

**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**



**SEPTEMBER 2008**

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2<sup>nd</sup> V. Pres:  
Treasurer: Berenice Bass  
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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Sylvia Scheider  
Toni Chao

**NEXT MEETING SEPTEMBER 7, 2008**

LOCATION  
PICADILLY CAFETERIA

8301 WEST FLAGLER SHOPPING CENTER, MIAMI, FLORIDA  
LUNCH COMMENCING FROM 12 TO 1PM: MEETING AT 1 PM

The association will provide \$10.00 each for member and one guest for the lunch bill. The next general meetings for 2008 will be at the Picadilly Cafeteria on Sunday, December 14. We hope to see you there.

**IN MEMORIAM  
Marshall Litvak**

It is with great sorrow that we mourn the passing of Marshall Litvak who was one of the first people acting in uniting and creating the General Employees Association (GEA), when the GEA joined with AFSCME (American Federation State County and Municipal Employees). He was again its first president. When he retired he was always active in the City of Miami Retirees Chapter 11. He was always willing to give of himself for the organization. We will miss him.

**Stephen Peter Clark** (Pete) the son of the late Stephen P. Clark, former Mayor of the City of Miami and Miami-Dade County passed away on July 16, 2008.

Former Coral Gables Chief of Police **Michael Lawrence Hammerschmidt** passed away August 20, 2008.

The Dade County Commission met on July 18, 2008, to discuss the absorbing of fire departments of the cities of Miami, Coral Gables, Hialeah, Miami Beach and Key Biscayne. A tremendous turn out of fire fighters from the respective cities attended the meeting. After listening to the opponents of the new resolution the Commission voted 6 to 5 against it. On September 2, 2008, this proposal will be proposed again at the commission meeting. Your attendance will be greatly appreciated at this meeting.

**The League for the Hard of Hearing** will do a presentation about telephones for the hard of hearing, if you qualified you will be able to receive a free telephone made especially for you. An audiologist will be present to give private individual screenings to see if you qualify.

**Miami Fire Rescue Chief "Shorty" Bryson** was named 2008 Fire Chief of the Year by the Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association a national group association during its annual meeting in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Just a few days earlier on April 21, 2008, Miami Fire Rescue Department was upgraded to a Class 1 ranking by the Insurance Services Organization which will reduce premiums that residents and businesses pay for fire insurance.

I want to remind you all that we would like to start a new **COMMUNICATIONS CORNER** where our members could get in touch with each other or know about former fellow workers that they have not heard from or seen for a long time. Leave us a message of any information you want to appear in the newsletter. The success of this column will depend on your cooperation. Start sending us your tidbits.

**City of Miami Retired Firefighters BBQ Reunion** will take place in Otto, North Carolina, on September 18, 19 and 20, 2008.

**Police Benevolent Association** annual BBQ will be on Saturday, October 4, 2008 at the Hall.

**Miami Police Veterans Association 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Mountain Reunion** will take place on October 17, 18 and 19, 2008. Contact Michael Carter 2114 Pine Ridge Rd, Blair, Ga 30512, telephone (706) 745-9510.

**HEAT Fans** great lower bowl seats are available for the first time. Take a tour on HEAT.com or call 786-777-4863. Ten gets you in season tickets start at just \$10.

For Fire Memorial list and e-mails go to [Lyon911@AOL.com](mailto:Lyon911@AOL.com). You can contact Jim Reato at [ireato@charter.net](mailto:ireato@charter.net) or [daygojim28704@Yahoo.com](mailto:daygojim28704@Yahoo.com), or write to 14 Southwicke Dr, Arden, NC 28704.

The Board has loss several members and new members are needed to support our work for the benefit of all. Please consider becoming a member of the board, we cannot do without you, if you are interest contact us at 305-863-8923.

Please remember to notify us of any change of address or telephone numbers. Also when calling the office please speak slowly to give us your name, telephone number, area code and address. Please ensure that family members, friends and/or caretakers of deceased retirees call the GESE, Fire and Police Offices and the Social Security Administration with the name and information of the deceased retirees.

**Health and Pension Alert.** Please remember to send all claims to the City of Miami Group Benefit Section, PO Box 330708, Miami, FL 33233 or send all claims directly to CIGNA. All pension questions or paper work should be addressed or sent to GESE and FIPO offices listed on the back of your membership card, not to this office.

**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 8pm to show your appreciation for the support of the local 587 gives to our needs.

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

**POLICE CORNER.** E-mail addresses for fire and police retirees sights are: [MFDvet.org/MPDVET@aol.com](mailto:MFDvet.org/MPDVET@aol.com) [FIPO@aol.com](mailto:FIPO@aol.com) /MFD memorialist [Dlyon911@aol.com](mailto:Dlyon911@aol.com) George Bilberry:(954-723-3621) [Ggillberry@aol.com](mailto:Ggillberry@aol.com). The Internet sites are: [www.ci.miami.fl.us/fire/PhilDoherty](http://www.ci.miami.fl.us/fire/PhilDoherty). For Fire contract negotiations information go to: [www.IAFF587.org](http://www.IAFF587.org). Telephones 305-633-3442.

**FOP HEALTH TRUST INFORMATION.** Effective July 1, 2008 we have switch life insurance carriers from ETNA to Reliance Standard Life. The reason for the switch was to maintain the retirees benefits and the same premiums. New books will be forwarded to all as soon as they are printed.

**Have you taken DIGITEK tablets?** A nationwide recall is underway for Digitek Digoxin tablets distributed between March 2006 and April 2008. The pills may contain two times the acceptable dosage of the active ingredient. This could lead to serious injury or death. Signs of overdose may include changes in vision, palpitations, slow irregular pulse, dizziness, loss of consciousness, low blood pressure, loss of appetite, nausea or vomiting, decrease urine output, excessive nighttime urination, cold sweats, difficulty breathing when lying down, or death. If you have had symptoms while taking Digitek contact McMinn & Roberts, Orlando, Florida, toll free 1-800-514-5000. Responsible Attorney Bryan K. McMinn.

#### IN MEMORIAM GENERAL EMPLOYEES

McCoy, William	05/08	Sarno, Alexander	04/08	Neil, Barbara	07/08
Lewinter, Goldie	04/08	Martinez, Eduardo	04/08	Miller Garey, Sarah	07/08
Matthews, Margaret	03/08	Monico, Dolores G	03/08	Parks, William	08/08
Pomares, Carlos	02/08	Litvak, Marshall	07/08	Perrota, Ralph T	07/08
Vazquez, Aristidez	06/08	Wilcox, Aaron	06/08	Crusoe, Arnold	03/08
Mishler, Laura B	02/08	Kotler, Bertha	02/08	Brown, James	03/08
Alvarez, Jorge A	03/08	Finkelstein, Dorothy	02/08	Harris, Anne	02/08
McInnis, David D	02/08	Stackhouse, Hubert	11/07	Mcveigh, C.F.	08/07
Johnson, Damon	11/07	Barbee, Hazel	06/07	Rodriguez, Manuel	10/07
Rice, Zelmer	09/07	Alexander, Johnnie B	07/07	Maldonado, Juan A	12/07
Norris, Charles H	12/07	McCann O.M.	12/07	Holcombe, Robert B	11/07
Miley, Bessie	07/08	Neill, Barbara	07/08		

### NEW RETIREES GENERAL EMPLOYEES

Alvarez, Nancy J	01/08	Borges, Edward	12/07	Munoz, Edgard S	12/07
Figueroa, Sonia	12/07	Clark, Earnest, E	04/08	PEREZ, Roberto	03/08
Murillo, Alfredo	03/08	Washington, Rhonda J	03/08	Roberts, Terry	04/08
Aragon, Andres	05/08	FF Hofher, Clarence	08/07		

### FIRE DEPARTMENT LAST ALARM

Cpt Oxenborg, Michael	01/08	FF Adams, Thomas	02/08	FF Williams, Thomas	04/08
FF Williams, Ulmont	06/08				

**FF Lopez-Lima, Alexis** died Tuesday May 6, 2008, from injuries that he suffered in a motorcycle accident on the Dolphin Expressway.

**FF Alvarez, Oswaldo Martin** passed away on August 11, 2008. A huge following of firefighters, family and friends attended his wake on August 14, 2008.

### FIRE DEPARTMENT RETIREES

Lt Paz. Jose	01/08	Cpt Barreto, Jorge	01/08	Lt Paugh, James	01/20
FF Jones, Michael	03/08	FF Del Valle, Octavio	03/08	FF Hunter, Allan	03/08
FF Bethencourt, David	02/08	FF Alvarez, Oswaldo Martin	07/08		

### POLICE IN MEMORIAM

PO Matheson, William	01/08	Lokos, Harold	01/08	PO Davidson, Peter	02/08
PO Welsh, Leo	02/08	Sgt Bryant, Michael	04/08	PO Gonzalez, Emilio	04/08
Cmmd Reed, Robert	06/08	PO Pritchard, Ben	07/08	PO Ross, Todd	07/08

**PO Kimball, Edward 07/08. He was among the first Black police officers.**

### POLICE DEPARTMENT RETIREE

Sgt Alvarez, Alfredo	01/08	Major Brown, Roy	02/08	PO Guerra, George	02/08
PO Saavedra, Jose	02/08	PO Brown, Rondal	03/08	PO Carrasco Julio	03/08
PO Travieso, Angel	03/08	PO Dahle, Jody	06/08	Lt Hervis, Miguel	06/08
PO Braga, Thomas	07/08	Cmmd Whitehead, Lorenzo	03/08		