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R•C•P•A Newsletter

RETIREE CHICAGO POLICE ASSOCIATION

May 2017

IF YOU RECEIVED A YELLOW NEWSLETTER, YOUR 2017 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED, APPLICATION FORM IS INCLUDED IN THIS NEWSLETTER. IF YOU RECEIVE A WHITE NEWSLETTER, YOUR DUES ARE PAID. Upon receipt of your 2017 dues, we will send you a membership card and auto decal.

President's Message

Harold Brown

The next meeting of the Retired Chicago police Association will be on Sunday May 21 2017 at 1:00 PM. It will be held in the 001 District Community Room at 1718 S State Street.

Please mark your calendar for the annual St. Jude Memorial March and Ceremony on Sunday May 7 at 08:00 hours. It will be held on the lakefront at the police memorial park.

The FOP election was held and thanks to you we have 9 members of the RCPA elected to the Board of Directors. The runoff election for president was held on April 12 and Kevin Graham was elected President.

Because of the calls we receive in the office I am again printing what to do if you receive a bill after using the CFD Ambulance CBA, section 25.2, Ambulance Fees. Officers and their eligible dependents and retirees and their spouses will be exempt for emergency medical services performed by the Chicago Fire Department. The contact person is:

Hazel Darden Unit 123 (Human Services)
3510 South Michigan Avenue, 4th Floor
Chicago IL 60653
312-745-5310 or 5390

We have a request for the waiver on the RCPA website. If you need one and do not have a computer, call the office and we will send one to you 773-763- 5310.

CORRECTION for those of you wanting to join the FOP our last newsletter we had the wrong Phone # the correct # is 312-733-7776.

Due to the increase of postage and printing, those of you that receive a yellow newsletter, if your dues are not paid by July 15 2017 this will be the last newsletter you will receive.

REGULAR MEETING

Sunday, May 21st, 2017 at 1:00 PM
1st District Community Room
1718 South State Street

RETIREE CHICAGO POLICE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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Treasurer's Message

By Ronald Topczewski

If you received a WHITE NEWSLETTER, your 2017 dues are paid. If you received a YELLOW NEWSLETTER, your dues are NOT PAID and are now due. Please use the YELLOW APPLICATION. This is the only way to tell our members if dues are paid or not.

If any retiree groups would like to put an article in our newsletter regarding their meetings, please contact us.

1st Friday of each month at 1:00 p.m.
Cop Shop, Cape Coral, Florida
Tom Faragoi 239-770-7896

HAROLD BROWN
President

RONALD TOPCZEWSKI
Treasurer

NORTH

1st Wednesday of each month at 7:00 a.m.
Lone Tree Manor
7710 N. Milwaukee Avenue

SOUTH

2nd Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m.
Jedi Garden Restaurant
9266 S. Cicero Avenue

Just A Thought...

By Russ Schaefer, RCPA Trustee

The other morning I was sitting at breakfast with some of my old comrades from the job and of course the discussion came up about how the Job has changed over the years. One of the things that never changes in our minds and memories is the thought of all our fellow officers that have been lost over the years. For me the first year that I was on the job alone saw the deaths of ten officers from our ranks mostly from gunshot wounds. This prompted me to visit the Chicago Police Memorial web site to take a look at the history behind the deaths of these ten officers. Next to each of their pictures was the information that contained their end of watch date, background of the incident, outcome of the offender's trial and where many were laid to rest.

Another web site that I just became aware of was sent to me by my former partner Bill Selke is called the Officer Down Memorial Page. This site also lists our fallen officers and the history of their deaths and sometimes additional information relative to the investigations.

RETIREE CHICAGO POLICE ASSOCIATION

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Phone: 773-763-5310

www.retiredchicagopoliceassoc.com

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Organized in 1888 as an Association to protect the Police Pension Fund and promote the welfare of Police Pensioners, their widows and children.

National Conference on Public Employee Retirement System

Don Januszyk *1st Vice President*

It's been an interesting few months. We all have new medical insurance after Mayor Rahm screwed about 25,000 retirees. He wanted to save money, but he's sure spending it elsewhere. We have Aldermen worried about squirrels in garbage receptacles, rather than the shootings in Chicago or saving our pensions. I was trained to shoot in series of three shots, but ASA Fox reincarnates a cleared shooting, saying that the officer's first two shots were ok, but the third one was not. What are they drinking or smoking??? Anyway, what's new. We are aware of what the leaders of Chicago are doing, and can only hope something changes.

Attached is an article from a retired officer I know. Without going into a lot, read the below and you be the judge if he knows what he's talking about. Be safe out there.

I Got Questions *By Tom Cline*

So, let me get this straight; officers are being accused of having a code of silence, right? Don't all professions, particularly those that demand rigorous training, have codes of silence? I mean, don't the statistics show that there are sexual scandals involving ministers, rabbis, priests, coaches and teachers, and wasn't there a wide-spread test-cheating scandal in Georgia public schools that was hidden until outside investigations revealed criminal behavior? And, how about the medical profession; the third leading cause of death behind cancers and heart attacks in the U.S.A. is mistakes by incompetent and/or drug-addicted doctors, isn't it?

Aren't all the professions mentioned staffed with highly educated and supposedly ethical people, and I am to believe that peers and leaders do not know the sins of their members? So, am I wrong in thinking that this code-of-silence thing is part of human nature?

I might be wrong, but I thought the reason professions create Codes of Ethics is to protect the public from misdeeds of their members' incompetence, greed or malicious intent, no? Isn't it the duty of each member of a profession to protect those they serve, even from its members? Further, moral courage necessary to hold oneself to a professional code is not common historically, is it? And, what do you think; has American culture evolved or devolved morally?

What was Cole Porter suggesting in these 1930s lyrics? Anything Goes

The world has gone mad today And good's bad today,
And black's white today, And day's night today,
When most guys today That women prize today
Are just silly gigolos

Was he a prophet, lyricist, or both? Perhaps you're wondering if I participated in the code of silence during my sworn career. Yes, and I wonder, were there were any of us who didn't? Several cops are on the chopping block, accused of covering for peers, but should we be surprised given human nature, the L.E. culture, and leadership in Illinois and Chicago? Are there unwritten policies that contradict the written ones in your agency?

When I was sworn, did I interpret the unwritten codes wrong? What was I to think of, "Don't be a rat, kid.", "Stay away from that guy, he's a money man, or a sadist, or a sex fiend... he'll get you in trouble."? I wanted acceptance, didn't you? What should I have done? Did the power and politics twist everyone's thinking like it did mine? "Kid, ya tired, hungry, broke or horny? What dayawanna do first?" Should I have said, "I, I, I, I'd like to talk to the boss about this?"

Initially, I wondered what was so special about guys that got perks and cushy assignments. Were they connected, dropping cash in the right drawers, maybe they caught a boss dirty? Whoa, and what about all the free stuff we got? How come businessmen were so nice? Yikes! And, when it came to use of force, "You want me to write what? Isn't that what everyone else is writing? You mean the guys that wouldn't take a dime and didn't cheat on their wives are putting that down too?" Course, I couldn't be a rat, could I?

And the bosses, how did these guys get promoted? Was it connections; maybe ability to zip-your-lip? How were people of integrity and competency rewarded; maybe I should ask, were they rewarded? How about in your venue? And when corruption is exposed, does anyone higher than sergeant lose their job? How does someone get so high on the ladder with no knowledge of what is going on around and below?

Did you know that in the 1970s our radios were in the car and we worked mostly solo? And what was our stupid response to introducing personal radios? Did we want that new life-saving technology? Hell no; wired for sound, more accountable, are you kidding me? Have you ever considered what having a cop's power does to us? I used to wonder why so many cops are angry and unhappy no more though.

It seems a large metro department's hiding the video of a police officer shooting a citizen blew open this cancer infecting the city and state body politic, doesn't it? Will the officers who, it seems, lied be fired for reports that were contradicted by the video? Were these cops bad guys or did a corrupt system, peer and administrative pressure teach

them this behavior? Where is your moral courage on a one to ten scale? How does the average cop turn corrupt anyway? Could it be indoctrination that started in a school system that was banned from imposing moral values a generation ago? Did their education reward integrity and excellence or mediocrity and tolerance for lousy behavior?

What do police trainers think of the quality of recruits accepted today? Is it okay to hire LEOs with felony convictions, learning disabilities, degenerative disease, and mental problems that require psychotropic meds that warn of side effects including violent behavior and suicidal thoughts? Oh yeah, I wonder what percentage of Chicago's police recruits fail in their academy compared to the ten to twenty percent failure rate elsewhere? Do I have to consult Madam Clio to see future millions of taxpayer dollars paid to victims of police incompetence or misconduct when standards are ignored? Have you ever seen some police report narratives? Did the writers miss the English composition classes in school? And if command of English is poor, what temptation is presented; perhaps using canned narratives, lying? Oh, was that not tactful, should I have said, "Creative writing?" That is never done in drug and use of force arrests, is it? Are cops given more power and reason to lie than most?

What behaviors gain unofficial rewards for cops, like peer recognition, winning court cases, and perks? Didn't a study of Chicago's S.O.S. scandal of 2006 reveal that involved officers were highly skilled and had many complaints that were ignored by the administration? The numbers they brought in sure made the brass and their political handlers look good, didn't they? But hey, did any of the handlers or leadership go to jail? This behavior, created by leadership, identified years ago by Dr. Neal Trautman from the National Institute of Ethics, is called the "Continuum of Corruption."

Isn't it odd that in so many major scandals rank and file officers are indicted and high-level leadership is given the opportunity to quietly resign or retire? Were the quiet resignations and retirement of several exempt rank officials in the wake of Dan Webb's Koshman Report coincidental or Code of Silence insurance? Should we be surprised at the high-level-low-level difference after examining the rewards and punishments in the system? In the American culture is truth rewarded or punished? What happens to those who tell it? Oh yeah, they have names, whistleblowers or rats, no?

The way to avoid scandal was promoted by the National

- Stringent entry standards and background checks
- High Quality FTO programs
- Fortitude to fight political interference
- Consistent, fair accountability
- Training in Non-Tactical Career Survival at least as much as in tactics

- A fair promotion process absent politics
- Promotion of positive leadership role models
- Prevention of officers feeling victimized
- A fair employee-intervention process

Shall I hold my breath for this to happen soon? So, how is one to avoid the filth while swimming in the cesspool? Well, have you chosen ethical and moral standards used daily to check your behavior? If not, why not? Your family isn't affected by your "going along to get along", are they? I am told that protection of peers and systemic corruption must end where public welfare begins; do you believe that? Does principled behavior or caving to systemic pressure lead to personal and job satisfaction? Whose plans are you working, yours or theirs? Are the disappointment, discontent and, sometimes, depression seen in cops today related to these questions. Just asking. I wonder if you might answer a few of these questions for me, huh? ILEETA

About the Author

Thomas Cline, a 48-year law enforcement veteran is past president of the International Association of Ethics Trainers, a writer/trainer at the Chicago Police Academy and a consultant. He's authored Cop Tales! (Never Spit in a Man's Face...Unless His Mustache is on Fire) and Psych Firefight - L E Job Satisfaction in a hostile environment. For information on training and workshops E mail: Coptales@gmail.com

Just A Thought... (continued from page 1)

As I read the history of these tragic deaths and those of others, I sat back and reflected on how they were killed and realized that many of the circumstances that caused their deaths had mirrored many of the same situations that I had encountered over my 32 years at CPD. So many of the 575 deaths of our brothers and sisters occurred before I joined the CPD in 1973 and I remember that no one seemed to speak about them whether I was in the academy or after at my first assignment which was in the Englewood District. I really think that there were good lessons that could have been taught from these so tragic incidences that could have made all of us smarter and safer in handling the daily assignment we were called to deal with. Although there is never a good way to lose a comrade in arms, their stories can certainly help others into the future. Maybe this can be conveyed to the Training Academy and I intend to do that.

In closing this line of thought I would encourage all who read this to visit the Chicago Police Memorial web site and revisit the stories of these fallen heroes. I would also strongly encourage that you support and donate to the Foundation as it has a solid history since 2004 of providing critical support and assistance to the families of CPD Officers killed or catastrophically injured in the line of duty. Join me and donate monthly through a deduction from your pension fund check or just write a check! Let us all help remember our fallen officers and the sacrifices of their families into the future.

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Attention RCPA Members: Do any of you have kids or grandkids having trouble buying their first home? We Can Help!

We offer the First Home Illinois Program which includes \$7500 in cash assistance to help with down payment and closing costs (forgiven over 5 years). Variety of loan programs to choose from including Conventional, FHA, VA and USDA.

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Deceased Brothers and Sisters

2017

January

Andrew Palumbo
 Thomas "Ray Caplis"
 Kevin O'Malley
 Baleslaw "Bill" Filipiak
 George Wilkins
 Stanley Gordon Catterson
 Michael Dearham
 James Glover
 George Basile
 Raymond Callahan
 Daniel Dunmore
 Mary Louise Bernichio
 Francis "Frank" Kenny
 Wayne McClory
 Charles Streff
 Edward Daluga
 Joseph Di Leonardi

February

Virgil Branche
 Charles Coats
 Wilbert Cotton
 Charles De La Riva
 Joseph Gleason
 Francis Golbeck
 Richard Kalecki
 Frank Kenny
 George Kerbs
 Charles Loving Sr.
 Michael "Mick" Martire
 James McIntrye
 Alphonso Montes
 Mathew Murray
 James Nolte
 Steven Schwiager

Bertrand Smith
 Robert Starzynski
 Charles Steff
 Joseph Todaro
 John Traverso
 Stanley Turner
 Elizabeth Volberding
 Iring Allan
 Charles Burger
 Patrick Cucci
 Joseph Gagliano
 Karolina Anna Stepek
 Edward Willett

March

Walter Boyle
 Gregory Carrollo
 Joseph Constantino
 Robert Farrell
 James Gorney
 Richard Grishaber
 Richard Hardesty
 Ronald Hart
 William Haywood
 John Hetlinger
 D Michael Hines
 Dennis Isola
 Thomas Joyce
 Dennis Lesniak
 Michael Logan
 Albert McCaffery
 James McDonough
 Joseph Mscall
 Mathew Murray
 Carol Primous
 Ralph Richards

Robert Rickert
 Arthur Salat
 Marie Sammon
 Richard Sandberg
 Robert Stension
 Robert Sticha
 Paul Stubblefield
 Stanley Sturlis
 Timothy Twohill
 Richard West
 Reno Carlo
 Fred Lightfoot
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FOP Gift Shop Sales

May is Police Memorial Month! Remember all that have fallen. The 15th is Peace Officers Memorial Day.
 Don't forget Mom on May 14th. We have a Big Sale for everyone. Sale runs May 1 - May 15

CPD star lapel pins- all ranks.
Was: 2 for \$5.00 Now: 2 for \$4.00

Tee shirt of the month- Cubs World Champions
Was: S-XL-\$15.95, 2XL-\$16.95, 3XL-\$17.95
Now: S-XL\$11.17, 2XL-\$11.87, 3XL-\$12.57
 Purchase this tee shirt and get 25% OFF the matching full zip hoodie sweat shirt.

Ladies windbreaker spring jacket in pastel colors with tonal CPD star, Size Med-Large-Xlarge only.
Was: \$19.95 Now: \$13.98

New Punisher Blueline skull tee in black
S-XL-12.95, 2XL & 3XL-13.95

Ladies Capri pants in royal blue with logo on left side
 Limited quantities
L-XL Was: \$15.95 Now: \$9.98

CPD Patches for trading & goodwill, all ranks
Now only \$1.50 each

Clearance Priced
 Eagle tee shirt in grey
S-XL-\$9.07, 2XL-\$9.77

Ladies whisper light hoodie sweatshirt in coral or jade.
L-2XL Was: \$26.95 Now: \$19.49

Flasks are back in stock, see store for variety.
40% OFF
 Men's "Red Jacket" Polo in the bargain bin
 Limited quantities & sizes.

30% OFF
 Ladies terry fleece pants various color
Was: \$19.95 Now: \$13.97 in S-L-XL-2XL only.
 Not all colors in all sizes-Limited quantities, clearance

10% OFF
 Uniform Leather Goods & wallets
 Includes belts.

Clearance Priced
 Ladies V-Neck Pullover Hoodies Sweatshirt with Chicago-CPD- Illinois foil design.
Was: S-XL-\$19.95, 2XL-\$21.95
Now: \$13.97-\$15.37
 in teal or white. Not all sizes in all colors.
 All Youth tees for boys & girls.
 Tees listed below.
Was: \$9.95 Now:\$8.49

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