



Chevrons

Chicago Police Sergeants' Association Newsletter

October 2014 Volume 55 Number 4



Police Benevolent &
Protective Association

Unit 156A

Chicago Sergeants



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President's Message

By James Ade President

Several months ago, I related that on March 10, Retired Sergeant Al (Elmer) Brown and his wife were victims of a violent home invasion where Al was shot through the neck and later died. The Area South Detectives had been working the case as a top priority. Their hard work and dedication recently resulted in the arrests of those involved in Al's murder. Those responsible for the murder of a Retired Chicago Police Sergeant are behind bars and hopefully will never see the free world again. Special thanks to Area South Sgt. Rick Wisner and all of the police personnel that so aggressively worked this case.

The Sergeants' Association, together with the Lieutenants, Captains, Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 7, and Chicago Firefighters Local 2 have formed a Chicago Public Safety Coalition to work together to protect the pensions of those who protect the citizens of Chicago. The coalition is working with the Illinois Public Pension Fund Association (IPPPFA) and the elected members of the police and fire pension funds to create a unified voice as we approach the veto session in the General Assembly this fall. Sean Smoot and members of the coalition will be meeting with legislators in the time leading up to the veto session to express our thoughts and concerns and to garner support of our positions. The Coalition, with the assistance of the IPPFA, has contracted with the Center for Tax & Budget Accountability. They will begin digging into the city budgets, finances, tax structure, etc. This work is being done to expose the city finances as well as find monies that should be going into our pension funds. As a unified group, the Coalition will do everything in



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

its power to protect the pensions of our members.

In August, the Board of Directors, with the recommendation of the Finance Committee, made the decision to pay off the mortgage on our building at 1616 W. Pershing. By owning the building outright, the Association will be saving thousands of dollars in interest. The Board also voted to increase the Death Benefit for active sergeants from \$3000 to \$5000. This increase was made possible by the generosity and support of our members and friends that participate in our annual golf outing and raffle.

The golf outing this year was a tremendous success. Over 250 golfers and guests enjoyed the day at Silver Lake Country Club in Orland Park. The outing and raffle raised over \$20,000 for our Death Benefit for active sergeants. We could not have achieved this success without the efforts of Paul Bilotta, Mark Andersen, our volunteers who were so generous with their time, and the Board of Directors who helped make the day so enjoyable. Thanks to all who participated.

The Election Committee met on October 14 to verify candidate petitions and prepare ballots for the election for Executive Officers and Directors of the Association. Upon completion of the verification process, all of the candidates were unopposed. The committee then declared the candidates as elected by proclamation. I wish to thank the Election Committee; Don Januszyk, Keith Mayo, Ted Raab, Gene Richmond, and Al Piantkowski, made up of retired members of the Association, for their continued dedication to our members. The Association's new Executive Officers and Board of Directors will be installed at the Annual Meeting of the Association in January of 2015.

On October 17, members of the FOP voted to ratify their contract agreement with the City of Chicago. The agreement will now go to the city council for ratification. Once that process is complete, we will demand the age 55 retiree health care contribution, raises in duty availability, and whatever else may trigger the Me-Too clause in the final agreement.

Recently, work was completed to our property located at 38th Place and Ashland to provide a gravel parking lot for our members when they attend Association meetings. The entrance to the lot is on 38th Place (one way eastbound) and is less than 100 yards from the hall.

Our next General Meeting will be held on November 20, 2014 at Noon, here at the Association office located at 1616 W. Pershing Road. Our annual Thanksgiving Turkey Raffle will take place following the meeting. The Annual Meeting of the Association will be held on January 15, 2015 at 1800 Hours.

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

Chevrons Additions

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

Contact Us

Chicago Police Sergeants' Association - 1616 W. Pershing Road Chicago, IL 60609
Office: (773) 376-7272 - Fax (773) 376-7344 - info@chicagosergeants.org

Vice-Presidents Report

By Paul Bilotta Vice-President

This year was another record year for our golf outing. We had a great turnout even though the day started off with rain. The sun came out and everyone enjoyed the golfing. We can't forget the reason for this outing and that is to raise money to keep the death benefit funded. As of August of this year your Board of Directors voted to increase the death benefit to \$5000.00 from the previous benefit of \$3000.00. This can only be done because of the generosity of the men and women that participate in the event. This year was a great year as \$23,362.10 was raised for this benefit. I cannot thank everyone enough for their support for this cause. Beginning next year we will be making a small change to the administrative aspect of the outing. Next year's outing will be held on August 10, 2015. We will be requesting that all payments for golf & dinner or dinner alone if you opt to not golf be made by Wednesday August 5, 2015. There will be no payments allowed the day of the outing. We will follow this format from this point forward and be requesting that payments be made no later than the Wednesday before the outing. Thank you very much for your support and your participation.

Our grievances have been slowly but surely dwindling down. We currently have 11 open grievances. Of those that are open we have requested arbitration on three of them. One of them went to arbitration last week. One is going to arbitration next week. Arbitration has been requested on a medical grievance. One of the medical grievances will be going to mediation at the end of the month. The remaining four grievances are being reviewed. I am discussing grievances because I want everyone to know that the grievance process is not taken lightly in this office. We consider grievances a serious issue. It is important that our members know that if they think their contractual rights have been violated they contact us to determine if a grievance is applicable. We are always ready to speak with anyone regarding the contract and to determine if someone may have the grounds for a grievance. Many times we will seek advice of counsel, Tom Pleines, to determine our standing in this process. Tom argues our cases in arbitration and is an expert in contract law and procedure. We rely on him for his contract expertise and knowledge.

Lastly, please remember that every September we hold our meeting at Home Run Inn Pizza. This meeting is held to honor sergeants from throughout the department that have done something exceptional within the last calendar year. We call this our awards dinner. We present awards to sergeants that have been involved in shootings, have been

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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**
- Tim Szarzynski 005**
- Stacey Cotter 006**
- Kris Rigan 007**
- 008**
- Tim Moriarty 009**
- Jerry Negrete 010**
- Gerry Murphy 011**
- Mark Juska 012**
- Tom Linnane 014**
- Jim Raffae 015**
- Bill O'Reilly 050**
- Michelle Rubino 017**
- Tim Flisk 018**
- Angelo Hitiris 019**
- 020**
- Adam Zelitzky 022**
- Dawn Jackson 024**
- Mike Tantilla 025**
- Saadia Carter 142**
- Bob Wheeler 606**

Vice-Presidents Report*...continued from page 4*

injured, have made an outstanding arrest, etc. Please notify us throughout the year if you or someone you know has been in a situation that would merit an award for actions that were taken. We very much enjoy this ceremony and all that attend very much enjoy honoring their fellow sergeants.

I appreciate all that you do and I am thankful for the fantastic group of women and men that we have the privilege of working with in this department. Take care of each other and be safe.

Recent Retirements

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. Mike Rogers	2597	019	57	29	15 Jul 2014
Sgt. Richard Dowling	972	007	55	29	15 Jul 2014
Sgt. Thomas Donegan	1764	022	50	22	15 Jul 2014
Sgt. Jack DeDore	1448	311	56	29	15 Jul 2014
Sgt. James Gavin	1581	014	56	23	16 Jul 2014
Sgt. Kenneth Boudreau	852	393	54	28	18 Jul 2014
Sgt. Kelly Braithwaite	836	018	50	27	25 Jul 2014
Sgt. James Stubbe	2659	020	62	20	14 Aug 2014
Sgt. Frederick Buchanan	2252	620	60	24	16 Aug 2014
Sgt. George McMurray, Jr.	1962	017	63	27	17 Aug 2014
Sgt. Kevin Nemes	1698	016	63	41	04 Sep 2014
Sgt. Kristin Munin	1626	017	43	21	09 Sep 2014
Sgt. Dianne Shaw	882	124	55	29	15 Sep 2014

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. Ralph J. Moreth	Retired	00 July 2014
Sgt. Thomas F. Eich (61)	Retired	26 Aug 2014
Sgt. John M. Fanning (79)	Retired (Az)	27 Aug 2014
Sgt. Darl F. Scholl	Retired	22 Sept 2014

Membership Report*By Paul Bilotta Vice-President*

As of this writing there are 1156 members in the 9171 pay code. The budgeted strength for our pay code is 1190 which leaves us 36 sergeants short at this time. There has been no word about any additional classes as of this point. Remember, retirement is now open from 01 May and the par form must be submitted 30 days prior to retiring.

Awards / Pizza Meeting

The September Awards / Pizza meeting at Home Run Inn was very well attended. Awards for distinguished service were presented to Sgt. Bob Rubio (025), Sgts. Shane McHugh, John Folino, and Dominic Ciccola (025), Sgt. Bryan Spreyne (008), Sgt. Al Finley (024), and Sgt. Jim Cascone (005). Congratulations to the awardees.

Pictured clockwise are Sgt Bryan-Spreyne, Sgt. Bob Rubio, Sgt. Jim Cascone, and Sgts. Dom Ciccola and John Folino receiving their awards from Jim Ade.



Attention: Recent or Future Retirees

If you have recently retired or plan to retire, and you change your address, please notify our office. Additionally, if you move into an apartment or condo building we must have your apartment or unit number, otherwise the U.S. Post office may not make a delivery to you. This is important in that we will not forward a retirement star if an address indicates a multi-unit location.

Volunteers Needed

The Chicago Police Department is looking for volunteers to implement new youth programs in each of the twenty-two districts. Duties include coaching, mentoring, and other opportunities. Active and Retired personnel as well as family members can volunteer for these programs. If you might be interested in volunteering, please contact the Chicago Police Department CAPS program via email at ChicagoCAPSHQ@chicagopolice.org.

Member Benefit

American Police Beat has been in circulation since 1994 and remains one of the most respected publications in our profession across the country. Through the CPSA's association with *PubSecAlliance*, the publisher is offering our members a free one-year subscription to the magazine. Simply print out and complete the below certificate and mail or fax to American Police Beat to begin enjoying the best magazine for today's law enforcement professionals.



A GIFT FROM THE CHICAGO POLICE SERGEANT'S ASSOCIATION

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN RECEIVING A FREE SUBSCRIPTION TO THE NATION'S LEADING LAW ENFORCEMENT MAGAZINE, FILL OUT THIS FORM

[] YES, I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE MY 1 YEAR SUBSCRIPTION TO AMERICAN POLICE BEAT

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ORGANIZATION: _____

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CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL (OPTIONAL FOR ENEWSLETTER): _____

TO REDEEM, PLEASE MAIL OR FAX TO:

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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

Chaplain's Corner

Fr. Dan Brandt Chaplain

Just over a month ago, we buried the remains of Joseph Lukaszewski, brother of Michael E. Lukaszewski (#7165, killed in the line of duty on 30 JUN 1957). The two brothers' wishes were to be buried together. Over 57 years later, with some very generous help from Catholic Cemeteries (and St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in River Grove), as well as Smith-Corcoran Funeral Home, we were



able to cremate Joseph, who passed away recently, and bury his remains alongside his brother Mike. God gave us a beautiful day on which to fulfill this family's request, and once again we lived up to the motto of the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation: "NEVER FORGET!" Pictured here are friends of the Lukaszewski Family, along with Phil Cline, Executive Director of the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation and (second from right) Bethany O'Reilly, President of Gold Star Families.

We remember all our fallen officers at our regular police Mass. In addition to our usual 11:00 a.m. Police Mass every 2nd and 4th Sunday at Mercy Home, this month we'll also celebrate a special Thanksgiving Mass on Thursday, 27 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.

Also... the "Upper Room Club" which used to meet on the first Thursday of each month will from now on meet on the first Monday of each month (beginning 03 NOV). I look forward to seeing and sharing faith and prayer with active and retired CPD members of this Bible study group. For more information, please contact me.

With Christmas around the corner... If you'd like a blown glass 3" x 4 1/2" CPD Christmas tree ornament, please visit our website (below), and click on the "PCM Merchandise" link. A limited supply is available at great prices...and bulk prices are available if you'd like to buy them for your team. One side of the ornament (pictured) reads, "Proud to be the Police" and the other side reads, "Proud to be an American."



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 are currently being 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.

See you out there,

Fr. Dan Brandt, CPD Chaplain 312/738-7588 (office) | 773/550-2369 (cell/text)

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

Food for Thought

By Rabbi Moshe Wolf Chaplain

The Chaplains were standing around and chatting after a roll call and I was approached by one of our members with the following question, "How does one climb out of a rut, when they feel they just had enough"? And let me ask you another question he continued, "how can one train themselves to continue to work with a partner that you don't really care for"? I realized, that I was being asked two difficult questions and had only a short time to answer both. What came to mind was a recent lecture I attended and the topic was titled "inspirational lessons learnt from nature". Please let me share two of those lessons with you.

Lesson #1, "The Fern and The Bamboo"

One day my friend Joe decided, that's it, he had enough, he decided to quit...he quit his job, quit his relationship, gave up his spirituality. He wanted to quit his life. Joe went into the woods to have one last talk with G-d. "Please G-d", Joe said. "Can you give me one good reason not to quit?" His answer surprised Joe. "Look around", G-d said. "Do you see the fern and the bamboo?" "Yes", Joe replied. "When I planted the fern and the bamboo seeds, I took very good care of them. I gave them light. I gave them water. The fern quickly grew from the earth. Its brilliant green covered the floor. Yet nothing came from the bamboo seed. But I did not quit on the bamboo. In the second year the fern grew more vibrant and plentiful. And again, nothing came from the bamboo seed. But I did not quit on the bamboo. In year three there was still nothing from the bamboo seed. But I would not quit. The same in year four. Then in the fifth year, a tiny sprout emerged from the earth. Compared to the fern, it was seemingly small and insignificant. But just six months later, the bamboo rose to over 100 feet tall. It had spent the five years growing roots. Those roots made it strong and gave it what it needed to survive. I would not give any of My creations a challenge it could not handle. "Did you know, My child, that all this time you have been struggling, you have actually been growing roots? I would not quit on the bamboo. I will never quit on you. "Don't compare yourself to others." G-d said. "The bamboo had a different purpose than the fern. Yet they both make the forest beautiful. "Your time will come", G-d said to Joe. "You will rise high." "How high should I rise?" Joe asked. "How high will the bamboo rise?" G-d asked in return. "As high as it can?" Joe questioned. "Yes.", G-d said, "Give me glory by rising as high as you can." Joe left the forest, realizing that G-d will never give up on him.

And He will never give up on you. Never regret a day in your life. Good days give you happiness; bad days give you experiences; both are essential to life. Serenity isn't freedom from the storm, but peace within the storm.

Lesson #2, "What we learn from the Porcupine?"

It was the coldest winter ever – so cold that many animals froze to death. In an effort to save themselves from this icy fate, the porcupines decided to gather together to fend off the chill. They huddled close to each other, covered and protected from the elements, and warmed by their collective body heat. But their prickly quills proved to be a bit of a problem in close proximity – they poked and stabbed each other, wounding their closest companions. The warmth was wonderful, but the mutual needling became increasingly uncomfortable. Eventually, they began to distance themselves one from the other, scattering in the forest only to end up alone and frozen. Many died. It soon became clear that they would have to choose between solitary deaths in the frigid wilderness and the discomfort of being needled by their companions' quills when they banded together. Wisely, they decided to return to the huddle. They learned to live with the little wounds caused by the close relationship with their fellows, in order to benefit from the collective heat they generated as a group. In this way they were able to survive.

Possible morals of the story

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Pension Report

By Brian Wright Pension Board Representative

As I am sure many of you are aware, the section of the Illinois Pension Code that applies to us requires the City to make the actuarially required contribution, or ARC, payment in 2016. In order to collect for that payment, the City has to levy the taxes in 2015. Mayor Rahm Emanuel presented his budget without that payment included. So obviously the Mayor believes he will not have to make that payment in 2016. This leads to the conclusion that the Mayor believes he can change the statute between now and then, or plans on violating state law in 2016. In order for the Mayor to avoid the ARC payment, the statute will most likely be attacked in the fall veto session coming up. The ARC payment for 2016 is projected at \$582 million and rises about \$30 million every year thereafter. Currently, the City has to pay a 2 to 1 multiplier of membership contributions. This comes to approximately \$190 - \$200 million every year. Thus, the ARC payment will be approximately three times what the City is paying now. We have all heard the Mayor's battle cry that there is no money and that the City is broke. But, as I stated in previous newsletters, what has he done to prepare for the ARC payment that has been in place since 2010, and the entire time he has been in office? Answer: NOTHING. Now the City will go to Springfield and ask for relief from the current law after not giving any effort for 4 years to address the problem themselves.

The next few months are going to be critical for the long term health of this fund. Every member must be vigilant as to the legislation being proposed that will be affecting their future. So, I urge every member to call their respective aldermen, state representatives and state senators so they are fully aware of our position and that we will not be going down without a fight.

This will be my last newsletter before I run for re-election to my position as the Sergeant Trustee. I have enjoyed my time representing all of the members of this fund and hope to continue to do so in the future. If the membership decides to re-elect me, I will continue to fight for our benefits that we have earned and inform the membership the best I can.

Food for Thought

...Continued from previous page

1. We all hurt each other from time to time, it's an inevitable part of being in relationship and community. But in the end we're often better off together than we might be apart.
 2. Learning to accept each other's imperfections can be a successful survival strategy.
 3. People are not perfect. Accepting and living with our own imperfections as well as those of others, is one of the greatest gifts we can give ourselves and those close to us.
 4. A little needling can be a good thing.
 5. Learn to live with the "prickly quills" in your life – they may be serving some higher purpose.
- So as you go on your journey called life, remember to pause, smell the roses. We reach our destination sooner or later, have some fun along the way.

Should you need a shoulder to lean on, or have some good humor to share, don't hesitate to give us a call. On behalf of ALL your Chaplains, may G-d bless you and keep you safe. Amen!!

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

Annual Golf Outing

I want to thank everyone that supported and participated in this the golf outing this year. 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 enjoyed the entire day.

The golf outing and raffle raised over \$20,000 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. Due to the generosity and support of the members of our Association, the Board of Directors raised the benefit to \$5000. The golf outing is our only fund raising event and everyone's support is not only appreciated but needed. Again, THANK YOU.

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

Golf Outing Raffle Winners Grand Prize

Sgt. Roger Elmer (Ret)

2nd Prize

Sgt. Grace Paoletti (Ret)

Linda O'Reilly

3rd Prize

Sgt. Roberta Steele

Sgt. Dave Caufield (Ret)

Sgt. Sam Dari



Annual Golf Outing



MARK YOUR CALENDARS - SAVE THE DATE

2015 CPSA / PBPA Unit 156A 53rd Annual Golf Outing

Monday, August 10 - 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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Save the Date: Thanksgiving Raffle 20 November 1200 Hours at CPSA 1616 W. Pershing

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

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