

Sentinel

Policeman's Benevolent
PB&PA
 Protective Association
 of Illinois

Chicago Police Lieutenants Association

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE BY DON O'NEILL

The Superintendent recently promoted two groups of Lieutenants to the rank of Captain and several to exempt positions. We extend our congratulations to these individuals on their promotions and salute the Superintendent for his efforts to maintain an adequate number of Captains to serve as Watch Commander. When the rank of Captain is fully staffed, Lieutenants can focus on their responsibility to monitor field activities to reduce crime.

Among those promoted to Captain, was a member of our Board of Directors, Area Four Representative, John Kenny. We would like to thank John for all his hard work on behalf of the Union.

At our May meeting the Board of Directors selected Dean Stone to fill the vacancy created by John Kenny's promotion. We welcome Dean and are confident he will serve the Lieutenants in Area Four well. Dean is assigned to the 10th District on the third watch. He can also be contacted via the internet through our website www.CPDLTS.com.

There has been a lot of discussion over the lack of representation in the promotions to Captain

from District Law Enforcement. This is due to the fact that over half of the applicants for the position were assigned to Districts. The unknown factor is how many names of District Law Enforcement Lieutenants were forwarded by the Merit Board to the Superintendent for consideration. The bottom line is that the Superintendent selected



the individuals that he has confidence in. If there is a need for a change in the selection process it will need to be addressed in the next contract. Although two thirds of Lieutenants are assigned to District Law Enforcement we recognize that we represent all Lieutenants, both in the Patrol Division and outside of Patrol. As a Union we are happy to see our members advancing.

We have received several questions regarding the six hundred dollar wellness benefit. This benefit is for members who are in the Blue Cross Blue Shield PPO plan. There is no need to sign up or register for this benefit. It is automatically available to all Blue Cross Blue Shield PPO members.

A separate six hundred dollars is available to each individual covered by your family plan. The six hundred dollars must be used by the end of the year or it is lost. This money is for routine physicals, lab tests, immunizations, pap smears, mammograms, hearing screening and vision. The vision component is administered by Davis Vision

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who submits the bill to Blue Cross Blue Shield for payment. If you choose a Davis Vision Doctor, they will bill Blue Cross. For all other wellness payments your health care provider will bill Blue Cross for payment. To insure proper billing it is advisable to inform your health care provider that you have the wellness benefit.

We continue to meet with the City to discuss the retirement health savings account. The City has solicited proposals from numerous vendors. We should have more information on this program at the upcoming meeting.

For the last several years we have been receiving anonymous letters with attached newspaper clippings concerning our attorney Robert Kuzas. It is difficult to respond to anonymous letters. In an effort to stop the anonymous letters and put the individual at ease we will discuss the issue. Mr. Kuzas is a criminal defense attorney. We selected him to be our attorney based on his experience in criminal defense work and the knowledge he has as a former Chicago Police

Officer. Mr. Kuzas is not an in house attorney. He is not our full time employee. We are one of his many clients. We are not in a position to control Mr. Kuzas' law practice nor do we feel a need to. We are not going to hire a probate attorney to represent you when what you need is a skilled criminal defense attorney. Mr. Kuzas has chosen not to represent criminal defendants if the victim is a sworn officer. This is at his choice and not at our direction.

If anyone has any comments or questions about this or any other issue, send us a note with your name on it and we will gladly

discuss it with you.

We continue to monitor the legal action against the City concerning retiree health care premiums. The contention of the suit is that the City overcharged retirees by twenty million dollars for health care. At the proper time we will attempt to intervene in this action to ensure our retired member's interests are protected.

We hope to see you at our next meeting at Moretti's, 1645 W. Jackson on June 13, 2006 at 6:00 P.M. Have a safe and happy summer.

Donald O'Neill
President

Welcome new Lt.s

We need your information for the CPLA mailing list and data base. Please go to our website www.CPDLTS.com select Membership Update and send your information to us. We need your home address, phone, & email address.

While you are there tour the rest of the site. Feel free to contact us if you have any ideas for the site or the Sentinel.



CPDLTS.com

You may have seen it already, you may not have. Direct your computer to our web site www.CPDLTS.com.

We regularly update the site so that we can provide you with the most up to date information. As soon as we know it you will know it.

We have email addresses for all our CPLA representatives so that you can contact your area representative for help or information.

We are constantly updating our membership data base and ask that when you have a change you let us know by email.

We need your email address so that we can set up email alerts.

New Area 4 Representative

We welcome Dean Stone as our new Area 4 Representative. You can contact him by email at: area4rep@cpdlts.com.

Let's also thank John Kenny and wish him good fortune as a new Captain.

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THE VICE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

CONTRACT: We will soon begin to ask for information from **YOU** regarding items you think are important for the next contract. We will try to make it easy so you can reply on line.

PROMOTIONS: I don't want to say I told you so on the Captains being from Headquarters but ***ITOLD YOU SO***. Check last month Newsletter. This will have to be our #1 item for next years contract; bidding to all units beginning with 1. They have left a nice paper trail with the last 2 promotions in case we have to go to an arbitrator.

ELECTIONS : We will be electing Area Representatives in the Fall. We have made the positions more economically attractive and hope to attract more candidates.

REBATES: By now everyone should have received their \$100 check. This and the dropping of retirees dues were only possible because of the sound management of your money by the Board.. We will continue to safeguard your money and keep our dues the lowest of any Police Union.

CONGRATULATIONS: To the 22 new Lieutenants. Welcome to the best rank on the Department. A big tip of the Lieutenants hat to our own John Kenny who was promoted to Captain. The ***FIRST*** Board member promoted in modern history. I'm sure the Department would not hold being on the Board of our Union against anyone.

DEPARTMENT POLICY: Once again the Department has try to draw us into being on committees to develop this new Personnel intervention policy and again we did not get drawn in. Making Policy is their job not ours. As a union our only concern is that it does not violate our Labor Contract. We have several committees that are in our Contract such as Uniforms, Safety, health etc that we have members on. These were negotiated as part of the contract. The danger is that as a Union if we are part of the development of the policy and appear as stage props at their press conferences then we have become a stake holder. That's not what Unions are for.

ROAD TRIPS: With 67 of the 75 Captains positions filled and almost all the Lieutenant positions filled there should be very few road trips this summer. It seems they are using the TAC Lt.s to fill in to avoid paying someone the 4 hours pay. However they do it should be a peaceful and more predictable summer.

THE COST OF CORRUPTION; The first bill from the Federal monitor for the Shakman decree has been submitted, \$732,193. It's only the beginning. This is the cost of promoting and hiring based on politics and friendship rather than competence. I wonder if anyone notices.

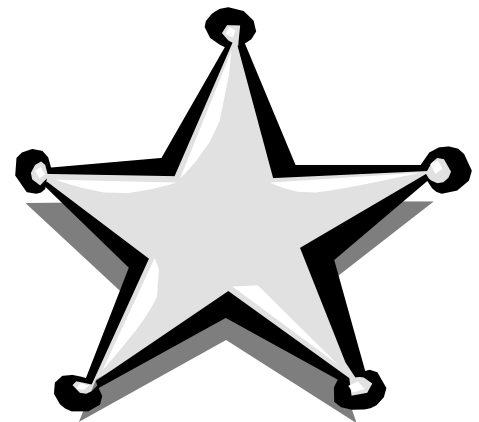
Kenneth Sullivan
Vice-President CPLA

HAVE AN IDEA FOR THE SENTINEL?

Are you interested in contributing material for publication in a future edition of the Sentinel Newsletter? We would love to see what you have to submit.

All written material should be written in either Word Perfect or MS Word and e-mailed to **sentinal@cpdlts.com**.

We also want suggestions for the new web page **www.cpdltts.com**



LETTERS TO THE SENTINEL

Dear Fellow Lieutenants,

Seven years ago on 15 May 1999, **National Police Memorial Day**, Lieutenant James Leo O'Neill passed away suddenly. At the time of his death he was the Watch Commander – 3rd Watch in the 25th District, the President of the Chicago Police Lieutenant's Association and the most important person in my life.

Jim, along with Lieutenant Timothy Nolan (also a past president of the Chicago Police Lieutenant's Association - now deceased) and retired Lieutenant John Thulis went to Springfield and fought for our rights. They were able to get the State Law changed which allowed supervisors to finally get Collective Bargaining. They then worked diligently to assure that our rights were protected and brought the PBPA to Chicago. I assure you that without these three men none of us would be enjoying the privileges that have come along with our contracts and these privileges will hopefully continue to improve in the future. **These men were the driving force!**

Last spring my 13 year old nephew Brian was assigned to write a poem that reflected sadness. He was only seven when Jim O'Neill passed away but he loved him as an uncle because Jim had been around Brian's entire life. So he wrote about the day of Jim's funeral and yes, the dog was at the cemetery. This is the poem he wrote...

A DAY TO REMEMBER

AS I DRIVE IN THE CAR WHILE
 BLUE STARS BLOCK EVERY
 STREET AS THE LIGHTS FLASH
 INTO MY EYES TEARS FILL UP IT'S
 ALL BLURRY
 I GET OUT OF THE CAR I SEE THE
 GRAVE
 IT JUST RIPS MY HEART INTO
 PIECES
 AS I SAY MY LAST GOODBYE
 I THINK TO MYSELF
 I'LL NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN
 THE CASKET SEEMS AS FROZEN
 AS THE OFFICERS
 IN THE DEAD OF WINTER
 IT'S ALL QUIET

ALL WE HEAR IS MY UNCLE'S
 DOG
 ALMOST SEEMS LIKE SHE IS
 CRYING TOO
 AND THE TEARS ROLL
 SOUNDS OF HEAVENLY BAG-
 PIPES
 AS THE FLAG IS FOLDED
 WITH OFFICERS SHOOTING THE
 GUNS
 IT WAS LIKE THEY WERE
 SHOOTING MY HEART

By
 Brian Kane

After I read this beautiful poem I knew that I wanted to share it with all of you because it not only made me think of Jim but of all the officers that I have met and lost during my career. I hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did.

Lt. Maureen E. Ziegenhorn
 18th District

Dear Chicago Police Lieutenant's ,

I am sorry to report that St. Michael's House is in the process of closing. This was a very difficult, but necessary, decision to make. A lack of funding and support by the Chicago Police Department irreparably impedes our ability to continue to offer exclusive services to the law enforcement community, as we have for so many years.

More specifically, conditions at St. Michael's House were made quite difficult, for the past three years, as the Department rejected several proposals that we presented, with the specific goal of improving the quality of counseling services to Department members, while reducing the Department's budget. The breaking point came when the Superintendent's office insisted that in order for the St. Michael's House lease to be renewed, the Department must be allowed to have use of the facility for CPD in-service training. Permitting such use would have made it impossible to protect the privacy and confidentiality of the officers who sought counseling at St. Mike's. I was unwilling to compromise or jeopardize the necessary confidentiality and sanctuary of St. Michael's House. The proposed Department access would

have been entirely contradictory to our unique mission of providing confidential services, unmonitored by CPD, to the Department's most valuable resource: police officers and their families.

Understand that I will continue my work with police officers and their families through my private practice. I have offices in Northbrook and Oak Brook. In fact, you may recall that The Police Assistance Center (TPAC) operated out of Oak Brook for ten years, before St. Michael's House came into existence. I am pleased to report that all of the clients that I have been seeing at St. Michael's House have made the transition with me. Again underscoring the importance of confidentiality, several officers have even stated a preference for the suburban locations.

For the twenty-plus years that I have been counseling police officers and their families, I have relied heavily on referrals from Supervisors in the field. You are truly the first line of defense in identifying, and helping, an officer who may be experiencing difficulties in his or her personal life. Also, Supervisors have a tendency to be proactive when it comes to seeking help for themselves, when trouble begins to arise in their marriages and other aspects of their personal lives. I know that in spite of the closing of St. Michael's House, you will continue to remain proactive in getting the word out about the services that I provide. Your continued assistance is greatly appreciated. To that end, I would like for you to forward this letter to your collective bargaining unit members, and to any other organizations or officers that have a potential need for counseling services that are attuned to the needs and demands of police officers and their families. Thank you in advance for your continued consideration and support, particularly during this time of transition. My numbers are: Northbrook 847 272-7089, Oak Brook 630 571-8722, and the e-mail address is:

rorygilbert@mindspring.com.

Sincerely,

Rory Gilbert

From Our Treasurer

As your new treasure, I would like to thank John for his hard work over the last few years. He instituted one change that adds security and financial integrity to our book-keeping process. Each month our accountants, WBK Accounting, reviews our banking records for accuracy and they are open for review at each meeting.

Our investments are doing better because of raising interest rates in CD'S. The board feels that we should invest conservatively to protect our assets.

One problem we've been experiencing is in dues payments from the City. Each pay period they just can't get it right. The newly promoted Lieutenants are now paying the right amount of dues. (A refund for overpayment will be sent out shortly by the Union for any Lieutenant that paid \$25 instead of \$20.) But the City always leaves off a few Lieutenants from their master list when they pay the Union. So we are shorted dues money each pay period. It seems the CHIP'S (cow chip's) doesn't work at any level.

I want to remind all retirees that for 2006 dues payments have been eliminated. Please don't send a payment.

Hope to see everyone at the Corned Beef dinner.

Bill Frapolly
Treasurer



RETIREEE NEWS

Hi Lt.

Since it's now my turn to join the ranks of the retired, I thought it would be a good idea to write something about the experience. After all, what else would you expect the Retirees Representative to write about?

Hopefully, all of you will eventually retire and failing to plan can turn into planning to fail.

God knows, everyone is too busy already. The family, the job, the house, and the bills are all constants we are involved with on a daily basis so it's easy to conclude that there is more than enough happening right now and planning for the years ahead will just have to wait. So, here are just a few thoughts for your considera-

tion.

1. Will you be eligible for Social Security? All the Retirement Specialists will tell you that you are always better with it than without it.
2. Are you in Deferred Comp? Whatever your personal financial situation, Deferred Comp is a really great place for at least part of your money to be.
3. Who does your Taxes? It is absolutely amazing what a Real Tax Professional can tell you about using some of the Income Tax Code provisions to your financial advantage.
4. What about Professional Financial Management? I know this sounds expensive and it can be, unless you are a Mem-

ber

of the Chicago Patrolmen's Federal Credit Union. If you are a member then Professional Financial Management Information and Advice are Free. That's right, FREE. All a member need do is call 1-312-499-8888 for an appointment.

One last thought for your consideration. Do you have any idea how long you will live after you retire? The experts say that even if you retire from the Chicago Police Department; if you are alive and healthy at sixty five, the odds are you will live past seventy five.

John Finnegan
Retiree's Representative

SENTINEL

Standing Watch for Chicago Police Lieutenants

Policeman's Benevolent
PB&PA
Protective Association
of Illinois

Chicago Police
Lieutenants Association

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Contact the Sentinel Newsletter via e-mail at
Sentinal@cpdlts.com
Visit the NEW Chicago Police
Lieutenants web site at
www.cpdltts.com
soon

**JOIN US AT THE NEXT
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
&
DINNER**

13 JUNE 2006

**MORETTI'S
6:00 PM
1645 W. JACKSON**