



FOP, Chicago Lodge 7
1412 W. Washington Blvd.

"Although we are not satisfied at the time it took to get where we are, we are in a comparatively good position...."

President's Report, By Mark Donahue

Negotiations

At about 1530 hours on January 19th, Arbitrator Benn announced that he had enough information to make a decision on the collective bargaining agreement between F.O.P. Lodge 7 and the City of Chicago, thus bringing to a close the Arbitration process which amounted to two days of mediation in December and two days of actual Arbitration in January. In addition to the four days of discussions, in which he actually sat in as both a mediator and arbitrator, Mr. Benn received volumes of documents supporting the positions that the Lodge and the City had taken. He had received those documents in late October and actually took the entire month of November familiarizing himself with all of the positions. Our members in attendance at the meetings were impressed as well as pleased with the level of understanding this arbitrator exhibited on the issues.

Equally impressive throughout these negotiations was the F.O.P. Lead Attorney, Joel D'Alba. Mr. D'Alba directed the negotiations, mediation and arbitration, in a manner that undeniably recognizes him to be considered one of the best public sector labor attorneys in the State. Our Lodge attorney, Tom Pleines, who provided his expertise and historical perspective of the process and the entire Negotiating Team rounded out the

efforts put forth on behalf of all of the members of the Collective Bargaining Unit. The outcome of this process for the Lodge will be the result of having hired the finest attorneys and experts in the financial field who testified on our behalf. Our Negotiating Team asked the membership what they wanted and then fought for those proposals every step of the way. The big question now is "when will the Arbitrator's decision be rendered?" Arbitrator Benn took control of the process and allowed for no foot dragging. I anticipate a decision in a like manner and anticipate his decision in a comparatively short time.

When this decision does come down, the members of the F.O.P. are likely to be the first of the forty-two Unions who work for the City of Chicago, to have a new contract. Those unions, whose contracts all expired on 30 Jun 2003, have been negotiating concurrently with the F.O.P. for successor agreements with the City. Instead of being one of the last unions to resolve their contract, as had occurred in the past, the F.O.P. will most likely be the first. Although we are not satisfied at the length of time it took to get where we are, we are in a comparatively good position.

94th General Assembly

The new Legislative session is quickly approaching and the Lodge is preparing for the 94th General Assembly in Springfield. The last two

days of the veto session yielded nothing for Law Enforcement in Illinois. The Legislative Committee will meet on the 26th of January to address the issues and measure their priority, as has been done in the past. The date adjustment, relative to getting the 3% COLA increase at age 55 and its retroactivity, will be a key factor in discussions. Other pension issues such as the 80% bill, the compounding of the COLA and retiree health insurance will all be addressed, along with our new initiative for linking prior law enforcement service for CPD pension credits (pension portability).

There has been a rumor circulating which has caused numerous calls to the Lodge by retirees in particular. It is over an amendment, which was contained in HB 750. What the amendment tried to do was to require retirees who have total earnings over \$75,000 per year to pay an income tax on that portion which is their pension. That amendment, which was introduced by Senator James Meeks in April of last year, was tabled in August. The bill that it was attached to failed to pass by the end of session. The main bill dealt with the Children with Disabilities Article of the School Code and the inclusion of the amendment presumably would have violated the single subject rule that had been established years ago. Unfortunately the language in the amendment was being distributed without the

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President's Report Continued...

corresponding status sheet, which may have caused some sleepless nights for many retirees. Please contact the Lodge first with these concerns so that if there is cause for concern, we can attempt to do something about it. We will watch for the amendment in the future but please know that it is not in affect.

Concealed Carry for Retired Illinois Residents

The language for certification for retirees to carry relative to the passage of HR218 has been drawn up and will be introduced on the State level as it will impact our members throughout the State. The Lodge will push for quick action on this bill so that all of our members will be able to take advantage of it.

Now that HR 218 has passed, the Windfall Elimination Provisions for Social Security has moved up to the poll position for our National Legislative Agenda. I will be attending the National "Day on the Hill" event in Washington again this year. Our Illinois contingent hopes to garner more sponsors on our road to passage of that legislation. We know that we have at least one added co-sponsor in that newly sworn in Senator Barack Obama has pledged his support for this legislation.

Retiree Health Care Premiums

Retirees from the Chicago Police Department have received notices as to changes in their retiree health care

premiums. Some of those changes have brought decreases in premiums, while most others, especially new retirees, will see increases. When the Lodge was notified of the changes, we assigned one of our in house attorneys to investigate to see if any of the increases aren't justified due to the cost of the coverage that the City pays. Paul Geiger is conducting that investigation to ensure the City's costs are really what they are claiming. If not, the Lodge will take the appropriate actions to reduce the retiree's costs.

Your Participation in Lodge Elections is Important

With the Lodge elections coming up, we cannot empha-

size enough how important it is that all of our members cast their votes. Regardless of whom you cast your votes for, we must not allow anyone to take the position that there is apathy among the membership. The Lodge has obtained a great deal of respect, which has been an attribute in dealing with the City. Members of the City Council receive this newsletter and are aware of the positions we express here. They need to be reassured that the Union has the support of its members. Please vote.



Vice Presidents' Report, By Bill Dougherty, Frank DiMaria & Greg Bella

The Discipline Screening Process (DSP)

When you receive a notification of a sustained CR number and the recommended penalty is fifteen (15) days or less, you have three (3) options:

1. Accept the recommended penalty
2. Request the Disciplinary Screening Program
3. Request a Complaint Review Panel

If you choose not to accept the recommended penalty, please choose the Discipline Screening Program (DSP) as the first step in your appeal process. When you request this option, you will be notified of when the DSP hearing will be held. You have the right to review your file prior to that date. You have five (5) days prior to the DSP hearing to add any new evidence.

At the DSP, a member from the Lodge, along with a representative from the Department, will meet, review your file and attempt to come to an agreement on a finding and/or alternate recommended penalty. The recommendation is then forwarded to the affected member for their acceptance or rejection. If the affected member rejects the recommendation of the DSP, the next step in the appeal process is the Complaint Review Panel (CRP). Officers do not cheat yourself of any steps in the appeal process which is guaranteed by our contract. Always choose the DSP first!

Officer Safety

Too many Officers are working alone (10-99) during the first and third watch more frequently due to manpower shortages in Districts city-wide. Officers who must

work these beat cars alone should keep in mind the basic safety and survival tips that we as Police Officers should adhere to at all times. The following are just a few reminders in officer safety:

- Always ask for an assist car when responding to a two person assignment or making a street stop.
 - Keep in mind your exact location at all times when on the street.
 - Follow proper approach and field interview techniques of persons and autos that you stop.
- Beware of Tombstone Courage believing that because you are the police you are invincible.

Statistics have shown that over the last four years manpower for District Law Enforcement is down by 14% and that Battery to Police Officers

is up 100%. Until this situation with the manpower is resolved and there are sufficient personnel to man the beat cars continue to take care of each other and be safe.

Injury On-Duty Referrals

When you are injured on-duty or have a recurrence of a prior injury on-duty, you must request a referral to a doctor from the Medical Services Section. You should be shown the list of doctors by your nurse and allowed to pick your doctor. If your doctor decides that he needs to schedule another appointment or needs additional tests done, you must contact the Medical Services Section and get a referral for these services. You need a referral for each and every time that you go to the doctor. If you don't have a referral from the Medical Services Section the Commit-

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Vice Presidents' Report Continued...

tee on Finance won't pay your bill.

F.O.P. Stars vs. Chicago Fire Department

It's that time of the year again. The Chicago Police Department against the Chicago Fire Department in the 12th Annual Charity Hockey game at the United Center on 19 March 05 (time to be announced). Tickets are \$5.00 and kids under 12 get in free. Tickets will be available soon. It's a great time for the kids and a fun game to watch.

Life Insurance Benefits For Officers On Disability

All members of the collective bargaining agreement are entitled to a \$25,000 life insurance policy per Section 25.1 of our contract. Recently the Lodge became aware that our officers on duty and occupational disability were receiving letters from Prudential Insurance. Prudential Insurance took

over the life insurance policies back in September 2004. The problem with the letters was that they were informing officers that they had only a \$15,000 or \$20,000 life insurance policy, when all members of the collective bargaining unit are entitled to a \$25,000. If you received a letter from Prudential and the amount of life insurance indicated in the letter was less than \$25,000, fax a copy of that letter to the Lodge, attention Bill Dougherty. The Lodge filed a class action grievance regarding this issue in January.

C.R. By Affidavit

When you go to IAD or OPS to give an oral statement regarding a C.R. investigation, you must be shown the signed affidavit prior to giving your statement. A statement will not be given if there is not a signed affidavit to support the complaint. When a "To-From" report is requested to answer C.R. allegations, you must be

shown a copy of the signed affidavit. If no signed affidavit is available then write the following in your "To-From" report:

I cannot answer the allegations because I have not been shown a copy of the signed affidavit that is required to support this complaint. This complaint without a signed affidavit is a violation of State Law as well as the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the City of Chicago.

Before you answer any allegations pertaining to a C.R. number, whether written or oral, the Department must show you a copy of the signed affidavit.

Suspension Grievances

You have seven days upon your return from a suspension to file a grievance. The grievance should be filled out in

your unit of assignment and you can get assistance from your watch or unit representative. If you have a problem then call the Lodge and we will assist you in filing the grievance. The violation is section 8.1 of the contract "Just Cause." If you do not file a grievance you cannot fight the suspension through the grievance process.

Union Elections

Ballots for the Union election will be mailed to your residence on 18 February 2005 and they must be returned to the P.O. Box by 0800 hours on 11 March 2005. If you do not receive a ballot you must come in person to vote at the Lodge on 11 March 2005 between 0900 and 1200 hours. No ballots will be accepted, at any time, by the staff of the F.O.P.

The Chicago Police Association of Nevada



Proudly Announces

The 10th Annual Law Enforcement Reunion

May 2nd thru 5th, 2005

The Stardust Hotel and Casino
Las Vegas, Nevada

Reception, Golf Outing, Shows, Dinner Dance and More

For Further Information, Please Call 702-459-4576 or Visit the Website at www.cpaon.org

Deceased Brothers & Sisters

<i>Dorothy M. Adams</i>	<i>Age 49</i>
<i>John Agnello</i>	<i>Age 78</i>
<i>Frank B. Baranski</i>	<i>Age 79</i>
<i>Michael J. Burns</i>	<i>Age 61</i>
<i>Gary W. Butler</i>	<i>Age 50</i>
<i>Janet K. Conley</i>	<i>Age 57</i>
<i>George C. Coughlin, Jr.</i>	<i>Age 82</i>
<i>James M. Dolan</i>	<i>Age 47</i>
<i>Sharon Jedrzieczyk</i>	<i>Age 43</i>
<i>Francis W. Kilcoyne</i>	<i>Age 83</i>
<i>Joseph J. Lorenz</i>	<i>Age 69</i>
<i>Ronald P. McInerney</i>	<i>Age 71</i>
<i>Louis J. Meredith</i>	<i>Age 82</i>
<i>Charles E. Nawrocki</i>	<i>Age 59</i>
<i>Hugh Nightingale</i>	<i>Age 59</i>
<i>John N. O'Mara</i>	<i>Age 67</i>
<i>Cecil E. Young</i>	<i>Age 74</i>
<i>Joseph M. Kinsella</i>	<i>Age 66</i>
<i>Gerald J. McGarry</i>	<i>Age 72</i>
<i>Leonard M. Getautas</i>	<i>Age 69</i>
<i>Joseph P. Trizinski</i>	<i>Age 70</i>
<i>Robert A. Davino</i>	<i>Age 55</i>
<i>Don Degmon</i>	<i>Age 69</i>
<i>Vincent R. Zielinski</i>	<i>Age 74</i>
<i>Johnny E. Jones</i>	<i>Age 79</i>

Are You Pushing Or Turning, *Compliments of Rabbi Moshe Wolf*

Do you realize that the only time in our lives when we like to get old is when we're kids? If you're less than 10 years old, you're so excited about aging that you think in fractions. "How old are you?" "I'm four and a half!" You're never thirty-six and a half. You're four and a half, going on five! That's the key.

You get into your teens, now they can't hold you back. You jump to the next number, or even a few ahead. "How old are you?" "I'm gonna be 16!" You could be 13, but hey, you're gonna be 16! And then the greatest day of your life...you become 21. Even the words sound like a ceremony... YOU BECOME 21...YESSSS!!

But then you turn 30. Oooohh, what happened there? Makes you sound like bad milk. He TURNED; we had to throw him out. There's no fun now, you're just a sour-dumpling. What's wrong?

What's changed?

You BECOME 21, you TURN 30, then you're PUSHING 40

Whoa! Put on the brakes, it's all slipping away. Before you know it, you REACH 50 and your dreams are gone. But wait!!! You MAKE it to 60. You didn't think you would!

So you BECOME 21, TURN 30, PUSH 40, REACH 50 and MAKE it to 60.

You've built up so much speed that you HIT 70! After that it's a day-by-day thing; you HIT Wednesday! You get into your 80s and every day is a complete cycle; you HIT lunch; you TURN 4:30; you REACH bedtime. And it doesn't end there. Into the 90s, you start going backwards; "I Was JUST 92."

Then a strange thing happens. If you make it over 100, you become a little kid again. "I'm 100 and a half!"

May you all make it to a healthy 100 and a half!!

Thoughts that help you stay young:

1. Keep only cheerful friends. The grouches pull you down.

2. Keep learning. Learn more about the computer, crafts, gardening, whatever. Never let the brain idle. "An idle mind is the devil's workshop." And the devil's name is Alzheimer's.

3. Enjoy the simple things.

4. Laugh often, long and loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath.

5. Tears happen. Endure, grieve, and move on. The only person who is with us our entire life, is ourselves. Be ALIVE while you are alive.

6. Surround yourself with what you love, whether it's family, loved ones, pets, music, plants, hobbies or whatever.

7. Cherish your health: If it is good, preserve it. If it is unstable, improve it. If it is beyond what you can improve, it's OK to reach and get help.

8. Don't take guilt trips. Take a trip to the mall, or a trip to someone less fortunate and share a laugh.

9. Tell the people you love that you love them, at every opportunity. Keep them precious.

And Always Remember:

Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.

May G-d Bless you keep you safe and always keep you in his loving care. Amen
Compliments of your Police Chaplain Rabbi Moshe Wolf
773-463-4780 or
moshewolf@hotmail.com

Current Events

The following events listed will occur from February thru March 2005. For further information on any event posted below, please contact the Lodge (312) 733-7776, log onto the F.O.P. website at www.chicagofop.org, or call the hotline number at 312-733-2101.

- 09 Feb 05 Ash Wednesday
- 09 Feb 05 Recognized Openings in Districts and Units
- 11 Feb 05 Recognized Vacancies/Transfer Bids
- 12 Feb 05 Holiday/Lincoln Birthday
- 15 Feb 05 F.O.P. General Meeting (Noon)
- 18 Feb 05 Benefit For the son of Detective Christine Staniec and Officer Henry Staniec
- 21 Feb 05 Holiday/Washington Birthday
- 23 Feb 05 Knights of Columbus Monthly Meeting
- 26 Feb 05 COPS FOR KIDS
- 01 Mar 05 F.O.P. Board of Directors Meeting
- 03 Mar 05 3rd Police Period begins
- 07 Mar 05 Holiday/Pulaski Day
- 09 Mar 05 Watch Bids Open
- 09 Mar 05 Recognized Openings in Districts and Units



22nd District First Annual Reunion Party Welcoming

*ALL PRESENT AND FORMER
MORGAN PARK RANGERS*

Thursday, April 28, 2005

**Bourbon Street
115th & Homan
Merrionette Park, Illinois**

No Admission Charge, Feed The Kitty

For additional information please contact

Jeff Bella 312-745-0620
Bob Smolik 312-745-0620
Pat Hackett 312-745-0620

Pension News, By Ken Hauser

Please keep your \$12,000.00 death benefit with the Pension Board updated. When you are hired by the CPD, you fill out a death benefit card while in the Academy. This benefit is worth \$12,000.00. You have many changes in your life. You get married, divorced, remarried, etc. During this process you forget to change the beneficiary on this death benefit card. It is very important to change the beneficiary because if you die, who ever is named the beneficiary on this card is the recipient of the \$12,000.00. Some examples: 1) a police officer never changed the beneficiary card when he/she got married and left his/her mother on the card; 2) the former girlfriend prior to marriage was left on the card. 3) the first spouse was left on the card and not

the present spouse. There is a misconception within the police department when it comes to submitting a PAR form with the Personnel Division. An officer thinks that when they submit this PAR form to change their beneficiary for the City insurance benefit that all the beneficiaries from other agencies are notified by the Personnel Division. Believe me, Personnel does not share this information with any other agency. You must notify all other agencies individually, such as Nationwide Retirement Solutions, formerly known as PEBSCO for deferred compensation; F.O.P. for death insurance benefit; the Chicago Patrolmen's Federal Credit Union pertaining to loans and savings; the Pension Board; etc. If you want to check your beneficiary with the Pension Board,

please call on the PAX 0357. No information will be given over the telephone. If a change is necessary it must be done in person at the Pension Board.

Disability Update

Any police officer who has paid state or federal income tax on their duty related injury, (even if you used your furlough time) is entitled to a tax refund. This is retroactive for three years. All duty related disability/injury benefits are tax-free and should be excluded from gross income. If you fit into this category, contact your tax preparer and have him/her file an amended tax return.

The Pension Board Trustees adopted a policy for Annual Medical Reviews. Disabled officers who are awarded the Total and Permanent Disability benefit will be required to submit an attending physician's report to the Pension Fund

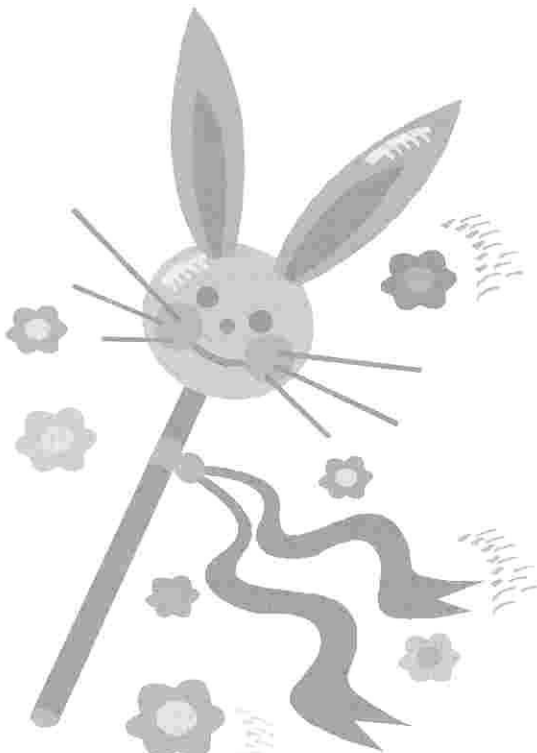
every three years, instead of a yearly examination as is required in the Statutes, 40 ILCS 5/5-156.

Pension Board Meetings

The monthly meetings of the Pension Board are open to all members and are held on the fourth Thursday of the month, unless there is an additional special meeting, which would be announced. Commencement is at 0900 in the office of the Pension Board located at 221 N. La-Salle Street, Suite 1626.

Reminder

Just a reminder to our retired annuitants living outside the 312-773 area codes or in another State, the Pension Fund number is 800-656-6606. The fax number is 312-726-3216.



F.O.P. Auxiliary's 14th Annual Lunch With The Easter Bunny

Saturday

March 19, 2005

Noon—3:00 pm

Education & Training Division
(Cafeteria & Gymnasium)
1300 W. Jackson, Chicago, Illinois

Noon - 1:15. Lunch

*1:15 - 3:00 Pictures With The Easter Bunny,
Raffle & Easter Egg Hunt*

Tickets cost \$5.00 each and everyone attending must have a ticket to enter.

For more information or to purchase tickets please contact Angie Haynes, 773-334-5718

Disability Report & Veteran's Corner, *By Carlos 'Sal' Saladino*

Disability Report

The best of health from the Disability Committee members. We are available for calls at the FOP office Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Check out the Disability Page link on the FOP web site, www.chicagofop.org, for beneficial information.

Meeting With Pension Board's Acting Executive Director

The F.O.P. Disability Committee, Cedric Brumley, Bill Dougherty, Athena Mullen, Kim Shemash, and myself met with John Gallagher, Acting Executive Director, and Kay Hylton, Executive Assistant. Questions from the Committee regarding disability scheduling, protocol at the pension board meetings, pension board minutes, and a variety of other questions concerning police officers were answered. The meeting was well over an hour and, hopefully, we will have an open door policy as we begin a new era.

January Pension Board Meeting

Police advocates present were Steve Robbins, Sgt. Mike Lazzaro, and Sgt. Mike Shemash. Two Ordinary claims were on the agenda--one was granted and one was deferred to the next meeting. There were eight Duty Disability claims. Three were granted and five were continued. This is where the backlog exists and causes officers a longer time to have their cases heard. There will be two pension board meetings in February. One meeting will have only disability cases heard to help clear up the backlog. Again, police advocates will be there for support and volunteer their personal time.

Veterans' Corner

Our thoughts and prayers go to the members activated in Operation Enduring Freedom who are actively serving our country in the military.

Veteran Claims For

Service Connections

I met a police officer the other day that served in Vietnam as a medic with the 82nd Airborne. He has diabetes, a hearing aid with loss of hearing in both ears. I asked how much compensation he was getting for these service connected disabilities but was told he has not put a claim in.

You can defray these costs with any approved service connected condition. Your medication will be free and you will get monetary compensation for the rest of your life. Depending on your rating this could be \$100 to \$2200 a month. All you have to do is file a VA claim and it is retroactive to the day you file. Call Joseph Petrosky, Director of Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation of the American Legion at 312-980-4267 for more information on filing your claim.

Illinois Income Tax Contribution

This year, the state added the Illinois Veterans' Home to its list of voluntary contribution funds. The money will

be used to purchase much needed supplies and equipment to enhance the lives of the more than 1,000 residents of the state's four veterans' homes in Anna, LaSalle, Manteno and Quincy. Any donation will reduce your refund or increase the amount you owe. *"This is a simple way that Illinoisans can show their support for their hometown heroes,"* states Roy Dolgos, Director of the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Paratrooper License Plates

HB0019, sponsored by Rep. Joseph Lyons, Rep. Michael McAuliffe, and Rep. Ron Stephens (173rd Airborne Trooper) will hopefully pass this legislative session.

Airborne Sal

Look at an infantryman's eyes and you can tell how much war he has seen.

Bill Mauldin

Retiree & Pension Update, *By John Dineen*

Health Insurance Cost Increase

By now you are aware of the new March 2005 rate for retiree health insurance. Retiree health insurance is governed by the Court Settlement on the Annuitant Health Care lawsuit of June 2003, (Korshak Decision) which provides for guaranteed coverage until June 30, 2013. The Settlement calls for the City to pay 55% of the Defined Costs for (1) those who are presently retired or (2) those who retire on or before June 30, 2005. For those

who retire after June 30, 2005 and before June 30, 2013, with at least 20 years of service, the City will pay 50% of the Defined Costs.

For the period June 1, 2003 to June 30, 2008, the Pension Fund will pay \$85 for each annuitant who is not eligible for Medicare and \$55 for each Medicare eligible annuitant. From July 1, 2008 until June 30, 2013, the Pension Fund will pay \$95 for each annuitant not eligible for Medicare and \$65 for each Medicare eligible annuitant. The annuitant is responsible

for the additional defined costs.

In calculating the 2005 increase in health costs, the City has separated retirees into two groups, those eligible for Medicare and those not eligible for Medicare. The past claims for the different groups were used to set the new rates.

As space will not allow cost comparisons to all eligible groups of annuitants, I will use non-Medicare eligible and Medicare eligible retirees and their spouses who became eligible for insurance cover-

age after August 23, 1989 and before July 1, 2005. As provided for in the Court Settlement before any increase in premiums for health insurance the Funds and the City shall use a qualified independent actuary to estimate the costs for the upcoming year. This study was conducted by the Segal Group, a worldwide group of actuaries and consultants.

Retirees in this group who are not Medicare eligible have seen their premiums rise about 21% to \$465 per month

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Retiree & Pension Update Continued

as of March 2005. If the retiree is fortunate enough to have qualified for receipt of the 3% automatic escalator he or she will see the great majority of the increase disappear in payment of their health insurance. If the retiree is not yet eligible for the escalator he or she will see their pension reduced by

the additional cost.

Medicare eligible couples will realize about a 17% decrease to \$208 per month but they also pay \$156 per month for their Medicare coverage by the U.S. Government.

There is no easy answer to the control of the increased costs. The retirees were separated from the active

employees by the City for cost calculations and the average age of the group continues to escalate as all City of Chicago retirees are combined for health insurance purposes. Through June 2004 there were 20,011 annuitants and spouses covered under Medicare and 12,292 annuitants and spouses non-Medicare eligible. There

were an additional 1,479 children covered under the retiree health insurance plan.

Officers with a spouse retiring on or after July 1, 2005 will be charged \$526 per month for their coverage, a \$61 increase over the rate available until June 30th.

Financial Secretary's Report, By Tim Fallon

FLSA Lawsuit Status

In early January the Lodge attorneys were in Federal Court, along with the attorney representing the supervisors. The reason for this court appearance was to consolidate the suit with our membership, and the supervisors that have also filed suit. The case has been assigned to Federal Magistrate Schenkier. Schenkier ruled that the supervisors have until 31 Jan 05 to get in all of their plaintiff's filings. The City has begun the process of obtaining all of the plaintiff's FLSA time records. Since there are approximately 2,000 of our membership, and several hundred supervisors, this will take some time to accomplish. There is a status hearing scheduled in March, at which time our attorneys will request permission from Magistrate Schenkier to start taking depositions from the City. Cleveland Police Officers also filed an FLSA suit in Federal Court. The Cleveland Police were seeking the same thing as Lodge#7 and the Milwaukee Police. Just as in Milwaukee's case, the Cleveland case was at first dismissed by the district court. Cleveland Police appealed their

case to the 6th District Appellate Court. The Appellate Court has ruled in favor of Cleveland Police Officers. The City of Cleveland is appealing the case at this time.

Uniform Check Tax Deduction

On 21 Jan 05 the Lodge was notified that uniform checks will now have taxes deducted before being issued to the officers. We understand that uniform allowance is taxable income, and whether the taxes are deducted now, or paid at the end of the year is not a huge issue. The first problem is the time we received the notification of this new policy. We received a faxed letter explaining the policy on Friday 21 Jan 05 at 6:00 p.m. The uniform checks are due to be issued on 1 Feb 05. So any input from the Lodge on this new policy was obviously not going to be considered. Secondly the explanation for the new policy is that while reviewing Income Tax laws, the Comptroller's Office found that they should have been taking taxes all along. So according to the Comptroller's Office, they have been in violation of Federal Income Tax laws for over 20 years. Our research of the Income Tax laws

shows no law that mandates deductions have to be made from the uniform check. We are not saying that the City cannot make the deductions. Only that they are not mandated by law to do so, contrary to the Comptroller's Office statement. Accordingly the Lodge has filed a class action grievance for all affected members. Article 21.3 of the contract states specifically how much money each officer is to receive for uniform allowance, and the dates the checks are to be issued. We also have over a 20 year past practice of receiving the exact amount stated in the contract, without any tax deductions.

As I stated earlier uniform allowance is taxable income. Whether we have the taxes deducted when the checks are issued, or pay at the end of the year is not a huge issue. I believe the issue is that after 19 months of negotiations for a new contract, the City still has no problems with initiating a new policy that affects our entire membership, without seeking input from the Lodge. Let me repeat the warning given to the City by Judge Kinnard, "this is no way to do business." This is also no way to start a new year, and new contract.

Attention All FLSA Plaintiffs

If you signed up to join the FLSA litigation in Federal Court, you have now been added as a plaintiff to the action. Pursuant to Rule 73 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, all parties must consent in order to have a magistrate judge exercise civil jurisdiction over the case. At present, all parties in the case have consented to have the case heard by Magistrate Judge Schenkier. The purpose of this notification is to allow officers who might have a valid objection to the case being handled by this judge to come forward and disclose their reasons and/or any relationship they might have with this particular judge. The Lodge is confident in the abilities of Magistrate Schenkier and believes that he will provide a fair and expeditious forum for the lawsuit. However, if you have an objection and wish to have it considered, please contact attorney Paul D. Geiger at 312-733-7776.



Police Memorial Foundation, *By Scott Arney*

As the president of the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation, I would like to extend my thanks on behalf of the Foundation's executive board to Superintendent Philip J. Cline and all the men and women of the Chicago Police Department. It is through your hard work and generosity that the Foundation is well on its way to the May 2, 2005 groundbreaking for Gold Star Families Memorial and Park.

A lot has happened since last May's inaugural candlelight vigil, and I would like to thank the FOP Lodge 7 for allowing the Foundation this space in their newsletter to share the Foundation's successes.

Immediately following last year's vigil, the Foundation put out requests for proposals to over 20 of Chicago lands most qualified landscape architectural firms. There was unbelievable interest in the project, and after a whirlwind review and interview process we contracted the firm of Wolff Clements and Associates for the project. Foundation and Gold Star Family representatives along with the Chicago Park District and volunteer consultants Dan Weinbach, and Laura Soncrant all worked diligently with Wolf Clements and their team throughout the year to finalize a fitting design. It is at this time that I am very pleased to announce that a design has been chosen and has met with the approval of Gladis Young, President of the Gold Star Families, Tim Mitchell, Superintendent of the Chicago Park District, and Mayor Richard M. Daley. The renderings along with a scaled model of the park design will be completed by the middle of February. Soon after, the model will be displayed at police

headquarters, and the renderings will be available to be viewed on the Foundation's website at www.CPDmemorial.org.

In addition to the Park design, the Foundation has been busy doing other things that must be done when you are a developing an organization. Including myself there are 5 members of the Foundation executive board. They include; Gladis Young as secretary, Meg Murray as treasurer, Father Thomas Nangle, and Rabbi Moshi Wolf. The Foundation board meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month to conduct business and has recently begun looking at its "Mission Beyond The Memorial."

The Foundation is currently involved in a capital campaign to raise more than 5 million dollars to not only design, build, and maintain Gold Star Families Memorial and Park, but to also aid in our mission beyond the memorial. While the exact parameters of that mission have yet to be fully defined, you can be assured of one thing...Our mission will be for the police! The Foundation has recently received a restricted gift that the donor has specifically requested be set aside to aid the families of officers who have taken their own lives. With that request in mind, the Foundation, in agreement with the donor, has decided to provide one thousand dollars assistance to the immediate family of a police officer who takes their own life. There is much more to be decided but we feel that this is a step in the right direction.

Fundraising efforts are going well. You are all aiding in the building of the Memorial by purchasing Foundation merchandise, which is available at the FOP store, participating in payroll con-

tribution, and giving of your time. Superintendent Cline has asked each unit to hold their own individual sort of mini fundraiser in order to help raise funds and bring awareness to the Foundation. Many of you have responded and, as a way of saying thank you, the Foundation will soon be posting contributing units and their fundraising efforts on our web site. More recent efforts currently taking place include the selling of identification lanyards by the Central Investigations Detail. For those interested, the lanyards will be available at the FOP gift store, the credit union, and graphic arts. Another great fundraiser currently taking place is the selling of Chicago Police Collectors license plates by the Forensic Services Section. These plates are issued by the Secretary of State and will be able to be displayed on your vehicle from 01 May 2005 - 30 June 2005. The plates are limited to numbers 1 through 500 and from what Sgt. Flannery tells us, they are going fast. Anyone interested in these collector's plates should visit our website at www.CPDmemorial.org and click on the link on our homepage to download an application form or visit the FOP gift shop, or credit union.

The Foundation will be holding its annual T-Shirt Drive/Contest a little earlier this year. We plan to begin the drive around the middle of February and run it through the end of March. The reason we are conducting the drive earlier this year is because each shirt will include a list of four of the major events lending support to the Foundation in 2005. Those events are as follows:

30 April 2005: The Chicago Police Runners Club will host a "Run to Remember" a 5K run/walk to begin at Gold Star Families Memorial and Park.

02 May 2005: The 2nd Annual Chicago Police Memorial Foun-

dation Candlelight Vigil. This year's vigil will pay special tribute to Officer Michael P. Gordon and mark the groundbreaking ceremonies for Gold Star Families Memorial and Park.

25 June 2005: Come and enjoy yourself at the "170th Anniversary Celebration of the Chicago Police Department." This citywide event will be held at 115 Bourbon Street from 1 - 7 p.m.

27 August 2005: Chicago's Hollywood celebrities come home to say "We Remember; A Salute to Chicago's Finest." This corporate fundraising event will be held at the Arie Crown Theater.

For more information on all of these events, please visit our website at www.CPDmemorial.org.

Finally, and I promise to make things shorter in the future, if it seems like the Foundation is everywhere I guess it is because we are trying hard to be everywhere. 5 million dollars rolls off the tongue very easily, but please believe me when I tell you that it is a very, very large sum of money to raise in a short period of time. From the start, the Foundation has promised the men and women of the Chicago Police Department and the Families of slain Officers that we would do everything possible to break ground at the 2005 candlelight vigil, and have the dedication 1 year later at the May 8, 2006 candlelight vigil. With your continued support and the continued support of Chicago's business community, we will achieve that goal. Again, on behalf of the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation, I thank you all for your incredible support.

Sincerely,

Scott Arney

Chief Executive Officer
Chicago Patrolmen's Federal
Credit Union

Treasurer's Report, *By John Capparelli*

Audit

The Lodge is undergoing its annual audit at the time of this writing by our accounting firm, Frank L. Sasseti & Company. The results of the audit will be made available to the Lodge and posted in the April 2005 issue of the newsletter. Anyone interested in viewing the completed financial statements should contact my office and schedule an appointment.

Emerald Society

The Emerald Society is recruiting new members for the bagpipes and drums. Anyone interested in becoming drummers or color guard members should attend the tryouts on February 10th 2005 at 1900 hours. Tryouts are being held at the Chicago Police Academy, 1300 W. Jackson. If you are interested but unable to attend, please contact Band

Secretary, Jon Harmening at 773-251-7639 or E-mail him jonathon.harmening@copsinkilts.com

This organization has honored fallen law enforcement officers and firefighters for over 20 years.



Recording Secretary's Report, *By Sidney Davis*

Recognized District & Unit Vacancies

Month after month officers continue to hurt themselves by not following directions while bidding for a new district or unit. Recognized vacancies for districts and units are posted on the second Friday after each period change. If you are thinking about changing districts or units, **it is your responsibility to complete and forward the PAR FORM in a timely manner. When you deviate from this responsibility, you risk not being transferred.** Recognized vacancies are generally located in the C. O. Book or a predetermined location. You have 72 hours from the time of posting to have your Commander verify your submission with his signature. From that point, your PAR Form must be received by 1000 hours the following Thursday morning in Management and Labor Affairs Section for compliance. If you are scheduled day off, furlough, or on medical, it is still your responsibility to submit a request to transfer. The De-

partment is not responsible for notifying you that vacancies exist. **STAY INFORMED AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED IN THE FACSIMILE MESSAGE.**

Recognized Watch Vacancies

Under section 31.5, filling of vacancies, if and when the employer decides to fill a recognized vacancy by bid, such vacancy to be bid shall be posted on the seventh calendar day of the 3rd period (March 9th), the sixth period (Jun 1st) and the ninth period (Aug 24th). The posting shall remain up for 7 calendar days. The vacancy shall be filled by the most senior qualified officer. If no such qualified officer within the unit bids for such vacancy, the Employer may fill the watch vacancy by reverse seniority.

Military Reservist

As of 23 January 2005, 55 police officers are deployed to serve their country. In the coming months, many more will be called upon to serve in some capacity. Some will be deployed to Iraq; God speed them safely back home

to their loved ones in a timely fashion. If you know of a member in your district or unit that has been deployed, please drop them a line or two and say hello. Let them be aware that you are concerned about their safe return home. It is not an easy task to wear that second hat as a soldier being away from home and loved ones in a hostile environment. (Retired Sergeant Major Sid Davis)

F.O.P. Website

The F.O.P. website contains valuable information for members to stay informed regarding contract issues and pension laws. The site can be located at www.chicagofop.org. Members who are reservists can find information on pay scales and retirement plus more by clicking on the military button (left side of site) under the links button.

Pre-Retirement Seminars

To assist you in your retirement planning, the Chicago Police Department offers seminars, which are held at the Harold Washington Library, four times throughout the year. Please contact CPD Personnel Division at 312-745-5342 to enroll in one of the helpful seminars.

W2's for Retired Members

All retirees are reminded to update their mailing address with Finance Division to receive their W-2's for 2004. Finance is asking that the retirees call 312-745-5600 asking for Payroll Section.

Free Credit Reports

Under the Fair and Accurate Credit Transaction (FACT Act), you will be able to request free copies of your credit reports from the credit reporting agencies. The Midwest will have access to their annual reports in March 2005. You may obtain these reports, at any time, by visiting the FACT Act website at www.annualcreditreport.com by mail, or calling 1-877-322-8228. The credit union will assist you in reading and understanding these reports at no cost. For more information, contact our Member Relationship/Education Department at 312-499-8813. This information was obtained from the January 2005 Roll Call publication (Chicago Patrolmen's Federal Credit Union)

Annual Pre-ACT Exam Offered At F.O.P. Hall

The best preparation for the ACT Exam is a solid academic high school curriculum. However, in our competitive academic environment, students must also have test "SMARTS." Statistics have shown that the students who have had preparation in testing strategies, practice testing, test format and test instructions, substantially outperform others. The COLLEGE VISIONS STRICTLY STRATEGIES workshop that will be offered at the F.O.P. Hall focuses on these important test strategies and techniques.

By mandate of the State

of Illinois Department of Education, all public and private high school juniors will be required to sit for the ACT Exam this April. By attending this workshop and taking a practice ACT Exam, your child will have a week or two to become more prepared in certain areas where they may not have tested as well as they would have liked, prior to the ACT being offered at their particular school. In an effort to prepare the children of "F.O.P., LODGE #7" members for this very important exam, the F.O.P. has invited COLLEGE VISIONS to conduct their workshop for

the daughters and sons of F.O.P. members. This workshop will be offered on Sunday, March 20, 2005 from 1300 - 1600 hours and will be held at the F.O.P. Hall (1412 W. Washington Blvd.) This program usually costs \$45.00 or more. The cost for the children of the F.O.P. will only be \$20.00 per child.

The presenters of this program are knowledgeable and experienced educators. They have prepared thousands of students in the Chicago area to be "test smart." The Lodge encourages you to involve your child in this

program. If your child only picks up one or two items that assist him/her in taking the ACT Exam, it is to his/her advantage.

There is limited space available at the F.O.P. Hall, so please complete the application found on page 9 of this newsletter and send it, along with a check or money order for \$20 to Kathy Moore at the Lodge, Unit 541.

Ensure that your child has a seat at this important educational event that might very well effect his or her future.

College Visions

ACT WORKSHOP, Strictly Strategies

Session Time:

Sunday, 3/20/05
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Location:

Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge No. 7
1412 W. Washington Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60607

Registration Fee:

\$20.00

**Please return this registration form and your fee
(cash or check payable to College Visions)
to Kathy Moore at F.O.P. Lodge No. 7, by Monday, 3/7/05.**

Name: _____

Address: _____ /City _____ /State _____ /ZIP _____

Phone: _____ /Year In School: _____ /Cash: _____ /Check: _____

ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

Name: _____ Effective Date: _____ Star Number: _____

New Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Telephone: _____

Return Form To The FOP – Unit 541 or 1412 W. Washington Blvd, Chicago Illinois 60607, Attn: Doreen



February Has Lincoln's Birthday On The 11th, Valentine's Day On The 14th & Washington's Birthday On The 21st. In Honor Of February's Holidays, The Gift Shop Is Having A Sale!!



Store Hours

Monday-Thursday 9:00 - 5:00
 Friday 9:00 - 4:00
 Saturday 9:00 - 1:00
 Direct Line: 312-733-2344

Store Closed:
 February 11th Lincoln's B-Day
 February 21st Washington's B-Day

NEW

CPD Memorial Lanyard
 \$3.00 each

CPD Memorial Foundation

All Polo Shirts In Stock...

\$20.00 each



Don't Forget Your Special Officer On Valentine's Day...

10% OFF all Vanmark figurines and photo frames



50% OFF

Inner Harbor Embroidered P.O. Mickey Polo Shirts

Limited Quantities and Sizes

Med - XL - \$34.95 on sale for only

\$17.48

25% OFF

Wool Jacket With Leather Sleeves and Collar.

Navy Blue with Embroidered Star
 Med - XL - \$149.95 on sale for only

\$112.46

2XL & 3XL priced slightly higher

20% OFF

Two-Tone Kid's Caps...Tan/Black or Tan/Navy

\$7.95 now on sale for

\$6.36 each

CPD Memorial Foundation

Tee-Shirts Are Now Being Closed Out...

All Sizes Available
 Limited Quantities

\$10.00 each

***'Tis Time To Join Us For
 The Annual St. Patrick's Day Party
 At The F.O.P. Hall
 On March 12th.***

***Please stop in to the Gift Shop For
 Your Official Irish
 Merchandise & Apparel
 arriving each week.***



The Official Publication of Chicago Lodge No. 7
 1412 West Washington Blvd. 60607-1821
 Phone: 312-733-7776
 Fax: 312-733-1367 Hotline: 312-733-2101
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 LODGE.

For The Love Of Daniel Benefit

Daniel is the Grandson of Retired Chicago Police Officer Bernie Martin and the cousin of Detective Patricia Dwyer of Unit 650.

This 2 year old and his family need your help. Please join us and help us ease some of the medical bills that are constantly accumulating...

**Saturday, April 30, 2005
 1pm—7pm**

**115 Bourbon Street
 3359 W. 115th Street
 Merrionette Park, Illinois**

Tickets cost \$20 and can be purchased by contacting:

Donna Ramsden-Barnicle	708-246-9151
Lale Ramsden-Heyn	312-655-5550
Kevin Healy	773-386-8100
Bob Martin	773-445-2042
Kathy Legatzke	708-633-8434

Benefit For The Jedrzejczyk Children

Sergeant Sharon Jedrzejczyk, formerly assigned to Unit 142, Patrol Division, passed away on December 21, 2004 from breast cancer. Sharon leaves three children behind. Please join us as we raise money to install an education fund for Sharon's kids.

**Friday, March 4, 2005
 6pm—11pm**

**F.O.P. Hall
 1412 W. Washington Blvd
 Chicago, Illinois**

Tickets cost \$25 and can be purchased by contacting:

Jim Ade	745-6239
Mary Panek	745-4290
Judy Dahlberg	746-9033