President’s Message
by Bill de la Garza

Dear Friends,

Well, good friends, by the time you receive this Newsletter you should be happy to know that you received a Cost of Living increase on your April retirement check. Many of us received 2%, but some received more and some less depending on their Plan and their retirement dates.

Two percent does not sound like much, but you should be pleased to know that the COLA program is doing exactly what it was designed to do. I personally, am I good example of the merits of the COLA program. Since I retired over 22 years ago my retirement allowance that I receive every month from LACERA has compounded and more than doubled. To put it simply, the cost of living has continued to significantly increase over the years and if it was not for the COLA program I, as well as many other County retirees, would be financially hurting. Not many career Los Angeles County retirees are on welfare. Yes, we are very fortunate.

Being a Board Member of LACERA and RELAC has afforded me the opportunity of attending conferences and networking with numerous other county board members from throughout the State of California. I have learned that many California counties do not have a COLA program for their retirees, nor do they have retiree medical benefits that compare with ours. Some county retirees from neighboring counties such as San Bernardino have had their promised payments from the general funds taken away from them by their own Board of Supervisors. Hearing stories of this type make me realize how fortunate we are in Los Angeles County that our County Government officials work in concert with our retirement system (LACERA) and our Retirement Association (RELAC) for the purpose of protecting our promised retirement benefits.

As far as RELAC, and as your President, I am pleased to report that we are having a very successful year. Our Board of Directors and standing committees are doing well in planning programs and activities that benefit you. I again urge you to carefully read this issue of our newsletter and learn about what we are doing in our efforts to better serve you. Your suggestions and comments are always welcome.

Until next time and as customary, I leave you with this thought:

Life Is Short, Break the rules, Forgive quickly, Kiss slowly, Love truly, Laugh uncontrollably, and never regret anything that made you smile.

Unknown Author
According to a staff report dated March 19, 2013, the estimated market value of LACERA’s total portfolio as of February 28, 2013 was $41.4 billion. The portfolio is generating positive returns in spite of the continued high unemployment rate and perceived uncertainty in the economy, both global and domestic. As of February 28, 2013 staff estimated the year to date gross investment return was 3.3%. The gross investment return to date for the current fiscal year, which began July 1, 2012, was 10.7%.

**STAR RESERVE**

At the Board of Investments meeting in February the Board discussed amending its Funding Policy to include on an ongoing basis the STAR Reserve in the valuation reserves for setting the employer contribution rate. LACERA’s current Funding Policy adopted by the Board in 2009 requires the STAR Reserve be excluded from valuation assets. In each valuation performed since adopting the Funding Policy (namely the 2009, 2010 and 2011 valuations) the Board made an exception to include the STAR Reserve as a valuation asset to provide the County funding relief.

This is an important issue as making an exception to include the STAR Reserve as a valuation reserve lowers the required employer contribution. Lowering employer contribution rates provides the County with the resources to avoid employee layoffs and program curtailments. A point of information, valuation reserves represents the assets the actuary compares to the plan’s liabilities when calculating contribution rates and determining the plan’s funded status. As of June 30, 2012 the STAR Reserve totals $614 million. After a lengthy discussion, on a vote six in favor with three voting no, the Board passed a motion to include the STAR Reserve as a valuation asset in determining the 2012 valuation and beyond.

You are probably wondering if this action impacts future STAR COLA benefits. No it will not. Keep in mind, during the past three years we have experienced low inflation and staff has determined there will not be a need to grant STAR COLA benefits for the calendar year 2013. Based on the current cost-of-living balance used to qualify for STAR COLA benefits and the consumer price index averaging 2% in the prior calendar year, it is foreseeable that the statutory COLA will cover short-term inflation damage and no additional STAR COLA benefits will be granted for calendar 2014. If in the future we experience high inflation, the Board has the discretion to grant additional STAR COLA benefits as indicated.

In closing, I’d like to once again acknowledge how fortunate we are to be Los Angeles County retirees. We’re getting an increase (cost of living benefit) added to our retirement checks effective April 1st – all without having to get up and go to work! I look forward to seeing you at a future RELAC meeting. As always thank you for your support and for entrusting me to be your representative on the LACERA Board of Investments.

Many RELAC members have taken advantage of the Supplemental Dental & Vision plans offered through Pacific Group Agencies and insured by Ameritas. However, some members may be unaware of how to get the full benefits from these plans. For clarification, we’d like to point out the following:

The Dental plan is specially designed to supplement another PPO plan such as the LACERA provided Cigna PPO plan. It will not work with an HMO plan. The Ameritas plan is designed to help cover the out-of-pocket costs that you normally have when using the LACERA provided plan. However, if you do not have another dental plan, this plan will work as a stand-alone plan. You are not required to visit any specific dentist to use this plan. You may see any dentist.

The Vision plan is completely independent of any other vision plan you may have and it is designed for members who either have a LACERA plan but want a second set of glasses/contacts during the year or for members who do not have any other vision coverage. This supplemental vision plan is materials only. It covers lenses, frames and contacts, but does not cover eye examinations. You may see any eye care provider.

You may only enroll in the Dental & Vision plans during the Open Enrollment period which occurs around mid-October to early December. You will receive enrollment information in the mail later this year. The other supplemental benefit plans are available for enrollment year round.

Please contact Pacific Group Agencies at (800) 511-9065 for information on enrolling.
RELAC'S LAS VEGAS LUNCHEON-MEETING

Thursday, May 30, 2013 — 11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
The Plaza Hotel and Casino, 1 Main Street, Las Vegas, NV 89101

Join your fellow Los Angeles County retirees for a day of entertainment and education about retirement issues that affect you!

This yearly luncheon is for ALL L.A. County retirees — not just RELAC members. We want all retirees, members and nonmembers, to participate in this great event — it's a chance to see old friends, make some new ones, enjoy wonderful food, and be briefed on topics impacting retirees! To discuss the most current issues and answer your retirement questions, this year's featured speakers are LACERA CEO Gregg Rademacher and AON Hewitt Senior Vice President Kirby Bosley (topic: Affordable Care Act, Medicare).

The event takes place at the Plaza Hotel and Casino in the Triple Crown Ballroom and begins at 11:00 a.m. (doors open at 10:30 a.m.). Tickets are $25 per person and include a buffet lunch (served at noon).

Book your stay at the Plaza Hotel and Casino for only $33.00 per night (plus tax), valid three days prior to and three days after the meeting subject to availability. A $10 resort fee also applies, which includes valet service, self-parking in the third level of the hotel parking structure, access to the fitness facility and pool area, two bottles of water, in-room internet access, local/800-number phone service, and a property coupon book.

Reservations must be made no later than May 6, 2013 to receive the negotiated rate. Call the Plaza Hotel Reservation Desk directly at (800) 634-6575, or fax your reservation to (855) 289-1197. Be sure to reference the group code SPREM13.

To attend, complete the pre-registration form below and mail it to: RELAC, 1000 Fremont Avenue, Unit 15, Alhambra, CA 90803-8802 along with a check payable to RELAC no later than May 21, 2013. Tickets may be picked up at the door on the day of the event.

LAS VEGAS LUNCHEON-MEETING - PLAZA HOTEL & CASINO
SOCIAL HOUR 11:00 AM ~ LUNCHEON NOON
DEADLINE TO RSVP IS MAY 21, 2013

Name: ________________________________
Guest(s): ________________________________
Address: ________________________________
City: __________________ State: ______ Zip: ______
Number of Tickets: _______ x $25.00 = $_____________ enclosed. (Check payable to RELAC.)

1000 Fremont Avenue, Unit 15 - Alhambra, CA 90803-8802 • (800) 537-3522 • (626) 308-0532
Recruiting New RELAC Members

by Jason H. Williams, Chair
Membership/Recruitment Committee

The Membership/Recruitment Committee is pleased to announce that our recruitment goal for 2013 is 800 new retired members and 200 active, i.e. still working members. In 2012, we recruited nearly 100 active and over 400 retired members from various Los Angeles County departments.

In the March/April edition of RELAC’s Newsletter, I wrote about attending the January 23, 2013 LA County Management Council Seminar on Financial Planning for Retirement. From among the 90 attendees at the seminar, we are pleased to announce that 6 new active employees joined RELAC.

During the remainder of 2013, our committee will continue to recruit active members from all Los Angeles County departments, with our main emphasis on recruiting retired members. We do want to attract active members, not just those employees close to retirement, but also younger LA County employees, because of the excellent benefits of membership that RELAC offers. For prospective active and retired members, RELAC’s social and recreational programs, luncheons around the County and in Las Vegas, coupled with our group discounted supplemental insurance benefits, make joining RELAC an absolute must!

Therefore, we are asking both active and retired RELAC members to tell your friends about us and encourage them to join. Joining RELAC is easy: You’ll find an application at our web site: www.relac.org or call our office at (800) 537-3522 to request that an application be mailed to you.
RELAC Day at Hollywood Park
by Mary K. Rodriguez
Chair, Recreation Committee

Don’t be left out – Last chance!


The ticket price remains the same as last year - $28.00 per person. The cost includes admission to the park, valet parking, a program, a great buffet lunch with cookies for dessert, and soft drinks. This event is always well attended and everyone has a good time.

Please fill out the coupon to the right and send it with your check as soon as possible. The reservation deadline is May 20, 2013. Your tickets will be mailed to you on May 23, 2013.

Hope to see you there!

RELAC Day at the Races
Hollywood Park Racetrack
Thursday, June 6, 2013

Name: ____________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________
City/State/Zip: _____________________________________
Phone: (_________________) __________________________
Number of Tickets ________ @ $28.00 each

Total Amount Enclosed: $ ____________
Enclose a check for your total payable to RELAC and mail to:
RELAC
1000 So. Fremont Avenue, #15
Alhambra, CA 91803-8802

Deadline – May 20, 2013

For office use:
Received __________ Amount $ __________ Check No. _____

RELAC Night
At Dodger Stadium
by Mary K. Rodriguez
Chair, Recreation Committee

Final Call

Friday, July 12, 2013 - Game starts at 6:10 p.m.

Go Dodgers!!!

It is going to be a great game! The Los Angeles Dodgers are playing the Colorado Rockies. Following the game there will be a SPECTACULAR FIREWORKS SHOW!

The seats are located in the lower reserved section behind home plate. A very desirable location! The ticket price is $18.00 per person.

This RELAC event is always well attended and a limited number of seats are still available. Please fill out the coupon below and send it along with your check as soon as possible. The deadline is June 27, 2013. Your tickets will be mailed to you on July 2, 2013.

Come out and enjoy the evening. Hope to see you there!

Dodgers vs. Colorado Rockies

Game Starts at 6:10 p.m.
Friday, July 12, 2013

Name: ____________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________
City/State/Zip: _____________________________________
Phone: (_________________) __________________________

Number of Tickets ________ @ $18.00 each

Total Amount Enclosed: $ ____________
Make checks payable to RELAC and mail to:
RELAC
1000 So. Fremont Ave., #15
Alhambra, CA 91803-8802

Deadline – June 27, 2013

For office use:
Received __________ Amount $ __________ Check No. _____
HONORING OUR VETERANS

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERVISOR

Invites You
to the 16TH Annual Veterans’ Event

REMEMBERING OUR VETERANS & THEIR FAMILIES,
PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

SATURDAY, MAY 25, 2013 - 10 A.M. TO 3 P.M.

ARCADIA COUNTY PARK
405 S. SANTA ANITA AVENUE, ARCADIA 91006

FEATURING

• SKYDIVERS
• FLYOVER BY WWII FIGHTER PLANES
• FOOD BOOTHS
• LIVE MUSIC

NO COST

• IMMUNIZATIONS
• HAIRCUTS/MANICURES
• HEALTH SCREENINGS

ASSISTANCE

• EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION
• VETERANS BENEFIT INFORMATION
• LEGAL INFORMATION

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO OUR ARMED FORCES
WILL BE HELD AT 11:30 A.M.

BRING A DUPLICATE OF A MILITARY PHOTO
TO BE PLACED ON
THE “WALL OF REMEMBRANCE”

FREE ADMISSION
EVENT WILL BE HELD RAIN OR SHINE

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CALL 626-967-1441 OR 909-394-2264.

The County of Los Angeles is an equal opportunity employer and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation for qualified individuals with disabilitie
**La Mirada Golf Tournament**

March 25, 2013

Mother Nature gave us a glorious day as Mike Haile shot his best round of golf ever with a gross 78, netting a 63 to win the “A” flight. Michael Hernandez took 2nd with a net 67. Michael was one up on Harlan DeBie who had a net 68 and finished 3rd.

The “B” flight had a shoot out as Del Gamble with a net 63 edged out 2nd place finisher Jim Abbott by one. Miguel Ortiz-Marroquin beat Rick Ritcher in a card off for 3rd. They both had net 67s.

Rex Loughran easily won the “C” flight. His net 56 was the low score of the day. Finishing in 2nd was Joe Ballestracci with a nice net 60. Ron Malmfeldt placed 3rd with a net 67.

In the “Women’s” flight, Kathy Malmfeldt won easily with a net 64. Charlene DeBie came in 2nd with a net 74. Lil Hamasu beat Kay Barrents in a card off as they both had net 75.

RELAC thanks you for the turnout as we had 57 players play this tournament.

**La Mirada Results: “A” Flight Winner (19 and under)**

1st Mike Haile (63)
2nd Michael Hernandez (67)
3rd Harlan DeBie (68)

**“B” Flight (20-27 Handicaps)**

1st Del Gamble (63)
2nd Jim Abbott (64)
3rd M. Ortiz-Marroquin (67)*

**“C” Flight (28 up Handicaps)**

1st Rex Loughran (56)
2nd Joe Ballestracci (60)
3rd Ron Malmfeldt (67)

**Ladies**

1st Kathy Malmfeldt (64)
2nd Charlene DeBie (74)
3rd Lil Hamasu (75)*

*Winner in a card off.

**Closest to the Pin on Par 3’s**

**Men**

#3-George Sims
#5-David Wailes
#9-George Sims
#11-Jerry Nottke
#13-Benny Martinez
#17-Ron Malmfeldt

**Women**

#3–No Winner
#5 – Kathy Malmfeldt
#9–Debyra Moore
#11- No Winner
#13- No Winner
#17 – No Winner

**Monday, June 10, 2013**

8:00 am start

Please Print

1. Name ___________________________
Address ___________________________
City ___________________ Zip __________
Phone ___________________________
Fees: $32.00 PER GOLFER - CART EXTRA
If possible, place me in a foursome with below listed golfers. Addresses of all golfers MUST be included.
If possible, we would prefer an Early _______ Late ________ starting time.

2. Name ___________________________
Address ___________________________
City ___________________ Zip __________
Phone ___________________________

3. Name ___________________________
Address ___________________________
City ___________________ Zip __________
Phone ___________________________

4. Name ___________________________
Address ___________________________
City ___________________ Zip __________
Phone ___________________________

**NOTE:** Only ONE GUEST per member. Enclose check for _____ golfers @ $32 per Golfer. Make checks payable to RELAC Mail entry to RELAC GOLF, 1000 So. Fremont Ave., #15, Alhambra, CA 91803-8802

**Entry Deadline**

May 20, 2013
ALL CHECKS MUST BE IN RELAC OFFICE

**RELAC News**

La Mirada Golf Director

By Gil Sandoval

Next Tournament – Monday, June 10, 2013
Santa Anita Golf Course, 8:00 a.m. start
Entry Deadline: May 20, 2013
The Benefits of Activities for Seniors
by Lee Gruen

I am a retired Probation Officer and have been a member of RELAC for 11 years. I am the author of a memoir which will be published May 15, 2013 called: Adventures with Dad: A Father and Daughter’s Journey through a Senior Acting Class. It is a true story about when my father and I attended a senior acting class together for 3 years, our bonding through that experience, and my going on to become an actress in my senior years.

At age 60, after retiring from my 37-year career as a Probation Officer for Los Angeles County, I heard about a community program offering classes for seniors. I was soon enrolled in an acting class, an endeavor I had never pursued in my life. Within a short time, my 85 year old father, recently widowed, came to class with me. For 3 years we attended weekly, performing in our class showcases twice a year onstage in front of a live audience. It brought joy and purpose to our lives. It helped my father stay happy, healthy and active rather than being a burden on his family and society. It changed my life completely, launching me into an acting career in which I am still engaged.

I came to realize how vital and valuable senior programs are. I advocate for senior community programs whenever possible as I am living proof of their benefits. Senior community programs fill the gap for seniors that employment or child rearing used to occupy. They give seniors a purpose, empowering them to take better care of themselves and thus have fewer medical problems. Without a sense of purpose, seniors feel alienated, depressed and worthless.

Let’s take a look at what seniors, including “Baby Boomers”, contribute to society. They are not just elderly people to be put out to pasture. Seniors offer many things. They pass down the family and societal history. They are caretakers. They are role models. They are Guardians of wisdom and experience, of the sensibility of society - society’s stewards. Just take a look at most of the members in the Senate and House of Representatives as well as our own Governor. They’re seniors.

Social: Many seniors are at a point in their lives where they are able and willing to give back to the community. They constitute the bulk of volunteers at places like hospitals, parks, museums, schools, policy departments, etc. Many of our institutions cannot afford to hire enough staff. They could not function without volunteers. Seniors have the time, interest and enthusiasm.

Economic: Seniors form a huge demographic. They control vast amounts of wealth which translates into purchasing power of significant amounts of goods and services.

Political: Seniors form a huge voting block. They are a demographic which should be pursued and courted by businesses and politicians, not ignored.

Department of Beaches and Harbors Offers FREE PARKING Passes to Seniors

ATTENTION SENIORS! To obtain a free daytime beach parking pass (good on non-holiday weekdays only) you must be at least 62 years of age. Here’s what you do. Just send a copy of your current driver’s license, vehicle registration and current address if different than the one on your driver’s license to the Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors, Attention Senior Parking Passes, 13837 Fiji Way, Marina del Rey, CA 90292. It takes about two to three weeks to process and receive your pass in the mail. No passes are issued over the counter. You may enjoy your free parking pass when visiting beaches in Malibu, Pacific Palisades, Venice, Playa del Rey, Marina del Rey, Torrance and San Pedro. For more details call (310) 305-9503.

Benefits Continued

Seniors have a major impact on our society in all areas. Senior community programs are important for them and should be supported. Just as we spend time, energy and resources on our children for the sake of our future, we must spend the same on our seniors for the sake of our present.

Editor’s Note: The RELAC Newsletter welcomes articles written by our members and with content of particular interest to our readers. If you have something to tell about your life as a retiree or an opinion on an issue of concern to retirees write it up and submit it to the RELAC office.

Lee Gale Gruen
gowergulch@yahoo.com
My acting website: http://LeeGaleGruen.com
Regional Activities and Special Events

by Diane Sandoval
Chair, Regional Support/Special Events Committee

Palmdale Regional Luncheon Meeting
Approximately 90 members attended our regional luncheon meeting held at the Palmdale Moose Lodge on March 26. Mr. Norm Hickling, Sr. Deputy to Supervisor Antonovich, was our featured speaker and spoke about the State financial crisis and the effects sequestration and the transfer of state prisoners to counties is having on the local communities. RELAC sincerely appreciates Mr. Hickling’s repeat performance. His presentation is always insightful and informative.

Las Vegas Luncheon Meeting
THE CLOCK IS TICKING! May 6, 2013 (deadline to stay at hotel at the negotiated rate) and May 21, 2013 (deadline to RSVP for the luncheon) will be here before you know it. Look for the full page announcement on page three for additional details and the luncheon reservation form.

Huntington Beach Regional Meeting
Plans are under way for the regional meeting in Huntington Beach on July 19, 2013. We are returning once again to the Huntington Beach Library and Cultural Center, 7111 Talbert Avenue, Room C/D, Huntington Beach, CA 92648. It’s an excellent location with plenty of parking. RELAC has a great meeting planned – our speaker is Captain Will Pryor of the Los Angeles County Fire Department who will speak about “Safety in the Home and Disaster Preparedness”. Doors open at 9:30 a.m. and the meeting is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. Complimentary refreshments will be served. A LACERA representative will be available to answer your questions regarding pension and medical benefits. Please plan to attend – there will be door prizes; perhaps you will be the lucky holder of a winning ticket.

SAVE THE DATE – Annual Picnic is on Saturday, October 5, 2013. Same place and the ribs are back! Details to follow in our next issue.

Don’t hesitate to call the RELAC office if you have any questions about the above mentioned meetings. We’re here to serve!

Twelve rigs enjoyed our March outing at the Casa Del Sol RV Park in Hemet. Our Wagonmasters, Don and Shirley Egbert, along with assistants, Jesse & Phyllis Murph, did an excellent job preparing the food for our breakfasts and arranging for our ladies night out. The clubhouse at the Casa Del Sol RV Park has a fabulous kitchen, so everyone had plenty of room to work without getting in each others way. The weather turned out to be almost perfect for sitting outside to visit with the other campers. That and playing cards helped everyone pass the time. Also gave everyone a chance to just enjoy the outdoors and talk about what is happening in their lives - plus gossip about those that didn’t make it to this outing. Just kidding, you know we wouldn’t do anything like that.

A new rig joined us for this outing. Fred Weinberg & Randy Forney of Banning were first timers to our club. We hope they continue to come to our future outings.

Our next outing will be held on May 13-14-15, 2013 at the Chula Vista RV Resort in Chula Vista. Remember, if you misplace your newsletter or the coupon for future outings it can always be downloaded from the RELAC website at www.relac.org. Also, additional days for the Chula Vista outing should be booked through the resort at (619) 691-1860 not through the Wagonmaster as indicated on the coupon. If you have any questions give me a call at (562) 428-3360. If I am not home, leave me a message and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

For Sale

TIMESHARE - TWO-BEDROOM CONDO – Sleeps eight (8), located in Kissimmee, Florida, less than three (3) miles from Disney World and Epcot Center. Valued at $16,000; asking $8,000. Contact Lynette at (661) 255-5265.

2004 TIOGA RV – 6,000 miles, well maintained with accessories. Asking $26,500 or best offer. Contact Denis at mcgdenis@gmail.com.

CEMETERY LOTS – Two (2) plots for sale. Located at Forest Lawn, Cypress, CA. Retail value $3,000 each; asking $2,500 for one or $4,500 for both, including transfer fee. Call Cecile or L.J. at (702) 645-2906.

TIME SHARE - STUDIO – Choose Puerto Vallarta or Cabo San Lucas, one week per year. Asking $600. Call Leonor at (714) 624-1262.

DOUBLE COMPANION LAWN CRYPT – Permits two interments side-by-side. Located at Oakdale Memorial Park, Glendora, CA, Eternal Peace Section. Includes one (1) granite marker/headstone and installation fee. Valued at $10,000; asking price $8,000. Call Ertha for more information at (561) 602-2512 or (661) 435-2540.
I hope everyone is doing well. As I write this edition's article we are finishing up our annual "March Madness" retirement period at LACERA. "March Madness" is our affectionate term for the period between January and March when we see the most members retire each year. This is the most popular time as members want to retire in time to be eligible for any April 1st cost of living adjustment (COLA) that may be approved.

We don’t have the final numbers yet for this year’s "March Madness" event, but to date we will be retiring 1,245 members. Hopefully many of these will become RELAC members as well!

One of the things that I’m passionate about at LACERA is developing our staff. I truly believe that if we invest in our employees they will provide a return on that investment by being the best they can be and providing the best service possible. We like to think of LACERA as a learning organization. Keeping in line with that thought, a few months ago we introduced an innovative Leadership Development Program (LDP) to help develop the next generation of leaders at LACERA.

The LDP is a team of five participants who work together, under my direction, to co-manage the Member Services Division. Working as co-managers the team learns about leadership, teamwork, and what it takes to be a leader here at LACERA. Each quarter during the program each of the five participants also serves as the "Acting" Division Manager and is the spokesperson for the group in dealing with members, employees, and other divisions within LACERA. We are now entering our second quarter of this Leadership Development Program and I’m proud to say the five participants are doing a great job.

I’m a big believer that part of helping others become leaders is sharing personal experiences so that they can learn from your successes and failures. Nothing teaches more than real life. Which brings me to my closing thoughts for this edition – I’d like to share with you a personal experience and hope that it will help some of our readers.

My father lives in a very small – very out of the way – country "town" in Texas. If you have a picture of old country dirt roads, lots of open space, trees, and shrubbery then you have a good picture of where he lives. I recently went down to visit him for the first time in many years. We spent a few days just hanging out and talking about old times, his dogs, and what he’s been up to. We had a great time. No matter how many years go by not seeing my dad, when we do get together it’s like we’ve never been apart.

Dad is in his 70’s now and shares many of the normal health related issues a lot of us have as we age. That is until a few weeks ago when he suffered a stroke. He’s doing better but we have a long road to go and he’s going to need a lot of extra care and attention by medical personnel.

This brings me to the reason I’m sharing this story with you. Things happen quickly in life. At some point you may be in a situation where you need to rely on a loved one or some other trusted person to help you. In my dad’s case I’m all he has and he needs me to be able to talk to doctors, help make arrangements for healthcare needs, and a host of other things.

Unfortunately, this is proving challenging. Despite knowing better, we never took the time to have a discussion about what would happen and we never discussed granting me the power of attorney. We just figured we had time.

I encourage you to take a moment to consider what would happen if you needed help. If there is someone in your life you trust and rely on you may wish to consider granting them the power of attorney. More importantly, consider a durable power of attorney which allows another person to make decisions in the event you are incapacitated.

The person who is granted the power of attorney is called the "Attorney-in-Fact". An Attorney-in-Fact can request changes in writing to your LACERA information such as address, direct deposit, tax elections, or even make requests on your behalf such as a request for a duplicate 1099-R to help you file your taxes. Without this designation, submitted to LACERA, even a spouse cannot make these changes or requests in the event you are unable to. Once you grant this designation both you and your Attorney-in-Fact can make changes to your account. The designation remains in effect until you notify us in writing that you revoke the designation.

I know these types of topics are uncomfortable for most to talk about, but a bit of discomfort now can mean a lot of peace of mind later. LACERA has a Special Durable Power of Attorney form that we can provide to you which is specifically designed only for LACERA matters. We do accept other Power of Attorney forms, but those forms may or may not contain the necessary language required to allow someone to assist you with LACERA matters.

If you are interested in learning more about LACERA’s Special Durable Power of Attorney, please visit lacera.com and review our Power of Attorney Frequently Asked Questions section. You can download a copy of our Special Durable Power of Attorney form and information booklet from the Brochures and Forms section of lacera.com. You are welcome to contact our Member Services Call Center at 1-800-786-6464 and a Retirement Benefits Specialist will be happy to assist you. We do recommend you consult with an attorney before executing any Power of Attorney. LACERA does not provide legal advice.

Until next time – enjoy every day of your retirement. You earned it!
Letters To The Editor

Thank you for the beautiful cards you sent me for my birthday and Christmas. I appreciate your work and efforts to comfort the elderly.
Frank Matsuno
San Gabriel, CA

Thank you for the birthday card and for all you do for the retired employees. Although I am now about 1,000 miles away in Oregon, I still feel connected.
Leona Biro
Portland, OR

Here is my check for membership dues. You guys do a great job for retired people. Keep up the good work!
Gloria Boothe
Wilmington, CA

What a pleasant surprise and a nice Valentine gift. I never expected to win. Thank you very much.
Catherine Stelly
Azusa, CA

What a nice surprise to win the Valentine Drawing. Thank you so much. And, thank you for all you do for the retirees and your great newsletter.
Kathleen Whitehall
Lancaster, CA

Thank you so much for the $25.00 check from the Valentine Drawing. It arrived with three bills in the same mail. One out of four is good news especially with the price of gas these days. I have wonderful memories of all of you who worked at RELAC during the 90’s.
Gloria Zubiate
Phillips Ranch, CA

Thank you for drawing my name in the RELAC Valentine Drawing. What a nice surprise.
Norma Lee Tucker
Ramona, CA

What a pleasant surprise to learn I was among the winners of the special Valentine Drawing this year. Thank you so much. I look so forward to the RELAC newsletter with all the good information in it. Keep up the good work!
Marge Eastburn
Castaic, CA

My dear friends, and that’s how I feel about you - thank you for remembering me at Christmas and on my birthday. I am 93 years old and I want to express my gratitude to RELAC for the comfort and security I feel at this ending time of my life. Thank you, Mary and Sophy (RELAC Outreach Committee members).
Evelyn Galli
Midvale, UT

What a nice surprise. I won $25.00 in your Valentine Drawing. I am soon turning 90 years and enjoy your newsletter - so full of information. My thanks to you all. You do a fine job.
Judy Miller
Edmonds, WA

What a pleasant surprise to win the Valentine Drawing. Thank you so much. And, thank you for all you do for the retirees and your great newsletter.

Vehicle Loans
as low as

2.49%

APR*

• Loan approval within minutes
• New Vehicle Loan Rates as low as 2.49% APR
• Rate includes a discount of .25% for automatic payments from your Southland Checking
• Repayment terms up to 7 years
• Finance up to 120% of the purchase price with tax, license, and insurance

Membership is subject to eligibility. All new accounts will be verified through ChexSystems and are subject to credit approval.

*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Rate quoted as of 4-8-13 for a 48-month term. Rate includes a .25% discount for automatic payments from a Southland Checking or Money Market Account. The monthly payment is $21.91 per $1,000 at 2.49% for 48 months on new vehicles. Other rates may apply based on your individual credit profile. Loans made subject to credit and vehicle qualification; other fees and conditions may apply. Rates are subject to change without notice.

www.SouthlandCU.org • 800.426.1917
Veteran’s Corner

The Retiree Hearing Aid Assistance Program

Retirees can obtain hearing aids at significant savings by using the Retiree Hearing Aid Assistance Program (RHAPP). Under this program two hearing aids can usually be purchased for less than $2,000. Exact costs are variable and subject to change.

The RHAPP is available only at participating Military Treatment Facilities (MFTs) and not every medical facility is providing this program. Care of active duty members takes precedent at all MTFs and facilities may discontinue the program at any time. This is not a Tricare benefit and retirees can use any facility which will accept them. Your nearest participating facility may be located hundreds of miles away from your home so you will need to consider your travel costs and time involved versus the availability of an audiologist in your local community.

Additional information and a listing of participating facilities are available at www.militaryaudiology.org or by contacting your nearest MTF.

Source: Army Echoes. The newsletter for retired soldiers, surviving spouses and families. Submitted by RELAC Board Member George Hernandez

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Welcome New Members
February & March 2013

Assessor
Greitzer, Howard

Children & Family Services
Rivero, Nelson A.

Community & Sr. Services
Lambert, Marion

Health Services
Cherbony, Rachel
Falconett, Cesar A.
Montoya, Sandra L.

Internal Services
Crooks, James

LAC+USC Medical Center
Nelson MD, Janice M.
Stevenson, Linda

Mental Health
Mitchell, Evelyn

Probation
Tobin, J. Michael

Public Safety
Sampson, Joseph M.

Public Social Services
Fochlinger, Dianne G.

Public Works
Arshadnia, Reza

Sheriff
McCarty, Michael J.

Superior Court
Cassidy, Elaine

Child Support
Young, Audrey C.

Children & Family Services
Osuna, Rosemary V.

Community & Sr. Services
Padilla, Gildardo R.

Coroner
Franklin, Diane

Health Services
Moore-Oliver, Cynthia D.
Quintero, Miguel

Internal Services
Cooper, Nedra

LAC+USC Medical Center
Baresic, Zivko

Olive View Medical Center
Andrews-Tang, Denise M.

Public Social Services
Barber, Vicki

Public Works
Baiz, Barbara J.
Hernandez, Antonio

New Associate Members
Falconett, Rose E.
Hayes, Douglas

New Active Working Members
Animal Care & Control
Miley, Gail A.

Auditor-Controller
Barnett, Lisa
Flores, Patricia P.

Beaches & Harbors
Wong, Paul

Chief Executive Office
Herzog, Betty M.

Child Support
Young, Audrey C.

Coroner
Franklin, Diane

Health Services
Moore-Oliver, Cynthia D.
Quintero, Miguel

Internal Services
Cooper, Nedra

LAC+USC Medical Center
Baresic, Zivko

Olive View Medical Center
Andrews-Tang, Denise M.

Public Social Services
Barber, Vicki

Public Works
Baiz, Barbara J.
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New Associate Members
Falconett, Rose E.
Hayes, Douglas

New Active Working Members
Animal Care & Control
Miley, Gail A.

Auditor-Controller
Barnett, Lisa
Flores, Patricia P.

REQUEST FOR EMAILED NEWSLETTER AND/OR EMAIL ADVISOR

Name __________________________________________

Email Address ________________________________________

_____ Send me future issues of the RELAC Newsletter by email until further notice

_____ Send me Email Advisor Messages

Mail to: RELAC
1000 S. Fremont Ave., Unit 15
Alhambra, CA  91803-8802

Or Email: admin@relac.org

Please Help Us Find These Missing RELAC Members!

Attention members! Please notify the RELAC office if you move. Since we do not receive your change of address from LACERA, if you move and fail to notify us we will not be able to continue to send you the newsletter and other significant information. We have lost contact with the following members. If you know any of the following members, please ask them to give us a call at (800) 537-3522 or email us admin@relac.org.

Roy Anderson
Barbara Avery
Michael Bobola
Robert Bund
Martha Chao
William Delgado
Samson Fleming
Richard Grapentin

Gerald Kline
Betty Lewis
Richard Medlock
Mark Noonan
Oliver Perry
Amarjit Puar
Lourdes Rojas
Henreatta Shillings

Thank you for your help. RELAC prides itself on providing the best possible service to all our members.
Rail & Sail
California & Oregon Coast
September 19, 2013

13 Day Rail, Deluxe Motorcoach & Cruise Tour ● No Air Travel ●
One Way Rail Over Night L.A./Klamath Falls
3-Nights on the Coral Princess ● 5-Nights Hotel Accommodations
21 Meals - 9 Breakfasts, 5 Lunches, 7 Dinners
Priced from $2,299 Per Person - Twin Sharing (Single Available)

Black Hills of South Dakota
September 28, 2013

Mt. Rushmore - Deadwood - Crazy Horse Memorial - High Plains Western Heritage Center - Custer State Park - Tate & Journey Museums
9 Day Deluxe Motorcoach Tour ● 8 Nights Hotel Accommodations ●
14 Meals: 8 Breakfasts, 6 Dinners ● Admissions & Sightseeing per Itinerary ●
Professional Tour Manager Throughout ● Tax & Baggage Handling
Priced at $999.00 Per Person - Twin Sharing (Single & Triple Available)

Sequoia & Kings Canyon
September 29, 2013

San Joaquin Valley - Western Sierras - Kings Canyon National Park - Sequoia National Park - Lindsay Murals Tour
4 Day Deluxe Motorcoach Tour ● 3 Nights Hotel Accommodations ●
3 Breakfasts, 2 Box Lunches, 3 Dinners ● Park Entrance Fees ●
Naturalist Guided Tours of Both Parks ● Driver’s Gratuity ●
Tax & Baggage Handling
Priced from $569.00 Per Person - Twin Sharing (Single Available)

Monterey Bay Holiday
October 3, 2013

Monterey - Carmel - Pacific Grove
4 Day Deluxe Motorcoach & Rail Tour ● Amtrak from LA to Monterey (Roomette Accommodation) ● 3 Nights Hotel Accommodations ●
6 Meals: 3 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 1 Dinner ● Sights: Aquarium - Carmel - 17-Mile Drive - Monterey Bay - Henry Cowell Redwoods - Roaring Camp Railroad ● Driver’s Gratuity ● Tax & Baggage Handling
Priced from $799.00 Per Person - Twin Sharing (Single Available)

Yosemite & Chukchansi Gold
October 7, 2013

Chukchansi Gold Resort & Casino - Yosemite Valley
3 Day Deluxe Motorcoach Tour ● 2 Nights Hotel Accommodations ●
2 Meals: Lunch at Yosemite Lodge, Dinner at Chukchansi
Yosemite Valley Floor Tour ● Driver’s Gratuity ● Tax & Baggage Handling
Priced from $559.00 Per Person - Twin Sharing (Single Available)

A RELAC discount will be deducted from all tour prices featured on this page.
All programs above feature LA Region transfers to/from airport or pier (mileage cap applies). Prices include applicable port fees, government taxes, fuel surcharges and are per person, twin sharing. Single rates are available.
IN MEMORIAM

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

Animal Control
Fridsma, Ruth

Assessor
Davis, David L.
Goldstein, Hermina
Lew, Tony
Miller, Floreine G.

Auditor-Controller
Yukawa, Michiko

Board of Supervisors
Carreon, Alice
Williams, James

Chief Executive Office
Goldfield, Henry J.
Neiman, Robert E.
Riva, Robert J.

Chief Information Office
Carr Sr., George

Children & Family Services
Aguilar, Yvonne
Burks, Irmasteen
Kingston, Virginia V.
Kirkland, Anthony K.
Moralez, Yvonne P.
Navarro, Maximino M.
PaloMares, Guillermo
Peterson, James R.
Quijano, Amparo A.

Communications
Walker, Leslie M.

Community Health
Evensen, Lillie C.

Community & Senior Services
Borodovsky, Leopold

District Attorney
Barrett, Dewain E.
Fulbright, Richard M.
Hibbler, Stonewall

Engineer
Siu, Yet M.

Engineer/Facility
Corey, Edward D.
Jue, Jack L.

Fire
Christie, Robert B.
Cleveland, Roy W.
Cook, Delbert E.
Hopper, Gerald E.
McAllister, Donald F.
Rick, William T.
Schwabe, Edwin L.
Snively, John D.
Woodworth, Harold D.

Flood Control
Cutter, Charles E.
Gastelo, Gilbert F.
Kennedy, M. B.
Silverfarb, Arthur
White, Keith D.

Harbor/UCLA Medical Center
Chacon, Maggie M.
Decker, Cora R.
Emmanouilide, George C.
Esquivel, Sylvia
McGhee, James E.
Navarrete, Josephine G.
Ransfer, Eldora L.
Thom, Cassandra J.
Treadwell, June

Health Plan Administration
Kinney, Leila V.
Lasher, Marie F.

Health Services
Kuzma, Oliver T.

Health Services Administration
Armendariz, Peter
Erwin, James M.
Estanislau, Elsie R.
Faison, Laura H.
Gomez, Maria L.
Mc Callick, Eugenia G.
Newton, Dorothy
Salazar, Reginald
Stephenson, Susie
Stewart, Herb A.

Internal Services
Emerson, Almer
Lane, Raymond L.
Matthews, Calvin L.
Pratt, Donald F.
Ramirez, Marcelo
Stansberry, Juliet G.
Taylor, Kenneth W.
Wright, Carrol M.

King/Drew Medical Center
Barr, Cora J.
Harrison, Dorothy M.
Hoffman, John L.
Kang, Thomas C.
Maucher, Helene
Patel, Kusumben J.
Pena, Gladys
Robinson, Patricia R.
Toston, Frances M.

LAC+USC Medical Center
Allen, Joan
Bell, Ola M.
Bush, Alma
Cephas, Michael L.
Edelman, Marc
Hoyt, Lydia F.
Koval, Richard R.
Leda, Felisa E.
Martin, William H.
Penn, Ida M.
Pugel, Richard J.
Ramirez, Esther
Sanders, Betty M.
Swenson, Stanley

Long Beach General Hospital
Richards, Lillian L.

Mechanical
Casertano, Michael A.
Ferguson, Paul E.
Frost, William L.
Vella, Richard L.

Medical Examiner-Coroner
Arteaga, Robert G.
Crandell, Lee

Mental Health
Albino, Greg T.
Goldfein, Jerome
Sanchez, Enrique

Municipal Court
Guggenheim, Catherine K.
Kanaly, Margarita (Compton)

Olive View/UCLA Hospital
Kopper, Maria A.
Mirabal, Mary P.
Nash, Ghislaine N.
Tso, Jun-Iing

Parks & Recreation
Colsant, Albert P.
Francisco, Pat F.
Lopez, Edward P.
McGee, Helen F.
McGowan, Hellena M.
Taylor, David C.
Weaver, Wallace

Probation
Anthony, Lester V.
Athanassopoul, Bertha A.
Burt-Norwood, Pauline
Butts, John W.
Bourgeois, Raymond H.
Dailey, William H.
IN MEMORIAM

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

Feliz, John W.
Gamboa, Gerardo E.
Hammond, Samuel A.
Hampton, Darthulia Q.
Harrington, Charles L.
Joshi, Bipin M.
Morinaga, Michiko
Ostroff, Sam K.
Richards, Bette D.
Sainz, Conrad V.
Springs, Paul H.
Tinsley, Eula V.
Walker, Jake C.
Young, Rosemary R.

Public Defender
Feinberg, Donald

Public Health Program
Case, Virginia J.
Czuleger, Meriam H.
Garcia, Anna
Knowles, Mary L.
Lewis, Maybelle
Turner, Idell M.

Public Library
Asawa, Edward E.
Gallagher, Daniel
Tyler, Melvin C.

Public Social Services
Baldwin, Mary L.
Ballard, Myrtice E.
Bill, Earnestine
Buergo, Zilia
Carpenter, Lujean K.
Cato, Willie M.
Crockett, Geraldine M.
Davis, Mary J.
Delgado, Aracelis R.
Dicochea, Diana
George, Levonia M.
Grant, Shirley R.
Hawthorne, Lillian S.

Hinojosa, Maria
Hirayama, Tadashi L.
Iacipme, Aida
Jones, Doris O.
Jaramillo, Natividad
Lazzeroni, Elaine M.
Melia, Ronald C.
Montero, Miguel A.
Pettigrew, Bobbie J.
Rodriguez, Mario F.
Rufener, Miriam J.
Sanchez, Jose R.
Shafer, Hannah L.
Wilson, Barbara J.
Wilson, Izola L.

Public Works
Aguilar, Eliberto F.
Bowie, Thomas W.
Hartney, Charles F.
Hartman, Wendell L.
Janosco, Frank
Monfilis, William F.
Moore, Earl
Seugi, Carlos J.

Rancho Los Amigos Hospital
Baldwin, William A.
Cena, Pauline A.
Harloe, Marion S.
Martinez, Fernando
Samuels, Gladys L.
Stewart, Charles A.

Sheriff
Ballweg, Manfred E.
Brown, Mary J.
Butler, Frank R.
Cox, Gaylloyd H.
Cuccia, James C.
Cunningham, Jocelyn L.
Delmese, Nicholas
Eaton, Kenneth A.
Fate, August F.

Foster, Charles R.
Gutman, Esther
Jansen, Gerald J.
Le Fever, Allen T.
Linn, Douglas P.
Maghirang, Anderson M.
Matheus, Victor T.
McEntire, Rollie W.
Medina, Catalina
Orr, James A.
Pachot, Anthony M.
Pakizer, Daniel H.
Prater, Allen
Price, Jane S.
Proper, Dorothy M.
Romani, Charles F.
Seeger, Heinz
Shaw, Cora
Talley, Alton R.
Weaver, Virginia
Wood, Herbert L.
Yurick, B. H.

So. Cal. Air Pollution Control
Myers, Hattie A.
Smith, Herman
Zwiacher, Wayne E.

Superior Court/County Clerk
Bongard, Alfred R.
Dvorak, Evelyn D.
Garelick, Charles
Hargrove, Louise
Kapteyn, Marilyn D.
Rheinstrom, Diana
Slater, Marion

Treasurer & Tax Collector
Nickols, Tom
Winn, Billie R.

Women’s Hospital
De La Cerna, Salud R.

Department Not Designated
Thomas, Virginia D.

Apology to Barbara J. Cox
Barbara J. Cox was erroneously included in the In Memoriam list in the March/April Newsletter. We have been informed and are happy to report that she is very much alive. We apologize to Barbara Cox, who retired from the Sheriff's Department, and to her friends and former colleagues who were misled. And we thank those who alerted us to the error.
General Membership Meeting
Mary K. Rodriguez, Chair, Program Committee

Tuesday, June 18, 2013
Ken Miller Recreation Center Auditorium
3341 Torrance Boulevard
Torrance, CA 90503

9:00 a.m. - Complimentary Refreshments
10:00 a.m. - Meeting Begins

Presentation by Sgt. Dana McCants of the
Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department on
"Identity Theft and Elder Fraud"

Retiree Information from LACERA & RELAC
Door Prizes
Please Bring Your RELAC Membership Card

From 405 Fwy South, exit at Crenshaw Blvd. From the off ramp, turn right onto Crenshaw Blvd. South. Stay on Crenshaw Blvd. South for approximately two miles until you reach Torrance Blvd. Turn right onto Torrance Blvd. and travel west to Madrona Ave. Turn right on Madrona Ave. and then turn right into the first driveway on the right hand side. Turn left to the Ken Miller Recreation Center.

From 405 Fwy North, exit at Crenshaw Blvd. South. Travel South on Crenshaw Blvd. approximately two miles until you reach Torrance Blvd. Turn right on Torrance Blvd. and travel West to Madrona Ave. Turn right on Madrona Ave. and then turn right into the first driveway on the right hand side. Turn left to Ken Miller Recreation Center.

IMPORTANT!
Are you moving?
Did you change your name?
Cut out the address portion of this newsletter, correct it and mail to:
RELAC
1000 S. Fremont Ave., Unit 15 Alhambra, CA 91803-8802 or Phone: (800) 537-3522 (626) 308-0532 Fax: (626) 308-2901 Email: admin@relac.org website: www.relac.org

Note: It is important that you mail this to RELAC or contact RELAC by phone as we DO NOT receive your address change from LACERA.