. In addition he would like to put together a group of active and retired officers who would like to work a mobile concession, which he hopes to have at many of the major events in Austin. Profits to be donated to Charity. Both plans are aimed at building a positive image in the public.

Brother Vincent introduced Chris Perkins, the new APA Secretary. The APA now has three

officers who get to work full time for the APA during the year. An e-mail database has been established so time sensitive information can be sent out to the officers as soon as possible to stop rumors that may be going around the department are inform officers of actions that the APA may be taking. Brother Vincent ask that any Retiree who would like to list their home e-mail address, or work e-mail if they can get personal e-mails at work, with the APA so they can get e-mails that may be of concern to Retirees. Brother Vincent stated they have the e-mail database with a secure company and the addresses are not given out to anyone.

Sam Jordan addressed the membership about the legislation which is to be filed this year dealing with all city police departments being part of APD. This legislation is very complex but the bottom line is the officers who APD take in will be in our retirement system but due to the City's contributions to the system, which is part of the legislation, it should not cost the system any money. It was pointed out that once they are in our Retirement System, they are eligible for APROA membership upon retirement.

Motion made by Brother Hinkle to approve a Resolution to support the legislation being filed by the Austin Police Retirement System. Second by Brother Whitaker.

Discussion - None

Approved by voice vote

Brother Jordan also reminded members about the Prop Plan and stated the system was paying out 8% on Prop investments at this time. Contact the Retirement System if you need more information.

Brother Jordan also reminded members about the Retired Police Tax Exclusion which allows you to deduct up to \$3,000.00 off of your income for medical and dental insurance. The December paycheck stub should have the totals of how much you paid in for the year.

Vacant Board Position – Due to the death of Jim Andrist we had a vacancy on the Board, which was posted over 30 days prior to the January meeting. Brother Tomlin open the nominations for office up and Brother Malone stated Brother Haffelder had nominated Sister Merrill for the position. Sister Merrill was ill and could not attend the meeting. There were no other nominations.

Motion made by Brother Keene to elect Sister Merrill to the position of Secretary, Second by Brother Freudenberg.

Discussion - None

Approved by voice vote

Lifetime dues – Submitted by Steve Nichols – Brother Malone stated that he received an e-mail from Brother Nichols about having a lifetime dues membership for the APROA. Anyone with knowledge of organizations, which allow members to pay a one-time lifetime dues, is asked to contact a Board member with the name of the organization.

Door Prize drawing – Won by Arthur Brown

9. Adjournment

Motion made by Brother Whitaker to adjourn, Second by Brother Hinkle.

No discussion.

Approved by voice vote

_____ – Secretary (By Randy Malone)