



Chevrons

Chicago Police Sergeants' Association Newsletter

October 2013 Volume 54 Number 4



Police Benevolent &
Protective Association

Unit 156A

Chicago Sergeants



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President's Message

By James Ade President

On August 18, we lost a good Sergeant and a great man when Sgt. Jean-Pierre Borja died while riding his motorcycle. He died doing what he loved to do, but he will be missed by his family, friends, and the Association. Paul Bilotta and I had a chance to meet with his parents who were overwhelmed by the support that they were shown by members of the department. They really embraced their extended family. Please keep them and Jean in your thoughts and prayers.

The last couple of months of the summer have been extremely busy around the Association. On the second Monday in August, we had a very successful golf outing which raised funds for our death benefit. The weather was great and everyone in attendance enjoyed the day.

Earlier in August, we had the arbitration hearing for the collective bargaining agreement. After two days of testimony and rebuttal we closed the books and waited for the arbitrator's decision. On September 19, we received Arbitrator Bierig's award that offered no changes to our current benefits related to Supervisor's Quarterly Differential, the Duty Availability Allowance, and the Tuition Reimbursement Program. The city tried very hard to reduce all three of these benefits. Furthermore, it satisfied our position going into negotiations to keep our benefits that we previously bargained for, as recommended by the membership. The award also granted an average wage increase to our members, and required that future retirees that leave between the ages of 55 and 59 pay 2% of their annuity for health care until medicare eligibility. The operational issues that were previously agreed to were

...Continues on page 2



President's Message*...continued from page 1*

agreed to were not subject to the arbitration process. The contract is currently being re-written to reflect all of the changes and will be presented to the City Council for ratification in November. We should see our wage increase shortly thereafter. Historically, it has taken approximately sixty days for retroactive checks to be available.

Also in August, we received the arbitration award regarding the position of District Station Supervisor. Arbitrator George Roumell ruled in favor of the Association and granted lieutenant's pay for all of the sergeants that were assigned and performed the duties of the DSS. The department is still trying to determine how they are going to address this operational problem, but have agreed to extend the award until that time. I have not been presented anything in writing from the department as to how they are going to resolve this issue of the grievance. I understand that an order is in the works. If that order continues to violate the contract or the spirit of the award, we will be back in front of the arbitrator as he has retained jurisdiction in the matter.

The grievance over the sixth and seventh day assignments during NATO was in the process of being settled, however, the department wants to alter the interpretation of the language that is in the contract. We feel that the language in the contract is clear and must be protected. I have instructed Tom Pleines to advance the grievance to arbitration if it cannot be settled without changing the contract language. The PB&PA – Lieutenants and the FOP were already successful in arbitration on this issue.

The General Assembly will be back in Springfield over the next couple of weeks. It is still unknown what the special committee on pension reform is going to recommend. The Association will be providing legislative information on our website and facebook page. If you don't follow facebook, simply go to our website and follow the facebook update section. Updates are available almost as quickly as they happen thanks to Sean Smoot who is at the state capitol during almost every session of the General Assembly.

Just recently, the Annual PB&PA Convention was held, hosted by the Chicago PB&PA Sergeants, Lieutenants, and Captains. Much information and camaraderie was shared among the 200 plus attendees. Congratulations to Troy Hogren from Danville on his election to President of the PB&PA of Illinois and our own Mark McDermott on his election to Recording Secretary. Kudos to Lt. Dean Stone and the rest of the Chicago PB&PA Convention Committee for doing a great job.

Our next General Meeting will be held on November 21, 2013 at Noon, here at the Association office located at 1616 W. Pershing Road. Our annual Thanksgiving Turkey Raffle will take place following the meeting.

Please keep the family of Sgt. Chris Paluch from 008 in your thoughts and prayers. His son, Zachary has been in a coma for some time now after a terrible incident around Galesburg, Illinois. There will be a benefit to help with the extensive medical costs involved in Zachary's care. The benefit will be held at Polonia Banquets on Archer Avenue on November 14. The information is posted in this issue of the Chevrons as well as on our website. If you can attend, or help out in any way, please do. Contact 008 District for details.

As the holiday season approaches, I want to wish you all a safe and joyful holidays.

Vice-Presidents Report *By Paul Bilotta Vice-President*

Our golf outing this year was attended by 228 golfers with a total of 249 golfers and guests attending dinner. The weather was beautiful and the day was enjoyed by many. The golf outing raised a total of \$8199.92. The majority of the money that is raised is done so through hole sponsors and through the sale of raffle tickets to retirees and to active members. The Chicago Police Sergeants Association offers its active members a small life insurance policy as one of its benefits. This policy pays \$3000.00 to the designated beneficiary of any active Sergeant that may die. The money that is used to pay these beneficiaries is money that is earned through the golf outing. This year it was very unfortunate that our rank suffered the loss of three active members to date. As can be seen, we took in less money this year than we paid out. Each year the personnel at Silver Lake Country Club tell us that we are the lowest charging for any golf outing that is sponsored at their club. They have suggested that we raise our fees and we have resisted. The current fee that is charged barely pays for the golf and the dinner. Once drinks are added into the mix a loss is encountered. The golf outing fees of \$100.00 have been consistent for about the last six years. Unfortunately, prices go up and as much as we would like to maintain this consistency, it has become impossible. Next year the fees for the golf outing will have to be increased to maintain the same quality outing that has become a tradition and offers much enjoyment for so many. We are still in the process of trying to assess what the new fee will be, however we want the increase to be as minimal as possible. Next year's outing will be held on August 11, 2014. I look forward to seeing everyone there. Thank you for your support.

Membership Report *By Paul Bilotta Vice-President*

As of this writing there are 1090 members in the 9171 pay code. The budgeted strength for our pay code is 1190 which leaves us 100 sergeants short at this time. There has been no talk, other than rumors, about any future promotions to the rank of Sergeant. Our President, Jim Ade has asked management for the rank to be brought to full strength without success.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, November 21 at 1200 Hours - 1616 W. Pershing
Turkey Raffle - Refreshments will be served

DISTRICT / FIELD REPRESENTATIVES

These members serve as Representatives of the PB&PA Sergeants' Association.

- Scott Slavin 145**
002
- Robert Goode III 003**
Milan Vujic 004
Jim Calvino 005
006
Kris Rigan 007
Al Cain 008
009
- Jerry Negrete 010**
Adam Zelitzky 011
Mark Juska 012
Tom Linnane 014
Jim Raffae 015
Bill O'Reilly 050
- Michelle Rubino 017**
Gene Richmond 018
Angelo Hitiris 019
020
- Tim Szarzinski 022**
Dawn Jackson 024
Mike Tantilla 025
Saadia Carter 142
Homan Square

In Memoriam

The following Sergeants have passed away and will be missed. We extend our condolences to their families and friends. Please contact our office if you hear of any of our brothers or sisters passing on, as we are not always notified in a timely manner of their passing.

| Name (Age) | Status | Passed Away |
|-------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Sgt. Mark J. Madden (82) | Retired | 20 July 2013 |
| Sgt. John D. McNamara (65) | Retired | 24 July 2013 |
| Sgt. John P. Loughnane (70) | Retired | 08 Aug 2013 |
| Sgt. Jeanette M. Killmer (51) | Retired | 11 Aug 2013 |
| Sgt. Jean P. Borja (44) | Active (311) | 18 Aug 2013 |
| Sgt. Joseph J. Rlko | Retired | 22 Aug 2013 |
| Sgt. John T. Chambers (87) | Retired | 09 Sep 2013 |

Retiree Roll

Congratulations to the following sergeants who have retired since our last issue of the Chevrons. These Sergeants have provided the City of Chicago with many years of service. We wish a long, healthy and prosperous retirement to all!!

| Name | Star | Unit | Age | Years | Retirement Date |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------|------------------------|
| Sgt. Allen Boehmer | 1066 | 121/543 | 52 | 28 | 31 August 2013 |
| Sgt. Jane Michalik | 2504 | 177 | 50 | 26 | 15 August 2013 |
| Sgt. Fernando Garcia | 1670 | 010 | 60 | 34 | 15 July 2013 |
| Sgt. Peter Arpaia | 1510 | 189 | 63 | 40 | 08 July 2013 |
| Sgt. Phillip Jones | 1682 | 180 | 54 | 31 | 08 July 2013 |



10-1 Benefit for Zachary Paluch

“Son of Sergeant Chris Paluch—008th District”

On September 16th, our family was notified by the Chicago Police Department that Zachary was involved in a severe accident on his college campus. He was reported by BNSF railways in Galesburg, IL with no identification, shirt or shoes. The only way to identify Zach was by his fraternity tattoo. Zachary was unconscious and unresponsive. He suffered a broken nose, a fractured orbital on the right of his face as well as a severe Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). He is currently in a coma and has undergone a Craniotomy to relieve brain swelling. The cause is currently under investigation. Zachary has undergone multiple operations in order to keep him stable. While he has slowly progressed, doctors are unsure whether he will continue to improve and break out of his coma. Zachary is one of the four siblings in his family and recently graduated from Knox College with a degree in Fine Arts specializing in Studio Art. Your help to defray medical costs is appreciated. Please join us:

Thursday, November 14, 2013 6:00pm – 10:00pm Polonia Banquets 4604 S. Archer
For Tickets, please call the 008th District 312-745-8150

Pension Report*By Brian Wright Pension Board Representative***Impact of Changing the Funding Ratio**

The City of Chicago, the plan sponsor of our pension, has offered to kick the proverbial “can” down the road once again. The City has proposed to have the funding ratio change from 90% at 2040 to 80% at 2065. Our actuary conducted an Impact Study that produced some interesting results.

Current law dictates that there is a funding policy target of 90% funding by 2040. The actuary concluded that the funded ratio is projected to decrease from 30.8 percent at December 31, 2012, to 25.2 percent at December 31, 2015, and then gradually increase to 90 percent at December 31, 2040. Contributions by the City are projected to increase from \$187 million for fiscal year end 2015 to \$631 million for fiscal year end 2016. After fiscal year 2016, contributions are projected to increase by wage inflation from 2017 through 2040. After 2016, employer contributions are projected to increase to 55.0 percent of pay or a City multiple of approximately 5.7 times employee contributions, compared to the current multiplier of 2 times employee contributions.

The alternate proposed funding policy would reduce and extend the funded ratio target from 90% in 2040 to 80% in 2065. The funding levels are the same as above on 12/31/12 and 12/31/15, but then it gradually increases to 80 percent at December 31, 2065. However, the study concluded that the alternate funding policy defers contributions, and provides little margin if the fund experiences investment or demographic losses (i.e. less manpower, increased retirements, etc.). And we all know that both of those possibilities have happened in the past and will probably do so again in the future. Contributions by the City are projected to increase from \$187 million for plan year end 2015 to \$526 million for fiscal year end 2016. Now the big numbers: In terms of total City contributions from 2013 to 2065, the current funding policy is expected to cost about \$28 billion while the alternate funding policy is expected to cost about \$47 billion. After plan year 2015, employer contributions are projected to increase to 45.9 percent of pay or a City multiple of approximately 4.8 times employee contributions. Our actuary concluded that: “The alternate policy does not finance plan costs in a reasonable pattern and in our opinion is not consistent with generally accepted actuarial principles.”

The study showed that under the proposed alternate funding policy the City would save approximately \$3.7 billion in the short term (total payments made from 2013 to 2040), but it would cost them \$18.6 billion in the long term (total payments made from 2013-2065). Moreover, the funding ratio would still be at only 35.12% at 2040 instead of 90% under the current policy target.

As you can see, this is another transparent attempt by the City to mortgage the future to save money today. The numbers do not make any sense. This administration wants to handicap the next 40 years of the fund like the last administration did. So, when the politicians are talking about changing the funding ratio and putting it off until a later time, you will know what they are talking about and the actual mathematical ramifications of another policy of “kicking the can down the road”.

Retiree Report*By Bob Kirchner Retiree Liaison*

With pension reform being constantly mentioned by our legislators and Governor, one really has to wonder if they mean: (stick it to the retirees). The newspapers and airwaves are filled with stories about how the pension plans are going broke and that drastic changes must be instituted. In particular many sources are referring to the recent article in the Wall Street Journal by Jim Gray, Mayor of Lexington, Ky. This article was printed in the Sat/Sun, September 21-22 edition. Mr. Gray states how retirees are going to get lower COLA rates, and how current employees are going to contribute a greater percentage to the funds and work 5 years longer. These proposals sound a lot like what the Sgt's union attempted to negotiate in the last contract. What our legislators fail to mention is that the city of Lexington DOUBLED its annual contribution and committed itself to paying down remaining pension liability. What does our Mayor do? He suggests not making the required city contribution that is set to begin in 2015 until at least 2022. Our politicians are only concerned with staying in office and not fixing the problem. Our PB&PA attorney Sean Smoot and Association President Jim Ade will keep our membership informed of any upcoming legislation that will affect our pensions

The current percentage that members pay into the pension system has not been changed since 1982. An increase in the contributions is going to be necessary to help the fund meet its obligations.

Members who retire and were born before 1 January, 1955 are currently entitled to a 3% COLA after 13 months of retirement and 3% every January 1st thereafter. But members born on or after 1 January, 1955 are only entitled to a 1.5% annual raise and only after obtaining the age of 60. I do not see any changes to this inequity this year and probably not next year either.

I want to wish congratulations to any member who is retiring this year. I know I am enjoying retirement. Until next time, stay informed and attend Association general meetings.

Retiree Gatherings:

1st District Retiree Brunch is on the FIRST Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m., at the Southern Belles Restaurant, 6737 S. Archer Avenue (just East of Roberts Road), Bridgeview.

8th District Retiree Luncheon (8 Balls) is generally on the LAST Wednesday of the month at noon, at the Les Brothers Restaurant, 8705 S. Ridgeland, Oak Lawn. Contact Dorothy Piscitelli at 733-972-0139 for any last minute changes.

Illinois Police Association (IPA) - South Division meeting is on the THIRD Monday of the month, at 7 p.m., at the Beverly Woods Restaurant, 11532 S. Western Ave., Chicago. All retirees whether IPA members or not, are welcomed. Contact Terrance Hodges at 708-448-4303 for any last minute changes.

Orland Park Law Enforcement Organization (OPLEO) meeting is on the THIRD Thursday of the month, at 7:30 p.m., at the Orland Park Civic Center, 14750 Ravina, Orland Park. Contact Don Ade at 708-408-9308 for any last minute changes.

PB&PA of Illinois Annual Convention

The annual PBPA Convention is held in October. This past October 4,5,&6 it was the Chicago Units' turn to host the event. The Chicago Sergeants, Lieutenants, and Captains hosted the event at the Renaissance Chicago O'Hare Suites. The convention was attended by well over 200 PBPA members from around the state of Illinois as this was an election year. Members as well as their guests enjoyed the hospitality of the Chicago Units. Guests enjoyed the scenery of the lakefront as well as trolley rides that were put together as part of their guest package. The Saturday evening dinner was blessed by Father Brandt and the entertainment was provided by Chicago's own Rocky Laporte. Rocky has been on The Tonight Show, Letterman, worked in Las Vegas as well as starred in the Godfather's of Comedy. Chicago Police Sgt. Mike Ogliore was honored as the Illinois PB&PA Policeman of the Year. The hotel was the ultimate host and made sure that everyone's needs were met. All in all, the meetings were productive, and the guests all agreed that the Chicago Convention was by far the best convention that anyone has ever attended. It was a lot of work but in the end it was worth the effort to have been able to showcase our city to visitors from throughout the state.



Chaplains Report*By Father Dan Brandt*

A few “Thank You’s” are in order... First, to all who came out to support the 100 Club of Chicago at last month’s “Laugh Patrol: Finding the Funniest Cop in Chicago.” About a dozen PO’s participated, as did Rabbi Moshe Wolf and me. It was a wonderful evening, raising funds for a very worthwhile cause.

Thanks, also, to all who attended the Emerald Society’s annual banquet in Oak Forest. There I was unworthily bestowed the title of “Irishman of the Year.” What a source of pride for me to receive this distinction...humbling as it is! Thank you to the Emerald Society for this honor...and for all the good you do for the law enforcement family!

One last thank-you to all who made possible the suicide awareness and prevention seminar on 26 SEP. This seminar (the third this year!) was co-hosted by the Chicago and Oak Brook Police Departments, the Chaplains Ministry, Motorola, and the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation. Our presenter was well-known author Dr. Kevin Gilmartin, an expert on emotional survival for those in law enforcement. For resources and more information on this important topic, please visit our website, and click on the “Resources and Outreaches” page.

You’ll find pictures of all these events (and many others) on the “Photo Album” page of our website.

In addition to our usual 11:00 a.m. Police Mass every 2nd and 4th Sunday, next month we’ll celebrate a special Thanksgiving Mass on Thursday, 28 NOV, at 10:00 a.m. (Please note the adjustment in time for the holiday.) No matter your faith tradition, you are **most** welcome to attend. On-duty worshippers, you’ll be out as usual in less than 30 minutes.

Finally, next month Police Chaplains Ministry will again host our beloved Gold Star Families at a holiday dinner on the Club Level of Soldier Field, overlooking the Police Memorial. This is a wonderful evening indeed. Letters will be sent to those on our mailing list, soliciting financial support for this evening...but I also wanted to invite you via this means to consider making a donation. If you wish to do so, your tax-deductible gift (payable to Police Chaplains Ministry) may be made online at our website, sent via CPD mail to Unit 118, or mailed to 1140 W. Jackson Boulevard, Chicago 60607. Thanks in advance for helping us to remind Gold Star Family members that their loved ones are NEVER FORGOTTEN.

God bless you in your most noble work,

Fr. Dan Brandt, CPD Chaplain

312/738-7588 (office) | 773/550-2369 (cell/text)

dan.brandt@chicagopolice.org | www.ChicagoPCM.org

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST BY VISITING THE ABOVE WEBSITE.

Chevrons Additions

If you have any items of interest that you would like to see added to the Chevrons publication, please submit them to Sgt. Gerry Majerczyk at gmajerczyk@chicagosergeants.org. Your submissions will be considered by the Chevrons Committee depending upon space and content.

Food for Thought

By Rabbi Moshe Wolf Chaplain

"Never say Never"....

A marathon was coming up and one of our brothers called and asked "Rabbi, should I run the marathon"? So I asked "What is your hesitation"? He answered "I don't think I can make it to the end, I'm out of shape". I told him go for it anyway, because that is what life about, running the race ,giving it your best,not all of us make it to the end. So our guy ran the marathon and made it 14 miles (Ron I'm proud of you!). I was thinking to myself, how many people can run 14 miles, even those that are in shape. It reminded me of a response that I saw in an advice column as a teenager, that has stuck with me since. This woman wrote in to the columnist the following question, "I am 56 years old, I always had a dream of becoming a doctor. Now that the kids are out of the house I would like to go to medical school. It would take me eight years to get my degree in medicine. Should I go for it, or is being 64 years old, too old to become a doctor?" And the response was "And how old will you be in eight years if you don't go to medical school?" What a great response. I share the above with you because of what has happened in the sports world with the Hawks, that should spill over to our private lives.

I don't follow sports much, but with all the excitement about the Stanley Cup, I followed the games a bit. So in the semi-finals the Hawks are down 3-1. Now, all the past statistics kick in, past history , the sports people of authority with the crystal ball and all news papers say ing "never did a team come back from a 3-1 deficit" to win the Championship. My response to the naysayers was "never say never", and sure enough they came back. Then in the Sixth game of the Championship, the Hawks are down again 3-2, one minute left to the game. Nobody in their wildest dreams thought they stand a chance, then BAM, 2 goals in 17 seconds and they win the Championship. I don't think it ever happened in history, that 2 goals were scored in 17 seconds.

The moral of the story, this IS life, "NEVER SAY NEVER". We all have our trials and tribulations as we trek through this journey called life . Some challenges more difficult than others and our job is to ask the Lord for strength and do our best in running the marathon, because quitting is not an option. Ask the following people how they made it to the top, and they will all answer the same, prayer, faith, lots of perseverance and leaving the word "never" out of your vocabulary.....

- Henry Ford failed and went broke five times before he finally succeeded.
- Beethoven handled the violin awkwardly and preferred playing his own compositions instead of improving his technique. His teacher called him hopeless as a composer.
- Colonel Sanders had the construction of a new road put him out of business in 1967. He went to over 1,000 places trying to sell his chicken recipe before he found a buyer interested in his 11 herbs and spices. Seven years later, at the age of 75, Colonel Sanders sold his fried chicken company for a finger-lickin' \$15 million!
- Walt Disney was fired by a newspaper editor for lack of ideas. Disney also went bankrupt several times before he built Disneyland.
- Albert Einstein did not speak until he was four years old and didn't read until he was seven. His teacher described him as "mentally slow, unsociable and adrift forever in his foolish dreams." He was expelled and refused admittance to Zurich Polytechnic School. The University of Bern turned down his Ph.D. dissertation as being irrelevant and fanciful.

Never give up believing in yourself!!! and when things start looking bleak, or impossible, remember we all thought the same and yet we won.... 2 goals in 17 secs....WOW!!!! And most important, never pass up an opportunity to share a laugh and a hug with someone who can use a lift in their spirits, you'll both feel better.

On Behalf of ALL your Chaplains, May G-d bless you and keep you safe, today and always. Amen! , Remember if we can be of assistance or if you have some good humor to share, don't hesitate to give us a call.

Compliments of your Chaplain

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

Annual Golf Outing

First of all I want to thank everyone that purchased raffle tickets this summer. The retirees deserve a big thanks for their continued support of our organization, as some donate their time and many buy raffle tickets. We had over 200 golfers attend the golf outing and dinner. The weather was great, and those who attended and enjoyed the entire day.

The golf outing and raffle raised over \$8,000 for the Death Benefit Fund. The Death Benefit Fund was set up by the Chicago Police Sergeants' Association as a benefit paying \$1000 to the family of a deceased sergeant. The benefit was increased to \$3000 several years ago in an effort to help those families when most in need. The golf outing is our only fund raising event and everyone's support is not only appreciated but needed. Again, THANK YOU.

A list of our sponsors and links to their websites can be found on our website (www.chicagosergeants.org). Please support them as they have us. Without their support the golf outing would not be possible, nor would we raise money for the Death Benefit Fund.

Thank you to all the volunteers that made the golf outing so fun.

Golf Outing Raffle Winners

Grand Prize

Sgt Paul Bruzas (Ret)

2nd & 3rd Prize

Sgt. Tim Dunmore (Ret)

Sgt. Richard Smith (Ret)

4th & 5th Prize

Sgt. Mark George

Sgt. Tony Graffeo (Ret)



Annual Golf Outing



MARK YOUR CALENDARS - SAVE THE DATE

2014 CPSA / PBPA Unit 156A 52nd Annual Golf Outing

Monday, August 11 - Silver Lake Country Club

Chicago Police Sergeants' Association

Police Benevolent & Protective Association, Unit 156A

1616 West Pershing Road

Chicago, Illinois 60609

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CHICAGO, IL

Have you moved, changed units, or changed your star number? Make sure we know!

Name _____ Star # _____ Unit _____

I have moved. My current address information is as follows

Old Address _____ Zip Code _____

New Address _____ Apt./Unit _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone (new) _____

I have changed Units. My current unit is as follows

Old Unit _____ New Unit _____ Day Off Group _____

I have a new star number. My current star number is as follows

Old Star Number _____ New Star Number _____

Member's Signature: _____ Date: _____

**You may mail this form via Police Mail to: Unit 545 or U.S. Mail to:
CPSA/PB&PA Unit 156A, 1616 W. Pershing Rd., Chicago, IL 60609**

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The Official Publication of the
Chicago Police Sergeants' Association

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