December

2010



FOP, Chicago Lodge 7 1412 W. Washington Blvd.

"...any type of pension reform for Chicago should include a means by which to properly fund them now and in the future."

(Donahue, Page 2)

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F.O.P. News

Committee: Rhonda Bullock, Chairman Gerry Majerczyk

Official Publication of Chicago Lodge No. 7

Bill Burns

President's Report, By Mark Donahue

Pensions

There appears to be movement on pension reform in Springfield which may include Chicago Police and Fire. The reason I say "may" is due to the fact that the City has not communicated any proposals to either legislative body as of the time of this writing (11/22). This has caused a great deal of frustration among all parties that have been involved in these discussions since the Spring legislative session when pension reform was addressed for all public employees in the State except for Police and Fire (SB1946).

In previous newsletters you were informed of the problems that the Lodge was experiencing in communicating with the City over reform. It was noted that, at the City's insistence, an agreement was part of the contract that any legislation that would be introduced by either party, which could have an impact on pensions, would be discussed between the parties. At a meeting with the City on May 3rd over the issue of the Lodge's COLA legislation, nothing was mentioned by those at the table of the City's efforts to address Police pension reform. It was after the meeting on the ride back to the office that I was informed that the City had taken the position that Chicago Police and Fire should be included in the prior legislation (SB1946) and that they were going to attempt to include us before the end of the Spring session. Leaving for Springfield the next morning, the Lodge took the position that if the City was going to "shove something down our throats", we should prepare to counter attack and ensure the benefits we have earned remain intact and accept the potential for passage of a second tier of benefits for new hires only. To this end, we met with Sen. Terry Link who had been conducting meetings with the Downstate Police and Fire representatives and their Municipal leaders. Sen. Link addressed our concern with an eye toward fairness and parity with any other changes that all other members of Law Enforcement/Fire were in the process of negotiating. Due mostly to the demand that any bill would include a funding guarantee so that all the funds would receive the proper levels of financing from the cities, the measure failed to pass. Simply put, although the municipalities recognized what it would take to properly fund their pension systems, they would not be mandated legislatively to do so.

Recognizing that the potential for two tier pensions wasn't going away, the Lodge scheduled meetings with the City over the next several months in regards to that issue as well as obtaining the proper legislation to guarantee the 3% COLA for those members born after 1955 when they retire. At each of these meetings, the Lodge inquired whether the City had composed language for pension reform and we were informed that they had not. It was not until a meeting on 9 November, less than one week before the start of the Fall veto session, that the City tendered a list of proposals for a two tier system that were as bad as the effects of SB1946 and included "increased" contributions from current and future employees and "decreased" contributions from the City. Needless to say, these proposals didn't sit too well with the Lodge or the representative of Local 2 Firefighters who was also present. Our plan of action was two-fold – address the problem both here in the City as well as in Springfield.

On November 15th, a letter was sent to all 50 Aldermen asking that they support us in the postponement of any planned legislative action and to convene Committee hearings for proper consideration. This letter was signed by myself and the Presidents of the Sgt's and Lt's Associations and the President of Local 2 of the Firefighters. Early on November 16th the Mayor issued a press release declaring the necessity of pension reform for Chicago Police and Fire. On the 17th of November, the Tribune runs the doomsday scenario of the City's pension funds followed up the next day with potential fixes. The Mayor choreographed his timing and the legislature was aware of his position when they resumed deliberation in the veto session on the same day.

President's Report Continued...

with Speaker Madigan, President Cullerton and Rep. Kevin McCarthy, who is the House Sponsor of SB550, which is one of many potential vehicles for Pension Reform legislation, as well as Dan Fabrizio from Local 2. In that hour-long plan at all. meeting we made our case clear that any type of pension reform for Chicago should include a means by which to properly fund them now and in the future. All recognized that although the City meets their requirements under current legislation based on the funding multiplier of 2 to 1 for Police and 2.26 to 1 for Fire here in the City, those levels are just simply not enough. The Lodge has introduced legislation for years to change the multiplier as well as tried to negotiate in contract talks the last two cycles only to be overridden by the City who opted to "kick this can down the road" again. In discussions at this meeting it was requested that either the funding multiplier change or another means of funding, similar to how the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) does their funding, be considered. Of course this would be tantamount to forcing something down the throat of the City, but at least one of the Legislative Leaders, presumably based upon the change of power descending on City Hall, mentioned that this could be an "opportunity" that we have never had before. The fund is near broke and something needs to be done now was the message that I received from that meeting. The question is does the Legislature have the collective will to do it. There was a meeting of both leaders and the Senate

late on November 22nd on this issue and still we have had no notice from the City as to what position they are taking. Either they are flying by the seat of their pants which is the norm, or they have no

While still working with Sen. Link's office on amending his HB 5873, which was the vehicle being used in negotiation with Police/Fire, to include our concerns of the COLA, parity with Downstate in obtaining increases for widows and a change in funding from the Multiplier Formula, which is archaic and doesn't address the real costs to the funds, to an Actuarial Required Contribution (ARC). The ARC would identify what the funding needs are and then legislation needs to be in place to dictate to the municipality that the funding be carried out. This is the real short and long term solution for this problem. Once this plan is in place, the only problem still out there is how does the City fund it. The answer lies with the same legislative leaders as they consider gaming legislation which has taken the form of SB3970, which calls for the establishment of a casino in Chicago. Add to that the discussions the Lodge has had with City Council Members who have drafted an ordinance that all proceeds from a casino would go to the four City pension funds.

Although the Lodge still opposes a second tier of our defined benefit plan for new hires, if establishing one helps in securing the funds for all current and future members of the Department, we

On November 16th, I had a meeting and House sponsors of pension reform would be hard pressed to stand in opposition. All other public employees in the State of Illinois except Police and Fire are going to be impacted by SB1946 which goes into effect on January 1st. I don't see a second tier system for Police and Fire to be as regressive as what others will have due to the vast differences in our occupations. For those of you who have gotten caught up in some level of concern for your future benefits, the problem and the solutions have been identified. The City is making the required contributions to our funds so it is now up to the collective will of those whom we elect to implement the legislative solutions to the problems. To pass legislation that does not include addressing a revision to the current funding multiplier, or scrapping it all together for a more responsible method such as implementing an ARC would be nothing more than a political exercise to create a perception that they are doing something when in fact they aren't. The Lodge will be back in Springfield next week and by the time you get your Newsletter, we should have an idea of how Springfield rescued our fund, diminished benefits for new hires or kicked the can down the road some more.

> On behalf of all of us here at the Lodge, may you have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy New Year. The Holidays are often rough on people; don't let it be that way for your family, colleagues or friends.

Vice-President's Report, By Bill Dougherty



Korshak Annuitant Settlement Healthcare **Plans**

The Annuitant Settlement Healthcare Plans provision on lifetime maximum will

amended as follows effective January 1,

The Lifetime Maximum amount paid under the self-funded Annuitant Settlement Healthcare Plans offered by the City

is \$1.5 million per covered person. This amount includes expenses, including prescription drug benefits, paid under the Annuitant Settlement Healthcare Plan for Non-Medicare Eligible Annuitants and the Medicare Supplement Annuitant Settlement Healthcare Plan combined. Therefore, if you are a current participant in the Annuitant Settlement Healthcare Plan, your lifetime maximum paid through December 31, 2010, will be reset to zero as of January 1, 2011. This means

that on January 1, 2011, you will have a new lifetime maximum of \$1.5 million.

Disabled Officers & Life Insurance

In our last contract, every member of the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) received an increase in their life insurance benefit to \$75,000 from \$25,000. This is a contractual benefit that benefits all active and disabled members. The contract also provides procedures for officers to purchase optional Group Term

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Vice-President's Report, By Bill Dougherty

(Continued from page 2)

Life Insurance and Universal Life Insurance in addition to basic Group Term Life Insurance coverage provided at a nominal additional cost to the officer. The optional Group Term Life Insurance shall continue to be provided officers at the Employer's then current cost.

It has come to the Lodge's attention that our disabled officers that have the optional insurance are being charged a substantial amount more once they are determined to be disabled. If you have purchased the optional insurance and have received an increase in your monthly/yearly payments, please contact me at the Lodge.

Limited Duty & The MSS Doctor

Apparently Dr. Arjmand at the Medical Services Section (MSS) is attempting to justify her job. We have had numerous complaints regarding officers whose treating physicians have placed them on limited duty status and the "MSS Doctor" has taken it upon herself to place these officers in full duty status. In most cases, she has done this against the treating physician's wishes. If you are having a problem with the "MSS Doctor," please contact the Lodge to file a grievance. We are looking at filing further legal action as the doctor continues to violate our collective bargaining agreement.

Radio Campaign

You may already have heard the commercials that have been on 97.1 FM and 101.9 FM for the past week. The Board has directed that we air these commercials over the next several weeks in order to get our message out regarding the lack of manpower and who we want to be the next mayor of our City. Once the Lodge has endorsed a mayoral candidate, we will change the commercials to support that candidate for mayor sometime in January 2011. This is the first time in over twenty years that we will have a new mayor on the 5th floor. And we will do everything in our power to make our endorsement known.

Second Vice-President's Report, By Frank DiMaria



Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

The Holiday Season is quickly approaching us and these festive times may also cause some persons to become depressed.

During this time alcohol related problems arise, higher rates of suicide and general feelings of hopelessness. The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is available to members of the Chicago Police Department (active and retired) and their families. The services of the EAP include Professional Counseling Service, Alcohol and Substance Abuse Unit and the Peer Support Program. The services of the EAP are free and confidential to those that use them. Just remember that you are not alone during a difficult time you are experiencing that there is someone willing to listen. The EAP can be contacted at 312 743-0378 at their new location 1759 W Adams.

Representation During Weapons Discharge Incidents

Officers who have been involved in a weapons discharge incident are by the Contract entitled to be represented by a member of the Lodge during these proceedings from beginning until the end. Officers when involved in a weapons discharge incident should immediately notify the Lodge. A Field Representative will assist you during this investigation. This is allowed by our Contract and has been a right for our members since the inception of the Contract. Officers should be aware that Officers involved in a weapons discharge are now required per the arbitrators award to comply with drug and alcohol testing in every incident and is entitled to representation during these procedures. Officers if you are involved in a Weapons Discharge Incident do not give up any of your rights by participating without the aid of counsel.

FOP Vest Safety Day

The Lodge will be hosting a Vest Safety Day on 17 February 2011 from 0800 hrs until 1700 hrs. There will be representatives from the major soft body armor companies who will be displaying the current models of their products. Officers if you need to replace your old vest or just want to see the most current models stop by the Hall. The soft body armor which we wear on a daily basis is one of the most crucial pieces of uniform equipment we put on when we hit the street that will protect us during a time of danger.

Seasons Greetings

I would like to take this time and wish all of our members and their families a Happy, Healthy and Safe Holiday Season.

Name:		Star Number:		
	(Last, First, MI)			
New Address:		City/State:	Zip:	
Home Telephone:	Ce	ll 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



What Are They Thinking?

Just when you thought it couldn't get worse. The Department cannot give a reason for changing the starting times for the first watch from 2100

and 2230 to 2100 and 2200. Maybe the half an hour means nothing to the Department, but it means a lot to the people actually working the 1st watch. During the Work Schedule Arbitration we were forced to listen to the Department drone on about how they needed an hour and a half separation between watches only to find out, once again, that they were telling a lie. Changes like these are why there is a morale problem.

What Are They Thinking...Part II?

The Department announced they were accepting applications for the Mobile Strike Force and applicants could not have any open excessive force complaints against them. Do the people running this Department know that if you are out on the street doing the job you are going to get complaints? Criminals don't want to be stopped and they certainly don't want be arrested so they file complaints in an attempt to stifle the working police.

The other part of this problem is the pace of the IPRA investigations. The ordinance that created IPRA mandated that they must complete their investigations in a six month time frame. They just can't seem to get the job done in six months and are constantly going to the City Council for another six month extension. Officers are being denied assignment to MSF because they have one open C.R. number and IPRA was not able to close it in six months. The Department is missing the fact that well qualified officers are being denied an assignment and it is not their fault.

Mad Dogs And Congressmen

Ronnie "Mad Dog" Carrasquillo murdered officer Terry Loftus and was given a sentence that was to keep him behind bars for the rest of his natural life. Because of changes in the law he is able to apply for parole every year. Every year Terry's family, friends and the Lodge go to every hearing and fight to keep him behind bars. It is revolting that nearly thirty years later friends and family still have to testify and open up the deep wounds that they have carried for all of these years. There will never be any closure or peace for the relatives or friends of Terry Loftus until Carrasquillo is dead.

Every year a charade is put on in front of the Parole Board by Carrasquillo's attorney, Michael Deutsch. Deutsch has Carrasquillo's friends and relatives testify about how the killer is now reformed and how he is a valuable asset to the community. They also testify that "Mad Dog" is not the leader of the Imperial Gangsters street gang and that any talk that he is still the leader is coming from young gang members who don't know any better. Never mind that testimony is given by the C.P.D.'s Gang Intelligence Unit and Intelligence officers from the prison system who also confirm what we all know, "Mad Dog" is the leader of the I/Gs street gang.

A number of prominent politicians have come to the aid of Carrasqullo in his quest for freedom by writing letters that testify of his value to the community. As disgusting and insulting as this is there has been an interesting revelation in the Sun-Times newspaper. A story appeared about one of Carrasquillo's most ardent supporters, Congressman Luis Gutierrez.

Congressman Gutierrez was questioned by the FBI in 2008 about free upgrades he received when he bought property at a reduced rate from convicted

businessman Tony Rezko. During the questioning, Congressman Gutierrez was represented by his attorney Michael Deutsch, from the Peoples Law Office. The PLO makes their money by representing criminals in lawsuits against police officers as well as suing to free convicted criminals. This is the same Michael Deutsch that is Carrasquillo's attorney.

The good news is that, not only did the Parole Board deny Carrasquillo's parole, they will not accept another petition for parole for the next three years. We can only hope that the Federal investigation into Gutierrez's real estate deals gain momentum. Sometimes the small victories are the best.

Auto Insurance

Everyone needs to be aware that your auto insurance does not cover job related contents. Recently an officer's vehicle was broken into and his police gear was stolen. Taken were his vest, ammo clips, uniforms and just about everything job related, except his weapons. His insurance company does not cover police related items and are under the false assumption that our equipment is supplied by the Department.

Contact your insurance company and verify what your policy covers in the event of a loss.

Be Safe Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

FOP Board Elections

It's election time again. Anyone interested in running for an office on the FOP Board of Directors needs to be at the General Meeting on December 21, 2010 at 1200 hrs. The meeting will be turned over to the Election Committee to oversee the process of signing for Nomination Petitions.

The Committee has decided that the petitions need to be turned into the Lodge by the close of business on Thursday, December 30, 2010. The ballots are scheduled to go out in February with the counting to occur on March 4, 2011

Those who have held positions in the Lodge realize what a serious responsibility and commitment it is in representing our members. If you can make that commitment please consider taking an active role in ensuring the safety and security of our members and their families by running for office.

Financial Secretary's Report, By Rich Aguilar



And I Thought That The City Was Broke

Throughout the last round of contract negotiations the mantra from the City was that the City was broke. They simply had no

money for raises; no money for new hires; no money for anything except the bare necessities. City employees were forced to take unpaid furlough days. Department exempts were forced to take unpaid furlough days. Money was tight and drastic times required drastic measures.

With all the doom and gloom hanging over everyone's heads, I guess someone forgot to tell Tracey Ladner, who is the Director of the Human Resources Division. Commander Donald O'Neill of the Management and Labor Affairs Sections apparently was not let in on the secret either. These two decision makers, near the top of the Police Department food chain, continue to make decisions that cost the Department, and ultimately the City of Chicago, hundreds of thousands of dollars each year.

Recently, Director Ladner determined that the number of Officers who handled background investigations for new hires for the position of Police Officer had to be reduced. At least that is what she told the four Officers she dumped from the unit. Unfortunately for her, these Officers learned that their positions were not eliminated. The officers discovered that they were merely replaced.

Being a non-bid unit, the Officers could have simply accepted the decision made by the Director, but they instead chose to file grievances. The matter went before an arbitrator who ultimately decided that the Director's decision to dump these Officers from the unit was done arbitrarily. The arbitrator ordered the Department and Lodge to negotiate the terms of the award.

The Lodge was unsuccessful in negotiating the terms of an award in an arbitration case that the Department had already lost. The arbitrator was again required to intervene. His ultimate decision awarded all four Officers either compensatory time or compensatory time plus pay for the improper transfers that were forced upon

them. One Officer was awarded 600 hours comp time. Two Officers were awarded 500 hours comp time each. The final Officer was awarded 300 hours comp time plus a cash payout for the difference in mileage that he was required to travel.

Using an average of a ten-year Officer's salary the 1900 hours awarded have a present day value of \$69,200. Add the mileage award plus the arbitrator's per diem fees and you have a decision made by the Director that will cost the City over \$80,000.00.

Did this teach Director Ladner a lesson? Apparently, it did not. A Sergeant, who was a witness for the City, and to his credit, was completely honest at the arbitration hearing when he provided testimony that was in direct conflict to that of the Director was also dumped from his position within days of the arbitrator's award. Hopefully, the Sergeant has filed a grievance with his collective bargaining agent and will be as successful as our members mentioned above.

Director Ladner decided that another Officer would not be allowed to participate in the Police Tech test that was recently offered. The Officer was disqualified because she had a medical incident that included more consecutive medical roll days than were allowed as outlined by the governing Department order.

The Officer does not dispute the fact that she was on the medical roll for the listed amount of days. However, nobody from the Department bothered to ascertain why the Officer was on the medical roll. It turns out that the Officer was on maternity leave. The Department has not made any attempt to settle this case. This should be an interesting hearing that will undoubtedly require cash expenditures by the Department.

Almost all Department members are now working a schedule that, at some point, requires them to use compensatory time in one-half hour increments to fulfill either a furlough day or baby furlough day. The Lodge was of the opinion that this meant that Officers would now have the option to use compensatory time in one-half hour increments and has advised members of this fact. This opin-

ion was reached after discussions with Management and Labor Affairs which resulted in a letter being sent to the Lodge stating just that.

Some members attempted to use compensatory time in one-half hour increments. They were denied. The Lodge filed a grievance on their behalf. The matter was brought up during a meeting with the Commander of Management and Labor Affairs. Commander O'Neill would not even discuss the issue stating that he would prefer to keep it as a bargaining chip in contract negotiations in 2012.

The Commander's decision all but guarantees that this issue will proceed to arbitration; an arbitration that will cost the Department money in the form of manhours in addition to whatever amounts that need to be paid for the arbitration itself.

These decisions are only a few examples of the many unsound decisions made by our Department decision makers. I could go on with volumes of similar cases. It is unlikely that any privately held company would tolerate these types of decisions, but then again the City is not a privately held company. It only has to answer to its taxpayers. Perhaps the City is not as broke as it claimed to be.

Finally, I would like to wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

100 Club of Chicago

Joe Ahern is the new Executive Director of the 100 Club of Chicago. Mr. Ahern is hoping to expand the mission of the 100 Club and wants to remind FOP members that membership for an Active Law Enforcement Officer, Firefighter and Paramedic is only \$50.00 annually. For civilians interested in supporting the organization, an individual membership is \$200 (the same as it was in 1966); a Joint Membership is \$300; while a Family Membership (4 members) is \$500. Lifetime Memberships and Lifetime Joint Memberships are available for \$2,500 and \$3,500 respectively.

To join the 100 Club of Chicago, you can fill out an application online at www.100ClubChicago.org or call their office at 312-992-0215.

Recording Secretary's Report, By Sidney Davis



Veterans Benefits Workshop

On Saturday, November 6, 2010, FOP Lodge 7 and CFD Local 2 conducted a Veterans Benefits Workshop at

the FOP Hall from 9 am until 3 pm. Workshop participates included Yellow Ribbon Program, VA (Federal), VA (State), VFW, Military One Source, USERRA, Volunteers of America, Jesse Brown VA Medical Center, Illinois Network of Childcare Resource and Referral Agency, Illinois Department of Employment Security, AMVETS and the Pension Board for CPD and CFD.

Special thanks to Alderman James Balcer (USMC), 11th Ward Alderman, who appeared as the guest speaker for the event. A second VBW may be considered for next year.

Military Veterans / Police Officers

Let us remember the men and women serving their country in the five branches of service, Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard, including National Guard Units. May the spirit of the season be upon you. Thank you for serving your county. May God bless the veterans who are away on foreign soil and or are in training pending deployment. Retired Sergeant Major Davis.

Furlough Selections

Processing for 2011 furloughs began on Thursday, November 25, 2010 and will conclude on Wednesday, December 8, 2010. Results are schedule to be posted on or before Friday, December 17, 2010

Sell or Carry Over

The end of the year is approaching fast and members will soon think about either selling or carrying over Personnel Days and Baby Furlough Days. The amount of time you have on the job determines how many Baby Furlough Days (BFDs) and Personal Days (P-Days) you will receive.

6 BFDs, 15 years or more 5 BFDs, 10 years but less than 15 years 4 BFDs, 5 years but less than 10 years 3 BFDs, 1 year but less than 5 years Probationary Police Officers receive 3 BFDs days the day they complete 12 months of probation. Officers who have an anniversary date during the year, which entitles you to an additional BFD day, will receive the additional day on your anniversary date. At the end of the year, you may sell back all of your BFD days or you may carry over 4 BFD days and sell two.

Probationary Police Officers completing 12th months of probation this month will receive 4 personal days. Rate of pay for sell back is computed as of April 1st the following year. Checks are also received on or around April 1st. P-days or BFD days cannot be carried over for more then 1 year. For example, if you carry over 4 P-days or 4 BFD days from 2009 to 2010, you must use the carried over days by December 31, 2010 or you will lose them.

I.O.D. 2009-2010

All sworn personnel should be aware that Section 2-84-480 of the City of Chicago Municipal Code allows sworn personnel to receive their full salary for a period of twelve months when the officer is injured while performing their police duties. The Internal Revenue Service has previously issued Technical Advice Memorandum T32-153-91, which determined that regular wages paid to a member while out on I.O.D. qualifies as workmen's compensation. As such, this income is excluded from the recipient's gross income.

Sworn members who were I.O.D. anytime during 16 December 2009 to 15 December 2010 should submit a copy of their Time and Attendance cards and the attached I.O.D. form. The form can also be found on the Intranet Finance Division Webpage under the Payroll Tab. To request a statement of wages paid while I.O.D., complete all forms and forward to Octavia Watkins, Payroll Division, Unit 122.

Due to the expected volume of requests, members are encouraged to submit their request promptly, as they will be processed in the order received.

2011 Holiday Event Calendar

The 2011 HEC is currently being revised and will be available by mid December.

Recognized Vacancies

Lodge members are reminded to fol-

Departed Brothers & Sisters

Ralph Kingsley, Age 83

Ronald J. Keller, Age 77 Richard J. McFarlane, Age 74

Jack D. Olson, Age 75

Lawrence W. Bush, Age 86

John J. Needham, Age 86

Robert M. Lintz, Age 84

James J. Keane, Age 84

Christina Badus, Age 32

Edward R. Helwig, Age 80

Georgina Dwyer-Meliska, Age 48

Gerald Swinkle, Age 74

Edward B. Castellano, Age 73

Guadalupe G. Gonzalez, Age 66

low the instructions to the letter when it comes to the Recognized Vacancy Announcement, if you don't, it may cost you a bid.

> MERRY CHRISTMAS! From the Davis Family



4th Annual Benefit Concert Featuring 24*13

Saturday, January 8, 2011 1830 hours

Irish American Heritage Center

4626 N. Knox Ave. Chicago, Illinois

\$20.00 Admission Cash Bar/50-50 Raffle

All proceeds will be used to assist the Chicago Police Department's Police Chaplains Ministry in sending needed supplies to the men and women of the Chicago Police Department fighting for our country in Afghanistan.

For more information, please visit the website at www.241band.com

From The Desk of Jim Bailey, Trustee, Field Representative



Justice

On November 19, 2010, two words were spoken in room 1925 at the Dirksen Federal Building, "Not Guilty." Only twice in the past

ten years has the inside of that courtroom heard those words. They spoke of one of our own, Officer Craig Swistowicz. "Swiss", as he is known, was charged with a civil rights violation after subduing a man with a gun during the execution of a search warrant. During this life saving moment, Swiss had to use force on the bad guy to secure the weapon. The end result was a few stitches and a black eye (I've had worse injuries playing hockey).

Turns out the offender was working security for drug dealers, hence the gun. So what does the federal government do? Thank him for potentially saving the lives of Chicago Police Officers and DEA Agents? No. Thank him for taking a dangerous weapon of the street? Not quite. Thank him for assisting in the arrest of drug dealers? Nope. The Federal Government indicts Officer Swistowicz for a Civil Rights Violation. And just to add insult to injury, one the DEA agents lied about what happened. Fortunately,

the jury saw through this nonsensical charge and came back with a not guilty verdict.

So the Federal Government put this Officer and his family through many painstaking months of stress and uncertainty. And for what? A cut and black eye on some street thug who protects drug dealers for a living. Thankfully this ordeal is over and the Swistowicz family can return to normal. As far as the Federal Government...watch your backs.

Tour Of Duty Trades

There has been some confusion about General Order 94-05-10 regarding the Tour of Duty. In order to be eligible, an officer must submit a request for time off at least seven (7) days prior to the date requested. Elective time to be used can be Compensatory time, Baby Furlough Days, Vacation days and Personal days. Officers must be notified at least three (3) days prior that their request for time off has been denied.

Once notified, the officer becomes eligible for the Tour of Duty Trade. If the officer is notified less than three (3) days prior to the day requested off, the officer will be given the day off. Since the inception of the Tour of Duty Trade, the Lodge has been notified that the on-

duty watch commander has not adhered to this order. The Lodge notified the Department and the officer's request for time off was granted. If a member encounters such a situation, please notify the Lodge before the day requested off so that the issue can be resolved.

Day-Off Holiday

Apparently the same people that don't understand the General Orders can't comprehend the contract either. Section 23.7 makes reference to Holiday Assignment. The contract specifically states, "The most senior officers will be given the option to work, provided that the holiday is not an officer's regular day off or part of an officer's approved furlough extension and that the officer possesses the necessary skill or special qualifications to perform the duties required." Translation: senior officers get first shot on whether or not they want to work a holiday. The key word is option, which by definition means choice or right to choose. I hope this clears the air regarding holiday assignments.

From my family to yours, have a safe and happy Holiday Season. JB

Check Your U.S. Mail

The 2011 FOP Handbooks are on the way to the homes of active officers who pay their dues through payroll deduction. Handbooks and stickers should arrive in early December. Annual Dues Payors (Retirees and Sgts., etc.), should expect to receive their annual membership packets in mid-December.

The Lodge's Political Action Committee has begun their work and are preparing to make recommendations to the Board of Directors for endorsements in the upcoming Mayoral and Aldermanic elections. Our members are urged to remind candidates they support that the Lodge only endorses candidates who make written request for our endorsement. Candidates should forward letters to the Lodge to the Attention of President Donahue.

The Lodge has developed a questionnaire that has been mailed to each of the (currently) 20 candidates for mayor. Returned responses will be posted on our website for your consideration. The Political Action Committee is planning to send a survey to your home (in late December) which will list mayoral candidates that are to be considered for recommendation to the Board of Directors. It is important that you return that survey card promptly, as the Committee will make its recommendation to the Board in January.

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BOOK SIGNING!



Ed Carmody, Retired Chicago Police Officer, will

be at the January 18, 2011 General Meeting to sign copies of his new book, *COP*.

Book are available for purchase at the FOP Gift Shop and sell for \$16.95 each. This is a fun Christmas Gift idea.

"Yes, I was a Chicago cop and this is my story.

What I have written in this book is all true. I am sharing some of the stories related to my work so that you will get to understand and appreciate the work of a policeman. Where necessary, I have changed names and locations to protect some of the people mentioned in this book...."

Are You Growing Up Or Growing Old? Compliments of Rabbi Moshe Wolf

As the year 2010 draws to a close I me. reflect back to all the ups and downs, the laughs and tears, a special thanks to each and every one of you for all you do to "Serve and Protect" our great City.

One of the most frequent questions I am asked, "I'm thinking of going back to school; should I explore something I haven't tried before? I'm thinking of trying a new hobby, trying my hand at a new skill, I'm just hesitant of a new challenge, what should I do?" Well maybe the following story will help you find the answer.

Are You Growing Up Or **Growing Old?**

The first day of school our professor introduced himself and challenged us to get to know someone we didn't already know. I stood up to look around when a gentle hand touched my shoulder. turned around to find a wrinkled, little, old lady beaming up at me with a smile that lit up her entire being. She said, "Hi handsome. My name is Rose. I'm eightyseven years old. Can I give you a hug?" I laughed and enthusiastically responded, "Of course you may!" and she gave me a giant squeeze.

"Why are you in college at such a young, innocent age?" I asked. She jokingly replied, "I'm here to meet a rich husband, get married have a couple of kids..." "No seriously," I asked. I was curious what may have motivated her to be taking on this challenge at her age. "I always dreamed of having a college education and now I'm getting one!" she told

After class we walked to the student union building and shared a chocolate milkshake. We became instant friends. Every day for the next three months we would leave class together and talk nonstop. I was always mesmerized listening to this "time machine" as she shared her wisdom and experience with me.

Over the course of the year, Rose became a campus icon and she easily made friends wherever she went. She loved to dress up and she reveled in the attention bestowed upon her from the other students. She was living it up. At the end of the semester we invited Rose to speak at our football banquet. I'll never forget what she taught us.

She was introduced and stepped up to the podium. As she began to deliver her prepared speech, she dropped her three by five cards on the floor. Frustrated and a little embarrassed she leaned into the microphone and simply said, "I'm sorry I'm so jittery. I gave up beer for Lent and this whiskey is killing me! I'll never get my speech back in order so let me just tell you what I know." As we laughed she cleared her throat and began, "We do not stop playing because we are old; we grow old because we stop playing. There are only four secrets to staying young, being happy and achieving success.

You have to laugh and find humor every

You've got to have a dream. When you lose your dreams, you die. We have so

many people walking around who are dead and don't even know it!

There is a huge difference between growing older and growing up. If you are nineteen years old and lie in bed for one full year and don't do one productive thing, you will turn twenty years old. If I am eighty-seven years old and stay in bed for a year and never do anything I will turn eighty-eight. Anybody can grow older. That doesn't take any talent or ability. The idea is to grow up by always finding the opportunity in change.

Have no regrets. The elderly usually don't have regrets for what we did, but rather for things we did not do. The only people who fear death are those with regrets."

At the year's end Rose finished the college degree she had begun all those years ago. One week after graduation Rose died peacefully in her sleep. Over two thousand college students attended her funeral in tribute to the wonderful woman who taught by example that it's never too late to be all you can possibly be... End of story.

REMEMBER, GROWING OLDER IS MANDATORY. GROWING UP IS OPTIONAL.

We make a Living by what we get; we make a Life by what we give.

May G-d bless us to appreciate the blessings of daily living, even though sometimes we are shown more than we can understand. As we enter the Holiday season, let us take a moment to reach out to the families that have lost loved ones and the disabled and let them know that their sacrifice will never be forgotten.

On behalf of ALL your Chaplains, may G-d bless you and keep you safe and may you have a happy, healthy Holiday Season. Amen!

Compliments of your Police Chaplain Rabbi Moshe Wolf 773-463-4780 or moshewolf@hotmail.com

Health & Insurance Committee Report, By Ed King, Chairman

The Benefit Term Life insurance plan from Fidelity Life, endorsed and sponsored by the Lodge, is currently open to our retired members, through age 120, and their families for enrollment. The enrollment period ends January 15, 2011. The plan allows for a guaranteed issue of up to \$50,000 worth of coverage for our retired members up to age 70. For those from 70-79 years of age, the plan offers up to \$25,000 worth of coverage under a Modified Guarantee Issue, which requires about 3-4 health related questions. This plan also includes long-term care coverage and a terminal illness rider.

I have spoken about this plan in past newsletter articles. Those retired members interested in enrolling should contact the administrator EOI at the toll free numbers, 800-307-7745 or 866-404-9095, and via the website address at www.fop7vb.com.

Please remember this plan has the advantage of group rates on individually owned policies. Non commissioned, salaried counselors are available to assist our retired members and advise a plan to fit your individual needs and budget. The guarantee issue and the long-term care provision are the key elements to this plan. Please consider taking advantage of this unique benefit.

Wishing you and yours a safe, happy and healthy holiday season! Stay Safe.

Disability & Veterans Report, By Carlos 'Sal' Saladino

Disability Report

The best of health and a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 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.

October Pension Meeting – Advocates present: Det Mark Howe (also at Sept meeting), Det Steve Schorsch, 1st VP Bill Dougherty and myself.

Disability Claims: Duty: 3 granted at 75%, 1 denied. Ordinary: 1 granted, 1 continued for hearing. Application for Duty: 3 granted Ordinary without Preju-

Duty Disability Status Hearing - 1 officer's Duty Disability status maintained. Request for pension credit for prior ser-

vice 5-214.2 - 1 officer granted Request for pension credit for prior service 5-214c (Rosario) – 13 officers granted.

Request for pension credit for prior mili-

plications.

tional Guard and Reservists.

Medical Check by Pension Board Doctor - Check in at the office and document who is at the reception desk and the doctor you are seen by. While you are there call the Pension Board and confirm with them that you are finished with your appointment, and again document.

Duty Disability Status Hearing – An officer was called before the Board and questioned on the Functional Capacity Evaluation (FCE) and an Independent Medical Evaluation (IME) report. The officer has 2 titanium rods in the neck with screws inserted and a plate. The duty disability was maintained.

Veteran's Corner

Our thoughts and prayers go to the CPD members who are actively serving our country in the military. Thank you to all veterans for your service.

tary service under 5-214.3 – over 75 ap- Flu Shots – A big thank you goes out to Joe Bazil, Outreach Cordinator; Lisa Motion to defer pension credit for Na- Murphy and her staff of nurses, Nursing Service; Gail Pike, VA Service Officer and Joe Petrosky, Service Officer for the State of Illinois. They did an excellent job and helped many at the FOP Hall on flu shot day. Hope to see all of you back next year.

> Ischemic Heart Disease (Agent Orange) - The VA has begun to payout compensation to veterans who have contracted or died from this service connected condition. Payments have been rated at 40% (\$541 a month) to 100% (\$2673 a month). Apply online at www.fasttrack.va.gov or contact a Service Officer.

"It often requires more courage to dare to do right than fear to do wrong." ~ Abraham Lincoln

Airborne Sal

State FOP Report

Naperville Protest - Success

On November 16th, in the City of Naperville, members from Lodge 42 and members from Lodge 7 took part in an informational picket outside City Hall to protest the layoffs of six police officers. There were also several members from the surrounding Police Departments attending to show their support for this unjust decision to cut costs by laying off police officers.

The message was clear. "NO Layoffs! Support our police"! This was chanted over and over, and after the Council Meeting adjourned the decision was made to hold off the layoffs until December. Once again the Grass Roots approach worked! Pressure from our FOP members can and will make a difference!

Pension Issues

The pension issues are not only affecting Chicago but also across the State and the Nation. The Illinois State FOP stands with all the Local Lodges across the State in solidarity to fight any legislation from Cities and Villages that want to diminish benefits or change future benefits for all police officers and firefighters. Please check your newsletter for future updates and remember, if you are not registered to vote, take the time to do so. It is very important, especially with our upcoming mayoral and aldermanic races in Chicago.

Happy Holidays!

The holiday season is a time to celebrate. It's also time to help those in need. It has been a long year for us all and if there is anything that myself or the Lodge can help with please don't ever hesitate to call.

"Be safe" Darrin Bourret District 1, State Trustee

August 2010 Retirees

Name	Rank	Dist.	Yrs
Bartkowiak, Robert P.	Officer	123	30
Blanco, Deborah M.	Officer	004	24
Collins, Michael S.	Sergeant	001	30
Cook, Kim E.	Officer	005	20
Cox, Joseph J.	Officer	023	29
Davis, Darryl A.	Officer	116	25
Fizer, III, Edwin J.	Detective	620	20
Flaherty, Janis M.	Officer	192	24
Gaytan, Sergio	Detective	384	29
Gilliam, Manuel	Officer	005	16
Godbold, Glenn E.	Detective	601	34
Golczak, Anthony J.	Sergeant	018	30
Haas, Kevin J.	Detective	650	32
Hammermeister, JoAnne C.	Detective	650	28
Keen, Danny B.	Officer	016	28
Kenny, Joan A.	Officer	117	23
Lara, Jose	Officer	021	33
Letten, George J.	Officer	008	18
Lewis, Johnace, B.	Officer	142	32
Mathews, Terence E.	Officer	024	40
Penkala, Kathleen A.	Officer	014	29
Rapa, Bruce J.	Sergeant	020	28
Reum, Darrell R.	Officer	189	29
Stevens, William J.	Sergeant	016	27
Strugala, Richard	Forensic Inv.	177	33
Totosz, Leona L.	Canine Handler	153	24
Ugorek, Randall J.	Officer	015	33
Vergil, Rafael V.	Officer	022	22
West, Thomas H.	Sergeant	151	29
Witty, Roy A.	Detective	620	24

Yeah Squad... By Father Tom Nangle

The policeman and his wife were enjoying Chinese food and talking about their son, who has been on the job about five years. I asked if the job had changed him in any way. "He's more quiet", they said, "and he has a healthy fear for the power of the street." Dad said, "He told me this police work is scary business, but he won't tell me the stories. He's protecting me from the bad stuff, but I've been there-done that. To him I'm not a copper...I'm his dad. It bothers me that he won't confide in me, but what can I do?"

Then you hear stories about police parents who have a kid come on the job, and there is a bond that develops that defies measurement or description. It's a mix of marital intimacy, beat car partners with a capital P, and wartime bonding all jumbled together. "The kid" did tell his dad that he gets scared silly sometimes, enough to make the hair on the back of his neck and arms bristle. And dad knows the kid has grown into true law enforcement professional. "He's going on a call of a man shot, and he's running plates of cars going in the opposite direction as he's racing to the scene. I like that." What is it that scares him silly? "Some of the tactical situations...you get a call of a man with a gun and you've got to go up 3 flights of stairs and you know if he's up on 3 he's got the drop on you in that stairwell. He's got a healthy respect for the power of the street. He hasn't become complacent. And I like that a lot, too." They mentioned how excited he was in his first year in a busy district; every call was interesting, and the experience was deep and rich. He's beyond that now; he's seen it all, he's handled it all. And he has the same number of holes in his body he was born with, no more and no less. The city couldn't afford to actually pay the kid what he's worth. He has grown into being a quiet, competent, brave police officer who nightly approaches scenes choreographed in hell, handles them, and moves on to the next job. He loves being a part of the Chicago Police Department.

The detective's wife spoke about her husband's time on the job. "Over 20 years I watched my husband's heart turn times you get pulled into the lions' cage.

to stone." How could it not, I wondered. You're The Police...just do it. The most The bodies and victims and stories accumulate in the soul until there's no room for the good things of life any more. It took him a while to decompress after retirement, she said, and he's back on track after almost 40 years of being "The Real Police". He was a superb detective; his peers paid him the ultimate compliment (never to his face, though) when they'd say, "If I was a bad guy, he'd be the last one I'd want coming after me." He was hard at work on the stabbing death of a prostitute one-summer night and he told me quietly, "No one should get away with murder." That simple belief was what drove his personal search engine so well. Over his long career he'd been involved in countless instances of excellent police work. If you could get him to talk and tell a story, you'd be completely absorbed and entertained. You would also get the impression that there were hundreds of other stories you'd never be privy to, and you'd be correct. But you would get a hint of the three H's of the police world: heroism, horror, and humor. The City of Chicago paychecks on the 1st and 16th never came close to adequately compensating him for his efforts. How could they? For him, the job was a matter of heart and soul, something that God cared about every once in a while.

As another calendar year runs out, I hope you can look back on your work (active or retired) and be quietly proud and satisfied. The horror, heroism and humor coalesce into a rich stew that only the copper-cooks who are in the heat of the kitchen can appreciate. The quotes we hear all year long wrap up 2010; 'I don't miss the circus but I miss the clowns. Nobody should get away with murder. Never had a bad day on this job. What? I've had bad decades on this job! Where you gonna dine, 13? Yeah, I miss the clowns...and I actually miss the circus, too. This is what we do...we are The Police. Yeah squad how about a personal? Twenty years of vaudeville and a pension...I hope. A front row seat to the greatest show on earth. Yeah, but some-

fun you can have with your clothes on. I'm coming to work for \$3 a day. Get me an assist in here squad---make it a 10-1 now a 10-1!" And the earth seemed to move as the starred brothers and sisters came to your side.

I sure hope your holidays are good ones, and the year ahead our best ever. Why not? And may the good God bless us all.

Respectfully, Fr. Thomas Nangle 312-738-7588

INFORMATION FOR THE POLICE

Your Police Chaplains Ministry currently has two missions in progress: We're sending first rate care packages to CPD officers (approximately 30) serving America as soldiers in the Afghanistan-Iraq area, and we're taking about 180 survivors of CPD line-of -duty deaths (spouses, kids, parents, etc.) to the annual elegant holiday dinner for the Gold Star Families at The Drake Hotel. We surely could use an assist paying those bills, so if you'd like, you can send a tax deductible donation to the Police Chaplains Ministry, 1140 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago IL 60607

The following member was omitted from the April 2010 Retiree list, but is in fact enjoying the life of retirement.

Officer Michael P. Touhy, from Personnel retired after 38 years of service

The Next General Meeting Is **Scheduled For**

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**Tuesday** December 21, 2010 @ Noon

All Members Are Encouraged To Attend



#### Holiday Store Hours:

Mon-Thurs, 9:00 – 5:00 Friday, 9:00 – 4:00 Saturday, 8:30 – 4:00

#### Store Closed:

December 24, 25 & 31, 2010 January 1, 2 & 3, 2011

#### Direct Line:

312-733-2344

#### Website:

www.chicagofop.org Click on Gift Shop

#### Tee-Shirt Of The Month

Chicago Police Department Est. 1855,

Assorted Colors (Small—3XL)

30% OFF

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year! The Holiday Sales Are In Full Swing!

Check Out Our Christmas Prices!!

**25% OFF**—All Wallets & Badge Cases

Custom Pie Plate CPD Star With Your Star Number & Wood Display Stand. Was \$74.95, Christmas Price \$59.95. Don't Delay, Order Today! Order Takes 5 Days To Come In!

CPD & FOP Frosted Glasses (sets of 4)
"Pint" size originally priced at \$23.95, Christmas Price \$19.16
"On-The-Rocks" size originally priced at \$11.95, Christmas Price \$8.96

Diamond Plate, Steel Travel Mug With Star, Christmas Price \$7.16 Each

25% OFF All Christmas Ornaments—December 6—11 ONLY
NEW ITEM! CPD Squad Car Ornament, Priced At Only \$5.95 Each! (Great Gift Idea!)

All Police Mouse Pads, Every Design, Originally Priced At \$7.95, Christmas Price \$5.95 Each

Custom CPD Star Belt Buckle With Reversible, Adjustable Belt Up To 60 Inches.

Christmas Price \$19.95 Each

10%! Kids Big Bang Rocket, Uses Old Newspaper For The Bang, Christmas Price \$8.95 Each

TOYS! Novelty Light Up Holiday Necklace, Assorted Styles, \$3.95 Each. Batteries Included.

TOYS! Police Action Figures, Male With Gear, Christmas Price \$23.95 Each

FREE Christmas Raffle Drawings! FREE Ticket With Any Purchase! Enter As Often As You Like!

Many Great Prizes! Winners Need Not Be Present To Win!

Black Hoodie Sweatshirt, Full Zip With Chicago PD In Shield Design, M—2XL, Christmas Price \$19.16 Each

CLOSE OUT! Ladies Full Zip Hoodie In Navy Or Gray With Embroidered CPD Star, M-XL, Christmas Price \$14.96 Each

Ladies Quilted Jacket In Black or Blue, L—2XL, Christmas Price \$21.57 Each (Limited Quantities)

Long Sleeve Thermal Henley, Assorted Colors, M-2XL, Christmas Price \$10.95 Each

Long Sleeve Pocket Tee Shirt With CPD Embroidered Star, S-XL, Christmas Price \$6.48 Each (Limited Quantities)

May Everyone Enjoy A Great,
Joyful & Safe Holiday Season.

Thank You All For Your Support In
These Difficult Times.

May The New Year Bring Os All Prosperity, Health
& Happiness.

From Your FOP Gift Shop Staff

Small COP Tee Shirt, 6/8—3 Toddler, Christmas Price \$6.96 Each & Romper, 24 Month, Christmas Price \$7.66 Each

Junior's Or Children's Hoodie, Full Zip Fleece, Royal Blue With Stars All Over, Chicago PD Design, **Christmas Price \$24.71** Each

Baby Bottle & Rattle, With CPD & FOP Logo Design, Was \$7.95, Christmas Price \$5.96 Each

Baby Sippy Cup, With CPD & FOP Logo Design, Was \$3.29, Christmas Price \$2.47 Each

Special Holiday Saturday Hours, 8:30 am—4:00 pm



Official Publication of Chicago Lodge No. 7 1412 W. Washington Blvd. 60607-1821 Phone: 312-733-7776

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## IS YOUR ADDRESS CORRECT? IF NOT, PLEASE CONTACT THE LODGE.

## RETIREE BREAKFASTS AND LUNCHEONS

North: 1st Wednesday of Month @ 7:30 am

Lone Tree Manor, 7730 N. Milwaukee Ave,

Niles II.

Joe Nalepa, 773-763-1362

The Northsider's Luncheon:

3rd Wednesday of January, April, July & October @ Noon

Biaggio's Superosa, 4240 N. Central Ave,

Chicago, IL

Paul Vitaioli, 312-402-1040

South:

2nd Wednesday of Month @ 10:00 am Jedi's Garden, 9266 S. Cicero Ave,

Oak Lawn, IL

Don Januszyk, 708-364-9903

Bomb & Arson: 2nd Tuesday of Month @ 8:30 am

Fiesta Tapatia Restaurant, 2752 W. Cermak,

Chicago, IL Roger Elmer, 773-763-2115

12th District Retirees and Alumni

1st Thursday of Month @ 10:00 am

Southern Belles Restaurant, 6737 Archer Ave.,

Bridgeview, IL 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, IL

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, IL.

Don Ade, 708-408-9308

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:** 

Arizona Retirees:

Arkansas Retirees:

Florida Retirees:

2nd Saturday of Month @ 11:00 am

Beverly Woods Restaurant, 11532 S. Western,

Chicago, IL

Public Housing Unit, (North, South & Administration)

1st Wednesday of Month @ 10:00 am George's Restaurant, 83rd & Kedzie Chicago, IL

Maurice Brown, 773-577-0154

3rd Thursday of Month @ 11:00 am

Hometown Buffet, 1312 N. Scottsdale, Scottsdale, AZ

Ed Plawinski, 480-502-1630

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

Las Vegas Retirees: Every Thursday of Month @ 9:30 am

The Willows, 2020 W. Horizon Ridge,

Henderson, NV

Jerry Rutkowski, 702-575-4301

1st Wednesday of the Month @ 1:00 pm

Cop Shop. 4423 S/E 16th Place,

Cape Coral, FL

Tom Faragoi, 239-770-7896