

San Antonio Fire & Police Pensioners
311 Roosevelt St. San Antonio, Texas 78210
Pensioners Newsletter-12 April 2011
By Vick Abate

WELLNESS REPORTS

FIRE—by S.B. ‘Breezy’ Briseno

(Anyone having information about deaths or illness involving fire department personnel, retirees or relatives, is invited to call Breezy Briseno @ (210) 654-3580) with information.

ILL OR INJURED: Bobby Burrow, being treated for cancer; **Charles Ahrens**, recovering from stents implantation.

DECEASED: Maria Peon, 89, 4/4/11. **Susie Castanon**, 88, widow of Lambert Castanon.

POLICE--- by Bill Turner

Anyone having information about deaths or illness involving police department personnel, retirees or relatives, is invited to call Bill Turner @ (210) 525-9962 with information.

ILL OR INJURED: Marty Rocha, being treated for ALS; **Myself**, being treated for Atrial Fibrillation with ablation to occur.

DECEASED: Stephanie Brown, 27, 3/15/11; **David Oaks**, 65, 3/28/11

SPEAKER: Vice President James Baer was our speaker today, on the subject of genealogy and sources available for anyone interested in researching the family tree. One of the most important things he noted was to search every possible spelling of your name. He explained that some places you can conduct searches are The Public Library, Mormon Church Genealogy archives, the Catholic Archdioceses for local searches and the internet. James showed the group examples of what the result looks like by showing a chart of his family tree and the success he has had with his searches.

Another speaker following James was **Rebecca Knudson**, R.N. who presented information on the services she provides as an R.N. to the firefighters, such as to assess, evaluate, educate and follow up with care-givers.

COMMITTEES:

PRESIDENT: President Mike Trainer gave an update on the legislative process, advising we are monitoring events and attending some events in Austin and making our presence known. If the situation dictates, we may need to take a bus load of members to Austin for a day to show our support or disapproval of an issue of pending legislation. The survey on web-site on the idea of forming a PAC fund, was 50/50. This is an issue the board will address in the future. Mike noted that the Lighthouse for the Blind gives tours of their facility and it is something we may look into in the future

PENSION FUND COMMITTEE: Alex Perez reported the fund was up 9.5% YTD. The new building is on track for a move-in on 4/15/11, with a target date of 4/18 to be operational. Alex announced that one of the breakfast clubs will be hosting a photo-op in front of the police building at 214 W. Nueva on Sunday May 1, 2011 @ 9:00 A.M. They are moving across the street to the old K-Mart building and will share that building with F.D.

The May meeting will be at the new building May 10. The association will provide a BBQ sandwich meal. Everyone is invited to find a member and bring them along. The May meeting is also our annual memorial meeting.

PRE-89 HEALTH INSURANCE: President Mike Trainer reported he has been notified by the city that they have sent out an RFP for vision and dental insurance. This will be a lengthy process and will probably not be available until 2012

NOTABLE UTTERANCES

Jesus said “ Most assuredly I say to you, unless one is born again, one cannot see the Kingdom of God” *John 3/3...* “and do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” *Romans 12/2*

DID YOU KNOW: “*Respect Your Elders, especially if they are armed.* War is usually considered a young man’s endeavor. But on April 19, 1775, the first day of the American Revolution, the older generation got their licks in too. At the battle of Lexington & Concord, colonial militia clashed with the dread Redcoats, and sent them back to Boston. One militiaman who answered the call that day was Samuel Whittmore. He was 78 years old and crippled, but that wasn’t going to stop him. He headed out to join the fight. He carried a rifle, two pistols, and an old cavalry saber.

As the British approached, he took up a position behind an old stone wall and got such accurate fire that the British sent an detachment to rout him out. As they drew close, the old man killed one with a rifle and shot two more with his pistol. He was reaching for his cavalry saber when they finally fell in on him. One British soldier shot him in the face while others, bayoneted him time after time. Samuel Whittmore suffered 14 separate wounds. When he was brought to a doctor, the man just shook his head. It was clear that he had little chance of surviving. But he defied the odds and lived on. He lived long enough to see the British defeated, the Constitution ratified, and George Washington become president. He was 96 when he finally died, 18 years after the battle in which that senior soldier fought to make America free.” (*Excerpt from “The Greatest War Stories Never Told.”*)

