President's Message

by David Muir

We’ve been writing about a proposed pension reform initiative that former San Jose mayor Chuck Reed and former San Diego Councilmember Carl DeMaio have been trying to qualify for the ballot. Their first two attempts failed after the California Attorney General issued summaries of the proposals that would be printed in the ballot. Reed and DeMaio contended the summaries were unfair. Their lawsuit in 2014 against the Attorney General to force changes was unsuccessful and they abandoned their second proposal without challenging the Attorney General.

Reed and DeMaio are now on their third attempt – this time submitting two separate initiative proposals - one entitled the “Voter Empowerment Act of 2016,” and the other the “Government Pension Cap Act of 2016.”

The Voter Empowerment Act of 2016 seeks to accomplish several things:

• Ban traditional defined benefit plans for employees hired after 2018, unless approved by the voters in the jurisdiction.
• Prohibit employers from paying more than half the total cost of benefits for employees hired after 2018, unless approved by the voters.
• Prohibit benefit enhancements for any employee, unless approved by the voters.

The Government Pension Cap Act would require employees to pay half the total cost of their retirement benefits and would prohibit the government from paying, as its share, more than a designated percentage of base compensation, 11% for general members and 13% for safety members.

The good news: Nothing in the proposals would impact benefits being received by current retirees.

As the 2015 year comes to a close, I join with the members of the RELAC Board of Directors in extending our best wishes for the holiday season. And please save the date for our annual Recognition Luncheon to be held at Almansor Court on January 28th. Our featured speaker will be the honorable Los Angeles District Attorney Jackie Lacey. A sell out crowd is expected.

INSIDE THE NEWSLETTER

January is the month for RELAC’s annual Recognition Luncheon. It’s not too early to sign up for the big 2016 event. The registration form and all of the information can be found on page three.

On PAGE 12 are a number of proposed Amendments to RELAC’s Bylaws. The Board of Directors is asking our members who attend the General Membership Meeting in Diamond Bar on December 10, 2015 to vote on the proposed amendments. All RELAC’s members are invited to attend the meeting and cast their votes. The details of the meeting are on the Back Page.

RELAC continues to urge the U.S. Congress to pass legislation to provide that public employee retirees who have earned Social Security benefits will receive their full benefit along with whatever pensions they receive from their public employer. RELAC’s President David Muir’s letter to Paul Ryan, Chairman of House Ways and Means Committee, is on page eight.

Bulletin

RELAC DIRECTORS ELECTED TO ADDITIONAL 3-YEAR TERMS

Congratulations to the following RELAC Directors who have been automatically elected to serve another 3-year term:

Donald J. Fandry
Alice Prouty
Mary K. Rodriguez
Diane Sandoval
Jason H. Williams

RELAC’s Board of Directors endorsed the above incumbents as a slate for re-election. RELAC’s Bylaws provided that if no person files nomination papers to be a candidate in the election, the endorsed slate shall be deemed elected. There were no nomination papers filed. The above incumbents continue to do a fantastic job as Directors and as Chairs of various committees. We heartily welcome them back to serve you for another term.
PARTNERING -
A Huge Asset in RELAC’s
Recruitment Efforts
by Jason H. Williams, Chair Membership/Recruitment Committee

As 2015 draws to a close, I thought that our members would be interested in learning about one of the much less discussed yet important aspects of our committee’s recruitment efforts: Partnering with other organizations.

Throughout the year, we’ve partnered with LACERA, Pacific Group Agencies (PGA) and The Los Angeles County Management Council (LACMC). Our committee has worked closely with LACERA on various issues, including advice on recruitment strategies and quarterly & biennial mass mailings to LACERA retirees. PGA has also played an important role by collaborating with our committee on the above mailings and as presenters at RELAC’s three sponsored Pre-Retirement Seminars in 2015.

The LACMC has partnered with RELAC by allowing us to make brief remarks, to encourage active employees near retirement to join our organization, at LACMC’s monthly Educational Seminars.

At the Council’s October 1, 2015 Fall Educational Conference, held at the Hilton Los Angeles Universal City, I was given the opportunity to address more than 230 of Los Angeles County’s managers about RELAC. I explained that every manager, and non-manager alike who is close to retirement, should join RELAC, not just for the social, recreational or insurance benefits of joining, but because of the advocacy role RELAC plays in protecting the hard-earned pension and health care benefits of all Los Angeles County retirees. I emphasized that RELAC is “Their Pension and Health Care Watchdog.”

Steven Golightly, President of the LACMC, moderates a Department Head panel of Jeffrey Prang, County Assessor, Brian Stiger, Consumer Affairs, Marcia Mayeda, Animal Care & Control and Jerry Powers, Chief Probation Officer.

Creation of the Los Angeles County Health Agency to oversee the Departments of Health Services, Public Health and Mental Health is the latest organizational change approved by the Board of Supervisors, with the hope the consolidation will cut red tape, increase efficiencies and improve the quality of health care. It is not exactly a new idea – after all, the three functions were once part of the same department – but has a twist. Health, Public Health and Mental Health will continue to operate as Departments – with the Supervisors...
All members and their spouses and guests are invited to RELAC’s Annual Recognition Luncheon being held Thursday, January 28, 2016 Almansor Court, 700 South Almansor Street, Alhambra, CA.

Meal costs are being subsidized approximately 25% by RELAC.

Choice of Oven-Roasted Chicken or Prime Rib of Beef with salad and dessert $20.00 per luncheon ticket - tax and tip included

No Host Cocktail Hour 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Luncheon and Program 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Free Parking
Come make new friends – Have a good time!

RESERVATION FORM
ANNUAL RECOGNITION LUNCHEON THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2016

Member ___________________________________________________________________________________________________________
Spouse/Guest _______________________________________________________________________________________________________
Address ____________________________________________________________________________________________________________
City ____________________________________________________________________________ State ________ Zip ______________________
Guests __________________________________________________   __________________________________________________________

(Attach additional sheets if necessary)

A. Oven-Roasted Chicken
Member/Spouse $20.00/ea = $ _____________
Guest(s) $20.00/ea = $ _____________
TOTAL A $ _____________

B. Prime Rib of Beef
Member/Spouse $20.00/ea = $ _____________
Guest(s) $20.00/ea = $ _____________
TOTAL B $ _____________

TOTAL ENCLOSED $ _____________

Make check/money order payable to “RELAC” and mail to:
RELAC
1000 So. Fremont Ave., Unit 15, Alhambra, CA 91803-8802

NO LATER THAN JANUARY 19, 2016

We regret we are unable to refund payments on cancellations received after January 21, 2016

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: JACKIE LACEY
LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

ALSO FEATURED WILL BE
THE BILL HYLAND BAND
WITH VOCALS BY JENNIFER GATES

THE COUNTY SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT
COLOR GUARD
WILL PRESENT THE FLAGS

RELAC
Annual Recognition Luncheon
THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2016
Almansor Court, Alhambra, CA
Hello everyone! I hope everyone is enjoying their retirement.

I was looking through past articles to see what I have written about lately. I noticed that this time last year I was sharing with you that we had changed the way we process direct deposit additions and changes. The old process required members to wait almost two payroll cycles for a change to take effect. That’s because we do a pre-note test before we process a change to make sure that the account information we have is good. If the pre-note test is successful then we set the payment to go to the new direct deposit account the following payroll period. This time last year we were announcing that we would run the pre-note test process in the middle of the month (as long as the change was submitted by a cutoff date) and if the test was successful the member’s check would be deposited in the new account that same month. This was a huge advancement in the service levels we could offer members.

Well this month I went back to see how that process is doing. It turns out that it has been a very successful update to our system! Since that update we have successfully processed 5,886 direct deposit additions. Many of these changes were processed within the same month.

By the way, while not directly attributed to the change in the way we process direct deposit changes we also noted that the 5,886 changes we made represented a 42% increase over the same period from the year before. This is notable because direct deposits are the safest and easiest way for a member to receive their monthly retirement benefit. We are so happy to see members take advantage of this payment method.

I did notice another interesting number while looking at these statistics. Over the last few years we have upgraded the My LACERA member portal to allow retired members to perform certain account maintenance actions themselves online. By logging into My LACERA members can update their addresses, change their tax elections, update their beneficiary address information, and add/change or delete their direct deposit elections. What I found interesting is we added 5,886 direct deposits via the Call Center, Member Service Center, and mail, but only processed less than 20 direct deposit changes per month online.

I share this information about the number of changes through our My LACERA portal to remind everyone that this feature is out there for you to use. My LACERA is really a great tool that I like to remind everyone about every chance I get. Not only can you make those changes, but you can also download copies of your retirement check stubs and automatic deposit stubs. You can access and view your annual benefit statement. You can also get copies of your 1099-R form if you need to. Making these changes online can be done anytime of the day, save you from calling and waiting to talk to a specialist in our Call Center, save you a stamp and delays caused by mailing in a request, and completes the request immediately. It’s a tremendous resource and I really hope as many people as possible log on and use this area of our website.

In the future we plan on adding a secure messaging system to the My LACERA portal. This will allow you to communicate with LACERA via email in a secure manner. In addition, we will be exploring the delivery of things like the newsletter and other LACERA communications electronically through this secure message center. I don’t have a date for when this feature will be available but it is one of the things we are working on.

Well that’s it for this month. As always it is a pleasure to serve you. Until we chat again I wish each of you the best health, happiness, and as much fun as you can get as you enjoy your retirement.
It is difficult to believe that 2015 is almost gone. Before I begin to talk about what we have planned for 2016, I would like to thank all of you who attended the Annual RELAC Picnic on October 17, 2015. The food was fantastic - thanks to Picnic Services. The ribs fell off the bone and the chicken was juicy and flavorful.

MARK YOUR 2016 CALENDARS

Annual Recognition Luncheon - Thursday, January 28, 2016
We are kicking off the year with our annual Recognition Luncheon at the Almansor Court in Alhambra. We are pleased that District Attorney Jackie Lacey accepted our invitation to be our keynote speaker. Elected in 2012 to replace retiring Steve Cooley, she is the first woman and first African-American to serve as District Attorney since the office was established in 1850. She has been with the Department since 1986 and has received numerous awards for her outstanding work. I am sure she will have some interesting information to share with us. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. This is a popular event for us so be sure to send in your reservations early. You will notice we have increased the price to $20.00 per person. Still a bargain! I don't know about you but it seems every time I go to the grocery store I pay more for the same items I purchased the week before. RELAC continues to subsidize the cost by approximately 25%. Reservation form can be found on page three.

Lancaster/Palmdale Regional Luncheon - April 2016
RELAC is once again holding a luncheon meeting in the Lancaster/Palmdale area. Tentative dates are April 11 or April 12, 2016. Details will be provided in our next issue.

Las Vegas Luncheon Meeting - September 20, 2016
Hang on to your hats!!! RELAC is returning to the Orleans next year. Why not begin making plans to attend and make it a mini-vacation. Room rates are effective Sunday, September 18, 2016 through Wednesday, September 21, 2016. Here is all I have so far:

Lodging - RELAC negotiated a group rate of $42.00 per room, per night, for single or double occupancy. Any rooms requiring triple or quad occupancy will be surcharged an additional $15.00 per guest, per room, per night. (Children age fourteen or under, in the same room with parents in existing bedding are free.) All rates are subject to a Clark County room tax, currently 12%. This tax is subject to increase without prior notice.

Resort Fee - There is a mandatory Resort Fee - currently $12.99 per room, per day, plus tax. The Resort Fee includes in-room Wi-Fi, access to the fitness center, in-room coffee, in-room safe, unlimited local and 800 calls as well as free Wi-Fi in Java Vegas Coffee Shop and High Speed Internet access in their Business Center. The Resort Fee and its inclusions are subject to increase without prior notice.

Continued on p. 6
Check-In/Check-Out - Check-in begins at 3:00 p.m. Check-out time is 12:00 noon. Photo identification will be required upon check-in. Upon arrival, you will be required to post a $100.00 security deposit via a credit card to secure your individual room accounts.

Reservation Process (either go on line or call the Hotel directly) - The Hotel's website is www.orleanscasino.com/groups. Be sure you enter RELAC's assigned Reservation ID which is A5REC09 in order to get the negotiated group rate. RELAC's deadline is August 19, 2016. If you prefer to call, the Hotel’s Room Reservations Department’s phone number is 800-675-3267. Please make sure you identify yourself as a member of the Retired Employees of Los Angeles County (RELAC) or give them the assigned Reservation ID which is A5REC09. Make sure you reserve your rooms prior to August 19, 2016.

This being the last issue of 2015, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of my Committee: Don Fandry, Bill de la Garza, Alice Prouty, Mary K. Rodriguez and Greg Walia for their support and dedication. The Committee is looking forward to another busy year.

Please accept my warmest wishes for a Happy, Safe Holiday Season and a Healthy, Prosperous 2016!

Parks & Recreation Director Russ Guiney has Memorable Retirement Party

by Jason H. Williams
RELAC Board Member

Russ Guiney, a new RELAC member, and his wife Pat Wright were really excited by all the accolades Russ received at his September 24, 2015 Retirement Party held at the Los Angeles County Arboretum. Russ’s Chief Deputy John Wicker did a great job as Master of Ceremonies.

Among the more than 300 guests in attendance were Los Angeles County Mayor Michael D. Antonovich, CEO Sachi A. Hamai, Public Defender Ron L. Brown, Alternate Public Defender Janice Fukai, former County CEO Bill Fujioka, Child Support Services Director Steven Golightly, Auditor-Controller John Naimo, Community & Senior Services Director Cynthia D. Banks, Children & Family Services Director Philip L. Browning, DHR Director Lisa M. Garrett, Regional Richard J. Bruckner, Control Director Acting Executive Patrick Ogawa, Chief and Tax Collector County Librarian former RELAC Board retired Judge Lance more of Russ’s co and family.

Planning Director Animal Care and Marsha Mayeda, Officer, BOS, Deputy Treasurer Keith Knox, Acting Yolanda De Ramus, Member Ida Ramos, Ito and many, many workers, friends

Regional Activities continued from p. 5

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Please accept my warmest wishes for a Happy, Safe Holiday Season and a Healthy, Prosperous 2016!
Lakewood Golf Tournament – October 5, 2015
I was out of the country for the Lakewood Tournament but I would like to thank Roger De Hann and Terry Black for carrying the ball in my absence as they ran the tournament.

The results will be posted on the RELAC website and payoffs will be sent by mail as usual. We have had a fairly good year but we still need more participation in order to improve the status of the RELAC Golf Program.

Diane and I wish to extend the best of blessings for the Holiday Season. We look forward to 2016 for a good, healthy year for all of us and RELAC in general. I will see you all at Alondra Park for the December 7, 2015 RELAC Golf Tournament. Until then, be well and safe.

NEXT TOURNAMENT
Monday, December 7, 2015
Alondra Golf Course - 8:00 a.m. Start
Entry Deadline: November 19, 2015

Partnering continued from p. 2
Key speakers at the Council’s October 1, 2015 Conference included Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, Sheriff Jim McDonnell, Les Robbins, LACERA Board of Retirement and Father Boyle of Homeboy Industries.

Our committee thanks each of the above organizations for their help in recruiting new RELAC members.

Each of our readers, as retired or active RELAC members, can always help us grow our membership by requesting and passing out membership applications to friends and current/former co-workers. Just contact the RELAC office via contact information on page 7 of this Newsletter. We thank you in advance for your referrals.
SEE'S CANDIES DISCOUNT FOR RELAC MEMBERS

Some holiday traditions are just too good to abandon! As in the past, See's Candies will honor your RELAC Membership Card to confirm eligibility for special holiday discount rates for their products. These discounts apply to pre-boxed candies of milk chocolates, dark chocolates, soft centers, assorted and nuts and chews in one pound or larger quantities. Significant discounts also apply to their fancy gift boxed candies and specialties which make great gifts for the kids!

Simply call (800) 877-7337, tell the See’s representative you are a RELAC Member, where you live, and ask for the location of the quantity order shop nearest your home. Be prepared to show your RELAC Membership Card at time of purchase. Our organization’s discount eligibility is confirmed beginning December 1, 2015 through October 31, 2016.

Our appreciation to RELAC members who helped build our membership in August and September.

Thanks to (member in bold, followed by new member): Janet Comey, Josie Jaramillo; Wanda Grant, Diane Green; Karen Lichtenberg, former County Counsel John Krattli; Denise Scales, Deborah Williams; Maureen Sicotte, Lea Ann Mitchum; Michael Taylor, Shirley Ann Davis; and Barbara Warmsley, Rose Jerusasi (active employee).

RELAC Board members Judy Hammond, former County Librarian Margaret Donnellan Todd, Director of Mental Health Marvin Southard and wife, Carolyn; Jason Williams, Alexandra Bauer, Annette Burns (active), Nancy Gonzalez (active), Deborah Guiloff (active), Eric Johnson (active), and Laura Sandoval (active).

We lost 92 members due to death in August and September, so please assist in recruiting retirees and current employees nearing retirement to join RELAC. For a membership application, call (800) 537-3522, e-mail admin@relac.org or go online at www.relac.org. We remain committed to safeguarding your pension and benefits. Help us help you.

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September 1, 2015

The Honorable Paul Ryan, Chairman
Committee on Ways and Means
U.S. House of Representatives
1106 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Subject: HR 973 (Davis)

Dear Chair Ryan:

The Retired Employees of Los Angeles County (RELAC) is a non-profit public benefit corporation representing over 18,000 retired employees of the County of Los Angeles. We are writing to urge your Committee to pass HR 973, long overdue legislation that would eliminate two (2) unfair provisions in the Social Security Act.

Many of our members are eligible for Social Security and receive substantially reduced benefits because of the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) that either reduce or eliminate Social Security payments. While covered by Social Security, our members paid into Social Security with the expectation that a significant portion of their retirement income would be covered by Social Security. Many were unaware of the GPO and WEP and now feel penalized for working on behalf of the general public in a government position.

We strongly encourage your support in passing H.R. 973. A repeal of the GPO and WEP is a matter of fairness for workers entitled to Social Security benefits. Passing this legislation will greatly help protect the Social Security benefits for the millions of individuals who serve our public through education, public safety, and other careers in public service.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Muir
President

"Hatred and anger are the greatest poison to the happiness of a good mind"
Adam Smith

Submitted by Bill de la Garza, RELAC Board Member
Ed Clifton, Coordinator of RV Club
and Jeanne Klauck, Assistant Coordinator of the RV Club

Eleven rigs were able to attend our last (September) outing at the Chula Vista RV Resort in Chula Vista. Several others were either on Caravans or otherwise unable to attend. A majority of us usually arrive a day early (on Sunday) so we can enjoy an extra day. We were hoping to find the usual cool coastal temperature we are accustomed to at that park, only to find the same humidity that we left in the Los Angeles and surrounding area. But after a couple days of that the rain (heavy drizzle) came on Tuesday and took away some of the humidity much to our relief. Although we didn’t get as much rain as we would have liked it did relieve the humidity, and hey every little bit helps right.

Our Wagonmasters, Jeanne Klauck and her mother Dorie, did their usual stellar job and everyone enjoyed the tasty breakfasts that they prepared. At our Tuesday morning (after breakfast) business meeting Joe Quintana (our club treasurer) submitted his resignation which was sadly accepted. At the same time Ron Morgan volunteered to be the new treasurer, so we thank both of them. Ron for agreeing to replace Joe, and Joe for his years of service to the club. We hope Joe and Helen will continue to be a part of our club functions.

Our Monday hors d’oeuvres and Tuesday night potluck had a lot of tasty food for all to enjoy. After our potluck the 50/50 drawing and also the gas card (donated by RELAC) was won by lucky Norm Nelson.

Our Christmas party will be held on December 3, 2015 (11:00 a.m.) at The LUXE Seafood & Grill Buffet in Ontario. If you are on our roster, a Christmas letter from RELAC will be sent with directions on how to get there.

The coupon for our January outing in Temecula at the Pechanga RV Resort follows. If anyone has any questions or needs information for any of our outings please give me (Ed) a call. If I’m not home, leave a message at 562-428-3360 and I’ll get back to you as soon as I can. Until next time stay safe.

R.V. CAMPOUT RESERVATION
CAMPGROUND: Pechanga RV Resort
45000 Pechanga Pkwy., Temecula, CA 92592
877-997-8386

DATES: January 11-12-13, 2016 - Early Date January 10, 2016

Names: ______________________________________________________________________
  (Last)                           (Retiree)                         (Spouse)
Address: ______________________________________________________________________
  (No.)         (Street)
City: __________________________________________________________________________
  (State)               (Zip)
Telephone: (             ) _____________________________

DEADLINE: DECEMBER 3, 2015
Cost: $41.00 per day = $123.00 for three days; $40.00 for each additional day = $163.00 for four days
BOOK EARLY DAY THROUGH WAGONMASTER
Make Checks payable to Max Georgi and mail to: Max Georgi
1370 Edgefield Avenue
Upland, CA 91786
Phone: 909-982-4036

Motor Home ___________Trailer_______________Length ______________
Dr. Marvin Southard Retires
By Judy Hammond
Assistant Newsletter Editor

Another loss for LA County. Another gain for RELAC. Dr. Marvin Southard, Director of Mental Health, is retiring November 6, and has joined RELAC.

Southard, head of the Department for the past 17 years, said his retirement was “not directly” related to the Board of Supervisor’s recent decision to merge the Mental Health Department with Health Services and Public Health. “There were several reasons that played into the decision, but in the end it just feels like the right time,” he said.

Southard, 66, said in retirement he plans to teach at the USC School of Social Work and help in the development of a doctorate program aimed at giving additional leadership and management skills to practitioners with a master’s degree. He also plans to spend more quality time with his family—especially his wife, Carolyn, and grandson, who is about to turn 2—and build his and Carolyn’s dream retirement house in Avila along the central coast of California. The couple will live in their Los Angeles condo in the meantime.

“I look forward to being more in charge of my schedule and how I spend my time,” he said. “What I will miss most is the dedication and commitment of the people in the Mental Health Department and other County departments as well as our community partners.”

Southard originally planned to be a Catholic priest, but two years before he was to be ordained he took a leave of absence to get his master’s of social work at UC Berkeley and never returned to seminary. He worked in substance abuse treatment for four years, then went back to school for a doctorate in social work at UCLA. While studying at UCLA he began working at a mental health clinic in East LA, eventually becoming the clinical director. Ten years later he became the County Mental Health Director in Kern County, resigning seven years later to become Mental Health Director in LA County.

Welcome to retirement, Marv, and thanks for joining RELAC.
selecting the head of each Department – but will report to the Health Agency Director, who will have the discretion of prioritizing, organizing and administering their functions. When Supervisors made Mental Health a separate Department in 1978 and Public Health in 2006, they said it would improve the delivery of services, but critics say it did just the opposite. Now, “The systems will talk to each other effectively. That hasn’t been the case,” said Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas. The new structure was working its way through required ordinance changes at the time of this writing and no one had been named to head the Health Agency, though Dr. Mitch Katz, currently the Director of Health Services, was expected to be tapped. Besides selecting a new agency head, the Board must fill vacancies created by the retirements of Public Health Director Dr. Jonathan Fielding and Mental Health Director Dr. Marvin Southard. Fielding retired last year and Southard announced his retirement, effective November 6, shortly after the Board initially approved the reorganization plan. If Katz is selected, the question then is whether he will retain his present position as well. The projected annual budget for the new position is $366,978, less than the $395,565 Katz – the highest-paid Department Head – now makes.

Antelope Valley Hospital in Lancaster has sued the County, saying it should be receiving $10 million – not $1 million – annually from Measure B property taxes, and is owed more than $100 million in back payments. Officials say the suit may jeopardize the County’s recent decision to open a trauma care center at Pomona Valley Hospital. Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas said there are a number of hospitals that are unhappy with the way the $255 million in Measure B money is distributed and the County is reviewing the distribution formula. A State audit last year said the County was not giving adequate oversight of the funds. Measure B was approved by voters in 2002 to improve trauma care at both private and public hospitals.

Sheriff Jim McDonnell is allowing immigration officers to operate inside the jails to see if any inmates are deportable, but will restrict them to interviewing only those who have been convicted of serious crimes.

Jail scandal update: Retired Capt. William “Tom” Carey plead guilty to lying on the stand and agreed to cooperate with prosecutors in the jail scandal that has already brought seven convictions for obstructing a federal investigation into excessive force and corruption in county jails. In May, Carey and former Assistant Sheriff Paul Tanaka were charged with obstruction of justice, with Carey also charged with two counts of lying during testimony in the trials of the lower-ranking sheriff officers.

Supervisor Mike Antonovich, termed out of office in 2016, will be a candidate for the State Senate, hoping to fill the 25th District seat being vacated by Carol Liu. Voter registration is only 30 percent Republican, but Antonovich said he has represented 90 percent of the district as a supervisor so has strong support.

The County’s Civil Service Commission ordered the Sheriff’s Department to rehire and give back-pay to former Sheriff’s Deputy James Mee, probably best known for arresting actor Mel Gibson for drunk driving in 2006. Mee was fired after a drunk driver he tried to stop in 2011 crashed into a gas station. However, Mee argued that he was falsely blamed for leaking details of Gibson’s arrest and harassed by the department and unfairly disciplined in the years that followed.

On a personal note: My long-time good County pal Joel Bellman is retiring November 1, ending a 26-year stint as press deputy to three County Supervisors, Ed Edelman, Zev Yaroslavsky and Sheila Kuehl. Joel hit 60 recently and decided he wanted to spend the rest of his career pursuing his passion, teaching and writing. He planned to stay at the County just a short time when he was hired in 1989 following the closing of the LA Herald-Examiner, where he was an editorial writer, but he enjoyed being involved in public policy matters and remained in his post even after two bosses retired. Never a shrinking violet, Joel was a champion of government transparency. He was a pain to those who preferred to discuss public business behind closed doors, but he remained a bulldog to the end. ’I’m happy for Joel personally, but sorry for the County because it is losing a great watchdog.

Supervisors have approved a $2 billion plan to replace the downtown Men’s Central Jail with a 3,885-bed facility focused on psychiatric treatment for inmates instead of jail cells. Sheriff Jim McDonnell argued for up to 4,900 beds, saying it was not known how effective diversion will be and a smaller jail might lead to worse overcrowding and early release of prisoners. Two consultants had also recommended a larger jail. Among those urging supervisors to build a smaller facility was former District Attorney Steve Cooley. Now a consultant for developers planning to build a new jail in Adelanto in San Bernardino County, Cooley suggested the County rent beds in that facility. Supervisors also approved renovating the vacant Mira Loma Detention Center in Lancaster into a 1,600-bed women’s facility to replace the older, overcrowded women’s jail in Lynwood. Supervisor Don Knabe voted against the jail plan and Supervisor Hilda Solis abstained. He wanted a larger downtown facility, she a smaller one.

The future of the Sybil Brand Commission, established in 1959 in part to inspect county jails, is in question as the Board of Supervisors overhauls oversight of the Sheriff’s Department. Some have questioned the effectiveness of the commission.

Deputies have approved a contract that will give them a 10 percent raise over the next four years and access to information about transfers and promotions on the Department’s internal Internet systems. The minimum starting salary for a deputy sheriff trainee is about $67,000. The department needs another 1,000 deputies in the jails to hit the target agreed to with the U.S. government and ACLU.

Deaths: Dr. Doris Harris, 89, who began her County health career working in well-baby clinics, later becoming Director of Maternal and Child Healthcare, and Regional Director for the San Fernando and Antelope Valleys. At retirement, she was supervising the creation of quality adult day care centers for memory care patients. Her family said she was most proud of her role in rebuilding Olive View Hospital after the 1971 earthquake. Dr. James Mays, 77, former head of cardiology at Martin Luther King Jr./Drew Medical Center and co-founder of the
Any active member of LACERA who are receiving a retirement allowance from the Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association (LACERA) and their beneficiaries receiving a survivor’s allowance are eligible for regular membership.

Section 3 - Affiliate Membership
All active members of LACERA are eligible for affiliate membership. (Required by PGA for enrollment in the insurance program.)

Section 4 - Honorary Membership
Honorary members are members who, as of March 11, 2008, had reached the age of 80, were regular members for at least five (5) years prior to reaching the age of 80, and whose dues have been canceled.

Section 5 - Meritorious Distinguished Fellowship Award
In recognition of meritorious service a DISTINGUISHED FELLOWSHIP shall be automatically awarded to the Past President. For other members of RELAC who should be so honored, the Executive Committee shall make the determination and present their names to the Board of Directors for approval.

Section 6 - Definition of Members
Reference to members in these Bylaws shall include regular, associate, affiliate, and honorary affiliate and associate members except as otherwise provided.

Section 7 - Voting Power
The voting power of the members of RELAC shall be equal, shall be restricted to regular members, and each member shall have one (1) vote. Voting by proxy shall not be permitted.

ARTICLE VI - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1 - Nominating Procedure
a) Not later than the February meeting of the Board of Directors, the President shall appoint a Chairperson and not less than four (4) members to serve as a Bylaws/Nominations/Elections Directors Nomination Committee, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. At least three (3) shall be Directors.

b) At the April meeting of the Board of Directors, the Bylaws/Nominations/Elections Directors Nomination Committee shall present a list of all qualified applicants for Director to the Board of Directors which shall select a slate of five (5) nominees for Director.

c) The Bylaws/Nominations/Elections Directors Nomination Committee shall present the slate of five (5) nominees for Director at the next General Membership Meeting.

Section 2 - Other Nominations
a) Nominations for Directors may be filed by a signed petition of not less than twenty-five (25) fifteen (15) members, which petition must be submitted to the RELAC office not later than July 31. The deadline for submission of petitions shall be established by the Directors Nomination Committee. Notice of this provision and of the due date for submission of petitions will be published in advance in the newsletter. A letter of acceptance from the nominee must accompany the petition.

b) There shall be no other method of nomination.
Did you know?
Military Funeral Honors

The National Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2000 provides for the rendering of Military Funeral Honors, a statutory entitlement. Military Funeral Honors are the ceremonial paying of respect and the final demonstrations of the country’s gratitude to those who, in times of war and peace, have faithfully defended our nation. The Military Funeral Honors ceremony consists at a minimum of the folding and presentation of the American flag and the sounding of Taps by a detail of two uniformed members of the Armed Forces of the United States. At least one of the detail’s members shall be from the parent service of the beneficiary.

Eligible beneficiaries are active duty members, retired service members, veterans (as defined by 38 USC 101(2) including Section 3.7, Title 38, Code of Federal Regulations), and deceased members and former members of the Selected Reserve (using the burial flag eligibility criteria in 38 USC 2301).

The Military Funeral Honors Team
It is Department of the Army policy to provide full Military Funeral Honors for all Retired Soldiers consisting of a 9-member team (6 pallbearers and/or firing party, a chaplain, an officer and/or noncommissioned officer in charge, and a bugler if available). The team serves as pallbearers. The firing party folds and presents the American flag to the next of kin and plays Taps. A member of the decedent’s parent military service will present the flag. Resources permitting, Military Funeral Honors for Retired Soldiers are the same as for Active Duty Soldiers. Local commanders determine the availability of their resources, the composition of the burial honor details, and any restrictions relating to military honors.

Firing of 3 Volleys at Military Funeral Honors
In accordance with Army Field Manual 3-21.5, the firing party may include three to eight rifle bearers, reflecting the American military custom of firing “three volleys of musketry” over the graves of fallen comrades. This practice of firing three volleys originated in the old custom of halting the fighting to remove the dead from the battlefield. Once the deceased were removed from the battlefield, three volleys were fired to indicate that the dead had been cared for and they were ready to go back to the fight. The fact that the firing party consists of seven riflemen, firing three volleys does not constitute a 21-gun salute.

The 21-Gun Salute
The 21-gun salute is fired in honor of the national flag, the sovereign or chief of state of a foreign nation, a member of a reigning royal family, and the President, former President, and President-elect of the United States. It is also fired at noon on the day of the funeral of a President, former President, or President-elect. Gun salutes are also rendered to other military and civilian leaders of this and other nations. The number of guns is based on their protocol rank. These salutes are always an odd number.

Denying Military Funeral Honors
Military Funeral Honors can be denied to:

- A member absent without authority in excess of 30 days or for an individual declared a deserter at the time of death by competent authority.
- A person who has been convicted of a capital offense under federal or state law for which the person was sentenced to death or life imprisonment without parole.
- A person who has been convicted of a serious offense. A serious offense, as used herein, is a military or civilian offense, which if prosecuted under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, could be punished by confinement of six months or more and/or a punitive discharge; and any other misconduct, which if prosecuted under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, would require specific intent for conviction.
- A person who has at any time been discharged or released from military service with any of the following: (1) dishonorable discharge; (2) bad conduct discharge; (3) dismissal from the service awarded by court-martial; (4) under other than honorable conditions discharge; (5) an officer resignation in lieu of court-martial, which results in a discharge characterization of under other than honorable conditions.

The information above was provided by Army Regulation 600-25, Salutes, Honors, and Visits of Courtesy, dated September 24, 2004. Submitted by RELAC Board Member George Hernandez.

Bylaws continued from p.12
Section 3 - Election Procedures
a) If there are no petition nominations, the five members of the announced slate are elected to the Board of Directors.

b) At the time of election, if there have been no petition nominations, the election of the slate will be announced in the September/October issue of the newsletter and the President will make the same announcement at the next General Membership Meeting.

c) If there are more candidates for Director than vacancies, the election will be by mail-in written ballot. Each member shall be entitled to one (1) vote per Director position up for election, except that each member will be entitled to only one (1) vote per candidate and will be limited to the number of votes stated on the ballot.

d) All candidates may submit a statement of up to 150 words outlining their qualifications. The Directors Nomination Committee shall establish the deadline for submission of candidate statements. The statement must be received in the RELAC office by 4:00 p.m. on July 31, or 4:00 p.m. on the next business day if the office is closed on July 31. Statements received after this deadline will not be considered. Notice of this provision and the due date for submission shall be provided to each person who receives a nomination petition form and will be published in advance in the newsletter. Any statement submitted with more than 150 words shall have the excess words stricken from the end of the statement.

e) If voting is by ballot, ballots will be distributed by first class mail to all members. The same mailing will contain information on all candidates if received in accordance with established procedures. Ballots will be returned to a designated independent party, which shall conduct the count and report the results to RELAC and directly to each candidate. Results will be published in the November/December issue of the newsletter. Election shall be determined by plurality basis.

f) The ballots shall be retained in the RELAC office for one year after election.

g) A summary of this Article VI will be published in the May/June newsletter.
IN MEMORIAM
This list includes retired employees, both RELAC members and non-members.

**Agricultural Comm./Wts. & Measures**
Ingram, James R.
Mehlhorn, Robert U.

**Alcohol/Drug Programs Admin.**
Chew, Shirley

**Assessor**
Bautista, Flordeliza F.
Boiser, Benedicto D.
Boyd, Ernestine S.
Conard, Melvin L.
Cruz, Marcos L.
Schneider, Val A.
Turett, Murray H.
Wrice, Agnes

**Auditor-Controller**
Hall, Calvin W.

**Beaches & Harbors**
Michael, Elliott A.

**Board of Supervisors**
De Land, Virginia F.
Simon, Brenda G.

**Chief Information Office**
O’Neal, Norma T.

**Child Support Services**
Laplant, Mary
Lyman, Jesse F.

**Children & Family Services**
Burrrrell, Dorothy L.
Estes, Ruth
Falasco, Maurice J.
Hernandez, Dolores
Krause, James
Le, Tung M.
Mauger Jr., George L.
Rombach, Ramona M.
Sallie, Doris J.
Surkes, Jesse B.
Watson, Lenora M.

**Collections**
Adams, Anna P.

**Communications**
Logsdon, Margaret J.

**Community & Senior Services**
King, Stanley W.
McCanlies, Glenn

**County Counsel**
Breier, David H.

**Data Processing**
Ainger, Jo A.

**District Attorney**
Brodney, Robert M.
Fillmore, Thomas R.
Hamashita, Sumiko
Holliman, William E.
Kouri, Joan
Mason, Lawrence E.
Vash, Carolyn L.
Walker, Gary A.
Walker, Sally J.

**Fire**
Bullis, Archie E.
Clay, Donald C.
Drews, Robert K.
Fought, Ronald V.
Hood, Richard A.
Ilizaliturri, Albert V.
Jones, Dennis W.
Lacey, John E.
O’Connor, Thomas L.
Stuart, Alfred K.
Timms, Kelvin D.

**Flood Control**
Flores, Emelio

**Harbor/UCLA Medical Center**
Brickley, Barbara
Giusa, Florence
Llaban, Nicanora B.
Navales, Elena
Viveros, Cynthia A.

**Health Plan Administration**
Stein, Harold E.

**Health Services Administration**
Brown, Clifford M.
Douglas, Melvin D.
Duarte, Margaret M.
Frazier, Donnell
Gantt, Gratenell
George, Murine
Halaka, Fawzi A.
Hulse, Betty J.
Johnson, Sylvia A.
Mitchell, Laura H.
Ponsor, Judy L.
Roberson, Myrtis W.

**Human Resources**
Work, Frank A.

**Internal Services**
Barry, Terence L.
Crattic, Willie C.
Dudley, William M.
Elkobaitry, Mohammed S.
Fredericksen, Gerald E.
Hamilton, Sandra
Hawthorne, Russell S.
Hernandez, Manuel
Lee, Raymond C.
Lewis, Durvy M.
Zepeda, Raymond

**King/Drew Medical Center**
Alexander, Phillip
Boyle, Blyden S.
Cryer, William J.
Glenn, Rose M.
Pate, Ray A.
Stevenson, Samuel B.
Sweeten, Bucker
Thompson, Mary B.

**LACERA**
Witt, Chester R.

**LAC+USC Medical Center**
Armenta,ibel D.
Bastos, Rosario
Bennett, Lance D.
Bratta, Domenica
Frigola, Clara L.
Gonzalez, Irene S.
Hernandez, Erlinda F.
Hill, Idella
Johnson, Emily B.
Kay, Jerome H.
Lovichik, Lily W.
McMillian, Charles
Peters, Cora T.
Rodriguez, Frances E.
Rodriguez, Teresita P.
Solis, Carlos
Vazquez, Eva A.

**Mechanical**
Cox, Paul R.
Fiorina, Charles D.
Godman, Cuthrel T.
Stone, Herbert L.

**Mental Health**
Barnum, Kathryn C.
Goldstein, Bertram
Massey, Barbara A.
McAllister, Donald R.
Temple, Carey L.

**Municipal Court**
Brooks, Wilma C. (Antelope Valley)
Richmond, Catherine M. (Inglewood)

**Museum of Art**
Holguin, Gloria J.
Nilson, Ermalene H.

**Museum of Natural History**
McLaughlin, Charles A.
Voss, Wilbert D.

**Olive View/UCLA Hospital**
Banales, Bernice S.
Duey, Millicent M.
Landis, Eileen P.
Noe, Loretta A.

**Parks & Recreation**
Cockman, Alfred E.
Cooper, Roosevelt R.
Edmondson, Lee D.
Ello, Ruth E.
Hillman, James E.
Maxie, David

**Reg.-Recorder/County Clerk**
Roberts, Peggy Y.
IN MEMORIAM

This list includes retired employees, both RELAC members and non-members.

Probation
Acosta, Joe N.
Cade, Bernard J.
Crawford, Kenyon V.
Davis, George R.
Davis, John T.
Kane, Kenneth W.
Kelly, Leo
Lewis, Viola
Nelson, Glenn A.
Searcy, Harold T.
Spector, Gladys F.
Von Riedl, Patricia L.
Watts, Laurie
Whitaker, James G.

Public Defender
Gosser, Anna L.
Kidney, David A.
Salter, Leon M.
Tijerina, Henry

Public Health Program
George, Louis T.
Mclymont, Sylvia M.
Schmidt, Eleanor A.

Public Library
Diaz, Adolfo G.
Merina, Cynthia T.
Prince, Eleanor J.

Public Social Services
Alfred, Herve
Black, Iryne C.
Brand, Betty
D’Aquanno, Carl
Frierson, Ernestine
Fulbright, Elsie
Gibson, Beatrice
Greene, Florence
Hengler, Ann M.
Johnson, Gloria J.
Jones, Doris L.
Kennedy, Jeanne
Kim, Phon
Lieberio, Leonard M.
Liu, Tung-Wei
Llaban, Epifanio A.
Mackin, Lois I.
Marino, Frank W.
Matthews, Charlene S.
Mees, Luella
Mosey, Pauline H.
Moss, Howard G.
Myers, Georgia D.
Obi, Eugene K.
Pimentel, Mary M.
Price, Paulette L.
Recio, Rene A.
Robison, Lewis
Rojas, Sylvia
Sherman, Dulcie
Singer, Doris J.
Sortino, Rosemarie
Taneman, Helene
Yates, Vera L.

Public Works
Ammon, Larry L.
Burgs Jr., George
Coulter, John J.
Jones, Booker T.
Jordan, Cleo L.
Meister, William T
Milanez, Jose
Quishenberry, Eugene L.
Reagan, John C.
Rosales, Angel F.
Sorgani, Ronald M.
Turner, La Vern A.
Williams, Arthur
Yee, Tony C.

Rancho Los Amigos Hospital
Beasley, Myrtle
Fraser, Martha E.
Hackney, Jack D.
Hickman, Ruby P.
Margolis, Benjamin R.
Mowery, Betty L.
Stahl, Margie E.

Reg.-Recorder/County Clerk
Severson, Gloria J.
Trice, Amos

Sheriff
Barackman, Daniel R.
Campbell, Thomas T.
Cannon, Betty V.
Capizzo, Ronald A.
Chetta, Joseph
Devine, Robert G.
Follen, Margaret M.
Gamboa, Kelley A.
Geronimo, Shirley D.
Gilstrap, Kenneth W.
Griffin, Roy F.
Gutierrez, Gaylord
Hall, Elvira D.
Laperruque, Michael C.
Lass, Jack L.
Lustig, William J.
Palomata, Noel S.
Romero, Edward C.
Rowe, Robert F.
Saint, Harold B.
Sakuda, Fred A.
Terrell, Lynnette M.
Thomas, Earl B.
Whiting, Paul W.
Williams, Glen T.
Yalowiec, Lee H.
Young, J. E.

So. Calif. Air Pollution Control Dist.
Cochran, Davis C.

Superior Court/County Clerk
Abrams, Rosalyn P.
Baster, Max D.
Donato, Marylou B.
Keen, Charles E.
Kirchick, Dorita
McCatty, Kenneth W.
Miller, Beverly N.
Pluim, Jan A.
Saito, Clark K.
Stoutland, Martha J.
Strickland, Harry L.
Winston, James C.

Treasurer and Tax Collector
Zonis, David

Department Not Designated
Bullard, Leo P.
Davis, Kenneth L.
Essie, H. G.
Simpson, Richard
Zinser, Helen L.
Thursday, December 10, 2015
DIAMOND BAR CENTER
1600 South Grand Avenue
Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT
Provided by the Always Enjoyable Hyland Band with Vocals by Jennifer Gates

9:00 a.m. - COMPLIMENTARY REFRESHMENTS
10:00 a.m. - HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES BEGIN
A SPECIAL GIFT FOR ALL ATTENDEES
~ LOTS AND LOTS OF DOOR PRIZES ~
Please bring your RELAC Membership Card

Directions to the Diamond Bar Center
From the eastbound Pomona (60) freeway or the southbound Orange (57) freeway
- Exit Grand Avenue
- Turn right onto Grand Avenue
- Turn left at Diamond Bar Center

From the westbound Pomona (60) freeway or the southbound Orange (57) freeway
- Exit Grand Avenue
- Turn left onto Grand Avenue
- Turn left at Diamond Bar Center

The Center is located in Summitridge Park at the corner of Grand Avenue and Summitridge Drive. The entrance driveway to the Center is located on Grand Avenue.