

## **Trustee Election, continued from page 1**

### **Running for Office**

Any Active Member who would like to become a candidate in the Trustee Election must complete the following:

- Personally pick up an application from the Pension System office between 8:00 a.m. January 26 through 4:00 p.m. February 16;
- Present appropriate ID - your Driver's License and employee ID;
- Sign a form acknowledging receipt of the application and all attachments;
- Return the completed application to the Pension System office by 4:00 p.m. February 16, 2005;
- Attend a training session on either February 23 or 24 (except current Trustees running for reelection).

### **Trusteeship**

The time requirements and other obligations of a Trustee are explained in the material included in the candidate application packet. This information will help you decide whether or not you want to become a member of the Board of Trustees.

### **Trustee Election Schedule**

#### **Candidate Application Filing Period**

*January 26, 2005 – February 16*

Applications due by 4:00 p.m.

*February 16, 2005*

Trustee Candidate Training

*February 23 & February 24*

Voting Period

*8:00 a.m. April 1 to*

*12:00 noon April 11*

New Trustee terms begin

*June 1*

## **Oldest Pensioner Passes Away**

Jack (Eunice) Meredith, a retired police officer who celebrated his 101 birthday in July 2004 passed away on December 21, 2004. Eunice retired from the Dallas Police force in 1955 with 27 years of service. For more than 49 years he has drawn a pension from DPFP System. In total this amounts to over \$575,000 and a 387% return on his contributions. Helen, his bride of 75+ years, will continue to receive a pension from the System for the rest of her life.

### **Joe Copeland**



"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."

Joe Copeland served in the Dallas Police Department for more than 20 years, most of which he served in the traffic division as a motor jock.

After a courageous battle against lymphoma in which he had twice gotten the upper hand in his effort to recover, Sr. Corporal Joe Copeland took medical retirement on December 10, 2004 – the day before he died at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas. He was 40 years old.

The last three years of his life, Joe fought to not let the lymphoma interfere with his caring work as a Dallas police officer and the father of five.

Joe is survived by Mary, his loving wife of 18 years; his four sons: Caleb, Josiah, Aaron and Nathaniel; and his baby girl, Martha.

# Pension System Ends Year on Positive Note

## Message from the Chairman

It is the beginning of a new year and the Pension Trustees and Staff hope everyone is well and had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

After starting slow, the investment world picked up steam in the last quarter of 2004 and ended on a positive note. The unaudited return for 2004 exceeds 14%. Once again our fund shows what a disciplined and diversified investment plan can do.

The year 2005 appears to be a busy one. The state legislature will be in session from January until June. The two most pressing items for them will be state school finance and the workers' comp system that needs repair. The Board as always will be watching for any legislation that might affect the fund or our members in any way. We will keep everyone informed as the session progresses.

On a final note there will be Trustee elections this year. Trustee positions, one in each department, along with both retiree positions will be up for vote. The newsletters will keep everyone informed of that schedule as it develops.

Feel free to contact any of the Board or Staff members about these or any other subjects of interest.



*Gerald Brown,  
Chairman of  
the Board &  
Fire Trustee*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gerald Brown".

—Gerald Brown,  
Chairman of the Board & Fire Trustee



The yellow-footed rock wallaby—a small, colorful breed of kangaroo known to roam the Casella Vineyards is the true namesake for Yellowtail wine.

## Pension System Calendar

- ◆ **February 10**—Board meeting
- ◆ **February 21**—President's Day, Pension System office closed
- ◆ **March 10**—Board meeting
- ◆ **April 14**—Board meeting

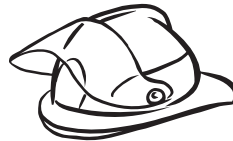
## January 2005

- ◆ **Trustee Election**
- ◆ **Yellowtail Wine**
- ◆ **2004 Performance**
- ◆ **Retirees**
- ◆ **Obituaries**

### Congratulations Retirees!

Fire Department

*Robert E. Camplen*  
*William L. Crawford*  
*Gregory E. Egnew*  
*Tammy E. Wagoner*



Police Department

*James Allen, Jr*  
*Patrick Cheshier*  
*Charles M. Flynn*  
*William E. Hunt*  
*John C. Martinez*  
*Bobby R. Wychopen*  
*Patricia A. Sanchez*  
*Steven A. Nelson*  
*Stephen R. Bell*

Gerald Brown, Chairman

Steven G. Shaw, Vice-Chairman

Gary W. Edge, Deputy Vice-Chairman

Donald W. Hill

John M. Mays

Rector C. McCallum

Maxine Thornton-Reese

George J. Tomasovic

Steven H. Unlor

Richard H. Wachsmen

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Richard L. Tettavant,  
Administrator

Brian F. Blake,  
Assistant Administrator

Donald C. Rchan,  
Assistant Administrator

## Yellowtail Wine

by Richard Wachsman

In 2002, the Pension system invested in 186 hectares of grapes in Southeast Australia in and around Griffith, New South Wales. We have a contract to sell these grapes to the winery owned by John Casella and his family. This is the winery that produces Yellowtail wine.

You may not have heard of Yellowtail wine. Four years ago it was an unheard of brand of wine. Then in 2001 Yellowtail was introduced in the United States, and the rest is history. Yellowtail is now the number one imported wine in the USA controlling 12.3% of the imports with over 2.5 million bottles sold. The Shiraz is the number one selling 750 ml red wine in the USA. The Merlot is the number 2 selling red wine in the USA, and the Chardonnay is the number 2 chardonnay sold in the USA.

I have seen some e-mails about a few of our fellow retirees not liking Yellowtail wine. I have personally tried it and do like some of the types. Yellowtail is an inexpensive wine and to quote Robert M. Parker, Jr. – *the Wine Advocate*, “In some wine circles it is fashionable to criticize wine of this genre, but, if the truth be known, these are surprisingly well-made offerings.” Certainly, for the Pension System, it is a profitable venture. By selling our grapes to the Casella’s we are projected to make approximately 15% per year, so pick up a bottle of Yellowtail and have a great New Year.



## Trustee Election

Spring 2005

At its meeting on January 13, 2005, the Board called for an election to be held this spring to fill one Police Trustee position and one Fire Trustee position that expire May 31, 2005. Trustees are elected for a term of four years and may run for reelection.

### ***Election Process***

Members may cast their votes by telephone or on the Internet beginning April 1. Ballots and voting instructions will be mailed to Members’ home addresses on file with the City of Dallas. If you have changed your address, please contact the appropriate office in your department as soon as possible to have your address updated.

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Casella Vineyards, New South Wales