

April

2010

F.O.P. NEWS

Committee: Rhonda Bullock, Chairman

Gerry Majerczyk

Bill Burns

Official Publication of Chicago Lodge No. 7

President's Report, By Mark Donahue

Contract Arbitration Hearing

We have had our day in court with our arbitration hearing on the outstanding issues of our contract negotiations. On February 24th and March 4th, our Attorney Joel D'Alba needed the entire two days to ably place our case before Arbitrator Ed Benn. As I related on the "Hotline" and on our website immediately after the conclusion of the hearing, I am optimistic over the outcome of the hearings. I have received several e-mails, calls and have had conversations with those who were in attendance who were very impressed by the job done and the process overall. A real debt of gratitude goes out to Mr. D'Alba, our in-house Attorney Tom Pleines, your Board of Directors and the entire Negotiating Team for the arduous task they have fulfilled. Any of them are capable of relating the difficulties in dealing with the City in this forum and would also relate the importance of the memorandums of understanding dealing with the new work schedules and the premium free health care for retirees between 55 and 60 that have been obtained.

The Arbitrator has agreed that a decision from the hearing will be tendered to us within 45 days of the hearings end and that 120 days out from that date we will receive retro pay based upon the decision made by him. This is the same Arbitrator who decided the outstanding issues of the last contract and both of these same deadlines were addressed then and both of those deadlines were beaten by him and the City. So the most pessimistic time frame we are looking at would be August 16th for receiving your retro checks.

55 and Out

Of the 196 members of the Lodge who have applied for retirement under the Premium Free Health Care MOU reached last year during negotiations, 109 of them are retiring this month. The rest of the 196 are spread out over the year with the expected spike in numbers in November. Several politicians and media outlets have contacted the Lodge about the reduction in manpower and the impact it will have on the Department. There were assurances given to the Lodge during our discussions that the City intends to fill the vacancies caused by this memorandum. Unfortunately there are only 86 recruits currently in the Academy and there is now movement to hire another 50 later this month. Coupled with the shortages that we already experience on a daily basis, it is imperative that the City recognize their responsibility to have sufficient manpower to protect the citizens of this City and to give us the resources to also protect ourselves. Absent the necessary resources to do so, greater emphasis should be given to ensuring our safety. It's like they tell you every time you get on an airplane that you should put your oxygen mask on first and then take care of those children that may be traveling with you. It's very difficult to protect others if we don't have the resources to protect ourselves.

Legislation

With the Day on the Hill in Washington being cancelled due to snow in February, there is an attempt to re-schedule our efforts prior to Police Week in May. Although the Social Security Fairness legislation is still our top priority, there should be a vote soon on the Collective Bargaining Bill in the House. This will be the second time this will have passed as it did so in 2007 but failed to get called for in the Senate. With a change in leadership, the National Lodge is optimistic for movement on this legislation.

In Springfield, in an election year coupled with the ongoing financial crisis, it is difficult at this time to gauge what progress will be made. As expected very few issues, that have "any" fiscal impact on the State or other local government entities, are seeing movement. Many of our sponsored bills have financial impact and none of them have yet to come out of committee. What has come out is our effort to restructure the Pension Board so that we get a fairer representative vote based on the makeup of the fund participants and the reduction of property tax



FOP, Chicago Lodge 7
1412 W. Washington Blvd.



Alan J. Haymaker
Star #2532

Killed In The Line Of Duty
February 22, 2010

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liability for the surviving spouses of fallen officers. The Lodge has voiced its opinions on several other Bills that have been heard in Committee as we monitor the 9,000 pieces of legislation that are currently floating about with any or all of them to be amended at any time. We have also met with the new Director of Intergovernmental Affairs for the City to discuss our initiatives and those meetings have yielded a level of progress which we hope to expand upon in future meetings.

Pension Commission

There is an expectation the Pension Commission could finalize a list of recommendations at the scheduled meeting on March 24th. The position of the Lodge remains the same in that we are not in favor of a two-tiered pension system, that the City needs to meet any and all obliga-

tions it has made and that the "gaming" issues found in our current system need to be addressed prior to recommending any of the changes that may be brought forward by the Commission. The seriousness of the situation is recognized by anyone paying attention and the causative factors [blame] have been identified, but there still needs to be action taken to ensure the funding levels of the four City systems can provide the benefits for which they have been established. Please pay attention to this matter in the near future. The media will be attempting to analyze any recommendations as they have already done in the past. One of the Commissioners, who heads up the Civic Federation, has leaked his recommendations already. This individual has violated the confidentiality agreement that

each of the members had agreed to with impunity from the Commission which speaks to the integrity of the Commission and its purpose.

Retiree Health Care

Once again the Lodge's actions to ensure the City lives up to the agreements in the Korshak decision is yielding refund checks to Retirees who have overpaid for their health care in 2008/2009. Although we don't have the exact amounts at this time some of the refunds are over \$400.00. The refunds will be based on overpayments made in each of the twelve different categories. This effort was taken on behalf of all City of Chicago Retirees and all that have overpaid are receiving refund checks.

Open Letter To Superintendent Weis, *By Bill Dougherty, 1st Vice President*



Dear Superintendent,

There is no doubt that a day doesn't go by without someone complaining to you about something. The Lodge has disagreed with you on many issues over the last two years. Some of these issues we were able to resolve and some we were not. The issues that we were unable to resolve usually wound up in front of an arbitrator. On April 9, 2010 we have an arbitration going forth to resolve an issue that both the Department and the Union should be in agreement on.

We have almost 50 officers that were injured on-duty over the last eight months that need surgery. These officers have all been treated by doctors off of the Medical Services Section list. The treating physician, in every case, recommended surgery. Every one of these cases has been denied by the Committee on Finance and the Medical Services Section.

A company called Coventry Workers Comp Services is behind all of these denials. In some cases there are three physicians that are recommending surgery and yet Coventry continues to deny the physician recommended treatment. Most of the Coventry doctors are in Texas. None are in Chicago, yet they are determining

health care for our injured officers. We have doctors that will testify at this arbitration that the treatment that they seek for our officers is medically necessary. No doctor at Coventry has even seen, let alone treated, any of these officers.

These officers have been sitting at home, receiving full pay, waiting for the Medical Services Section and/or the Committee on Finance to make a decision. They want to get back to work. They would like to get up each morning and not be in pain. They would like to get the treatment that they deserve, that any officer deserves when he/she is injured in the line of duty. These delays have caused some officers to run out of their IOD time and be forced into a no pay status while applying for disability. Even the pension board doctors that have seen some of these officers have concurred with the treating physicians.

Coventry's own website is all about saving money. I have to ask you, what benefit does Coventry bring to the Department? I have asked this question to numerous people in the Department and I have yet to find someone that can tell what benefits having Coventry brings to the Department.

We have had several meetings with the Committee on Finance on this issue –

meetings that Alderman Burke attended. He says that he does not want to wear the jacket for the shoddy treatment our officers are receiving. His staff lawyer, Marla Kaiden, blamed our Medical Services Section for the surgeries being denied. But Coventry was hired by the Committee on Finance, not the Medical Services Section. Deputy O'Keefe and Director Ladner attended the last meeting we had on February 22, 2010. I am curious if they have reported to you about what happened at that meeting. I have not heard from the COF or the Department since this meeting in February except to be told that we have another meeting on March 26, 2010.

I have been told by the Department that they have the right to have this company doing "utilization reviews." How about the right of an officer to get the treatment that his physician has recommended? Why do we have to have lawyers go in front of an arbitrator to force the City and the Department to do the right thing? This is no gray area. Coventry is just plain wrong and somebody needs to wake up. In the real world the person responsible for hiring Coventry would be fired. In the City of Chicago, they will probably be promoted.

Second Vice-President's Report, *By Frank DiMaria*



Spring Uniform Resale

The Fraternal Order of Police Chicago Lodge#7 Semi-Annual Uniform Resale will be held at the FOP Hall on 21 April 2010 from

1300 hrs until 1800 hrs. Officers take advantage of this event if you are looking to purchase an additional uniform item or to sell those uniforms that are no longer worn. Officers wishing to sell their uniform items need only come into the Hall and set up on one of the tables which the Lodge provides before the start of the resale. Officers who wish to donate their uniforms for the Lodge to sell need only to drop off these uniforms to the Lodge Office up to the day of the sale.

Firearm Safety Reminder & FOP Firearm Safety Days

Officers who carry semi auto pistols, these handguns require additional care and maintenance. Depending on the exposure to the elements it is required to clean and lubricate these handguns

monthly to ensure safe operation. It is also recommended that these weapons be inspected annually by a factory authorized technician who will strip, clean and inspect these weapons. The Lodge annually hosts a Firearms Safety Day where this service is provided at no cost to our members.

The Lodge will be hosting the next Firearms Safety Days on 26 & 27 May 2010 at the Hall from 0900 hrs until 1700 hrs. There will be representatives from the approved firearm manufacturers who will be on site to conduct safety inspections of our members duty related weapons.

Officers take full advantage of this worthwhile event which the Lodge has provided as a benefit. An ounce of preventative maintenance could make the difference during a critical moment.

Safety Complaints

Officers who experience unsafe conditions or health risk issues in the field are entitled to complete a Safety Complaint in their District/Unit. Examples of some Safety Complaints that have been filed in

the past are equipment, toxic materials, vehicles, health, unit environment and officer safety regarding prisoner processing. The Officer or Unit Representative filing the safety Complaint should present a copy of the written complaint to the Commanding Officer in the effected unit and attempt to resolve the Safety Complaint. If the Safety Complaint is resolved please write in bold letters **RESOLVED**, on the Safety Complaint and include a written report describing how the matter was resolved and forward these reports to the FOP along with the Safety Complaint. If the issue remains unresolved, prepare a short report describing the attempts to resolve the Safety Complaint and forward the original to FOP along with the Safety Complaint. In all cases please give a copy of the Safety Complaint to the Unit Commander and the Complainant. Unit and Watch Reps should process all Safety Complaints. A sample of a Safety Complaint along with the above instructions is in the 2010 FOP Calendar Book on pages 144 and 145.



Tax Time!

Active members paid \$438 in union dues that can be claimed on your income tax in 2009.

During the 2009 calendar year the organization incurred lobbying costs as part of its operating expenditures. In accordance with IRS guidelines, the Lodge is required to furnish to each dues paying member the portion of Lodge expenditures during the previous year which was represented as lobbying costs, since this amount would not be considered tax deductible.

The lobbying costs represented about 2.15% of the total expenditures of the Lodge.

Take this article to your taxman when you have your taxes done.

CAPS Appreciation Day 50th Anniversary Celebration

The 13th District, located at 937 N. Wood, celebrates its 50th Anniversary in 2010.

We are extending an invitation to 13th District retired and current personnel to help us celebrate our 50th Anniversary.

Bring the family and meet old friends!

The celebration will be held on
April 26, 2010—1500 to 1800 hours

For more information please contact the 13th District
Community Policing Office at (312 746-8355).

Address Change Form,

Effective Date: _____

Name: _____ Star Number: _____
(Last, First, MI)

New Address: _____ City/State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

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

Third Vice-President's Report, By Greg Bella



Pension Reform

All the talk in Chicago and Springfield is about pension reform. Just a quick overview shows that in 1987 our fund was funded at 46.25% and the actuarial report by Hill Taylor & Co. stated, *"Financing for the pension plan benefits comes from three sources: investment income, employee contribution and employer contributions. At the present time the total income exceeds the benefit outgo. The excess is invested and will provide the needed reserves for future benefits. The Policemen's Annuity & Benefit Fund's investment income of the assets provides an important component of the total financing. Investment income for 1986 more than paid for all the benefits, refunds and expenses. The investment income will increase, as the asset base increases, to meet the ever-increasing benefit payments as more employees and more employees retire."*

Research shows that for the past twenty five years the pension fund has always been funded between 50% and 70%. With the economic collapse, the funding is down to around 36%. We all have experienced the same type of loss in our Deferred Comp. Research also shows that the 2:1 ration of employer to employee contribution is not enough. Every year since, the Pension Funds actuarial report indicated that the City should increase its contribution up to the current recommendation of 3 to 1. The City has neglected their responsibilities for twenty five years and is now using the economic climate as the reason for all the problems facing the Pension Funds.

Back In 2002, Tim Fallon and I were at a Pension Board meeting and spoke with Dana Levenson who, at the time, was a City appointed member of our Pension Board. We spoke of our concerns about wasting pension money on programs like hiring a company to put the disability files together instead letting the office staff work on the files as they had done in the past. This conversation then went into problems with the pension Fund. Dana Levenson said, *"we (the*

City) are going to have a meeting with all the unions in an auditorium. We will explain the problems that all of the city's pension funds are having and we will then step back and take the tongue lashing that we know we have coming from the unions. When everyone is done venting we have to collectively come up with solutions to the problems." It took the City five years to put together the Pension Commission to look at the problems with the Pension Funds that the City acknowledged back in 2003.

In 2003, when our last contract expired and we started negotiating with the City, one of the first things the Lodge brought to the table was pension reform. We wanted to talk to the City about increasing our contribution and increasing the contribution by the City. We were told, in no uncertain terms, that the City would not negotiate pension issues. The City ignored the problem in 2003 just like they ignored the problem since 1985. As of today the City has yet to sit down with the Lodge and talk about the Pension problem.

If the Mayor and Governor are truly serious about pension reform, then why don't they look in the mirror, because that is the perfect place to start? Why doesn't the Mayor give up his State Senate pension and his Cook County State's Attorney pension. Isn't his Mayoral pension enough for him to live out his life in comfort? I don't see Pat Quinn beating the drum to give up his Lt. Governor's or State Treasurer's pension. Why do they receive a pension for every office they hold? Why, every time they are elected to a new office, doesn't the money transfer from their prior pension to the new pension fund and in the end collect one pension?

Has this Blue Ribbon Pension Reform Commission researched how many people in these systems are double dipping? Why doesn't the Civic Federation or the media talk about the fact that, because we receive a government pension, we do not get to enjoy the benefit of social security that we all have paid into just like everyone else? Dan Rostenkowski made sure of that. Rostenkowski, a disgraced politician who collects several pensions, which I believe totaled somewhere around \$90,000 a year.

During the third week of March the National F.O.P. Urban Policing Committee met here at the Lodge. The committee's function is to discuss problems that effect all major cities as well as strategies being conducted by all the administrations. Every city that attended the conference has a better funded pension than Chicago, yet all cities are stating that their pension funds are in crisis and need to have concessions from new hires. Could it really be true that every pension fund is in trouble or is this an attempt for every City to use the current financial mess as an excuse to not meet their obligations to the employees?

Every city at the conference heard from their administrations about a two tiered plan, or in the case of one city where they had a two tiered system, there is now a three tiered plan. I am not suggesting that the financial crisis is not real, but I am suggesting that part of the problem has been caused by the City itself. If pension reform is the answer, then it should start at the top with the Mayor and the Governor.

Performance Evaluation System

It was brought to the attention of the Lodge that the Performance Evaluation System does not have an entry to give officers credit for writing curfews, contact cards or recovering stolen vehicles. This has to qualify as activity and if there is no way to record it then a large part of your activity will be missing from the rating. The Lodge notified the Department of the problem and filed a grievance on behalf of all affected members over this issue. The Department's contention is that this activity is stored somewhere else within the Districts. We are waiting for a letter from the City regarding this issue. We hope to have the problem resolved in the near future.

The other issue with the system is that officers are not able to view their activity prior to accepting their rating. We have contacted the City and this problem is an IT issue. The City is currently going out to the Districts attempting to fix the problem. In the meantime, we recommend that if you cannot view your activity, you do not acknowledge the rating.

In Appreciation...

Chicago Police Officer Pete Medina, after being severely injured while serving his country in Afghanistan last June, is making a remarkable recovery at the Veterans Hospital in Tampa Florida. The recovery is so remarkable, that after initially being concerned about remaining a paraplegic, Pete has just finished his first 5K run.

Cheering him on during and after the race were about 25 Retired Members of the Chicago Police Department who took it upon themselves to come together for the event and to share some camaraderie and good food afterwards. It's pretty obvious that this remarkable young man is going to be returning to the Chicago Police Department, but now there is concern as to the effect the "war stories" and the "what a great job this used to be" stories are going to have on him.

Pictured is Pete being interviewed by the local media and also with his Chicago Police Family in Florida.

Come back soon, Soldier.



Financial Secretary's Report, *By Rich Aguilar*

The Tale of Tim Mosher (continued)

I am certain that many of you have noticed that the person in the picture is not me. The photo is that of a retiree named Tim Mosher.

If you don't remember, Tim is the eighty-seven year old retiree who could not get a new style Chicago Police Department Retiree Star because he was unable to travel from Arizona to Chicago due to health issues. I outlined Tim's problems in an article in the September 2009 FOP Newsletter after I made several formal inquiries to the Director of Human Resources that went unanswered. That article apparently lit a fire under someone because I was contacted by the Department shortly after its publication. Someone had finally realized the injustice that was being done to a man who had served both the Department and the citizens of Chicago for the better part of his working life. I was assured that policy changes were in the works and that arrangements would be made to get the new Retiree Star to Tim in Arizona.



I was recently contacted by Tim and his wife, Betty, to update me on the situation. I am happy to report that the Department finally did fulfill its promise and issued Tim the new style star. The above photo shows Tim proudly displaying his new Chicago Police Department Retiree Star and identification card. Additional photos can be found on the Retiree Photo Pages of the FOP website.

I, along with Tim and his wife, would sincerely like to thank those responsible for fulfilling the commitment that was made by the Department long ago in 2007.

From The Desk Of Jim Bailey, Field Rep. & Trustee



Suspensions

With the new work schedules in place, the issue of suspension time has arisen. If an officer is suspended for three days and is not given the option of using comp, vacation days, etc., the officer will be docked in days and not hours. A three day suspension would result in the officer losing 3/365ths of his or her salary. If the comp time option is offered, then a day would equate to 8 hours. For example, if an officer is suspended for three days and had the option to use compensatory time, vacation days, etc. each day would be eight hours. A three day suspension in which options were available would cost an officer 24 hours. It would not matter which schedule the officer worked.

Day-Off Group Change

The little black book is getting in the way, again. Let's review. Section 20.9 of the contract spells out officer's day off group other than at the beginning of a period. This specifically addresses in-service training and pre-service training for promotions. Not covered is changing an officer's day-off group in the middle of a police period to cover manpower shortages. If the department determines the need to change a officer's DOG, it will seek volunteers. If there are more volunteers than needed, the officer with greatest seniority will have his or her day-off group changed. If there are insufficient volunteers, the officer with lowest seniority will have their day-off group changed. This is covered under Section 20.10 of the CBA.

Tour of Duty Trades

Since January 7, 2010, the Tour of Duty

Trades exchange program has been in effect. This gives our members the ability to switch days with other eligible members to ensure they have a particular day off. The criteria for this program is simple, the officer must submit a request for the use of elective time at least seven (7) days prior to the requested date. If the elective time is to be denied, the watch commander must notify the officer at least three (3) days prior to the requested date. Once notified that time due is denied, the officer then becomes eligible for the Tour of Duty Exchange. If the officer is notified less than three days that his/her time due is denied, the General Order 94-05-10 was violated and the officer's request for time will be granted. This is all part of the FLSA arbitration ruling and will be part of the contract under Article 29B. Stay safe. JB

Pension News, By Mike Shields, Pension Board Representative

Beware the Pension "Reformers"

The state of Illinois and the city of Chicago are facing budget crisis and a disturbing trend among politicians explaining why their fiscal house is in such disarray is to blame pensions and pension obligations. In these challenging economic times, public pensions have become the bogeyman. Politicians, bureaucrats and civic leaders are pitting taxpayers against public employees in a cynical and destructive maneuver. They are also taking this crisis as an opportunity to enact pension "reforms" which could drastically reduce the benefits we are owed and deserve after a career of dedicated public service.

Earlier this month, the Civic Federation of Chicago, a government watchdog group, issued a report on the state of public pension funding in Chicago (it can be read at their website, www.civiced.org). Their findings are both enlightening and depressing.

I recommend that everyone interested in the health of our fund take a moment to peruse the report. One particularly troubling aspect of the report is the recommendation of the Federation to reduce pension benefits. While I don't suggest that there are not reforms that could improve the health of our fund, it is frightening that benefit reductions seem to be the first order of business on the Civic

Federation's agenda. The only pension reforms that should be up for discussion are those that seek to ensure each and every one of us receives the full pension benefits that the older generation of officers have fought so hard for.

Make no mistake; public pensions are in the cross-hairs during these economic times. Politicians are beating the drum that somehow our modest retirement benefit is an exorbitant and bloated entitlement program ripe to be cut or "reformed." We must ensure that the only pension reforms that go into effect are those that see our pensions adequately funded in order to provide us with that which we have earned.

COME ONE, COME ALL TO THE OLDE 009TH DISTRICT REUNION PARTY

Thursday, 29 April 2010, 1900—???

MOOSE LODGE

7536 S. Harlem Avenue
Bridgeview, Illinois

Entrance & Parking In Rear

COUPLES WORKSHOP

Saturday, May 1, 2010, 0745—1600 hours

Education and Training Academy
1300 W. Jackson, Chicago, Illinois

For couples with a good relationship wanting to make it better.
Breakfast & lunch will be served. Limit 10 couples

For more info call Tom Cline at 312-746-8310, ext. 164 or Chaplain
Tori Wilson at 312-746-8458

Health & Insurance Committee Report, *By Ed King, Chairman*

Happy Spring to all! The Committee and the Lodge have been starting to receive calls regarding the upcoming Benefit Life insurance plan which was highlighted in the January newsletter and briefly discussed in the February edition. We ask all of our members to remain patient for just a little while longer so that we could tie up a few last minute details, which are crucial to the implementation and success of this plan and program.

Because the guaranteed issue of this unique benefit is predicated on employer based payroll deduction, everything that goes along with that must be coordinated so that when open enrollment begins, our members can begin utilizing this benefit without encountering any problems.

We are just about ready to finalize a date to begin enrollment. When this occurs, we will have the information listed on the FOP website under the Current

Updates page and I will do future newsletter articles explaining this benefit in detail, as well as a few other voluntary benefits which will be forthcoming, having been approved by the full Board of Directors at the March meeting. Sorry for the delay, but we need this done right. Thanks for your time and patience.

Recording Secretary's Report, *By Sidney Davis*



Leave of Absence / Cashing Out

Are you aware that if you take a leave of absence, over 29 days, that the City will cash you out? In other words, all funds you have in a stock pile, ie, compensatory time, baby furlough days, personal days and vacation time will be computed at your current hourly wage scale and paid to you.

Social Security / Military Reservist

Last month I reported on Lodge members who may not necessarily have their social security reduced by the actions of former Congressman Dan Rostenkowski. Now, military reservists may qualify for higher social security benefits because of their active duty time from 1940 through 2001. The program was stopped in 2002. Contact your local Social Security Office (bring your DD-214 if you do), or go to www.ssa.gov/retire2/military.htm

Military Service / Pension

Public Act 095-1056 allows firefighters to receive credit for up to 24 months of creditable service in their pension funds for military service served prior to employment by a municipality. A similar bill for police officer is currently being worked on. When the bill passes FOP will notify its officers serving as reservist via the FOP Newsletter and FOP Newsbrief.

Per Capita Tax / Military Reservist

Any Lodge member who will enter military service by recall or selective service, the Lodge will, upon application by that member, assume his per capita tax for each year in the service until thirty

(30) days after discharge from the military service.

Board of Ethics Statement

This annual ritual is upon us again, and as always you must comply or face disciplinary action and a twenty dollar fine. This message will also be sent via the FOP Newsbrief.

Constitution and By-Law Changes/Amendments

Article XII, Amendments to the By-Laws, informs Lodge members that only active members, in good standing of this Lodge, may propose an amendment to the By-Laws. Such proposals shall be in resolution form, stating the reasons for the amendment, and shall be attested by the signatures of eleven (11) active members in good standing. Proposed amendments to this constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Recording Secretary within a two (2) month period commencing April 1, 2010 and ending May 31, 2010.

2010 Ed Reines Fishing Tournament

Application for the tournament can be

found on the back page of this Newsletter. The application fee is \$80.00 per boat. All members, active and retired, are invited to take part in this event. There will be a barbecue at the weigh-in with beer and soft drinks from 2- 4 p.m. Starting time is 0500 hrs, with all boats in by 1430 hrs. All fish must be caught on the Chain of Lakes waters between the Wisconsin border and McHenry Dam. Complete rules and location of the weigh-in will be sent out to members making application for the tournament.

Spring Uniform Inspection

General Order 98-10, Add 1, (IV / A1) Unit Commanding Officers will conduct an annual formal inspection of the spring dress uniform, including items listed in 1V-A-1 of G.O 98-10. This spring dress inspection will take place between 01 and 10 May 2010. Members are reminded to be prepared for the spring dress inspection by starting now and locating all items, needed including proper cleaning and maintenance of said items. Be prepared, start today, the inspection is a few weeks away.

News From The State Lodge

By PO Darin Bourret, Trustee

May is national police memorial month. We honor officers that were killed in the line of duty.

Recently we lost two brother officers to tragic vehicle accidents; Chicago Police Sergeant, Alan Haymaker, Star #2532, and Corrections Senior Parole Agent, Ellane Aimiuwu, Star #9938, officers that gave the ultimate sacrifice but were also dedicated family men.

Let's remember all our fallen officers this year by attending the memorials in Springfield and Washington DC..

Disability & Veterans Report, By Carlos 'Sal' Saladino

Disability Report

The best of health from the Disability Committee. We are available for calls at the FOP office Monday through Friday. Click on the Disability Page link on the FOP web site, www.chicagofop.org, for beneficial information. Feel free to email me at csaladino@chicagofop.org.

February (March 5) Pension Meeting – Advocates present: Det. Steve Schorsch, Det. Mark Howe, 1st VP Bill Dougherty, PO Cedric Brumley and myself. One elected Trustee absent. Disability Claims: *Officers making application for disability*: 1 granted without prejudice, 1 denied Ordinary. *Duty*: 3 granted at 75%, 1 continued by officer. *Disability Status Review*: 1 taken under consideration. Request for pension credit for prior service 5-214c – 12 officers granted. Credit for other service pension portability 5-214.2 – 23 officers granted.

Annual Reexamination questionnaire – A new form is being prepared. We will update you with its completion.

Returning to work from Disability

Leave. Contact the FOP, Medical Section and Human Resources. Information can be found under *Contract Section 18.6 – Return to Duty*. Officers injured in the line of duty shall be given limited duty assignments. *Section 18.3 – Limited Duty I.O.D.*

Veteran's Corner

Our thoughts and prayers go to the CPD members who are actively serving our country in the military.

PO Pedro (Pete) Medina (014) update - The FOP website has pictures of Pete and retired police officers supporting him in Florida on his walking event.

VA Secretary Seeks Fast Track to process claims. Over the next two years, about 200,000 veterans are expected to file disability compensation claims under a historic expansion of three new presumptive illnesses announced last year by Secretary Shinseki. They effect veterans who have Parkinson's disease, ischemic heart disease and B-cell leukemia. In practical terms, veterans who served in Vietnam during the war and who have

**The Next General Meeting
Is Scheduled For Tuesday,
20 April 2010 at Noon.**

**All Members Are Encouraged
To Attend & Remember
To Sign In At The
Door!**

one of the illnesses covered by the 'presumption of service connection' don't have to prove an association between their medical problems and military service. This 'presumption' makes it easier for Vietnam veterans to access disability compensation benefits. Vietnam veterans are encouraged to submit their claims as soon as possible to begin the important process of compensation.

3rd Annual Illinois Warrior Summit – for benefits, education and employment. April 24, 2010 – 9:00 am to 4:00 pm – UIC Forum – 725 W. Roosevelt. Contact: Dr. Jerry Field, 312-567-3651.

Airborne Sal

"In Which Direction Are You Looking?" Compliments of Rabbi Moshe Wolf

I was called the other day at the office and asked the following question, "Rabbi, sometimes it seems we get caught up in the treadmill of life, kind of in a rut, where the burden seems almost too heavy to bear and it just gets our spirits down. What can one do?" It reminded me of the following parable...

"The Buzzard, the Bat and the Bumblebee".....It is said that...

The Buzzard

If you put a buzzard in a pen that is 6 feet by 8 feet and is entirely open at the top, the bird, in spite of its ability to fly, will be an absolute prisoner. The reason is that a buzzard always begins a flight from the ground with a run of 10 to 12 feet. Without space to run, as is its habit, it will not even attempt to fly, but will remain a prisoner for life in a small jail with no top.

The Bat

The ordinary bat that flies around at night, a remarkably nimble creature in the air, cannot take off from a level place. If it is placed on the floor or flat ground, all it can do is shuffle about helplessly and, no doubt, painfully,

until it reaches some slight elevation from which it can throw itself into the air. Then, at once, it takes off like a flash.

The Bumblebee

A bumblebee, if dropped into an open tumbler, will be there until it dies, unless it is taken out. It never sees the means of escape at the top, but persists in trying to find some way out through the sides near the bottom. It will seek a way where none exists, until it completely destroys itself.

People

In many ways, there are lots of people like the buzzard, the bat, and the bumblebee. They are struggling about with all their problems and frustrations, not ever realizing that all they have to do is look up, say a prayer and ask for a hand, you'd be amazed at the results.....So here's the question, in which direction are YOU looking? End of parable.

And now on a lighter note, the following true story is too good not to pass along. Wisdom of Seniors...I heard the following happened at Fr. Nangle's monthly police mass...

Fr. Nangle decided that a visual demonstration would add emphasis to his Sunday sermon. So he took four worms and placed

(Continued on page 9)

“In Which Direction Are You Looking?” Continued

(Continued from page 8)

them into four separate jars. The first worm was put into a container of alcohol. The second worm was put into a container of cigarette smoke. The third worm was put into a container of chocolate syrup. The fourth worm was put into a container of good clean soil.

At the conclusion of the sermon, Father Nangle reported the following results:

The first worm in alcohol - Dead.

The second worm in cigarette smoke – Dead.

Third worm in chocolate syrup – Dead.

Fourth worm in good clean soil - Alive.

So Father Nangle asked the congregation, “What can you

learn from this demonstration?” Maxine, a retired copper was sitting in the back, quickly raised her hand and said, "As long as you drink, smoke and eat chocolate, you won't have worms!" That pretty much ended the service -- and all left with a smile.

Moral of the story, never miss an opportunity to share a smile and a laugh, it is balm for the soul.

On behalf of all your Chaplains, 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, 773-230-7872, or e-mail mshewolf@hotmail.com.

Retiree Breakfasts & Luncheons

North:

1st Wednesday of Month @ 7:30 am
Lone Tree Manor, 7730 N. Milwaukee Ave,
 Niles, Illinois
 Joe Nalepa, 773-763-1362

20th District Owls Retirees & Alumni:

Every Thursday @10:00 am
Niles Grill, 9206 N. Milwaukee Ave,
 Niles, Illinois
 Tony Amelio, 847-321-5190

South:

2nd Wednesday of Month @ 10:00 am
Jedi's Garden, 9266 S. Cicero Ave,
 Oak Lawn, Illinois
 Don Januszyk, 708-364-9903

Bomb & Arson:

2nd Tuesday of Month @ 8:30 am
Fiesta Tapatia Restaurant, 2752 W. Cermak,
 Chicago, Illinois
 Roger Elmer, 773-763-2115

12th District Retirees and Alumni

1st Thursday of Month @ 10:00 am
Southern Belles Restaurant, 6737 Archer Ave.,
 Bridgeview, Illinois
12retirees@comcast.net

Crime Lab, ETs, Forensic Services & Mobile Unit

1st Tuesday of Month @ Noon
Flap-Jack's Restaurant, 4830 West 111th Street,
 Oak Lawn, Illinois
 Bob Baikie, 773-284-1935

Orland Park Law Enforcement Organization:

3rd Thursday of Month @ 7:30 pm
Orland Park Civic Center, 14800 Ravinia,
 Orland Park, Illinois
 Don Ade, 708-408-9308

Brothers & Sisters Band Together:

3rd Saturday of Month @ 10:00 am
Pancake House, 700 East 87th Street,
 Chicago, Illinois
 Roosevelt Lowe, 773-779-4073

8th District 8 Balls:

Last Wednesday of Month @ Noon
 Call for location: Al Bilacki, 773-767-1885

Old School Deuce:

2nd Tuesday of Month @ 10:00 am
Lumes Pancake House, 11601 S. Western Ave,
 Chicago, Illinois
 Elbert Parker, 773-593-7743

Survivors Lunch:

2nd Saturday of Month @ 11:00 am
Beverly Woods Restaurant, 11532 S. Western,
 Chicago, Illinois

Public Housing Unit, (North, South & Administration):

1st Wednesday of Month @ 10:00 am
 George's Restaurant, 83rd & Kedzie
 Chicago, Illinois
 Maurice Brown, 773-577-0154

Arizona Retirees:

3rd Thursday of Month @ 11:00 am
Hometown Buffet, 1312 N. Scottsdale,
 Scottsdale, Arizona
 Ed Plawinski, 480-502-1630

Arkansas Retirees:

3rd Friday of Month @ Noon
Elks Lodge, Highway 62 E,
 Mountain Home, Arkansas
 Dennis Dwyer, 870-431-4458

Las Vegas Retirees:

Every Thursday of Month @ 9:30 am
The Willows, 2020 W. Horizon Ridge,
 Henderson, Nevada
 Jerry Rutkowski, 702-575-4301

Florida Retirees:

1st Wednesday of the Month @ 1:00 pm
Cop Shop, 4423 S/E 16th Place,
 Cape Coral, Florida
 Tom Faragoi, 239-770-7896

Had Enough Bad News, *By Father Tom Nangle*

A police car skidded and hit a tree while responding to an in-progress call in the grey morning hours as the sun was getting ready to make its debut. The sergeant was pinned in the Impala; he would be pronounced dead two hours later, in spite of the medical efforts of dozens of people, most of whom didn't even know his name. I got to the hospital 4 minutes after the ambulance, and once again watched as a terrible, beautiful drama played out, and once again we lost a policeman. At his funeral, there was something absent: the fury and deep insult that is always there when a police officer is murdered, when a human being in blue, with a star, dies at the hand of another human being with a gun. Present, though, was the hurt, and a broad-spectrum display of simple human decency that made me proud to be part of the human race. Let me share some of those scenes of human goodness with you; we all need a reminder of human goodness on this messy planet:

-the CFD captain (who has a CPD brother) pulled up on the scene and, as his crew put their extrication tools to work, wriggled into the Impala, put his head right next to our sergeant's ear, and said quietly, "Brother, the Chicago Fire Department is here. We're gonna get you out." And they did. (If you really want to know how powerful that simple phrase is, say it aloud, quietly.) "Father, I don't think he was in any pain...he looked so peaceful." Later you'll know why.

-The CFD paramedics, who also wriggled into the wreck and stabilized our sergeant as the rescuers went about their noisy work...if he had any chance of surviving this crash, they gave it to him.

-I stood in the trauma room at the hospital and thought of other officers I'd seen go to God from that same table...counted 19 medical people working on our man, and I stayed in the corner and watched in awe, then closed my eyes and prayed...felt a nudge on my elbow and opened my eyes to six and a half feet of Rabbi Wolf...we prayed together: Same God, different styles, same hope.

-“We’re losing him,” the trauma chief said as she watched the monitors, and a young man got on a stool and began CPR...in two minutes he was sweating from the exertion. The trauma chief was watching and making judgments that had life and death weight to them; everyone seemed to know exactly what they were

doing. I wondered if they'd be willing to walk into this most sacred and serious arena of life and death if every move was captured on video and audio and the Monday morning QB's were allowed to second guess...the Chairborne Rangers who come in after the battle is over, to bayonet their own wounded. I certainly wouldn't.

-The trauma chief was giving the life-saving efforts one more try...she ordered a dose of something to be injected and said quietly, "If this doesn't work, I'm calling it." It didn't work, and a minute later she said, "OK, I'm calling it...thank you all." Time of death: 0730. Life and death...we do our part, but it's really God's business.

-Back to the family room, where the wife and daughters (who already knew their dear husband and dad was critical), were told of the terrible empty spot that was now in their family. He was in the arms of the only One who loved him more than we do. I felt like an atheist in the presence of their deep, unwavering faith, and I was so proud as members of their church (including CPD) began showing up and supporting them. They gathered around the body after it was moved to a viewing room (and after the hospital people did everything they could to make him look presentable, a task no one ever gets to see or say "thank you" for). I have such a low opinion of organized religion these days, so it was so refreshing to see a church that worked.

-We called CFD for an ambulance for the trip to the Medical Examiner. "Whatever you need, you got it," we were told. The family left the hospital with friends and members of the Fellowship of Christian Peace Officers, and they never got to see the CPD at its most tender. Frankly, most coppers never get to see what came next, and that's good.

-We moved the sergeant from the hospital gurney to the yellow CFD gurney, and six district officers from the sergeant's watch brought him to the waiting ambulance. With a whoosh of air, the rear of the ambulance lowered itself to make loading easier on backs and, in my romantic fantasy, I envisioned this white machine showing its respect, too.

-A police officer and a paramedic got in the back of the ambulance for the ride to

Harrison Street; our man didn't need the company, but he deserved respect and loyalty. He got it.

-The cortege began its solemn journey in the middle of a Monday morning rush hour. This great CPD, which can (and often does) turn on a dime, had every intersection covered. Southbound on Damen from Fullerton, I saw about 20 Streets and San workers in their hard hats and green vests stop from picking up trash and look at the cortege. They couldn't have known the details, but from the make-up of the procession, (15 marked and unmarked cars and an ambulance), they must have figured a Protector had left us. I watched in the rear-view mirror as I drove past to see what they'd do; 3 of them took off their hard hats and held them over their hearts. "Moshe, look back on the left, quick," I said. "Beautiful move...they did the right thing," he said.

-The districts had every intersection blocked, and as we got closer to the ME, I noticed the Training Division had put everything into the effort and had vehicles and personnel on every corner. At the ME, a scene played out that you'll never see on TV, and might never see in a long CPD career. Again the six district officers waited as the ambulance whooshed and knelt down; they brought the sergeant down two lines of The Real Police (about 100), and a policeman who was a friend and a member of the sergeant's church led us in prayer. A final salute was rendered, the officers were dismissed: the end of a long and sad morning.

The sergeant had a relationship of deep faith with his God. His wife and daughters talked about his sure hope that he would see his God some day. The strength and depth of their faith, hope and love nourished so many of us that morning. They seemed so rich compared to the grinding soul-poverty of those who just cannot believe in anything good or beautiful. Negativity and profound cynicism is the curse of our police culture... oh my, the things The Job can rob us of.

Respectfully,
Fr. Thomas Nangle
Chaplain, Chicago P.D.
312-738-7588



Happy Easter! Time for a Spring Clean Sale...

Varsity Jacket—Blue With Grey Sleeves, Fleece Style With CPD Star. Originally Priced At \$38.95
Sale Price Only \$19.98 ... Medium & Large Only...

Ladies Lightweight Soft Quilted Style Jacket In Ice Blue or Black With Chicago PD Skyline Design.
Small—XL was \$35.95...Sale Price Only \$28.76 — 2XL was \$37.95...Sale Price Only \$29.98
A Beautiful In-Between Jacket At A Great Price!

Set of 4 Frosted CPD/FOP Star Double Old Fashioned Style Glasses. Originally Priced at \$11.95
Sale Price Only \$8.95...these always go fast....

30% OFF—Thermal 2 Tone Shirts With CPD Star, Large -2XL only, Sale Price Only \$11.96
Limited quantities and colors...shop today, before they are gone...

CLOSE OUT SALE! Youth Squad Car Tee Shirts, Sizes range from 2/4—14/16, pink, green, blue or grey. Was \$9.95 Sale Price Only \$6.96 Each.

Store Hours:

Mon-Thurs, 9:00 – 5:00
Friday, 9:00 – 4:00
Saturday, 9:00 – 1:00

Store Closed:

Thursday, 29 April 2010

Direct Line:

312-733-2344

Tee Shirt of the Month

COPS, Chicago

30% OFF

Sizes medium to 3XL
price ranges from
\$8.36 to \$9.45!

Don't Forget The Uniform Resale

April 21st at Noon
FOP Hall

Uniform Ties—50% OFF
Uniform Gloves—25% OFF

In Stock

Grey Chicago Police
Memorial Foundation
Tee Shirts & Polo Shirts

In Time For All Of The Police Memorials.

Don't Forget The Police Memorials:

May 4th, Chicago Lodge 7
May 6th, Springfield
May 15th, Washington DC

Honor Them...

Don't Forget Mother's Day, May 9th! We Have Plenty of Great Selections At Low Prices!

CLOSE OUT SALE! Ladies Wings Design Tee in Red or Black. Large—2XL. Was \$12.95, Now Sale Priced at \$9.06 each.

30% OFF - Ladies Caps, Light Blue with White trim & CPD Star—Pony Tail Style, Navy & Tan - New Price, \$6.96 each.
Youth Caps On Sale Now For Only \$4.86—\$6.96

Men's Caps On Sale Too, Navy With Green CPD Initials or Black & Grey Patch Cap or Black CPD Star with Shadow Effect, Sale Price \$7.66.
Some Caps Are Limited Quantities, Shop Today!

40% OFF - Ladies Ringer Tee in Green, Brown, Teal & Pink with Black Ringer PD Initials Design. New Price, \$7.77 each.

40% OFF - Ladies Full Zip Sweatshirt With Chicago CPD Design in Pink or Green. New Price, \$15.57 each.

50% OFF - Black Full Zippered Padfolio With PO or Detective Star—Great For Court. New Price, \$11.98 each. Hurry In!! They won't last!

Combo Sale!

Long Sleeve Chicago PD Gold Tee Shirt
With Navy Cap Combo
Small—XL = was \$21.95, Now \$15.36

2XL was \$22.95, Now \$16.06

New Item!

Bobble-head Bear In CPD Uniform
Over 7" Tall

Sale Price, \$7.95 each

Kid's Uniforms!

Kids Police Play Uniforms With Cap &
Accessories. Light Blue Top With Navy
Bottoms.

6-12 Months—\$24.95 each
Toddler-2/3—Youth-6/8—\$35.95 each

No Cop Out's 12th Annual A.A. Men's Serenity Weekend

April 16, 17 & 18, 2010

St. Mary's Retreat House in Lemont, Illinois

Come relax in the beautiful surroundings of St. Mary's. Take time to enjoy the positive solitude or just listen to or join the group sessions. Meditate, take peaceful walks, explore where you're at with yourself and your program.

Cost: \$90 00

For more info, call Mike Thomas or Marty Ridge, at 312-743-0378.

The Police Survivors Spring 2010 Fundraising Event

Thursday, April 15, 2010, 1800 – 2300 hours

FOP Hall

1412 W. Washington Blvd, Chicago, Illinois

The Police Survivors provide support, including financial assistance, to peace officers in Illinois who have been seriously and traumatically injured in the line of duty.

Code: \$25.00

For more info call the Survivors office at 773-849-3133



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 1412 W. Washington Blvd. 60607-1821
 Phone: 312-733-7776
 FAX: 312-733-1367 Hotline: 312-733-2101
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THE ED REINES MEMORIAL FISHING TOURNAMENT

Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge #7, will be holding its
 16th Annual Ed Reines Memorial Fishing Tournament
 at the Chain of Lakes, Wednesday, May 19, 2010.

All members, active and retired, are invited to take part in this event. There will be a barbecue at the weigh-in with beer and soft drinks from 2 – 4 p.m.

THE BASIC RULES

Starting time: 0500 hrs – with all boats in by 1430 hrs. All fish must be caught on the Chain of Lakes waters between the Wisconsin Border and McHenry Dam. Two fishermen per boat; one must be an FOP member.

NO PRO FISHERMEN PLEASE

We'd like everyone to have a fun time.

Complete rules and location of the weigh-in will be sent out to members making application for the Tournament.

Name: _____ Active: _____ Retired: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Fishing Partner: _____ If youth, age _____

Make checks (\$40 per man - \$80 per boat) payable to F.O.P., Lodge 7 and send Attn: Frank DiMaria at 1412 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, IL 60607