



Erie County Deputy Sheriffs Badge & Shield Club, Inc.

P.O. Box 81 • Niagara Square Station • Buffalo, New York 14201-0081

JUNE, 2023:

Our June meeting (our last meeting before the summer break) will be held on **June 19th, 2023** at **Wings Flight of Hope** located at **3964 California Road in Orchard Park, NY**. This meeting is for **Members & Guests**. Please contact Debbie **at least one week prior to the meeting** at 716-816-5368 (text/call) or email at Nortond8991@gmail.com if you plan to attend. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Reminder: Meetings are \$20 for members and \$25 for guests. All meetings begin at 6:30pm.

A Message from our President, Chris Clark:

"Community support for law enforcement is nothing new. The support given by our members, their family, neighbors, friends, and the public in general to the Badge & Shield Club for our Weidner's Chicken BBQ on May 4th was overwhelming. We sold out of 300 chicken dinners in 90 minutes! I have to apologize to anyone who came later and couldn't get a dinner. We are looking forward to our next fundraising Chicken BBQ on July 8th at the Hamburg Rod & Gun Club (3434 Hickox Rd, Hamburg, NY 14075). We also have our upcoming Meat Raffle on October 21st, so mark your calendars. Thank you to all the members who helped. And a special thank you to Stacy Flick for arranging her Fire Hall for us.

We have returned to a March date (2024) for our annual Retirement & Awards Dinner. Unlike previous years, the Club is not presently soliciting the public with a professional fundraiser. We need the fundraisers we are organizing to help finance the annual retirement and awards program. To give our dedicated public servants acknowledgement for the career and public service they have provided these many years is the right thing to do. It is the salient event our Club offers and as your president, I am grateful that we still have the ability to honor our own. If you know of a business or individual that would like recognition as the premier sponsor of our dinner, please reach out to them, identify your contact to me, and we will follow up.

Recently I came across a program for a Testimonial Dinner held on October 20, 1965, honoring then Sheriff B. John Tutuska. It was organized by local businesspeople. A lot of the names may be familiar to some of you. It was held at the Glen Casino, a prime Williamsville venue in its day. Some of the chairs of the event were Walter Steffan,

2023 Officers:

President

Christopher Clark

1st Vice President

Robert Koch

2nd Vice President

Michael Sullivan

Recording Secretary

Karen Morgan

Treasurer

Ken Napora

Corresponding Secretary

Debra Norton

(716) 816-5368

Sergeant-at-Arms

Mark Radder

Mildren Campbell, Raymond Wardynski (meats), and Joseph Palanker (furs). Notables listed: Tom Ryan, the County Republican Chairman, Undersheriff Leo Kennedy, Charles Diebold, President of Western Savings Bank, Rev. Carl Burke, Champlain – Erie County Jail, and Miss Elayne J. Taylor, Coordinator of the “Tutuska-teers”. The *Tutuska-Teers* were a group of young ladies, like cheerleaders, who traveled to political events, fundraisers, and parties. They sang and performed while introducing Sheriff Tutuska to those attending. They warmed up the audience, like an opening act, in anticipation of the Sheriff’s arrival. I’ve been told that many of the deputy’s wives, girlfriends, and maybe even wives-to-be were part of this entourage. They had their own song that started out: “B. John Tutuska is a dedicated man...” (when you see Sam Amato ask him to sing a few bars for you). The National Anthem was performed by the Business Representative, Painters District Council No.4 and the main address was given by the Vice-President of American Airlines, Harvey G. Foster. What an extravaganza! It is a prime example of how the community went all-out and supported law enforcement in the 1960’s.

Sir Robert Peel, the “Father of Modern Policing” established a police force in London, England in 1829. His famous quote: “The police are the people, and the people are the police”, embraces community and police working together, supporting each other, for a safe society. Community support for law enforcement is necessary for citizens to remain protected and free. Sadly, with over 200 mass shootings in the USA, as of May of 2023, there is no better time for us all to be involved and work towards a safer community for all our families.”

As mentioned, we are undertaking our own fund raising efforts for the Club. We are asking for your help in collecting gift cards and prizes to be raffled off at the Meat Raffle in October. These items do not have to exceed \$5 to \$10 in value. Some suggestions were made for these gift cards in the last newsletter.

For more expensive items, enclosed is a letter signed by Chris Clark to be presented to businesses who may consider donating an item/gift certificate, etc. from their establishment. Please assure them that they will be recognized at the Meat Raffle.

Our sincere condolences go out to the families of Rosario Schifano Sr. (Father of Reserve Deputy Russ Schifano); Court Officer Carl Skarzynski; Donald J. Yavicoli Sr. (Father of Detective Tony Yavicoli); and George Adymy (Father of Deputy Danielle Adymy). As always, please keep those struggling with health issues or who have lost a loved one in your thoughts and prayers.

See you at Wings of Hope!!


Chris Clark
President

Debbie Norton
Corresponding Secretary



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June 24th, 2023

The Erie County Deputy Sheriff's Badge & Shield Club is hosting its very first Meat Raffle on Saturday, October 21st, 2023 at the Wings Flight of Hope located in Orchard Park, NY.

For those who are not familiar with our Club, we are composed of active and retired members of the Erie County Sheriff's Office and individuals who transferred from the Sheriff's Office to the NYS Unified Courts. We are a not-for-profit organization whose members have been instrumental in helping many Charities and people who have experienced catastrophic events. We also host an annual Awards & Retirement Dinner to honor the men and women who have given so much of their lives and time to serving the Erie County Sheriff's Department as well as recognizing those for their heroic actions and/or important contributions to the Department and our community.

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Mark Radder

To that end, we are seeking a donation from your business to be raffled at this event. We will also ensure that your business is recognized at the Meat Raffle.

We are looking for Gift Cards or Certificates that can be redeemed at your establishment.

We recognize and understand the current climate of our economy and we want you to know how very grateful we are for any support you can give us.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at runccc@aol.com or Debra Norton at nortond8991@gmail.com

Thank you for your generosity in this matter.

Very truly yours,

Christopher Clark
President

www.badgeandshieldclub.com

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