

**CITY OF MIAMI • RETIRED
EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION**

NEWSLETTER

AFSCME RETIREES CHAPTER 11

4349 N.W. 36th Street, Suite 104 / Miami, Florida 33166 / Phone (305) 863-8623 / Fax (305) 884-1745



APRIL 2009

OFFICERS:

President: Louis M. Sarsich
1st V. Pres: Margaret Kern
2nd V. Pres:
Treasurer: Berenice Bass
Rec. Secy: Helen Myskiw

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sylvia Scheider
Toni Chao

NEXT MEETING: APRIL
LOCATION
PICCADILLY CAFETERIA
8301 WEST FLAGLER SHOPPING CENTER, MIAMI, FLORIDA
LUNCH COMMENCING FROM 12 TO 1PM: MEETING AT 1PM

The association will provide \$10.00 each for member and one guest for the lunch bill. The first general meeting for 2009 will be at the Piccadilly Cafeteria on April 19, 2009, at the same time; your attendance will be welcome. The next meetings will be on September 13, 2009 and December 6, 2009.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Board has lost several members and new members are needed to support our work for the benefit of all. Please consider to become a member of the Board, we can not do without you. If you are interested contact us at 305-863-8623.

We hope to see all the members who live in the Miami area come to our April meeting.

Lou Sarsich

We have special condolences to the families and friends of Dr. Angel De Pedro who passed away on December 2, 2009.

Howard Gary who was former City Manager of Miami from 1981 to 1984, passed away on February 15, 2009. He broke the ground as the first Black City Manager.

Miami Fire Department reunion dates are September 17-19, 2009, In Otto, North Carolina.

Under AFSCME's group tax-exemption ruling, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has excepted the International Union and all AFSCME affiliates from having to pay Federal Income tax on dues income, "exempt function income" and other receipts defined by the IRS as "excluded income."

Health Care: Tony Fransetta, President of Florida Alliance for Retired Americans, worked with Representative Joseph Abruzzo in introducing HR 10161, urging Congress to pass legislation that establishes a national universal health care program with a comprehensive range of benefits.

The Miami Dade Commission, the City of Miami Commission and the Miami Marlins have approved the funds for the building of the new stadium to be completed in 2012, on the site of the old Orange Bowl. Four Hundred Eighty Million coming from tourist tax, the Marlins share is 120 millions and the county will repay 35 millions for the 3,700 seats' stadium with a retractable roof.

The market value of the FIPO Trust assets had been \$1,268,869,871. On September 30, 2008 the market value was \$1,020,161,862.

The COLA reserve has been approximately \$65,116,055, they had to transfer out \$18,940,038, leaving \$46,176,017 as a balance in the COLA reserve. As you can see the bad market can quickly have a devastating impact on our main COLA fund and the COLA reserve.

CHANGED YOUR ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER?

Remember to send us the new information. Also, when calling the Association, **please speak slowly and clearly** to give us your name, telephone number and area code.

COMMUNICATIONS CORNER:

Members who would like to get in touch with each other, know about former fellow workers that they have not heard from or seen for a long time, family affairs, reunions, etc., should leave us a message of any information you want to appear in the next newsletter. You can contact us by mail or call (305) 863-8623. The success of this column depend on your cooperation. Start sending us your tidbits.

REMINDER:

Please ensure that family members, friends and care-takers of deceased retirees **CALL THE GESE, FIRE or POLICE** offices and the **SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION**, if applicable –**NOT THIS OFFICE**- with the name of the (deceased) retiree member.

HEALTH AND PENSION ALERT

Please remember to send all health claims to the City of Miami's Group Benefits Section, PO Box 330708, Miami, FL 33233. In Miami-Dade call 305-416-1380 or 1385. Toll free 1-800-416-1385 or 1-866-494-2344, or send the claims directly to CIGNA. All pension questions or paperwork should be addressed or sent to GESE and FIPO offices listed on the back of your membership card – **not to this office.**

SUNSHINE CLUB

Call Berenice B. Bass at 1-954-434-3290 from 6 pm to 9 pm, to have a card sent for all occasions. You may also write to Berenice with the information at the Retiree Association's Office.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION FOR AFSCME MEMBERS:

The below information can be obtained visiting www.afscme.org or call 1-800-228-3523.

Health: Save an average of 18% on prescriptions cost and out-of-pocket expenses on other services such as dental and vision care. Call 1-800-228-3523, or www.afscme.org.

Hotels: Save money and support union workers when you stay at union hotels. www.afscme.org.

Vacation Tours: \$50 discount off any travel package. Open to /union members, retirees and their families. For more information call 1-800-590-1104.

Auto Buying Service: Buy a new union-made car or truck and receive an additional \$100 savings. www.afscme.org.

Retired Work Force: www.retireeworkforce.com Niche Job Site for Retirees. Is an internet based organization that connects companies with highly qualified retirees for job opportunities. There is not a charge for this service and all information is kept strictly confidential. Telephone 877-778-9675, Fax 732-975-9838.

Toll Free Number to Contact your Florida Congressperson/Senator: 1-866-340-9279. The Capital Operator will assist you to obtain your representative's name by your zip code.

RAFFLE AND DOOR PRIZES WINNERS: Muriel Tower, Betty Plotkin, Judy Georgiades, Bill Deutschman, Charles Esserman, Margaret Kern, Charles Cobb, Hilda Gasca, Bradley Cobb, Cy Siatkowski, Judy Miller, Mary Ann Myskiw-Jones, Clark Georgides (2), Maria Conway, Berenice Bass (2), Paul Riley, Betty Moss, Wilmer Parks, Helen Myskiw, Sam Givens.

FIRE CORNER:

Fire retirees are urged to attend Local 587 Fire Department Union meetings at the Fire Benevolent Hall the second Wednesday of every month at 8 P.M., to show your appreciation for the support Local 587 gives to our needs.

POLICE CORNER:

e-mail addresses for Fire and Police Retirees sites are: MFD vet.org / MPDVET@aol.com
 FIPORetaol.com / MFD memorialist Dlyon 911@aol.com George Bilberry:(941-723-3621) Ggbillberry@aol.com.
 The Internet sites are: www.ci.miami.fl.us/fire/Phil Doherty. For Fire contract negotiations information go to: www.IAFF587.org. Telephone 305-633-3442.

NEW RETIREES GENERAL EMPLOYEES

Maria Bao	01/31/09	Naomi Beckford	11/30/08	Jeffrey Berliner	01/04/09
Luis Cabrera	01/31/09	James Copeland	11/01/08	Raul Cuevas	10/12/08
Abraham Dupree	02/28/09	Rickey Frager	11/09/08	Albert Galambos	12/15/08
Teresita Fernandez	01/31/09	Jorge Gallo	01/04/09	Calvin Jones	01/31/09
Maria Gandarilla	03/31/09	Lizzete Herrera	10/12/08	Donald Knowles	11/30/08
Roberto Lavernia	10/26/08	Manuel Linares	10/26/08	Luis Lopez	02/28/09
Donald Livingston	11/30/08	Deanna Macbeth	12/31/08	Jose Matas	01/18/09
F Mc Mahon, Jr	03/31/09	Amita Patil	02/28/09	Rafael Pola	03/31/09
Alfred Reyes	02/28/09	Ibis Rodriguez	01/14/09	Luis Selema	01/31/09
Shirley Richardson	01/18/09	Celieux St Ange	10/31/08		

IN MEMORIAM GENERAL EMPLOYEES

Susie Barnhill	10/10/08	Richard Bloom	12/24/08	Rosemary Benton	12/01/08
Jimmie L Bonner	02/27/09	Lois M Bridwell	02/01/09	Earline M Boone	12/21/08
Tom Brown	12/05/08	Pedro Castro	10/08/08	Charles B Christie	11/14/08
Elizabeth Davis	02/21/09	Domingo Diaz	11/12/08	Angel De Pedro	12/02/08
Leroy Daniels	02/13/09	Fay Girten	02/19/09	Thomas J Glenn	12/19/08
Daniel B Glennon	10/30/08	Wayne A Hamilton	01/20/09	David H Howell	11/25/08
Lemuel Hunter	01/20/09	Arnaldo L Jimenez	10/29/08	Willie Johenkins	01/29/09
Betty E ones	02/27/09	Stephanie Klein	11/24/08	Vera L Mcdonald	12/14/08
William B Matthews	12/21/08	Lula Effie Mayhue	03/07/09	Irene L Mcleod	11/02/08

IN MEMORIAM GENERAL EMPLOYEES

Rose M Miller	02/05/09	Alonzo Mixon	03/07/09	Abraham Moncarz	12/21/08
Paul M Nolan	03/09/09	Maria Pomares	01/16/09	Julio Roque	02/27/09
Anna L Salazar	01/04/09	Angela L Stone	03/04/09	Lula M Taylor	12/25/08
Barbara Thomas	01/30/09				

FIRE DEPARTMENT RETIREES

Cpt Richard Herrin	10/26/08	Chief Philip Ledea	10/26/08	Lt James Maree	12/07/08
Cpt Barry Gonzalez	01/04/09	Lt Carlos M Perez	01/08/09	Lt Mario Patterson	01/18/09
Chief Charles Maree	01/18/09	FF Carlos Galera	02/01/09	Cpt Hugo Gort	02/01/09
Lt Arnaldo Arboleya	02/15/09	FF William Belz	02/15/09	Cpt Robert Simmons	02/15/09
FF Carl Hood	03/01/09				

FIRE DEPARTMENT LAST ALARM

FF John Gerry	12/22/08	FF Harold Hardaman	12/01/08	FF Charles Howard	01/04/09
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POLICE DEPARTMENT RETIREES

Sgt Richard Cosner	01/04/09	PO Ana Gonzalez	01/04/09	PO Willie Jones	01/04/09
PO Horacio La Rosa	01/04/09	PO Rafael Acosta	01/18/09	PO Francisco Alfonso	01/18/09
Sgt Teresa Borkowski	01/18/09	PO Ricardo Chavez	01/18/09	PO Anders Dominguez	01/18/09
PO Robert Couseillant	01/18/09	PO Willie Ealey	01/18/09	PO C T Gregoire	01/18/09
PO Harris Henderson	01/18/09	PO Paul James	01/18/09	Comm Harvey Naurn	01/18/09
PO Edgar Suarez	01/18/09	Sgt Wilfredo Abascal	02/01/09	Mjr Steven Caceres	02/01/09
PO Magda Cosner	02/01/09	PO Sonia Crespo	02/01/09	Mjr Armando Guzman	02/01/09
Chf Frank Fernandez	02/01/09	PO A Gutierrez	02/01/09	Mjr Manuel Orosa	02/15/09
PO Jorge Aguilar	02/15/09	Sgt Larry Jackson	02/15/09	PO Reginald Kinchen	02/15/09
Sgt William Scarola	02/15/09	PO Emiliano Tamayo	02/15/09	PO Margarita Baro	03/01/09
Lt Daniel Dominguez	03/01/09	Mjr Craig McQueen	03/01/09	PO Dwayne Pratt	03/01/09
Cmm Socorro Raimundo	03/01/09	Sgt at Arm Raymond Carvil	03/01/09		

POLICE IN MEMORIAM

Sgt Robert Gibson	12/21/08	PO William Parks	11/09/08	PO Joseph Ventura	12/14/08
PO Darryl Smith	01/12/09	PO Edwin Orr	01/17/09		

THOUGHTS TO REMEMBER

Life is too short not to believe in Santa Claus

Youth is not a time of life is a state of mind

Remember to forget the things that made your sad, but don't forget the things that made you glad

Better than counting your years is making your years count

Life is like a bath... a wrong turn can leave your in hot water

Cherish yesterday, dream tomorrow, live today

May you live as long as you want, but never want as long as you live

Memory is the diary we all carry about with us