

September

2012

F.O.P. NEWS

Official Publication of Chicago Lodge No. 7

1412 W. Washington Blvd. Chicago, IL 60607-1821 Phone: 312-733-7776 FAX: 312-733-1367
www.chicagofop.org

President's Report, By Michael Shields



FOP, Chicago Lodge 7
1412 W. Washington Blvd.

Newsletter Committee:
Bill Burns, Chairman
Dan O'Brien
Glen Popiela
John Lipka
Russell Schultz



Special Session

As we all know by now, the Illinois Legislature has met with little to show for a special one-day session regarding pensions. This legislative session resulted in very little, other than a media spectacle. The purpose of this session was to address the State Pension systems. The media reminds us daily of the State's looming pension unfunded liability in Illinois. The legislature seeks changes to the state systems that would change the state worker's COLA from compounded to simple. A Chicago Police Officer earns a pension that offers a simply calculated COLA of 1.5% to 3% depending on dates of birth prior to January 1st, 1955. Our COLA rate will most certainly be discussed in the fall veto session. We are not apologetic in our receipt of such modest cost of living adjustments. The Lodge has introduced legislation to remove this birth date restriction despite the climate towards COLA's in Springfield. The Mayor appeared in Springfield advocating "pressing the pause button" on COLA's for ten years, despite the constitutional challenges this creates. All of us will be in for a fight in the upcoming legislative sessions.

By-law Proposal

Recently, a member submitted a proposal to change our Constitution and By-Laws to prohibit retirees from holding elected office within our Lodge. All active and retired members should be advised that as your President, I strongly oppose this proposal and will work against its adoption. The Board of Directors has voted unanimously against this measure. This issue will be addressed with a floor vote at the September 18th general meeting. I urge the membership to vote against this by-law.

In the past, this Union has represented, and will continue to represent, retirees on a host of issues, including retiree health care, pension benefits and cost of living allowances. It goes without saying that these are not fringe or secondary issues, but are matters of grave importance to current and future retirees. To prevent retirees from participating in the Union in an elective capacity, when some of them personally helped create it, is a mistake. This past Spring, at the Illinois legislature, Mayor Emanuel publicly called for the reduction of pension benefits, not only for future annuitants of the Chicago Police Pension Fund, but for current retirees as well. To date, our combined efforts, partnered with other public sector unions, have proven successful against a strong and well-funded opposition intent on diminishing, and in some cases destroying, our benefits. The FOP handles more retiree issues than any other labor organization. We are a fraternal organization. The strength of the FOP rests not only with those still serving today, but also in the collective efforts of retirees and disabled members.

As your President, I have had the honor and privilege to attend memorials and parole board hearings for fallen members who gave the ultimate sacrifice. I have sat and listened to fallen police officers' family members, some of whom were murdered several decades ago, recount the day they lost a loved one. For them, it is like it happened yesterday. I have met members who have been catastrophically injured in the performance of their duty. I have met with and continue to work with retirees who, over 30 years ago, had the tenacity and where-withal to start this bargaining unit, which we sometimes take for granted. The Lodge faces a host of current and future threats from those who want to deprive us of our well-earned and constitutionally protected benefits. We will only succeed with the combined efforts of a unified membership. Any efforts to divide the FOP during this difficult economic and political climate will only benefit our adversaries. We need unity now more than ever.

City Broke?

For months the City and the Department have answered our campaign for more manpower with plans to reallocate resources because of budgetary constraints. In short, the City claimed it couldn't hire more police officers because it couldn't afford to. Yet it seems like every time I turn around, the Mayor is on the news to announce (continued on page 2)

"In the past, this Union has represented, and continues to represent, retirees on a host of issues, including retiree health care, pension benefits and cost of living allowances."

Inside this issue:

<i>IPRA: 6 and a half years and Counting</i>	Pg. 5
<i>Proposed Constitution and By-Law Amendment</i>	Pg. 8
<i>FOP Gift Shop Summer Sale Ad</i>	Pg. 11
<i>Dues Notice</i>	Back Page

President's Report (Ctd.)

the things that he can find funding for. For example, on August 25, 2012, Mayor Emanuel announced plans to redesign and rebuild a "world class park" to honor Maggie Daley. The redesign reportedly costs approximately \$55 million dollars and will be funded with both **public** and private funds. So the City stalls in hiring police officers to keep the City safe, but they can spend millions to rebuild a park? That doesn't ring true to me.

It tells me that if the City wanted to find the funding to hire more police officers, it would do just that. It also tells me that we need to continue to be vocal about this issue in every way possible to get the public on our side. Maybe if the City Council put enough pressure on the Mayor he will make hiring police officers a higher priority than redesigning a downtown park that costs millions of dollars.

Tom Skelly

For over 40 years, FOP Trustee Tom Skelly has been actively involved in the Chicago FOP. He has also run the FOP golf outing for decades. The Lodge is pleased to announce that the annual golf outing is now named in his honor. Unfortunately for Tom, cancer has spread from his lungs and his brain throughout his whole body. Tom Skelly is a class act; he has always placed the Lodge's needs over his own. I ask that the members keep Tom in their thoughts and prayers as he goes through a difficult fight. Tom Skelly is truly a man that all of us should emulate.

1st Vice President's Report, By Bill Dougherty



City Hall vs. Chicago Police Department

The Chicago Sun-Times reported last month that City Hall wants to reduce the number of police officers on disability by placing them in limited duty positions. If that were true, why are we going to arbitration with the Department regarding limited duty in October? The

Department changed its orders in January 2012. The Department unilaterally decided that non-IOD limited duty officers should only have 365 days on limited duty and then be placed on disability pension. These officers are able to work and want to work. Why are the Department and the City taking opposite positions on the same issue? The Department is low on manpower, someone should be taking a look at this one and rethinking it.

Manpower/Limited Duty

The Lodge received a call from an officer who was on IOD last month. The officer had knee surgery and was released to work limited duty with at least four more weeks of physical therapy. The officer gave the Medical Services Section (MSS) the note from his doctor and was ready to go back to work that day. Unfortunately, that didn't happen. The officer was informed that he needed to take a limited duty form set back to his doctor and have his doctor fill out these forms. The officer informed MSS that his doctor's appointment was four weeks away and in four weeks he should be able to return to work full duty. MSS didn't care that the officer could return to work, and because of the cumbersome system put in place by the MSS doctor, the officer must wait to return. This is just another waste of Department manpower. In my opinion, this policy was put in place by someone who might have a medical degree, but obviously lacks common sense.

Flu Shots for FOP Members & Their Families

The Lodge will have its annual Heath Fair with FREE Flu Shots on October 11, 2012. The Flu shots are FREE for our members. Any FOP member, active, retired or disabled, can come down to the Lodge between 7:30am and 4:00pm for their shot. Family members may also receive a flu shot for a small fee. The cost for family members is \$15.00

each (cash or check only). There is no need to call for an appointment, walk-ins are welcome.

Random Drug Testing Arbitration Award

The Lodge recently received the Random Drug Testing Award back from Arbitrator Bierig. The issue in this arbitration was whether the City of Chicago's current random selection process of the Random Drug Testing Program violates the parties' Collective Bargaining Agreement. The Lodge argued that the process is not random and that officers are selected numerous times in the same year. The City argued that the Oracle random number generator works as expected and the only manipulation to the system is the agreed upon elimination of department members who are not present at work for testing. Approximately 5000 officers are tested each year. The department argued that with any random number generator function, they would expect to see some repeat patterns. Officers may be called a couple times per year and then not called for several years. The Union had an officer that worked in the Random Drug Testing Program testify. That officer testified that she was selected multiple times. On one occasion, she was told that she did not have to submit to the test! She sent an e-mail to her supervisor seeking a repair to the Random Drug Testing Program. The Union presented three additional witnesses who testified that they had been called multiple times in one year and felt targeted as a result of the testing. Documentary evidence of other grievants and individuals was submitted as well. Arbitrator Bierig ruled that the Union did not meet its burden of proof that the selection for Random Drug Testing of Department members is not random. A copy of the arbitrator's decision is on the FOP website.

The arbitrator did not rule that FOP lost the case. He just passed the buck. Apparently, he has difficulty with math AND believes that a "random" drug testing program can have its testers sending officers away without testing because of repeated screenings during a very short period of time. How could that ever be considered "random"? Given the lack of a decision, the Lodge is prepared to have a go at random drug testing again. Anyone who has been tested numerous times in a short time period is urged to contact the Lodge so we can put the matter before another arbitrator and get actual resolution.

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



Conceal and Carry Requirements for Retired Police Officers

HR 218, the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act, was signed by President George W. Bush on 22 July 2004. The law allows for qualified active and retired law enforcement officers to carry concealed weapons nationwide. Active law enforcement officers are defined as those who: are authorized to engage and perform law enforcement duties, have statutory powers of arrest, are authorized to carry a firearm, are not the subject of disciplinary action which could result in the loss of police powers, meet the standards established by their agency, are not under the influence of alcohol or drugs and are not prohibited by federal law from possessing a firearm. A qualified retired officer is defined as an individual who: left service with at least 10 years, was qualified to engage and perform law enforcement duties, had statutory powers of arrest, was authorized to carry a firearm, is not under the influence of alcohol or drugs and was not prohibited by federal law from possessing a firearm.

The procedure for signing up to qualify for retired members has changed over the years, and the most current procedures will be detailed in this article. Retired Police Officers in the State of Illinois may take advantage of the law and apply to carry concealed through Illinois Retired Officer Concealed Carry (IROCC). Chicago Police Officers who have made the decision to retire may obtain and fill out an application to IROCC anytime prior to retirement. Retired Officers must complete an application, questionnaire and a retirement/separation verification form, which must be signed by an authorized member of their agency. The retired officer must forward, with the documents, photocopies of their Department issued identification card, FOID, a photo for the permit and a non-refundable application fee of \$75.00 for one weapon or \$100.00 for two weapons. Once the application has been preapproved the retired officer will receive notification that they are eligible to enroll in a

certification shoot at one of the state wide range sites.

Once approved, retired officers should contact IROCC at 217-726-9537 to set up an appointment or to answer any questions. Listed below are IROCC Approved Ranges in the Chicago Area:

Will County Sheriffs Police Range
2402 E Laraway Rd
Joliet, IL 60433

Lake County Sheriffs Police Range
15900 Russell Rd
Russell, IL 60075

University Park Police Range
650 Burnham Dr
University Park, IL 60484

Article II/Gun World Range
250 Cortland AVE
Lombard, IL 60148

The Lodge is advocating that the Department allow its retirees to make use of Department ranges. We will keep you updated.

EAP/Peer Support

The Professional Counseling Service/EAP is in the process of accepting applications for the Peer Support Team Training. The Peer Support Program is a program that offers assistance and appropriate support resources to employees when personal or professional problems negatively affect their work performance, family unit or self. The Peer Support Program is a volunteer program for sworn, retired and disabled members. To receive an application or more information contact the Program Manager Dave Saucedo at the Professional Counseling Service at 312-747-0392.

A serious commitment to the program is a must.

Address Change Form, Effective Date: _____

Name: _____ Star Number: _____ E-Mail: _____
(Last, First, MI)

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

Home Telephone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

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

3rd Vice President's Report, *By Dan Gorman*



Upcoming Court Cases

Please mark your calendars, appear and show support for our fallen brothers and their families. Send a message to the court with a strong police presence.

Paris McGee, Toyious Taylor, Marcus Floyd - all charged in the murder of **Officer Thomas Wortham IV**
August 29th, 2012
Room 606, 26th / Cal, Judge Porter

Antwon Carter - charged in the murder of **Officer Michael Bailey**
August 29th, 2012
Room 602, 26th / Cal, Judge Sacks

Christopher Harris and Kevin Walker – both charged in the murder of **Officer Alex Valadez**
Harris – September 7th, 2012
Walker – September 13th, 2012
Room 207, 26 / Cal, Judge Alonso

Bryant Brewer - charged in the murder of **Officer Thor Soderberg**
September 10th, 2012
Room 602, 26 / Cal, Judge Sacks

Timothy Herring Jr - charged in the murder of **ET Mike Fliak**
September 18th, 2012
Room 404, 26th / Cal, Judge Brosnahan

Edgar Colon and Tyrone Clay - both charged in the murder of **Officer Clifton Lewis**
Clay – September 17th, 2012
Colon – October 1st, 2012
Room 206, 26 / Cal, Judge Rosemary Higgins

Organized “nations” are registered, are you?

We are not going to publicly announce what percentage of our membership is actually registered to vote, but it could definitely use improvement. A Unit Reps meeting was held at the Lodge on August 8th and a number of issues were discussed. Reps from 66 units attended and most were sworn-in as Deputy Registrars with the Board of Elections.

If you, the member, have to stop and think about whether or not you are registered to vote, there is no harm in re-registering. The next step would be to vote in the November 6, 2012 election. Each individual vote matters.

The mayor and others elected to political office need to realize that the FOP's voting base is a threat. This organization depends on the elected public officials to be on our side when it comes to the issues we face today. Since this past spring legislative session, the mayor has been putting the scare into the voting “property tax payer,” threatening to “raise property taxes by 150%” (if his pension reform proposals aren't granted). The mayor wants property tax payers to believe that their overall property tax bills will be increased by 150%. The Mayor prefers to use his “doom and gloom” rhetoric and fails to mention that other sources of revenue can be used to fund the pension funds.

We, as law enforcement, and as a labor organization, are surrounded by questionable community groups, organized street gangs, “nations,” and other voting blocs who stand in the way of our goals, and stand against our rights, our needs and our guarantees. These groups vote at rates up to 80-90% and even up to 100% in some cases.

The deadline to register to vote is October 9th and the General election is November 6th. Inquire with your Unit Rep if he or she is a Deputy Registrar. Voter registration is also available at Secretary of State Offices or by going to: www.chicagoelections.com.

2012 Gold Star Candlelight Vigil

Monday, September 10, 2012
1930 hours

Gold Star Families Memorial and Park.

All police officers, their families, and friends are invited. This ceremony is expected to last one hour and will take place rain or shine. As part of the tradition of the Candlelight Vigil, the names of all Chicago Police Officers who died in the line of duty will be read. Those who wish to read the name of a Fallen Officer should e-mail Beata.Staszewski@chicagopolice.org

Gold Star Families Memorial and Park is located near Waldron Drive (in the shadow of Soldier Field). Uniformed CPD personnel will direct attendees to the parking lot at the 18th Street exit off of Lake Shore Drive.

From the Desk of Jim McCarthy, Field Representative



IPRA: 6 & ½ Years....and Counting

For many of us January 26, 2006 might seem like a long time ago. To give you an idea as to how long it has been, if you had a child who was in 6th grade then, he or she would be leaving the nest and perhaps headed off to college now. Sadly, for four police officers from the 020th District, an incident from that long ago has just now caused them to be stripped of their police powers and issued 30-days pending separation. It's IPRA investigations like this one, which are becoming more commonplace, that demonstrate that the disciplinary system administered by the Chicago Police Department is clearly broken.

The length of C.P.D. disciplinary investigations was highlighted by the Chicago Tribune on the cover of its Sunday newspaper on June 17, 2012. In the article, IPRA Director Ilana Rosenzweig lamented about how sorry she was that the Chicago Police Board had to dismiss an excessive force claim against an officer. The Police Board dismissed the case because IPRA couldn't manage to complete the investigation within a 5 year timeframe, as required by state law. Rosenzweig stated, "It should not have happened. We are going to make sure it doesn't happen again." To state the obvious, this assertion by Ms. Rosenzweig is flat-out false.

It is even more amazing that the officers in this case, whose actions were apparently so flagrant and egregious that they merit 30-pending, never worked a single tour of duty stripped of police powers. For 6 and a half years, these officers worked in the 020th District pushing a beat car. The way I see it, either IPRA and its Director operate with complete autonomy, or allowing investigations to last over six years while the officers work with no restrictions has the blessing of City Hall.

If it wasn't so sad and financially devastating for each and every one of our members facing termination, who wonder what is going to happen to their families and livelihoods, the comedy of errors that takes place over at IPRA might be funny. But it's not funny, it's tragic. When the Mayor is on T.V. or in the newspaper singing the praises of the men and women of the Chicago Police Department, it rings hollow and self-serving to me. In my capacity here at the Lodge, I see a broken and terribly flawed disciplinary system, which the Mayor refuses to acknowledge. The reality is there is little to no concern, because the City employees who are affected by this travesty are only Chicago cops, not politically connected hacks.

The ordinance the City Council passed which empowered the Director of IPRA to have the final authority to authorize the termination of police officers has been a disaster. This Director, with no law enforcement background other than investigating police misconduct, singlehandedly makes

decisions regarding the termination of Chicago Police Officers. This is wrong. Furthermore, in what other occupation could an employee be fired because of an incident from over 6 years ago, where the employer was not only aware of the incident, but allegedly investigating the incident? I don't know of any.

Because of this latest 78-month investigation coming out of IPRA, I have notified the Public Safety Committee chaired by Alderman Balcer. Alderman Balcer has acknowledged receipt of the letter and I am waiting for his response. In addition, the Lodge is exploring other legal avenues to address the legitimate concerns of our members. My thoughts and prayers go out to the several officers who have recently appeared before the Legal Defense Committee, who must now go before the Chicago Police Board to get their jobs back. These investigations, which reek of arrogance and indifference, may be an acceptable practice at IPRA, but they are not acceptable to your representatives here at the Lodge.

Emerald Society of Illinois Annual Dinner Dance!

**Friday, September 14
1900 hrs
Gaelic Park
6119 West 147th Street
Oak Forest, IL**

Honoring 2012 Irishman of the Year Joseph Ahern, Executive Director of the 100 Club of Chicago, plus the Recipients of the Irish Police Officer of the Year Award and the Presidential Award!

For tickets (65 dollars per ticket) and AD information please contact Debbie O'Connor-Dimaggio at 773-517-2802 or Patrick Moriarty at 847-772-0709.

Financial Secretary's Report, *By Rich Aguilar*



Comp Time Restrictions Grievance

The Lodge filed a class action grievance in May 2012 when the Department put severe restrictions on the use of elective time off by our members. The grievance is scheduled to be heard on September 11, 2012.

The City Law Department which represents the Department in contract arbitration cases must really be worried about the outcome of this grievance. Assistant Corporation Counsel Jeff Brown recently employed an unusual tactic when he contacted the arbitrator assigned to the case and asked him to make a ruling on whether the case was arbitrable or not. ACC Brown made the claim that the grievance was vague, that the Department had no idea what the case was about, and that the Union failed to respond to a request for specifics about the grievance.

The Lodge advised the arbitrator that the grievance was not vague as the Department was absolutely aware of the issue at hand, and that if the Department stated otherwise, the Department was lying through its teeth. The Department made only one response to the grievance. That response simply stated that the Department did not believe it had violated the Collective Bargaining Agreement and requested that the Lodge withdraw the grievance. There was never a request for additional information.

The arbitrator recommended that both parties make formal requests for any information that they might need to proceed with the case. Both parties agreed. It appears ACC Brown may have opened a door that the City and the Department have chosen to keep closed for several decades. The City and the Department may finally have to divulge the strength (manpower) that each District, and watch within each District, is supposed to have and the strength that they currently have.

Perhaps the Department will offer a settlement of this grievance and allow our members to exercise their options to use elective time off in a reasonable manner. There is a simple solution. Call it Minimum Staffing or whatever you like. This process was successfully used several years ago for several years. Certain positions were required to be manned; usually primary beat cars, wagon(s), and desk, lockup, etc. Once those positions were manned, everyone else was considered "gravy" and Officers were allowed to exercise their option of elective time off. The working Officers were safe, morale was high, which translated into a good working relationship between employee and management, and most importantly, the work got done.

Today, we have Commanders and XOs stating only an arbitrary number of Officers can be off on any given day. This makes absolutely no sense whatsoever. Apparently, these leaders believe that calls for service on a Friday or Saturday night in the dog-days of August are the same as a Tuesday night in the freezing cold of January or February.

They are manning cars that have not been manned for years. One southwest side District frequently has thirty-six cars working. One west side District frequently has two-man cars working almost all of the 2nd watch beats. That same District sends Officers to work in the 016th and 025th Districts on the 1st watch. Combine these added demands with an already depleted workforce and the result is a reduction in the amount of Officers who can opt to use elective time off. This isn't rocket science.

To add insult to injury, as I was writing this article I received notice that a certain west side Commander has issued an edict that Officers cannot submit requests for elective time off more than thirty days in advance unless it is for an out of town trip or a special event. She is requiring either a To-From-Subject report or an explanation on the comp time slip. So this Commander is going to make a determination on what a special event is? Is she going to determine that your kid's basketball tournament is more important than my kid's piano recital? It really is none of her or anyone else's business why an Officer is requesting to use his or her elective time to enjoy a day off.

Superintendent McCarthy has been made aware of the problems our Officers are having when requesting elective time off. The Lodge has met with him and his staff twice in the month of August. Minimum staffing and flexible percentages have been discussed. The Superintendent has assured the Lodge that he will devise a policy that will alleviate the elective time off problem.

We will do everything in our power to hold the Superintendent to his word. We will forge ahead with the arbitration process if he does not. Perhaps an arbitrator can put an end to this madness if our Superintendent cannot.

We will keep you informed via the FOP website and Current Update email blasts.

10-1 Benefit for Police Officer Ricardo Hernandez

Please join us for a fundraiser for Police Officer Ricardo Hernandez 001, Beat 113. Officer Hernandez was diagnosed with bone cancer and needs our support.

Friday, September 21, 2012
 1800 hrs – 2300 hrs
 The FOP Hall
 1412 West Washington Blvd.
 Chicago, IL 60607

\$25 ticket includes music, food, refreshments and raffle prizes. For tickets please contact Rolando Hernandez (708) 372-9275.

A Day for Del



04-NOV-2012

12:00 - 5:00 P.M.

115 Bourbon Street, Merrionette Park

\$20 Tickets or \$25 at Door

Police Code 10-1 is defined as an officer down and needs assistance by every available unit.

On March 19, 2012, Chicago **Police Officer Del Pearson** screamed into his police radio "10-1, 10-1, I've been hit". At that time, **Officer Del Pearson** was chasing an armed offender who drew his firearm and began shooting. Before **Officer Pearson** could react, he was struck twice; once in the bullet proof vest and the other in his left shoulder. The gunshot to his shoulder left him critically injured and bleeding from a severed artery. Assisting units arrived on the scene and made the life saving decision to put **Officer Pearson** in their vehicle and rush him to the hospital. **Officer Pearson** endured 7 hours of surgery to repair the severed artery in his shoulder.

Officer Pearson is a highly decorated, nine year veteran of the Chicago Police Department, who now faces a long road to recovery in an attempt to regain the use of his left arm. Therapy is believed to be helping **Officer Pearson**, but only time will tell if he will ever be able to return to the job he loves. With **Officer Pearson's** duty availability in doubt, his family will struggle to make ends meet. **Officer Pearson** has always worked part time jobs and gone to court. With this now lifelong injury, those sources of income may be over for his family.

Del grew up on the East Side of Chicago and moved to Mt. Greenwood upon becoming a police officer. **Del** has been married to his wife Christine for 19 years and has two teenage children. **Del** enjoys coaching his son, Jacob's baseball team and always supported his daughter, Samantha as she cheered for the Mt. Greenwood Colts.

Please come and join family, friends and co-workers in a fund raiser for **Officer Del Pearson** who nearly gave his life ensuring the safety of each and every one of us on this tragic night

[www.adayfordel.org](http://www adayfordel.org)



Contact Info: Mark - Cindy Reno

Mark 773-410-3245

Cindy 773-410-3246

Proposed Constitution and By-Law Amendment

Chicago Lodge 7 member Steve Robbins and other members in good standing submitted the following detailed amendment to the Constitution and By-laws of the Lodge. The Constitution and By-laws Committee determined that the proposed amendment was properly presented before them and, after due consideration, The Constitution and By-laws Committee recommended that the Board of Directors reject the amendment.

At the regular monthly Board of Directors meeting in July of 2012, the Board of Directors voted unanimously to recommend rejecting all the proposed amendment.

This amendment will be voted on during the September General Meeting at 1200 hrs. Please attend.

Current By-Law

Article VII (A) (Section 1)

“Only active members below the rank of Sergeant, who have been in continuous good standing for two (2) years, and who have attended at least one half of the regular business meetings held in the past twelve (12) months may be candidates for office in the Lodge.”

Proposed By-Law Amendment: (proposed language in bold italics)

Article VII (A) (Section 1)

“Only active members, ***as classified by Fraternal Order of Police of Illinois State By-law Article 4, Subsection 3, Letter A, Number 1, and defined as regularly appointed or elective full-time law enforcement officers***, below the rank of Sergeant, who have been in continuous good standing for two (2) years, and who have attended at least one half of the regular business meetings held in the past twelve (12) months may be candidates for office in the Lodge.”

St. Christina Parish Blue Mass

St. Christina Church

111th and Christiana, Chicago, IL 60655

Sunday, September 9, 2012

1000hrs (please arrive by 0945 to join in the procession)

Dress Uniforms Encouraged

Please join St. Christina Parish as we gather to thank the men and women who protect our community and make our neighborhoods safe. A Blue Mass will be celebrated to honor police, fire, paramedic, 911 dispatchers, crossing guards and all public safety personnel and their families.

A complimentary breakfast will be served immediately following mass in the school hall.

Message From Father Dan Brandt, CPD Chaplain

I have been asked on more than one occasion recently, “What is the story behind our patron saint, Michael the Archangel?” Allow me to tell you about this historic figure...

In art form, St. Michael is typically seen, sword in hand, crushing the head of satan (the *small* “s” is intentional!). According to Scripture and Tradition, Michael fought the devil head-on, as do we on a daily basis. This is why he is held as patron saint of police officers and soldiers.

St. Michael is mentioned in the Old Testament (AKA the Jewish Scriptures—see Daniel chapters 10 and 12), as well as the New Testament (AKA the Christian Scriptures—see St. Jude’s epistle and Revelation, chapter 12). He is likewise found in sacred writings of Islam, Mormon/Latter-Day Saints, Jehovah’s Witness, Seventh-Day Adventist, and other non-Judeo/Christian faith traditions. For references, visit the Police Chaplains’ website and click the St. Michael link.

Many police officers of varying faith traditions wear a St. Michael medal or carry in the plastic pocket of their uniform crown cap a St. Michael prayer card. **If you would like a St. Michael prayer card fitted for your uniform cap, please click the appropriate link on our website.** We will gladly mail you one, free of charge. You can also find the beautiful prayer of St. Michael on that link.

The name Michael means, “Who is like God.” St. Michael and his fellow archangels, Raphael and Gabriel, share a feast day later this month: 29 SEP. In many Christian churches, we mark saints’ feast days with celebrations of varying sorts. We esteem, revere and ask intercession of the saints. We *don’t* deify or worship them, as they are not God; rather, they are our heavenly connection to God.

I liken the saints to “our guy,” whether “our guy” is someone to fix our leaky roof, repair our garage door or car muffler, or to put a good word in for us with our boss. In fact, I recently had a conversation with someone who asked me to intercede for him regarding a problem with his boss within the Police Department. When I asked the individual why he didn’t go right to the source, he replied, “You have a good rapport with him; can you please be my go-between?”

While I admit this example may be a weak analogy, I hope it sheds some light on the important emphasis many folks of various faith traditions place on the Communion of Saints. Of course, we can go directly to God (however you happen to call that Deity) with our particular needs, but some find it easier to have a “guy.” Remember, there is **no** wrong time, place, or way to pray. So KEEP PRAYING, please!

A heads up: I received a call from a representative of the Gideons (the good folks who place Bibles in hotel rooms, jails, public high schools, hospitals and other secular locations). This gentleman, a friend and family member of our police family, advised me that the Gideons will be holding their annual “Bible Blitz” in the coming weeks. So...if you encounter someone from the Gideons in a police station or other secular spot trying to provide God’s Word (free of charge, for which they are known), please accept and thank them for their ministry. Trust me, they’re good folks.

Thank you, too, for the God-ordained ministry you perform every day! As you know, the devil is hard at work today, as he has been since the beginning of time, but through the intercession of St. Michael the Archangel, may God continue to help you fight satan, and keep you safe in your most noble work.

Remembering Officer Mike Jakob

On December 30, 2011, tragedy struck the Jakob family. Officer Mike Jakob of the 022 district suffered a massive heart attack and passed away in his Mt. Greenwood home at the young age of 52. Mike was the sole supporter of his wife and four children. His wife Theresa is hearing impaired and unable to find steady employment.

Please join us at a benefit for his family at:

115 Bourbon Street
September 16, 2012
1400hrs-1800hrs

"Sometimes you have to let go..." *Compliments of Rabbi Moshe Wolf*

Just a few days ago a memorial service was held at the "Wall of Remembrance" in Gold Star Park, as the name of P.O. Tom Boyle joined the sacred list of names of those who have given their lives in the line of duty. A special thanks to Superintendent (Ret.) Phil Cline and the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation for all their support and efforts (emotionally and financially) on behalf of our officers and their families. I stood in awe listening to the long list of accomplishments of PO Boyle, and his love, dedication and sacrifice for his personal family and his police family. When you look around at all the names inscribed on the wall, your mind is full of questions, your eyes swell with tears and your heart knows the biggest honor we can give our heroes, is to continue to carry the torch that they carried. Let's remember that in life when you are shown more than you can understand, be mindful of the following story, "Sometimes you have to let go..."

Jack was walking along a steep cliff one day when he accidentally got too close to the edge and fell. On the way down he grabbed a branch, which stopped his fall. He looked down and to his horror saw that the canyon fell straight down for more than a thousand feet. He couldn't hang onto the branch forever, and there was no way for him to climb up the steep wall of the cliff.

So Jack began yelling for help, hoping that someone passing by would hear him and lower a rope or something. "HELP! HELP! Is anyone up there? "HELP!" He yelled for a long time, but no one heard him. He was about to give up when he heard a voice.

"Jack, Jack. Can you hear me?"

"Yes, yes! I can hear you. I'm down here!"

"I can see you, Jack. Are you all right?"

"Yes, but who are you, and where are you?"

"I am the Lord, Jack. I'm everywhere."

"The Lord? You mean, G-D?"

"Yes, that's Me."

"G-d, please help me! I promise if you'll get me down from here, I'll stop sinning. I'll be a really good person. I'll serve You for the rest of my life."

"Easy on the promises, Jack. Let's get you off from there, then we can talk. Now, here's what I want you to do. Listen carefully."

"I'll do anything, Lord. Just tell me what to do."

"Okay. Let go of the branch."

"What?"

"I said, let go of the branch." Just trust Me. Let go."

There was a long silence.

Finally Jack yelled, "IS ANYONE ELSE UP THERE I CAN TALK TO???"

Have you ever felt like Jack? We say that we want to know the will of G-d, but when we find out that it is not always like we planned it, we can't handle it. If the sacrifice

sounds too scary or too difficult, we decide to look elsewhere. When He says, "Let go of the things that stand between you and Me, and trust Me with your life," it sounds pretty scary. But when we let go, we find freedom, safety and comfort in His hands. Not always easy, but then again it is not easy to carry our own burdens. I carry a patch in my pocket that says, "If you have questions, ask G-d, If you don't, thank G-d".

Two Days We Shouldn't Worry About

The other lesson we can learn from walking through Police Memorial Park is to make the most of every day, because we don't know what tomorrow will bring. Life can change that quickly. As the story goes "There are two days we shouldn't worry about"...

There are two days in every week about which we should not worry, two days which should be kept free from fear and apprehension.

One of these days is Yesterday with all its mistakes and cares, its faults and blunders, its aches and pains. Yesterday has passed forever beyond our control. All the money in the world cannot bring back Yesterday.

The other day we should not worry about is Tomorrow with all its possible opportunities, its burdens, its large promise. Tomorrow is also beyond our immediate control. Tomorrow's sun will rise, either in splendor or behind a mask of clouds, but it will rise.

Until it does, we have no stake in Tomorrow, for it is yet to be born. This leaves only one day, Today. Most persons can muster the strength to fight the battle of just one day.

It is when you add the burdens that are beyond our control of Yesterday and Tomorrow that we break down. Let us, therefore, live Today and make the best of it, and live our lives, '**one day at a time**'. And remember to find something to smile about every day (even if you have to look in the mirror) and then share it with a friend. I just did.

A Special Note

A special note to the members of my flock of the Jewish faith. I wish you the best of blessings for the New Year (Rosh Hashana, September 17 & 18). May you be inscribed in the book of life for good health and prosperity.

On behalf of ALL your Chaplains, may G-d bless you and keep you safe, today and always. Amen.

Compliments of your Police Chaplain

Rabbi Moshe Wolf 773-463-4780 or moshewolf@hotmail.com

General Meeting Notice

Please attend the September General Meeting
Tuesday, September 18, 2012
1200hrs

Keep in mind that you may not park in the Lung Association's lot. You will be towed if you do. Also, please remember to sign the attendance books as you enter the meeting. Retirees are not required to use their star numbers. Just write RTD in place of your star.



STORE HOURS:

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

STORE CLOSED:

SEPTEMBER 1—3, 2012

DIRECT LINE:

312-733-2344

NEW WEBSITE:

WWW.FOPGIFTSHOP.COM

**T-Shirt
Of The
Month**

**Adult K-9
Tee
Sizes S-3XL**

30% OFF

Not too late to
get the back
to school
special!

CPD cinch
bag Was
\$12.95 Still
only \$9.95!

***It's September! Fall is Fast Approaching...
Let's Get Ready for Cooler Weather!***

Back in stock: Navy or Black Shadow Cap!
Was \$11.95, Now \$9.95.

Black Henley tee with embroidered CPD star, M-XL.
Was \$18.95, Now \$14.95.

Chicago Police royal/white wind shirt, great for golfing!!! S-3XL
Was \$36.95-\$38.95, Now only \$29.95-\$31.95.

30% off Men's lightweight jacket!
Black, tan, navy or light green, S-2XL.
Was \$29.95, Now only \$20.96!

New large pink/white checkerboard dog collar! Now \$19.95.

Collector CPD coffee cup all districts, areas, Midway and O'Hare.
Only \$10.95!

30 % off Homicide "Our day begins when yours ends" cap.
Was \$10.95, Now \$7.66!

Back in stock police officers field guide 3rd edition \$10.00!
Leather field guide book cover also available for only \$11.95!

CPD star engraved metal card case. Was \$15.95, Now \$9.95!

CPD 9" tall stuffed teddy bear in uniform! Was \$9.95, Now \$7.96.

Men's navy ¼ zip sweater with FOP embroidered left chest in
M, L or 2XL. Was \$34.95, Now only \$28.95.

New Chicago police raised letter embroidered tee
available in navy, grey or red. S-XL
\$13.95 2XL- \$15.95



Official Publication of Chicago Lodge No. 7
 1412 W. Washington Blvd. Chicago, IL 60607-1821
 Phone: 312-733-7776 FAX: 312-733-1367
 www.chicagofop.org



FIRST CLASS

PRESORTED
 FIRST-CLASS MAIL
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 CHICAGO IL
 PERMIT NO. 6291

SEPTEMBER 2012
IS YOUR ADDRESS CORRECT?
 IF NOT, PLEASE CONTACT THE LODGE.

The Lodge is preparing for its annual mailing to members. Please look at the address label on this newsletter; this is the address we will use to mail your 2012 Handbook, Membership Card and Stickers. Please contact the Lodge and make any necessary Name or Address changes now.

FIRST NOTICE: Annual Payers (Retirees, Sgts, etc.)
2013 Dues Payments Must Be Received Before November 1, 2012

Attention Retirees and Annual Dues Payers you can mail your 2012 dues now. The Lodge will begin accepting credit card payments over the phone after the Labor Day Holiday. *If you turn 75 in 2012, you DO NOT pay!!*

NAME:		PHONE:	
ADDRESS:		CITY, STATE, ZIP:	
BENEFICIARY:			
CHECK ONE:	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40 Retiree Annual Dues	<input type="checkbox"/> \$65 Sgts. & Above AND/OR Outside Units	
Enter Credit Card and Security Code located on back of card in signature area.			
_____ - _____ - _____ - _____		3 digit code on back of card _____	
Expiration Date ____ / ____			