



# The RAPSheet

Metropolitan Alliance of Police—News, Views and Events • Summer 2017 Issue

## Media Buzz

By Joseph Andalina

A recent *Letter to the Editor* in a major newspaper contained this:

“According to the American Press Institute, the purpose of journalism is thus to provide citizens with the information they need to make the best possible decisions about their lives, their communities, their societies, and their governments.”

Unfortunately, journalism has, in lot of cases, devolved into a partisan, opinion, and public relations operation for the political party of the journalist’s choice. But we all know

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that, don’t we?

It’s always been that way, but never so fruitful as the last eight to 10 years where much of the press just slobbered all over the left-leaning politicians. In fact, political pundit Bernard Goldberg wrote such a book a few years ago: *A Slobbering Love Affair*, which detailed the medias’ unbridled fascination with President Obama.

And Mika Brezinski of the *Morning Joe Show*, while discussing the Trumpster and his control over the minds of his supporters retorted “And that’s, that’s our job!” (to control people’s minds).

Basically she is saying that it is not Trump’s responsibility, but the media’s job to control what people think. Stupid is what stupid does.

Another paper’s motto is “To fear God, tell the truth, and to make money.” Well, at least they are telling the truth. Making money is the American Way, as long as they do tell the truth.



But as we know, in my humble opinion, most media doesn’t. Or it’s slanted, or yellow, or forgotten, omitted, or outright false. Or it could be fake news.

I was reading an article on the Internet recently where it said that Scarlett Johanssen, the “Black Widow,” was moving to Naperville with her family because of the nice community and wanting to get away from salacious Hollywood.

Great, I thought, When she gets here I’ll go over and apply to be her gardener, landscaper, clean her pool, paint her house, wash her Ferrari, babysit, fix her sink, and be an all-around handyman, even if I don’t know a thing about any of it, except flowers; I’m good with plants and reptiles.

Alas, after a while, I realized I was duped by a fake news story. Of all the unmitigated gall!

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# Chaplain's Column

By: Thomas Ross

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A column from Police One recently addressed the subject of Police Respect. A question posted asked, “[In law enforcement,] is respect given or earned?” Police Sgt. William Bolt gave his opinion on the topic, below. Check it out and add your own thoughts.

As in my “off-duty life”, I always tried to treat people the way I would want my parents treated. I tried to be kind, professional and sincere. Most people respond to that, depending on the circumstances. It had nothing to do with trying to win their respect, although that was a beneficial outcome. It was just the way I was raised. As a police officer, I applied this attitude to people I encountered, whether or not it was an arrest situation.

I was able to enlist the cooperation of a lot of people, whether they agreed with my actions (red light/yellow light arguments, or something more severe, such as possession of a controlled substance). Many times they would argue — but arguing with me is not disrespecting me.

I guess what I’m trying to say is I tried to be fair in every encounter, and that made my job easier. But I had a job to do, and that was not always popular with some people. Nobody likes getting a ticket or getting arrested. So I did my job, and it was up to them if they respected me or not. At the end of the day, it was more important for me to respect myself. Regarding my attitude toward others, I respect them until they prove they do not deserve my respect.

So my default position is to respect others, but it can be deleted based on their subsequent actions.”



Well said! A Gallup poll back in October 2016 reported respect for police is at a 76% rating reporting it as an all time high. The other side of the coin says 24% do not respect police!! So you see what you are up against as you do the job we citizens have asked you to perform.

I think 2017 has seen more support for the job you do but there are still issues. I remember riding along years past on patrol running radar and the officer got a hit and off we went. He quickly pulled the car over, put his spotlight on the driver and announced to me he had stopped a cop’s kid. Of course I asked how he knew and he replied, just look at him—both hands on the wheel and not moving around.

I am glad to see new drivers’ education programs are now teaching how to interact with police contacts. With the number of guns you encounter on the streets, it is important respect for the law is present for the safety of both parties. So, great this respect is being taught but I would suggest police agencies should be proactive with high school programs so all the tips of interaction are taught and explained with the whys they are so important.

This might not get your approval rating up to 100% but it should at the very

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# Chief's Follies

By: Joseph Andalina

## Primer for the Follies

Every three or four years, we re-print our primer on what it takes to appear in our favorite column as indicated by you, our loyal readers, the Chief’s Follies.

Actually, it only takes a chief, mayor, or some other higher up to act like a “jackass” to make it into the Follies. If they do something really stupid to you or others at your PD or do something egregious of a management or criminal nature that also qualifies.

That’s the simple part. But for all of our future contributors who always remain anonymous as long as the below rules are followed, you need to understand how the “participants” are nominated.

We don’t want made-up stuff, or someone having an axe to grind. If the object of your desire is not true, then this comes back at you and the rule of anonymity is lifted. So far that hasn’t happened. That’s because there are so many chiefs out there who just continue to do stupid things and act in a stupid manner, no one HAS to make anything up.

So on with a recap of MAP’s rules on how to send your chief or other applicant to the Follies.

As we follow the yellow brick road for another adventure in Oz, please remember a few points. Here at the friendly MAP office, we get a lot of

requests for various chiefs, deputy chiefs, superintendents, and other worldly types to be cast in our Follies.

Before we add a name in our credits, the chief or significant other must audition. That means he must have “acted” in such a manner as to be included in our Star Walk of Fame. Acting can be construed as doing something impossibly stupid (like crime or deviant sexual behavior), or saying something impossibly stupid. (There is, as Howard Cosell might say, “a plethora of this type of behavior”).

But wait! Do you all know who Howard Cosell was? Aw, never mind.

So we’ve got acting stupid or saying something stupid. We also have “these boots were made for walkin’” category; such as a chief or mayor who walks all over you just because he can. Disrespecting you by rubbing your face in the mud or embarrassing you for no reason other than to show superiority is always a candidate for a top story in the Follies.

We also have those little peccadilloes such as lying, cheating, stealing, bearing false witness stuff, you know, the 10 commandment types of sins. There is also the “I really don’t want to do this, but I have to screw you over because someone has got to take the fall” type. Then there is inappropriate or inequitable punishment. Like whacking you for 10 days when you should get a reprimand, or punishing you for silly crap. Very, very popular amongst chiefs.

And finally there is the pretty com-



mon union animosity, or we hate you because you went union, filed a grievance, won’t kiss my rear-end, hold my towel for me, blah, blah, blah.

I like those kinds. Always makes good copy. See what I mean a little later on here. Any of the above and a few others will qualify for inclusion in our Halls of Shame.

So remember, they have to audition. Next, it’s also got to be true. No fibbing or fudging. Santa will find out and you will get crossed off his list. It’s got to be in writing and you cannot be anonymous to MAP. If you write it up, we’ll check on it. If it’s true, it’s got a good chance to be included. If it’s published in a paper, internet, or sourced somewhere, it has a really good chance to make our Rap Sheet.

Simply, something has to happen (audition = facts). It’s got to be true (verified). You will be kept anonymous by MAP (unless you don’t care, and many, many officers feel that way). And it’s got to be somewhat interesting, unique, or incredibly stupid.

What won’t make it, you ask?

Simple; personal agendas are a no-no. We won’t make a chief popular because he investigated you for something you did do. Nor will we include the big boy because he cancelled your day off or changed your off days, or assigned you a different tier or beat.

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# Legislative News

by: Joseph Andalina

## State

Pension cutting bill rears its ugly head again in Illinois. **SB 16, HB 4027**, and **HB4045** are designed on focusing ways to get around the constitutional protection of cutting pension benefits.

The Illinois Supreme Court has twice found that reducing or cutting pension benefits for current or retired public sector workers to be unconstitutional. But “Rauner the Bruce” just won’t give up the ghost and some lawmakers are following in his footsteps.

In attempting this end around, legislators seem to think that if they give current workers “options” to the pension benefit that this idea of “consideration” would make everything okay and any reductions, takeaways, or cuts would be acceptable.

One bright light is that none of the proposals will affect the benefits of any current retirees. You should probably give your reps a call and voice your displeasure and demand a NO vote on all proposals. There is a lot to these bills. You can find them on line. It ain’t pretty.

**SB316** and **HB2353**: As the fog clears, a group called “Coalition for a Safer Illinois” has been able to find sponsors to introduce legislation to prohibit “Mary Jane” and its many aliases from being illegal in Illinois.

Marijuana would be legal if the bills would be passed and taxed for adult only use (sure, only adults would use weed — we all know that).

Meetings are to be held soon for legislators. I understand all attendees are expected to bring brownies for everyone. Juiceboxes are optional.

Maybe this coalition and their legislators will in fact make for a “happier” and “hungrier” free society in our good old Land of Lincoln.

## Death Penalty Blues

### Death be not proud

It never is — it’s just dead. In the world of the death penalty, I will never understand liberal and society’s hand wringing for the devils around us.

### A stain on his soul

It takes a special sort of evil for what this piece of puke did. Bulmaro Mejia-Maya of Schaumburg broke into his neighbor’s apartment Easter morning, raping and killing Tiffany Theasher because he wanted to have sex with her and she wouldn’t oblige. She threatened to call the police so he punched her and a violent struggle ensued while Tiffany fought for her life. Imagine the pain and horror she experienced. He says he doesn’t remember strangling her because he was drunk, but he remembers everything else. He has a violent criminal background and is a royal piece of dung.

Kudos and a great job by Schaumburg police who tracked him down in Florida before he could escape to Mexico.

As the judge, during Mejia-Maya’s

bond hearing, said Tiffany experienced “a single woman’s worst nightmare.” But we can’t kill this waste of humanity in Illinois. And if convicted he will find a way to live in prison. They always do.

### Yes, monsters live among us.

Three demons carjacked a mother’s car with her 6-year old in the backseat. The vehicle was found a short time later with the child still inside, riddled with bullets. You kill a child while carjacking a vehicle? Kingston Frazier just graduated kindergarten and these guys in Alabama executed him for a car?

They do have the death penalty there, so maybe they will use it.

### Arkansas wants to fry eight murderers.

Well, maybe not fry, but use the needle to carry out sentences of death to eight inmates before their supply of lethal cocktails expire.

Think about that for a moment. The rush is on because the death mixture will expire and they don’t want to use expired materials on the condemned. What’s the worst that could happen? Well, maybe it wouldn’t work. More likely their death would be prolonged as they gasp for air, pitifully exiting this earth to hell.

Well, anyway, a flurry of last minute appeals ensued but the various courts allowed Arkansas to carry out three or four sentences of these depraved killers.

You can’t make this stuff up.

# Chief’s Follies

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If it hurts another officer, it won’t go in there, either; and obviously, nothing about the chief’s wife, kids, or family. They are always off limits.

These are a few rules that are easy to follow. There are more than enough banana brains out there longing for a mention in our Follies. So as Dean used to say; “Keep those cards and letters coming.” You know — Dean Martin. Do you all know who Dean Martin was? Everybody loves somebody, sometime. Aww, never mind.

Now, onto the Follies...

## If he only had a heart

From the grapevine comes this sad story out of Lisle. One of our long time and loyal MAP members is battling Stage 4 colon cancer. Being a cancer survivor myself, I can vouch for how difficult any cancer treatment can be.

Our officer approached his department about voluntarily working light duty while undergoing chemotherapy. He did not need too, because after 18 years, he had more than enough sick time. But he wanted too.

He wanted to see his co-workers and stay busy. He wanted the attachment to the brotherhood. He wanted to show his co-workers that he was winning his battle. He made the same money at home or work.

His great chief, however, made the decision that after six months of light duty and six months of chemotherapy,

the officer’s restricted duty services were no longer needed. He was told that they no longer had work for him. Great way to make accommodations.

Well, total lie. You see, his light duty supervisor was never confronted. And the truth is there was more than enough work for him. So the Chief and possibly the Acting Village Manager colluded together and made this a personal vendetta.

Well, as of this writing, ADA complaints have been filed along with grievances. You see, the light duty program is subjective and given to whom ever they want. And now, nobody will do the right thing and admit that this stunt should never have happened.

*Well, Officer, we are not waiting for the Wizard of Oz to grant your chief a heart. Rest assured, MAP will take on your grievance and look for justice...and a heart elsewhere.*

## Not bad for swiping \$21k

An ex-Sauk Village treasurer got away with a relatively light sentence.

James Griegel, 72, got 30 days for embezzling the above sum from the police pension fund. Takes reducing cops’ pension funds to a new level, doesn’t it? Mr. Griegel was on the police pension board. He had suffered losses, from his wife’s death and other financial burdens and used them as an excuse as to why he stole the money. He also became addicted to narcotics and was earlier charged with drug possession.

## Trying to resolve your stress with sex

Stress made him do it. Dania Beach, Florida police chief Stephen Johnson was pinched for soliciting a prostitute. Actually two prostitutes. Every chief’s fantasy for sure.

He apparently made arrangements with an escort service and was met by a couple of undercover cops after exchanging \$100. The job, according to him, can make you do stupid things, I guess. Like he wanted two ladies, wanted to do “everything” and they had to wear high heels because he has a foot fetish.

## Really? Can anyone be this dumb/careless?

Punta Gorda, Florida. A police chief and one of his officers have been arrested and charged for shooting and killing a 73-year old woman during a citizen’s academy training session.

The officer was charged with manslaughter and the chief with culpable negligence, probably for not knowing what was going on.

During a shoot — don’t shoot scenario, the officer shot and killed the woman. He didn’t know the gun was loaded. He thought it was filled with blanks.

You mean none of them knew not to use real guns in a citizens’ academy?

My, my, my.

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# Tension with the press

By: Joseph Andalina

Since our lead story this issue is about the media, let's continue this narrative. Does anyone really believe or "get" the media anymore? With all the murders in Chicago in 2016 and topping the charts in 2017, headlines still don't meet the demands of this mayhem.

And what about the almost 4,000 "shootings" the last year and half? Shootings? I don't know where y'all come from, but "shootings" whereby one tries to kill another are usually classified as attempted murders, or if they hit someone and the victims survive, add "aggravated battery" to the list of offenses.

But it's always glossed over as just merely shootings, as if it's an everyday thing. Oh wait...it is an everyday thing. It's monstrous, is it not?

And all you see is an upset mayor Rahm with his crocodile tears. I think they teach that to you in mayor school, as all mayors seem to embellish this untruthful act once the media interviews them — in between blaming the cops for everything negative or scapegoating cops or demeaning them and Big Daddy's attempt to take away your retirement. (See Legislative News — again.)

If I may ask, where are all of the race hustlers and that priest in Chicago telling us all "this must stop" if a police officer must defend him/herself during violent confrontations? They are so woefully silent during these mostly black on black crime incidents, until a cop shoots a minority, then the dance begins. If it's a white guy shot, nobody gives a crap. He deserved it.

These "community leaders" have given the community nothing to begin an ending to these horrors — unless it's a cop. Then it's we need police reform!

The press is disingenuous. They should be beating on politicians every day on every front page. Legislators too — give us laws that punish those who produce this mayhem, and then enforce them.

But mostly you get from the press are stories on how we need "police reform," reports of how many beefs a cop gets, or how many bullets have been fired by the police over a certain time. And don't forget — how many criminals were beaten, tortured, or coerced into confessions with little or generally no evidence? Do you really believe that these killings will stop by baloney police reforms? It's a diversion and it's wrong to blame a police officer for gangbangers killing one another.

Am I wrong here? Why do "they" think the only thing that will stop the carnage is more gun control? There are laws on the books but the sentencing is not there.

And until recently there has been no support for us grunts. It's constant bad juju. However, there has been a recently bright spot. Four aldermen in Chicago have been fighting for their police to acquire long rifles to defend themselves, after two boys in blue were shot with rifles and some other murders have taken place using long guns in the city.

Also, Alderman Lopez of the Brighton Park area has also stood up and told the truth about the mayhem oc-



curing in his jurisdiction. In doing so, he has received death threats and not "attempted shooting" threats, either.

Kudos to this man. The entire city council should act accordingly. But they won't, gotta take care of 'the hood' first.

And while most of suburbs are not experiencing this mayhem of endless murder, they can face the same issues occurring in their towns, albeit on a smaller scale. But our suburban police do also face harassment, disrespect, and assaults by the public. Then there is the harassment by legislators attuned to remove contracts, wages, benefits, and pensions to cover their own malfeasance. And it's the press that never stops beating the dead horse.

In future issues, I'll get into the cross-fire, as in use of force, excessive force, removing contractual protections as regards our due process when we must act to protect the public, our partners, and most importantly, ourselves.

# Media Buzz

Continued from page 1

Political parties and pundits and analysts from all over the globe accuse each other of it all the time. But has it only been this way since Trump went from TV host to president?

Roy Speckardt in the Huffington Post writes about post-truth, (the Oxford Dictionary Word of the Year in 2016). Basically it's denoting objective faith that is less influential in shaping public opinion than appealing to emotion and personal belief. To paraphrase, it's a part-truth era. In short, people seek answers they can live with.

So you have multiple news outlets, some very admirable, reporting news that we don't even know is real or fake! Shepard Smith of Fox News defined fake news most accurately when he said "Fake news refers to stories that are created, often by elitists, pretending to be news organizations solely to drive clicks and news based on nothing of substance."

Yes, it is click bait? Have we all not fallen for that? Yes, I believe so. (See Scarlett above!)

Simply, fake news is used to produce propaganda and disinformation, ultimately using social media as its engine and to drive information traffic for financial or political gain. It's also used by many a village or city administration to cover their asses.

It's been a long time since we wanted to trust the media to simply tell the truth. Long before social media there was TV, radio, and the press. While I have personally known three or four outstanding reporters in my day, most I believe are like the TV news investi-

gator who once told fellow detectives in a missing person case that his job was not to tell the truth but to report the news. That did it for me. Long suspected, now confirmed. Full of s - - t all!

As I segued into my union life, I had many conversations with press-type folks. Some were great, like Mike North, who is a true professional. Some who will remain nameless were untrustworthy and outright liars. Once they got their story, they changed it and would only give snippets of the whole.

To be fair, sometime it is their editors who are the problem. Unless you have some juice with a John Whiteside, Mike Royko, John Kass, Eric Thorn, or Amy Jacobsen, (when she was here) you never knew how some editors may change your words. We all have bosses, I guess, so I shouldn't simply blame those asking the questions.

Look how your own administration expertly sways the truth, spins their own issues and looks to minimize bad news. I get it, but I long for just telling the truth, unfiltered. There's that CYA again.

So what's the deal? Well, simply put, I don't believe you can trust the press much anymore. It's a merry-go-round. Our story takes you around and round, never really stopping for honesty.

As it applies to us police people, news is almost never good. The press tries to butter you up to talk. What about this case, this incident, this issue? Talk to me; I'll tell the truth. But they usually

are dubious at heart. What they want is something juicy. Cops shooting minorities, cops racially profiling, cops misbehaving, cops and a code, cops using excessive force, police chases, choke holds, Tasers, making too much money, retiring at age 50, rich collective bargaining contracts, pensions, etc. ad-nauseum. Don't fall for the artful dodge, my friends.

Unless a stringer (independent writer) does a story on cops at a donut shop, coffee with a chief, or reading to five-year olds at the library, they are generally not interested in your day-to-day misery. I know I'm being facetious, there are many well principled positive stories about us, but for the most part, nothing sells papers like a bad cop story. They know you like to see your name in print and will fill your head with sugar plums if you will only give them a quote or three.

Smack someone around and watch the sharks come to feed. Now that's newsworthy and I guess sometimes it should be. But it's overplayed and usually one-sided. You watch the same loops of tape over and over, hear and read the same words over and over, and get one-sided reporting, often out of context. It's demoralizing.

It's designed to make you look bad, probably because you've got power and they don't like it. Just like celebrities and athletes. Raise 'em up, tear 'em down. But with law enforcement, it's worse. Your careers are at stake, your reputation, your family, and your retirement, too.

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# Media Buzz

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Sometimes the press incites the worst in people, even if not intentional. “What do we want? Dead cops. When do we want them? Now.” “Pigs in a blanket, fry ‘em like bacon.” Not the press’ fault, you may say. Really? They give voice to the haters all in the name of a free press. Over and over again. Builds hatred, I think. But I get it, what would you rather read?

Years ago, my dad had a farm in Africa. Wait, no, that was Isak Dinesen (aka Karen Blixen) who wrote that wonderful book, which was made into a marvelous movie.

But I digress.

Actually, my dad did have a farm in southwest Wisconsin, in Crawford County. The local newspaper once ran this article (as I remember). And it’s where I fell in love with Timber rattlesnakes, just in case you wanted to know.

Miss Mary Clark held an afternoon tea at the home of Martha Sawyer, who celebrated her 94th birthday. Also in attendance was Mrs. J. Strum, Esther Curtis, and Sarah Strap.

Wow, huh? Who wants to read that when you can read about a white cop shooting someone, usually a minority, with racial profiling or excessive force?

Well, sorry Miss Mary Clark, your tea party is sooo boring. If you reside in the metropolitan areas, tea parties by and by are not news. Cops accused of brutalizing folks on the other hand, are very much in vogue.

I don’t know about you, but day after

day reading all the mayhem in the news, I wouldn’t mind some peaceful Miss Mary Clark tea party stories. What kind of tea was served, Miss Clark? Did you have those finger sandwiches, too? Well, maybe some alligators in a sewer stories would be interesting, too?



Getting to the point. Be careful of what you do, what you say, every minute you are out there. Many years ago, I cautioned in the Rap Sheet that camera phones were everywhere. Now multiple camera phones are trained on you as soon as you get out of the car. People are trying to goad you into bad behavior. Making cops look bad is our new national pastime.

Sure the press is only going to show what is sent to them, but you also have to worry about what you say to them. Nothing is sacred and nothing is ever off the record, no matter what they say. They teach in journalism school to suck up to you to get a comment. Be ever so wary.

Notice that many athletes or celebrities will not talk to the press. They know better and so should you. They want to build you up, praise you, and make you feel good. But when the fall comes because you said something

not so wise, you will suffer the consequences.

Your chief and mayor will not look kindly upon your words. And your peers will look away, praying that you did not mention them in your comments.

Finally, yes, you need the media buzz to make folks aware of power and its abuse. I can’t argue with that, but remember, often stories are told from one point of view or direction that the press wants the public to think. That’s why they have editorial boards at newspapers. They want to rearrange your mind and have influence, as I noted earlier.

Stories like these:

- Cops are shooting black men and they are all in danger. Absurd.
- Cops make up stuff to arrest you. Not happening, except in rare circumstances and those officers do need to be gone.
- Police have quotas. True, but it’s the brass who promotes and orders them. Not the grunts.
- Police are revenue generators. Again, true, but we do not make the rules. We do what we are told and your bosses and politicians want the money. Blame the chiefs and mayors? Never happens.
- Cops make too much money. So? And only where there are more people than farm animals. And part of it is combat pay. Why would anyone do this job? For the most part, the press does not get

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# Was I a good cop?

*This article was published on LinkedIn and written by “Eddie.” Comments by Joe Andalina*

Thoughts from a cop who retired in ‘87. Just before retiring, some young puppy was busting my chops about how law enforcement has changed, and the system is improving for the best. I just smiled and gave him a little laugh.

He asked what was so funny. I told him that I felt sorry for him. When asked why, I told him, “Because in about 15 years, THIS is going to be your good old days.”

We all saw the change in our jobs. I came on in 1965. I used to tell the rookies that our academy lasted 3 months. They gave us a stick, a gun, a dime, and kicked us out into the street. They told us: If you need help, use the dime. If you can’t get to a phone, use the stick. If using the stick pisses him off, use the gun. And the first order we received when we were assigned to a district was from our sergeant. His order was “Don’t you EVER bother me, kid.”

Law enforcement then, was much different than the current mission. We delivered babies, got rough in the alley when we needed to, made “Solomon-like” decisions at least once a tour, and often wound up being big brother to the kid we roughed up in that alley a year or so ago. And, for some reason, none of that managed to get on a report. And the department didn’t really want to know. All they wanted was numbers, and no ripples in the pond.

Because of the changing times, and

the evolution of law enforcement, the modern young officers will never see that form of policing, and of course this is best. The current way is the right way... now. But it was different then (ergo, the Dinosaur Syndrome).

When it’s time to go, we wonder if we’re going to miss the job. After all, other than our kids and a few marriages, it was the most important thing in our lives. Actually, it was the other way around. The job was first, but only another cop could understand how I mean that.

But have faith, brother! After a short time of feeling completely impotent (after all, you’re just John Q. now), reality hits like a lead weight.

It’s not the job we miss after all. It’s what we, as individuals, had accomplished while in this profession that we miss. The challenge of life and death, good and bad, right and wrong, or even simply easing the pain of some poor bastard for a while, someone we will never see again.

We know the reality of what’s happening out there. We are the ones who have spent our entire adult life picking up the pieces of people’s broken lives. And the bitch of it all is that no one except us knows what we did out there.

I was once told that being a good street cop is like coming to work in a wet suit and peeing in your pants. It’s a nice warm feeling, but you’re the only one who knows anything has happened.

What I missed mostly, though, were the people I worked with. Most of us



came on the job together at the age of 21 or 22. We grew up together. We were family. We went to each other’s weddings, shared the joy of our children’s births, and we mourned the deaths of family members and marriages. We celebrated the good times, and huddled close in the bad.

We went from rookies who couldn’t take our eyes off of the tin number of the old timer we worked with, to dinosaurs. After all, what they gave us was just a job. What we made of it was a profession. We fulfilled our mission, and did the impossible each and every day, despite the department and its regulations.

I think the thing that nags you the most when you first retire is: After you leave the job and remove your armor, the part of you that you tucked away on that shelf for all those years, comes out. It looks at all the things you’ve hidden away. All the terrible and all the wonderful things that happened out there. And it asks you the questions that no one will ever answer.

“Do you think I did OK? Did I make a difference? Was I a good cop?”

You know what? Yeah, you were a good cop! And you know it! That’s all I wanted to hear from those who

Continued on page 11

# Contract Corner

## Joseph Mazzone

### Arlington Heights

2017-2019. Wage increases 2.5%, 2.5%, 2.5%.

Minor modification to the composition of the labor/management committee. Modification of the Step 2 grievance procedure. Added language to seniority for officers during their probationary period. Modifying dates for annual shift bid procedure.

Increase in on call compensation. Modification to vacation scheduling. Modification to call in on holidays to double time for all hours worked on holidays. Increase compensation for lateral entry officers.

Modification to disciplinary appeals providing for the Chapter to give written approval for any written warning to be appealed through the grievance procedure. Limitations to the steps that those circumstances warrant review. Modification to the quartermaster system providing for a pilot program effective January 1, 2018 which modifies a \$600 allotment to a \$600 payment for uniform allowance.

Modifications to the annual equipment allowance and detective clothing allowance. Slight modification to critical incident response providing for more protection for officers involved.

## Steve Calcaterra

### St. Charles Sgts

Wages, fully retroactive: 2017, 2.0%; 2018, 2.0%; 2019, 2.0%; 2020, 2.0%.

Clarification of the grievance steps and process, double time compensation for overtime on holiday

Modification of vacation proposal to allow use of leave time to extend creditable service for retirement

Addition of Retirement Healthcare Funding Plan, addition of included family members for sick leave, modification of FMLA procedure, extension of funeral leave.

### Wheaton Sgts

Wages, fully retroactive: 2017, 2.25%; 2018, 2.25%; 2019, 2.25%. Wages only were negotiated.

### Winfield Sgts

Additional rules to address medical marijuana, modification of secondary employment rules, implementation of Retirement Health Savings Plan.

Wages fully retroactive: 2017, 2.0%; 2018, 2.5%; 2019, 3.0%. Additional one-time payment of \$5,000 per employee

## Jerry Marzullo

### Mokena

Four year contract - 2.5% wage increase per year.

Changed probationary period whereby probation can now only be extended for a period of three months, for good cause only, and Employer is required to meet with the Union. Oral or written reprimand to be removed from personnel file after 18 months (previously 24 months)

Insurance premiums: 7/1/17: 89%/11% split. 7/1/18: 88.5%/11.5% split. 7/1/19 88%/12% split

### Ray Garza

#### ECom

\$750 signing bonus. Wage increase of 2% for 2016, 2% for 2017 and 2% for 2018. The ability to bank 100 hour of compensatory time (up from 80 hours). Contract expires May 31, 2019

### Oak Forest

2.5% wage increase for each year of the contract, expires in 2021. Development of a 457 Deferred Compensation plan where the City will match 50% of any contribution up to \$500. Health insurance contributions and plan remain the same for the life of the contract.

# Was I a good cop?

Continued from page 9

know — my brothers and sisters.

In closing: the best advice I got, by far, was from an old friend who left the job a few years before me. He told me to stay healthy, work out and watch my diet. He said "Cause that way, the first day of every month you can look in the mirror, smile and say "Screwed them out of another month's pension!"

*Comments - Editor*

This is a good story, especially for all us old dogs who retired years ago. Yes, you young'uns will never know how policing was back then. It was better.

That's not a takeaway from your professionalism now. But it was different. Cops were closer, more forgiving, closer than brothers even. Stuck up for each other. Believed in professional courtesy and didn't mind extending it to politicians, who were much more supportive. That's because our chiefs, who were not the merciless hypocrites they are now (well, there were some back then, too).

But they weren't gagging on the mayor's ...cigars. They threw out the whiners, criers, complainers, and took no quarter with those who attacked us, or accused us of being racist without proof. Most had your back. (I actually experienced one chief literally throw a nosebleed out of his office. Yes, that was a good thing, and entertaining, too.)

And this extends to retired cops. Isn't always a fact now. Lots of newbies will write cops tickets like everyone else nowadays. Some look at you like — meh, you were a cop, not important to me. Sad, but true. Nobody cares? I know, boohoo woe is us. But that never happened way back when.

But I digress.

Back then, our academy instructors were badass cops who loved us. Taught us all the little things to save your life and knew and understood what "street justice" was. A misunderstood and forgotten paradigm nowadays. People need to have a little fear of cops. Bad guys more so. But the press and the politicians, as well as the public, have changed that meme. Now, if you cuss, raise your fist or God forbid, "use the force necessary to effect and arrest," you are vilified.

Do any of you disagree with this? Just look at Chicago with all the murders and attempted murders that the press call "shootings." (Makes me chuckle every time I read that.)

A writer in the Tribune recently wrote: "How do we stop police from unlawfully killing young men and at the same time get young men to stop killing each other?"

Really — stop cops from killing young men and get them to stop punks from killing each other? You can fill in what

you think about that one. I think it's bs.

We didn't have that Blue Racist bullshit in my time. If you were a stroke, you got treated like one. Streets were tough and we were tougher. But that's what happens when politicians take over police work, because votes mean money, and money means reelection.

So as I've said for years, politicians have made us the buffer between them and the two P's — press and public. If you can blame cops, do it. But they will always come to work and do their job. That's what both the Young Turks and Mustache Pete's have in common.

Respect for the blues, the badge, and our jobs. God bless us all.



# Chaplain's Column

Continued from page 2

least improve safety for all the contacts necessary on the job.

Hopefully you made a stop at one of the many Police Memorials in May and also found time to celebrate the

Holy Days of your faith. If not, you are always welcome to step in as the door to faith is always open. Enjoy the summer, family, friends and relaxation. A good mix for a healthy life.

Peace to all, be good to one another. Chaplain Tom Ross, Sr sligo8@wowway.com

# Member News

**Addison**  
Joseph McDermott

**Algonquin**  
David Gough  
Philip Nicholson

**Alsip**  
Jacob Lordo  
Nicholas Marcum  
Paul Mikolajczak

**Barrington Hills**  
Dennis Walega

**Bartlett**  
Christopher Johnson  
Tate Jouwon  
Rodrigo Ruiz

**Bolingbrook**  
Cody Cammack

**Bridgeview**  
Michael Klimek

**Buffalo Grove**  
Chadd Kaiser  
Samuel Savage

**Carol Stream Sgts**  
John Bucholz

**Carpentersville Civilians**  
Dale Bratthauer  
Darlene Heinz

**CenCom**  
Joshua Younglove

**Channahon**  
Brian Kasher  
Alecja Rozycka

**Cook Co DCSI Deputy Chiefs**  
James Chausse  
Neal Gaynor  
Gerard Hill  
Ismael Lebron  
James Passas  
Trois Shavers

**Cook Co Disp/Veh Svcs**  
Kiersten Kendall  
Auston McLain  
James Moore  
Stephanie Orozco  
Karol Suchocki  
Giovanni Veitkus

**Crest Hill**  
Conor Sweeney

**Crete**  
Michael Lucia

Gabrielle Nickel-McCray

**Crystal Lake**  
Salvatore Alfano  
Joshua Garcia  
Tyler Kendall  
Ryan Schack  
Matthew Smith

**DeKalb County**  
Mario Lopez  
Austin Van Buren

**Des Plaines**  
Matthew Stonequist

**DuPage County**  
Raul Alvarez  
Frank Carragher  
Kevin Govoni  
Brandon Hood  
Jeremy Salutric

**E-Com**  
Darnice Julkes-Dent  
Brittney Krikland  
Jordan Stallworth  
Jay Wiley  
Courtney Wood

**Gilberts**  
Michael Izydorski

**Grundy Co Civilians**  
Zarifah Adi

**Hanover Park**  
Eth Berlin  
Irmel Kisija

**Harvey**  
Yanessa Diaz  
Arthur Muhammad

**Hickory Hills**  
Joseph Murphy

**Hoffman Estates**  
Bradley Frost

**Homewood**  
Ephraim Dorsey  
Calvin Zirkle

**ISTHA**  
Christopher Free  
Dekeya Mason

**John Stoger Hospital Sgts**  
David Aken  
Annette Franklin-Neely  
Gwendolyn Lanfair  
Arthur Todd  
Steven Young

**Lake in the Hills**

Sean Feely

**Lakemoor**  
Benjamin Walton

**LaSalle Corrections**  
Jacob Bensa  
Hannah Valdez

**Matteson**  
Tiashia Anderson  
Thomas Cobb

**McHenry Co Court Clerks**  
Renee Overlee

**Metra**  
Anthony Babiarz  
Mark Engle  
Jarron Jefferson  
Michael Long  
Kevin Stuehler  
Michael Vazquez

**Momence**  
Lucas Arseneau  
Aaron Cavender  
Daniel Dechard  
Nathan Hess  
Patrick Leone

**Montgomery**  
Danny Godinho

**Naperville Sgts**  
Ricahrd Arsenault  
Elena Deuchler  
Jason Zbrozek

**New Lenox Sgts**  
Micah Nuesse  
David Taylor

**Norridge**  
Anna Marie Avino  
Michael Caravia

**NEIU**  
Sebastian Czerech

**NWCDS**  
Ashley Holter  
Jennifer Loza  
Allison Smith

**Oak Forest**  
Jenette Ryan  
Joseph Sbertoli

**Orland Park**  
Miranda Nickel  
Kevin Starr

**Oswego**  
James Novy

**Park City**

Allan Manders

**Prospect Heights**  
Mitchell Weber

**Romeoville**  
Estevan Gallardo  
Dominic Thielmann

**Roselle**  
Gabriel Caliendo

**Schaumburg**  
David Parlberg

**SEECOM**  
Michael Bingham  
Megan Hecht  
Matthew Krows  
Kimberly Madziarek

**Seneca**  
B Black  
P Funk

**South Holland**  
Terron Morris

**Southcom**  
Marvin Buhle

**St Charles**  
Matthew McGregory  
Anthony Squillo

**Tinley Park**  
Will Gembora  
Matthew Himmelmann  
Kelly Sweeney  
Vince Van Schouwen

**Villa Park**  
Michael Phad

**Warrenville**  
Jacob Seeman

**Will Co Mgmt**  
Jeffrey Pogose

**Winnetka**  
Nicole Sparks

**Woodridge**  
Erick Gutierrez  
Brandon Watson

**Promoted**

**DuPage County**  
Lance Todd

**Elk Grove Vlg**  
Christopher Torres

**Matteson**  
Aaron Dobrovits  
Robert Wilson

**Metra**  
Michael O'Neill

# Member News

**New Lenox Sgts**  
Louis Alessandrini  
Hilary Davis

**Oak Lawn**  
Todd Tenison

**Orland Park**  
Larry Davids

**South Elgin**  
Daniel Meshenky

**Western Springs Sgts**  
Daniel Albrecht

**Retired**

**Buffalo Grove**  
James Harris

**Carpentersville Civilians**  
Arieh Kafenshtok

**Cook Co DCSI Deputy Chiefs**  
Brian O'Toole

**Cook Co SSD**  
Sharon Mulcahy

**Crystal Lake**  
Bret Nystrom

**DuPage County**  
Peter Allard  
Richard Alletto  
Bernard Moe  
Sharon Reed

**Hanover Park**  
Jennifer Smith

**Hickory Hills**  
Terrence Murphy

**Hoffman Estates**  
James Murre

**II DOC**  
Dorothy Culkin

**John Stroger Hospital Sgts**  
Bobby Wright

**Justice**  
Joseph Hurckles

**Matteson Sgts**  
Ken Arvin  
Thomas Martin

**Metra**  
Thomas Florek  
Nancy Wheeler

**McHenry County Clerks**  
Katherine Parisek

**Naperville Sgts**  
Nicholas Liberio

**Orland Park**  
Joseph Czarnowski  
Dawn Gorman-Kenny  
Scott Van Wagner

**Park City**  
Michael Scornavacco

**St Charles**  
Darrin Lee

**Tinley Park**  
Michael Brown

**Wescom**  
Nancy Vallee

**Will Co Mgmt**  
Vincent Gambino

**Good Luck**

**Huntley**  
David Sander

# Local Elections

Congratulations to all of the officers who have been recently elected to their local boards.

**CenCom**  
Emilee McGinn *President*  
Jeff Callaghan *Vice president*  
Ryan Foszcz *Secretary*

**Darien**  
Austin Jump *President*  
Mark Bozek *Vice president*  
Jason Norton *Treasurer*  
Lauren Renner *Secretary*  
Kevin Yeo *Sergeant-at-Arms*

**Lake in the Hills**  
Carlo Coduto *President*  
Erik Watters *Vice president*  
Chad Riffe *Secretary*

**Niles**  
Rodney Whiteman *President*  
Fotis Markadis *Vice president*  
Matthew Beyer *Secretary*

# Chief's Follies

Continued from page 5

Or is it the mayor, the local political board, or all three?

## Chiefs can be snowflakes, too

Either way, the new mantra for the Seattle Police Department is they can

no longer call criminals "suspects." Nooo, in an effort to provide safe spaces for bad guys, suspects now can only be referred to as "community members."

And I am not making this up. They have completely lost their minds in Seattle.

*Editor: There is always something going on in the world of professional leadership, and none of this can be blamed on Donald Trump.*

# Bits n Pieces

## Congratulations

To our **Bolingbrook** members:

**Lt. James Coughlin** Supervisor of the Year

**Officer Majorie Higin** Police Officer of the Year.

To our **Oak Lawn** member:

Officer Sean Heilig. Officer of the Year

*In the February 2017 issue of the Judicial Watch publication Verdict is this tidbit.*

## It pays to be a politician, especially if you're Mr. Obama — ex-president!

The US Secret Service provided records on the Obama 2015 family Hawaiian vacation. A lofty \$1,200,000 smackers of taxpayers' money for travel expenses alone. Total cost of the trip? \$4,823,206.88. That includes rental hotels for the president and his family at \$5,000 to \$10,000 per night, dinner, golf, rentals, and also lodging and other expenses for the Secret Service agents to guard the president was included.

Is this abuse of taxpayers' money for luxury vacations? What do our other fine leaders spend? I'm sure Trump is no better. And we have to be happy with going to Wisconsin Dells or Branson.

And Rauner the Bruce in good old Illinois wants to scuttle your measly pension and retirement. So the guy who put \$50 million is his own campaign and puts millions into republican candidates just got a \$20,000,000 donation from a donor. But our pensions are too rich.

Save us Lord.

## Pink pistols

More and more folks on the LGBTQ community are becoming gun owners. I believe liberals are aghast. But the Pink Pistols don't care. These folks, ever since the Pulse nightclub shootings are Second Amendment supporters.

The response, according to the Pink Pistols website, has been massive. You go guys/girls and whatever gender you identify with. About time people wake up and realize you can defend yourself from the crazies out there. Like they say, "Armed gays don't get bashed."

## Reptile Lives Matter

### The Beauty:



Here's an example of a gorgeous creature, (not me) an Eastern Indigo snake. Overwhelming in its grace and form. A prize for every kid and old snake catchers like me. Just loved these when I was a wee laddie. Got a chance to handle one at this year's Reptile Fest. The blond says I can't have one.

### And the beast!

Nothing can be as horrible as the YouTube video I watched recently.

A man was missing in Sulawesi, Malaysia. During the search they found a 7 – 8 meter Retic python, killed it and when they opened it, the missing fellow, Mr. Akbar was found inside. The video of cutting open the snake slowly expressing the individual is unnerving. It looks real but who the hell knows anymore. Stay away from 23-foot Retic pythons. Look it up — too gruesome for a family newsletter.

### And in-between

A recent news story says that Illinois Governor Rauner was obsessed with snakes when he was a kid. Well, this is new and the only thing I can admire about Rauner the Bruce. He started out right — what happened?

# Media Buzz

Continued from page 8

pride, integrity, or guts.

- Cops have great benefits and pensions. Right on — thank the police unions. As we continue to preserve what little is left of this noble cause.

And the beat goes on and on.

It's a tough job, both the press and law enforcement. There are no easy answers. But one thing is for sure. If you keep your lips zipped, your words can never hurt you. Always remember it's the media's never-ending search for scandal among cops that will spell your doom.

Let the chiefs and mayors die in their boots. Say nothing and more important watch what you do. Don't be a part of the media buzz. Live long and prosper as one Vulcan told us. It is better for your health.

Vita e bella

# MAP Steward Seminar

The Metropolitan Alliance of Police is pleased to announce our annual steward training seminar for **Thursday, September 21, 2017**. MAP representatives and MAP attorneys will be teaming up to provide an educational seminar to provide you the tools and knowledge necessary to effectively represent your members. We are also very pleased to have representatives from Safe Call Now to speak to our members (<https://www.safecallnow.org/>). Safe Call Now is a confidential, comprehensive, 24-hour crisis referral service for all public safety employees, all emergency services personnel and their family members nationwide.

Other topics included will be recognizing your rights while exercising collective bargaining activities, understanding your privileges during discipline hearings, Garrity and Weingarten rights, identifying contract violations and effectively applying the grievance process, negotiating and enforcing your contracts and more.

The seminar will be held at Benedictine University in Lisle,

Illinois in The Krasa Student Center (<http://www.ben.edu/about/location.cfm>). Seating will again be limited and reserved on a first come first reserved basis. Please provide the name(s) with individual email addresses of attendees, and department/chapter to John Ward at [JWard@ma-union.org](mailto:JWard@ma-union.org) to reserve your place. Please make reservations by August 30, 2017.

The seminar is Thursday, September 21, 2017. Check in begins at 8:30 and the seminar will begin promptly at 9:30 and conclude at 4:00. Lunch will be provided.





# Collective Bargaining Chapters

23rd Judicial Circuit Court Clerks	DuPage County Forest Rangers	Maywood Sgts	Prospect Heights Sgts
Addison	Dwight	McCook	Quadcom Dispatch
Algonquin	E-Com Dispatch Center	McHenry Co Crt Clerks	Riverwoods
Algonquin CSOs/Disp	East Dundee	Metra	River Valley Detention
Alsip	Elgin Community College	Mokena	Center Supvs
Arlington Heights	Elwood	Momence	Romeoville
Barrington Hills	Elk Grove Village	Minooka	Romeoville Sgts
Bartlett	Fox River Grove	Montgomery	Roselle
Bensenville	Genoa	Moraine Valley College	Round Lake
Bolingbrook	Gilbert	Morris	Round Lake Supvs
Bolingbrook Civilians	Glenwood	Mt Prospect	Round Lake Park
Bolingbrook Sgts/Lts	Grundy County Civilians	Mt Prospect Sgts	St Charles
Bridgeview	Hanover Park	Mundelein	St Charles Sgts
Buffalo Grove	Hanover Park Civilians	Naperville Civilians	Schaumburg
Burr Ridge Sgts/Cpls	Hanover Park Sgts	Naperville Civilians	Schaumburg Command
Carpentersville Civilians	Harvey Patrol	Unit 2	SEECOM
Carpentersville Police	Harvey Sgts	Naperville Sgts	Seneca
Carpentersville Sgts	Hawthorn Woods	New Lenox Sgts	Southcom
CenCom E-9-1-1	Hazel Crest	Niles	South Barrington
Channahon	Hickory Hills	Norridge	South Elgin
Chicago State University Police	Hoffman Estates	Northlake	South Holland
Chicago State University Sgts	Hoffman Estates Sgts	Northlake Sgts	Steger
Clarendon Hills	Homewood	North Aurora	Streamwood
Coal City	Huntley	Northeastern II	Streamwood Civilians
Cook County Dispatch and Vehicle Services	IL DOC Investigators	Campus Police	Streamwood Vlg Hall
Cook Co DCSI Deputy Chiefs	Indian Head Park	Northern Illinois University	Civilians
Cook Co Dispatch Supvs	ISTHA	Northern Illinois University Sergeants	Tinley Park
Cook Co Social Caseworkers I and II	ISTHA Call-takers	Northern Illinois Telecommunicators	Tricom Dispatch
Cortland	John Stroger Hospital	Northern IL University Security Officers	University of Illinois
Crest Hill	Justice	Northwest Central Dispatch	Villa Park
Crest Hill Sgts	Justice Sgts	Oak Forest	Warrenville
Crete	Lake Forest	Oak Lawn	Warrenville Sgts
Crystal Lake	Lake in the Hills Police	Oak Lawn Detention Officers	Waukegan Sgts
Darien Police and Sgts	Lake in the Hills Dispatch/CSO's	Olympia Fields	Wescom Dispatch
Darien Police Civilians	Lakemoor	Orland Park	Westchester
Des Plaines	LaSalle County	Oswego	Westchester Sgts
Des Plaines Sgts/Lts	LaSalle Co Correctional Officers	Palos Hills	West Dundee
DeKalb County	Lemont	Palos Park	Western Springs
DuPage Co Patrol/Court Svcs	Lemont Sgts	Park City	Western Springs Sgts
DuPage Co Coroner	Lisle	Park Forest	Wheaton
DuPage County Forest Preserve	Lockport	Peru T/Cs	Wheaton Sgts/Lts
	Matteson	Plainfield	Will Co Mgmt Assoc
	Matteson Sgts	Prospect Heights	Willow Springs
			Wilmington
			Winfield
			Winfield Sgts
			Winnetka
			Woodridge
			Woodridge Civilians