



RELAC newsletter

Your Pension and Health Care Watchdog

May/June 2016 Vol 51-3

President's Message

by David Muir

I keep thinking about how lucky we are to have great retirement security. I used to think that nothing could threaten our benefits since the courts have repeatedly held that public pension benefits are "vested" under the California Constitution and can't be eliminated or reduced unless replaced with comparable new benefits. But then along came a couple of municipal bankruptcies, with bankruptcy judges indicating public pension benefits were part of an employment contract that could be modified in bankruptcy just like any other contract. There are substantial arguments to the contrary, but the appellate courts have not had the occasion to review the issue.

With this recent development, the County's finances are critically important to us and something we need to watch carefully. If the County were to file for bankruptcy, our benefits could be at risk. But there's not even a remote possibility this would happen. I base this on the sound financial condition of the County. I've written before about the steps the Board of Supervisors have taken to enhance the County's finances. The Board has curtailed growing pension costs and retiree healthcare spending. It created a "rainy day" fund that helped the County weather the Great Recession. And it has begun to prefund retiree healthcare. Fitch Ratings have for several years given the County outstanding credit ratings. Just recently, Fitch enhanced the County's rating from AA- to AA. That will allow the County to issue bonds at a lower interest rate, resulting in substantial savings. Our County Treasurer and Tax Collector Joe Kelly (who sits next to me on the Board of Retirement) has done a great job in educating Fitch on the sound condition of County finances and gaining Fitch's confidence in the County's financial position.

But what I really worry about is the retirement security of our children and grandchildren. Consider this headline from a recent article in the L. A. Times: "Your bleak retirement prospects." The author, Dean Baker, co-director of the Center for Economics and Policy Research, writes:

"The vast majority of Americans who expect to retire in the next decade can count on little income other than their Social Security. This is true not only for low-income workers, who have struggled most of their lives, but also for millions of middle income workers. Although Social Security is a tremendously important program, and provides a solid base that retirees can depend upon, its \$16,000 average annual benefit doesn't go very far. Many if not most can expect to see sharp reductions in living standards."

It's no secret that 401(k)s have failed miserably as a vehicle for retirement savings. Baker points out that in 2013, the middle fifth of households of people age 45 to 54 had less than \$60,000 in total financial assets, and most had less than 40% equity in their homes.

The California Legislature is working on a retirement savings program that will cover most private workers in the state. This is still a work in progress and if finally implemented will be only a small step toward real retirement security. But at least it will be a start. As with many other issues facing our country, California is again one of the states leading the way. I'll write more about this in my next President's Message.

Thanks to all our readers for your membership in RELAC, your PENSION AND HEALTH CARE WATCHDOG.



Inside the Newsletter

New RELAC Director Selected – The RELAC Board of Directors has appointed Evelyn Gutierrez to fill the unexpired term of Martin Golds. Page 3

County Counsel Pellman Featured – Former County Counsel Bill Pellman tells us what he has been doing since retiring. Page 8

Save the Date – Mark your calendars for upcoming RELAC activities. Page 3



RELAC Board Endorses Candidates for Election

by Dave Muir, Chair
Bylaws/Nominations/Elections Committee

At its business meeting on April 5, in accordance with RELAC bylaws, the Board of Directors unanimously endorsed the following slate of five candidates to serve three-year terms on the RELAC Board beginning Jan. 1, 2017:

- Steve Duron
- Bill de la Garza
- Evelyn Gutierrez
- Judy Hammond
- Dave Muir

Other members of RELAC are welcome to compete as candidates for Board membership by filing a petition signed by at least 15 RELAC members. The signed petition, along with a letter of acceptance by the nominee, must be received by the RELAC office no later than July 7, 2016 at 4 p.m. Petition forms are available at the RELAC office.

If there are six or more interested candidates for the five open seats, an election will be held in September.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

January 2016 - March 2016

Animal Care and Control - Arcelia P. Valenzuela
Assessor - Mary Castillo, Roy Cossio
Chief Administrative Office - Louis Combs
Child Support Services - Charlotte Evans
Children and Family Services - Duc Chang, Shirley Dixon, Anna Price
Community and Senior Services - Elsie Larriva
District Attorney - Ken Godinez
Engineer - Marion Siu
Fire - Phillip Franco, Martha Walker, William Watkins III
Health Services - Faith Duffey, Robert Eason, Anthony Gray, Sharon Grigsby, Kathryn McAllister, Ricardo Munoz, Dennis Takahashi
Internal Services - Michael Cornelius, Reginald Grant
LACERA - Jennie Gyimesi, Stuart Mesnik, Cora Patterson, Long To
LAC+USC Medical Center - Hamton Lin, Sherrill Washington
Mechanical - Efren Rodriguez, Sandra Stewart, Robert Whitfield
Mental Health - Sharon DeFrank, Elizabeth Eberhard, Harold Johnson, Christina Warren
Olive View Medical Center - Stephen Barragan, Hayward Harris Jr.
Parks and Recreation - Frank Gonzales
Probation - Glenda Dunn
Public Defender - Stanley Shimotsu
Public Social Services - Glacia Hudson, Hortencia Maynes, Richard Milton, Patricia Portis, Duk Hyun Song
Public Works - Patrick DeChellis, Mark White
Sheriff - Ricky Carroll, Judy C. Chamberlain, Belinda J. Jenkins, Ernesto Perez, Donna Phipps, Helen Roebuck, Lanny Ross, Douglas Slaughter, Henry Stewart
Treasurer and Tax Collector - Eileen Reeves
Department Not Designated - Javier Casas, Albert Charles, Berta Davis, Verna Gardenhire, Auderella Hawkins, David Moncrease, Ernest Vedol
New Affiliate (Working) Members - Cynthia Banks, Richard Clark, Charles Darden, Renee Jennings, Cheryl Jones, Jake Ross, Karen Tu
New Associate Members - Susan Babcock, Jane Barragan, Maria Carroll, Maria D. Casas, Michael Chamberlain, Lily Chang, Mary Cassio, Robert L. Daniels, Elizabeth Eberhard, Renus Evans, Margaret Franco, Dorothy Grant, Eva Harris, Delroy Haughton, Johnson Keregha, Mary Lin, Lucietha Moncrease, Alice Parker-Keregha, George Phipps, Florida Ross, Rebecca Slaughter, Annette Stewart, Thuy To, Steve Walker, Evangeline Watkins

Membership Recruitment News

by Jason H. Williams, Chair
Membership/Recruitment
Committee



RELAC's Recruitment Challenges For 2016

For new member recruitment, 2015 turned out to be a banner year after all. As of Dec. 31, 2015, RELAC recruited 1,026 new affiliate, associate and retired members! Our goal was 1,000 new members. However, we lost 851 members in 2015 due to death and other causes. In spite of the committee's surpassing our 2015 recruitment goal, we have an even steeper mountain to climb in 2016 since our new recruitment goal is 2,000 new members! We realize that we're making a huge leap from last year's 1,000 new members, but we're optimistic that if we fully implement the 2016 new RELAC Member Recruitment Strategy, which I described in the March/April edition of this newsletter, we have a good chance of reaching our recruitment goal.

The greatest challenges that lie ahead, for our committee to achieve our recruitment goals, are to incorporate new ideas into the mix of recruitment strategies that were successful in prior years. These new ideas include the following:

- Consideration of engaging a marketing consultant to help RELAC maximize our new member recruitment efforts.
- Maximizing RELAC's partnerships with LACERA, the Los Angeles Management Council and our insurance products provider, Pacific Group Agencies.
- Establishing new partnerships with additional Los Angeles County organizations.
- Contacting RELAC members who leave our organization to convince them to re-join.

Finally, another important aspect of our recruitment strategy is to ask RELAC members to help RELAC remain a strong and viable organization, whose main goal is to be "Your Pension and Health Care Watchdog"! Our committee asks our readers to request membership applications from our RELAC office for referral to co-workers or former co-workers. You will find RELAC's contact information on page 7 of this publication. We thank you in advance for your referrals.





Evelyn Gutierrez Named to RELAC Board of Directors

by Judy Hammond, Newsletter Editor



Evelyn Gutierrez has been appointed by the RELAC Board of Directors to fill the unexpired term of Martin Golds, who retired in November 2015 due to health reasons. The term expires in December.

A 35-year Los Angeles County employee, Gutierrez was director of workplace programs and marketing in the Chief Administrative Office at the time of her retirement, a position she had held for 15 years. That office handles such programs as countywide transportation, payroll deduction charitable giving, and volunteer opportunities, and serves as the County liaison to the Labor-Management Advisory Committee.

Gutierrez, a San Dimas resident, said as a RELAC director she is interested in promoting membership, expanding activities, and enhancing awareness of County services that interest and benefit retirees. "Los Angeles County and its employees are my second family. My dedication and loyalty to LA County has been at the core of my public sector career. I am honored for the opportunity to continue to serve Los Angeles County as a member of RELAC's Board of Directors."

Since retiring in 2003, Gutierrez has been a devoted County volunteer. She is a member of the County's Quality and Productivity Commission, currently chair of its awards committee and the annual awards luncheon at the Music Center. She is a volunteer at the East Los Angeles Library, where she works in the bookstore and helps raise funds for children's programs and new books, and coordinates the Cesar Chavez educational program. She is also a Board member and secretary of the LA County Library Foundation, assisting with corporate fund-raising for countywide programs like the Online Homework Help Line.

Gutierrez graduated from East Los Angeles College and attended Cal State Los Angeles and Cal Poly Pomona.

RELAC President Dave Muir said the Board is excited to have Gutierrez as a new member. "Evelyn's extensive contacts within County government, her expertise in marketing and administrative management, and her sincere desire to enhance the lives of County retirees will be valuable assets to RELAC and its more than 19,000 members."

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

by Don Fandry, Chair
Regional Support/Special Events Committee

Las Vegas Luncheon Meeting - Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2016

A reminder that our Las Vegas luncheon is Sept. 20 at the Orleans Hotel and Casino. **The deadline to reserve rooms at the negotiated rate of \$42 per night (plus a resort fee of \$12.99 and applicable taxes) is Aug. 19.**

RELAC's assigned reservation ID is ASREC09. The hotel's room reservation phone number is (800) 675-3267. The cost is \$30 per person for a plated lunch (choice of roast sirloin of beef or parmesan crusted chicken). Additional information is posted on our website. Don't hesitate to call the RELAC office with your questions.

Annual Picnic - Oct. 15, 2016

The date of our picnic is now confirmed for Oct. 15. Our menu and location (Santa Fe Dam Recreational Area) remain the same. This is one of the highlights of the year. The committee is looking forward to seeing you there. Look for our announcement and reservation form in the next issue of the newsletter.

Annual Recognition Luncheon - Jan. 26, 2017

The committee has reserved Almansor Court in Alhambra once again as the site of our Annual Recognition Luncheon. Additional information will follow as the committee reviews its options for a speaker and entertainment.

As always, thank you for your interest and support.



BRANDING RELAC



Due to requests from our members, caps and visors with the RELAC logo are now on sale for \$5 each at RELAC-sponsored events. Plans are to add polo shirts and other articles with RELAC's logo, and they will be offered as they become available. (Photo by Jason H. Williams)

SAVE THE DATE

July 8, 2016

Dodger Game & Fireworks, Dodger Stadium
September 20, 2016

Las Vegas Regional, Orleans Hotel
September 29, 2016

General Membership Meeting,
Arboretum in Arcadia
October 6, 2016

Santa Anita Park "Day at the Races"
October 15, 2016

Annual Picnic,
Santa Fe Dam Recreational Area, Irwindale
December 8, 2016

General Membership Meeting, Carson
January 26, 2017

Annual Recognition Luncheon, Almansor Court

Lists of Deaths on Website

We are now posting monthly lists of deaths of retired Los Angeles County employees on our website. We will continue to publish the "In Memoriam" column in the newsletter, but the website posting will allow the information to be available more timely. Find the listing at www.relac.org.

News From LACERA

by JJ Popowich
Assistant Executive Officer



I hope everyone is doing well.

By the time you read this, the traditional retirement season here at LACERA will have passed and RELAC may have some new members who recently retired. If any of you are newly retired and reading this – congratulations, you made it! Over the last several years I've used this time of year to give you an insight into the results of LACERA's annual "March Madness" season. "March Madness" is our nickname for the period between December 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 1 cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) that may be approved. This year we retired 1,441 members during the "March Madness" time period. That's higher than 2015's 1,350, and higher than the five-year average of 1,365 members.

There is a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes here at LACERA during "March Madness." Getting newly retired members set up for payroll is a family affair at LACERA. Just about every division is involved in the process. Here's just a few of the things that go on.

Member Services help educate our newly retired members and support our active and currently retired members. Their goal is to make sure the transition process is as smooth as possible and all of your questions are answered. Typically we see a huge spike in calls right after "March Madness" ends, as new retirees have questions and loose ends to tie up as they begin the new era in their life.

Our Benefits team is busy generating estimates and processing retirement applications that come in to ensure we get retired members on payroll as quickly as possible. At the same time, Benefits staff ensures our current retirees get their monthly checks on time, and we respond to requests from active members. Their goal is to start payment within 60 days of your retirement date.

Benefits works hand in hand with our Quality Assurance Division to make sure all of the benefits are checked for accuracy. Part of our mission to provide the promised benefit means that every single new retiree's benefit is checked for accuracy before it goes out the door.

Our Retiree Healthcare division diligently processes the newly retired members' healthcare applications. There is a lot of coordination that goes on with the insurance carriers to ensure that those services are ready for you when you need them.

Administrative Services processes and mails an amazing amount of confirmation letters and forms while making sure to scan all incoming documents to your Member Document Library record so staff has access to them when they need them to assist you.

Our Systems team is extremely busy assisting all of the divisions with their part of the process to set up the newly retired members, and support our active and current members.

That's just the tip of the iceberg. Literally, every division from Financial Accounting Services to Communications has a part to play in bringing you your monthly benefit.

All of this action keeps our staff on its toes. Despite our best efforts, you may experience slight delays when calling our Call Center or when stopping by to visit the Member Service Center at our office. Staff works very hard to get to each member as quickly as possible.

This seems like a perfect time to give a couple of plugs for our website www.lacera.com.

As anyone who has gone through the retirement process knows, there are a lot of forms that you may need to fill out. We provide these forms as part of our new retiree welcome package, but sometimes you just need an extra copy. If that happens, it's often quicker to visit www.lacera.com and access our Brochures and Forms page. This page has recently been redesigned to make brochures and forms easier to find by grouping them together based on easy-to-understand categories. You can download and print forms or make a request to have LACERA send you a copy.

Members who like to use the computer are encouraged to establish a My LACERA account if you haven't already. My LACERA allows you to update your address, tax withholding instructions, direct deposit instructions, download your monthly automatic deposit receipts, access copies of your annual 1099-Rs (for our newly retired members, this is the form that replaces the W2), and very soon to be able to update your beneficiary information. It is a huge time-saver performing these account maintenance procedures online vs. calling our Call Center or sending a written request.

Of course, if you are the type of person that prefers talking to a live person, our Call Center is available every weekday from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at (800)786-6464. You are also welcome to visit our Member Service Center. We recommend you set an appointment to meet with a specialist by visiting lacera.com or calling the Call Center. The Member Service Center is open from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome, but please be aware that the wait time to see a specialist for walk-ins may be longer.

Well, that's it for this month. Until we chat again, I hope you enjoy every day of your retirement. You earned it!

Defined Benefit Pensions Provide Best Security

by Gregg Rademacher

(LACERA Chief Executive Officer Gregg Rademacher was 2015 president of the California Association of Public Retirement Systems. This was his outgoing message.)



Defined benefit pensions remain the best way to provide retirement security. Pooling risks among pension participants means no one is left behind to fend for themselves against investment market forces. The risk pooling concept is a readily accepted cornerstone for the insurance industry. Across America, the rich and poor purchase auto, fire, and life insurance. Nearly everyone agrees buying insurance together is a better choice for the community than requiring each person in the community to face risk alone and self-insure. The advantages of risk pooling have provided our country the ability to maximize capital in more productive personal and commercial endeavors. Although it is difficult to imagine a special interest group devising a campaign to end the insurance industry, imagine a world where fire, auto, and life risks are all self-insured. It is foreseeable the less fortunate would suffer from loss at a greater magnitude, thus causing greater long term socioeconomic distance between the haves and the have-nots.

Planning retirement security solely using a 401k or 457 defined contribution savings plan (DC Plan) is similar to choosing to be self-insured. The individual must plan their investments in a manner tied solely to their expected lifespan. One analogy would be an individual investor in the investment market being a small boat crossing the sea. It is quite possible the small boat will have fair winds, clear skies, safe passage, and arrive safely in port. Likewise, the individual investor will have had the good fortune to have saved sufficient capital, enjoyed a stable investment market during retirement, and completed life's journey without financial worry.

It is also quite possible the small boat will face the "perfect storm," and we all know this scenario's unfortunate end. Likewise, the individual investor suffers through significant investment market headwinds, loses substantial investment capital, and never reaches retirement security. Sadly, this hypothetical scenario is all too real for our community's elderly who are being forced to work beyond their capable years or struggling to meet their basic needs. Perhaps it would be wise to have fewer small boats in favor of having a larger boat. Perhaps it is wise to have fewer individuals putting their retirement security at risk with DC Plans and join together in pooling their retirement security risk in a defined benefit pension plan.

If it is difficult to imagine a special interest group devising a campaign to end the insurance industry, why does our community entertain a special interest group devising a campaign to end defined benefit pension security? At some point, we will collectively realize the self-insured style DC Plan has failed to provide retirement security and resulted in an unhealthy socioeconomic distance between various members of our community. We are rapidly moving toward this societal epiphany as 10,000 baby boomers retire daily with an average DC Plan balance reported by Fidelity Investments of \$91,300 (which equals an annuity of approximately \$510 per month during retirement).

Our California defined benefit pension plan foundations were built in the 1930's from the retirement security lessons learned from those who survived the Great Depression. Regrettably, there are short-sighted special interest groups with a mission to again suffer past failures, and our community may be destined to relive a past where retirement security was nothing more than a dream. Today, it is imperative that well-run defined benefit pension plans survive as a model for the future.



Letters To The Editor Write On!

The letter from Ed Totten was 100% right. You had a good section on "New Members" and "In Memoriam," but not now. As I am only 86, I hope my name stays off the last list for a while.

Jim Lancaster, LaPine, OR

One correction, one comment. Correction: (Judy Hammond's Inside LA County column) states that Dr. James Mosely was director of the AIDS program for Health Services. He wasn't director of the AIDS program for DHS, perhaps the AIDS transfusion program for whatever medical center (probably LAC+USC) he worked. Comment: I like your "Keeping up with Retirees" section, but let's get some non-white and LGBT persons in there next time.

John Schunhoff, Los Angeles, CA

(Ed. Note: Mosely's obituary in LA Times described him as "director of the acquired immune deficiency syndrome program at the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services" in the early 1980s. We were unable to confirm his title through DHS, but did confirm he was the department's principal investigator in the "look-back studies" that followed people who had been inadvertently infected with hepatitis b (or c) through blood transfusions, the same methodology used to contact people who had received HIV- infected blood transfusions. We did err in reporting the age of death. He was 86, not 76.)

What a great organization RELAC is and I am so pleased to be a member. I always look forward to the newsletter - read it front to back. This time I see that I was a winner of \$25 in the Valentine drawing. A very nice gift to get. Thank you for the check and for all the good work you do.

Lorraine Kirk, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA

Please sign me up for e-mail alerts. Also, can you put into the newsletter how to receive a membership card.

Sheila Yamaguchi, Venice, CA

(Ed. Note: To get a new membership card, just call or e-mail the RELAC office.)

Thank you so much for the 2016-2017 pocket calendar. Also, I appreciate that my name was drawn in the Valentine drawing. I was really surprised and happy that I turned in the coupon. I retired in 1993 and have enjoyed my life volunteering at the Laughlin, NV food bank, working in the church office, cleaning the church, being part of our money-counting group, golfing and being on the board at our golf course. It is great to be in good health. Hope everyone gets out and volunteers in some way. It keeps you young. I also wish to thank you all who labor on our retirement needs.

Arleen McDonald, Bullhead City, AZ

Thank you so much for the birthday card. Yes, I was 90 years old in September 2015. None of my old friends are still around, but we had a great luau party with my daughters attending. In spite of having lung

continued on p.10

For Sale

CEMETERY LOT - Beautiful location, Grave 3, Lot 476 in the "Maple Lawn" section near the main gate of Oakdale Memorial Park in Glendora. Retail price: \$5,200 to \$5,400; asking \$3,500 plus transfer fee. Call Barry at (760) 961-0917 (leave message if there is no answer).

SINGLE CAPACITY MAUSOLEUM - Inglewood Park Cemetery, 8766 Sanctuary of Light, single capacity, Sunset Mission Mausoleum, 720 E. Florence Ave., Inglewood. Asking \$6,000. Call Alice at (310) 634-7027.

Just Saying:

Quote of the Day

"Your success and happiness lies in you. Resolve to keep happy, and your joy and you shall form an invincible host against difficulties."

Helen Keller

(Submitted by RELAC Board Member Bill de la Garza)

LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERVISOR
MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
PRESENTS
19TH ANNUAL SALUTE TO VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

SATURDAY, MAY 28, 2016, 10:00 AM TO 2:00 PM
MEMORIAL DAY TRIBUTE AT 11:00 AM

- ★ VETERANS' BENEFITS, SERVICES
- ★ LIVE MUSIC; FOOD VENDORS; CHILDREN'S AREA
- ★ FREE HAIRCUTS; MANICURES; HEALTH SCREENINGS
- ★ VINTAGE AIRCRAFT FLYOVER AND SKYDIVERS
- ★ WALL OF REMEMBRANCE- BRING A VETERAN'S PHOTO TO DISPLAY
- ★ ARCADIA VIETNAM WAR MONUMENT DEDICATION AND FIELD OF HONOR DISPLAY
- ★ PET ADOPTIONS

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Membership is subject to eligibility. All new accounts will be verified through ChexSystems and are subject to credit approval. Real Estate Loans are subject to credit approval. Due to current real estate and economic conditions, loan requests that exceed 80% of the property's value will require additional review and may incur higher costs. Loan funding is subject to membership eligibility and credit approval.



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Retired Employees
of Los Angeles County
1000 S. Fremont Ave.
Unit 15, Alhambra, CA
91803-8802

(626) 308-0532
(800) 537-3522
Fax (626) 308-2901

E-mail: admin@relac.org
website:
www.relac.org

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Monday - Thursday
Closed Friday, Saturday,
Sunday &
Public Holidays

Golf News

By *Gil Sandoval*
RELAC Golf Director



La Mirada Golf Tournament - March 30, 2016

The course was undergoing a renovation, so a bit difficult if a player got into the wrong spots trying to avoid the work areas. Gil Sandoval, playing exceptionally well, held on to edge out Chuck Adams to win the "A" flight with a net 62. Chuck came in second with a net 63. Benny Martinez took third with a 66.

The real battle was in the "B" flight with John Wehrly winning over Robert Prince and Luis Martinez, who closely followed by one stroke each with net 62, 63 and 64 respectively. An even closer match was the "C" flight. Tony Cancel, with a net score of 68, won. Only one stroke back were Ernie Barrera and Richard Duran, with Ernie taking second in a card off.

Charlene DeBie, scoring seven strokes better than last month, won the ladies flight with a net 78. The task was made easier because she had no competition. We need the ladies out with us. It makes the day even more pleasant.

Please note the Lakewood tournament on Oct. 10 will be a 7 a.m. shotgun start. So please be prepared for an early morning beginning for all the players.

Please note that the golf entry form will no longer be published in the newsletter. The form may be attained on the RELAC website: www.relac.org. If you cannot download from a computer, please call the office and staff will mail it to you.

La Mirada Results:

"A" Flight Winners (19 and under)

1st Gil Sandoval (62)
2nd Chuck Adams (63)
3rd Benny Martinez (66)

"B" Flight (20-27 Handicaps)

1st John Wehrly (62)
2nd Robert Prince (63)
3rd Luis Martinez (64)

"C" Flight (28 up Handicaps)

1st Tony Cancel (68)
2nd Ernie Barrera (69)*
3rd Robert Duran (69)

Women's Flight

1st Charlene DeBie (78)

**Winner in a card off*

Closest to the Pin on Par 3's

Men: # 3 - Gil Sandoval
5 - Chuck McGlothlin
9 - Art Moronez
11 - Ernie Barrera
13 - Henry Villasenor
17 - Jerry Nottke

Women: #3, #5, #9, #11, #13, #17 - No winners

NEXT TOURNAMENT

June 13, 2016

Santa Anita Golf Course - 8 a.m. start
Entry Deadline: May 26

RELAC Night at Dodger Stadium Friday, July 8, 2016 **LAST CALL!**



by *Mary K. Rodriguez*
Chair, Recreation Committee

On Friday, July 8 the **Los Angeles Dodgers will be playing the San Diego Padres**. Following the game there will be a "spectacular fireworks show."

The actual ticket price is \$34 per person. However, with RELAC's subsidy, **your net cost will be \$30 per ticket**. Our seats are located in a great spot in the lower reserved section near home plate. David Kirkpatrick, account director at the stadium, told me that we will be seated in his favorite area - not only does it provide a great view of the game, but you can see into the Dodger dugout. It should be an awesome game!

RELAC Night has always been very popular and a limited number of seats are available. Bring your family and friends and enjoy a fun evening. Fill out the coupon below and send it along with your check to the RELAC office. **The deadline for reservations is June 27**. Your tickets will be mailed to you on June 30.

Hope to see you there!

Go Dodgers!!!

DODGERS VS. SAN DIEGO PADRES

Friday, July 8, 2016

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

Number of Tickets: _____ @ \$30 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, 2016





Keeping Up With Retirees

We asked four RELAC members to let us know what they have been doing since retirement. Their articles follow.

LLOYD "BILL" PELLMAN

I retired as county counsel in March of 2004 after just over 31 years with the County, all in the Counsel's Office. But my wife, Kathleen, says I "failed retirement" because I was just sitting quietly and reading for most days, a completely different schedule from those decades at the County.



Two weeks after leaving the County, I joined a small law firm (mostly long-time friends), but left after just over a year to join Nossaman LLP, where I still focus on public agency issues.

Kathleen and I went to Paris in 2010 for the magical movie-like wedding of her son, Michael, to an intelligent, beautiful French woman. We walked to the wedding ceremony through the streets of Paris, following the beautiful couple like little ducklings. There was a party the following night on a rented barge on the Seine River where we danced and socialized until 4 a.m. True to European customs regarding vacations, Michael's wife schedules vacations for them, so in 2013 while they were touring Mexico, we met them for a week on Isla Mujeres.

My four children live in Southern California, so now that they are grown we can watch football games together and get together for happy hour. I have two great-grandchildren, each of whom I was fortunate to hold within the first 24 hours after birth.

Kathleen keeps me healthy with her oversight of what I eat (when we are together), and we walk 3.5 miles each weekend day for exercise in our hilly neighborhood near the Rose Bowl. For laughs, we are fairly regular members of the audience at the Ice House in Pasadena.

Currently I am serving as assistant general counsel for the Metro Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority and assistant general counsel for the Central Basin Municipal Water District, as well as assisting on many other public agency issues. As long as I am enjoying my work, I will continue to have my profession provide my daily enjoyment. Although one of these days, I still intend to try my hand at writing like my brother, Terry Pellman, and my son Ken Pellman (look up their books on Amazon.com).



HARVEY KERN

I retired 20 years ago in March 1996 after serving 32 years in Public Health and Health Services. My last nine years were as director of public affairs at Los Angeles County+USC Medical Center, where I was the media representative for the very busy hospital. I also taught evening graduate classes in health science at California State University, Northridge, for 24 years. On the weekends I was a disc jockey (voice talent) for a Thousand Oaks FM radio station for 20 years.

I am divorced and live in Westwood with my lovely partner, former DHS manager Ann C. Hayman. We enjoy seeing films and plays, and we are both very active in the community. Our grandchildren (two for each of us) play a big role in our lives.

In retirement, I am a volunteer at five locations. I give architecture and garden tours at the Getty Center in Brentwood. Also garden tours at the Adamson House in Malibu and the UCLA Mildred E. Mathias Botanical Garden in Westwood. At the Annenberg Community Beach House in Santa Monica, I greet visitors and give tours. And every Thursday morning I serve as lead volunteer for the air and space program at the California Science Center in Los Angeles, where you will find me with the Space Shuttle Endeavour.

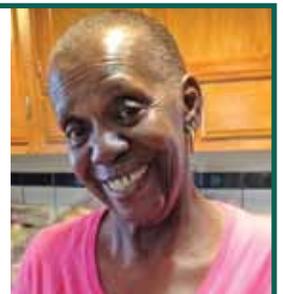
Along with fellow health retiree Richard Marciniak, I maintain a roster of retired County health managers, and e-mail contributed monthly updates to all of them. We gather twice a year for a luncheon at the San Antonio Winery.

Retirement has been very rewarding.

Retirement is...

"Retirement is a blessing to Phase II of the crossroads of life."

*Carol Valley, Retired 2014,
Secretary, Chief Executive Office*





CAROL MATSUI

I started with the County in 1964 as a student worker. My goals were to finish paying for college and on to the world of teaching. As fate would have it, that never happened. I ran into two very persuasive people – Bob Blinn and Harry Hufford – and that’s all she wrote. Forty years later and a career that spanned three County departments, I retired in February 2005.

I started in the budget division of the Chief Administrative Office, moved on to the Department of Public Social Services, then to the Department of Real Estate Management, and back to the CAO, culminating my career in DPSS for 30 years. I started in the secretarial series and moved into administrative series. The DPSS assignment permitted me to learn and grow and attain the position of division chief/assistant to the director, where I was in charge of liaising with staff of the Board of Supervisors, coordinating all media inquiries, supervising our public inquiry unit, and providing staff support to the director.

Retirement was an adjustment. Since I’m not a traveler, I needed to find an outlet for my energy. Volunteering proved to be a great transition. I volunteered for the City of San Dimas senior hot lunch program, the San Dimas Sheriff’s Department, Pasadena Humane Society, and the Pasadena Showcase House.

Since that post retirement burst of volunteering energy, the pace has become more of a walk than a run. I attend Curves at least four times a week and try to walk every day. Exploring the many attractions within California and nearby states with family and friends has been relaxing and enjoyable. Some of my favorite close-by destinations are Vegas, San Juan Capistrano (via Amtrak), Santa Barbara, Hearst Castle, Morro Bay, Monterey, Catalina Island, Cambria and Temecula. I also love reading spy mysteries and going to the movies. I have even found time to take golf lessons. Golf is a fun game, but can be extremely frustrating – par is an unfamiliar term within my game.

I have lived in San Dimas for 36 years and really enjoy the small town environment.



TOM HIBBARD

On March 15, 1973, I left my job of 4½ years in the El Monte Health District and drove downtown to begin an 18-year stint as a deputy, and ultimately chief deputy, to Los Angeles County Supervisor Pete Schabarum. Assignments involved working with departments and employees on a broad range of functions and issues.

Department of Health Services accomplishments include increasing the use of nurse practitioners, building a comprehensive health center in El Monte, developing a master plan for the future of Rancho Los Amigos Medical Center and working with the USC School of Medicine to begin residency programs in family medicine and emergency medicine. Perhaps most satisfying was the launch of a countywide network of trauma centers to serve patients with traumatic injuries.

More visible to residents of the First District were capital projects such as community and regional parks, horse and bicycle trails, libraries, sheriff stations, fire stations and courtrooms.

After Pete Schabarum retired in early 1991, I began working at the Museum of Natural History, retiring in January 1993. My wife, June, and I live in Loma Linda and she continued her work as a public health nurse administrator with San Bernardino County after my retirement. Pete and I took up travel as a pastime. We visited islands in the South and Western Pacific Ocean—Palau, Peleliu, Pohnpei, Kosrae, Hawaii, Fiji, Aitutaki, and Rarotonga, to name a few. There are some 20,000 islands in the Pacific Ocean so a good number await our next visit.

Two things have occupied my attention during retirement: investing in stocks and real estate, which also involves serving on the boards of directors of homeowners associations. The goal is to provide a nest egg for our daughter, Dawn (who is general manager of an Inland Empire radio station, KSGN 89.7 FM), in a world where young people find it more difficult to plan for a comfortable retirement.

County Fire Department retirees may recall Robert A. Cinader, creator of the popular 1970s Saturday night television show “Emergency!” A great friend, before his death he encouraged, and challenged me, to take up writing. The product—a tongue-in-cheek novel titled “The Lobbyist”—set in county government. Some of the characters are based partially, and for the most part fictionally, on actual people within the County.

(Letters continued from p. 5)

cancer surgery in 2012 (never smoked) and a double mastectomy in 2015, I keep going on trips by myself – no walker, no cane. I feel so fortunate and thankful each day for this blessing. I really appreciate your well wishes and wish you the same.
Ilse Kraemer, Dana Point, CA

I was surprised and deeply moved when I read my name as a 2016 Valentine drawing winner chosen to receive a \$25 check. It took 16 yearly entries before winning. Therefore, it pays to never give up and keep trying. Thank U! Thank U! Thank U! Keep smiling like me.
Wivory Brandle, Los Angeles, CA

Thank you very much for the beautiful card the Outreach Committee sent me for my 93rd birthday. I appreciate your thoughtfulness. I have a number of newspaper clippings, but I don't know if you would be interested in seeing them. Thank you again. Be good to yourselves!
Laura Mathews, Long Beach, CA

What a wonderful surprise to open my mail on this past Saturday and learn that I was one of the winners in the Valentine's Day drawing. Thank you for this very warm and pleasant gesture.
Bettye Thompson, Alhambra, CA

Thank you so much for the pretty birthday card. A very nice surprise. Wishing everyone at RELAC a great year! Your dedication and thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated. I am 91 and a retiree of 26 years.
Irene Towle, Norwalk, CA

Thank you for your care of us. Was I surprised when "yes" I won a Valentine gift and had my name printed in the newsletter too! Each year I look forward to the planner and I use it daily. If I don't make notes in my planner, it doesn't happen in my life.
Myrna-Joy Pugh, Los Angeles, CA

Appreciate the \$25 check from the Valentine Day drawing. Went out to dinner with a friend.
Ken Pavlick, Fort Lauderdale, FL

I received my check from the Valentine drawing and it really came in handy. How wonderful to be remembered after 22 years of retirement.
Marilyn Jenkins, Southfield, MI

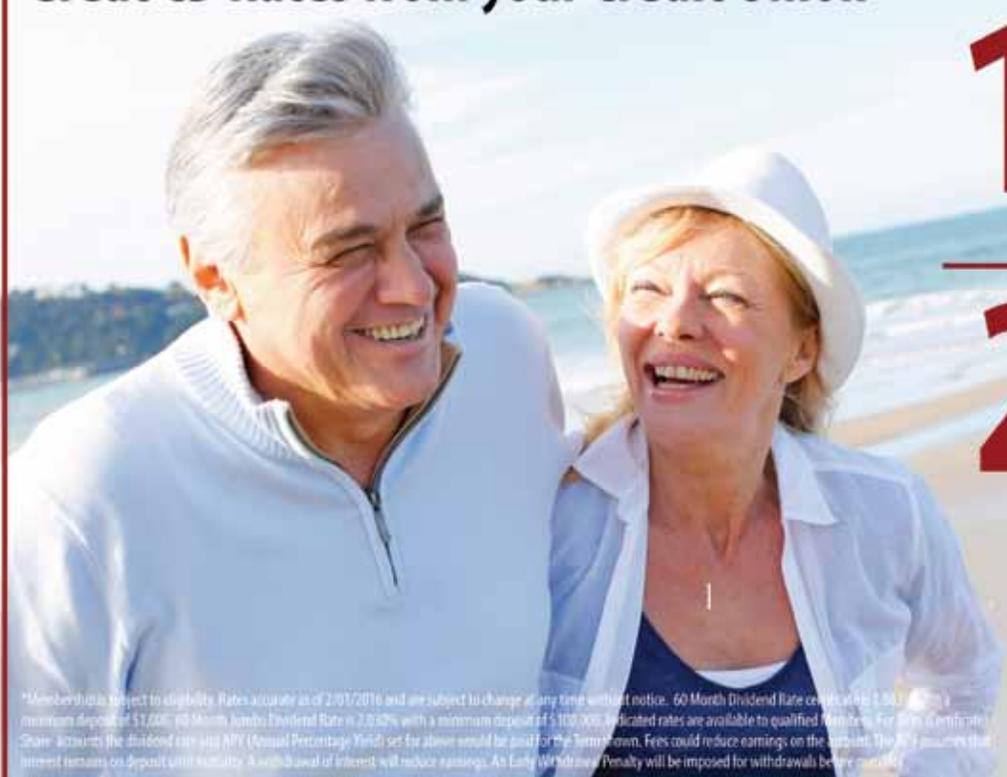
How nice to receive a birthday greeting from you and the RELAC Outreach Committee, especially since I know how busy you are taking care of all the retirees. Thank you and my very best wishes to all of you on your birthdays and every day.
Ruby Nomura, Los Angeles, CA

Thank you very much for remembering my birthday by sending me a special card.
Hanako Nakamoto, Pasadena, CA

Dear RELAC friends. Have a brother quite ill so today I am catching up with my mail. What a surprise. Thank you for the \$25 prize. Will go to the movies.
Sofia Willsie-Harding, Long Beach, CA

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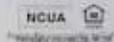
60-Month Certificate

1.90 %*
Annual Percentage Yield
\$1,000 Minimum Deposit

2.05 %*
Annual Percentage Yield
\$100,000 Minimum Deposit

Southland
CREDIT UNION

*Member rates subject to eligibility. Rates accurate as of 2/01/2016 and are subject to change at any time without notice. 60 Month Dividend Rate ceiling of 1.50% with a minimum deposit of \$1,000. 60 Month Jumbo Dividend Rate is 2.052% with a minimum deposit of \$100,000. Indicated rates are available to qualified Members. For 60 month certificate, Share accounts the dividend rate and APY (Annual Percentage Yield) set forth above should be paid for the Term shown. Fees could reduce earnings on the account. The APY assumes that interest remains on deposit until maturity. A withdrawal of interest will reduce earnings. An Early Withdrawal Penalty will be imposed for withdrawals before maturity.



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RV Outing Notes

Ed Clifton
Coordinator of RV Club
and Jeanne Klauk,
Assistant Coordinator of the RV Club



From Jeanne:

March brought us to Banning Stagecoach KOA for another fun-filled campout. Most of us arrived on Sunday, as we like to get started with our visiting and cards. Those camping this time were: Al and Diana Medina, Gil and Eloise Cardiel, Don and Shirley Egbert, Mike and Veronica Reyes, Ron and Betsy Morgon, Dennis and Wanda Klodt, Dorie Fregeau, Ed Clifton, and me.

Ed had dinner with Mom and I and we watched "The Martian." Monday morning Al and Diana provided coffee and delicious pastries - yet again raising the bar for us. It was a might windy - as is usual in Banning - but we had the use of the clubhouse, and spent a lot of our time playing cards and visiting in it. Monday evening we had hors d'oeuvres. Dulcy's friends Monita and Curtis joined us. They didn't stay with us this time, as they still have to work. Tuesday morning was another breakfast feast. Then on Tuesday, Al and Diana provided us with another "Margarita party" at 2:30. Fred Weinberg joined us for a nice visit, and invited us back to his house to see the remodeled kitchen, that he doesn't cook in. Betsy took Dulcy, Fred and me on a very wild, spin-out, rock-spraying ride over there - in Fred's new car, to see this gorgeous kitchen. Tuesday evening we had a very nice potluck. On Wednesday we were served another great breakfast. Wednesday evening we went to Sizzlers for dinner, and were joined by Randy, Fred, Fred's brother, Mark, and his wife, Judy. It was nice to visit with them. When we returned, once again we were at the table playing cards. Al and Diana joined us and had a good time beating us at 7 up and Shang Hai. They were playing partners so they had an advantage. It seems that what we do the most is dining and cards - a pretty good time.

Our next outing will be to Flying Flags in Buellton. It is a favorite RV park. There is a hotel nearby and Flying Flags has cabins that you can rent, so if you don't have a rig, come join us - just bring something to share for potluck and hors d'oeuvres. We always have enough food - and decks of cards. Hope to see you soon - come have fun with us and meet new friends.

From Ed:

Since we have no outings during the summer months the coupon for our next outing will be published in the July/August newsletter or, if space is limited, it will be available on the RELAC website. So until next time, have a great summer and be safe. As always, if you need more information or have any questions, give Jeanne or me a call and we will do our best to answer them. Jeanne's telephone number is (562)896-8904 and mine is (562)428-3360. If I am not home, leave a message and I'll get back to you as soon as possible. Again, stay safe and have a wonderful summer.

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Photo Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) / Tor Johnson

Destination / Date	Dates	Relac Price
9 Day Classic Ireland <i>Dublin - Galway - Irish Countryside - Cliffs of Moher - Bunratty Castle & Park - Ring of Kerry - Blarney Castle - Waterford - Kilkenny</i>	August - October 2016	Starting at \$999 (Land Only)
8 Day Art Cities of Spain <i>Madrid - Medieval Toledo - Valencia - Penedes - Barcelona</i>	April - October 2016	Starting at \$1049 (Land Only)
9 Day Classic Sicily <i>Palermo - Monreale - Erice - Agrigento - Mt. Etna - Taormina - Giardino Naxos - Piazza Armerina</i>	May - October 2016	Starting at \$1349 (Land Only)
California & Oregon Coast - Rail & Sail Ruby Princess 8 Day Rail, Motorcoach & Cruise Tour No Air Travel	September 15-22, 2016 <i>with Final Payment Due: July 18, 2016</i> Fully Escorted Tour	Starting at \$1694
Ruby Princess Pacific Cruising 7 Night Cruise <i>Los Angeles - San Francisco - Santa Barbara - San Diego - Ensenada - Los Angeles</i> No Air Travel	October 22, 2016 <i>with Final Payment Due: August 5, 2016</i>	Starting at \$1169
Star Princess Cruise 15 Day Hawaiian Islands <i>Los Angeles - Hilo - Honolulu - Kawai - Maui - Ensenada</i> No Air Travel	March 13, 2017	Starting at \$1749

Other itineraries are available. Rates reflect early booking discount for RELAC members (specific dates for each departure). Prices subject to availability. Each tour features different air gateway, certain taxes and fees may be additional, meals included per full terms provided prior to deposit.

CA Seller of Travel #1019830-40

May 2016



RELAC Office Manager Pat Koulos and member Jeff Samson listen to presentation.



DMV speaker Tressa Thompson answers questions of attendees.



RELAC Board Members Mary Rodriguez and Alice Prouty welcome guests.

Senior Driving Issues Discussed at RELAC's March Membership Meeting

by Jason H. Williams
RELAC Board Member

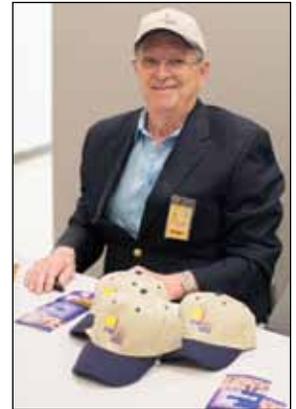
Nearly 100 RELAC members and guests attended RELAC's General Membership meeting on March 29 at the Hacienda Heights Community Center. This Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation facility -- nearly brand new -- was used for the first time by RELAC for a general membership meeting

After welcoming remarks by RELAC President Dave Muir and the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance led by Vice President Greg Walia, Muir recognized veterans and their families and RELAC members 90 years of age and older.

He then introduced representatives of three organizations that have worked closely with RELAC in providing various services which are very important to our members: Bill Siefke of Great Western Travel, Steve Pettee of Pacific Group Agencies (group-discounted insurance products), and Becky Marez of Southland Credit Union.

Finally, Muir introduced keynote speaker Tressa Thompson, senior driver ombudsman with the California Department of Motor Vehicles, whose topic was "Seniors and Safe Driving." Thompson spoke for 45 minutes, during which she answered many questions from the audience dealing with senior citizen driving issues. She brought lots of hand-outs on senior driving and also met one-on-one with members after the meeting to answer their important questions. Thompson was previously keynote speaker at RELAC's June 30, 2015 regional meeting in Huntington Beach, and we were fortunate that she was able to speak to our members once again.

Before the meeting adjourned, upcoming RELAC events were announced and lots of door prizes, including two gift baskets, compliments of Pacific Group Agencies, were given to lucky RELAC members and guests.



RELAC Board Member Don Fandry sells new hats with RELAC logo.



Guests enjoy light refreshments before meeting begins.

New Member Referrals

Our appreciation to RELAC members who recruited new members the first three months of this year. Thanks to (RELAC member in bold, new member in italics):

Armando Garcia, Karen Tu, Department of Mental Health; **Robert Cornelius**, Frank Cornelius, 2014 retiree of the Internal Services Department; **Ida Leon**, Patrick DeChellis, who retired as deputy public works director in March; **Jake Ross** and **Jason H. Williams**, Renee Jennings, employee of the Department of Public Social Services; **Drake Patterson**, Cora Renee Patterson, who retired from LACERA in January; **Cadena Diego**, Mark White, who retired from Public Works in February.

Board Members **Bill de la Garza** and **Steve Duron** recruited Frank Gonzales, who retired from the Parks and Recreation Department in March; and Board Member **Jason H. Williams** recruited Cheryl Jones, who works in the Public Defender's Office, Jake Ross of the Department of Public Social Services, and also got Cynthia Banks, director of the Department of Community and Senior Services, to reinstate her membership.

For membership applications and brochures, call (800) 537-3522, e-mail admin@relac.org or go online at www.relac.org. Remind the new members you recruit to put your name on their applications so we can thank you for the referrals. Keep RELAC strong; help us grow.



(Photos by Jason H. Williams)

Inside LA County

by Judy Hammond,
Newsletter Editor



RELAC member Dr. *Lakshmanan Sathyavagiswaran*, who retired in 2013, is back as LA County's interim medical examiner-coroner. His successor, Dr. Mark Fajardo, resigned April 15, saying he wasn't provided the resources he needed to perform his duties. He said understaffing had led to a huge backlog and delays were getting worse, particularly in cases requiring toxicology tests, which were taking six months to complete. The chief executive officer is doing an analysis of workload and response times, but it is not a new complaint. Vidal Herrera, a coroner investigator in the late 70s and 80s who has a company that performs private autopsies, said lack of resources dates back at least 40 years. Craig Harvey, former chief of investigations who retired last year, said the workload is "relentless" and often staff will move elsewhere for easier work conditions and equal or sometimes better pay. The department investigates about 22,000-25,000 deaths annually and performs about 9,000 autopsies.

Supervisors will vote May 3 on a proposal by the Public Health Department that would require pharmaceutical companies to finance a disposal program for unused medications and syringes. Over-the-counter drug manufacturers have mounted a vigorous campaign to defeat the proposal.

Former County Public Health Director Dr. Jonathan Fielding and wife, Karin, now have a wing named after them at the Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens in San Marino. The two were lead donors to a \$10.3 million expansion to the Virginia Steele Scott Galleries of American Art, which will open Oct. 22.

"Urban Light," the restored street lamps on display at the entrance of the County Art Museum that is popular for selfies, will be closed to the public from May 1 to about June 30 for repairs.

Mike Gin, former aide to Supervisor Don Knabe, has dropped out of the race to replace Knabe.

The County's mental health court, which determines whether a criminal defendant is fit to stand trial, has seen a surge in cases in the past three years – from 944 in 2010 to 3,528 in 2015. County supervisors commissioned a study to find out why and what resources are needed to handle the spike.

Supervisors have voted to open a "sobering center" on skid row, providing a place for police and paramedics to take dangerously intoxicated people in lieu of jail or emergency rooms. Once sober, these people will be referred to treatment and housing programs. Some homeless persons with chronic alcoholism are taken to County+USC Medical Center up to 50 times a year, sometimes several times the same day.

Supervisors have approved Chief Executive Officer Sachi Hamai's proposal to disband the Chief Information Office, transfer some of its functions to her office and some to the Internal Services Department, and transfer to other departments 76 CEO employees who perform "transactional functions."

The recently released 2014-15 County financial report -- the first to be prepared under new rules requiring pension liabilities to be factored into long-term debt -- shows that the long-term debt has doubled to \$20 billion, largely due to \$7 billion in unfunded employee pension obligations. Another \$1.3 billion was a reflection of a technical change in pension accounting. The report showed that the amount owed for retiree healthcare increased by \$1.7 billion from the previous year.

The County is looking at new sources of revenue to pay for increased homeless services, including increasing sales and parcel taxes, imposing

new taxes on medical marijuana and millionaires, and redirecting Measure B trauma care funds. Supervisors have until Aug. 12 to place a measure on the November ballot.

The L.A. Times gave District Attorney Jackie Lacey, who faces no opposition for reelection this year, a solid "B" rating for her first term, saying she has been a good district attorney.

Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center hopes to get its trauma center designation no later than January 2017. It is currently expanding and remodeling its facility, training employees, hiring new employees, and applying for permits.

Former Sheriff Lee Baca will be sentenced May 16 after pleading guilty to lying to FBI agents and federal prosecutors investigating the beatings of jail inmates and visitors. Under terms of his plea bargain, Baca will serve no more than six months behind bars and could receive probation only. Retired Undersheriff Paul Tanaka, convicted in April of obstruction of justice and conspiracy in the same case, will be sentenced June 20 and faces as long as 15 years in federal prison. Jurors spent less than two hours to return a verdict against Tanaka.

Officials are trying to figure out why the average cost of incarcerating a youth in juvenile hall has soared to \$233,600 a year -- significantly higher than other comparable jurisdictions -- while the number of youths being housed has dropped dramatically. The extra money didn't seem to help conditions at Central Juvenile Hall, which a recent county study called "unacceptable," "deplorable," and similar to a "Third World country prison."

Acknowledging the two "youth welcome centers" opened several years ago had failed, supervisors voted to close them and outsource care of youths to private shelter contractors. The facilities were waiting rooms for foster youths with nowhere else to go, but officials often were unable to find placements within the 24 hours allowed by law.

Supervisors approved a 18-year \$135-million plan to renovate the 104-acre Magic Johnson Park in Willowbrook, including an equestrian center, new community event center, aquatic center, skate park, sculpture garden and dog park.

RETIREMENTS: Chief Information Officer *Richard Sanchez*, who had 42 years of County service. Board of Supervisors Acting Executive Officer *Patrick Ogawa*, 30 years. Deputy Director of Public Works *Patrick DeChellis*. County Fair Association Chief Executive *James Henwood Jr.*, who said he had become a distraction to the work of the organization due to recent controversy over his pay and benefit package.

IN MEMORIAM

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

Aids Program - Warren P. Harwood

Alternate Public Defender - Juanita E. McLean

Assessor - Valeria Camarena, Walita M. Keys, Herman J. Knickmeyer, Marilyn J. McKague, Fay Murray, William L. Wells

Auditor-Controller - Lawrence D. Gonzales

Beaches & Harbors - Jerry A. Cunningham

Chief Executive Office - Eduardo N. Perez

Chief Information Office - Doris J. Hatton

Child Support Services - Miriam Batista

Children & Family Services - Jill D. Calmese, John A. Casados, Barbara C. Dennis, Norma F. Downs, Gaynor R. Harris, Alice C. Kato, Connie Kortick, Virginia M. Lee, Emma F. Morthel, Corazon M. Navarro, Alan M. Packard, Linda D. Patterson, Joseph G. Pillsbury, Martha C. Salinas, Doris S. Smith, Michiko Tamaki, Norma Vasquez, Martha H. Watson

Community Health - Robert J. Banning, Norman F. Hauret

Community & Senior Services - Beulah Moy, Howard Wilson

County Counsel - Shirley R. Hall, Gloria Nix

Data Processing - Thomas J. Lawton, Samir G. Mikhail

District Attorney - Marion A. Gentile, Richard D. Howard, Tsuneyo A. Imai, Novella V. Jackson, Elizabeth Marshall, Gerard R. Poirier

Fire - Sinuri I. Akib, Raymond W. Frydendall, David T. Hughes, Robert N. Hughes, Harley J. Knight, Robert A. Kummelehne, Artemio Lavin, Raymond G. Leach, Robert D. Messall, Eugene O. Moore, Wallace Tice, Lowell R. Turner, George L. Verkamp, Thomas D. Voigt, Franklin A. Wall Jr., Carl M. White

Flood Control - Gaston C. Aubineau, Richard J. Eckhardt, Albert G. Goodman, Robert C. Parsons

Harbor/UCLA Medical Center - Bobbie Campbell, Edgar L. Davis, Victor Matalaka, Tella E. Neal, Kathryn L. Smith

Health Services - Betty J. Berg

Health Plan Administration - Corinne Bandell, Gloria Colon-Reeves, William F. Little

Health Services Administration - Jean M. Bertig, Mary E. Bryant, Hurbert D'Arnal, Benjamin M. Gee, John Johnson, Maria C. Lopez, William Rosborough, Rex E. Sterling, Merdiced Thomas, Richard Veraldi, Beatrice Williams

Internal Services - James F. Andrews, Catarino G. Carrillo, Abraham L. Dowden, James p. Gaffney, Ronald P. Greene, Reginald J. Howell, Frank L. Kleeman, Wilvesta Morgan, Oscar O. Royal, William A. Scott, William R. Shuttleworth, Howard E. Simmons, Alfred Smith, Lee H. Stine

King/Drew Medical Center - Paula L. Cutkelvin, Doris F. Davis, Chie Iseri, Davidson Jackson, Judy Johnson, Margaret J. Jones, Cornelius Moffitt, Deborah Abdul Rahim, Ruby L. Wortham

LAC+USC Medical Center - Marie E. Beauseigneur, Mary L. Bowman, Dwayne C. Burrell, Ruth Caldera, Larry E. Carter, Brenda Y. Cotton, Menta L. Curtis, Martin A. Dorado, Carolyn Ellis, Adda N. Games, Marie Grainger, Robert R. Grant, Earlie B. Harris, Aliasghar Hasheminejade, Elliot Johnson, Agnes Kalina, Itsuko Kubo, Renaldo C. McLaughlin, Arnice Mossett, Nathaniel Narcisse, Pilar Ortiz, Kioumarse Pourmand, Marciana B. Rara, Thomas H. Rea, Franklin D. Rogers, Michael

Tan, Patricia Walker

Long Beach General Hospital - Melba Glover

Mechanical - Walter J. Aarnio, Manuel Almada, Earl A. Derouen

Mental Health - Irwin S. Jacobs, Henry H. Lipman, Rosemary Quentin, Carnie M. Scates, Thomas Shiratsuki

Municipal Court - Lois P. Blair (Long Beach), Geraldine Dassooff (Santa Monica), Robert N. Hovard (Long Beach)

Museum of Natural History - Everett Mitchell, James R. Northern

Olive View/UCLA Hospital - Anabel P. Gahl, Sylvester Jones Jr., Miriam T. Kulju, Beryl A. Moore, Mary Warda

Parks & Recreation - Harry Eberling, Benjamin Landeros, Edgar A. Lester, Louis B. Martin, Henry C. Olivas, Joe Orosco, Lafoina S. Paala, Santos Rodriguez, Ralph Schwarz, Joaquin Sepulveda, Karen R. White, Louie Yrigoyen

Probation - Alex Azarian, Paul E. Bernard, Ramon Diaz, Don H. Ellis, Mitchell L. Higginbotham, George W. Henderson, Paul Hollenbeck, Richard Kee, Jean E. Kimari, Leonard Lawson, Anne M. Long, R. Victor Matthews, Richard A. Milligan, Izsaka Nkrumah, Edward M. Reynolds

Public Defender - David R. Scyoc, Sandra J. Wruck

Public Health Program - Thelma L. Baker, Martha Chao, Stuart Chason

Public Library - Albert G. Flores, Ezola Gayles, Caryl Golland, Raymond H. Viscaina

Public Social Services - Betty D. Barnett, Esther Bormaster, Bill D. Cathers, Carrie E. Clayton, Edith Ghezzi, Thomas F. Courbat, Jorge O. Dominicis, Shirley Dyer, Joseph M. East, Jean E. Garrison, Eduardo Gonzalez, Bernice C. Grant, Geneva Grant, Ann T. Greene, Linda D. Harris, Mercedine Henry, Jennie Hernandez, Edward Jennings, Dorothy G. Johnson, Leah Kline, Dahlia V. Lavigne, Li-Shin Lin, Patricia E. Lopez, Florence C. Miller, Oralia F. Miranda, Elena J. Nessi, Lorraine O'Leary, Raymond R. Popp, Gloria Rubin, Tickran Saroyan, Linda Scott-Billup, Patricia L. Scully, Ernestina Q. Singson, Rosemarie Sparks, Esther Thompson, Priscilla A. Verley, Charles M. Wingfield, Helen C. Wu

Public Works - Josef C. Callison, Alan R. Ogden, Miguel Pantoja, Alan B. Shirk, William Earl Williams

Rancho Los Amigos Hospital - Charles E. Cecil, Vicky L. Edwards, Armando Gabaldon, Dorothy Hurt, Elizabeth W. O'Boyle, Pauline R. Penn, Abbie D. Phiffer, Edith Pierceall, Maria L. Ponce, Maureen L. Saunders, Hollis F. Smart

Regional Planning - Marcelle M. Mehlinger, Richard H. Weaver

Reg.-Recorder/County Clerk - Lawrence D. Cohn, Jacqueline E. Lee, Alfonso J. Torrez, Charles J. Venning, Josephine G. Zacks

Sheriff - Abraham F. Barroque, Stephen E. Bate, Gary A. Brooks, Raymond Costales, Herbert D. Fell, James D. Filkins, Kevin E. Fish, Christino R. Franco, John W. Harris Jr., David L. Hicks, Thelma P. Hicks, Randy E. Honeycutt, Audrey E. Hooshagen, Elton Isaac, Charles W. Johnson III, Marian B. Johnston, John E. Kendall, William F. Kennedy, Roy J. Kundtz, William R. Maupin, Kenneth L. Mc Comas, Charles F. Moeller,

IN MEMORIAM

Alvin R. Mower, Leticia H. Nemeth, Frank M. O'Farrell, Mary E. Olson, John G. Phillips Jr., John P. Ratcliff, Robert C. Sauer, Albert Settles, Elizabeth A. Silcock, Jack R. Smith Jr., Jon J. Steinman, James T. Thomas, Roberto Thome, Daniel G. Tovar, Richard C. Turk Sr.

So. Calif. Air Pollution Control Dist. - Elminitta T. Davenport, Robert N. Rickert
So. Coast Air Quality Management - John S. Clawson

Superior Court/County Clerk - Billie W. Box, Hayder F. Falcon, Marcia FINDER, Juliann W. Group, Eileen Johnson, Norma H. Lucy, Van A. Perkins, E. Alston Smith, Sharon C. Stille

Treasurer and Tax Collector - Joaquin C. Mascorro, Helen Zaima

Women's Hospital - Virginia M. Cottrell

Department Not Designated - Deloris Kelley

(Inside LA continued from p. 13)

APPOINTMENTS: *John Wicker*, parks and recreation director, at \$220,000 salary. He had been acting director since Oct. 1, 2015, when Russ Guiney retired. *Lori Glasgow*, former aide to Supervisor Mike Antonovich, as executive officer, Board of Supervisors, at \$215,000 salary. *Dr. Debra Duardo*, 53, county superintendent of schools, at \$268,000 salary. Now an administrator in the LA Unified School District, she will replace Arturo Delgado when he retires in June.

DEATHS: *Richard "Dick" Weaver*, 92, former member of the Regional Planning Commission. *Thomas Ross*, 89, assistant superintendent of the County Office of Education. Retired Sheriff Capt. *Janet Williams*, Chief of Detective Division *Michael Soderberg*, Lt. *Donald Forsyth*, Sgt. *Mary E. Olson*, Sgt. *Frank O'Farrell*. *Gus Pastis*, retired chief investigator for DA's Office. Superior Court Judge *Daniel L. Brenner*, 64, who was struck by a vehicle while walking. Former Municipal Court Judge *Sheldon H. Sloan*, who served on the County Art Commission, the Sheriff's Youth Foundation and was president of the Memorial Coliseum Commission. *Shirley Hufstедler*, 90, only woman of 120 judges when appointed to LA Superior Court in 1961; first head of the U.S. Department of Education. Retired Superior Court Judges *Hugh C. Gardner III*, *Harold Cherness*, *William J. Birney, Jr.*, *Robert Roberson*.

(For a longer version of Inside LA County, please go to www.relac.org.)

LASD Retirees Reunion Coming Up in June

All retired members of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, including civilians, and their adult traveling companions are invited to attend the 36th Annual Reunion, scheduled at the Inter-Mountain Fairgrounds in McArthur, California from June 19-24.

The fairgrounds is on Highway 299, approximately 70 miles east of Redding. This beautiful valley lies between the peaks of Mt. Lassen and Mt. Shasta.

Participants can bring their RV, tent or stay in one of the local motels in Fall River Mills. Full hook-up camping, showers, laundry and 30 amp (some 50 amp) service are available at \$15 per night. These camping fees are good June 17-24.

The reunion registration is \$10 per person. Activities include golf at a championship 18-hole course, horseshoes, lawn darts, Bocce ball, card tournaments, potluck dinners, steak fry, a catered dinner, a pancake breakfast, fishing, sightseeing or just kicking back and relaxing. Plenty of war stories, tales of then and now, and lie swapping may be heard daily. Newly retired and surviving spouses are especially welcome!

To RSVP or to obtain additional information, please contact:

- Tom Sargent (530)243-8982, tsgt907@charter.net
- Richard or Judy Smith (626)444-0686, retiredstars@earthlink.net

Four RELAC Members Installed Officers of African American Employees Association

by Jason H. Williams

RELAC members Jake Ross, Cynthia Machen, Nolan Miller, and Mary Calhoun were installed as president, second vice president, historian, and corresponding secretary respectively of the Los Angeles County African American Employees Association (LCAAEA) during the organization's memorable Black History Month Celebration in February at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration hearing room. Ross is an employee of the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), Machen retired from the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors, Miller retired from the Assessor's Office, and Calhoun retired from the Department of Community and Senior Services.

On hand for the ceremony were more than 300 celebratory County employees and guests, including active and retired RELAC members.

After a rhythmical opening processional by musician/dancers SHINE (Sisters, Healing, Inspiring, Nurturing and Empowering), emcee Aundrea Russell directed a program that was both impressive and entertaining. The program included welcoming remarks from LCAAEA President Larry Oghenekohwo, musical performances by County employees Kristine Bailey and the Maurice Cooper Duet, and remarks from newly appointed Los Angeles County Librarian Skye Patrick and County Fire Chief Daryl Osby. Chief Osby, the first African-American fire chief in the history of Los Angeles County, said repeatedly that his motto is "All that I am I owe!" and referred to the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "What are you doing for others?"

After another African dancing and drum selection from SHINE, County CEO Sachi A. Hamai made brief remarks, followed by her introducing more than a dozen County department heads and chief deputies, consuls general (including Zambia and Senegal) and other VIP's in attendance.



At this point in the program, Winston Peters, chief of staff for Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, installed Ross, Machen, Miller, Calhoun and the other officers, which include Michael Armstrong, vice president, Treasurer and Tax Collector Office; Shannon Denby, treasurer, DPSS; Rolanda Freeman, recording secretary, DPSS; and Pauline Oghenekohwo, parliamentarian, Department of Human Resources.

Fire Chief Daryl Osby speaks at Black History Month Celebration. RELAC member Cynthia Machen is shown on left.

(Photo by Jason H. Williams)



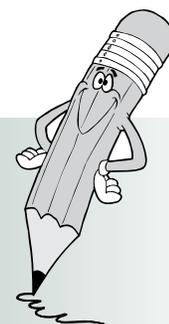
RETIRED EMPLOYEES
of LOS ANGELES COUNTY
1000 South Fremont Ave. Unit 15
Alhambra, CA 91803-8802

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General Membership Meeting

Mary K. Rodriguez, Chair, Program Committee



TUESDAY, JUNE 28, 2016

KNOLLWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
12040 Balboa Blvd.
Granada Hills, CA 91344

Featured Speaker:
William R. Pryor

Los Angeles County Fire Department
Home Safety - Including Fire Protection,
Emergency Medical Response and Disaster Preparedness

9 a.m. - Complimentary Refreshments

10 a.m. - Meeting Begins

Retiree Information
~ DOOR PRIZES ~

Please bring your RELAC Membership Card



IMPORTANT!
*Are you moving?
Did you change your
name, address or
e-mail?*

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
E-mail:
admin@relac.org
website: www.relac.org

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



DRIVING DIRECTIONS:

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Exit Balboa Blvd. (Exit 40)
Turn right onto Balboa Blvd.
Destination on right.

From eastbound 118 Fwy
Exit Balboa Blvd. (Exit 40)
Turn left onto Balboa Blvd.
Destination on right.

