



RELAC newsletter

Your Pension and Health Care Watchdog

Sept/Oct 2016 Vol 51-5

President's Message

by Dave Muir

Stand by for more bashing of public pensions. LACERA, and most other public pension plans with fiscal years that ended on June 30, 2016, will announce unusually low investment returns for the year. This will provide opponents of public pensions the opportunity to unfairly cherry pick statistics and mislead the public with unfounded claims that pension funds are failing.

It's critically important to understand that contributions required to properly fund pension plans are based on the **average** investment return over a long period – something like 25-30 years - not the investment returns in any one year. If contributions were based on a single year, the contributions required by the government and workers would be jumping all over the place with the ups and downs of the stock market. That would make it difficult for governments and workers to plan their finances for the future.

LACERA is reporting that the investment returns for the 2015-16 fiscal year that ended on June 30 was only 1.1%. This will allow opponents of public pensions to scream the sky is falling. They will not acknowledge that the stock market goes up and it goes down, and that years with minimal returns - and even investment losses - are expected and planned for. They will not tell voters that LACERA's average investment return over the last 20 years was 7.5%, or that the average investment return over the last 25 years was 8.4%. They won't include in their articles that funding levels for government plans have been stable or getting better. In LACERA's case, funding levels went from 75% in 2013 to 83.3% today. LACERA expects the funding level to drop slightly next year due in part to poor performance in the investment markets during the last two fiscal years.

A perfect example of cherry picking that misled the public recently occurred in July when an article in the San Diego Union-Tribune reported that the sources of funding for pensions on a statewide level **in 2015** were 45% from investment earnings, 40% from government contributions, and 15% from employee contributions. By using investment statistics from one of the worst years in the stock market, the article gave the false impression that public pension funds were in deep trouble. This cherry picking is dramatically demonstrated by looking at LACERA's experience:

Contributions for one year ending 6/30/15: 52% from investments, 37% from the County, 11% from employees;

Contributions for the 25-year period ending 6/30/15: 70% investments, 20% County, 10% employees. (That's a far better picture and demonstrates a lower cost for government.)

The graph on page 15 shows the average gross investment returns over various 25-year periods. As of June 2007, the average return over the previous 25 years was roughly 12%. As of June 2016, the average return over the previous 25 years was 8.4%. (Gross returns are investment results before deducting investment fees.)

It's important we remain vigilant and push back against the unfair tactics



Bylaws Amendment Specifying Director Qualifications To Be Voted On At Sept. 29, 2016 General Membership Meeting

Members will be asked to vote on amending Section 1 of Article V of the RELAC bylaws to read as follows (amended language underlined):

Article V, Board of Directors

Section 1 - Members

The Board of Directors shall consist of not more than 15 members who shall be elected in accordance with the provisions of Article VI of these bylaws. (Amended May 25, 2000)

Annually, five directors shall be elected for three-year terms. (Amended May 25, 2000)

Directors must be regular members of RELAC or honorary members who were formerly regular members. A person who currently holds, or within the past 24 months held, a leadership position with another organization that represents County retirees and that has a goal or policy that may be incompatible or in conflict with a goal or policy of RELAC is ineligible to serve as a director of RELAC. The acceptance by a RELAC director of a leadership position with another organization that represents County retirees and that has a goal or policy that may be incompatible or in conflict with a goal or policy of RELAC results in the automatic vacating of the RELAC director position. (Amended _____)

Directors may be elected to successive terms. (Amended Oct. 27, 1992)

The Board of Directors shall hold not more than 12 regular business meetings per year and may hold special business meetings as may be required. (Amended Dec. 5, 2011)

The above amendment was approved by RELAC's Board of Directors on July 5, 2016. The added text will assure that directors do not have conflicts of interest arising out of duties of loyalty owed to other organizations whose goals and policies conflict with RELAC's goals and policies. **The Board of Directors urges a "yes" vote on the proposed amendment.**

Continued on p.7

News From LACERA

by JJ Popowich
Assistant Executive Officer



I hope everyone is enjoying their summer and staying cool as they read this article. This has been a hot year so far, and we've already had a few unfortunate brush fires that seem to plague Southern California this time of year. I hope that none of our members were impacted directly or indirectly by these fires.

This month there are two things on my mind – family and an exciting change to our My LACERA member portal.

It seems so much of the news we hear today is negative. Terrorists, wars, droughts, crime, and, of course, the political news is definitely challenging, no matter what your view. All of this makes me think about families: my own personal family, my LACERA family, and the extended LACERA family – you!

You see, LACERA really is like one big family. Our staff tend to join our team and remain at LACERA for a good portion of their careers. As a family we carry the same values and have the same vision for how LACERA strives to meet our goal to “**produce, protect and provide** the promised benefits” to our members and their survivors. I’m proud to say these three important pillars are what drive our staff to care for each of you and your families. In a very real way, our members are like our extended family.

I imagine everyone has a different definition of what a family’s role is in our lives. But to me, family has always referred to those who stick with you through the good and bad times and look out for your well-being. Here at LACERA, that’s how we feel about our members and survivors. During a member’s active employment years, it’s our job to make sure that our members are informed about retirement as their career progresses to help them retire with confidence in the best position possible. During our members’ retirement years, it’s our job to make sure that our members and survivors have the uninterrupted source of income they earned and worked so hard to get.

That’s a big job. It’s much more involved than just sending out that monthly check or direct deposit. In fact, like our mission statement says, it’s our job to protect that promised benefit and make sure it reaches you, and only you, every month. Over the years, LACERA has utilized a number of tools across a number of divisions throughout LACERA to make sure our members or their survivors receive their benefits. Sometimes, as sad as it is to say, we discover that someone is taking advantage of a member or survivor in their golden years.

We have always had a process for addressing issues like this. I encourage everyone to read the article in our next “Spotlight” newsletter. The article is part of a series we’re running called “Your Security, Our Concern,” and it discusses our brand-new Benefits Protection Unit. This new unit is continuing our tradition of looking out for our members and the health of the retirement fund.

Before I go, I just wanted to take a moment and brag about the latest updates to the My LACERA member portal. Our systems and communications teams have done a tremendous job modernizing the portal and making it easier than ever to use. It has a clean new look with easy-to-follow navigation and great features like larger type size. The new design is also dynamically responsive to the type of device you use to access My LACERA. If you are on a PC, you’ll get the full-screen version. If you happen to be a tablet user like me, you’ll get a screen that has all the same functionality as the full-screen version, but is adjusted to fit the size of your tablet. It will even adjust to the smaller screens on smartphones.

I can’t say enough about the new design and what it eventually will herald for the rest of lacera.com. If you haven’t already done so, I encourage you to sign up for My LACERA, which can be accessed via lacera.com by clicking on the My LACERA logo at the bottom right of the page. Even if you’ve already signed up, why not sign in and check out the new design.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

June-July 2016

- Assessor** - Manuel Delgado
- Chief Executive Office** - Betty Gobst
- Health Services** - Juanita Courtney, David McPhan, Florence Paik, Dorothy Petit, Mary Stabler
- LAC+USC Medical Center** - Dorothy McCart, Virginia Soto
- Fire** - Velma Greer, Richard Stirling
- Parks & Recreation** - James Park
- Probation** - Linda McCoy
- Public Social Services** - Beil Horst, Estela Borges, Robin Hell, Elaine Marshall, Elaine Varnado, Cresencio H. Vasquez
- Public Works** - Celia Chavez
- Rancho Los Amigos National Rehab. Center** - Dolores Rodriguez
- Sheriff** - John Mayer, Brenda McElmore, Marjorie Moeller, Markis Velez
- Superior Court** - James Matthews
- Department Not Designated** - Norma Barmack, Linda Brown, Mariane Brown, Rhonda Castillo-Gonzalez, Beatrice Grady, Mark W Lomax, Isabel Poe
- New Affiliate (Working) Members** - Christina M Fuentes, Carlotta Hale
- New Associate Members** - Sanor Mayer, Carolyn McPhan, Dorothea Park

Thanks for Referrals

Our appreciation to RELAC members who recruited new members in June and July. Thanks to (RELAC members shown in bold, new members in italics):

Kathy Dotson and Shirley Fort, Juanita Courtney, Health Services; **Denise Fiore and Maureen Sicotte**, Betty Gobst, Chief Executive Office; **James Walker**, David McPhan, Health Services; and Board Member **Judy Hammond**, Brenda McElmore, Sheriff.

Board Member **Jason H. Williams** recruited affiliate (still working) member Carlotta Hale of the Department of Public Social Services.

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.

Retirement is...

“Retirement is not getting up at 6 a.m. and fighting traffic for an hour to get to work.”

*Simon Russin, Retired January 2013
Chief environmental health
specialist, Department of Public
Health*





Five Directors Elected to New Terms

Congratulations to the five members of the RELAC Board of Directors who have been elected to new three-year terms beginning Jan 1, 2017.

The directors are Bill de la Garza, Steve Duron, Evelyn Gutierrez, Judy Hammond and Dave Muir.

No RELAC member filed a petition to run as a candidate for the Board, resulting in the automatic re-election of the current directors whose terms expire Dec. 31, 2016. All five directors had been endorsed for re-election by the Board of Directors.

De la Garza, who was deputy director of the Department of Parks and Recreation when he retired in 1991, joined the RELAC Board on Jan. 1, 1999 and served five years as president (2001-02 and 2011-13). Muir, who was chief counsel for LACERA when he retired in 2009, became a director in 2011 and has served as president since 2014. De la Garza is secretary of LACERA's Board of Retirement and Muir is the alternate retired member.

Duron and Hammond began their terms in January 2014. Duron, regional operations manager in the Department of Parks and Recreation when he retired in 2012, has been active on the Membership/Recruitment, Bylaws/Nominations/Elections, and Office Management committees. Hammond, who was assistant chief deputy to former County Supervisor Pete Schabarum, was director of public affairs in the Chief Executive Office when she retired in 2011. She is editor of RELAC's newsletter.

Gutierrez, who was director of workplace programs and marketing in the Chief Executive Office when she retired in 2003, was appointed to the Board on April 5, 2016 to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Martin Golds. She serves on RELAC's Regional Support and Newsletter committees.



(from top left) Bill de la Garza, Steve Duron, Evelyn Gutierrez, Judy Hammond, Dave Muir

RELAC President Disputes Use of "Double Dipping" by Times

The L.A. Times published a letter from RELAC President Dave Muir on June 26 which took issue with the newspaper's use of the term "double dipping" in describing salary paid to a retired government employee who has returned to work.

Here is the letter:

"It's misleading to call a public employee's receipt of a pension payment coupled with the receipt of salary covering post-retirement employment "double dipping."The term conveys the impression of something improper.

Pension payments are a form of deferred compensation covering work performed before retirement. If a retired public employee returned to work, he or she would be essentially working for free if required to give up the pension payments during the second period of employment.

"Double dipping" implies a double payment without justification. The term is misleading and should be abandoned."



OASIS Programs Available to RELAC Members at Discounted Prices

by Stephanie L. Carter, MSW, Executive Director Pacific Region OASIS

Pacific Region OASIS has partnered with RELAC and you are in for a real treat!

Pacific Region OASIS is redefining life after retirement. OASIS is a national education organization dedicated to enriching the lives of adults, 50+. Offering stimulating programs in the arts, humanities, health, technology and volunteer services, OASIS creates opportunities for people to continue their personal growth and serve their communities. With locations in Macy's department stores in the Westside Pavilion and Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Malls, participants enjoy enriching, educational, and social engagement activities in a comfortable setting.

OASIS' fall semester begins Sept. 12, 2016. First-time RELAC members will receive a \$10 credit for fall 2016. Log on to www.oasisnet.org/losangeles for registration information and the link to the fall 2016 catalogue.

Look for OASIS' information table at the Sept. 29 RELAC general membership meeting at the County Arboretum in Arcadia.

Let the fun begin!

Kathryn Barger and Rob Hill Addressed RELAC Members at Palmdale/Lancaster Regional Luncheon Meeting

by Jason H. Williams
RELAC Board Member

RELAC was fortunate to have Kathryn Barger and Rob Hill speak to RELAC members and their guests at RELAC's regional meeting recently at the Moose Lodge in Lancaster.

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich's Chief Deputy Kathryn Barger Spoke about Changes to County Government

Barger spoke about the many changes that have taken place in Los Angeles County government since she started working for the County 30 years ago. These changes include term limits – which will term out Supervisors Michael D. Antonovich and Don Knabe later this year; the Board of Supervisors' greater emphasis on fiscal stability and the quality of life; concern for the homeless and mentally ill; providing adequate resources for public safety under the new sheriff, Jim McDonnell; and a renewed appreciation for Los Angeles County employees, who are committed to making a difference.

Finally, she spoke about the long-term effectiveness of Board of Supervisors' policies: (1) no layoffs; (2) no work furloughs; (3) planning for the future; and (4) providing quality services to Los Angeles residents.

LACERA's Rob Hill Gave Update on Pension and Health Care Funds

Those in attendance were also treated to comments about Los Angeles County retirees' pension and health care funds from Rob Hill, LACERA's assistant CEO. Hill said that both the pension and health care funds are in good shape, thanks to the effective stewardship by Los Angeles County's chief executive officer, Board of Supervisors, and LACERA's Boards of Investments and Retirement.

RELAC thanks both Barger and Hill for taking time to share their thoughts with our members.



Letters To The Editor Write On!

Uplifting, interesting and entertaining stories from retirees -- John Schunhoff, Patty Paul, Constance Perett (I like to watch old movies on Turner Classic Movies channel as well, even those black and white without audio), Rene Topalian and Marilyn Lewis Green (finding love 51 years later). Marilyn, I wish you and Dallas a long and happy life together. I enjoyed reading about them. Please keep it going, and for retirees keep writing them. I would like to share a quotation with you: "Time weaves ribbons of memory to sweeten life when youth is through." Yes, our youth is through, never to come back, but you can still write about those ribbons of memory to sweeten our lives.
Rogelio L. Pena, Montebello, Calif.

Since my retirement in 1988 I have enjoyed reading the RELAC newsletter. I very much enjoyed the article about Bill Pellman in the last newsletter.
Paul Hopkins, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Thank you for including me in your "Keeping Up With Retirees" feature. Nicely done. This publication is truly (having been a newsletter editor in my day) one of the most professional ones I've seen in my time. And Judy Hammond's "Inside LA County" column is always politically fun for me because I always read it between the lines!
Rene Topalian, Alhambra, CA (nailapot@aol.com)

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you (*Dave Muir, President*) and the Retired Employees of Los Angeles County for your support of the annual Deputy Sheriffs Reunion held in McArthur, Calif. Your announcing this event in the RELAC newsletter and the donation of promotional items distributed to the attendees has helped once again to make this event a

great success. This was our 36th year for this event and we hope to have many more. Once again our sincere and heartfelt thanks for your support in this event and all the other support you provide for the retired employees of Los Angeles County.
L.A.S.D. McArthur Retirees Reunion Group

Thank you for remembering my 99th birthday. It is not easy to reach 99 years. I hope that RELAC and LACERA will be in the hands of people like those today – honesty and efficiency with compassion for us old people. May God protect you always.
Rutilia Atanasoff, Fuquay-Varina, N.C.

Thank you so much for the birthday card. It was great to spend my day with my children on my 92nd year.
Faye Schwartz, Los Angeles, Calif.

Each card or telephone call I get is much appreciated. I am truly blessed to have a couple of my friends and co-workers still able to stay in contact. Thank you for the birthday card.
Thelma W. Tucker, Compton, Calif.

RELAC's June Membership Meeting

More than 100 members attended RELAC's general membership meeting on June 28 at the Knollwood Country Club in Granada Hills. Board member J.P. Harris captured photos of some of the lucky winners of prizes. RELAC President Dave Muir is shown in several of the photos, making the presentations.



RELAC "DAY AT THE RACES" SANTA ANITA PARK

by Mary K. Rodriguez
Chair, Recreation Committee



Last Call For Reservations!

Come join us to celebrate RELAC's annual "Day at the Races" at Santa Anita Park on Oct. 6, 2016. We will again be seated in the Sierra Vista Terrace, which offers a great view of the track.

The race track is charging \$53 per person. **However, RELAC is subsidizing each ticket by \$4, so your cost is \$49** and includes admission, a racing program (available when you enter the park), a delicious buffet lunch, a seat at a table with a private TV monitor and general parking. Parking and admission gates open at 10:30 a.m., post time is at 1 p.m., and lunch will be served between noon and 2 p.m.

The reservation deadline is Sept. 22, so please fill out the coupon and send in your check ASAP. Tickets will be mailed to you on Sept. 27.

In the past this event has been enthusiastically attended by our members. Everyone enjoys it and has a lot of fun. **Be sure to come early - although plentiful, seating is on a first-come, first-served basis.** Come join us. See you there!

RELAC DAY AT THE RACES

Santa Anita Park

Thursday, Oct. 6, 2016

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone Number: (_____) _____

Number of Tickets _____ @ \$49 each

Total Amount Enclosed = \$ _____

Enclose a check for your total payable to RELAC and mail to:

RELAC

1000 S. Fremont Ave., #15

Alhambra, CA 91803-8802

Must be received by Thursday, Sept. 22, 2016

SAVE THE DATE

Sept. 29, 2016

General Membership Meeting, Arboretum in Arcadia

Oct. 6, 2016

Santa Anita Park "Day at the Races"

Oct. 15, 2016

Annual Picnic, Santa Fe Dam Recreational Area, Irwindale

Dec. 8, 2016

General Membership Meeting, Carson Community Center

Jan. 26, 2017

Annual Recognition Luncheon, Almansor Court

Golf News

By Gil Sandoval
RELAC Golf Director



Los Verdes Golf Tournament – Aug. 1, 2016

It was a picture postcard day at Los Verdes with the spectacular views that we shared as we golfed. Michael Hernandez won the "A" flight with a net 74 as the "A" flight seemed to have a tough day with no one breaking par. Crety Hart took second in a card off with Rick Richter, who placed third as they both had net 75s.

The "B" flight was a very close race also as Jim Meek won with a net 70. Rex Loughran finished second, one back at net 71 and just ahead of Frank Martinez, who came in third with his net 72. They all played well!

Willie Lopez had a great day to win the "C" flight with a net 69. Trailing him was Dick Rietveld, who edged out Pete Serrano to take second with a net score of 79. Pete took third with a net score of 80, and was closely followed by the rest of the field.

Thank you ladies for having a real representation as we had the largest number of women join us to play in quite awhile. Rita Hart had the best day of any of the players, men or women, bringing home a net 68 to win the ladies flight. Marjorie Stevens-Kelly chased her all the way with a net 69 to come in second. Norma Gutierrez followed in third with a net 75.

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

Please note that the golf entry form will no longer be part of the newsletter. If you cannot download from a computer, please call the RELAC office to have it mailed to you; otherwise it can be attained at the RELAC website: www.relac.org. Please click on activities (golf).

Los Verdes RESULTS:

"A" Flight Winners (19 and under): 1st Michael Hernandez (74), 2nd Crety Hart (75)*, 3rd Rick Richter (75) (*Winner in a card off)

"B" Flight (20-27 Handicaps): 1st Jim Meek (70), 2nd Rex Loughran (71), 3rd Frank Martinez (72)

"C" Flight (28 up Handicaps): 1st Willie Lopez (69), 2nd Dick Rietveld (79), 3rd Pete Serrano (80)

Women's Flight: 1st Rita Hart (68), 2nd Marjorie Stevens-Kelly (69), 3rd Norma Gutierrez (75)

Closest to the Pin on Par 3's

Men: #3 Chuck McGlothlin, #5 Michael Hernandez, #12 Crety Hart, #17 Ken Swan

Women: #3 No Winner, #5 Charlene DeBie, #12 No Winner, #17 Cari DeBie

**RELAC
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**REGIONAL ACTIVITIES
AND SPECIAL EVENTS**

*by Don Fandry, Chair
Regional Support/Special Events
Committee*



**Annual Picnic
Oct. 15, 2016**

As the end of summer approaches our committee is focused on finalizing the plans for our Annual Picnic on Oct. 15, 2016. Please plan to attend. You won't regret it. For additional details on this event, look for the announcement on page 12, and send in your check payable to RELAC. The cost is only \$20 per person - a bargain! (RELAC subsidizes approximately 40% of the cost.)

Mark Your Calendars:

Annual Recognition Luncheon – Jan. 26, 2017

Plan to attend the Annual Recognition Luncheon at the Almanson Court in Alhambra on Jan. 26, 2017. Los Angeles County Fire Chief Daryl Osby will be our keynote speaker. Planning continues and final details will be in the next issue of the newsletter. Many of you who have attended this event in the past can attest to the fact that this is one of the highlights of the year. I hope you can attend!

This year is flying by. Until we meet again, take care of yourselves and enjoy your retirement!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**L.A. COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
SOCIAL SERVICES**

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), Volunteer Services Section, is seeking volunteers to provide clerical support on a variety of short or long-term assignments. Volunteers are also invited to various outreach events countywide. The time required each week generally ranges from 20-40 hours. Volunteers must complete fingerprinting. DPSS serves an ethnically and culturally diverse community through programs designed to alleviate hardship and promote health, personal responsibility, and economic independence. The department provides benefits and services - including temporary financial assistance, free and low-cost healthcare insurance, and food benefits for families - to low-income residents of Los Angeles County. For more information, contact Anthony Leoni, DPSS volunteer coordinator, at (213)744-4590 or dpssvolunteers@dpss.lacounty.gov.

President's Message continued from p.1

and misleading articles that we can expect in the future. I encourage you to keep this issue of the newsletter handy and use the statistics I've provided to defend our benefits from attack.

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

**Investments
Board**

*by Diane Sandoval
Retiree Representative
LACERA Board of Investments*



According to our latest staff report, LACERA'S portfolio returned an **estimated 1.1%** for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016 (July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016). The portfolio did not earn the assumed investment return rate of 7.5% again this year. This marks the second consecutive year the portfolio has returned less than 7.5%. Last year the return was 4.3%.

The good news is that the portfolio return is positive. I remember during the financial crisis LACERA'S performance numbers were negative for two straight years (in 2008 it was -1.4% and -18.2% in 2009). I was on the Board of Investments during that time and I remember it took a long time to make up those losses. Looking forward, let's hope the economy improves soon and the portfolio return earns the assumed investment return rate and more.

Let's face it, this past fiscal year was pretty rough for pension funds. CALPERS and CALSTRS did not escape the effects of the continued anemic global economic recovery. Their portfolios also fell short of earning the assumed investment return set by their boards.

On the positive side, we are fortunate to have a great staff at LACERA ready to ensure our pension and medical benefits are protected and that we receive our pension checks on time. The members of the LACERA Board of Investments are committed to prudently investing LACERA'S assets. At the end of the fiscal year the **estimated** market value of the portfolio was \$47.6 billion (not too shabby!).

As your retiree representative on the LACERA Board of Investments, please accept my sincerest thanks for your continued support. I look forward to seeing you at a future RELAC event.

FOR SALE

VACANT LAND - For sale by owner, 2½ acres located in Golden Valley, Ariz. Asking \$25,000. Contact Oliva at (323) 778-8718 (home) or (310) 721-0458 (cell).

CEMETERY PLOTS - Two side-by-side gravesites in Rose Hills, Whittier. Gravesites are under a large tree in Alder Lawn, #s 3606-3 and 3606-4, accessed via the main gate. Asking \$5,000 each plus transfer fees. Contact Ann at (760)723-2468.



Keeping Up With Retirees

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

Wendy & Dennis Watanabe



WENDY WATANABE

After 25 years with the County, I retired in 2014 as the auditor-controller. I joined the Department of Auditor-Controller in 1988, later went to Beaches and Harbors, then to the Chief Administrative Office, and eventually making a full circle back to Auditor-Controller. I was extremely fortunate to have worked with numerous intelligent and talented individuals, and am forever grateful to Tyler McCauley, Stan Wisniewski, Laura Jesse, Sandy Davis, and David Janssen for their superb leadership skills, guidance, and professionalism.

After I retired, my husband, Dennis, and I moved to Henderson, Nev. in a quiet retirement community just outside of Las Vegas. In selecting our retirement home, we looked for cities with less traffic congestion, an international airport, culture and theaters, fun activities, and comprehensive medical services. We do miss our friends and family; however, we discover we now see them more often than when we were living in Los Angeles since most visit Vegas a few times a year. There are so many fine restaurants and entertainment nearby, we never have to cook or run out of things to do when they visit.

Dennis and I are avid travelers and have the travel bug in us that we just can't shake. In the last two years, we have taken 10 cruises and four land tours. We visited Asia, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Antarctica, South America, and Africa. We also squeezed in an Alaskan cruise and a skiing trip to Lake Tahoe. Dennis goes on an annual all-boys Alaska fishing trip with his uncle and cousins, and we have visited friends in New York and relatives in Santa Fe, N.M. The most memorable trips were cruising the Antarctica to see its pristine landscape with many penguins sightings, the visit to the Taj Mahal in Agra, India, for its magnificent architecture and design, and a recent trip to Hunan Province in China, where I went searching for my ancestry and finding the family roots.

When we are not travelling, we play golf and subscribe to the Smith Center, where we see eight or nine musical plays a year. We often get together with friends for lunch and dinner and see shows. Dennis is now quite good at outdoor barbecues and does most of the cooking when we are not eating out. I do water color painting, ceramic, and polymer clay work and thoroughly enjoy all of them, as I find inner peace in making my "master" art pieces (smile). I also play Mah Jongg and table tennis, work out at our community gym, and attend Zumba and line dance classes. There is never enough time to do all the things I like to do. Pretty soon I will start taking Asian painting and Chinese calligraphy lessons, as I am fascinated by its beauty and artistry.

The best decision I made 27 years ago was to leave the private sector job and begin working for Los Angeles County. I have certainly benefitted from what the County has to offer and am thankful for what it has done for its employees.



LYNN KIRKHOFFER

I came to Los Angeles in 1965 to join the Chief Administrative Office (fresh out of college at San Jose State). In those days, the office actively recruited college graduates to enter a highly structured management training program. I was with the office for 12 years. Over that time I became a specialist in tax and county finance issues, and had the opportunity to represent the office in many special studies working with the State Legislature in Sacramento.

I considered the 60's and early 70's kind of a golden age of L.A. County government. I witnessed the opening of the Music Center, the County Art Museum, the completion of Marina del Rey and the expansion of the health care system to world-class status, among numerous other projects.

I left L.A. County in 1977 to become budget director of San Bernardino County and spent the next 18 years there in that capacity and as assistant county administrator. I retired from county service in 1995 and spent the next six years in the municipal bond business in San Diego. My wife, Kathy, and I have lived at Lake Arrowhead (in the house we built) since 1977 and plan to continue to do so.

Since retirement, I've spent my time in three activities I utmost enjoy: grand opera, golf and foreign travel. I belong to both Los Angeles Opera and San Diego Opera and faithfully attend their performances. For 15 years I worked as a volunteer at the U.S. Open Golf Tournament, which has given me the opportunity to see some of the greatest golf venues in the country as well as play in several communities throughout the nation. I play three or four days a week with friends and my wife and watch my scores go higher as time goes by. I have visited most major European cities (attending opera performances when I could), Africa three times on safari (including trekking for gorillas in both Uganda and Rwanda), China, Tibet, Egypt and Jordan.

This year I am combining two of my passions by visiting Italy twice to attend opera festivals in July and October.

HARRY STONE

Like many retirees, I never envisioned a career with Los Angeles County. In June 1959, at the age of 18, I was fortunate to obtain a summer, as-needed job at the Flood Control District while attending college. At the end of the summer I was able to convince my bosses that they needed me on a year-round basis, and they let me work half-time during school sessions. My first "permanent" title was junior engineering aide, and by the time I graduated from USC in civil engineering in 1962, I was a senior civil engineering assistant. I continued to move up through engineering and management positions at FCD and its successor agency, the Department of Public Works, which was created in 1985. I retired after 42 years in March 2001. The last seven years of my County career I served as director of public works.



Harry Stone astride the equator in Quito, Ecuador

When I took the big step of retiring 15 years ago I was very concerned as to how I would adjust. My wife, Barbara, was also apprehensive! She was winding down her career as a college professor at Cal State Fullerton. It turned out we did not have to worry.

We have enjoyed watching our two sons progress professionally. Our oldest son, Robert, is now president and CEO of the City of Hope National Medical Center. Our youngest son, Steven, has been a Superior Court judge in San Diego for five years after spending eight years as a prosecutor in the U S Attorney's San Diego Office. Between them they have given us five wonderful grandchildren.

In the public service area since retirement, I spent 10 years on the Whittier City Planning Commission and several years on the Whittier High School District Bond Issue Oversight Committee. I am currently on the oversight boards overseeing the unwinding of the Santa Fe Springs and Whittier redevelopment agencies.

Until three years ago Barbara and I bred and raced thoroughbred horses. We bred the horses in Kentucky and primarily raced on the Santa Anita, Hollywood Park and Del Mar circuit. We had some stakes horses, some allowance horses and then the others. It was an interesting experience with fascinating people. With the changes happening in that industry, such as the closing of Hollywood Park, we decided after 40 years of racing it was time to get out of the business.

We have remained in our Whittier home, but about 14 years ago purchased a second home, a condo at the beach in San Clemente. We have really enjoyed that home except for me getting volunteered for the homeowners association board, where I am president. Never, never, go on a HOA board! However, two recent County retirees, Diane and Rory Wagner (Children Services and District Attorney) bought a unit in our complex and have been a wonderful addition.

We keep busy playing golf, poorly, at Hacienda Golf Club and doing lots of traveling. We have taken more than 30 ocean cruises and five river cruises. And, of course, now that our five grandchildren are ages 10 through 14, we spend lots of time attending their sports activities.

Barbara and I have been very fortunate both in our professional careers and now in our retirement.

Sharon Matsumoto and husband, Ron Rose

SHARON MATSUMOTO

January 29, 2015 was the big day, my last day of work after 35 years with the District Attorney's Office. It was a day I both eagerly anticipated and, to be honest, somewhat dreaded. My career as a prosecutor with the largest local prosecutorial agency in the nation was coming to an end and a small part of me wondered what I would do when I was no longer the chief deputy. Would I do more than clean out closets?



I shouldn't have worried. My husband, Ron Rose, retired at the same time after 27 years as a public defender, eight years as a Superior Court commissioner and six and half years as a Superior Court judge. I had spent the last six months planning our first year of retirement travel, unencumbered by the limit of only six weeks of vacation. The first thing we did was fly to New Zealand to visit our daughter in Auckland. We spent time on both the north and south islands and saw breathtakingly beautiful scenery, and lots of sheep!

Our other international trips that first year saw us in London and Paris with our 9-year-old grandson. We loved showing Henry those iconic sights like the Tower of London, Big Ben, Westminster Abbey, Windsor Castle, the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame and the Louvre. We went back to Paris in September for three weeks on our own.

In between these trips we spent a week in Mammoth, a week in Park City and a glorious long weekend in Portland highlighted by a dinner in a vineyard catered by one of Portland's well-known chefs. Our domestic travels also included two trips to Kauai, our favorite Hawaiian island.

Lest you think we spent all our time in airports, our daily retired life also included regular long walks, trips to the local beach, a long-delayed visit to the California Science Center to see the Endeavour and our favorite activity, picking up our grandson after school every Friday.

Travels in 2016 so far have included Australia and New Zealand, Kauai, spring training in Arizona, Italy and Oahu. Yet to come are return trips to London, Amsterdam and Paris and a fall sojourn to New York and Washington, D.C. Still haven't gotten to those closets!

It is Schunhoff, not Schunoff

Ed. Note: Our apologies to John Schunhoff for misspelling his last name in the "Keeping Up With Retirees" profile in the last edition of the newsletter. We very much regret the error.

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\$200*

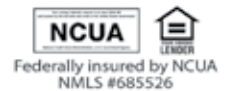


We have a special rewards offer for our RELAC Members. When you fund a new loan with Southland, you'll receive a \$200 cash reward. You can also earn additional rewards simply for referring your friends and family to Southland. When they join and fund a loan with Southland, you'll receive an additional \$200 referral award.

Earning referral rewards is easy. Simply complete the information below and give this ad to a friend or family member. When they open their account, you will receive your Referral Award.*

Not a Member? Join Southland and experience the Southland difference for yourself. Show our representative this ad and when your loan funds, you'll receive your \$200 cash rewards. Once you become a Member, you qualify to earn referral rewards. Join today!

*Membership is subject to eligibility. All new accounts will be verified through ChexSystems and are subject to credit approval. New Member must return this ticket when applying for Membership in order to qualify. A Savings Account with a minimum opening balance of \$25 is required to establish Membership. A new loan with a minimum balance of \$5,000 is required to earn loan award. Refinancing an existing Southland loan does not qualify. No minimum time requirement to obtain the award and will be awarded when the opening deposit of \$25.00 is made and when loan funds. New Member must join by December 31, 2016 to qualify. Must be a current Southland member to receive referral awards. Not redeemable for cash. Offer is subject to change without notice. Offer is subject to change at any time, other terms and conditions may apply. Cash rewards earned are considered interest and will be reported on a 1099 to the IRS.



NEW MEMBER REFERRAL TICKET



Referring Member _____

Phone# _____ email _____

New Member _____

Phone# _____ email _____

FOR CREDIT UNION USE ONLY

NAME	ACCOUNT NUMBER	DATE	SCU ASSOCIATE
------	----------------	------	---------------

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Photo courtesy of G&TT

Northern Lights Over the Blue Lagoon - Iceland

Destination	Dates	Relac Price
Affordable Iceland with Northern Lights Pursuit <i>Reykjavik - Hella - Search for Northern Lights - South Shore - Gullfoss - Geysir - Thingvellir - The Blue Lagoon</i>	Jan 16, 2017 6 Day Tour Code: 170116GAT	\$1099 <i>(Land Only)</i>
Classic Costa Rica with Manuel Antonio <i>San Jose - Sarchi - Arenal - Monteverde - Manuel Antonio National Park</i>	Feb 16, 2017 10 Day Tour Code: 170216GAT	\$1149 <i>(Land Only)</i>
Affordable Central Europe <i>Budapest - Vienna - Prague</i>	Mar 4, 2017 8 Day Tour Code: 170304GAT	\$799 <i>(Land Only)</i>
Railroading through Mexico's Copper Canyon <i>Chihuahua - Divisadero - Barrancas - Copper Canyon, including 2 First Class Train Journeys - El Fuerte - Temores - Creel - Casa Grandes</i>	Mar 10, 2017 8 Day Tour Code: 170310MFT	\$2099 <i>(Land Only)</i>
Affordable China <i>Beijing - The Great Wall - Ming Tombs - Yichang, Embark Cruise on Yangtze River: Xiling Gorge, Wu Gorge, Qutang Gorge, Shibaozhai - Shanghai - Bund</i>	Mar 29, 2017 11 Day Tour Code: 170329GAT	\$1814 <i>(Includes Air)</i>
Cherry Blossom Time in Our Nation's Capital <i>Washington DC - National Cherry Blossom Parade - The Smithsonian - Arlington National Cemetery - Shenandoah National Park - Luray Caverns - Mount Vernon - Jamestown Settlement - Colonial Williamsburg</i>	Apr 7, 2017 7 Day Tour Code: 170407MFT	\$1899 <i>(Land Only)</i>

Guaranteed departure rates above (twin occupancy) reflect booking discount for RELAC members. Prices subject to availability. Each tour features different air gateway, certain taxes, fees and meals may be additional, full terms provided prior to deposit.

CA Seller of Travel #1019830-40

September 2016

RELAC Members and Friends Invited on Trip to Indian Casino in Alpine

Sisters Together in Retirement (S.T.I.R.), a Los Angeles County female retirement group, invites you, your family and friends to join its annual fund-raiser trip to the Viejas Indian Casino in Alpine on Tuesday, Oct. 18.

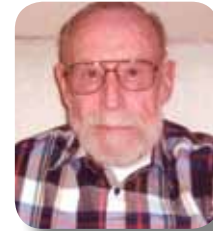
Two buses will transport guests to the San Diego area casino, located in the Cleveland National Forest. Both buses will depart from the 120th Street and Crenshaw park-and-ride lot in Hawthorne at 9 a.m. A second pick-up location will be in Lakewood on Virginia Street, east of the Stater Brothers parking lot.

The trip, which costs \$12 per person, will start with a continental breakfast and organized fun games and prizes. Tickets must be purchased in advance by sending a check or money order payable to: Sisters Together in Retirement, 4419 Arlington Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90043. The deadline date to either purchase a seat or submit a cancellation request (in writing) is Oct. 3.

For more information, contact RELAC member Wivory Brandle at (323) 296-2370 or Katie Cochran at (310) 608-0687.

RV Outing Notes

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



Our next outing will be Sept. 12-14 at the Chula Vista Marina & RV Resort in Chula Vista. It is one of the best and also one of our club's favorite parks. Chula Vista RV Park is located by the CV Marina on San Diego Bay and is next to a beautiful park. They have great swimming and spa pools and on Tuesdays provide music and a party on the patio. We have a very nice clubhouse for food and cards. Sadly, the deadline for this outing was Aug. 6, so it is too late for you to join us if you have not yet made a reservation, but all is not lost.

Our next outing after Chula Vista is to the Shadow Hills RV Park in Indio. The cost will be \$184.53 for the three nights of Oct. 24, 25, 26. The early day (Oct. 23) will cost \$60.51. The deadline is Sept. 17, so if you are reading this early enough you still have time to send in the coupon (along with your money, of course) and join us for a fun time. Shadow Hills has a great clubhouse where we gather to play cards or just sit in the AC and visit. Gilbert and Eloise Cardiel are hosting the event, and we are looking forward to our last outing of the year. Shadow Hills has done a lot of remodeling of the park and we are really interested to see the improvements. Gil and Eloise have purchased a new home near there and we are even more interested to see their new home. Guess they are desert rats! You have to get the coupon from the RELAC website at www.relac.org or call the RELAC office at (800) 537-3522. If you need more information you can contact Gil and Eloise at (626) 222-3322, Ed at (562) 428-3360 or Jeanne at (562) 896-8904.

Our Christmas luncheon will be on Dec. 6 about 11 a.m. at Luxe Buffet at 701 N. Milliken Ave., Ontario. Please join us. The cost is about \$10 and you can come and meet our very fun camping group. Come join us for an outing. We really have a lot of fun!



RELAC ANNUAL PICNIC THE BIGGEST EVENT OF THE YEAR \$20 INCLUSIVE

OCT. 15, 2016 - 10:30 A.M. TO 3 P.M.

(Food, Fun, Entertainment)

MUSIC PROVIDED BY THE HYLAND BAND WITH JENNIFER GATES
BINGO, LINE DANCING, RAFFLE DRAWING/GREAT PRIZESand MORE

SANTA FE DAM – RECREATIONAL AREA #5

15501 E. ARROW HIGHWAY, IRWINDALE

FREE PARKING

CATERED LUNCH – PICNIC SERVICES

LUNCH SERVED BETWEEN 11:45 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.

St. Louis Style Ribs ~ Tender Chicken Breasts ~ Hot Dogs

Baked Beans ~ Fresh Fruit (best in season)

Cole Slaw ~ Potato Salad

Rolls & Butter ~ Gourmet Cookies ~ Brownies

All the Soft Drinks & Beer you can drink

BRING A FOLDING CHAIR

(If you want to sit closer to the music)

MEMBERS & ADULT GUESTS

OCT. 15, 2016 ANNUAL PICNIC REGISTRATION FORM

~ Adults Only ~

Member _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Guests/Names _____

PLEASE PROVIDE NAMES OF GUESTS – ATTACH LIST IF NECESSARY

No. of tickets _____ @ \$20 ea. = \$ _____ Total _____

Mail to:

RELAC
1000 So. Fremont Ave., Unit 15
Alhambra, CA 91803-8802

For Information: Phone: (626) 308-0532 (800) 537-3522
Email: admin@relac.org

NO ADMISSION WITHOUT ADVANCE REGISTRATION
PICK UP TICKETS AT EVENT
RSVP by Sept. 28, 2016

Discount Tickets Available for L.A. County Day at the Fair

We have received several inquiries from members regarding our story on L.A. County Day at the Los Angeles County Fair, which is Sunday, Sept. 11.

DO THE DISCOUNT COUPONS COVER ALL PEOPLE IN THE PARTY? Up to four people will be admitted for \$5 each when purchasing tickets with the coupon at the Fair. However, you may use as many coupons as you like. In addition to the coupon below, we also have a coupon on the RELAC website (www.relac.org), so you may print out as many as you need. Coupons must be surrendered when purchasing tickets. If you order tickets in advance on the Fair's website, there is no limit to the number you may purchase at the discounted rate. To purchase online, go to LA County Fair.com/buytickets and enter the quantity of Community Day Admission tickets, using promo code "lacounty."

WHAT IS THE COST FOR CHILDREN? Children under age 6 are admitted free. Those between ages 6-12 normally would pay \$12, but the fee on County Day is \$5.

Reminder that the discounted coupon is only valid on Sept. 11 and is not valid with any other offers. General parking costs \$15.

A County parade, featuring County elected officials, department heads and employees, will take place at noon, starting on Redwood Street by the Millard Sheets Art Center and ending in the same location. County department booths will be located across from the Millard Sheets Art Center, open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Fairplex is located at 1101 W. McKinley Ave., Pomona.

**L.A. COUNTY
DAY AT THE FAIR**
presented by Wells Fargo



SUNDAY, SEPT. 11

Exclusive offer: \$5 admission

Two ways to purchase tickets

1. Go to LA County Fair.com/buytickets. Enter the quantity of Community Day Admission tickets. Use promo code: **lacounty**
2. Present this discount coupon at any LA County Fair admission gate, Sunday, Sept. 11, 2016



\$5 Admission

\$5 admission with online purchase using promo code, or at LA County Fair gates by submitting this barcoded coupon, valid Sunday, Sept. 11, 2016 only. Not valid with any other offers. No cash value.

Inside LA County

by Judy Hammond
Newsletter Editor



Sheriff Leroy Baca, 74, is in the early stages of Alzheimer's disease. His symptoms are slight, but will be "bleak" within five to 10 years, his physician said during court proceedings. Federal Judge Percy Anderson rejected a plea bargain in which Baca would have received a maximum of six months in prison for pleading guilty to lying to federal investigators during a probe of jail abuses by deputies, saying it was too lenient. As a result, Baca withdrew his guilty plea and will go to trial in late September. Undersheriff Paul Tanaka was sentenced to five years in prison after being found guilty by a jury of conspiracy and obstructing the FBI investigation. In sentencing Tanaka, Anderson said Tanaka's efforts to conceal jail abuses from federal investigators had largely been successful, saying it was clear that only a small number of those who had abused inmates were identified and remain in the department.

Former County Counsel Mark Saladino has filed a second lawsuit against the County, claiming he was removed from his position in June 2015 because he had tried to prevent misconduct by the Board of Supervisors. Skip Miller, who is representing the Board in the case, dismissed Saladino's charges as "all sour grapes." Saladino went on disability leave three months after his demotion and was granted disability retirement in July 2016.

Saladino said supervisors also became upset when they learned he had signed off "as to form" on a memo from former Chief Executive Officer Bill Fujioka that instructed Auditor-Controller John Naimo to pay Supervisor Don Knabe for excessive unpaid vacation upon his retirement. The directive was overturned after an outside attorney and the present county counsel opined the payment would not be proper. Knabe was chief deputy to Supervisor Deane Dana at the time the Board abolished excessive unpaid vacation benefits to future supervisors and department heads.

Queens Replacing Kings: The primary in June raises the real possibility that the Board of Supervisors for the first time will have four female members – there have never been more than two in the past. Kathryn Barger and Janice Hahn, the top vote-getters to replace Supervisors Mike Antonovich and Don Knabe, face Darrell Park and Steve Napolitano in November.

The state did not grant the County's request to allow a ballot measure that would impose an income tax on millionaires to pay for homeless services, so supervisors decided to ask voters to tax marijuana businesses. Several weeks later they repealed the action, however, after receiving negative feedback from supporters.

Voters will be asked in November to approve a permanent 1.5 cent per-square-foot hike in property taxes to raise an estimated \$94.5 million annually for parks. In 2014 voters narrowly rejected a measure that would have continued a tax for parks.

The Countywide Communications Office in the Chief Executive Office has moved to the Hall of Records while its offices in the Hall of Administration are being remodeled. Ricky Espinoza, who worked in the section's Public Information Office, has been transferred to the Board's Executive Office and David Sommers, who headed the branch, has resigned after taking a medical leave, taking a job in the private sector that he says will allow him to spend more time with his family.

The John Anson Ford Amphitheater has reopened after a two-year \$65.8 million facelift, its first major overhaul in 75 years.

Pharmaceutical companies persuaded supervisors to abandon a plan to make them pay for a countywide drug take-back and disposal program. Instead they will assist in developing a public education campaign and host quarterly take-back events.

Following the massacre at a Florida gay nightclub, Supervisor Sheila Kuehl invited 10 openly LGBT County department heads and executives and four of her staff to join her at a Board meeting to ask that everyone rededicate their efforts to end bigotry. Kuehl, the first openly gay supervisor, said she was "grateful to each of them for being out, for being proud, for saying 'this is who I am.'"

The Sheriff's Department is increasing its training of deputies to help them better deal with the mentally ill. In 2014 almost 30 percent of incidents in which patrol deputies used physical force involved someone with mental illness.

The DA is reviewing a security camera video of an incident at Barry Nidorf Juvenile Hall in Sylmar which is said to show four probation officers beating up a non-combative youth for about two minutes while a supervisor watched.

In the first big case handled by its new unit dedicated to overturning wrongful convictions, the District Attorney successfully got the court to release a man convicted in 2010 for the 2000 murder of a teenager shot in Palmdale.

County Librarian Skye Patrick issued a press release to assure the public that "an abundance of caution" is taken when bed bugs are discovered in the libraries -- which, luckily, hasn't happened very often. She said libraries are closed immediately and will not reopen until any infestation is completely eradicated.

The Board of Supervisors has named the Rancho Los Amigos Wellness Center and Plaza in honor of Supervisor Don Knabe for his "relentless advocacy" for the patients at the Downey rehabilitation center.

The Board is considering transferring the Department of Children and Family Services' public health nurses to the Department of Public Health.

The Sand Fire in Santa Clarita in July resulted in a major pet-sitting job for the Animal Care and Control Department, which had to care for almost 800 pets, including llama and a Brahma bull.

The County is targeting 2018 to roll out a new system that will allow residents to vote during the 10 days before an election at hundreds of sites, using touch-screen ballot-marking that they can review on a paper ballot before it is inserted into the machine for storage and counting.

RETIREMENTS: Samara Whitesides, assistant to Museum of Art Director Michael Govan.

DEATHS: Robert Egelston, 85, former chairman of the Music Center who championed the building of the Walt Disney Concert Hall and the restoration of the Ahmanson Theater. Mary Beaudry, 80, former deputy county counsel at Children's Court. Sheriff Sgts. Albert "Dean" Carlton (retired 1985), William Fowler (retired 1978), and Robert Mefferd, Jr. (retired 1977). John F. Mahon, Jr., head of Marshal's Office 1976-86.

IN MEMORIAM

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

Agricultural Comm. /Wts. & Meas.-Wayne C. Latreille
Antelope Valley Rehab Center-Bruce R. Krudis
Assessor-Joseph K. Furukawa, Savannah C. Greene, Shirley J. Hunt, Normajeane Mattijetz
Auditor-Controller-Suzanna E. Beal
Beaches & Harbors-William P. Le Blanc, Loretta E. Oliver
Board of Supervisors-Mary Lou Bangar
Chief Administrative Office-Martin Golds
Chief Information Office-Tomi Kano
Child Support Services-Odessia D. Lee-Jones, Marq Miller
Children & Family Services-Anne Campbell Oliver, Iola Fountain, Everett C. Harper Jr., Mary Jordan, Carol Lee, Angie Mascarenas, Elaine B. Mc Elhinney, Suzanne Kish, Lucy Moya
Communications-James W. Pickles, R. K. Seigle
Community Health-Clinton L. Hoffman
Community & Senior Services-Siddie Neal, Lynn M. Shepard
County Clerk-Robert N. Wilson
County Counsel-Mary F. Beaudry
Data Processing-Robert G. Lyon
District Attorney-Joe L. Brown, Harold W. Hofman Jr., Margaret E. Levar, Edmund M. Lutes Jr., Pedro Martinez, Jesus T. Morell, Leo B. Newton, Raymond G. Richart, Nelda Siroky
Fire-Thomas A. Baker, Larry L. Carroll, George J. Jamen, Glenn L. Jerve, Craig Mattox, Robert E. Meyer, Jess R. Solis, Richard G. Stoll, David L. Sullivan, Nicolas G. Torres, Richard H. Van Vleck, Samuel C. Vasquez
Flood Control-Bernie G. Bodar
Harbor/UCLA Medical Center-Ruth Abeyta, Gonzalo G. Barriga, Betty-Lou Dickhart, Ruben E. Gonzales, Jeweldine Hart, Edward Pierro, Lind Sapp, Martha Valdivia, Laura E. Wandel
Health Services-Eugene Bradley, Marie T. Williams
Health Services Administration-Rudolph Bravo, Lelia, Buser, Thelma Chambers, Helen Deering, Jane A. Estes, Eric L. Holt, Luevenia Lollis, Arlana F. Morales, Lorraine C. Oldham, Susie B. Osby, Gilbert G. Silos, Janet J. Tatum, Waites Williams, Bertha Zoppel
Internal Services-Robert A. Bagley, Amparo Bermudez, James R. Bias, June M. Cunz, James M. Duffy, George E. Hegler, Martha L. Irysh, Walther A. Poe, Raymond A. Rodriguez, Waymon L. Shackelford, Anne M. Tomek, Ellis Warner, Burton A. Wertz, Stephen H. Wilke, Johnnie M. Wilson
King/Drew Medical Center-Adolfo C. De Guman, Mattie S. West
LAC+USC Medical Center-Angel P. Alpas, Nathaniel Blue, Ana Duenas, Ruben Garcia, Jeanette T. Haven, Maria R. Hernandez, Urszula R. Kusior, Josephine Mendoza, Julita P. Nava, Elecia K. Ro, Frances Robinson, Dorothy M. Thomas, Joseph P. Vandermeulen
Mechanical-Clinton E. Champion
Mental Health-Lorraine S. Allman, Phyllis L. Evkhanian, Dolores Hernandez
Museum of Natural History-Gilbert Y. Yamabayashi

Olive View/UCLA Hospital-Patricia A. Dean, Marguerite D. Eastburn, Evangelina P. Finley, Miriam Goldman, Rose L. Green, Lilia Z. Jerez, John D. Lucas, Claire E. Malone, Helen T. Olney, Lois A. Rifkin, Princella Simond, Fred N. Smith, Alice B. Tykac
Parks & Recreation-Ronald Crawford, Noel V. Francis, Donald I. Graf
Reg-Recorder/County Clerk-Earlean S. Jackson
Probation-Mack D. Anderson, Vada O. Anderson, Francis B. Aungst, Rudolph A. Castro, Annie M. Cox, Jacqueline Hunter, John G. Johansen, Jacqueline J. Kelly, Dean R. Price, Jane H. Sarnelle, David R. Soares, Ramon Bustam Villafranco, Ralph B. White, Rodger M. Williams, Geraldine E. Wright
Public Defender-Sheila Dixon, John N. Hopkins, John S. Williams
Public Health Program-Queen Bones, Mary F. Clement, Martin Donabedian, Eunice Edmon, Evan Evanoff, Marjorie Flint, Arthur Gobster, Betty Gorman, Farideh Khaledan, OK Sill Kim, Jacquelyn Knight, Adeline Rizo, Bertha Wellington, Beverly A. Wong
Public Library-Pauline Galbraith, Marjorie A. Hamilton
Public Social Services-John P. Balian, Ruthel Caldwell, Phebe D. Carniglia, Naomi N. De Foore, Ann P. Dell' Era, Herbert D. Estes, Maycie R. Herrington, Armietric G. Hightower, Fleeter H. Jackson, Charles S. Kimura, Olivia Tsuyi Liou, Horace S. Mc Fall, Carol R. Michaels, Verna C. Parlee, Kathleen J. Phillips, Beverly L. Quaintance, Rosa L. Smith, Edward M. Snyder, Doris B. Mc Williams, Jean E. Williams, Dorothy R. Wynne
Public Works-Eli Baker, Donald S. Begines, James S. Blue, Eddie Braavo, Josefina Bretado, Dave G. Caprio, Richard Falcon, James Falsey, George S. Farag, Hayward Fong, Murray G. Goldman, James L. Greene, Ronald K. Hofmann, Harold L. Hopkins, Yutaka Isefuku, Flora Jackson, Pete C. Martinez, Phillip B. Merritt, Eddelyn F. Trueman, Kwok K. Wong, David Yamahara
Rancho Los Amigos Hospital-Joseph A. Angelo, Gwendolyn Baker, Esther R. Franklin, Mary J. Hareson, Beatrice S. Stannard, Doris E. Warren
Regional Planning-Joseph K. Kennedy, Geoffrey H. Taylor
Reg.-Recorder/County Clerk-Wanda Revels
Sheriff-John C. Armstrong, Robert C. Bennett, Martha E. Brown, Shirley A. Butler, Albert D. Carlton, Arthur J. Glover, Arturo N. Carbonell, Charolotte S. Fleishman, Winona M. Franz, Michael L. Hall, Leroy Hightower, Edgar D. Hulen, James N. Kaylor, Donald L. Linde, Walter M. Lynch, Samuel E. Maston, Robert Mefferd, Larry D. Menges, Kenneth R. Miller, David S. Paterson, John A. Pollard, John R. Rodriguez, James P. Terborg, Pamela M. Thomas, James S. Wallace, Donald R. Wiltse
Superior Court/County Clerk-Habeeba Abdurraheem, James F. Butcher, Catherine E. Diaz, William R. Fowler, Virginia R. Hollywood, Richard D. Hughes, Jacqueline Jackson, Paul R. Jackson, Roberta I. Lee, Richard A. Margolin, Salvador Munoz, Carla L. Price, Lois M. Tietz
Women's Hospital-Daniel R. Mishell
Department Not Designated-Donald D. Goul, Wessie W. Gutke, Virgil O. Smock

Retirement Is Good -- If You Take Time to Enjoy It

by J.P. Harris
RELAC Board Member

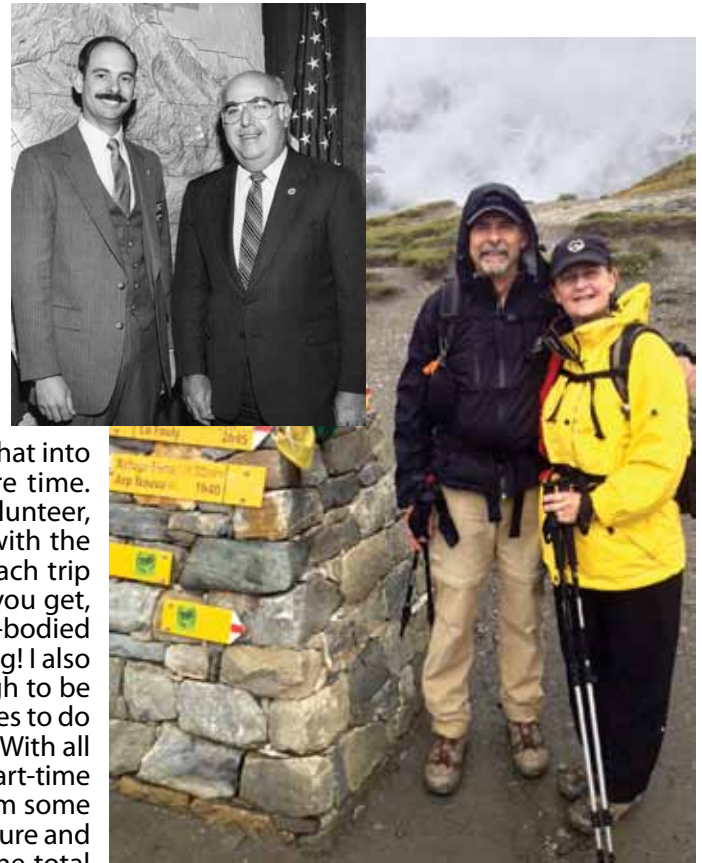
When I retired in 2010 after 35 years with the Sheriff's Department, I learned first-hand what most all retirees had been telling me: you will be busier retired than you ever were when you were working! Truer words were never spoken.

You see, since I had never been retired before, I struck out to do more of the things I was already doing, but with a little more gusto! I remained on the Board of Trustees of the Sheriffs' Relief Association, moving over to a retiree seat. I continued to volunteer at my church in leadership roles, but now I had time to expand that into conference-wide leadership, which (surprise!) took even more time. Oh, I forgot to mention that since I now had more time to volunteer, I started heading to the LA Food Bank twice a month where, with the help of another, I load and unload about 2+ tons of food on each trip for distribution at a food bank in Pasadena. It seems the older you get, the more likely you will be called upon to do those things able-bodied younger folk cannot find the time to do because they are working! I also thought I should get involved with RELAC and was lucky enough to be elected to the Board which, of course, affords ample opportunities to do even more volunteer work on committees and outreach events. With all this extra time on my hands, I also decided I could take on a little part-time job at LACERA in the Disability Retirement Division lending them some of the expertise I had gained during my Sheriff's Department tenure and my prior stint on the Board of Retirement. Oh, I forgot about the total remodel of our home, which necessitated a move out for seven months.

Recently a fellow Sheriffs' Relief Association Board of Trustees member looked me in the eye and said, "I better not hear that you flunked retirement." That really got me to thinking. Then, at the wake for a retired Sheriff's Department member with whom I had worked, retired Undersheriff Bill Stonich approached to ask what I was up to, and when I started with my litany, he rolled his eyes in feigned, no, it was actual disgust and walked away. It seems Bill had attempted to train me in the finer arts of retirement many years ago when he shared his philosophy of life. At a training session, he had passed out a piece of paper to each of those attending. On this piece of paper was drawn a grid of about 80 or so blocks, each block representing a year of our lives. We were then instructed to color in the years already gone. If you were paying attention, you should have quickly come to realize that most of your life was probably behind you and that you had better start paying attention to the time that was left. Hmm, okay, Bill, I think I finally get it. Really.

The moral to this story is, be prepared to be busy in retirement, but make sure you are busy doing the things you want to do with the people you love. It is okay to miss a Board meeting or two. Stay involved, just not over-involved. Plug your travel and relaxation priorities into the calendar first, rather than trying to fit them around all the other things that fill it up. I have taken some time to do that. With my wife, Diane, also a Sheriff's Department retiree, we took a two-week trip to Italy for sight-seeing and cooking lessons at an agri-tourist farmhouse, then hiked the Mont Blanc circuit through France, Italy and Switzerland. We have spent many weeks at our timeshare in Newport Coast, traded a week for Hawaii and another for Palm Desert. We just packed up and started driving east through southern Arizona with absolutely no plan whatsoever and had one of the best vacations of our lives. Tanzania in 2017 is already on the calendar with fellow retiree and tour guide Les Robbins.

Yes, retirement is good as long as you take the time to enjoy it!

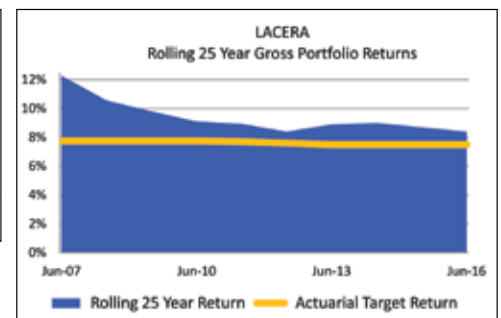


Then and Now: J.P. Harris, president of ALADS in 1986, with then-Sheriff Sherman Block; and with wife, Diane, in 2014 at the Swiss Alps on the border of France.

How to Read the Graph:

The blue area depicts LACERA's gross investment return averaged over a 25-year period. For example, as of June 30, 2007, the average investment return was 12.3%. As of June 30, 2016, the 25-year average return was 8.4%. The gold bar is the assumed investment return that the actuary uses to calculate the level of contributions required in the future to bring the funding level to 100%. The actuary is currently assuming a long-term average investment return of 7.5%.

LACERA'S 25-YEAR RETURNS





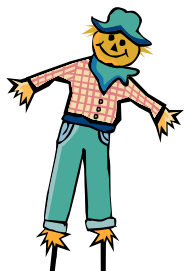
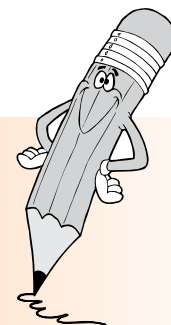
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General Membership Meeting

Mary K. Rodriguez, Chair, Program Committee



Thursday, Sept. 29, 2016

Ayres Hall

Los Angeles County Arboretum

301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA 91007

9 a.m. – Complimentary Refreshments

10 a.m. – Meeting Begins

Our keynote speaker will be

Erwin N. Fang, M.D.

Kaiser Permanente Medical Group

“For Your Eyes - For Your Vision”

~ DOOR PRIZES ~

Please bring your RELAC Membership Card

At the end of the program, members are welcome to tour the Arboretum at no cost.



IMPORTANT!

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

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.



DRIVING DIRECTIONS:

From Route 210 Fwy. Going either east or west, exit at Baldwin Avenue. Proceed south on Baldwin Ave. 1/4 mile. Turn right into the first driveway and park in front of Ayres Hall.

From Huntington Drive. Go north on Baldwin Ave. 1 1/4 miles. Turn left at the traffic signal and enter the parking lot. Ayres Hall is located just off the northerly portion of the lot.

