



# ▶ MBPD RETIREE NEWS ◀

December 2007

*Unity is strength for a better retirement*

**www.mbpdretirees.com**

## This and that...election

We didn't do to good. First, only ten retirees came to assist on Election Day. Secondly, out of the four the FOP endorsed, two lost outright and two (including the Mayor's position) were in runoffs where the Miami Herald endorsed their opponents. President JENKINS reports the two candidates that did win have already contacted him to express their willingness to cooperate with the FOP. In the runoffs, we lost again, including the Mayors race where the winner, Matti Herrera BOWER said on television during her campaign that Police Officers were overpaid earning over \$100,000 a year.



Fred WOOLDRIDGE e-mailed pictures of the USS Vicksburg, a nuclear cruiser, escorting the Aircraft Carrier USS Enterprise. Fred's son is a Captain on the Vicksburg.

Phil KROMSKY writing from Vegas, says he and his wife love it there and cannot imagine living anyplace else. This is a great time of the year, here as it is cool at night (50's) and daytime in the 70's. There is always something to do, and they try to attract local people to do things, as they don't want to just have tourists and other visitors at shows and restaurants. He last saw Mickey KABAKOFF, who he's known since they were 12 years old, at Thanksgiving last year. He sent a picture of his home (above) taken in the snow last December 19<sup>th</sup>. It's the desert, and there are palm trees and cactus plants covered by snow. Also there is a double rainbow behind his house. See picture below. Phil is not working, and hasn't worked since retiring in 1999. He has worked since he was 14(father deceased, single parent home). They have traveled throughout the United States, and friends and family keep visiting the area, and he takes them to places in town besides the Strip.

## General Board Meeting

The General Board Meeting was held November 15<sup>th</sup> at Las Vegas Restaurant. Attending President Joe BROWNLOW, Secretary Vincent APRILE, Treasurer Charles SERAYDAR, Trustees Billy O'NEILL and Fred WALDER, Also present Jim BURNETTE, Lisa NEWLAND, Stanley STEINBRECHER, Art SCHICKLER and Shelly GOLDSTEEIN.

Minutes of last meeting waved. Treasurer reported balance is \$12, 515. Invitation Letters to our annual dinner were sent to Chief NORIEGA, pension board, PAL and FOP. Also a letter of congratulations was sent to Carlos NORIEGA on his promotion to Chief.

## Dues

For those who insist on paying instead of payroll deduction, dues are due on January first. This is the first year we are making those over 80 years of age, life members not paying dues. Not paying dues, according to my papers, are Gene ADDIS, Bert BERNSTEIN, Dick CARACAS, Bud DAWSON, Mel GARVEY, Lou GUTTMAN, Phil JOHNSON, Sandy KOHAN, Ozzie KRUIDENIER, Milt LEWIS, Harold MANGELS, Bill MURRAY, Earl OSTREICHER, Herman PRESS, Dick PROCYK, Dave RICHARDS, Ted SCHEMP, Art SCHICKLER, Chuck SPAGNOLA, Stan STEINBRECHER, Jack WEBB, Jesse WEBB, and William WEBB.

## Death

Julian QUIROS who would have been 59 in December, passed away at his home. He had served from 1972 to 1991. Services and burial were private.

Also, Andrey Marsh, widow of Jesse MARSH.

## Sick Bay

Don HASLEY is recovering from a hernia operation. After many months of trying to sell his house, he was given a statute of St Joseph and as dictated by Irish Catholic lore, buried it and recited the required prayer. He swears he then went into his home to answer a ringing phone. The party was calling to acknowledge they were going to buy his house. His new address 8920 Sunrise lakes Blvd #206, Sunrise FL 33322, phone 954 742 5745. Cell is the same e-mail [hasley@bellsouth.net](mailto:hasley@bellsouth.net)



South Florida newspapers wrote up the arrest of a suspect in the killing of a Philadelphia Officer. The Officer had entered a doughnut store to get his morning coffee, walked into an armed robbery. The suspect turned around, shot the officer killing him instantly, and then fled after taking the officers gun. Somehow, the Philadelphia Department identified the subject and secured a warrant for his arrest. He was arrested here in South Florida days later. What the local papers did not reveal was this shooting was the third officer shot in four days in the city of Philadelphia. Also within days of writing this article, two more Officers were shot by a teenager. Here in Broward two deputies have been killed in the past three months. In the State of Florida seven Officers have been killed. 63 throughout the country. According the American Hall of Fame in Titusville, the number of Law Enforcement Officers shot this year is 40% over last year. Now the Supreme Court is considering hearing an appeal on Washington D C 's ban on guns.

## FOP picnic

I remember when the FOP complained no one attended their picnics. Not so this year, as over 150 officers, grandparents, sons and daughters, and grandchildren attended this year's picnic at CB Smith Park. An abundance of food, two kegs of beer, a bounce house, free face painting for smaller children, and free ice cream, all was available to those that attended. In the two hours I was there, Retirees attending were Bernie WINER, (on a crutch after having a recent successful total knee replacement); Al BOZA, with his children and grandchildren; Paul MARCUS; Don FREEMAN; Pat DEVANEY; Michael PUTZ (how many ways can you spell PUTZ); Bill GODFREY, Richard PELOSI, and newly retired Don McGAVERN. Charlie SERAYDAR attended with his children, after viewing the implosion of the old AMERICANA HOTEL. He reported people watched from the roof of the shopping center across the street. He added that Chief Tom HUNKER catered to those watching from that viewpoint to coffee and bagels. Good PR Tom.

## Wall of Honor

The Wall of Honor Ceremony will be held on March 26<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM with free lunch at the PAL building after. President BROWNLOW again urged members to attend. Most years the active officers outnumbered the retirees attending. One reason for the better attendance last year was an individual letter of invitation sent by Chief DeLUCCA.

APRILE advised he had spoken to Celia LOCKE about the \$3,000 retiree benefit for health insurance, and the attorney's are checking to see how it needs to be put on our 1099's or W-4 form. Names of members reaching or over the age of 80 will be sent to the Pension Office.

President BROWNLOW advised nominations, elections and installations of offices will take place at our Holiday Dinner, December 9<sup>th</sup>. Organization will pick up the difference between the \$30 we charge and the actual dinner expense.

## Birthdays

Before I name those born in December, if I haven't listed your birthday please call or notify me somehow. Tommy DAVIS who has been a member for years, called to let me know I never listed him. Thelma JASSER I aged twice a year as I had her down and announced her birthday two different months. Derby BRENNAN (the greatest con man I know), Les FORSYTHE, Mel GARVEY, Bill GOODMAN Robert HANLON, Tony HOLT, Jason KSALTIDES, lovely Joan DONNELLY OCHOA, Ted SCHEMPP, Bill TEASDALE, Gene TOREKY, Carl WARD (GOOD PREACHER, LOUSY DRIVER), Robert WILLIAMS and the one and only yours truly (still not eligible for free dues).



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## Retiree news...

James HARRIS was born at Jackson Memorial in October of 1957. He grew up in north Dade County, attending Carol City High School where he played Junior and Varsity football, and was All County Star in Track. After graduating in 1979, he attended Miami-Dade North, again starring in Track. After getting his Associate Degree, he was given a football scholarship at Austin Peay College in Tennessee, graduating in 1998. From 1981 to 94 he was Recreation Director at the Scott Rakow Center. He then applied to the Police department and was hired in 1994, then worked Patrol until his retirement.



James met Maureen, his wife of 13 years, while working out at a health club. They have a 13-year-old daughter and a 9-year-old son. James has been hired by Miami Gardens department, who will take over the policing of that City from Miami-Dade on December 16<sup>th</sup>. He hopes to serve there long enough to earn a second pension. His address P O Box 190973, Miami Beach 33119, phone 305 305 8964

Two additions to the mailing list. First, Sharon GROVES widow, of Steve Groves who served from 1967 to 1999. One of their sons is on what I call Miami Beach North (Pembroke Pines) due to the number of sons and daughters of Beach Officers.

Larrie BLASBERG, who we've written about in the past two letters. His family owned the Blasberg funeral home at 71<sup>st</sup> street and Abbott Ave. Numerous motormen ran escorts for them. He asks we pass on his feelings of THANKS FOR ALL THE YEARS YOU PROTECTED US. THOSE DAYS WERE REALLY GREAT ON THE BEACH, ARLENE AND LARRIE BLASBERG..

## Vinny's Breakfast

The breakfast had more members attending than the Board Meeting. Besides Vinny, Fred WALDER, Charlie SERAYDAR, Ellen ROELOFS, Richie PELOSI, Pat RYAN, Billie O'NEILL, Alan SKOLNICK, Don HASLEY, newcomer Cathy TIGHE, and active Officers FOP President Bobby JENKINS and Lt. Sam GAM. After breakfast Vinny, Ellen and Richie walked out and met active Sgt Paul LUPIEN and new retiree Tom LEDERMAN going for lunch.

RETIREE Danny REID was born in Harlem in March of 1955. He attended Catholic Elementary and High Schools, running track in High School winning, a silver medal one time. After graduation, he attended Hunter College for a year, then worked eight years in a hardware store. He applied for the New York Police department, taking the test with 60,000 applicants, 20,000 passing and only 1,000 being hired. A friend with the Boston Police department told him Miami Beach was hiring, so he took the test for the Beach also. The Beach called first, so in March of 1982 he moved here. His class at the Academy, was half Dade County and half Miami Beach with most being transfers from Boston. Bob FITZPATRICK was the class advisor. When he came to Patrol, Bobby JENKINS was one of his FTOs. He worked patrol from 1982 through 1987 when he was transferred to the Juvenile Bureau under Art GANZ. He remained there for four years until he was promoted to Sergeant in 1991, and returned to Patrol. He was then assigned to IA for six years. In 1997, he was promoted to Lieutenant, and returned to Afternoon Patrol. In 2001, he was promoted to Captain in charge of the Administration Bureau which included payroll, training and off duty work. When the City realized they had so many private security guards working for the City, they transferred Danny to City Hall putting him in charge of those security people, where he remained until his retirement. Born into a large family with two brothers and three sisters, his mother and one sister moved down to be with him. He has been married to Melanie for 18 years. They have a 15-year-old son. Asked his future plans, he voiced the possibility of moving to San Antonio where his wife has employment opportunities

At least three retirees e-mailed me on the book "Sins of South Beach," written by three-time mayor of Miami Beach, Alex DAOUD who went to prison on corruption charges. In the book he supposedly names other politicians who were also corrupt. He also names police officers that he assisted in giving "Attitude adjustment sessions" that consisted of rounding up Marielitos who were known preps and beating the hell out of them. The review sent to me named two retired officers who say were not involved, but expressed sadness for Alex. I have been loaned the book and plan to read it while on a cruise the first week of December.

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## Help!

FLORIS SAX does anyone know where she is. Last month's letter was returned, "does not live here." She was in an attended living facility, but I don't know where she is now.



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