MEMBER’S REPORT
The quarterly newsletter for active and retired OP&F members and their survivors
Volume 34 – Number 3 – Summer 2015

DEIGHTON, PATTON WIN TRUSTEE ELECTIONS

William Deighton (retired, Cleveland Fire) and Timothy Patton (Cleveland Police) were the successful candidates in the Board of Trustee elections for 2015. Both began serving four year terms on June 1.

Deighton, the longest serving current trustee, became a member of the OP&F Board in 2003. He defeated Charles Campbell, a retiree from the Columbus Division of Fire, 2,741 votes to 1,076. Patton is serving his first term as a trustee and defeated George Sakellakis from Brook Park Police, 1,234 votes to 668.

Desmond takes over as Board Chair

Daniel Desmond (active fire, Toledo) became chair of the OP&F Board of Trustees at its June meeting and will serve in that capacity through May 2016.

Desmond ran unopposed in the spring 2015 elections and is beginning his first full four-year term as a trustee. Desmond has been with the Toledo Fire and Rescue Department since 1989 and previously served with the Sylvania Township Fire Department.

MEMBER CONTRIBUTION RATES INCREASED IN JULY

Active member contribution rates to OP&F increased from 11.5 percent to 12.25 percent on July 2 as a part of the scheduled increases put in place by pension reform legislation in 2012.

In July 2013, member contributions increased for the first time since 1988 when rates went from 10 percent to 10.75 percent. July’s change is the final scheduled increase in member contributions. These employee contribution increases are part of sweeping pension reform legislation that have reduced OP&F’s unfunded accrued liability by $3.2 billion.

The employer contribution rates remain unchanged. The rate for police employers is 19.5 percent of salary, while the fire employer rate is 24 percent.

Henry Tran, OP&F Member Education Representative, explains benefits in a recent pre-retirement interview.
Dear Members,

I did a quick Google search in an unscientific effort to see what life events caused the most stress. The results were not surprising. The death of a spouse or loved one ranks first on the lists that I found (also near the top were divorce, marital separation, incarceration and death of a close family member).

The passing of a spouse is understandably stressful regardless of the circumstance. Whether at the end of a long illness or if it is sudden and unexpected, this marks a significant change in your life. In this issue of the Members’ Report we have published a checklist that offer some help after the death of a spouse, and hopefully a small amount of assurance. This is primarily a financial checklist, including many items that could be overlooked at a time when an individual could understandably become overwhelmed.

We also have an article in this edition asking for more volunteers for our HOST initiative (Helping Our Survivors in Transition). These volunteers assist survivors with paperwork and forms that are required after the death of an OP&F member and again can be of assistance during a traumatic time. While these volunteers are not able to provide financial or legal advice, they are trained and knowledgeable about the forms needed to begin or preserve specific benefits from OP&F. Our customer service representatives can help contact a HOST volunteer on your behalf, just call our toll-free number.

I hope you all are having an enjoyable summer, and please contact us at OP&F with any questions or concerns you have.

Sincerely,

John J. Gallagher, Jr.

The portfolio update shows the following values for OP&F’s investment portfolio in 2014:

- Value as of July 1: $14.55 billion
- End of May value: $14.85 billion
- End of April value: $14.89 billion
FALL ANNUAL CHANGE PERIOD SEMINARS ANNOUNCED

UnitedHealthcare will once again host presentations this fall for members eligible for the health care plan sponsored by OP&F.

Unlike past years, there will be one meeting held at each location beginning at 10 a.m. The meeting will continue to be a pre-recorded presentation with time before and after for questions and answers. The presentation will also be put on the OP&F website for members unable to attend one of the onsite meetings. A nurse team will be onsite to hold various biometric screenings for members.

Locations listed below are tentative, but will be confirmed in both the fall edition of the Member’s Report and also in the Annual Change Period packet.

CALL GOES OUT FOR VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST OP&F SURVIVORS

OP&F sponsors a unique volunteer program designed to assist survivors. Helping Our Survivors in Transition, or HOST, offers assistance with various paperwork and forms that are necessary after the death of a member. This valuable program is possible only through the cooperation of a network of volunteers around the state.

There continues to be a need for additional volunteers. OP&F is currently looking to add HOST volunteers all over Ohio, particularly in the west, northwest, east and southeast. If you or someone you know would like more information about becoming a volunteer for the HOST program, please contact OP&F at 1-888-864-8363.

OP&F’s staff works with the volunteers who assist survivors to help make the transition of losing a loved one less difficult. When a new survivor requests HOST assistance, OP&F dispatches a nearby HOST volunteer to assist. The volunteer will help the survivor complete the necessary forms needed to begin receiving eligible survivor benefits. HOST volunteers are able to request roundtrip mileage reimbursement from OP&F.

OP&F trains and certifies newly approved HOST volunteers on the preparation of forms and other materials that are provided to each new survivor. Each HOST volunteer must be re-certified every two years by viewing an on-line re-certification training video.

HOST volunteers can answer basic questions and assist in the preparation of survivor documents needed to ensure initiation of interim benefits. However, the volunteers are not able to answer detailed questions about benefits or the determination of benefits on behalf of OP&F.
PRE-RETIREMENT SEMINARS KICK-OFF ON SEPT. 14

The annual Pre-Retirement Seminar series has been scheduled and will begin Sept. 14 in Dayton. OP&F will host six seminars around Ohio to assist members who are approaching retirement eligibility or considering enrolling in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP). A complete list of seminar dates is below.

Active members who are eligible for retirement or DROP within the next five years will be mailed an invitation with additional seminar information. Members may also go online to RSVP to the seminars at www.op-f.org.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, Sept. 14: DAYTON</td>
<td>Presidential Banquet Center</td>
<td>4548 Presidential Dr, Kettering, OH 45429</td>
<td>(937) 291-3600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, Sept. 15: COLUMBUS</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, Sept. 17: AKRON/CANTON</td>
<td>Courtyard by Marriott</td>
<td>4375 Metro Circle NW, Canton, OH 44720</td>
<td>(330) 494-6494</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, Sept. 22: TOLEDO</td>
<td>Radisson at the University of Toledo</td>
<td>3100 Glendale Avenue, Toledo, OH 43614</td>
<td>(419) 381-6800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, Sept. 21: CINCINNATI</td>
<td>Sharonville Convention Center</td>
<td>11355 Chester Road, Sharonville, OH 45246</td>
<td>(513) 771-7744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, Sept. 24: CLEVELAND</td>
<td>Holiday Inn Independence</td>
<td>6001 Rockside Road, Independence, OH 44131</td>
<td>(216) 524-8050</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NCPERS FAMILY PROTECTION PLUS INSURANCE
DESIGNED FOR PUBLIC SAFETY WORKERS

Life insurance ownership is at a 50-year low. Only 59 percent of U.S. adults owned life insurance in 2010, down from 70 percent in 1960. The risks to families are great.

- Three in 10 American households (35 million) are uninsured and half say they need more life insurance
- On average, Americans own enough insurance to replace the household’s income for 3.5 years. Experts believe Americans need eight to ten times their income.
- Among households with children under age 18, which arguably have the greatest need for life insurance, 11 million have no coverage
- The Family Protection Plus Plan is affordable because it is decreasing term life insurance designed to pay out higher benefits when accrued pension benefits are often the lowest. In other words, the plan pays a maximum benefit in younger years and a gradually decreasing benefit amount with age. The cost for this coverage is $17 per month and the coverage continues after retirement. This plan also offers other convenient features:
  - Guaranteed acceptance: there are no health questions to answer
  - The coverage is 24/7: providing insurance protection on and off the job
  - AD&D insurance is automatically included: Group accidental death and dismemberment Insurance provides a benefit for covered injuries and pays an additional death benefit (some exclusions apply: contract the plan administrator, HealthSmart, at 1-888-697-8897 for more information)
  - Dependents are also covered: Group term life insurance is included to cover spouses and eligible children
  - Convenient Direct Payment Options—simply elect to have payments made by coupons or electronic funds transfer

All coverages are issued by The Prudential Insurance Company of America, which has offered this group decreasing term life insurance plan since 1969. Nationally, there are more than 100,000 covered members, retirees, and dependents enrolled in the plan. In 2010 alone, more than $14 million in benefits were paid to beneficiaries. Enrollment information will be included in the fall edition of the Member’s Report.

For questions contact the plan’s administrator, HealthSmart Benefit Solutions, Inc. at 1-888-697-8897.
A FINANCIAL CHECKLIST FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES

Losing a spouse brings a flood of emotions that can make tasks like managing financial obligations seem almost impossible. This checklist is designed to help those dealing with this challenging time to keep the process organized and to make the next financial steps as easy to understand as possible.

If possible, get a family member or close friend to help. It can be very difficult to stay focused during this emotional time. A helping hand can make a huge difference in easing the burden.

OP&F can assist in many ways, including arranging for a volunteer to assist with the various forms that need to be completed. These HOST volunteers (Helping Our Survivors in Transition) can be a valuable resource during this stressful time. Also the OP&F Member’s Guide to Survivor Benefits is available online at op-f.org or by calling 1-888-864-8363.

Gather all important documents in a central place where they are easy to access and work. A large accordion folder can help to stay organized.

**DOCUMENTS TO GATHER**

- Will/trust
- Life insurance policy
- Birth certificate
- Marriage certificate
- Death certificate (if you already have it)
- Funeral arrangements or instructions
- Social Security cards for both of you
- Tax returns
- Divorce agreements
- Bank statements
- Investment account statements
- Stock certificates
- Pension/retirement plan statements
- Loan statements
- Mortgages
- Leases
- Deeds
- Motor vehicle titles
- Car insurance
- Homeowner’s insurance
- Health insurance
- Bills
- Safe deposit box information (and key)
- Storage locker contract
- Business ownership or interest
- Military service records
- Computer records related to assets

**THINGS TO DO**

- Contact a funeral home to make arrangements for funeral preparations and payment. Ask the funeral director to help you get 12 certified copies of the death certificate, or contact the County Clerk’s office yourself to get them. There is usually a small charge for this.

- Contact OP&F so that the proper arrangements can be made for any survivor benefits, annuity payment plans and payments to any designated beneficiaries to begin to be processed.

- If your spouse or you are enrolled in the OP&F-sponsored health care plan, once you have contacted OP&F, UnitedHealthcare will automatically mail a Survivor Health Care Eligibility and Enrollment Form for completion. This form must be received by UHC within 90 days regardless of your health care enrollment. Also contact Medicare if your spouse was eligible and receiving benefits.

- If applicable, contact your spouse’s employer to let them know of the passing. Speak with the employer’s human resources department directly so they can provide you with any paperwork that needs to be completed. Keep in mind that you may be due money because of your spouse’s accrued vacation or sick time. Also, if you or your children were covered through your spouse’s employer’s medical insurance, ask about options for continuing the coverage if you are interested in doing so.

- Contact an attorney to begin a review of your spouse’s will, or if there is no will, to discuss how the probate process will work. The attorney will file the will with the probate court to have it approved.

- Make sure you have a plan in place for all your bills. If you were not the one responsible for bills, research which were on automatic payment and which need to be paid manually. Have all the bills put in your name.

(continued on Page 6)
A FINANCIAL CHECKLIST FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES

- Contact all credit unions or banks your spouse had accounts with to change the account holder information.
- Contact any financial advisors or administrators of investment or retirement accounts your spouse had to begin the process of assigning assets to beneficiaries. Confer with a financial advisor before cashing out any investments.
- If an active life insurance policy was in place, contact the provider. It can take several weeks to receive the funds, so try to get started as soon as possible.
- Contact providers of all other insurance policies – auto, homeowner’s, credit card, accident, etc. – to let them know of the passing and to close or change the name on the policy.
- Check with all your spouse’s former employers to see if they have any life insurance policies or other benefits for your spouse.
- If your spouse was listed as beneficiary on your will, insurance policies, bank accounts or with OP&F, change these designations.
- Contact any creditors to remove your spouse’s name from any joint accounts and to close any accounts that were in your spouse’s name only. Destroy any cards that were issued in your spouse’s name. Let creditors know if the debts will be paid by your spouse’s estate, or if not, how they will be handled (your lawyer can help you with preparing this information.)
- Send a letter to each of the three major credit bureaus (Equifax, Experian and TransUnion) to get copies of your spouse’s credit reports to ensure you are aware of all existing debts. In your letter, include:
  1. Date of death.
  2. Your name, address, relation to the deceased and your signature.
  3. Deceased’s date of death, date of birth, place of birth, addresses for the past five years.
  4. Deceased’s Social Security number.
  5. A request that the deceased’s credit report be mailed to you.
  6. A request that the following notation be listed on the credit report: “Deceased – Do not issue credit.”
  7. Copy of marriage certificate and death certificate.
- Update the name listing on any deeds or titles, such as your home or your vehicles. Contact your state’s department of motor vehicles for the title changes to vehicles.
- If your spouse was in the military, contact the Veteran’s Administration to learn what benefits you might be due.
- If your spouse belonged to a labor union, contact the union to see if they offer any assistance.
- If an illness or medical care preceded your spouse’s passing, file a claim for the medical bills with your spouse’s health insurance provider.
- Keep in mind that taxes for your spouse will still need to be filed for the year of death and any taxes due will need to be paid. Since there could be estate taxes or other complicated issues to deal with, it is best to contact a tax professional to assist you.
- If you have a child who is in college, contact the school’s financial aid office since you may qualify for more assistance.
- Cancel any clubs or memberships for your spouse, such as gyms or professional organizations.
- If your spouse had any business ownerships or interests, contact the attorney who handled your spouse’s business affairs to learn what steps need to be taken to handle any transitions. Also, contact any business clients your spouse may have been working with or for.
- If your benefits represent a large amount of money, consult with a financial advisor to put that money to work to achieve your goals.
- It is also good to reassess what your budget will look like going forward. Try to estimate how your expenses and income will change.

Same sex couples have 60 days from June 26 to enroll in OP&F health care plan

OP&F members who are part of a same sex marriage are eligible to enroll their spouse in the OP&F retiree health care plan, but have a limited window to sign up.

Pursuant to the United States Supreme Court decision requiring states to issue marriage licenses to same sex couples and to recognize lawful marriages from other states, OP&F members who were married in states who recognized same sex marriage prior to June 26, 2015, have 60 days from June 26, 2015, to enroll that spouse in OP&F’s health care plan. These are the same long-standing enrollment rules that have been in place for signing-up for OP&F’s retiree health care plan. These rules allow for a 60-day window for enrollment into the plan due to one of several events. A change in family status (including marriage) is one of the events allowing for a change in enrollment.

Please consult the Member’s Guide to Health Care or contact UnitedHealthcare at 1-888-832-0964 for details about the plan and enrollment.
2016 UNITEDHEALTHCARE RATES AND NEW PRESCRIPTION CO-PAYS APPROVED BY BOARD

The OP&F Board of Trustees has approved the medical and prescription drug plan contribution rates and pharmacy co-pays for 2016.

Medical rates for members not eligible for AARP were approved to increase by 2.0 percent and prescription drug rates will increase by 3.1 percent. The chart below shows each member and dependent rate for 2016 under the participant contribution column.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>NON-MEDICARE ELIGIBLE MEDICAL PLAN</th>
<th>NON-AARP ELIGIBLE MEDICAL PLAN</th>
<th>PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre 7/24/1986</td>
<td>Benefit Recipient</td>
<td>$219.26</td>
<td>$657.79</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spouse</td>
<td>$290.30</td>
<td>$290.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Child</td>
<td>$151.73</td>
<td>$151.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post 7/24/1986</td>
<td>Benefit Recipient</td>
<td>$219.26</td>
<td>$657.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spouse</td>
<td>$435.46</td>
<td>$145.15</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Child</td>
<td>$227.59</td>
<td>$75.87</td>
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Prescription drug co-pays for retail and mail order will also increase slightly for 2016. Listed below are the current and new co-pay amounts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rx CO-PAY AMOUNTS</th>
<th>CURRENT PLAN</th>
<th>2016 APPROVED CO-PAYS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Retail</td>
<td>Mail Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIER 1</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIER 2</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
<td>$40.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIER 3</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
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</table>

New rate information will also be included in the next Member’s Guide to Health Care Coverage that will be mailed to all retirees, survivors and orphans in September as part of the Annual Change Period packet for 2016.
Notify OP&F of any address changes

Members can update their information online from the secure Member Self Serve, or with the Change of Address form available at op–f.org. Members may also email questions@op-f.org with new address and contact information or call Customer Service at 1-888-864-8363.