



Chevrons

Chicago Police Sergeants' Association Newsletter

April 2014 Volume 55 Number 2



Police Benevolent &
Protective Association

Unit 156A

Chicago Sergeants



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President's Message

By James Ade President

Please keep the family of Retired Sergeant Elmer (Al) Brown in your prayers. On March 10, Al and his wife were victims of a violent home invasion where Al was shot through the neck. Paul Bilotta and I visited Al and his family and friends at Christ Hospital the next morning. Sadly, Al passed away several days later. He retired out of Area 1.

Just recently, the Illinois General Assembly passed legislation that will affect the pensions of thousands of City of Chicago employees that are members of the Laborers and Municipal Workers pension funds. Unfortunately, city hall is moving forward with its plans to reduce their pension liability on the backs of those who serve the citizens of Chicago. The Association, along with members of the WeAreOneChicago coalition urge Governor Quinn to veto this bill. Although this bill does not include members of the Police Pension Fund, we know that city hall wants similar cuts. On February 19, Mike Lazzaro and I attended a WeAreOneChicago rally in Springfield. There were over 1000 city employees and retirees on hand to send our message to the Governor. We also joined with the other police unions as well as Fire Local 2, to sponsor a pension forum with state legislators to voice our concerns. With Sean Smoot, the Police Benevolent Labor Committee Director and our lobbyist, I met with several legislators in Springfield to garner support in protecting our pensions. Sean has been at the Capitol during each session and provides us with information. Please check the Association website's live Facebook feed for important updates as they happen.

In January, Paul Bilotta and I met with Superintendent McCarthy



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

to discuss several issues facing our membership. The decline in our manpower levels topped the list. At that time, even with the promotions made in December, we were still over 120 sergeants short of our budgeted strength. Superintendent McCarthy assured us that promoting to the rank of sergeant would be a priority. With the recent promotion of 60 new sergeants last month, we're on our way to being able to perform our jobs more effectively. Hopefully, the days of running with only one sergeant on the street will no longer be an issue.

The second grievance concerning our issues with the District Station Supervisor orders was heard at an arbitration hearing in February. Sgt. Jim Raffae (015) was our main witness as he had performed the DSS duties under the previous orders and is continuing that assignment under the new directives. The arbitrator was George Roumell. He is the same arbitrator that ruled in our favor in the last grievance on the issue. Both sides have filed their briefs in the matter and we should hear from Roumell in May.

The Firefighters' Local 2 recently came to an agreement on their contract. Although they agreed to an 11% increase over a five year contract, the first four years of wage increases are structured identically to our contract, with an additional 3% in the fifth year. Due to clauses in our contract, we will be afforded at least that same 3% in the first year of our next contract. In effect, Local 2 set the floor for wage increases for July 1, 2016 and January 1, 2017. Our contract expires on June 30, 2016. Similar to the arbitration of our contract, members of Local 2 that retire between the ages of 55 and 59 will also be required to pay 2% of their retirement annuity for health care.

Congratulations to the 60 new sergeants and 31 new lieutenants that are currently in the academy. The lieutenants will be missed, but I'm sure they will all be great bosses, mindful of where they came from. With the new sergeants coming out soon, I'm sure that they will have questions about the job as a sergeant and their new assignments. As we were all brand new sergeants at one time and looked to the more senior sergeants for guidance, I'm sure that they will be seeking our input into this next phase of their careers. I know that they'll be in good hands.

After many years serving the members as a Director, Sgt. Debra DeYoung recently accepted duty disability and has stepped down from the Board of Directors. Thanks to Debbie for her hard work and efforts and for starting up the First Responders Pension Facts website. Sgt. Jim Kubik (009) has been appointed to the Board to replace her.

As May approaches, please keep in mind all of the events paying tribute to our fallen. The St. Jude March will be held on May 4 at Gold Star Memorial and Park. The Illinois Law Enforcement Memorial is scheduled for May 1 in Springfield, and Police Week in Washington D.C. culminates with the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial on the Capitol Lawn on May 15.

Please remember to stay safe, take care of your people, and ensure that the job gets done. Have a great Spring.

Do You Know any Retired Lieutenants???

Retired Lt. Terry McMahon is the new Retiree Rep for the Lieutenants' Association. He could use our help locating many of their association's retirees. If you know of a retired lieutenant, anywhere in the country, please let them know to contact him at retireerep@cpdlts.com or simply update their contact information on the Lieutenants' website at www.cpdltts.com.

Vice-Presidents Report

By Paul Bilotta Vice-President

Let's talk about discipline. This topic is not very popular nor is it fun, but there are facts that all Sergeants should be aware of and should know. First, let me start by telling you that the Association has fourteen open grievances at this point. Seven of those grievances are either slated for, or are awaiting arbitration dates. Three are medical and the other four are relatively new with the process just starting for them. Per our new contract, section 9.4C. Any disciplinary penalty as a result of an investigation that took more than eighteen months to conclude will go before an arbitrator to determine if reasonable cause existed for the delay in investigation. The employer shall bear the burden of demonstrating the existence of reasonable cause. If the arbitrator determines there was reasonable cause the case shall proceed. If not, the case will be over. This section does not apply to cases where the allegation is that of a criminal nature. Another important benefit gained for the membership applies to suspensions. If a member is suspended for ten days or less the case will be presented to a mediator for a summary opinion. The Sergeant will not serve any time until the opinion is returned by the mediator. Upon receipt of the summary opinion the decision shall be binding upon both the employer and the member being represented by Unit 156A. Historically, summary opinions have resulted in a penalty more favorable than originally recommended. These opinions apply equally to both IAD and IPRA investigations. If a member is suspended for eleven days or more this penalty may be challenged seeking review of that recommendation. This challenge will result in full arbitration on an expedited basis. The award of the arbitrator will be binding on both the employer and the member being represented by Unit 156A. The arbitrator will conduct a full arbitration evidentiary hearing and expeditiously issue an award. The Sergeant will not be required to serve any suspension until such time as the arbitrator's award is received. These changes may not seem like critical changes though they are monumental in the scope of the contract. For too long the investigations conducted were years old. These investigations lingered on and were not provided the due diligence they should have been to have been concluded. Having time limitations on investigations is a major breakthrough. Getting binding summary opinions was another advantage. If a mediator's opinion could be challenged or not adhered to by the employer the paper it was written on was virtually worthless. This too will streamline the process and give our members a more fair advantage. Getting expedited arbitration on higher penalties will be advantageous in that we will not be waiting for months for arbitration and then several more months for a decision. I hope this has answered some questions you may have had regarding discipline. If you have any further questions please feel free to contact me.

DISTRICT / FIELD REPRESENTATIVES

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

- Scott Slavin 145**
- Levester Denham 002**
- Robert Goode III 003**
- Milan Vujic 004**
- Jim Calvino 005**
- Stacey Cotter 006**
- Kris Rigan 007**
- Tim Flisk 008**
- 009**
- Jerry Negrete 010**
- Adam Zelitzky 011**
- Mark Juska 012**
- Tom Linnane 014**
- Jim Raffae 015**
- Bill O'Reilly 050**
- Michelle Rubino 017**
- 018**
- Angelo Hitiris 019**
- 020**
- 022**
- Dawn Jackson 024**
- Mike Tantilla 025**
- Saadia Carter 142**
- Bob Wheeler 606**

Recent Promotions and Retirements

Congratulations to the 60 newest members of the Chicago Police Sergeants' Association that started their training on March 24. We look forward to working with them in the near future.

Eduardo Agron	Jose Bautista	William Bernath	Virginia Bucki
Carol Burns	Mike Cavanaugh	Phil Collins, Jr.	Robert Creeth
Kelly Cusack	Steve Czablewski	Xavier Delgado	Miroslaw Dobek
Clark Eichman	Christina Fico	Patrick Fleming	Jaqueline Frausto
Christian Gaal	Julio Guevara	Brian Gunnell	Richard Hainzl
John Haniacek	Mary Hein	Jerome Hernandez	Regina Hightower
Joel Holler	Ed Hurley	Jimmy Johnson	Bob Jurczykowski
Mike Kosala	Idlefonso Lara	Patrick Lee Palmer	Ross Leslie
Tina Lipinski	Joseph Lisowski	Matt Malloy	Rafael Martinez
Ruben Martiniz, Jr.	Victor Medina	George Melanis	Kenneth Mescall
Tim Moriarty	Athena Mullen	Cullen Murphy	Nicholas Orlando
Elise Padilla	Tom Polick	Edward Ranzzoni	Toss Reykjalin
Sonia Rios	Dave Rodriguez	Steven Sabatino	Robert Sekera
Isaac Shavers, Jr.	Thomas Simon	Chris Sopikiotis	Joe Sullivan
Gerald Troglia	Tracy Walczak	Corey Walker	Kimberly Woods

Also, Congratulations to the newly promoted lieutenants that are currently in the academy. Best of luck in your new assignments.

Elgin Holt	Terry McMahon	Dave Zahn	Bob Peabody
Ray Cowin	Thomas Beazley	Beth Giltmier	Joe Andruzzi, Jr.
Jim Ryle	Walter Heinichen	Bill Jaski	Dave Natelson
Tony Baio	Darren Doss	Jackie Campbell	Teresa Williams
Varrick Douglas	Joe Brennan	Jonathan Reckard	Karen Skipper
Marty Tannehill	John Dowd	Jackie Ellison	Mike Kennedy
Patrick Crawford	Juan Rios	Eric Olsen	Stephanie Stuart
Patrick Gillespie	Joe Petrenko	John Maciejewski	

The following have retired since our last 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. Edward Westphal	1015	009	63	28	11 Jan 2014
Sgt. Terrence Mullins	2601	016	60	32	15 Jan 2014
Sgt. Maria Martinez	2437	175	50	27	15 Jan 2014
Sgt. Frank Traynor	1542	016	52	27	31 Jan 2014
Sgt. Tommy Walker	2328	005	63	23	06 Feb 2014
Sgt. Christine Warner	2615	127	62	20	15 Feb 2014
Sgt. Gust Panagas	1483	376	51	27	15 Feb 2014
Sgt. Michael Hunter	2185	002	50	18	15 Mar 2014



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



The 52nd Annual Chicago Police Sergeants' Association Golf Outing will be held on Monday, August 11, 2014, at Silver Lake Country Club in Orland Park, Illinois. The cost of the outing will be \$125 for each golfer, and will include a gift bag, 18 holes of golf, a cart, beverages on the course, lunch on the 9th hole, and a buffet dinner with additional beverages. We will also hold the drawing for cash prizes (winner need not be present). This year we will be selling dinner tickets for the non-golfers for \$50, which includes dinner with beer, wine, and soda. Please call to reserve your ticket.

In addition to the cash prize drawing, there will be a bucket raffle at the event, which in the past has included such prizes as LCD TVs, I-Pods, GPS navigation devices, roundtrip airfare, travel certificates, etc. Join your Association for our only fundraising event of the year that supports our death benefit fund. If you cannot attend you can still support your Association by participating in our raffle.

Raffle tickets to support our death benefit fund will be sent out soon. The death benefit fund, available to active members, provides a check in the amount of \$3000 to the sergeant's named beneficiary to help the member's family at the time of their loss.

We have already started taking reservations. Send in the reservation form below, naming your foursome, along with a check payable to CPSA, 1616 W. Pershing Road, Chicago, IL 60609. Details are posted on our Web site at www.chicagosergeants.org. Registration forms are also available on our site.

Mark Andersen
 Golf Outing Chairman
mandersen@chicagosergeants.org

2014 Golf Reservation Form

Golfer #1 (print) _____ Golfer #2 (print) _____

Golfer #3 (print) _____ Golfer #4 (print) _____

Contact Person:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

(Tickets available at check in on the day of the event)

Per Golfer \$125.00 / Foursome \$500.00

Make check out to **CPSA** and return To:

Chicago Police Sergeant Association

1616 W. Pershing Rd.

Chicago, IL 60609

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. Edwin J. Kocinski (89)	Retired	06 Jan 2014
Sgt. Thomas J. Ward Sr. (75)	Retired	07 Jan 2014
Sgt. James R. Dolan (82)	Retired	17 Jan 2014
Sgt. Alfred Lange (83)	Retired	25 Jan 2014
Sgt. John Kreamcheck (88)	Retired (Chi. Bears)	28 Jan 2014
Sgt. Leopold W. Gohrsch (74)	Retired (Mi)	31 Jan 2014
Sgt. Fred F. Montejano (84)	Retired	22 Feb 2014
Sgt. Darrell Johnson (57)	Active (189)	27 Feb 2014
Sgt. Robert E. Etcheson (89)	Retired	22 Mar 2014
Sgt. Elmer (Al) Brown (73)	Retired	24 Mar 2014
Sgt. Raphael Ramos (61)	Retired	30 Mar 2014

Membership Report

By Paul Bilotta Vice-President

As of this writing there are 1071 members in the 9171 pay code. The budgeted strength for our pay code is 1190 which leaves us 119 sergeants short at this time. With the 60 sergeants in the academy that would bring our strength to 1131. Since there is also a Lieutenants class of 31 in the academy our strength will be 1100. This will leave us 90 Sergeants short of our budgeted strength. We have petitioned the Superintendent to fill the rank. With retirements starting again in May we are sure that the number of shortages will again balloon to over 100 and would hope that the Department will have several promotional classes this year to fill those shortages.

Did You Know

By Kelly Lewison Recording Secretary

Yes- YOU- even if we have never met- I know that you can do the job. Whether you can or cannot type- you can do the job. Whether 2014 will be your third or twentieth year as a Sergeant- you can do the job. Those just promoted can do the job- but alas, are not yet eligible to hold the position. All candidates for office in the Association must be an Active Chicago Police Sergeant for the previous twelve months and must be a member of the Association in good standing for the current year. Additionally, to be eligible to run for any office a member must have attended fifty (50) percent of the regular meetings in the twelve (12) months prior to the filing of nominating petitions. Sure -it requires a small time commitment- but it offers a chance to make a real difference in our position, a way to give your colleagues a voice and an unsurpassable insight as to what our leaders assign value and importance. Yes- it takes up a couple hours each month for board meetings and a bit of time for typing. I take notes in made-up shorthand, type with two fingers and neglect to wear my much needed eyeglasses- if I can do the job- so can you. So- I urge everyone to consider running for Recording Secretary. I welcome any questions you may have- and promise to use my softest hard sell to convince you to get on board.

Chaplain's Corner

Fr. Dan Brandt Chaplain

On a recent night out in 008, Chaplain / PO Bob Montelongo and I heard a "Man with a gun" call on Western Avenue. We were a block away and scooted over there to find out it was a nonsense call (imagine that!). We ran into PO's Brian Sullivan and Colin Prendergast, who along with Bob produced three Rosaries. These three report to work armed with this most valuable and reliable weapon in their vest pocket. Thanks to them, I have picked up this practice when out with the troops. If you would like a Rosary to carry with you when on the street, please email Chaplain Bob Montelongo (on our website's home page), and he'll be happy to send you one. For more pictures like the above, where you're sure to see folks you know, see the "Photo Album" page on our website.



May is the month when many Christians remember the Blessed Mother, Mary, who was the vessel who brought us Jesus Christ. How appropriate that we should remember (not deify or worship, but honor and revere) this young Jewish heroine this month.

May is also the month we remember our fallen brothers and sisters. **St. Jude League stickers** are still available. A donation of \$7.00 per sticker is requested. Buy some for your friends and family! Funds raised benefit a host of worthy charities, and help the ministry of St. Jude Chaplains who lead prayer services at CPD family wakes. For more information about obtaining your sticker, or if your unit rep ran out of them (or if you don't know who your rep is), please contact me or one of the CPD Chaplains.

In the event you have this newsletter in your hands in time for Mothers Day, please note that Sunday, 11 MAY, our usual Police Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. (rather than the usual 11:00 start). Bring Mom to the police Mass that morning if you'd like. If Mom is no longer with us, let me know ahead of time, and we'll remember her in our prayers for the deceased that day.

The police Mass usually runs under 30 minutes...so you can squeeze it into your lunch break if you're working. Catholic or not, you're always welcome.

God bless you in your most worthy and noble work!

Fr. Dan Brandt, CPD Chaplain

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

1140 W. Jackson Blvd. Chicago, IL 60607 dan.brandt@chicagopolice.org www.ChicagoPCM.org

CHICAGO POLICE SERGEANTS' ASSOCIATION NEWS

VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

In an effort to keep you, the members, updated and to share information we have created a facebook page. This page is updated frequently by the Association and by the PB&PA of Illinois. If you do not follow facebook, simply visit our website at chicagosergeants.org and follow the live feed. We are asking that you "Like" the site and refer to it often. You can locate us on facebook at

Chicago Police Sergeants' PB&PA

Food for Thought

By Rabbi Moshe Wolf Chaplain

Life's Lessons We Can All Use....

Over the Holiday season your Chaplains were honored and privileged to attend the various Unit Holiday parties and to accommodate the many requests for assistance that came over the phone lines. Remember your Chaplains are here for you 24/7 with an open ear and a "shoulder" to lean on, never hesitate to pick up the phone. Thanks for the humor, the laughs, and lessons of life that you shared with us. The words of our sages echoed in my head, "I came to give comfort and left comforted, I came to give strength and left strengthened, I came to share laughs and left laughing." Let me share with you, two of the lessons you shared with us.

Lesson #1...Learning to forgive...

While I was in college, one of my professors had each one of us bring a clear plastic bag and a sack of potatoes to class. For every person we'd refuse to forgive in our life, we were told to choose a potato, write on it the name of the person, date, one sentence of incident, and put it in the plastic bag. At the end of the exercise some of our bags, as you can imagine, were quite heavy. We were then told to carry this bag with us everywhere we went for one month, putting it beside our bed at night, on the car seat when driving, and keep it next to our desk at work. The hassle of lugging this around with us made it clear what a weight we were carrying spiritually, physically and emotionally. How we had to pay attention to it all the time to not forget, and keep leaving it in the most embarrassing places. Naturally, as time wore on, the condition of the potatoes deteriorated and turned into a nasty slime. This was a great metaphor for the price we pay for keeping our pain, heavy negativity and senseless hate toward others. At times we don't even remember why we are carrying the grudge. There is no better time than now to put the bag down, try to forgive and ease our burden. Too often we think of forgiveness as a gift to the other person, and while that's true, it clearly is also one of the greatest gifts we can give ourselves!

Lesson #2..."I Can Make It Better"...

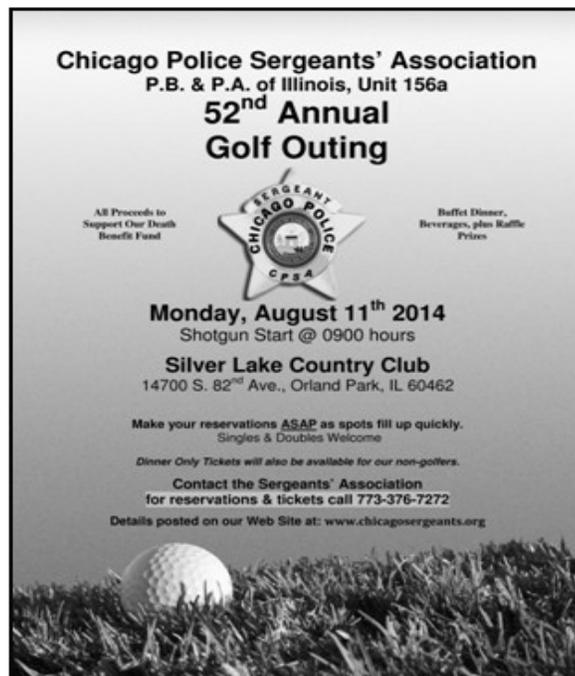
A man and his girlfriend were married. It was a large, beautiful celebration. All of their friends and family came to see the lovely ceremony and to partake of the festivities and celebrations. A wonderful time was had by all. The bride was gorgeous in her white wedding gown and the groom was very dashing in his black tuxedo. Everyone could tell that the love they had for each other was true. A few months later, the wife comes to the husband with a proposal. "I read in a magazine, a while ago, about how we can strengthen our marriage," she offered. "Each of us will write a list of the things that we find a bit annoying with the other person. Then, we can talk about how we can fix them together and make our lives happier together." The husband agreed. So each of them went to a separate room in the house and thought of the things that annoyed them about the other. They thought about this question for the rest of the day and wrote down what they came up with. The next morning, at the breakfast table, they decided that they would go over their lists. "I'll start," offered the wife. She took out her list. It had many items on it. Enough to fill three pages, in fact. As she started reading the list of the little annoyances, she noticed that tears were starting to appear in her husband's eyes. "What's wrong?" she asked. "Nothing," the husband replied, "keep reading your list." The wife continued to read until she had read all three pages to her husband. She neatly placed her list on the table and folded her hands over it. "Now, you read your list, and then we'll talk about the things on both of our lists," she said happily. Quietly the husband stated, "I don't have anything on my list. I think that you are perfect the way that you are. I don't want you to change anything for me. You are lovely and wonderful and I wouldn't want to try and change anything about you." The wife, touched by his honesty and the depth of his love for her and his acceptance of her, turned her head and wept. Moral of the story..In life, there are enough times when we are disappointed, depressed and annoyed. We don't really have to go

...Continues on next page

WANTED

Business, Corporation or Individual willing to donate to the Chicago Police Sergeants' Association fund-raising event held on 11 August 2014, at Silver Lakes Country Club. This is our sole fundraising event with all proceeds going to the "Active Duty" C.P.S.A. Death Benefit Fund. Since the list of Business, Corporations and Individuals willing to sponsor our yearly fund raising event continues to shrink with each passing year, we are asking **ALL MEMBERS** to reach out to their friends and local businesses in hopes of finding new sponsors.

If you know of a company, corporation or individual that would like to donate to this worthy cause please contact the Chicago Police Sergeants Association at 773-376-7272, or email Mark at mandersen@chicagosergeants.org.



There are three levels of sponsorship to choose from:

- **Level One** is the "Contest Sponsor" for \$150.00. This includes a sign at the hole, [tee box] you are sponsoring and your generosity will be acknowledged in our newsletter, on our web site and in the literature at the event.
- **Level Two** is our "Gold Sponsor" for \$500.00. This includes all of the above, plus additional signage at the contest holes and premium placement of your company name on the golf outing literature, and on our website.
- **Level Three** is our "Platinum Sponsor" for \$1000.00, also known as our "Event Sponsor" package. In addition to everything included in the above packages, you will receive four (4) tickets to golf in the Chicago Police Sergeants' Association Golf Outing, including a cart, lunch tickets and dinner at this year's event.

Alternatively, since much of the money raised will come directly from raffling prizes we are also seeking items to raffle off on the day of the event. Of course anyone who becomes a sponsor will be recognized at the event.

Food for Thought	<i>...Continued from previous page</i>
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Lesson #2... "I Can Make It Better"... (continued)

looking for them. We have a wonderful world that is full of beauty, light and promise. Why waste time in this world looking for the bad, disappointing or annoying when we can look around us and see the wondrous things before us?

I believe that WE ARE HAPPIEST WHEN we see and praise the good and try our best to forget the bad. Nobody's perfect but we can find the perfectness in them by changing the way WE see them. Thanks so much for the Holy and noble work you do every day. Each of you in your own way help make the big picture, and for that our city is grateful to you. If you have any good stories or good humor to share, don't hesitate to send an e-mail. May G-d bless you, keep you safe and always keep you in His loving care.

Compliments of your Chaplain Rabbi Moshe Wolf, 773-463-4780 or e-mail: moshewolf@hotmail.com

Pension Report*By Brian Wright Pension Board Representative****The Pension Fund Is Doing Its Job***

The Mayor is on a mission to “reform” the pension. His main goal is to delay the actuarial required contribution (ARC) payment to 2021 or later. This would be catastrophic to the pension fund. We need money NOW!!!

The Mayor has known about the ARC payment since its passage into law in 2010 and has done nothing to prepare to pay it. Now he is going to the State Legislature and arguing that he does not have the money to make the payment. He has had four years to make appropriate changes to the budget, applicable city ordinances or the funding of projects and programs to prepare to make the ARC payment. He chose not to. This is the same old song and dance the last administration had and why we are in this position today.

Why am I so concerned about the City making the ARC payment?? Because we need a huge influx of cash if we are ever going to grow the Funded Ratio of this Fund.

There are basically three sources of revenue for the Pension Fund: employee contributions (sworn officer’s monthly pension payments), employer contributions (the City’s 2 to 1 multiplier payment) and investment returns. Guess which two have done their job over the course of the plan’s inception and which one has not. The City was told for a long time by their own people, and the Pension Fund, that the 2 to 1 multiplier was not enough to sustain the Funded Ratio, but they chose to ignore that advice. That negligence required the State Legislature to pass the ARC funding law in 2010. Now, the City is legally required to make the ARC payment, instead of making gradual increases for the last 20 years as advised, and they do not like it. Well, it’s time to pay the piper!!

The other two sources of revenue, employee contributions and investment returns, cannot save this Fund. The employee contribution is roughly 90-100 million dollars per year, which equates to 9% of our paychecks. Even if you increase our payment another 3%, totaling 12% of our paychecks, that only amounts to another 30 million dollars. An increase is not fair to us and will not get us out of this hole. We need much more than that to grow this fund. We need an additional hundreds of millions of dollars per year to turn the funded ratio around.

This brings me to my main point. At the Pension Forum held on March 1st, 2014 at the Copernicus Center on the North Side, there was a lot of talk about “pension reform”. But what I thought was lost in the discussion was that we cannot invest our way out of this mess. The Pension Fund had 14.51% returns on assets in calendar year 2013. Yet, our fund only grew from \$2.996 billion on 12/31/12 to \$3.072 billion on 12/31/13. This equates to a 2.5% net return on our assets. Our assumed rate of return is 7.75% per year. We almost doubled it and did not even see a significant growth in our assets. If we have another 2008, we are doomed. If we have an average year of between 8-10% returns, we are going to lose money.

Thus, as you can plainly see, an increase in employee contributions cannot save us, investment returns cannot save us, only the ARC payments that are required by law can turn the funded ratio around and begin to grow our assets. The more the City pays into the Fund, the more the Fund can make on that money. If the ARC payments are made every year, eventually the City’s contribution begins to decrease because the investment returns are higher because there is more money in the fund to invest. This would be down the road 20-30 years, but in the short term the funded ratio will begin to rise, which is how it starts (see my last Pension Advisor article for more info). But the ARC payments have to be made NOW, or we are in serious trouble in the near future.

Do not be afraid to call your elected officials and share this information with them. The more they know the better. The truth is our friend. We have nothing to hide. We have made our contributions every check and the Pension Fund has done its job with 14.5% in returns in 2013 and historically above the assumed rate of return of 7.75%. Now, it’s the City’s turn to do what they are legally required to do and should have been doing for the last 30 years.

Retirement Dinner

We would like to take the time to thank all who attended the dinner and honored our 2013 retirees. Thanks to Ret. Sgt. Ron Lewis for his time and efforts. Ron took several photos at the dinner and they have been added to our website, along with those taken by Debbie Trainor. St. Ignatius again proved to be a great host and a good time was had by all.



Chicago Police Sergeants' Association

Police Benevolent & Protective Association, Unit 156A

1616 West Pershing Road

Chicago, Illinois 60609

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PERMIT NO. 328
CHICAGO, IL

Upcoming Meetings: May 15 at 1800 Hours July 17 at Noon 1616 W. Pershing Road

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**

Chevrons

The Official Publication of the
Chicago Police Sergeants' Association

Executive Board

President - James Ade

Vice-President - Paul Bilotta

Financial Secretary - Patrick Donahue

Recording Secretary - Kelly Lewison

Treasurer - Chris Pettis

Sergeant-At-Arms - Richard Moravec

Directors

Mark Anderson

Michael Barz

John Stahl

Michael Lazzaro

Gerard Majerczyk

Mark McDermott

Stephanie Stewart

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Jim Kubik

North Retiree Liaison - Jacque Boyd

South Retiree Liaison - Bob Kirchner

Sgt's Pension Rep. - Brian Wright