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F.O.P. NEWS

Committee: Rhonda Bullock, Chairman

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FOP, Chicago Lodge 7
1412 W. Washington Blvd.

President's Report, By Mark Donahue

Pensions

Although many aldermanic positions are set for run-off elections in the near future, the position of Mayor is not one of them. On February 22nd Rahm Emanuel was elected as Mayor of the City of Chicago. The fact that a generation of Chicagoans have known no other mayor than the one who currently fills that seat, this campaign, as well as the decades that have passed since we have had a new Mayor, have caused many to wonder what will happen now. A concern for us and one that took center stage during the election is what position the new city administration will take on our pensions.

The Illinois General Assembly took bold steps last year to address the unfunded pension problems that effect every fund in the State. After forcing a new plan on every other fund in the State except Article 3, 4, 5, and 6 which represent Downstate Police and Fire and Chicago Police and Fire, the Unions representing the participants in these four funds were able to "negotiate" a new plan. That new plan was encompassed in SB3538 and impacted the benefits of future hires that would participate in these funds. The major change, and probably the most important change for the Chicago Police and Fire funds in their history, is that the bill changes the way in which the City of Chicago will now contribute to the funds. The "Actuarial Required Contribution" (ARC) replaces the "Multiple" system. The most important component contained therein is that the City now has the obligation to ensure the necessary contributions into the fund where under the "Multiple" system, we were informed they felt they had no obligation to ensure the viability of the funds. And the guarantee that the City does so now is that if they don't, funds will be swept from any state grants and placed into the funds. Downstate Police and Fire funds have had the ARC for years but until now, they haven't had this built-in enforcement mechanism to ensure the local municipalities properly fund them. To address the current underfunding of the City's pension funds, the question is, does the passage of SB3538 go far enough in assisting the City to reasonably meet their obligations?

Another question that needs to be decided prior to being able to competently negotiate further changes with the City to ensure the solvency of the City and the Funds, is what is their position relative to the constitutional guarantee that denies diminishing the benefits of current participants (both active and retired CPD members)? Our position is and will remain that SB3538 addresses the only diminishment that can be made regarding benefits in that only the benefits of "future hires" can be diminished. Our decision to negotiate to that effect was based on that belief. The positions of the business groups and some legislative members (that yet to be earned benefits of current employees can be changed), stands in stark contradiction of the constitutional guarantee. **Please note that "no one" has ever recommended that the benefits of those who are already receiving a pension can be diminished.** If there are to be successful negotiations with the City in addressing the solvency issues, it must be from the position of our belief that current employee benefits cannot be diminished.

It is the intent of this Union to address the issues of fairness that we have identified such as a widows COLA as well as the COLA for those retirees who turn 55, in conjunction with addressing the City's concerns for a trailer bill to SB3538 which can drastically curtail the immediate liability of taxpayers (and we too are taxpayers). Nobody wants the City or State to go belly up. We will work toward ensuring this does not happen. I stated a number of months ago that the resolve for the funding problems that the City identified lies in a trailer bill to lessen the percentage level standard for the fund to as well as lengthening the time in which to do it. That would be something like the now required 30 years to get to 90% funded becoming 50 years to get to 80% funded. Initial reports show that this change in legislation would take the

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"What the public doesn't seem to be aware of is the fact that I have contributed nine percent of every paycheck that I have earned since I took this job and paid property taxes while I have lived in the City to help fund my pension."

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liability for the taxpayers from 550 million down to 330 million. An amount that even by conservative estimates could be financed by a Chicago-based casino. If there is more that needs to be done, the negotiating table is where it needs to happen. There, everything is open.

As far as being able to act, both of the leading Mayoral candidates stated that this problem could be worked out and it appears that the Mayor-Elect has recently taken a position that could be more conducive to that happening than before. As we anxiously await the opportunity to do so, we will keep working the issue here and in Springfield and want to assure our members that the problems can be worked out. It will require a lot of work, but it can get done.

Attacks on Unions

Wisconsin, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan and Minnesota are all, or soon to be, battlegrounds for those who see organized labor as the cause for all that is wrong with our economy. It's funny in a way, but it took all of about 18 months for the "Wall Street Dragoons" to turn the pointed finger of blame from themselves to Unions and Public Sector employees but this time they scoff at bailouts. It's equally unfortunate that money talks. But it couldn't have this kind of influence in turning the blame had it not been for the likes of some political groups that will

assist them in bringing down organized labor with the hope that it will enhance their political position in this country. I believe that those who are seeing this move for what it is realize that, say for instance those who identify with those who call themselves Tea Partiers, come with an agenda. And it is an agenda with which there is no room for compromise. It's all or nothing at all. With this in mind, for years I have heard it said that we as Policemen are Republicans with Democratic needs. Conservative in thinking but a little liberal in recognition of the resources we need to do our jobs and provide for our families. This at times can become problematic and a good example of this happens when endorsements for political candidates are being considered. For so many of our members who, when polled, felt the endorsement for our recent Governor's race should go to the Republican candidate. Even though we knew his position on pensions, in that he felt all new employees, and possibly current ones should be placed in a 401K type plan and get the State out from under that liability. His position on labor was not in our favor as well and in consideration of what is happening "up north", is there anyone who feels that our last Governor's race was a loss for our interests? Big business and the far right have seriously diminished

collective bargaining in the private sector for a whole generation of workers. It's not hard to see why they now want to go after Public Sector Labor, because there is a cost, one that they are not willing to allow to impact their bottom line. As I said last month, it's time for all union members to rally around their union. Your union will fight your fight here in the City, in Springfield and in Washington. We are only as successful as you allow us to be. But think about, or talk to those of us that were here before the union contract in 1981. We are much better off now than then and so is the City and the Department. The Unions establish a level playing field for all so that none of us, neither employees nor management are harmed by those whose personal agendas don't include anyone/anything but themselves.

So let's not be fooled by the agendas at work in the mentioned states and to an extent right here in Illinois. The success of the employers, whether they be municipalities or private industry, is dependent on the employees and vice versa. Commitments are made from both sides and both sides need to honor those commitments and when difficulties arise, both sides need to come together and arrive at the solutions. Dictatorships never survive and personal agendas need to be left at the door.

Legislation

All of our initiatives have been run through the Legislative Research Bureau in Springfield and have been sponsored in both the Senate and the House by both Democrats and Republicans. We have always included sponsorship on both sides of the aisle, sometimes out of necessity, but usually out of inclusiveness. When we need the votes on an issue, from what side they come from is not as important as getting them. We believe that any discussion/negotiation of pension issues will be a process that will formulate either as one of our bills or be in another form of one of the number of shell bills that are out there.

House Bill #	Senate Bill #	Bill description
HB1150, Brady	SB1696, Milner	Arbitration of Residency
HB1198, Lyons	SB1874, Martinez	Restructure of Pension Board allowing for at large elections of members
HB1459, Cunningham		Includes Manning as a subject of collective bargaining
HB1944, McAuliffe	SB1605, Mulroe	Health care premiums for retirees same as for actives
HB3051, Lyons	SB1872, Raoul	Provides for current Widows to receive same COLA as future Widows
HB3052, Lyons	SB2060, Raoul	Election of 3% COLA for additional 1% pay, awards COLA for current Widows
HB3320, McAuliffe	SB1604, Mulroe	Administrative Review for disability benefit
HB3321, McAuliffe	SB1592, Munoz	Provides health insurance for disabled and family for the line of duty Widows prior to 1997
HB3322, McAuliffe		3% COLA for all born after 1955, 1% increase contribution and Widows COLA
HB3325, Lyons	SB2059, Raoul	3% COLA from 1955 to 1960, 1% increase in contribution and current Widows COLA
HB3376, McCarthy		Clean up language for SB3538 to address annuitant monthly increases of 3% or 1/2 CPI whichever is less for new hires.

1st Vice President's Report, *By Bill Dougherty*



FOP Elections

By the time this newsletter reaches your home, the results from the FOP Election will be in. Like every FOP election there is a lot of misinformation that is passed out and said at roll calls. Sometimes this is done intentionally and other times this is done because of a lack of knowledge. It would be nice if our members running for elected offices would stick to the facts and tell the members what they plan to do to make things better for FOP Members. Many are able to do this, but there are always some that feel they have to make things personal. It shouldn't be personal. We have the largest FOP Lodge in the Nation. We should be proud of the benefits that our elected officials have obtained for us over the last 30 years.

The next time that you are at the Lodge offices, when you get off the elevator, take a look in the glass case to your left. In there, you will find all the old contract books dating back to our first collective bargaining agreement. Our first contract was only 40 pages. Our current contract has over 142 pages to it. These are not benefits that the City just decided to give to us. These are benefits that were fought for by your elected officials.

Members need to get their information from their Union, not from the Internet. If members come to a Union meeting, they will be informed. If you are receiving your Union information solely from the Internet, you will probably be misinformed. If you are a member that sits in roll call and "MF's" the Union about something he/she read on the Internet, then shame on you if you didn't pick up the phone or come to a Union meeting and find out the facts. We are the police and we are smart enough to learn the facts before we take a position on something. What I am asking every member to do is to stop bad mouthing the Union and your fellow officers. Nobody is in bed with City Hall. Whoever takes charge of our Union needs the backing of the membership. Not just the membership that voted for them, but all the membership. *Politi-*

cians are challenging our collective bargaining rights and attempting to diminish our pensions. These are big fights ahead and we must be united. We are only as strong as our membership allows us to be.

House Bill 1198- Trustees Positions on Our Pension Board

For years now, Sgt. Mike Lazzaro has been an elected Trustee on our Pension Board. Lazzaro tells anyone that will listen that we need to be more like the Firefighters Pension Fund, often praising the way that the fund conducts business. However, one thing Mike Lazzaro does NOT like is the way that firefighters elect their Pension Board Trustees – more "at large" elected spots. Sgt Lazzaro is dead set against making any changes in the way that our Pension Board Trustees are elected. He does not want to run in an "at large" election. But the Lodge doesn't believe that the current makeup of the Pension Board is fair to our members.

To address the disproportionate representation, the Lodge submitted Legislation in Springfield to remove the limitations on the rank of policemen who may serve as the Pension Board Trustees. The reason is simple. There are eight Trustees on the Pension Board. Four are appointed by the Mayor and four are elected. One is elected by FOP members. One is elected only by the Sergeants, one is elected by Lieutenants and above, and one is elected by the retirees. Seeing that approximately 90% of the Fund's participants are members below the rank of sergeant, we feel strongly that this overwhelming majority is not adequately represented on the Board. We have watched over the years how our money is invested by our elected Trustees and have been disappointed with many of their choices.

We are not asking that anyone be removed from the Board. That is a choice that is made at election time. We are not trying to take away supervisors' representation on the Board. Local 2 has supervisors on their Board that are elected at large. Sgt. Lazzaro also has been heard complaining that FOP Board Members are attempting to control and manipulate the Pension Fund and that these actions have been detrimental to the

Fund. He doesn't state who these FOP Board Members are. If this is true, shouldn't he tell us who these Board Members are? Sgt. Lazzaro is clearly worried about being re-elected to the Pension Board. If he was doing his job right and fighting for us at the Board and watching how our money is spent, Lazzaro would have nothing to worry about. The Lodge will notify its members when HB 1198 is up for a vote so that you may call your representatives and let them know how you feel about this needed legislation.

White Sox Game for National Law Enforcement Officers Museum

The FOP has joined with the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund for a night at the ballpark. The night is May 19, 2011. The White Sox are playing the Cleveland Indians and a portion of the ticket sales will go toward the National Law Enforcement Officers Museum. Tickets will be at a reduced price and will be available at the Lodge in the FOP Gift Shop. This will be a great night out with the family and will be for a great cause. Please contact the Lodge if you have any questions at (312) 733-7776. Flyers will be out in your units sometime in March.

St Patrick's Day Parade

Please come out and join us for the St. Patrick's Day Parade on Sunday, March 13, 2011. All members and their families are welcome to March with the FOP in the parade. The trolley car will be at the Onahan School at 1030hrs. Onahan School is located at 6634 West Raven.

**The General Meeting
Is Scheduled For
Tuesday, 15 March 2011
at 1900 Hours**



Third Vice-President's Report, *By Greg Bella*



Mayor Emanuel And His View On Our Pensions

Rahm Emanuel was interviewed by the F.O.P. Political Action Committee and he talked extensively about City pensions. Emanuel believes that we have earned 2.5% towards our pension for every year we worked, but believes that he can change the percentage earned going forward, forcing us to work longer for a lesser benefit. Emanuel does not have the authority to make that change because our pensions are protected by Article XIII of the State Constitution, which guarantees that our pensions **cannot be diminished or impaired**. Emanuel also said that any City Worker who is retired has earned their retirement benefit and he believes that their earned benefit **cannot be changed**.

With that being said, can Emanuel try to change our pension benefit for active employees? He could try but we, along with the other 42 unions, would be in Court to stop any change that is brought forward. This very issue was argued three different times before the State of Illinois Appellate Court and all three times the case was thrown out because it was ruled unconstitutional. Retired Appellate Court Justice Gino DeVito talked about the cases with Eric Zorn of the Tribune and his analysis is that Emanuel

should save the taxpayers of Chicago millions of dollars in legal fees by not fighting this losing battle.

The only time a change can happen in our pension is at the State Constitutional Convention, which can't happen for another eighteen years. That can only happen after a referendum is voted for requesting a Constitutional Convention be held. Then any change would have to be made and voted for by the Delegates at the Constitutional Convention.

The Fight for Collective Bargaining and Pensions

What do Rahm Emanuel, New Jersey Governor Christie and Wisconsin Governor Walker all have in common? They have all made the same statement; "public sector employees have been made promises concerning pensions from politicians who had no intention of keeping these promises."

Three different people from three different parts of the Country and all are making the same quote. Make no mistake, there is a concerted effort nationwide to attack public sector employees and their pension plans across the nation. Wisconsin Governor Walker is on a mission to destroy the public sector unions as evidenced by Legislation designed to end Collective Bargaining. The unions sat down at the table and offered a proposal wherein they would accept paying more for benefits while retaining their right to Collective Bargaining. Another compro-

mise offered by a Walker ally has the unions paying more for benefits and would remove Collective Bargaining for just two years. Walker has rejected both proposals, insisting unions give up their Collective Bargaining rights. The old saying rings true, you give them your hand and they cut off your arm.

People have already forgotten that last term Governor Mitch Daniels passed Legislation ending Mandatory Collective Bargaining for public sector employees in Indiana. The politicians in the state of Ohio are talking about passing Legislation as early as next week eliminating the arbitration process for public sector employees. Under their scenario you would bargain until an agreement is reached or when you reach impasse you just receive the cost of living percentage for the year. Public Sector Labor contracts would be negotiated every year.

In Illinois, public sector employees are not faced with losing Collective Bargaining and there is no Legislative agenda to eliminate Collective Bargaining. Representatives in the Senate and House are still trying to grapple with the State pension issue and the House is exploring the possibilities of change to current employees while the Senate has said that any such change would be unconstitutional.

It is going to be a bumpy ride for a while but rest assured this is a fight we and all City Unions are ready to fight.

2nd Vice-President's Report, *By Frank DiMaria*



Firearm Safety

The Lodge recently learned of a potentially dangerous weapon malfunction that can occur daily without the Officer being aware of the problem. When the magazine on a semi automatic pistol is not seated and locked in place properly it will cause the weapon to malfunction. If the weapon is fired while the magazine is not seated it will only discharge once and will not cycle a second round into the chamber, rendering the weapon useless. In the event that your weapon does not fire a second round, tap, rack and assess the

situation. Maneuvering this procedure should make your duty weapon operational.

This dangerous malfunction does not occur due to mechanical failure but can happen as easily as a jacket bumping against the magazine release or after District weekly weapons inspection not properly seating the magazine. A procedure which is recommended is the occasional tugging the base plate of the magazine to ensure that it is seated properly in the weapon ensuring it is operable. A daily examination of your duty weapon prior to starting your tour of duty along with proper maintenance will also ensure

that your duty weapon is operational and in the event of life threatening situations ensure that you will be protected.

The Lodge, in an effort to assist our membership, will host the Firearms Safety Days on 25 & 26 May 2011 at the Hall from 0900 until 1700 hrs. Attending this year's event will be the Representatives of the approved Firearm Manufacturers who will conduct onsite inspections of our member duty related weapons at no cost. Officers take advantage of this free worthwhile program which the Lodge has arranged for your benefit.

Financial Secretary's Report, *By Rich Aguilar*



How Am I Responsible For This?

A lot of non-Police Officers read our newsletter. This article is directed at them since the Chicago media outlets usually refuse to publish our side of the story. For all of the Police out there; I am sure that my story is not any different than yours. It could apply to any one of us.

Let me start by stating, I am a Police Officer. I am also a taxpayer. Police Officers have become the scapegoat for all of the ills of both State and City government budgets. We are somehow responsible for bankrupting the coffers of both with all of the benefits that we are perceived to have hoodwinked them out of.

Let's get the facts straight. I, like all other Police Officers, had a choice. I could have continued working in private industry or gone into public service. Had I made the choice to stay in private industry I would have had the opportunity to make considerably more money during my working career. I would have been able to relocate outside of the City of Chicago and lived where I chose to live. I would have had the opportunity to send my three children to public school at no additional costs to me other than my local taxes. I would have been off on evenings, weekends, and holidays, meaning I could have spent every Christmas with my family, attended every birthday party, wedding, etc. I would not have been subject to the rules of my job twenty-four hours a day. I would not have broken any bones doing my job. I would not have been threatened with bodily harm.

I chose to go into public service. I am not complaining about the choice that I made. I made a conscious choice to forego all that I have mentioned thus far, but that decision was made based on promises that were made to me when I started my career as a Police Officer.

I was promised free healthcare for me and my family both while I was working and when I retired. The City of Chicago renegeed on that deal less than a quarter of the way into my career.

I was promised a fair pension in exchange for the sacrifices that I would have to make. Now, suddenly the public is up in arms about the "generous" pension that some believe is "free money" for those in public service jobs. I am more than aware of the economic times that we are facing and understand that to someone who cannot find any or adequate work that my pension might seem extravagant. I have family members who are in the same position. What the public doesn't seem to be aware of is the fact that I have contributed nine percent of every paycheck that I have earned since I took this job and paid property taxes while I have lived in the City to help fund my pension.

I guess my question is quite simply this, why wasn't this an issue during my first twenty-five years of service? Our Pension Board and our Mayor were presented with a yearly actuarial report that advised them of the contributions that were needed to maintain the Pension Fund. Neither the Pension Board Trustees nor the Mayor took the steps that were necessary to properly fund the City

pensions throughout the years. If they had, this would not be an issue today.

There are currently sixty-five money managers allegedly working for the Pension Fund. I say allegedly because some of these money managers consistently lose money yet they continue to stay on and collect fees for their services. Why isn't there some incentive-based program put into place by the Pension Fund Trustees if these managers want to continue to be paid for their services?

Fortunately someone had the foresight to have our Pension Fund protected by the Illinois State Constitution. Fortunately the FOP and IAFF had the foresight to assure legislation was passed that ensures the funding of our Pension Fund for the future.

There is more than enough blame to go around as to why the Pension Funds are currently a problem. Just don't blame me. I have fulfilled my end of the bargain. The City now needs to do the same.

Brotherhood For The Fallen St. Patrick's Day Benefit

Help Support The Families Of Fallen Officers



Thursday, March 17, 2011

6:00 pm—11:00 pm

FOP Hall

1412 W. Washington Blvd.
Chicago, Illinois

\$20 Donation Includes Food, Refreshments and D.J.

For tickets, please contact Rick Caballero at 773-551-5074
Or visit the website at www.brotherhoodforthefallen.org

Recording Secretary's Report, *By Sidney Davis*



FOP Elections

By the time you read this newsletter, the elections for FOP will be over and the process for the next Board of Directors will be in the making.

Successful winners will be installed on Sunday, April 3, 2011 with an Installation Ceremony. The first Board of Directors meeting under the install officers will be held on Tuesday, April 5, 2011. Board of Directors Meetings are open meetings allowing all active and retired Lodge members to attend. Meetings normally start at 10am and Trustees meet at 9am with time certain at Noon. Time certain allows Lodge members to step up to the microphone and address members from the Board of Directors with questions they may have. FOP thanks all its members who took the time to complete a ballot and mail it back in a timely fashion, also to all members who voted in the mayor's race. Exercising your right to vote is a privilege which carries weight for the Lodge for many reasons.

Ambulance Service

Last month I wrote about ambulance service which spoke about coverage for active officers (sworn members only). Retired police officers are also covered under a Fire Department General Order 93-005 which states, "Retired fire and police personnel will be given the same consideration as an active member".

Exception: Immediate family of retired fire and police personnel is defined as a member's spouse only.

Daylight Savings Time

Mark your calendars to set clocks ahead one hour on March 13, 2011. Day-

light Savings Time is the practice of temporarily advancing clocks during the summertime so that afternoons have more daylight and mornings have less. Typically clocks are adjusted forward one hour near the start of spring and are adjusted backward in autumn, Nov 6. Members who forget will be late for work, church or whatever you do if you're an early bird by at least 1 hour.

Watch Bidding

Watch bidding may occur in districts and units starting on March 09, 2011. Section 31.5 (filling of vacancies) covers watch bidding. If and when the employer decides to fill a recognized watch vacancy by bid, such vacancy to be bid shall be posted on the seventh calendar day (Wednesday, March 09, 2011) of the third police periods and shall remain posted for seven (7) calendar days (Wednesday, March 16, 2011) from the day of posting. Members who are newly assigned to a unit may be placed on a watch at the employer's discretion until such time as the member accepts a management position or is able to bid on a vacancy. Members in the following categories may also bid; personnel concern, limited duty/convalescent duty, restricted duty or relieved of police powers. The Department reserves the right to change a successful bidder's watch assignment for the duration of the time in which a member is included in one of the categories listed above. A steady watch vacancy occurs when a member performing the assignment is: permanently transferred, permanently reassigned, resigns, retires, dies or when the Department increases the number of members on a specific watch in any of the designated units as

identified in the existing bargaining agreements. A steady watch vacancy exists only if the Department announces the vacancy and elects to fill the steady watch vacancy. If the vacancy is a bid vacancy, then the vacancy will be filled by bid. If the vacancy was appointed (management) at the discretion of the Department, then the vacancy will be filled at the discretion of the Department. Only eligible bargaining unit members currently assigned to the unit where the vacancy exists may bid for the existing vacancy by submitting the Watch Selection Request Form. Department Special Order 02-16 may be reviewed for guidelines in submitting a Watch Selection Request Form.

2011 FOP Fishing Tournament

Application for the FOP 2011 Ed Reines Memorial Fishing Tournament can be located on the back page of this Newsletter and the April, May FOP Newsletter. Please follow instructions that are listed.

Golfers Wanted

The Chicago Police Golf League is looking for golfers to join for the 2011 season.

Dues for 2011 are \$80, with payment due prior to April 8, 2011. To be eligible for the draft, your dues must be paid before the day of the draft.

League play begins on Monday, April 18 at Old Oak Country Club.

Active or retired CPD members interested should contact Bob Baikie at 773-758-1935 or e-mail rtbaikie@att.net or visit the website at cpdgolfleague@gmail.com

Illinois FOP News, *By Darrin Bourret, Trustee*

On January 30, the IFOP's Second Vice President James Simmons was awarded the Support for Homicide Victims award. Jim Simmons was the first to receive this award for his dedication and commitment to seeing that victims in the State of Illinois are not forgotten. He has also supported victims' issues and has fought for legislation that helps bring forth the rights of victims. Congratula-

tions on a job well done.

National Secretary Patrick Yoes has recently updated his "E" newsletter and is asking members to sign up to his mailing list. Pyoes@fop.net

Also, click "Like" on "Ted Street for National President" on Facebook for updates on his campaign for National Presidency of the Fraternal Order of Police.

From The Desk of Jim Bailey, *Trustee, Field Representative*



Everything Happens for a Reason

For the last two years of his life, Bruce Cummings lived at a Nursing Home in Uptown. Bruce had no family or friends who stopped in for the occasional visit. Even though there were other people living in the nursing home, Bruce was alone. On October 7th, 2010, that's how Bruce died at Weiss Hospital, alone.

The 23rd District conducted the death investigation. Upon notification to Area 3, The Sgt. taking the call heard the name Bruce Cummings and thought it may be a retired copper. The Sgt's instincts were correct. Operations Command confirmed Bruce had retired from the Chicago Police Department in 1999. After his death, no relatives came forward to arrange for his funeral services. As a result, Bruce became a Public Administrator's Storage Case, which meant that Bruce Cummings would be buried in Potter's Field in an unmarked grave. However, Bruce's Police Family wouldn't let that happen.

Through the tireless work of the Personnel in the 23rd District, Father Tom Nangle and the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation, Bruce was given a funeral and proper burial at Abraham Lincoln Cemetery. Bruce had served honorably in the United States Marine Corps.

The question now remains, how many more of our brothers, active or retired, are alone? The answer is unknown, but hopefully there is a solution. On February 4th, 2011, the Destitute Police Officer Subcommittee met for the first time. The committee consists of Chair Jim Molloy, Father Tom Nangle, Capt. Tom Lemmer of 23, Toby Kucharski, Cook County Public Administrator's Office, Detective Dave Spelich, Retired Officer Bob Graeber, Phil Haskett of Peer Support, John Gordon from the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation, Ken Hauser of the PABF and yours truly. The purpose of this committee is to ensure that none of our brothers and sisters are left alone, without a family to help them. For those that do pass away with no family to step forward, it is our job to give the officer a funeral and proper burial. It is the least we can

do considering the sacrifices made by our officers on a daily basis.

We want to let officers who are living under these circumstances know that they are not alone. If you know of an active or retired officer who is alone in a nursing home, hospital or managed care facility, please inform the committee. Information received in regard to these cases will enable volunteers to take the first step in providing help.

No Kidding!

For quite some time now, there has been much discussion regarding police shootings; in particular, when the shooting officer should give a statement. It has been the position of the Lodge that an officer should be allowed to give a statement at least 72 hours after the incident. After all, the Department views an officer involved shooting as such a traumatic incident that the officer is given three days off. The Independent Review Authority disagrees. IPRA's position is that it is important that an officer give a statement as soon after the shooting as possible so that the integrity and perception of the investigation is not affected. Never mind the fact that the officer hasn't slept, in some cases, for over 24 hours.

In the February edition of American Police Beat, IPRA's position regarding the timeliness of the statement is challenged. In a study done by Dr. Bill Lewinski of the Force Science Institute, there was a strong correlation between how much rest a person had and their memory. The study revealed that those individuals who were well rested gave more accurate and detailed descriptions of a particular incident opposed to those

Deceased Brothers & Sisters

Henry W. Slawinski, Age 87

Russell Klein, Age 80

Donald R. Egan, Age 73

Vincent P. Cerrantano, Age 71

Stephen S. Carynski, Age 82

William M. Thomas, Age 72

Daniel S. Skrezyna, Age 71

who were not. In research done by the American Journal of Forensics Psychology, it was concluded that the deprivation of sleep may cause the brain to cause false memories. In the article, Officer Involved Shootings researcher Dr. David Klinger maintains that just under 50% of officers involved in shootings have difficulty sleeping during the first 24 hours after the incident. For some officers, sleep issues continue for at least one week after the shooting.

That being said, what is the hurry for statements? IPRA has six months to complete an investigation. If more time is needed, a request to the City Council is made for an extension on the time limit to complete the investigation. The Lodge is currently awaiting an arbitrator's decision regarding this issue and the time frame in which an officer will give a statement for a shooting. Hopefully the Arbitrator reads American Police Beat.

Stay safe. JB

Olsen Benefit/March Madness Party

Friday, March 18th, 7pm—Midnight

\$40 per ticket...and all proceeds will help the Family of Eric Olsen, who have many great friends and their health, but will be going through a career change situation and this is when friends can help them through it.

115 Bourbon Street

115th & Kedzie, Merrionette Park, IL

For tickets please call Andy McGlynn at 773-297-9593

Proposed Amendment to Constitution Article 5, Section 1

In August 2011, at the National Fraternal Order of Police Biennial Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, Illinois will have a candidate running for the office of President of the National Fraternal Order of Police. Current State Lodge President Ted Street has announced his candidacy with the backing of the Illinois FOP Board of Directors. Lodge 7 has, at their December 7, 2010 Board of Directors meeting, committed their support to President Street's campaign. The importance of this commitment by both Ted Street and this Board is one which rises to a level which has significant importance to the Lodge and we feel compelled to propose an amendment to our Constitution under Article 5, Section 1. The amended portion of the existing Section is emboldened.

Article V Representatives

Section 1 A Lodge Representative for each District, Area, or other Police Unit shall be elected by the members of the Unit he/she represents and he/she be a member of the Unit he/she represents. Said elections are to be held within 90 days, following the election of Lodge Officers. The elected Unit Representatives of the Lodge may, by virtue of their office, be delegates to the State and National Conferences. **If an elected Unit Representative is unable to attend either a National or a State Conference, he/she may recommend a Watch Representative to attend in his/her absence. Such recommendation shall require the approval of the Lodge Board of Directors.**

The Board of Directors finds that this properly proposed Amendment is recommended for passage by a vote of the Membership at the General Monthly Meeting on March 15, 2011.

Did G-d Create Evil? Compliments of Rabbi Moshe Wolf

Recently I was called at my office with the following question, "Rabbi, why does G-d do good things and bad things?" I responded, "Please let me re-phrase the question." "Why does G-d do good things and then He does things we don't understand?" It reminded me of the following story... "Did G-d create evil?"

A University professor at a well-known institution of higher learning challenged his students with this question.

"Did G-d create everything that exists?" A student bravely replied, "Yes he did!" "G-d created everything?" the professor asked. "Yes sir, he certainly did," the student replied. The professor answered, "If G-d created everything, then G-d created evil. And, since evil exists, and according to the principal that our works define who we are, then we can assume G-d is evil."

The student became quiet and did not answer the professor's hypothetical definition. The professor, quite pleased with himself, boasted to the students that he had proven once more that the faith the student practiced was a myth. Another student raised his hand and said, "May I ask you a question, professor?" "Of course", replied the professor. The student stood up and asked, "Professor does cold exist?" "What kind of question is this? Of course it exists. Have you never been cold?" The other students snickered at the young man's question. The young man replied, "In fact sir, cold does not exist. According to the laws of physics, what we consider cold is, in reality, the absence of heat. Every body or object is susceptible to study when it has or

transmits energy, and heat is what makes a body or matter have or transmit energy. Absolute zero (-460F) is the total absence of heat, and all matter becomes inert and incapable of reaction at that temperature. Cold does not exist. We have created this word to describe how we feel if we have no heat."

The student continued, "Professor, does darkness exist?" The professor responded, "Of course it does." The student replied, "Once again you are wrong sir, darkness does not exist either. Darkness is, in reality, the absence of light. Light we can study, but not darkness. In fact, we can use Newton's prism to break white light into many colors and study the various wavelengths of each color. You cannot measure darkness. A simple ray of light can break into a world of darkness and illuminate it. How can you know how dark a certain space is? You measure the amount of light present. Isn't this correct? Darkness is a term used by man to describe what happens when there is no light present."

Finally the young man asked the professor, "Sir, does evil exist?" Now uncertain, the professor responded, "Of course, as I have already said; we see it every day. It is in the daily examples of man's inhumanity to man. It is in the multitude of crime and violence everywhere in the world. These manifestations are nothing else but evil. To this the student replied, "Evil does not exist, sir, or at least it does not exist unto itself. Evil is simply the absence of G-d. It is just like darkness and cold, a word that man has created to describe the absence of G-d. G-d did not create evil. Evil is the result of what happens when

man does not have G-d's love present in his heart. It's like the cold that comes when there is no heat, or the darkness that comes when there is no light."

The professor sat down. The young man's name -- Albert Einstein

Kind of makes you put your fore finger on your forehead and go hmmm... Let us take a moment and think about this, let it sink in. Whatever religion or faith you practice, hold on to what you have, because there are moments in life that a little prayer and faith is all that is needed to get us through those difficult times. As the saying goes, "when you get to the end of your rope, tie a knot, say a prayer and hang in there".

For the curious, please note that I do not spell out the name of G-d out of respect. Spelling out "the name" and then throwing it in the trash, some would consider it to be a desecration of "the name", so I put in the dash. This is a religious custom I follow and please don't be offended. Thanks for understanding. If you would like to discuss it further, please don't hesitate to drop me a line or give me a call.

May G-d bless you and keep you safe. Amen.
Compliments of your Police Chaplain Rabbi Moshe Wolf 773-463-4780 or e-mail: moshewolf@hotmail.com

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.

January Pension Meeting – Advocates present: 3rd Vice President Greg Bella, 1st Vice President Bill Dougherty, Det. Mark Howe, Det. Steve Schorsch and myself. Disability Claims: Duty: 1 granted 75%, 1 continued by Officer. Application for Duty: 5 granted Ordinary without prejudice. Heart: 1 granted, 1 granted 50% pending hearing. Ordinary: 1 continued by Officer. Total and Permanent: 2 granted. Disability Status Review: 1 Officer's Duty Disability terminated.

Petition for continuation of Annuity – granted for Jon Burge.

Request for pension credit for prior service 5-214c (Rosario) – 1 granted.

Request for pension credit for prior service 5-214.2 – 3 granted, 4 denied.

Request for pension credit for prior military service under 5-214.3 – 16 granted.

Motion to defer pension credit for National Guard and Reservists.

Constitution of the State of Illinois - Article XIII - Section 5. Pension and Retirement Rights – enacted 1970. *Membership in any pension or retirement system of the State, any unit of local government or school district, or any agency or instrumentality thereof, shall be an enforceable contractual relationship, the benefits of which shall not be diminished or impaired.*

The Illinois State Constitutional Convention (con-con) – In 1988 Illinois voters were to decide if the Illinois Constitution needed to be revised or rewritten and it was voted down by 75%. In 2008 it was also voted down by 68%.

State of Illinois 2010 Form IL-1363 Persons with Disabilities. Application for Circuit Breaker, IL Cares RX and License Plate Discount. For more info go to www.cbrx.il.gov or call 1-800-624-2459.

Cook County Assessor's Disabled Persons' Homeowner Exemption. For ap-

plication go to FOP website and click on Disability Page or go to www.cookcountyassessor.com or call 312-443-7350.

Annual Hockey Fundraiser – CPD vs. CFD – Sunday, March 13, 1000 hrs at United Center. Entry fee \$5.00 – children under 12 are free.

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.

United States Naval Academy is accepting applications. Prospective candidates can go to www.USNA.edu to apply online. **United States Merchant Marine Academy** is accepting applications. In 2010 eight appointments from the State of Illinois were left unfulfilled. For information go to www.USMMA.edu. Contact Det Jerry Lewis (retired) at 773-779-8967 or 312-925-8887 for more info.

Returning Veterans' Homeowner Exemption provides a one-time \$5000.00 reduction in the Equalized Assessed Value (EAV) of the veteran's principal residence for the taxable year that the veteran returns from active duty in an armed conflict involving the

United States. For more info and deadline for filing contact Cook County Assessor's Office at 312-443-7550 or www.cookcountyassessor.com.

Disabled Veterans' Standard Homeowner Exemption. The amount of exemption each year depends on the percentage of the disabled veteran's service-connected disability as certified by the VA. For more info contact Cook County Assessor's Office.

Illinois Dept. of Revenue 2010 Schedule G. (Attach to Form IL-1040) Any donation will reduce your refund or increase the amount you owe. Line F. Military Family Relief Fund. Contributions will help guard members, reservists and members of their families defray expenses when a wage earner temporarily leaves employment for active duty or is injured while performing such duty. Line G. Illinois Veteran's Home Fund. Contributions will be used to purchase supplies and equipment that will be used to enhance the lives of the veterans and improve the operations of the veterans' home. Line M. Disabled Veterans Property Tax Relief Fund. Contributions will provide property tax relief.

"The purpose of all war is peace." ~
Saint Augustine 354-430
Airborne Sal



2011 Annual St. Patrick's Day Party

Saturday, March 12, 2011
6:00 pm—11:00 pm

Fraternal Order of Police Hall
1412 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, Illinois

\$20 Donation

*Includes Harrington's Corned Beef, Refreshments & Entertainment
(Some adult beverages require tickets that can be purchased at the front door of the party)*

For more information or to purchase tickets for the party, please contact the Gift Shop at 312-733-2344.

Where Did The Time Go? *By Bill Nolan*

In thinking about an article for this newsletter, and for all practical purposes probably my last article, my first thought is, where did the time go? Going back to January of 1963, when the Fraternal Order of Police was formed in Chicago, all of the Officers of the FOP at that time had only one thing in mind, and that was to help all Chicago Police Officers in their daily work environment.

Maybe it was just a coincidence that most of the early Officers all worked out of the old Area 4, Maxwell Street station, which included Homicide, Task Force and Traffic Units, but that is where the leadership of the FOP was born. On a personal note, I will always be grateful to these early leaders who started me on the road to FOP leadership including Dineen, Higgins, Learas, Skelly, Belmonte, Lis and many, many more on the State and National levels.

After serving as a Unit Representative from Area 4 Homicide/Sex Unit, I ran for office in the FOP Lodge 7 for the first time as Sgt. at Arms and was re-elected twice. During the third term, we were close to getting the Collective Bargaining Bill passed for Police Officers and Detectives only. On one of the saddest, but proudest Board meetings we attended, all of the elected Officers of the Board who held higher ranks in the CPD, without exception, stood up and resigned so the Lodge could move forward in the world of collective bargaining.

When this Lodge was first formed we had a Captain, a couple of Lieutenants and several Sergeants who served on the Board of Directors. Their heart was with the FOP and our mission, but the Labor laws had to be followed at that time, so in a spirit of Fraternalism these early leaders, because they were fortunate enough to have been promoted in their career, had to leave the job of getting the first ever contract for Chicago Police Officers. Due to these events, I was appointed to fill out the last two years as Treasurer. I was then re-elected three more times as Lodge Treasurer until the opportunity was there to run for Lodge President. I was proud to be elected and re-elected twice as the President of the largest FOP Lodge in the Country. The Presidents before me were

pioneers in the area of watching out for all Police Officers and their successes and dedication will always be remembered.

As the Lodge membership grew it was obvious that we could not continue holding monthly meetings with alternate north and south side locations. That problem was resolved when we were able to find our current location on Washington Blvd. Please understand, we did not find the building in the present condition. Far from it! What a job it was to renovate, decorate and provide the space we have today and give the members a place they can appreciate and call their own. We definitely can call it our own now since we were able to burn the mortgage under this current administration of the FOP. I think we were right in purchasing this property, although in the early days we were called foolish for doing so. Now the 911 Center and the Chicago Patrolmen's Credit Union all bought property in this same area and our neighbors undertook a big renovation project and stayed put, so I guess our early vision was good.

In talking about the purchase, renovation and hard work that went into this project, I would be remiss if I didn't thank the one Brother that really worked hard to help make all this happen and that was the Treasurer at that time, Al Barski. His ideas and dedication are evident throughout the Hall.

Some of our other earlier achievements, since winning the right for Collective Bargaining was payroll dues deduction, hiring full time attorneys, establishing the Legal Defense Fund and one that only effects a few, the By-Law change that limits the term of the President to three terms only. I for one believe, and I think the current President agrees, that three terms is enough.

It is a tough schedule that keeps going 24/7 and after awhile it can take its toll. But it has also been one of the most rewarding challenges because if, during my terms, I have saved at least one Police Officer from losing his or her job, or to help them through the traumatic events of having to take a life in the course of duty, or dealing with the police haters, I am

satisfied. For the last nine years I have served as the Immediate Past President and I hope that I was able to convey some advice or help along the way.

While this concludes thirty-six years of serving as an Officer on the Chicago FOP Board of Directors I have also been fortunate to have been elected as your FOP National Treasurer for eight years and serve on the National Board along with Past National President John Dineen. The President of Lodge 7 is a full time, hard working job servicing over 17,000 members. When John Dineen was elected President of Lodge 7, he stepped down after one term as our National President. When I was elected President of Lodge 7, I stepped down as our National Treasurer after four terms; in other words you cannot serve two masters and Lodge 7 deserves the full commitment of their President.

I will miss being a part of the daily inner workings of the Lodge, but I will always cherish the many friendships I have made here and on the State and National Levels of this great organization. There are tough times ahead as the politicians want to interfere with our pensions and Collective Bargaining rights. Stay together, stay strong, stay Fraternal and most of all thank you, members, for allowing me to serve you for thirty six great years.

**Tax Time!
Updated!**

Active Members paid
\$474.00 in union dues
that can be claimed on
your income tax in 2010.

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



STORE HOURS:
 MON-THURS, 9:00 – 5:00
 FRIDAY, 9:00 – 4:00
 SATURDAY, 9:00 – 1:00

STORE CLOSED:
 MARCH 7TH

DIRECT LINE:
 312-733-2344

WEBSITE:
WWW.FOP7GIFTSHOP.COM

TEE-SHIRT OF THE MONTH

BLUES BROTHERS
 (SMALL—2XL)
30% OFF

*It's Spring? At least, that's what the calendar says...
 We're going to have an end of Winter sale anyway and a little something for St. Patrick's Day!*

IN HONOR OF ST. PAT'S DAY...

We have a great gift item, a singing Irish teddy bear, either lad or lass, that sings "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling", priced to sell, **\$21.95 each**



Irish shamrock scarves, priced to sell, **\$4.95 each**

Going to the parades? The FOP Windshirt in forest green will keep you warm. Sizes available, medium—3XL, now on sale for **\$22.46 each**

Adult long sleeve green tee shirt, sizes small—2XL, **10% OFF**



Back in stock...Another something to keep you warm...8oz CPD Flask, **\$9.95 each**

CLOTHING SALE...

Ladies pink, hooded sweatshirt, sizes small—2XL, prices range **\$15.95—\$17.95**

Men's full zip hoodie in black or gray, Women's in white, hot pink, green, light pink or teal, sizes small—2XL, all on sale for only **\$19.95 each**

BITS & PIECES

Custom CPD Star Coffee Cup With Name, Star & Rank
\$12.95 each

NEW ITEM

Men's Polo, Navy, Gray, Black, Denim Blue & Tan Medium—3XL
\$19.95 each

NEW ITEM

Mock Turtleneck Black w/tan piping Navy w/royal piping Small—3XL
Introductory Price \$13.95 Each

BITS & PIECES

10% OFF
 All Challenge Coins In Stock

EVEN A GIFT FOR FIDO!

GET YOUR GREEN & WHITE, BLACK & GRAY, NAVY & WHITE OR GOLD & NAVY CHECKERBOARD DOG COLLAR.



14" TO 22" IN SIZE
\$19.95 EACH

FOP ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY - MARCH 12, 2011

The FOP Gift Shop Will Be Open For Sales During The St. Patrick's Day Party On Saturday, March 12, 2011.

Don't Forget The Light-Up Shamrock Necklace.
 Or a nice pin for that scarf that's on sale!
 These items go fast...stop in soon!



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

College Visions, ACT WORKSHOP, Strictly Strategies

Session Time:
 Sunday, March 27, 2011
 1300 – 1600 hours

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

Registration Fee:
 \$25.00

Please return this registration form and your fee (cash or check payable to College Visions) to Kathy Moore at F.O.P. Lodge No. 7, by Monday, March 21, 2011

Name: _____

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

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



Official Publication of Chicago Lodge No. 7
 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
 17th Annual Ed Reines Memorial Fishing Tournament
 at the Chain of Lakes, Wednesday, May 18, 2011.

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