

THE Hundred Call

***"The Club
with a Heart"***

**President: Paul Fitzgerald
Managing Director: James M. Thomas**

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Peter Carozza Assumes Presidency of the Club with a Heart

A long-time advocate for public safety personnel, especially members of the fire service, Peter Carozza, Jr. is the new President of The Hundred Club of Connecticut. He assumes the position from Paul Fitzgerald, who served a two year term.

Peter is a thirty-three year veteran of the Waterbury Connecticut Fire Department and currently serves as President of the Uniformed Professional Fire Fighters of Connecticut representing seventy local affiliates and four thousand career fire fighters in Connecticut. He has extensive experience in labor relations and lobbying for firefighters on the local, state and national levels. He serves on several national committees of the International Association of Firefighters and received its organizations 2010 Local Leadership Award. He currently serves as Chairman of the Federation of State and Provincial Firefighters, IAFF, which is comprised of the leadership of each State and Provincial Association in the United States and Canada.

He currently serves as Chairman of the State of Connecticut Fire Prevention and Control Commission, originally appointed by Governor O'Neill and reappointed by Governor Rowland, Governor Rell, Governor Malloy and Governor Lamont. The state agency is responsible for the development and delivery of state of the art educational programs designed to meet nationally recognized standards for use by fire service personnel, public educators and other first responders.

Peter has been highly successful in contract negotiations and prevailing in numerous cases before the Connecticut State Board of Mediation and Arbitration and Connecticut State Board of Labor Relations. He has assisted legal teams in many cases before the Connecticut State Superior Courts and the Connecticut State Supreme Court, and he serves as a panel member on cases referred to the Connecticut State Board of Mediation and Arbitration. He was appointed a permanent member of the state board in 2021.

He established the first highly successful joint Labor Management Committee with the Connecticut Career Fire Chiefs Association in the 1980's and has served as a panel member for several Connecticut municipalities in the hiring process for their Fire Chiefs.



Peter S. Carozza, Jr.

He served as Chairman of the Connecticut Jerry Lewis Telethon and Vice President of the Connecticut State AFL-CIO and received its organization's Public Sector Leadership Award for his tireless efforts and passionate commitment to Connecticut's workers. He was inducted in 2011 into the Connecticut State Firefighters Hall of Fame for his work on firefighter issues on the local, state and national levels.

He has served on the senior steering committees of many political campaigns on the state and national levels, the Governor's Public Safety Committee, the Governor's Two Storm Panel, Anthem Blue Cross &

Blue Shield Advisory Board, and the University of Connecticut Labor Education Center Advisory Board. In 2012 was elected to the Executive Board of the National Conference of Public Employees Retirement Systems.

A member of The Hundred Club of Connecticut since 1974, he was elected to the Board of Directors in 2010.

Chief among the goals of his presidency, Peter wants to sustain and grow the Club's membership.

He also wants to increase the social interaction among the members. This would include resuming the Meet and Greet receptions held regionally as informal member gatherings and to introduce prospective members to the purpose and mission of the Club. Another opportunity will be to hold two golf outings in the coming year. Last year's traditional Edward J. Funk Memorial Golf Tournament at the Tunxis Plantation Country Club was cancelled because of the pandemic. It is hoped that with an increased vaccination rate and correspondingly lower infections, the annual Hartford County event will be held, along with another match elsewhere in the state.

54th Annual Meeting Held After Year of Pandemic-Induced Isolation

Unquestionably, 2020 was an unprecedented year. Webster added to its dictionary: coronavirus, community spread, social distancing, PPE (personal protective equipment), Zoom meeting, contact tracing, and drive-thru testing. Our daily activities had to be done “virtually” – working, learning and shopping – all from home, in front of a computer screen. Who would have guessed that the major league baseball season would be 60 games, the Kentucky Derby run in September, or The Hundred Club’s golf outing and annual meeting would be cancelled?

Thankfully, circumstances improved in 2021. By mid-October, data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention showed that more than 80% of eligible Connecticut residents were fully vaccinated against COVID-19, leading all other states. Meanwhile, the state reported that the COVID-19 positivity rate was below 2% and hospitalizations had also declined. Connecticut was recognized as the safest state in the country based on COVID-19 metrics, according to an analysis published by the personal finance website WalletHub.



The Honor Guard units present the colors

With this positive data, the 54th Annual Meeting of The Hundred Club of Connecticut was held during a luncheon at the Promenade Ballroom in Hartford on October 27th. Nearly three hundred members and guests attended the event.

Kevin Hogan, the popular broadcaster and WFSB News Channel 3 Bureau Chief, served as the Master of Ceremonies. The meeting opened with the posting of the colors by the Connecticut State Police Honor Guard, the Department of Correction Honor Guard and the Hartford Fire Service Honor Guard, accompanied once again by Connecticut State Police Bagpiper, Pat Whalen. With the audience on its feet and the flag bearers at attention, Hogan led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and introduced Club Chaplain Father Michael Dolan, who offered a prayer of thanksgiving and remembrance of the year’s fallen heroes.

Hogan then introduced the Directors of the Club, who were

asked to stand and be recognized for their service to the Club. Special guests, including Attorney General William Tong, State Treasurer Sean Wooden, Commissioner of the Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection James Rovella, and State Fire Administrator Jeffrey Morrisette, were also introduced. The most notable guests, the spouses and family members of the fallen, were recognized and the generous support of the Aegis Group at Morgan Stanley, who sponsored the luncheon, was acknowledged.



Members Pledge Allegiance

Since the meeting represented the first time that members had assembled in more than two years, Past President and Director Paul Young took the opportunity to thank Bill Sydenham for his 27 years of service as the Club’s Managing Director. Sydenham, who retired in May, expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to lead the Club, work with the dedicated Directors and serve the surviving families.

Regrettably, due to a severe and damaging storm, Club President Paul Fitzgerald was unable to make the trip from his home on Cape Cod. Consequently, Past President and Managing Director James “Skip” Thomas introduced the President-Elect, Peter Carozza. Thomas presented the new leader with a gavel, denoting his new role.



Family members stand to be recognized by the audience; the floral arrangements were gifts from the Club

Carozza thanked the past and current officers and directors of the Club for working to assist the families of dedicated public servants who made the ultimate sacrifice. He pledged to increase the membership of the “Club with a Heart” and continue those efforts to support the survivors.



Skip Thomas introduces Peter Carozza

The meeting’s keynote speaker was Acting United States Attorney Leonard C. Boyle. Boyle is well known throughout Connecticut for his commitment to public safety, having first served as a Police Officer for the Town of East Hartford. He previously served in the U.S. Attorney’s Office from 1986-1998, eventually becoming Chief of the Criminal Division. After a short time in private practice, he returned to government service as a Special Attorney to the U.S. Attorney General where he investigated and prosecuted corrupt relationships between law enforcement personnel and organized crime figures in the Boston area. He then served as Counsel to the U.S. Attorney and supervised the Corporate Fraud Unit. Additionally, he was Director of the FBI’s Terrorist Screening Center in Washington D.C. and Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety for Connecticut from 2004-2007.



Acting United States Attorney Leonard Boyle

Boyle opened his remarks acknowledging the recent passing of retired Hartford Police Chief and State Police Commissioner Bernie Sullivan. Sullivan, a long-time member and Past President of The Hundred Club, was praised as a dedicated public servant and innovative law enforcement leader willing to help anyone at any time.

Boyle then recounted how, as a young and newly appointed detective on the East Hartford Police Department, he had been assigned to investigate an armed robbery. He suspected that the crime was not an isolated incident and that the perpetrator likely committed similar crimes within other jurisdictions. With little experience and no leads, he decided, against his supervisor’s direction, to contact the Hartford Police Department for assistance. He drove to their Morgan Street headquarters, was directed to the Detective Division and nervously approached the imposing looking Sergeant-in-charge. His anxiety over embarrassing his agency, humiliating himself, or being tossed out of the building quickly dissolved when the Sergeant, Bernie Sullivan, called over one of the Hartford detectives and told him, “Solve this kid’s robbery”. Within forty-eight hours, Boyle had sufficient information to secure an arrest warrant and solve his case.

Reflecting on a challenging year when Americans grappled with news about violent encounters between individuals and police officers, multiple disruptive public demonstrations, calls for defunding the police, and the imposition of laws and regulations intended to reform law enforcement practices, Boyle wondered about the effects of such news on the surviving families. He asserted that their pain and sorrow must be as intense as the frustration and disillusionment experienced by the police officers now being demonized for the careless and improper actions of some of their colleagues.

He noted that since the mid-1970s law enforcement has realized significant improvements. Recruitment and hiring practices have been expanded to attract and retain more diverse, representative individuals to the profession. Employee selection procedures are more thorough and demanding. Training, for both recruits and in-service personnel, is more comprehensive and rigorous. Clearly articulated written directives provide guidance to employees and help ensure consistent and lawful behavior. Yet, despite these advances, the division and rancor plaguing some communities makes it seem as though we have lost ground.

While efforts to improve policing and bridge the divide between the police and their communities must continue, Boyle emphasized that it is all the more important that people care about and support first responders. In the current climate, he concluded, the work of The Hundred Club and the commitment of its members is needed now more than ever.



Past President Bernard Sullivan, an influential figure in Hartford and state law enforcement, dies after a long illness

Long-time member and Past President of The Hundred Club, Bernard R. Sullivan, died on October 5, 2021, after a long illness. He was 78. One of Connecticut's most influential lawmen as chief of both the Hartford and State Police departments, he later held powerful positions in politics and business, as well as contributing to public and community service organizations.

Born in Hartford, on January 7, 1943, he was one of eight children of Arthur and Kathryn Sullivan, a nurse at McCook Hospital in the North End. He was proud of his Irish heritage and hard-scrabble childhood growing up in a cold water flat on Albany Avenue in Hartford's Clay Hill section of the North End.

After graduating from the "Old" Hartford Public High School in 1960, Sullivan worked in the mail room at Aetna and then joined the Hartford Police Department, where one of his brothers was a captain, in 1964.

Graduating the Police Academy at the top of his class, Bernie had a long and multi-faceted career. During his 25-year tenure he received numerous awards and commendations, including the department's Medal of Valor. He worked his way through the ranks to become chief in 1982 - the youngest to be appointed to that rank at age 39.



Chief Bernard Sullivan at his swearing-in ceremony, 1982

law enforcement agencies.

As chief, he made sure the department surpassed its goals for diverse hiring and considered race and gender when



Referred to as the "orphan photo" this is the only childhood picture of Bernie

He implemented many innovative programs while maintaining a reputation as a tough but fair old-school Irish cop. He believed in community police support and crisis intervention, as well as mental health support for the department staff and his mark on the HPD reflects that. Bernie was a leader to collaborate his law enforcement team's efforts with other government and

making special assignments. He was well known for working with the Greater Hartford Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance to extend recruitment into the center of Black life in Hartford, the churches.

"Bernie knew the politics of the city, he knew people, he was a good judge of people, and he was genuine," said Lew Brown, a former news reporter for WVIT, Channel 30, and a close friend of Sullivan's since their days at Hartford High School. "He recognized his own humanity and recognized the humanities of other people when he was on the job."

In 1989, having served as Chief of Police for seven years, he retired to become Director of Security for ITT Hartford, but was shortly thereafter asked by Governor William O'Neill to step into the position of Commissioner of the Connecticut State Police, where he served until a new governor was elected in 1991.



Designated as "Irishman of the Year", Bernie assembles with other Hartford police officers for the St Patrick's Day parade

and those who served with him."

Following his tenure with the State Police, he was then employed as Acting Chief of Police for Central Connecticut State University and assisted in the process of selecting a permanent Chief.

In 1992, Bernie served as the Chief of Staff to the Speaker of the House, Tom Ritter, and stayed through two speakers until retiring from the public sector in 2000. He then took a position with the New Britain-based Tomasso group and retired as an Executive Vice President in 2006.

Sullivan returned to public service once again in 2018 when he was appointed as assistant to the President at Central Connecticut State University to update the campus police force's policies and procedures.

Bernie actively served on many boards and task forces, and continued to share his expertise, especially in law enforcement matters, well past retirement. These groups include the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association (Past President), the Connecticut Law Enforcement Memorial Committee, the Connecticut Justice Education Center, the Urban League of Greater Hartford, the Hartford Boys and Girls Club, the YMCA of Greater Hartford, incorporator for The Institute of Living, Hartford and St. Francis Hospitals, and in 2013 served as Vice-Chair of Governor Dannel Malloy's Sandy Hook Commission.



Bernie had a long and active association with The Hundred Club. He first became aware of the organization and its mission to aid surviving spouses and children in 1967, when his colleague, Hartford Patrolman Harvey Young, was killed in the line of duty. Over the years, he continued to witness the Club's work. Just two weeks after Bernie assumed command of the State Police in 1989; Trooper Jorge Agosto was struck and killed while performing traffic enforcement on I-95 in Greenwich. Bernie worked with the Club to assist the young trooper's family.

Sullivan served as Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety (1989-91)

Bernie served as Club President in 2012-13 and continued performing as an active Director until his death. Too ill to attend the Nominating Committee meeting in September, he submitted his comments and recommendations for new Board members by email.

Gerri Roberts, who succeeded Bernie as Club President, said, "Bernie's passing is a tremendous loss not only to The Hundred Club but also to the City of Hartford and the State of Connecticut. You could always count on Bernie to be direct and to immediately get to the heart of the issue that was being discussed. He brought common sense to the table and always remembered how decisions impacted 'the little guy'".



Three former State Police Commissioners attended the 2015 Annual Meeting - Bernie Sullivan, James "Skip" Thomas and Dora Schriro (L-R)

Sullivan had been in failing health and suffering from chronic myelomonocytic leukemia, a rare form of blood cancer, for several years. In spite of his illness, he remained committed to his ideals and advocated for what he believed to be right. In June 2020, the same month he learned his cancer had spread to his lungs, he wrote an op-ed for the Hartford Courant advocating for police and gun reforms.

He had known since spring that his condition was terminal and went into hospice care at his Glastonbury home on September 1. The following day, he shared a characteristically gracious and stoic Facebook post, "First off no tears, no prayers, no feel good stuff, not in my DNA."

If there was one thing that unsettled Sullivan it was the of the country he was leaving behind, still bitterly divided by the structural racism and party politics he'd worked against first as an Irish police chief in the diverse capital city and later a politician tasked with building common ground between Democrats, Republicans and four caucuses at the State Capitol.

"Going forward I have a simple plan," he wrote in the post. "I will eat the cake, drink the occasional cold brew and, because I genuinely fear for my grandchildren's' future, I will continue to speak truth to power."

"We shall not see his like again!" Roberts said. "May he rest in peace."

Renovations Underway at Club Offices

The Executive Committee of The Hundred Club met in September to discuss emergency renovations and other work that was needed at the Club offices. The building was purchased almost twenty-five years ago, and is in need of updating critical functions including electrical wiring, roofing, insulation for heating and cooling, painting and some interior work in both the current offices and back area.

Discussions have led to the decision to develop the little-used back area and create a meeting and training space.

The area, tentatively called the "Heroes Room", will highlight the founding and development of the Club, as well as feature information and displays about the correction, firefighter and police officer families that we serve. The space will be made available to public safety groups for meetings.

Board Member Jason Leavitt, the COO of a remodeling and property management company, is donating his time and expertise, serving as the general contractor for this project. He is being assisted by Director Santo Veneziano, owner of a masonry construction company. We look forward to holding an Open House upon completion of the project.

Hundreds of Police Officers Have Died From COVID

More than 560 American law enforcement officers have died from COVID-19 infections tied to their work since the start of the pandemic, according to the Officer Down Memorial Page, a nonprofit group that tracks line-of-duty deaths. The coronavirus is by far the most common cause of duty-related police deaths in 2020 and 2021. More than five times as many officers have died from COVID-19 as from gunfire in that period.

There is no comprehensive accounting of how many American police officers have been sickened by the virus. However, according to the New York Times, departments across the country have reported large outbreaks in their ranks.

While the virus has ravaged policing, persuading officers to take a vaccine has often been a struggle, even though the shots have proven to be largely effective in preventing severe disease and death.

Some elected officials say police officers have a higher responsibility to get vaccinated because they are regularly interacting with members of the public and could unknowingly spread the virus. The debate echoes concerns from earlier in the pandemic, when police officers in some cities resisted wearing masks in public.

Yet as more departments in recent weeks have considered requiring members to be vaccinated, officers and their unions have loudly pushed back, in some cases threatening resignations or flooding systems with requests for exemptions.

Workplace vaccine mandates became more common as the Delta variant sent cases soaring and as President Biden announced plans to require vaccination or frequent testing at

large employers. Mandates have succeeded in driving up vaccination rates at health care companies, airlines and other businesses, and relatively small numbers of workers have left their jobs over the issue.

Health departments generally do not publish vaccination data by occupation, but some cities have released figures showing that police department employees have been vaccinated at lower rates than most other government workers, and at lower rates than the general public. In Los Angeles, where vaccines are required for city workers, more than 2,600 employees of the Police Department said they intended to seek a religious exemption, though almost all major religious denominations support vaccines.

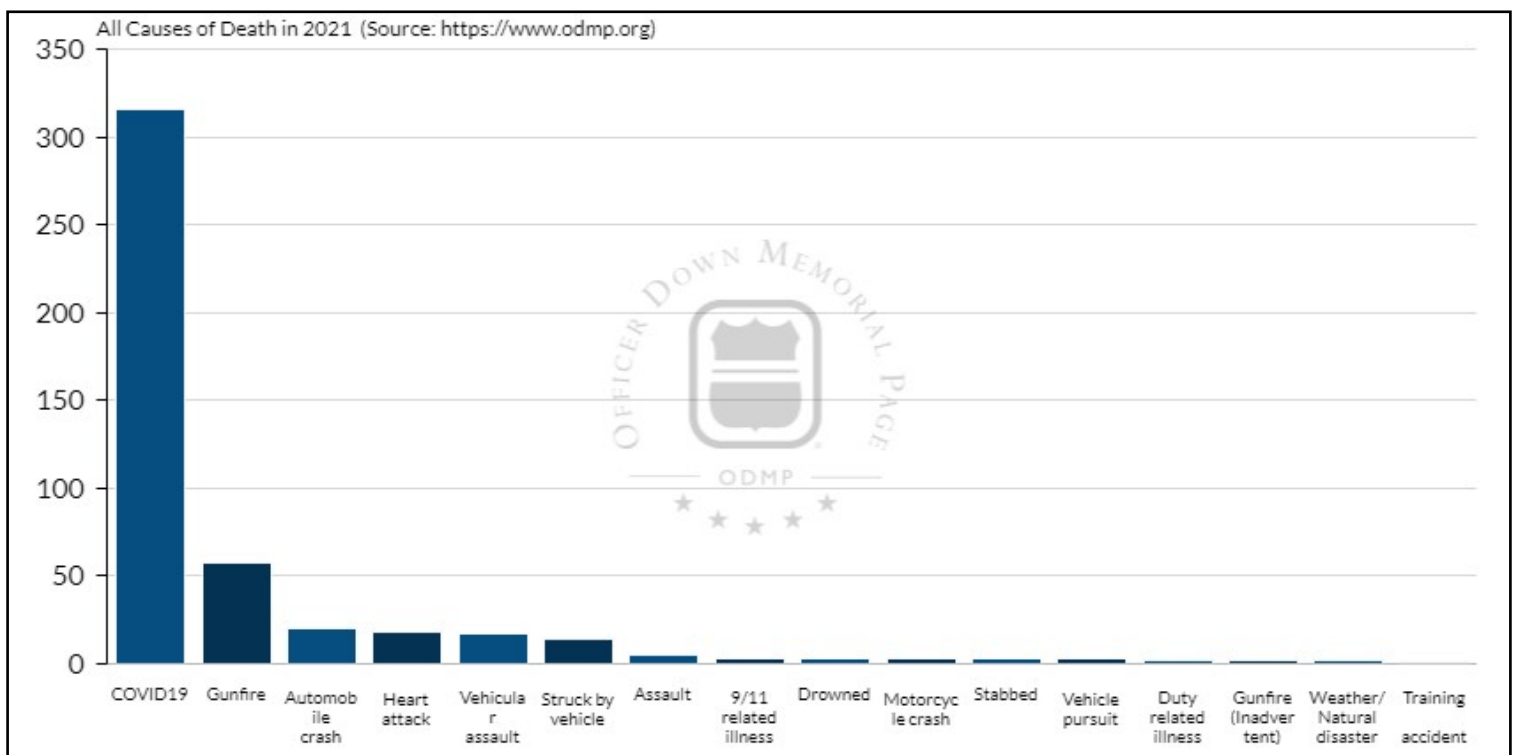
Law enforcement and union officials cited disinformation, misleading claims by prominent conservatives and distrust in how vaccines were developed as reasons that some officers had resisted getting shots; many other Americans cite the same factors.

But some officials theorized that the daily dangers of police work may also make an invisible virus seem less of a hazard, and vaccination less high a priority, for the police.

Chuck Wexler, the Executive Director of the Police Executive Research Forum, which advises departments on best practices, said unions and police department leaders have frequently failed to reach agreement on mandates for officers.

"If this was cops getting shot on the streets of America today at this number, there would be outrage," Mr. Wexler said of Covid-19's toll among officers. "This is an issue that begs for leadership and putting politics aside."

Reprinted, in part, from the New York Times (October 12, 2021)



Displaying the Hundred Club Shield

With membership renewals due, it is an appropriate time to remind everyone of the protocol for displaying The Hundred Club shield. The badge, with the number "100" across a silhouette of Connecticut, serves as the official logo for the Club. The vehicle shield and decals identify its members – people with a shared interest in and commitment to supporting the families of public safety officers killed in the line of duty.

As a member, you are a guardian of the shield and what it represents. Shields should only be shared with members of your household. For uniformity, emblems should be applied on the rear of the vehicle, to the left of the registration plate.

Please do not transfer or sell a vehicle with the shield on it. It is relatively easy to remove the shield and replace it on another vehicle.

- Use dental floss to remove the vehicle shield. Simply slide the floss between the emblem and the vehicle's surface, working it back and forth to break the bond.
- The process may be made easier by first heating the adhesive with a hairdryer.
- Window decals can be removed with a razor blade.



New adhesive backing for the shields and replacement window decals may be ordered, without charge, from Ceil Hansen at The Hundred Club office.

Four New Directors Appointed to Club Board

Four new Directors have joined The Hundred Club's Board of Directors, replacing retiring members. The new members will serve a two-year term, expiring on December 31, 2024.

Mary Ann Creamer serves as Assistant Vice President Sales Northeast for AT&T. In this capacity she orchestrates seven sales and technical teams across the Northeast to maintain and grow \$500 million in revenue across both government and education sectors. She joined AT&T as an Account Executive in 1994 and has held a series of increasingly responsible positions prior to her appointment as AVP in 2014. A graduate of the State University of New York – Buffalo, she holds a Bachelor Science degree in Management: Human Resource and Marketing, a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication and a MBA degree in International Business and Marketing. She has served as an adjunct faculty member in Business Marketing at Manchester Community College and is currently President of the Board of Directors of the Manchester Area Conference of Churches.

Peter Heard is the Executive Vice President, Enterprise Distribution for Travelers. He is responsible for overall development and execution of the company's distribution strategy. Heard started with Travelers in 1984 as an investment analyst, and has since held several positions of increasing responsibility. A life-long resident of Manchester (along with his wife, Beth and son, Matt), Heard holds a bachelor's degree in management from Roger Williams University and an MBA from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He is a Trustee of Roger Williams University, serves on the business advisory board of the Gabelli School of Business at RWU, is an executive committee member of the Spencer Education Foundation, is a board member of The Travelers Championship and the Connecticut Cycling Advancement Program, the premier youth cycling development group in the United States. Passions are family, sports, education and serving our communities.

David Monaco is the President of Monaco Ford, a fourth generation automobile dealership in Glastonbury. Monaco Ford opened its doors in 1922 as Monaco's Garage. Operated by David's grandfather, Peter, he sold all makes of vehicles and was even licensed to work on horse-drawn carriages. As the business began to grow, Peter's sons Albie, Billy, Charlie, Johnny, and Sonny were all actively involved, officially becoming a Ford Dealership in 1957. In 1972, David, Charlie's son, became involved in the business fulltime and was named president of the company in 1988. Through David's stewardship, the business has grown to become one of the top-level Ford dealerships in New England. Today, almost 100 years since opening, his children, Chrissy and Mike, co-own the business. David and his family have been generous supporters of the Glastonbury community, making contributions to enhance soccer fields, play grounds, parks and other assets. He is an advocate for and benefactor of veterans' organizations and a longtime corporate sponsor and booster of UConn athletics.

Edward "Ned" Pickett, Jr. is a twenty-two year veteran of the Connecticut State Police. Joining the agency in 1974, he served as a Trooper at the Montville barracks before being selected as the Resident Trooper for the town of East Lyme. In 1981, he joined the State Police Gambling Unit, charged with aiding the Department of Consumer Protection's Gaming Division regulate all legal gambling, including off-track betting, greyhound racing, jai alai, and lotteries. With the advent of casino gaming in 1992, he transferred to the Casino Unit to conduct background investigations of prospective investors. In 1996, he retired from the State Police and was hired by the Mohegan Tribe as the Assistant Director of the Mohegan Tribal Gaming Commission. In this capacity, he oversaw intelligence, investigations and licensing to ensure regulatory integrity. Ned and his wife, Kathy, live in Uncasville. They have two children and six grandchildren.



"The Club with a Heart"

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Thanks to you...

Family members, benefiting from The Hundred Club's support, express their appreciation throughout the year. During the holidays, however, the office receives countless notes and cards conveying thoughts of gratitude. The following is a small sample...

In appreciation for all your kind thoughts, generous gifts and spiritual support you have bestowed on my family. I thank you. I am blessed.

Thanking you from the bottom of my heart for the many years you have made Christmas extra special to me and my family. I appreciate it so much.

Thank you so much for everything you do for us and all the love and support you give us during the year.

Thank you so much for the generous check from The Hundred Club. Over the past twenty-one years, the gift has paid for airline tickets to bring [the children] home for the holidays, Christmas gifts, or holiday meals. I am always grateful for the kindness and support from the Club through the decades.

Thank you for the basket of goodies, turkey and very generous check for the holidays. It is deeply appreciated.