

### **John E. Payne, Jr.**

John Payne was appointed to the Board in 2009 and was elected Chairman in 2012. John has been a licensed Barber since 1963 and has owned his own shop since 1966. John has traveled throughout the United States as an adult educator for Roffler Company and also as a hair stylist trainer for Hair International. He is a current member and former State and National President of Hair International. John and his family reside in Westmoreland County.

### **Joseph T. Ferruzza**

Joseph has been a licensed Barber since 1953 and was appointed to the Board in 2013. Joseph is the current owner and semi-retired operator of House of Ferruzza Hair Centre. He is the owner, developer and Chief Instructor of Roffler of Pittsburgh and is a member and Educational Director for Hair International. Joseph and his family reside in the Pittsburgh area.

### **Sharon M. Dell**

Sharon is a public member and was appointed to the Board in 2012. Sharon grew up in Huntingdon County where her parents operated a dairy farm. She was the owner and operator of a House Bed and Breakfast for 23 years. She is a volunteer at the Penn State Pasto Agricultural Museum and is active in church and community organizations. Sharon and her husband Jim currently reside in Martinsburg.

### **John C. Christopher**

After working at Hershey Foods for 25 years, John decided to change his life and with the support and love from his family, he went to Barber school at night in 2004. After working in a shop for one year, John decided to open his own shop in his hometown of Hershey. Johnny's Barbershop Downunder has been in business ever since. John is very active in his community with numerous organizations and he is also a full time musician, playing with three working bands. John and his family reside in Hummelstown.

### **Karen Wilkinson**

Karen has been the Office of Attorney General designee for the State Board of Barber Examiners since July of 1999. Karen currently serves as the Board's secretary. Karen is a Consumer Protection Agent for the Office of Attorney General. Agent Wilkinson joined the Office of Attorney General in April of 1995 and has worked all 19 years within the Public Protection Division. The Public Protection Division is tasked with safeguarding the personal rights of the citizens of Pennsylvania and protecting public interest. Agent Wilkinson and her family reside in the Harrisburg area.

## **OUR HERITAGE BARBER SHOPS**

### **...SECOND, THIRD AND FOURTH GENERATIONS**

**By Joseph Ferruzza, Board Member**

Our featured shop for this issue is "VITALE'S HAIR STYLING", a second generation barber shop that also has a separate area of Cosmetology for the female clientele. The barber shop features Frank Vitale still doing men's barbering and hair styling, at the grand age of 92; and his son Gerry, who at the age of 70 says, "How can I retire while my dad is still working"? The shop is located in Foster Plaza, Greentree, Pennsylvania.

Here are some of the excerpts from our interview:

BOARD MEMBER: Mr. Vitale, how long have you been a licensed barber? Did you go to school or apprentice in a shop?

VITALE: I went to barber school after the Second World War, under the G.I. BILL then I apprenticed for a short time with a neighborhood barber. I was eventually licensed in 1948.

BOARD MEMBER: Mr. Vitale, who actually inspired you to become a barber?

VITALE: My dad was the one who inspired me to become a barber. He worked as a Porter in a barber shop. He thought it was nice clean work and a noble profession. I had previously learned to be a bricklayer; my brothers and I actually built three houses! I realized though that it was hard physical work and that I wouldn't be able to work much into my 50's or 60's. So I listened to my dad and pursued the barber profession. I've never regretted my decision.

BOARD MEMBER: When did you decide to open your own shop?

VITALE: A barber retired in the West End of Pittsburgh and I saw my chance to be in my own business. I ran a successful shop there for 14 years then the shopping center shops began competing for my business. I decided to relocate and opened a new shop in an office complex, where I established a good executive clientele. In 1960, we introduced men's hairstyling in the form of the Roffler Sculpture-Kut, a new technique, featuring the hair styling razor. It was very well received by my clientele and brought the average barber to new heights of professionalism. After 26 years at that location, one of my clients convinced me to move our shop to his new office complex called Foster Plaza located in Greentree, PA. That was 27 years ago and we are still thriving at that location.

BOARD MEMBER: Mr. Vitale, in your long career as a master barber, what do you think was the most significant event that might have changed the course of the barber profession?

VITALE: Without a doubt, the introduction of Men's Hairstyling by Edmond Roffler and his Sculpture-Kut technique, which took the profession by storm and greatly influenced how we do business today.

BOARD MEMBER: Mr. Vitale, not many men would be found working in his chosen profession at 92 years of age. What do you attribute your staying power and longevity to?

VITALE: I believe in diet and exercise. I do a lot of walking and swimming and my wife and I dance at least once a week.

BOARD MEMBER: How did your son get into barbering?

VITALE: Gerry just declared to me, one day that he wanted to be a barber. He went to Pittsburgh Barber School on the North Side then continued to apprentice under me. He developed a nice clientele and 14 years ago, took over the shop.

BOARD MEMBER: What would you advise young barbers today?

VITALE: I advise young barbers to (1) enjoy your work, (2) constantly strive for excellence, (3) take care of your health with diet and exercise, (4) always look for more education and (5) remember, "good manners never go out of style"!

BOARD MEMBER: How long do you plan to work?

VITALE: As long as I physically can and my clients keep coming back, as some have, for sixty years!

#### IT'S ALL IN THE NAME

Barber Shops from across Pennsylvania that showcase unique names.

SCISSOR WIZARD

THE BARBER'S EDGE

HAIR WE ARE

THE BARBER'S INN

HAIR SYMETRICS

CLASSY CUTS

CUSTOM CUT

CLIP'S BARBER SHOP

A CUT ABOVE

COMMAND PERFORMANCE

A SPECIAL TOUCH

HOUSE OF FERRUZZA

ADDED TOUCH

GENTLEMEN'S NORTH

ALL BARBERS

GOLDEN RAZOR

CAPITAL CUTS

GOOD FELLAS

CLIPPER CHIX

GOT HAIR?

COMB AND SCISSOR

HAIR TODAY, HAIR TOMORROW

GIFTED HANDS

KOOL KUTZ

GQ BARBER SHOP

THE MAN CAVE

GREAT CLIPS

THE BARBER POLE

HAIR GALLERY

TORTORICE AND THE HAIR

HEAD HUNTERS

JUST FOR GUYS

JUST KUTN IT UP

THE MANE DIFFERENCE

CLEAN CUT

PRIME CUT

SHEAR EDGE

AHEAD OF TIME

ANDY'S HAIR AFFAIR

BARBER ZONE

### **A FEDERAL POSTAGE STAMP HONORING THE BARBER**

Bob Vavro, former Barber Board member, newly reappointed to the Board and Vera Winfield, Past President of the National Association of Barber Boards has led the concerted effort to develop a Federal Postage Stamp, honoring the Barber Profession. We will keep you updated as to our progress.

### **THE NATIONAL BARBER MUSEUM AND HALL OF FAME**

Ed Jeffers, the originator of the Museum, has passed away and Mike Ippoliti is the current director. This museum is the finest collection in the country of barber chairs, tools, art and a myriad of items of interest, not only to the barber but anyone who appreciates nostalgia for what once was. Actually, Bob Vavro, former and recently reappointed Board Member, is ensconced in the Barber Hall of Fame, for his contribution to the barber profession. It would be an interesting road trip to visit Canal Winchester, Ohio, where the museum shares space with the Corvette museum. The address of the museum is:

The National Barber Museum and Hall of Fame, P O Box 15, Canal Winchester, OH 43110

For more information, visit: [www.nationalbarbermuseum.org](http://www.nationalbarbermuseum.org)