

# First Responder

Volume 2008.05 -- May 2008

## Dallas To Hold Annual Police Memorial Ceremony

By Rector McCollum, Police Trustee

Once again it's time to honor police officers that have given their lives in the line of duty over the years.



Rector McCollum  
Police Trustee

The annual Dallas Police Memorial ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday, May 14 at 12 noon at the Police Memorial on the north side of City Hall at Akard and Young.

**See "Police Memorial Ceremony" on page 2**



*(Photo above is from the 2007 Police Memorial Ceremony)*

## Another PREP Session Added to 2008 Schedule

By popular demand, the Pension System has scheduled an additional session of the Pre-Retirement Education Program (PREP). The new session is scheduled for September 25.

The PREP seminar held in March was one of our best attended ever, with almost 70 in attendance. The May 6 session of PREP filled quickly, and Members are already signing up for the August 7 session.

Attending PREP will provide you with tools for retirement planning and will point you to

sources of more in-depth financial and legal analysis of your personal finances.

Our lineup of informative topics includes Pension System benefits, City of Dallas 401(k) and 457 plans, wills and estates, Social Security benefits, survivor benefits, health insurance, and retirement investing.

If you would like to register for a PREP or Financial Planning seminar, call 214.638.3863 and ask for Aimee, or send an email to [aimeej@dpfp.org](mailto:aimeej@dpfp.org).

# PENSION SYSTEM CALENDAR

- May 6, 2008  
PREP Seminar
- May 8, 2008  
Monthly Board Meeting
- June 12, 2008  
Monthly Board Meeting
- June 17, 2008  
Financial Planning Seminar
- July 10, 2008  
Monthly Board Meeting
- August 7, 2008  
PREP Seminar
- August 12, 2008  
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- August 14, 2008  
Monthly Board Meeting
- September 11, 2008  
Monthly Board Meeting
- September 25, 2008  
PREP Seminar

## Police Memorial Ceremony

*(Continued from page 1)*

This year's ceremony will be even more solemn as we pay a tribute to Senior Corporal Victor Lozada, who tragically died in a motorcycle accident on February 22 while escorting Hillary Clinton's motorcade across the Houston Street Viaduct.

Victor was an energetic officer, caring husband, and involved father. He will be missed by us all.

According to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, 181 officers gave their lives in 2007. That is 30 more than in 2006. This bears out the unfortunate trend we have been hear-

ing about throughout the last year or so. Accidents and assaults on police officers are on the upswing and sadly, more officers died in Texas in 2007 than in any other state.

If you've never taken the time to participate in the Police Officer Memorial Ceremony, I would urge you to do so. If you can't participate, then at least try to be in attendance. It is a chance to pay our collective respect to those who gave all there was to give and to pay a deep and solemn honor to the nation's officers who have earned it.

## Moving? Please Update Your Address

If you are moving soon, or have recently moved, please update your address with your department, and with the City of Dallas payroll department.

The addresses we use are provided to us by the City of Dallas Payroll department each pay period.

Thanks!



## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW RETIREES!

### ***FIRE-RESCUE***

Michael C. Arocha

Robert L. Bailey

William E. Clark

Lawrence R. Henry

Buford L. Kemp, Jr.

Smith W. Ribble

### **POLICE**

Armando Perez

Michael A. Roberts

Warren B. Wilson



# DPFP Website Provides Pension Information

One of the Pension System's best communications tools is our Web site at [www.dpfp.org](http://www.dpfp.org).

The agendas of all Board Meetings are posted at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

If there is breaking news with the Pension System, or an important reminder, it will be on the home page of the Web site.

You are able to download various publications of the Pension System, including the Member Handbook, the Plan Document, Annual Reports, and Newsletters.

Most of the Pension System forms are on the site. When getting ready to retire, you can print the forms and have most of them filled out before you get to your counseling appointment.

The newest and most popular feature of the Web site is Web Member Services, which allows members to sign in and view their pension information in a se-

cure, on-line environment. Since launching Web Member Services in July of last year, over 2,100 members have established on-line accounts. The service has been designed to assist you in the planning and management of your retirement benefits. It offers access to some interactive services that can help you become more involved and better informed about your Pension benefits.

Active Members can access the following information:

- Account Summary (contributions and pension service)
- Demographic Information (address, phone number, etc.)
- Benefit Estimator (to calculate benefit estimates using System data)

Benefit recipients can also view the following information:

- Federal Tax Withholding
- Deductions

- Direct Deposit information
- Federal Tax Reporting Documents

In addition, participants in Active and Retiree DROP can access DROP account balances, and project future account balances.

First time users click on a link that will guide them through the process of setting up a user name and password to access their information.

There is an on-line "help" function with "easy-to-understand" menus which give outlined steps for accomplishing each task.

Security of your personal information is of prime importance to us. Our use of state-of-the art encryption technology ensures your privacy as you access and navigate this site.

As always, we welcome your suggestions for improvement; you may share them with our staff at [info@dpfp.org](mailto:info@dpfp.org).

## Having Fun at Eggstravaganza 2008...



*Captain Mike Buehler makes a balloon animal for a child*



*(Left to Right) Fire-Rescue Officer Nikkita Reese, Asst. Chief Debra Carlin, and Lt. Melanie Forbes-Scott take a break from the festivities*



*Photos by Leslie Warnock*



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***First Responder***  
***May 2008***

**From the Administrator**

***By Richard L. Tettamant,***  
***Pension System Administrator***



During times of economic uncertainty, there are still good investments. Your Board of Trustees has implemented a well-diversified plan, and over long periods of time, our investments out-perform the markets.

For instance, the system's agriculture portfolio returned 18% during 2007. The timber investments returned 26%. For 2007, overall investment return was approximately 10%.

We are **your** Pension System, and we work for **you**. Your Trustees meet at least once a month, sometimes more, to make sure everything is on track, and any issues are addressed. The Pension staff is here to serve you.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please call us at 214.638.3863 or email us at [info@dpfp.org](mailto:info@dpfp.org). I will respond as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

*Richard L. Tettamant*

**Richard L. Tettamant**

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The ***First Responder*** newsletter is published monthly by the **Dallas Police & Fire Pension System** for all Active Members.

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*Editor*