

**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 2010**

**OFFICERS:**

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

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Sylvia Scheider  
Toni Chao

**NEXT MEETING APRIL 18, 2010**

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 2010 will be at the Picadilly Cafeteria on Sunday, April 18, 2010, and Sunday, September 12, and December 12, 2010. Hope you can all attend.

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Our Treasurer Berenice Bass was very pleasantly surprised at our September meeting when she was honored by the presentation of a plaque from the AFSCME national office for 25 years of service to our Retirees Chapter 11. Congratulations Berenice.

The Board has lost 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 interested contact us at 305-863-8623. It only involves three meetings a year, plus maybe one or two office meetings a year.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Louis M. Sarsich".

Louis Sarsich  
President

## **NEWS FROM THE CITY OF MIAMI**

**Tomas Regalado** is the new City Manager, and City Manager Carlos Migoya, a career banker who has taken on Miami widening financial woes. His priorities as City Manager is to help Miami avert financial disaster, though he would not commit a lengthy stay, Migoya said he will not leave until finances are in order. He will forgo salary and benefits of more than \$300,000 a year and bawing to evaluate every department and employees. This is not a one year problem.

Mayor Regalado said he and Migoya will focus on the unions whose worker-friendly contracts have helped strangle the City purse strings. These contracts have been approved by all commissioner including Regalado. The Mayor is telling the unions that they will not be adversaries, they will clean the house first and then they will approach the unions. The City is also confronted by a growing federal investigation into the city finances launched by the US Securities and Exchange Commission. Federal regulators have asked Miami to turn over all communications between several department's heads regarding millions of dollars of questionable money transfers and \$250 millions in bonds sold over the past four years.

**Just three month** after closing a \$118 millions budget hole, commissioners learned revenues remained in such a free fall, the finance director project a new deficit of between \$20 million and \$45 million. Among the assets being considered for sale to raise funds are parking garages and the city owned Knight Center which carries a \$5.5 million debt obligation. Financial projections show the City falling bellow the reserved amount required in the Financial Integrity Ordinance. In that case, staff will have to forward a two year plan to the Commission to replenish the account, which City Manager Migoya said he intents to do.

**Throughout the past** year there has been considerable discussion between Miami Police FOP, the Miami Association of Fire Fighters and General Employees and the City of Miami on the issues of the City's financial budget crisis, layoffs, contract concessions, pension stabilization, change of the pension actuarial method for determining costs, COLA, and Cola Reserve and unfounded liability. City of Miami is squeezing the unions to cut costs to the City. The City threatened the Unions with layoffs. Both the IAFF and the FOP were able to negotiate concessions that prevented layoffs and did not impact retirees benefits. Mayor Regalado want to work together with all the parties to solve the problem.

**At the September 10, 2009**, the City Commission voted to direct the City Manager to find the best law firm they could find to attack the Gate Settlement and get rid of it. The City wants to take back control of the FIPO trust. The City want to change the "Actuarial Cost Method" from the "Aggregate Cost Method" to the "Entry Gate Method". This will require a modification of the Gates Lawsuit settlement and would require a reopening of the Gates in the courts.

## **COMMUNICATIONS CORNER**

Members who would like to get in touch with each other, know about former fellow workers, family affairs, reunions, etc. are welcome to leave or send a message of any information you want to appear in the next newsletter. The success of this column depend on your cooperation. Start sending us your tidbits.

**Changed your address/phone number?** Remember to send us the new information. Also, when calling the association, please speak slowly to give us your name, telephone number and area code.

**Hurricane season** starts June 1 and ends on November 30. You should prepare your homes and have emergency numbers for your area available.

Please ensure that family members, friends and care-takers of deceased retirees CALL THE GESE, FIRE or POLICE offices and the SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION 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, FI 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.**

**Public Employee Group Health Insurance** provides for market determination of premium cost for health insurance for retirees. Requires cost of continued participation by retirees in insurance plans to be paid by the retiree. Authorizes employers to segregate claims experience of the retiree group from claims experience of active employees. Authorizes separate experience ratings of retirees from active employees. **New Bill Effective on 07/01/10**

#### **FIRE CORNER:**

**Fire reunion** in Otto, North Carolina will be on September 22-25, 2010.

**Local 587** Union BBQ at the Benevolent Hall will be on October 24, 2010. FIPO general membership meeting will be on 06/23, 12/01, 2010 at the Picadilly Cafeteria.

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:**

**The 25<sup>th</sup> Miami Police reunion** will be on May 14, 15, 16, 2010 at the Plantation Inn and Golf Resort in Crystal River, Florida. **The Miami Police Benevolent Association BBQ** will be on Saturday, September 26, 2010 at the MPBA Hall at 2300 NW 14 Street, Miami. Retired FIPO members are welcome. Preceded by a FIPO meeting at 10.30 AM.

**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](http://www.ci.miami.fl.us/fire/Phil_Doherty). **For Fire contract negotiations information go to:** [www.IAFF587.org](http://www.IAFF587.org). Telephone 305-633-3442.

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

**PRIZE WINNERS AT THE DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING:** John Leflay, alter Reed, Zenon Siatkowski, Alma Williams, Art Brawn, Maurice Kaufman, Wilmer Parks, Muriel Tower, Maria Conway, oyce Cobb, Chuck Esserman, John Lindeman, Helen Myskiw, Herbert Altman, MaryAnn Myskiw-Jones, Patricia Rivera, Margaret Kern and Janet Parks.

#### **NEW RETIREES GENERAL EMPLOYEES**

Fernandez, Teresita	01/05	Leiva, Jose F	09/06	Williams, Gloria	03/06
Garcia, Manuel	01/06	Trujillo, Jose L	01/06	Troutman, Reuben	02/06
Johnson, Deloreis	03/06	Irizarry, Zelideth	10/07	Quintana, Alfredo	01/08
Acosta, Tomas	06/08	Martinez, Osmel	04/08	Garcia, Lazaro	11/09
Vernon, Janet	10/09	Wiggan, Patricia A	11/09	Gordon, Charles	10/09
Lammons, Jr, Sylvester	10/09	Melberita, Thomas	11/09	Ramirez-Seijas, Olga	09/09

### IN MEMORIAM GENERAL EMPLOYEES

Gardner, Fred D	12/09	Echenique, Enrique	12/09	Farrell, John E	12/09
Gaitor, Charles	10/09	Gibb, Mary E	12/09	Mcleroy, Diane B	12/09
Palmer, Ann M	12/09	Reynolds, Mary V	10/09	Acosta, Fernando	11/09
Bow, Mary M	10/09	Castellanos, Pablo R	11/09	Horn, Rose	11/09
Roberts, Elizabeth S	10/09	Brown, Willis	09/09	Cortes, Robert F	02/10
Mullady, Frank P	02/10	Reschetar, Rose M	01/10	Traver, Pannel A	02/10
Williams, Della D	01/10	Alonso, Angel G	01/10	Fink, Dorothy H	01/10
Rolle, Wille B	01/10	Jones, Eddie B	01/10	Pico, Miguel	01/10
Hilsheimer, Dorothy	02/10	Adams, Thomas C	02/10		
Bishop Carty, Charles E	03/10	Senior Vice President of AFSHME Local 1184, Miami-Dade County School Board.			

### FIRE DEPARTMENT LAST ALARM

MFD Dist Chf Wasilewski, Martin	09/08				
FF Billberry, George	12/09	FF Johns, Grover	12/09	FF Lindsay, Robert	11/09
FF Griffiths, William	01/10	FF Long, William	01/10	FF FF Diaz, Rudy	03/10
FF McDonnell, Malcolm	02/10	Chf Baggett, Osbond	01/10	FF Vargo, William	03.10

### FIRE DEPARTMENT RETIREES

Lt Strosnider, Richard	12/09	FF Moye, Edward	12/09	Cpt Bruno, Richard	01/10
FF Fernandez, Frank	01/10	FF Geymayr, Christian	01/10	FF Rodriguez, Raul	01/10
FF Hamilton, Wayne	01/10	FF Hedlund, Michael	01/10	FF Stevens, Dana	01/10
FF Agras, Alfredo	01/10	Cpt Pace, James	01/10	Lt Vila, Ernesto	01/10
Lt Wood, David	01/10				

### POLICE IN MEMORIAM

PO Warren, Michael	12/09	Sgt Mitchell, Arthur	02/10	PO Farrington, Prince	02/10
Sgt DEBABY, Nichelas	02/10	Sgt Fontana, A	02/10	PO Horne, Philip	02/10
PO McCraken, Eugene	03/10				

### POLICE DEPARTMENT RETIREES

PO Patrick, Carl	12/09	Sgt Boan, Andrew	01/10	Sgt Law, George	01/10
Sgt Valdes, Carlos	01/10	Sgt Barfield, Sharon	01/10	PO Bergnes, Hector	01/10
PO Nazur, Richard	01/10	PO Pelham, Gregory	01/10	Lt Ramras, David	01/10
PO Torres, Francisco	01/10	PO Macias, Alejandro	01/10	PO Burden, Adam	01/10
PO Cannon, Thomas	01/10	PO Fernandez, Frank	01/10	PO Goulbourne, Ian	01/10
PO Fernandez, George	01/10	Lt Irizarry, Milady	01/10	Lt Roman, Juan	01/10
PO Santiago, Octavio	01/10	PO Utset, Tony	01/10	PO Vargas, Luis	01/10
PO Polk, Sandra	02/10	PO Hernandez, Suberto	02/10	Lt D'Agostino, Freddy	02/10
Sgt Marshall, James	02/10				

### THOUGHTS TO REMEMBER...

Old folks know more about young than the young know about being old

The easiest way to find something is to buy a replacement

Age does not diminish the extreme disappointment of having a scoop of ice cream fall from the cone

It takes two to make a marriage—and eligible daughter and an anxious mother

When a spouse is on the warpath, you can expect a call to active duty

Why does the one who snores always fall sleep first?