



▶ MBPD RETIREE NEWS ◀

September 2007

Unity is strength for a better retirement

www.mbpdretirees.com

September luncheon

The September luncheon will be held at Roasted Pepper, 9893 Pines Blvd, Pembroke Pines, on Friday, September 14th at noon. Roasted Pepper is on the north side of Pines Blvd, in the same shopping center as Kentucky Fried Chicken and Dunkin Donuts.



Marjorie LEONARD, wife of Arthur “Red” LEONARD, emailed wondering who she could send Red’s badges to. Red LEONARD joined the department in 1938 and served until 1971, going from a motorman to the Chief of Detectives. I never worked for him but those that did said he was easy to get along with and a holy man, whose daughter is a Sister of St Dominic, a graduate of the University of Chicago and Notre Dame currently stationed at a Catholic High School in Chicago. I have one vivid memory of Red when Moe HUDDLESTON, Elmer DAYHOFF and Red went to arrest a man in a cheap hotel on either 8th or 9th street. The guy shot Moe in the stomach but they overcame him and arrested him. I remember watching as Red and Elmer took the guy out of the hotel. It was at the end of the 4-12 shift with Sgt Jesse WEBB in charge of the uniform shift. MOE returned to work after a long recovery and eventually became the Chief of Detectives. As written before Red followed Moe as Chief of Detectives.

Red passed away July 21st, 2001 and his ashes were scattered in the Intracoastal Waterway near Daytona Beach. Marjorie had badges, handcuffs and old pictures she wanted to pass on. She had given her children his badges with his name, but she still had his departmental badge. In checking with the department, I learned the department had re-designed the badges and didn’t need his. She is mailing the old pictures so we can add them to our collection

Marjorie would welcome anyone passing by Deland who knew Red to stop by and say hello. Or you can mail her at 722 Yale Rd. Deland, Fl 32724, or email milahl9445@yahoo.com

True to her word, Majorie sent some photos but I’m going to have to get Jesse WEBB, Ted SCEMPP, Sandy KOHAN and, although he’s not a member, Al BIBLO to identify some of the people. One is of the Detectives, half wearing white hats. I can recognize Red, Pete STEWART, GEORGE GREEN, Romeo SHEPPARD (Later Chief), and Bob THOMPSON. A second shows the full uniform division. I recognize Sgts. HAKAM, HYMACK, and Al LAMPLEY. Officers the WARD brothers, Smokey SHEPPARD, Joe SOLOMON, Billy MEYERS, Carl FROMM, Bill MAGILL, Tony MASCARI, and what looks like Patrolman Jesse WEBB. Other pictures are so old (1934), we will never identify them. Thank you Marjorie.

Lunch at 4,000 feet
Because of a series of problems with the publication and mailing of the monthly letter, the announcement of this annual affair reached retirees in the area only one day before the scheduled event. Also on vacation were the ones who send the email to all hands. I and those who are charged with the letter apologize to Fred WOODRIDGE, who hosts this annual lunch. As I understand it, only Gene TOREKY and Cathy, Nick DI MARTINO and his wife, and a fireman and his wife, met with Fred and Many. Next year maybe we should plan it for the middle of the month, although I hope the mailing trouble of the letter will not occur again.

Vinny’s Breakfast
Vinny’s Breakfast was held on Friday, the 10th, again showing low attendance because of vacations. Attending were Vinny, Ekkeb ROCLIFA, Alan SKOLNICK, Wally NEUMANN with his father, FOP President Robert JENKINS, Fred WALDER, Billy O’NEAL, Don FREEMAN, Carlos DeVARONA, and myself.

Notes

Wally NEUMANN has moved to Central Florida; his address PO Box 726, Crescent City, FL 32112. I forgot to get his phone number. He tells me his home is close to a practice air force bombing range and when they fly over at full speed they create a sonic boom. Carlos DeVARONA jokingly said he wanted the monthly letter printed in Spanish. Ellen raising the news that Gerry MACKKEY has authored a book, telling everyone of his ad in the bottom of the monthly letter. WALDER and O'NEAL taking me to task for saying Happy Birthday to Jimmy O'CONNOR who has already died. FOP President JENKINS telling us the membership of the FOP voted to pay the FOP dues for retirees. He also invited retirees to attend their monthly meeting which takes place every second Wednesday of the month. He also vowed to notify us when a retirement party is planned.



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Our world gets smaller and smaller

Submitted by Wooldridge

Fifteen months ago, my youngest son, Jeff, moved to Dubai with his wife to fly the giant Boeing 777. He was digging through old personal papers and ran across a U.S Savings bond issued to him at birth by Blasberg Funeral Home on Miami Beach. Old timers will remember that Larrie BLASBERG, a true friend of Miami Beach Officers, gave U. S. bonds to all children born to police officers back in the good old days.

Jeff called Larrie from Dubai to thank him for the bond and eventually wound up talking to him at his home. Larrie freaked out that he was getting a call about a bond he issued 38 years ago and that the call was from Dubai in the Middle East.

Larrie told Jeff he remembered me well and, after learning I was living part time in HIGHLANDS, North Carolina, mentioned to my son he has a cousin there. Are you sitting down? The cousin turns out to be a very good friend of mine from my writers group. I picked up the phone and called Larrie. He is semi-retired and drops by the funeral home just for visits. We reminisced about the old days, sharing funny stories. It turned out to be a fun day for both of us and you know what? Those were fun days. Incidentally the \$18.75 bond is now worth \$137.

Deaths

Condolences to Forrest CUMMINGS on the loss of TERESA, his wife of 38 years. No services were planned. You can reach him at 305-725 0669 or email maranatha24@comcast.net to express your sorrow.

The announcement by the pension office on the death of Murray JARRET's (1953 TO 1987) wife, listed as Nancy BLACKMAN had some retirees believing she had remarried and still was getting her pension, a drastic change from the belief the spouse would lose the pension on remarriage. In checking with CELIA, I learned no change has been made in policy, NANCY just took her maiden name back on Murray's death. The only exception to that firm rule would be if the officer was killed in the line of duty. Under those circumstances, the pension would continue.



The Director of the American Police Hall of Fame announced more Police Officers are dying in the line of duty. For the first time in decades, during the first six months of this year, over 100 Officers have been killed. That is a 44% increase over the same time period as last year.

Retirees



Carlos DeVARONA was born in February of 1961 in Havana, Cuba. When one year old, his father, a policeman for 23 years in Havana, fled Castro and brought his family to the United States. Settled in New Jersey, Carlos attended and graduated from high school, playing varsity baseball and basketball. He came to Dade County and took both the Miami Beach and Metro police exams. Miami Beach called first, but he had an eye problem that should have disqualified him, except De Leo GROSSMAN ignored the problem and passed him. Hired by the Beach, he was the only Beach cadet in the Academy, where he had a Metro Officer as class advisor. His FTO on the Beach was Howard ZEIFMAN. Carlos worked patrol on the afternoon shift, later, before being promoted to Sergeant he was designate FTO for that shift. He worked with Billy WILLIAMS in PAL and Explorers, and proudly adds that least ten explorers have become officers and one just took the Lieutenants test. He then worked marine patrol for three years. Promoted to Lieutenant in 2003, he was again on afternoon patrol shift and remained there until his retirement

In 1983, he married Millie MARRELO, a dispatcher, and in their eight years of marriage they had two children. The oldest, 22 years old, is currently an honor student at FIU, while the 15 year-old daughter is in high school. In 1999, he met his present wife Carla ZACO, who was a friend of another officer. Her family is from Argentina so now they will divide the year, spend six months in Buenos Aires, the other six months here. His email address is Fatlennys@bellsouth.net

Tom WESCHLER was born in Atlanta, Georgia in November of 1955. His father, who worked for the FAA, was transferred to Miami, bringing his family with him. Tom graduated from Christopher Columbus High School, then graduated from FIU. He applied to the Beach and was hired, attending the Academy with a Dade County Officer as Class Advisor. Upon graduation, he was assigned to Patrol with Joe WEBER and YERO Sr. as FTO's, then worked all shifts. He was transferred to Detective bureau, working Juvenile under Arthur GANZ, whom he considers the best supervisor he had on the job. Promoted to Sergeant, he began in Detective Bureau but was transferred to I.A. under DE LUCCA. He returned to the Detective bureau after being promoted to Lieutenant in charge of Crimes Against Persons. Promoted to Captain, he returned to Patrol then worked Communications for three years. In 2001 he was promoted to Major, was in charge of Support Services for a few years, then was detached and worked out of City Hall for three years. He returned to services until he retired.

Tom enjoys good health and plans to move to Punta Gorda and convince Robert FRAME to do a lot of fishing. Tom's address currently 12500 NE 15th Ave, North Miami, Fl 33161

In an exchange of emails, Jack KROLAK reported that he is not doing much. He bought a Toyhauler (RV) and is going to upstate New York for a month or so starting September 15th to get out of this insufferable heat. In the small world category, the finance manager at RV's LAZY Days in Seffner, Florida learned where I retired from and asked if I knew Joe KISHICK. Kind of wondered where that came from but the guy told me Joe was in and bought a motor home from them. Warren SMITH has come by a couple of times. He's enjoying the fruits of our labors too. Other than that all is well.

The job

With the new mandated tax reduction law passed by the Florida legislature and signed by the Governor, changes will occur in the Police department. I have learned of those proposed changes (loss of positions) but will wait until the council acts before announcing them.

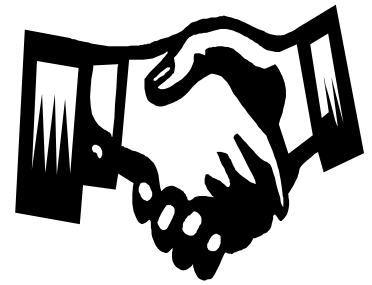
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Bud DAWSON, Paul DINKINS,
Mike FRINS, Priscilla
GRANDAGE, Bert
GREENBERG, Howard GROSS,
Zell HALL, Garth HAMMAN,
Bill LAMB, William LOWE, John
LYNCH, John MILLERICK,
Robert MORGAN, Dave
RICHARDS, Regina
SIEDENTOPF, Jeff
SCHAEFER, William (Tom)
SKINNER, Leo WEBER and
TEVEY WOOLFE

Dean Adler contributes website design and maintenance services for www.mbpdretirees.com (see Dean's ad in this newsletter) from Cops and Firefighters in Business (CFB) as well as his mortgage business at Bankers Mortgage Trust in Sunrise, Florida. Dean also donates the graphic design and printing services for this newsletter - www.cfbnetwork.com

Corrections and additions



Lew YOUNGMAN, who we wrote up in July, corrected me that he didn't graduate from New York University but graduated from the State University of New York at Farmingdale, Long Island. Then he added that the married Dorothy in 1999, has two daughters and a stepdaughter. One girl, Vickie graduated as a nurse from BCC. A second, Kimberly, finished LSU as a science major and taught high school in Hollywood. His stepdaughter is at University of Central Florida in pre-law. He has eight grandchildren (4 boys, 4 girls) and his oldest just presented him with his second great-granddaughter. Lew volunteers at the VA clinic every Monday and still enjoys fishing and pistol shooting.

Ellen WOLFENSON writes that life is good: "We are still living in the best of worlds, seven months in Burnsville N C and five months in Central Florida. Health wise, we're both doing very well, Jack with his two new hips, and me 83 years old, red-headed, fat and sassy. Up until to two years ago, we both did volunteer work every summer. Jack was a forest ranger up at Roan Mountain and I did different jobs every year, Chamber of Commerce, Forest service, Yancey County Health Department. Loved doing it then but got lazy. Now enjoy sleeping late, taking an afternoon nap, reading the newspapers, watching for news, doing crosswords, watching movies and reading my Enquirer and Star magazines, going into town, shopping and doing all the other stuff that housewives do. We've been in the Burnsville area since 1978, been through three floods. We have added space to our original cabin. Every year, we handle another new project. Our small 900 square foot cabin has now become a most comfortable house of over 1,800 feet. We're at 3,700 foot elevation, temperatures are most always comfortable. We've kept in touch via email with a few old friends, exchanging jokes mostly. However, most of our dearest friends are all gone. So we cherish the ones that are left and the new ones we've made along the way. I can't believe I've not been retired as many years as I worked with the MBPD. We still have ties with Miami, my daughter in Miami is a very successful jeweler, by appointment only, in her Brickell Avenue penthouse apartment. Our son-in-law is a successful criminal defense attorney with offices on Flagler Street next to the courthouse. Our granddaughter is an attorney with the Miami Dade Public Defenders office on a short list for judgeship coming up soon. We go down to visit with them twice a year. We take in two long weekend cruises, also manage two junkets to Biloxi. In the winters we are socially active, summers are for relaxing. Love to all who served with me.

MBPD officer arrested

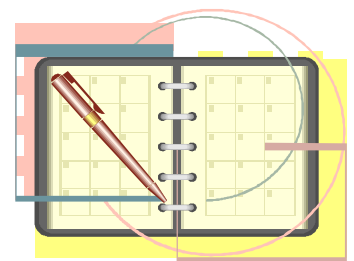
A Miami Beach officer, with six years of service, arrested on charges of official misconduct, perjury and battery. He allegedly fondled a female DUI arrest while transporting her for a breathalyzer test. Later he gave his phone number to her asking her to contact him. Her attorney called the department, a date was made and IA wired her.

Again...

I have been writing these monthly letters since the organization began seventeen years ago. Now, even with Vinny APRILE's help, I can't keep up on contacting the new retirees and writing their bios. I need some one, preferable a newer retiree to assist by contacting the retiree and using a format we use, write the bios. If you decide to assist, please contact me at 954 431 2928 or Jckamyth@aol.com. It would take less than an hour a week, You never have to leave your home and use the computer to pass on your work.

New directory...

We have run out of the directory printed last year and are in the process of building a new one. If your information was wrong in the old book, if you changed address, telephone number (including area code), e-mail address, please notify us.



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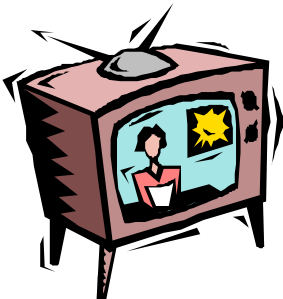


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ALONG HER DESTINY'S PATH.*



**A Necessary End:
A Katie Maguire
novel**

Gerry Mackey
Author

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