

# MIAMI BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT

[WWW.MBPDRETIRES.COM](http://WWW.MBPDRETIRES.COM)



## Inside the October Issue.....

Sam's Corner  
"A Collection of  
Disorganized  
Thoughts" 1,2  
& 4

News and  
Birthdays 3

2010 Tour De  
Force 9/11  
Memorial Bike  
Ride 4

News Capsules 5

Newsletter  
Exclusive! 6

Holiday Party 7

Sponsors/Ads 8



# MBPD RETIREE NEWS

"Unity is strength for a better retirement"

October 2010 Issue

## Sam's Corner - "A Collection of Disorganized Thoughts"

As part of my periodic self-assessment and quality control program, I have gone back approximately six months and reviewed my column. It appears that the thoughts I have put to paper have been becoming increasingly organized. This situation is totally unacceptable, and because of this I have been forced to issue myself a written reprimand, which I of course immediately reduced to a verbal letter of counseling. This is not unusual, since I wrote myself up once when I was a sergeant. When the matter finally came to the attention of then Chief Don De Lucca, he dropped the whole thing. I guess he figured anyone nuts enough to write themselves up deserves a break.

Be that as it may, let's change gears and talk about something that's been bugging me for some time and I have to get it off my chest. Yes, it has to do with police work, and I know a lot of you don't like to read about cop stuff anymore, but please! Please! Let me get this off my chest! It's about this business with all of these police involved shootings in Miami. Those of you who do not live around here can skip this part if you'd like and thank your lucky stars, unless you're interested in

what I have to say.

First of all, let me say at the outset that I have no problem with these police involved shootings whatsoever. What bugs me is all of these politicians, residents, and so-called "community activists" that are coming out of the woodwork to criticize the police when they have absolutely no idea what they're talking about.

Furthermore, it irks me when news crews interview family members and so-called witnesses who almost always announce that the police had no right to shoot. How about this one? A guy gets caught committing an armed robbery. The officer pulls up and the bad guy points a gun at the officer. Officer shoots bad guy. Bad guy dead! End of story? Of course not! Half the neighborhood turns out for a candle-light vigil for this low life! A reverend appears and proceeds to initiate an impromptu news conference declaring that the "police have to stop shooting our young people". Makes sense right? Now this is not a new concept, this stuff

has been going on forever. I was not even going to write about this until I checked The Miami Herald website and saw a fresh article in there about this very subject.

It seems that a "Blue Ribbon Panel" with members of the State Attorney's Office was created to investigate the four recent fatal Miami PD police-involved shootings. The panel was created by a city commissioner. The chairman, Larry Handfield, stated the following: "We want to prevent these unnecessary shootings moving forward". That's an exact quote according to the Her-

ald. What!? What the heck does that mean? Does that mean what I think it means? Wait a minute; I don't know what that means.

This guy, an Assistant Dade County State Attorney is basically saying the shootings were not necessary before the investigations are actually finished. What do you think it means?



*Continued on pg 2*

## Vinny's Breakfast...On September 17, 2010 a breakfast was held at

Lester's Diner in Sunrise with 15 people attending. Retirees attending were Pat Ryan, Billy Rosenstein, Vinny Aprile, Alan Skolnick, Fred Walder, Charlie Seraydar, Carlos Devarona, Wally Neumann, Bobby Jenkins, Paul Lupien, Tommy Lederman, Don Hasley, Jimmy Scarberry and Scott Lowe. Also, active Officer Pat Quinlan.



## A Collection of Disorganized Thoughts.....

*Continued from pg 1*

Like I said, I wasn't even going to write about this stuff, but you know something? It's outrageous; but, look on the bright side, we are retired, well, some of us anyway and we really don't, for the most part have to worry about this stuff anymore.

But you can't help feeling for the folks who are looking at 10, 15, or 20 more years. I'm sure they love their jobs as much as we did and are pretty much used to the routine; but times have certainly changed, and I think the job is much, much harder now that it has ever been. My best to the active duty officers, may God always watch over them.



Ok, time to put police talk aside. I know you're dying to hear about my great adventure, my road trip, my vacation. As I said last month, I decided after years of not having a decent vacation, I decided to do something I had been dreaming about for a long time; take a long road trip all over the country. That's exactly what I did and I just got back! I'm happy to say that surprisingly, my trip went exactly according to plan. My only regret is that I did not get to visit everyone I wanted to visit due to time (and money) constraints.

I had to cut my friends throughout Tennessee, western North Carolina, and north Georgia out of my itinerary. I also had friends in northern New York State and the west coast of

Florida that I could not visit. Because this was a month long trip, I had to carefully plan my route to make things as smooth as possible. I suspect that my next road trip (oh man I gotta do this again!) will include all those folks I missed on this one.

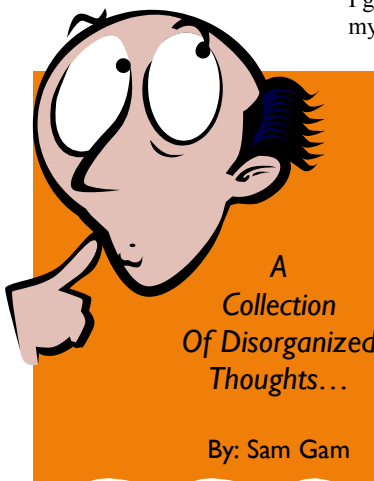
On this trip, I logged exactly 8,046 trouble free miles on my 2008 Toyota Tundra. What a great traveling truck! Except for the fact that the best mileage I could squeeze out it was 17.5 miles per gallon, the truck ran incredibly great. Despite that fact that in some areas of the country, especially the west, regular gas is only 85 octane; I was pleased to see that the truck ran smoothly, even with "low octane" gas. My engine is a 5.7 V-8. I've got a friend who owns a Dodge Ram with the "Hemi" motor of the same size, but *he* has to put premium gas in his truck. That can get very expensive.

The first stop of my trip was Tallahassee, where I spent of couple of days with retired Sgt. Bill Maxwell and his girlfriend. Bill has a beautiful house on a lake with an acre of property in suburban Tallahassee. When he retired and relocated, he had planned on perhaps going back to work. His plans did not come to fruition. He doesn't have the time. With a pretty girlfriend and a hobby (fine woodworking) that take up most of his free time, a job would simply just get in the way.

One of the highlights of my stop in Tallahassee was the side trip we took to Monticello, Florida. Monticello is an old southern Florida town that froze in time. With old houses, bed and break-

fasts, and moss hanging from trees, Monticello was very interesting. I don't think I could live there, the pace is just too slow, but what a place to visit!

It was Friday night; Maxwell and his girl invited me to American Legion Hall in Monticello



for the weekly dance. I don't dance, so I sat there with my bottled water and watched everybody else dance. Several live bands played mostly classic country tunes as local residents; some in their 90's danced the night away. I found myself thinking that this is a part of America that many people never get to see. I'm glad I had a front seat to it.

The next leg of my trip led me northwest to Dothan, Alabama. It was there where I spent time with my friends Barry and his wife. I've known Barry for over 30 years. He was one of my first FTO's in Biscayne Park when I was starting out in police work at the ripe young age of 19. He eventually became police chief. He then retired and joined the newly created Sunny Isles Police Department until he retired as a sergeant a couple of years ago. It

was quite warm in Dothan during the day but cooled down at night to a comfortable temperature, especially for early September.

We spent most of the two days I was visiting in his above ground pool. I was pleased to note that the water didn't empty out when I got in. One night, I showed off my cooking skills by baking lasagna, probably one of the best I've ever done. It was gone in 2 days. Dothan is a busy town but somewhat economically depressed. It was sad to see many businesses closed down. It's not a particularly good looking place until you get off the main drag, which is basically a big circle that goes around the entire city. There are beautiful old homes in many parts of the city that are well built and quite inexpensive right now. Alabama is not a bad place to retire. Taxes and insurance are low and I'm told that retirees who receive government type pensions (such as MBPD) are not subject to state income taxes.

I said goodbye to my friends in Dothan and headed south toward I-10 for the long trip across the USA. This part of the trip was probably the most boring, especially the eastern Texas part. I'm not going to kid you, eastern Texas along I-10 is just plain ugly. I couldn't wait to get out of there. Once I got past El Paso, TX on the western side, the road opened up (speed limit 75), and the scenery improved substantially. There were mountains and of course, the desert.



*Continued on pg 4*

## Medical News...

### **Important Health Trust Member Information from MBFOTHT Chairman Gary Kluger !!**

Within the next 2 weeks, you will be receiving packets for the Health Trust Mandatory re-enrollment. When the paper work comes in the mail **DO NOT** throw it away. Read it and follow the instructions in order to avoid loss of coverage. Re-enrollment dates will be October 18th-November 19th.

This re-enrollment is in lieu of an audit to verify member status. Too many members have divorced and too many children are no longer eligible and we have not been advised. Not to mention everyone

who has moved and not advised us of their new addresses.

Isabel Gonzalez and Maria Mulet from ASI will be available to assist every step of the way. They will also be coming to the station in person several times over the 4 week period. Most likely, several Mondays & Thursdays (but not all).

They are also available by phone and email as listed. In fact, e-mail is a good way to send in some of the required documents if you have them scanned or the ability to

scan them yourself.

Maria Mulet can be reached at 305-595-4040 Ext. 1080. Her e-mail address is: [mmulet@abpa.com](mailto:mmulet@abpa.com). Isabel Gonzalez can be reached at the same phone number, extension 1100. Her e-mail address is [igonzalez@abpa.com](mailto:igonzalez@abpa.com).

PS: If you know of any retirees who are not getting this, please have them forward their email address to me and I will add them to my list (Trust members only)....



## **General Membership Meeting**

**DATE: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20 AT 12:00 NOON**

**LOCATION: BIG TOMATO MARKET GRILL,**

**ADDRESS: 8300 PINES BLVD. PEMBROKE PINES**

**COST: \$15.00 PER PERSON**

**RSVP: JOAN (954)554-4984 OR LYNDIA (786)367-7744**



Gene Addis, Doug Bales, Joe Basler, Jeff Bernstein, Andy Caputo, Richard Caracaus, Mario Cappelletti, John Clements, Kenny Chapman, Tom Davis, Kenneth Dudenhofer, Norvel (Ray) Duncan, Robert Frame, Samuel Gam, Dennis Godbold, Shelly Goldstein,

Mike Grant, LeeAnn Gutierrez, James Harris, Robert Hundevadt, Jack Mackie, John Moore, Romilio Perez, Tony Pizzo, Dick Procyk, John Quiros, Ellen Roelofs, Tony Sammarco, Andy Soto, Loretta Wein, Tom Wilson, Ed Young, Dennis White, Gerald Wolff



## A Collection of Disorganized Thoughts.....

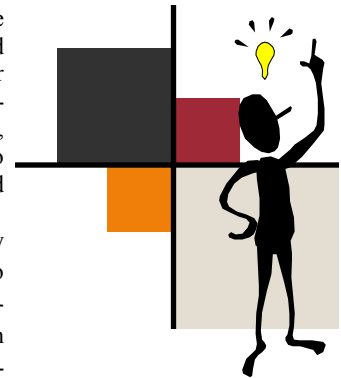
*Continued from pg 2*

I-10 winded its way up into Las Cruces, New Mexico. It wasn't long before I crossed into Arizona. As you might imagine, the area around the border is saturated with law enforcement; Border Patrol, highway patrol, and sheriff's cars are plentiful. At one point on I-10 soon after entering Arizona, every car on the road was funneled into a Border Patrol checkpoint. There were at least 6 agents on each side of my car, one with a K-9 as I stopped at the checkpoint. I was asked two ques-



tions; "Are you a U.S. Citizen?" And "where are you going?" I answered both questions as honestly as possible and was released to cruise the country. Part of me felt sort of funny, perhaps violated. But then I slapped myself, and reminded myself that these checkpoints are unfortunately necessary, especially in today's world. Those officers were also working in very harsh conditions. The checkpoint was covered, but it

was still in a hot, dusty, and sandy area. They didn't have the benefit of air conditioning and were no doubt on their feet for many hours carefully and tediously looking at cars, drivers, talking to people and trying to watch out for themselves and their partners. Kudos to them! I have much, much more to say about my trip, but it'll have to wait until the next issue. Hopefully cooler weather will be on its way soon for us South Floridians; and, hopefully hurricane season will quietly die out without further fanfare. Stay well my friends!



Tune in next month for more *Disorganized Thoughts!*

## 2010 TOUR DE FORCE 9/11 MEMORIAL BIKE RIDE

On September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010, five members of the Miami Beach Police Department embarked on a four day, 275 mile bike ride from the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia to "Ground Zero" in New York City as part of the 2010 Tour De Force Memorial Bike Ride.

The Tour De Force Bike Ride was created in 2002 to honor the fallen police officers who lost their lives in the September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001 terrorist attacks. It is now an annual event consisting of over 150 law enforcement officers from around the country and abroad who each must raise a minimum of \$1000.00 in donations to participate.

With help from the FOP, Hispanic Officers Association, and the Miami Beach Police Retiree Association, the team was able to achieve their goal of raising \$5,200.00. On behalf of team members Sergio Campos, Charlie London (soon to be a captain), Rick Lonergan, Bill Riley, and Manny Valdes, we received a hearty thanks and expression of appreciation from Sgt. Bernie Ruder. Glad we could help!

By the way, Bernie wanted us to know that JetBlue donated airfare and bike transportation for eight riders from South Florida. He wanted us to pass this information along to the members so YOU know of JetBlue's generosity and support of law enforcement.



You can view pictures of the ride on their website:  
[www.tourdeforce911.com](http://www.tourdeforce911.com)

L-R: Sergio Campos, Bill Riley, Rick Lonergan, Bernie Ruder, Manny Valdes, Charlie London

## NEWS CAPSULES

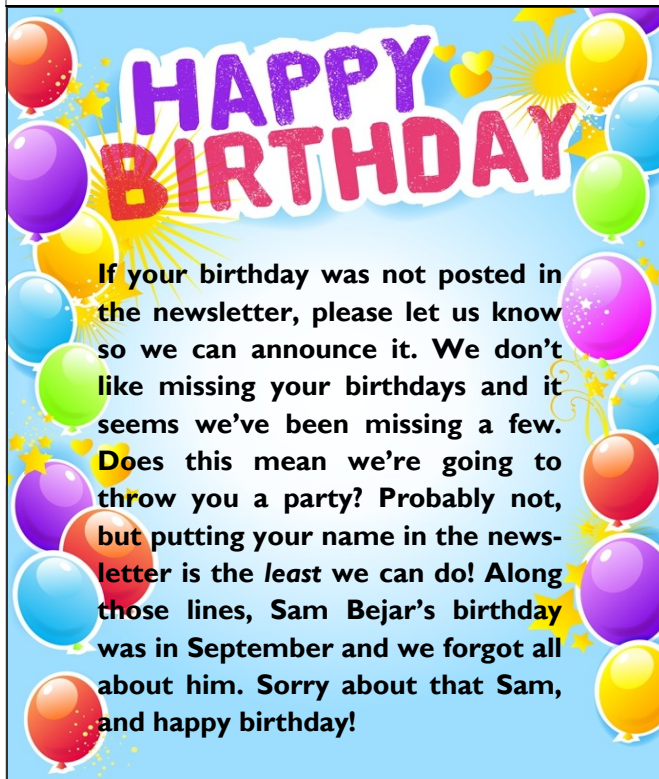
### IN MEMORIAM



Unfortunately, we have three deaths to report; Joyce Blitch, wife of Retired Sergeant James Blitch passed away. Services were held in Arcadia, Florida. Re-

tired Lt. Lou Gutman passed away on Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. He was 85 years old. Services were held on September 8<sup>th</sup>. Retired civilian employee Estrella Pena passed away after a year-long battle with cancer. Services for Estrella were held in Miami, Florida on September 18<sup>th</sup>. On a personal note, during a stint in Services Division many years ago, my office was close to hers. Estrella was sweet and soft spoken. Always a smile and a kind word for everyone. She will be missed.

Please join me passing on our thoughts, prayers, and condolences to the families and friends of those we lost in September.



If your birthday was not posted in the newsletter, please let us know so we can announce it. We don't like missing your birthdays and it seems we've been missing a few. Does this mean we're going to throw you a party? Probably not, but putting your name in the newsletter is the *least* we can do! Along those lines, Sam Bejar's birthday was in September and we forgot all about him. Sorry about that Sam, and happy birthday!

### RETIREMENTS

Three of MBPD's finest hung up their uniforms for the last time in September.

Captain Bobby Dorigo, Lt.

George Lerra, and

Sgt. Ron McHugh, said goodbye and have started new chapters in their lives. Unfortunately, I was traveling and was unable to go to George's party, I'm sure it was a hoot. I enjoyed working with all three of these guys and I wish them nothing but the best! If anyone has stories to share about these or any other retirees, please feel free e-mail me so you can get your "15 minutes of fame". My e-mail address once again is

[sam0444@yahoo.com](mailto:sam0444@yahoo.com).



Retiring Lt. George Lerra being honored with "special awards" at a City Commission Meeting.

## Captain Nathan James Siegendorf , Newsletter EXCLUSIVE!!

My name is Shelley Spears. My maiden name is Shelley Siegendorf, daughter of Captain Nathan James Siegendorf, who retired from the Miami Beach Police Department in 1970. Nathan was with the Miami Beach Police Department for 35 years.

Recently, I received the July, 2010 issue of your MBPD Retiree News. My brother Arden Siegendorf sent it to me. He received it from another department retiree. Since I was only 18 years old when he passed away, I have very little information about his career on the police force, but I do have some great articles and stories along with my brother Arden. It is ironic that your retiree newsletter from July, 2010 was released on the anniversary of his death, July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1975 and featured "The greatest shot ever" and that my dad was mentioned in that article. At that time my father was a Lieutenant when this particular incident occurred. I have a granddaughter now and want to show her that article when she is old enough to understand, so she can be as proud of her great

grandfather as I am of my dad. It seems people are too busy these days to share even basic things; so, to be able to share our stories of not only our loved ones, but those who made a difference in our community to people who are interested and care touches my heart!

### Exclusive

I have some great pictures of the M.B.P.D.'s 2nd location, The Sheridan Theater. There are pictures of policemen standing in front of that theater. I even have a picture from the 1940's of my dad writing a ticket on 71st street and Collins Ave. Terrific uniforms!!!! (We will make arrangements to obtain those pictures and post them in an upcoming newsletter.

- The Miami Beach PD Retiree Association would like to thank Shelley for her kind words, and for taking the time to share a piece of department history with us. If anyone wishes to contact her, her e-mail address is: [flsummerain@yahoo.com](mailto:flsummerain@yahoo.com).

## HERMAN®

Comic Strip



9-1

© Jim Unger/dist. by United Media, 1997

**"Take it easy with him – his wife just had triplets."**



## MBPD RETIREE'S ASSOCIATION ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

Mark your calendars and plan on attending the **MBPD Retirees Annual Holiday Party**. This year, the party will be held in the beautiful *Treetop Ballroom* at *Jungle Island*. *Jungle Island* is on the North side of the *MacArthur Causeway*, just prior to entering the *City of Miami Beach*.

Date: **December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2010** Time: **6:00 P.M. until 10:00 P.M.** With a cocktail hour from 6:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.  
Cost: **\$30.00 per person.**



### Menu selections include:

**Starters:** The Sunset Buffet, a selection of international cheeses and tropical fruit garnish, mixed wild field greens, classic Caesar salad with parmesan, fresh mozzarella with plum tomatoes, marinated mushrooms.

**Entrees:** Grilled salmon or mahi-mahi, "the freshest catch of the day", roast sirloin of beef with hunters sauce, chicken piccata, garden fresh vegetable, rice pilaf, and special potatoes with a really fancy name that I can't even pronounce.

**Dessert:** Apple strudel, banana bread pudding, key lime squares, double chocolate-chocolate cake.

**R.S.V.P. by  
NOVEMBER 25th,  
2010**

Send your checks made out to the **Miami Beach Police Retirees Association** to **Charlie Seraydar, 5701 SW 134th Avenue, Southwest Ranches, Florida, 33330.**

**Come and Join Your Friends and Celebrate the Holidays!**

### Mortgage Rates in the Mid 4% Range!

- 30 Year rates (and APRs) are in the mid 4% range.
- 15 Year rates (and APRs) are in the low, low 4% range.
- Interest rates of course will vary based on credit score, loan to value, type of mortgage, etc. but we are consistently closing loans with great rates.
- If you or anyone you know are purchasing or might benefit from refinancing, please call Dean Adler on his cell at (954)558-0302. See Dean's ad on the last page of newsletter.



## Basler's Academy of Real Estate

1685 West 68th Street  
Suites 205, 206, 207  
Hialeah, FL 33014  
(305)828-2669



**Antoinette Basler** Instructor- Permit Holder

PERSONAL INJURY - MEDICAL MAL-PRACTICE

**ATTORNEY CHARLES APPEL, PLLC**

*10 years experience*

8925 SW 148 Street  
Suite 200  
Miami, FL 33176

Tel: 305.256.8191  
Fax: 305.256.8171  
Cell: 305.724.8128

*Law Offices*

**LAURENCE FEINGOLD**

Professional Association  
(Former City Attorney)

FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION TO  
ALL MBPD RETIREES  
407 LINCOLN ROAD, SUITE 708- MIAMI BCH., FL 33139  
DADE (305)538-1686 FAX (305)538-7875

**ROSEN SWITKES & ENTIN P.L.**

**ROBERT L. SWITKES**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

407 LINCOLN RD., PENTHOUSE SE  
MIAMI BEACH, FL 33139  
TELEPHONE: 305-534-4757  
FACSIMILE: 305-538-5504

110 SE 6 ST., STE#1970  
FT. LAUDERDALE, FL 33301  
TELEPHONE: 954-653-0457  
FACSIMILE: 305-538-5504

RSWITKES@ROSENANDSWITKES.COM  
WWW.ROSENANDSWITKES.COM

**JOAN DONNELLY OCHOA**  
REALTOR



**ESSLINGER . WOOTEN. MAXWELL, INC., REALTORS**

2000 MAIN STREET, WESTON, FL 33326-3691  
CELL: 954-554-4895 OFFICE: 954-515-0100  
FAX: 954-515-0200 DIRECT: 954-659-1050  
OCHOA.J@EWM.COM  
WWW.JOANOCHOAREALTOR.COM

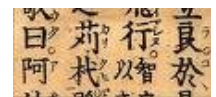
The Fred Wooldridge you never knew  
Read His book...

**"I'm Moving Back to Mars"**

Buy it from your local book store,  
Amazon, Barnes and Noble or Borders



When rookie South Beach  
Police Officer Katie Maguire  
agreed to work undercover, the  
exceptionally tall and attrac-  
tive woman had no idea what  
was in store for her. Follow  
the adventures of our uniquely  
gifted heroine as she journeys  
along her destiny's path.



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

**Gerry Mackey - Author**  
E-Mail: Mackyg2007@yahoo.com

Available at:  
Amazon.com, Barnesandnoble.com

