

**THE DEFENDANTS**

In addition to the overall conspiracy charge in Count 1, individual officers were charged either with the use of force, theft or fabrication of evidence. Counts 14, 18 and 19 were dropped

**POLICE ON TRIAL THE VERDICTS**

## 5 former vice cops acquitted

**THE PROSECUTION**

**Michael J. Gennaco**

Lead attorney for the U.S. Justice Department.



■ **Age:** 39.  
 ■ **Address:** Arlington, Va.  
 ■ **Education:** Stanford Law School, 1963 graduate; undergraduate degree, Dartmouth College, 1975.  
 ■ **Professional highlights:** February 1992 jury conviction in Los Angeles of police officer who used excessive force on suspect; obtained conviction of chief jailer in Montgomery, Ala., who incited inmates to beat fellow prisoner. Justice Department employee since 1984.

page 2A  
 verdict ranged from elat-  
 ho characterized the trial  
 o community leaders who  
 as "terribly tragic."  
 lice officers, inside and  
 ntown Rochester federal  
 rked was powerful.  
 verdict filtered out, police  
 rked cars by the court-  
 r flashers and blipped  
 ol officer rode his horse  
 ched down and shook the  
 V. Alessi, a fired sergeant  
 ed of five charges.  
 en on hold for two years,  
 e week and five days,  
 means for the first time I  
 nern District of New York  
 n. I can get my pistol  
 permit back."



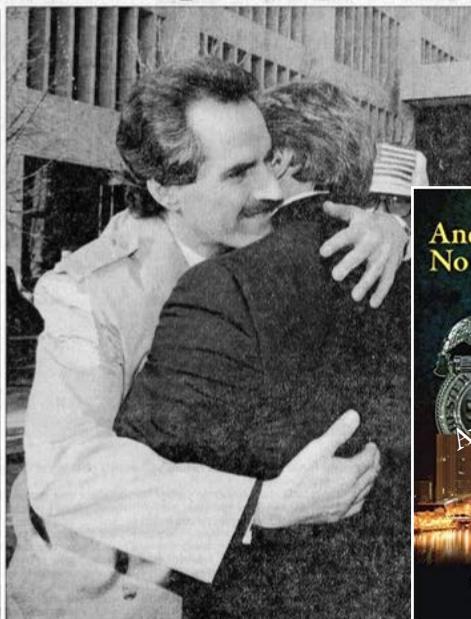
**Thomas W. Alessi**

Age 44, of East Rochester. The former head of the Highway Interdiction Team, Alessi was fired in February 1992, following an internal departmental investigation. Prior to his firing, he was suspended with pay Dec. 14, 1990, then demoted from sergeant to patrol officer and given an additional 30-day suspension without pay.

- Charges**
- Count 1: Conspired with others to "injure, oppress, threaten and intimidate" suspects between 1988 and 1990.
  - Count 2: Kicked Varian Hogan on Jan. 15, 1988.
  - Count 4: Pistol-whipped Ivan Hawley on April 11, 1988.
  - Count 7: Permitted subordinate officers to strike James S. Pilato Jr. on Aug. 25, 1988.
  - Count 13: Used a firearm in relation to a crime of violence on April 11, 1988.
  - Counts 18, 19: Theft of overtime funds; dismissed by judge.

**'All I did was my job'**

"I just want to put it behind me," said Gregory R. Raggi, as he walked arm-in-arm with his wife, Michele, and their children. Added Harloff: "I'm relieved. I want to go back to work. All I ever did was my job." Harloff, Raggi and former defendant Michael D. Mazzeo Jr. are suspended with pay from the city force. Their suspensions will remain in effect, pending an internal investigation, Police Chief Roy Irving said yesterday. The fifth former defendant, James W. O'Brien Jr., retired vice squad captain, said he felt great. A television reporter gave O'Brien a telephone so he could call his wife. The couple moved to Florida after he left the department. "It's over, honey. Did you hear?" O'Brien said. His voiced cracked, and his hands trembled. "I'll call you from another phone where everyone isn't listening." "It's over, honey. Did you hear?" O'Brien said. His voiced cracked and his hands



**And They Found No Witches**  
*A True Police Story*

Available on Amazon

**Tom Alessi**

Our speaker last week was **Tom Alessi** who has a life-altering tale of intrigue and disappointment while working in the Rochester, NY Police Department. When the federal government indicted Sergeant Tom Alessi and four of his colleagues in August of 1991 on nineteen counts and seventy-two overt acts of theft, evidence planting, and excessive force, prosecutors planned to steamroll the officers into pleading guilty. They did not. Instead, they stood firm against invented lies and federal pressure while the media destroyed their reputations.

Told in Tom Alessi's own words, **And They Found No Witches** recounts the remarkable true story of corruption, honor and bravery among police officers. As one of five police officers arrested and tried in Federal court, Tom has spent over twenty years compiling the details and writing the story of a case that rocked Rochester, NY, and forever changed lives. Written in a style that is as riveting as the case itself was, **And They Found No Witches** offers a rare first-hand insight into our law enforcement and judicial systems.

## LAST MEETING



Next President **Steve Slachta** presided. (President Tom Briers was trying to ski in West Virginia where there was no snow.) It was week 27, but who's counting. **Scott Gerrish** read the

invocation; **George Cohan** led the Pledge of Allegiance; and **Stephanie Kissinger** recited the Four Way Test without hesitation. **Ron Anderson** led the singing of Auld Lang Syne.

Steve read an email from the district announcing Rotary Leadership training at Port Charlotte February 20th. Sign up at [www.rlitraining.org](http://www.rlitraining.org).

**Stephanie Kissinger** announced the upcoming **Wounded Warriors** Softball tournament Friday, January 15th. WW's vs the Lee County Sheriffs at 6 pm and vs the Fire Department at 8 pm. We will be doing beer sales.

**George Cohan** was Sergeant-at-Arms. He complained about lack of attendance

and said there would be no fines since that wouldn't be "fair" to punish the faithful few who came to the meeting.

After some needling from the crowd, George revealed that his New Year's Resolution was "to be a little harder on all you people. I'm getting too lax in my old age. So you better toe the line."

## Write Your Own Caption



## VOCATIONAL SERVICE MOMENT



**Jay Berube** stepped forward to present his Vocational Service Moment. He has been in Florida for 17 years. At first, he worked at the Hyatt then he went into real estate. He has Property Management and Sales companies; now managing 250 properties and closed 85 home sales last year.

**Sue Masters** introduced Jay to Rotary through a GSE to India. He spent a month living with Indian families, came back and joined the club and “hasn’t looked back”.

Jay has been active in the community, at the Chamber as a Leadership Class graduate, President of the Women’s Council of Realtors, and at Rotary. He has won the Service Above Self Award and was Rotarian of the Year. “I’m really proud of

that”.

He is married to Jessica and they have two adopted kids. That takes up a lot of his time. “I try to balance my work life, home life, and giving life, and I’m really proud of my family and Rotary and what I do. And I’m really proud to be surrounded by people like you who make me better.”

### MESSAGE FROM R.I PRESIDENT RAVI:

“All of us have been given so many gifts. Now we have been given this great gift of another year..to take everything we are and can become - and

**Be a Gift to the World.”**



### TODAY’S PROGRAM: **Joe Daigle** Chief Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

The Bonita Springs Volunteer Fire Department was started in October, 1950. In May 1965 it became the Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District. Currently, the operating budget is about \$21 million with 105 employees and 5 going on 6 fire stations.



**Rotary Club of Bonita Springs**, chartered November 3, 1978. The Club may be contacted through its mailing address P.O. Box 474, Bonita Springs Florida 34133. You can reach **The Spoke** through its email [BonitaSpoke@aol.com](mailto:BonitaSpoke@aol.com).  
**Scott Gerrish** issue editor.

<b>President</b>	<b>Thomas B. Briers</b>
<b>President-Elect</b>	<b>Steven Slachta</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Jon McLeod</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Bob Lombardo</b>
<b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b>	<b>George M. Cohan III</b>

## Frequent Winner Adam Botana drew the 6♣



The 50/50 is \$2,400±

The 4-Way Test  
of things we think, say or do.

Is it the **TRUTH**?

Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?

Will it build **GOODWILL** and  
**BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?

Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all  
concerned?

Your finances. Your future. *Our focus.*

### McCaw Wealth Management

#### Mark W. McCaw

Sr Vice President--Wealth Mgmt, Sr Portfolio Manager  
8000 Health Center Blvd., Suite 150, Bonita Springs,  
FL 34135-8175  
239-495-4192 888-300-9001  
mark.mccaw@ubs.com

[ubs.com/fa/markmccaw](http://ubs.com/fa/markmccaw)



©UBS 2014. All rights reserved. UBS Financial Services Inc. is a subsidiary of UBS AG. Member FINRA/SIPC. D-UBS-790E8906

## Battle Hymn of the Republic

Mine eyes have seen the glory  
of the coming of the Lord;  
He is trampling out the vintage  
where the grapes of wrath are stored;  
He hath loosed the fateful lightning  
of His terrible swift sword:  
His truth is marching on.

(Chorus)

Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watch-fires  
of a hundred circling camps,  
They have builded Him an altar  
in the evening dews and damps;  
I can read His righteous sentence  
by the dim and flaring lamps:  
His day is marching on.

(Chorus)

*This Week*

Joe Daigle,  
Chief Fire District

*Birthdays*

Ron Anderson Jan 8  
Don Manley Jan 12

## This Morning's Invocation

Loving and Gracious God, as the new year stretches before us, help us not to have sighs of remorse for things undone.

As the months unfold, we shall be grateful for every new hour brought to birth for our use. Inspire and strengthen us to make worthy use of the precious time entrusted to us.

Help us to discharge our duties with diligence and to seize every opportunity with eagerness to serve. In this Rotary Awareness Month, help us to be constantly aware of the blessings You have bestowed upon the far-flung enterprise in which we are privileged to be engaged.

Be with us now as we enjoy the blessings of food and fellowship in the spirit of togetherness which binds us together in our common cause. Thank you for calling us to be servants. Amen.