

DOTRA'S.....DOTLine.....



ISSUE NO. 101

November 2017

A Publication of the New Jersey Department of Transportation Retirees Association Inc.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Clint Griggs

First and foremost, our thoughts and best wishes are with our DOTRA members (and all) who were impacted by the recent catastrophic natural disasters. Our hope is that all affected will be made whole as quickly as possible.

Our September picnic was another DOTRA success. Thanks to Mike Eckel and the picnic crew for a job well done and a great event. While it "rained on our parade" (picnic) a good time was had by all.

We have two important social events occurring in the coming months. Our New York City trip in late November is a sell out! The Holiday Luncheon will take place at Mercer Oaks on December 13, 2017. The flyer is included for sign up. Please make plans to join us for this great annual event. Hope to see you there!

Also included herein is information from the DOT on the Annual Charitable Campaign.

As a reminder, we are anxious to hear from any member who has a story to tell. We would really like to hear about it.

It's hard to believe that 2017 is nearly over. Soon we'll be complaining about the cold nasty weather!

On behalf of the DOTRA Board of Directors let me be the first to wish all the best of the holiday season and a happy, HEALTHY and prosperous new year in 2018.

Our mailing address:

**DOTRA
PO BOX 77160
WEST TRENTON, NJ 08628**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Rockettes Christmas Trip

Radio City Music Hall
November 30, 2017

(Sold Out!)

Holiday Season Party

Mercer Oaks Country Club
Wednesday, December 13, 2017
(See attached flyer for details)

DOTRA BOARD MONTHLY MEETINGS

DOTRA continues to hold its regular monthly meetings on the first Tuesday of each month. All are invited to attend. Hope to see you there. Our next meeting will be held on **Tuesday – December 5, 2017 at 11 AM at Tessara's Restaurant, 812 Route 33, Hamilton Twp.** Our business meeting starts at 11 AM followed by a Dutch-treat luncheon. Schedule of future meetings at Tessara's:

January 2, 2018

February 6, 2018

March 6, 2018

DOTRA ON THE INTERNET!!

You can read the current issue of the DOTLINE on the Website - as well as check back issues!!!

Log onto DOTRA's own Web Site:

<http://www.dotra.org>

2018 DUES are due January 1, 2018!!!

If you haven't paid your 2017 dues yet, please do so NOW!!!

Check your Mailing Label to see if you are paid up for 2017!! Electronic "mailers" have been notified by e-mail! Don't forget to notify DOTRA if you have a change of address. This is especially important for Life members and those who receive DOTLINE electronically.

DOTLINE ELECTRONICALLY

If you are willing to receive your DOTLINE via electronic mailing, please submit your email address to us at:

DOTRAexpress@yahoo.com

The Transporter is now available to retirees on the DOTRA website at <http://www.dotra.org>, with the 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2016 issues already posted. Future issues will be posted on a quarterly basis.

DOTRA EXECUTIVE BOARD & OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Clint Griggs	609-888-0115
1st VP	Jay Johnston	609-588-0930
2nd VP	Gerry Sellner	609-737-1665
TREASURER	Frank Stia	609-882-3862
ASST. TREAS.	Lou Papp	609-585-7697
REC. SEC	Andrea Mansfield	609-890-9497
CORRES. SEC.	Donna Troiano	609-298-5962

DIRECTORS/TERM OF OFFICE

Donna Troiano (18)	Dot Andres (18)
Mike Eckel (18)	Gerry Sellner (18)
Andrea Mansfield (18)	John Rainiero (19)
Bruce Strickland (19)	Bob Miller (19)
Lou Papp (20)	Clinton Griggs (19)
Frank Stia (19)	Joe Bodnar (20)
Frank Palise (20)	Janis Stia (20)
Jay Johnston (20)	

COMMITTEES

AUDIT	Frank Palise	609-896-2011
CHAPLAIN	Jay Johnson	609-588-0930
MEMBERSHIP	Janis Stia	609-882-3862
BY-LAWS	Vacant	xxx-xxx-xxxx
HISTORIAN	Mike Eckel	609-499-9225
ACTIVITIES	Vacant	xxx-xxx-xxxx
DOTLINE	Frank Palise	609-896-2011
DATABASE	Gerry Sellner	609-737-1665
WEBSITE	Bruce Strickland	505-847-3300
DOT MEMORIAL	Jim Dixon	609-298-3398
NOMINATING	Joe Bodnar	609-298-6260

Directors Emeritus

Adrian Lincoln, Margaret "Peg" Wieger, Hazel Rockhill, Phil Vecere, and Chet Andres

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Janis Stia

During the last three months, there have been no new members joining DOTRA!

CHAPLIN'S REPORT

By Jay Johnston

We would like to be informed about any retiree who has passed away, is ill, confined to their home, in a rehabilitation center, or needs help in one way or another. Please send any information to me at:

3 Golden Crest Court, Hamilton N.J. 08691

Phone: **609-588-0930**, E-mail: jay050645@yahoo.com

RECENT OBITUARIES

Adrian Lincoln Jr.*	
Frank Bara*	97
Lew Branin*	
Patricia Weber	60
Constance House	

***Denotes DOTRA Member**

A short letter from Adrian's daughter

Dear DOTRA,

My father, Adrian C. Lincoln, Jr. passed away May 25, 2017. While he had been diagnosed with cancer, he defied the odds and was fairly symptom free. He actually died of natural causes. He knew his heart was going and he was about to meet his lord and see his beloved Annie again. He was happy about that. My father lived well and he ended well. My father loved DOTRA and often shared news with me from your newsletters.

Respectfully,
Sally Jeffory

NJDOT EMPLOYEE MEMORIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

By Jim Dixon

The NJDOT Employee Memorial Committee held their **17th Annual Remembrance Ceremony** on Friday 9-8-16 9AM. It was very successful and a moving experience for everyone in attendance.

The following former NJDOT Commissioners were in attendance: Roger Bodman, Steve Dilts, Bob Innocenzi, Dennis Keck, Kris Kolluri, Jack Lettiere and Jim Weinstein. This ceremony had Memorial Plaques placed at the Memorial Site in memory of Commissioners John P. Sheridan and Jamie Fox.

The ceremony was opened with a Bagpipe Processional, welcome from Commissioner Richard Hammer, Special Tributes by former Commissioner Roger Bodman for Commissioner John Sheridan and Chief-of-Staff Eric Shuffler for Jamie Fox, followed by moving speeches and a reading of NJDOT employees killed in the performance of their duties, a closing with a Rifle Salute by Trenton Detachment 207, Marine Corps League, Taps played by World War II veteran Walter Kramarz and a Bagpipe Recessional.

The EMC continues to serve the NJDOT employees with the following upcoming event:

Silent Auction – Thursday, December 7th 11AM to 2PM and Friday December 8th 9AM to 1PM.

Photo of Memorial Plaques for John Sheridan and Jamie Fox



White Horse Circle By Mike Eckel

The name of Hamilton's White Horse neighborhood has become ingrained in the local lexicon, but its origins stem from a legend involving George Washington.

As the story goes, Washington passed through the crossroads on a white steed in 1789 as he made his way from his native Virginia to New York to be inaugurated as the first president of the United States.

A 10-foot (3.0 m) tall statue of a white horse was constructed on the circle in 2010, commemorating the local tradition that George Washington rode through the area on a white horse while traveling to New York City in 1789.

White Horse Circle is a [traffic circle](#) locally known by name, in the southwest part of White Horse. It is no longer a true traffic circle, but is bisected by northbound [U.S. Route 206](#), which makes a left turn in the circle. This intersection connects South Broad Street (US 206 north and [Route 524](#) east), White Horse-Mercerville Road ([Route 533](#) north) and Bordentown Road (US 206 south). Only Route 533 has a [stop sign](#) at the circle, while Route 524 and the southern part of Route 206 have [traffic signals](#) some

distance from the circle. To allow cars to move in a safe fashion, there are six yield-signed road segments allowing cars to get to Route 206 and from the highway to Route 533. Route 206, when the light allows, has no yield sign restrictions.



Construction of a new traffic circle at the site of the White Horse Circle is now underway after many years of planning to make it a true circle again. Below is a picture of the proposed construction of the new circle.



DOTRA TRIPS

By Jay Johnston

DOTRA trips for 2018 have not been finalized yet. As trips are developed they will be announced in future newsletters.

THE COX GROUP

By Dennis Cox



The "Cox Group" once again headed south to Ocean City, Maryland for their **23rd annual golf trip** during the Columbus Day week. Over the years the Group has played all the courses in the area and this year they played some of their favorites, i.e. *Man O' War, Rum Pointe, Eagles Landing, Baywood Greens* (unfortunately rained out). The group is comprised of many retired DOTer's and a few that are still working along with a few personal friends. If anyone is interested in an Ocean City golf package we would highly recommend Harrison Group Golf and ask for Anna Ethridge at 800-833-1633 and mention Denny Cox.

Pictured from left to right: *Beans, Galioto, *Garrett, *Miller, **Galinat, Moore, Koczon, *Wentzel, *Sweeney, Servidio, *Cox, Noller, **Buchanan, *Eckel, *Chaty (missing *Swain)

*Retired DOT

** Still working @ DOT

DOTRA's PROJECT OUT REACH **CONTACTING OUR MEMBERS**

By Dot Andres

Another year 's almost gone by - but the DOTLINE is still moving along. We look for news of our Members and former co-workers and try to pass along the news of them. BUT, that's where we need you - you have to let us know what's going on.

A nice surprise this summer Laurie and Jack Lutz (Newark Maintenance) came north from Punta Gorda, Florida for a few weeks stay and managed to visit with a number of Jack's former co-workers. We had a great lunch together and reminisced about the "old" Region 2 Maintenance and the unforgettable people who we worked with up there. It also was the day of the eclipse - a memorable day all around.

Jack and Laurie are safely back in Punta Gorda and came thru Hurricane Irma safely. We northern friends hope all our Florida members came thru the storm OK with minimal damage. Fatherly Frank Wegel was quickly on-line contacting people on his Florida list to check things out. Unfortunately, he and Kathy's plans for an escape north on the auto-train were cancelled and they had to ride out the storm in Sebastian FL.

Up here in New Jersey, the DOTRA Board was making "alternate arrangements" for the DOTRA Annual picnic should "IRMA" head north and hit NJ. No

need to worry, the DOTRA picnic was held and was a big success. Thanks to the "reliable and usuals" who make their way here every year. There was great representation from the Road and Bridge Design group - led by Ken Afferton, Bob Suess, Jose Lopez, Alan Samour, Joe Montague, Jerry Altobelli, Don Hutchinson, Dennis and Kathy Cox, and others I have missed. Construction and Maintenance were represented by Wayne and Toni Smith, John and Camille Rainiero, Frank and Janis Stia, Bob Miller, Clint Griggs. Pat Yanucil, Tony Abbato. Merle Challender and wife Katherine were there - always pitching in with setting tables, etc. along with Jim Dixon and Lois. Always a group of Equipment and Regional maintenance guys who show up each year to reminisce - Tom Helminger, Ed Downs.

A big thank you to Bill Burd and the Titusville Fire Dept. and First Aid for providing the ice and big thanks to Mike Eckel for making all the picnic arrangements and the coffee.

I apologize to anyone I have missed. Always great to see you and great that you are supporting DOTRA activities.

How about some more news from you DOTRA Members out there? We want to hear from you!

LAST WORD...You have the last word. Maybe someday you will tell us what it is....

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWALS

() **NEW** APPLICATION FOR DOTRA MEMBERSHIP - \$10.00/ YEAR _____
- \$75.00 LIFE MEMBERSHIP _____

(FILL IN FORM COMPLETELY)

() **RENEWAL** OF DOTRA MEMBERSHIP FOR YEAR _____ CHECK FOR \$10.00 ENCLOSED

() REQUEST FOR **LIFE MEMBERSHIP IN DOTRA** _____ CHECK FOR \$75.00 IS ENCLOSED
(Converting from annual membership)

() **CHANGE OF ADDRESS** (FILL IN NAME ADDRESS,-both snail mail and email, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER)

() PLEASE ADD **YOUR COMMENTS** FOR INCLUSION IN AN UPCOMING DOTLINE.

NAME: _____ **TELEPHONE:** _____

STREET/ PO BOX: _____ **E-MAIL:** _____

TOWN/ CITY: _____ **COUNTY** _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

FORMER UNIT WITHIN NJDOT: _____ **YEARS WORKED** _____ **YEAR RETIRED** _____

I WOULD LIKE TO WORK ON A DOTRA COMMITTEE _____

COMMENTS: _____

Send Application and Check to: "DOTRA" – PO BOX 77160, WEST TRENTON, NJ 08628

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RETIREES ASSOCIATION