



BLUECOATS OF BARNSTABLE

NEWSLETTER

FALL
2023

BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: RITA JONES

GREETINGS TO YOU ALL,

I am fairly certain that many of you know me only as the Clerk of the Bluecoats of Barnstable for the past 18 years. As a (now) former clerk, I thought it might be interesting to hear a quick background story, and perhaps a little “soapbox” paragraph.

I came to the Cape fresh out of Ohio State University and looking for a change of scenery. I had graduated from OSU with a Dental Hygiene certificate and a BSc in Education. Once here, I met and married my husband Robert R. Jones, better known as Bob or Bobby. Our daughter is probably most well known as “CJ” and has been a special police officer in Harwich and Chatham, and after 4+ years of home-schooling their 3 boys, is now a Barnstable County Bail Commissioner. She is married to Travis Brown, who as I continue to realize, is known by pretty much everyone and also is a sworn Barnstable Police Officer. We also have a son, Robert “Scott” Jones, a contractor residing in this town as well.

I do want to share with you my recollection of when the first glimmer of this formidable organization, The Bluecoats of Barnstable, came to light. It was at the last meeting of Citizen’s Police Academy 2005. Both Chris Page and I sat side by side for most of the Academy sessions and truly enjoyed learning all of the multiple facets of police work. Besides the information in our binders, there were lots of hands-on experiences. One of the highlights for me was to go to the gun range on the Service Road (no longer in existence) and target shooting with the handguns each patrolman wears on his utility belt. I had not shot a gun more than 2-3 times in my life and had never shot a handgun; but amazingly I achieved the highest score



available that day.... Top Gun, which of course qualified me to be Clerk of the Bluecoats. No? I still have my target rolled up in the closet for whenever I wish to walk down memory lane. Aside from my attempt at humor, my hope is that everyone who reads this article finds a way to take Citizen’s Police Academy at some point. It’s an eye-opening experience to realize all that is required and expected of these amazing men and women in Blue.

Since I have this single opportunity to speak with you all on a one-to-one basis, I would like to emphasize how very

important it is to let our sworn police officers know that they are “highly” valued, and incredibly deserving of our respect and total support.

Policing has become significantly more difficult in the past couple of years, with many knee-jerk rules and laws floating to the surface. It’s that old saying regarding “unintended consequences” which seems very appropriate at this moment as many are standing down from this vital work. So let’s go out of our way, today and every day, to let each officer know how deeply grateful we are to them for always “being there” for us in time of small or great need; for guarding and guiding us through muddy waters that seem to be everywhere; and coming to assist when we are in over our heads in one way or another. Let’s turn the tide, at least in some small way, to demonstrate our deep gratitude for all that our officers can bring to every difficult situation. Sometimes a heartfelt “thank you” goes a long way....

In great gratitude,

Rita E. Jones

Rita E. Jones

ANNUAL DINNER






We Hope You Have a Wonderful Holiday Season
 Please consider further supporting our organization by giving your spouse a Bluecoats of Barnstable membership!


SAVE THE DATE



Annual Meeting
September 11, 2024

New Members

NEW FOUNDING MEMBER



Gregg Anderson

NEW MEMBERS



Sarah
Harrington



Jeremiah
Hegarty



Shaelyn
Hegarty



Terry
Anderson



Brendon
Bricklin

Marcia Breault, Michael Cote, Eileen Neary, Paul Neary,
Area Princi, Hannah Shapiro, Julia Wilson

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

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.



19
LIFETIME

89
FOUNDING

195
REGULAR

\$460,105

Bluecoats donations to the
Barnstable Police since 2005.
Thank you, Bluecoats members, for your
continued support of our mission.

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