



# BLUECOATS OF BARNSTABLE

## NEWSLETTER

SUMMER  
2020

### Board Member Spotlight: Cliff Carroll



#### **PROUD TO BE A FELLOW MEMBER OF THE BARNSTABLE BLUECOATS**

Back in the spring of 2010, I was approached to join the Bluecoats by my old friend Sam Baxter. After a brief description of the purpose and mission of the Bluecoats, my answer was a swift and resounding “YES.” That decision has led to several proud moments over the last 10 years.

My lifelong history here in Barnstable and my relationships with many local police officers made my decision to join the organization an easy one. My mom’s father and uncle were a career Boston police officer and detective. My brothers and I were fortunate to have grown up in Barnstable Village; we attended the Barnstable West Barnstable Elementary School and continued through the Barnstable School system, playing sports and later graduating from Barnstable High School.

Over the years, dozens of my childhood friends and teammates

became Barnstable patrolmen. During the last 40+ years, I have watched many of my friends go from being part-time summer patrolmen on Main Street in Hyannis to becoming full-time officers. Many have been promoted through the ranks and are now close to or recently retired from the force. As a mortgage banker, real estate broker and developer here in Barnstable since 1980, I have watched these police officers grow from being young, first-time home buyers in their early 20s, to married with families in larger homes, to proud homeowners with paid-off mortgages and now college-bound children.

My appreciation of the critical services provided daily by the Barnstable Police Department has continued to grow to this day. That appreciation has been further enhanced today as I sit on the Board of Directors as the Chairman of the Bluecoats Membership Committee and as a Director on the finance committee of the Board of the Housing Assistance Corp.

As I write this letter, it is late spring, and we are in the middle of a full-blown worldwide pandemic. The Town of Barnstable has closed its offices. The Governor of Massachusetts has put a “shelter in place” order requiring all “non-essential” businesses to close their doors. We have all become painfully aware of the life-threatening dangers

of this virus, the inconvenience of having to “shelter at home,” and the scare that sets in at the slightest sneeze, cough or scratchy throat.

Now please imagine being a Barnstable Police officer. Your job has been classified as “essential.” Your sworn duty is to put your uniform on, leave your family, go to work and face the invisible enemy known as COVID-19. Now think about those officers having to come back home to their families each and every day not knowing if today was the day that you and in turn your loved ones have now been exposed.

The dedication and sacrifice exhibited by each member of our Barnstable police force under normal circumstances and especially during this extraordinarily difficult time should bring great pride to every member of the Barnstable Bluecoats who has contributed to the well-being of our brave men and women of the Barnstable Police Department.

We owe it to them to build our organization and never forget their incredible sacrifice during these extraordinary times.

Best regards,

*Cliff Carroll*

Cliff Carroll  
Board of Directors  
Membership Chairman

## DEAR FRIENDS,

A lot has changed since my last letter. While COVID-19 presented all of us with challenges and changes, it felt as though we were all facing it TOGETHER and there was broad support for the work of the police and other first responders. The events of May 25th in Minneapolis changed all of that.

Seemingly overnight every police officer in America became the enemy. Suddenly we were all branded as racist murderers and not worthy of trust. Protests, demonstrations, riots, and looting took place across the country. Police cars and buildings were set ablaze as crowds called for the defunding and even disbanding of police departments.

Companies like Amazon and Etsy are selling shirts with slogans such as, "Blue Lives Murder," "F\*\*\* the Police," "Who do you call when the murderer wears a badge?," and "Cops Lie." The news seems to be packed with negative stories about the police. Police themed shows are being pulled from the television. Colleges and businesses are banning the police from being on their property.

Then there are the threats. The threats that protestors have gained access to the home addresses of some officers and are looking to confront us at our homes. The news that Friday, June 12th, was declared "national kill a cop day." A police precinct in Seattle and 6 blocks of the city have been taken over by protestors. It seems as though the whole world has turned their collective backs on our profession and left us out to dry.

What has been our response? Our brothers and sisters are still showing up every day and doing their jobs. As our own families sit at home wondering if we will be ok, or what they might do if some protestor decides to show up at our homes, we still come to work to defend and serve our communities. Officers are still coming in and serving despite being assaulted, hit with rocks and bricks, being shot at, or even killed during some of the riots.

Why do they do it? Why do our officers keep coming in? Because, the men and women I work with every day are amazing people that deserve our support. They keep coming to work because they truly love the job and their communities. They keep coming to work because they are not selfish and want others be safe and healthy. They keep coming to work because they know that they CAN make a difference and help make things better.

Yes, there are bad police. Yes, even good officers do make mistakes. Yes, there are some things we could all do better. Does that mean we should just turn our backs on all of the men and women that swore an oath to protect and serve? NO. Now is the time when we most need to work together



**MATTHEW SONNABEND**  
**CHIEF OF POLICE**

to keep from falling apart. Now is the time when we need organizations like the Bluecoats the most.

I know this sounds a bit bleak. But I have hope. I have hope because despite what we currently see going on in other areas of the country, it is not happening here. We have had some protests and marches, but we have been able to work hand in hand with the organizers to provide for the safety of all involved. We have been invited to participate and speak, to interact with people and discuss our points of view.

Despite the negativity around the country, we have been receiving words of support and thank you from our community. We have heard people at local protests and marches saying that our police are not like that. There have been tough questions, as there should be in times such as these, but there has also been support. I believe that support is the result of all the wonderful work our officers are doing every day to serve our community and the pride they take in the place they live and work.

We also have the Bluecoats. Throughout the pandemic, you have been there and asking us what we needed to protect our officers. Many of you contacted us to see what assistance you could provide and to just say thank you. When the protests began and the chants of defund the police grew louder, you called and emailed to see what needed to be done.

Despite what seems like everyone else abandoning our profession, you reminded us in your usual quiet, professional way that you would always have our backs.

For 15 years you have been our benefactors and friends. You have given more than \$400,000 to make sure that our officers have the equipment and support that they need every day not only to do their jobs, but to go home safe and sound. You have also taken steps to provide for the families of our officers should they not be able to return.

In the current environment and given the challenges we face looming on the horizon, your continued support and friendship goes beyond mere words. On behalf of the men and women of the Barnstable Police Department I say thank you for being there. Thank you to each of you for stepping up and being a Bluecoat, because you are making a difference.

Sincerely,

*Matthew Sonnabend*

Matthew Sonnabend  
Chief of Police



DISPATCH SUPERVISOR ROSS LLOYD

## Barnstable Police Dispatch Center

The Barnstable Police Dispatch Center is far away from the public eye, tucked within the secure interior walls of the department. The men and women that staff “the desk” are arguably the first responders at each and every emergency the department responds to. In just the past decade, the technology and the professional standards of the industry have increased exponentially. The emergency calls are handled from start to finish by one dispatcher, resulting in emergency responders being dispatched in seconds.

The Barnstable Police Dispatch Team is made up of 13 dispatchers and one supervisor. These are civilian positions and are supported by a sworn police officer and supervisor that work with them 24/7. Dispatch Supervisor Ross Lloyd is an 18-year veteran of the department. He spent his first sixteen years as a dispatcher before he became the department’s first civilian dispatch supervisor. He worked with Deputy Chief Mark Cabral to modernize the equipment and the practices that make the center the success that it is today. Supervisor Lloyd has proven to be a great asset to the department as he is able to resolve hardware and software technical issues, radio equipment issues and still manage his staff.

## New Masks

While trying to find a solution to the threat posed by the COVID pandemic, we discovered the Chembayo safety mask. The mask was specifically designed for emergency use by first responders and the military by providing protection against toxic fumes, chemical agents, biological agents, and the COVID virus. The mask is compact, lightweight, provides face and eye protection, and is one size fits all. Additionally, each mask comes vacuum sealed and is ready for use at a moment’s notice.

In a profession where many officers do not have access to appropriate PPE, this mask provides each officer with a readily available alternative that can prevent serious injury or illness. Once again, our friends at the Bluecoats have taken the opportunity to care for the health and well-being of our officers. Your dedication to our men and women is wonderful and is truly appreciated.



## MEMBERSHIP CORNER

**17**  
LIFETIME

**78**  
FOUNDING

**222**  
REGULAR



### MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

George L. Jackson

Mark Kavanagh

Karen K. Jackson

Glenn Tobin

## MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

### REGULAR:

\$200 Per Year

(\$100 Additional for Spouse)

### FOUNDING:

\$1,000 Initial Year

\$200 Subsequent Years

### LIFETIME:

\$25,000 One-Time Payment or

\$5,000 Five Annual Installments

Sponsor a new member today by contacting any member of the Board of Directors or sending an E-Mail to [Bluecoats@comcast.net](mailto:Bluecoats@comcast.net).

# Bluecoats Donations to Barnstable Police

SINCE 2005

\$12,000	Assistance to complete the "in-station" FITNESS CENTER
\$10,000	Ten TASERS so every officer who qualifies can carry their own TASER
\$5,000	SHOTGUN RACKS for keeping the shotguns inside the cruisers.
\$8,000	BALLISTIC VESTS
\$16,400	Five state-of-the-art HAND-HELD RADIOS, and thirteen BALLISTIC HELMETS for the SWAT team.
\$8,400	Two pair of NIGHT-VISION GOGGLES
\$27,000	Towards the lease on the HYANNIS POLICE STATION, Main Street.
\$9,100	ACCIDENT RECONSTRUCTION KIT
\$1,400	Two wireless, hand-held RADAR SPEED GUNS
\$10,000	CONTINUING EDUCATION
\$15,000	SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS
\$2,000	AUTOMATIC LICENSE PLATE READER CAMERA
\$8,000	Two MOBILE-DATA TERMINALS for cruisers
\$25,000	Purchase of new HARLEY DAVIDSON MOTORCYCLE
\$12,500	Expiring BALLISTIC VESTS for officers
\$5,200	One Hundred Fifteen (115) HAZMAT SUITS
\$23,467	Five AEDs and 8 iPods with cases and 1-year service contract.
\$7,500	Three MOUNTAIN BIKES
\$20,000	Two SWAT Team BALLISTIC VESTS, two HELMETS and six HAND-HELD RADIOS
\$18,500	DRONE and INFRARED CAMERA
\$24,500	Ten additional Hand-Held Radios
\$10,300	New dog and permanent kennel for the K-9 unit
\$10,000	New chairs and tables for the Headquarters Training Room
\$52,953	Helmets, Vests, Equipment and Trauma Kits
\$19,080	Protective Masks
\$48,651	Paid to date for \$100,000 DEATH AND DISABILITY INSURANCE covering every sworn officer killed or disabled in the line of duty
\$409,951	TOTAL TO DATE

**Annual Meeting Scheduled  
for September 16, 2020**

**STAY TUNED FOR UPDATE**

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### Honorary Member

**Christopher Page**



**NEW PHONE NUMBER**

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