



60 Years of Dedicated Service
to L.A. County Retirees

RELAC *newsletter*

Your Pension and Health Care Watchdog

Jan/Feb 2019 Vol 54-1

President's Message

by Dave Muir

As we launch into the new year, RELAC's directors join me in extending our sincere best wishes to all our readers for a healthy and happy 2019.

RELAC remains well-positioned to continue to serve and protect you. We are fortunate our finances have allowed us to build a sizable war chest that can be used to fight any threats to our benefits. The only thing that could threaten our benefits would be a bankruptcy of the County. And that's not going to happen. As I wrote in September 2018, one of the major credit rating agencies, S&P, revised its "outlook" on County finances as "positive." Joseph Kelly, the County treasurer and tax collector and a member of LACERA's Boards of Retirement and Investments, explained:

"A positive change in 'outlook' is usually a precursor to a ratings upgrade. The County's current rating with S&P is AA+; an upgrade would be a rating of AAA. Yes, triple A!!! S&P stated the positive outlook reflected the robust local economic performance from an already strong and very diverse base; S&P's view that the County's effective budgetary discipline since the end of the Great Recession has played a significant role in putting the County on a much stronger financial footing than a decade ago, with very strong reserves in the general fund and the Department of Health Services Fund; the steps the County has taken to restructure health services from a hospital-based to an integrated ambulatory care system, which S&P believes positions the County well to adapt to changes in health care funding; and S&P's belief that the County's management is very strong. S&P credited management with 'financial practices that are strong, well embedded and likely sustainable.' "

The bottom line: we can sleep well knowing our benefits are secure.

In closing, I want to thank all our readers for your membership and support. A special thanks to the approximately 400 retirees who joined us as new members in calendar year 2018.

YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT KEEPS RELAC STRONG AS YOUR PENSION AND HEALTH CARE WATCHDOG.



Dave Muir



Brian Berger



Greg Walia



Mary K. Rodriguez



Bill de la Garza

RELAC Officers Re-Elected in 2019

The RELAC Board of Directors has re-elected its 2018 officers to new terms in 2019.

Dave Muir will lead the organization as president for a sixth year, with Brian Berger serving his second year as vice president. Greg Walia will continue as treasurer for the third year and Mary K. Rodriguez as secretary for a seventh term.

Muir, who was chief counsel for LACERA when he retired in 2009, has been a RELAC director since 2011. He is also retirees' representative on the LACERA Board of Investments.

Berger, director of special services with the Department of Children and Family Services when he retired in 1999, has been on the RELAC Board since June 2017. He is former head of the Animal Care and Control Department and acting chief deputy to Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich.

Walia joined the RELAC Board in 2003 and served as president in 2009 and 2010. He also served as vice president for four years. He was personnel officer for the Public Works Department when he retired in 2000.

Rodriguez retired as a LACERA manager in 1996 and has been a RELAC director since 2007.

Bill de la Garza rounds out the Executive Committee as immediate past president. Deputy director of the Department of Parks and Recreation when he retired in 1991, he joined RELAC in 1999.

Retirement Board

by Les Robbins
Retiree Representative
LACERA Board of Retirement



Since we are rapidly approaching the end of 2018, I thought it would be appropriate to share with all of you the year-to-date number with respect to the inflation numbers that LACERA uses to calculate the annual COLA we get on our April paychecks. In the month of October we saw a .6% INCREASE in the cost of living and that calculates to an annual INCREASE in the cost of living of 3.96%. What this means, if it holds up, is that all of our members will see the maximum COLA increases that are allowed in their respective retirement plans.

One of the questions that I get asked frequently has to do with the numbers of retirees and actives that are in each of the retirement plans in LACERA. So here are some numbers, broken down in two categories, active and retired, as well as the respective plans that you may fall in:

The following are the active employee numbers by plan:

General Plan A ---133
General Plan B---43
General Plan C---54
General Plan D---43,126
General Plan E---18,150
General Plan G---24,518
Safety Plan A---5
Safety Plan B---10,198
Safety Plan C---2,649
Total number of active employees is 98,878.

The following are the retired members by plan:

General Plan A---17,418
General Plan B---683
General Plan C---421
General Plan D---14,464
General Plan E---12,525
General Plan G---15
Safety Plan A---5,408
Safety Plan B---5,394
Safety Plan C---8
Total retired---56,336

We also have 8,927 members receiving survivor benefits.

If you have any questions or concerns about your LACERA benefits or any other retiree issue, please don't hesitate to contact me at my e-mail address, Leslasd@aol.com .

News From LACERA

by JJ Popowich
Assistant Executive Officer



It's the beginning of December as I sit down to write this month's article. I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. By the time you read this article, we will be celebrating the holidays and getting ready for the New Year. I hope that you have had a happy and joyous holiday season.

I am pleased to announce that LACERA has a new CEO. LACERA's Boards appointed Lou Lazatin to be our new CEO, effective Nov. 19, 2018. It's been almost 14 months since we wished Gregg Rademacher a happy and healthy retirement. Since that time we have been under the capable leadership of Robert Hill as our interim CEO. Rob has returned to his previous position of assistant executive officer and my peer and partner in the Executive Office.

We are all very proud of our staff members for continuing to meet LACERA's mission over the last 14 months without a permanent leader. It is a testament to their dedication, professionalism, and commitment to taking care of each of you that LACERA continued moving forward, paid the promised benefits on time -- like clockwork -- and continued working on projects to make LACERA better in the future.

If you are anything like the staff members who work for LACERA, you are probably wondering what Ms. Lazatin is like and what LACERA of the future might look like. I cannot speak for her, but I can share with everyone that the last few weeks have been energizing and reassuring all at the same time. Ms. Lazatin is professional, with many years of executive leadership of large private sector and non-profit corporations under her belt. She shares LACERA's passion for providing a high level of service to our members and is a big believer in servant leadership -- the idea that everyone at LACERA is here to serve and help each other as we strive to fulfill our mission and meet the high expectations you all have for us. That approach makes her a great fit for LACERA and bodes well for our future.

One message I want to make sure comes across clear is that LACERA continues to be a strong organization with a culture dedicated to our members.

As I do every year, I want to remind everyone that for the next several months LACERA's Member Services and Benefits staff members will be in the midst of our annual retirement rush season that we affectionately call "March Madness." December through March is our "March Madness" period because this is the time of year most members plan on retiring in order to take advantage of any cost of living increase (COLA) that goes into effect in April. While we expect to handle this annual rush of visits and calls without any additional noticeable delays, please be patient with us as we work to get to each and every person who calls or visits.

Speaking of "delays," I also want to let everyone know that we just graduated a class of retirement benefit specialists who have been in training for over a year and will be joining Member Services in the Call Center and the Member Service Center. These new staff members will help us get to your calls and visits quicker. In addition, we will soon be welcoming a new class of trainees into our year-long Core Benefits training program. This new class of 12-14 staff members will all be coming to Member Services about a year from now to help improve our service levels. I want to thank the Board of Retirement and the Board of Investments for their continued support for approving the additional staff. Our Boards fully recognize the level of service we are always striving for and continually support our efforts.

Well, that's it for this month. Until we chat again, I wish each of you the best health, happiness, and as much fun as you can get as you enjoy your retirement.



RELAC Offers Scholarships

by Linda Hopkins, Chair
Scholarship Committee

The RELAC Board of Directors will launch its inaugural 2019 scholarship program on Jan. 16, 2019 at its Annual Recognition Luncheon in Alhambra. This program is designed for members interested in exploring their continued educational goals, their enhanced personal development and/or the educational goals of their families.

An informational table will be set up in the lobby to provide interested members with application forms. The application deadline is March 1, 2019.

RELAC members interested in donating to this great program can also pick up a scholarship donation form at the luncheon. Following the luncheon, the donor form will be available on the RELAC website, www.relac.org.



VALENTINE DRAWING

Be Our Valentine and Win \$25

It's that time of year again. In a gesture of our appreciation for your continued support, all members are eligible for a special Valentine drawing of 40 prizes - \$25 each. To participate, complete the coupon below and mail it to the RELAC Office, 1000 S. Fremont Ave., Unit 15, Alhambra, CA 91803-8802. Coupons must be received no later than Feb. 4, 2019.

Valentine Drawing

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Please Print Clearly

RELAC's Annual Recognition Luncheon Scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 16

by Evelyn Gutierrez, Chair
Special Events Committee

RELAC's Annual 2019 Recognition Luncheon has been scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 16. This special event will kick off a new year of RELAC events, programs, activities and networking opportunities. We hope you can join us and start the year by connecting with other County retirees and friends.

RELAC members, spouses and friends are invited to join us at the Almansor Court banquet room in Alhambra. The program will start with an inspiring, patriotic performance by the TSA chorus and Ernest Perez. Presentation of the flags by the L.A. County Sheriff's Color Guard will also open the program.

Keynote speaker is John Wicker, L.A. County parks and recreation director. Wicker directs and operates 173 parks, 19 golf courses, eight wildlife nature centers, four arboreta and botanic gardens, and the world-famous Hollywood Bowl. The department's motto is "Parks Make Life Better." Departmental senior programs and services that promote a healthy lifestyle and strengthen the community through diverse physical, educational and cultural programming will be highlighted.

Special recognition awards will be presented to the 2018 RELAC Volunteer of the Year in celebration of Older Americans Month and RELAC's 2018 Walk for Babies Team.

Cost for this great event is \$25, with a no-host cocktail hour from 10:30 a.m. to noon. The menu entrée choice is prime rib of beef or pancetta chicken breast. The vegetarian plate is vegetable lasagna.

Please contact the RELAC office to confirm your attendance and menu choice. The **reservation deadline is Jan. 7, 2019**. Tickets must be purchased in advance and will be available at the registration table on the day of the event.



Berger, Hopkins

RELAC Honors Innovative County Programs at Awards Luncheon

RELAC was one of the sponsors of the 2018 Los Angeles County Quality and Productivity Awards Luncheon, honoring County employees and departments for innovative programs. The event was themed "Innovating for Impact." The program was begun in 1987. Representing RELAC at the event were Board of Directors members Brian Berger and Linda Hopkins. RELAC Director Evelyn Gutierrez, a member of the Quality and Productivity Commission, was chair of the luncheon.

Happy Birthday, RELAC Centenarians

Happy birthday to our members who will be 100 and older in January and February.

Edith Robinson, 100, County Clerk, Feb. 25, 1919

Gilda Saporito, 100, Health Services, Jan. 12, 1919

Irving Sherman, 100, Flood Control District, Feb. 5, 1919

Cleo E. Fielder, 101, Olive View, Feb. 14, 1918

Robert B. Truman, 102, LAC+USC Medical Center, Jan. 28, 1917

Catherine S. Uyeda, 102, Probation, Feb. 4, 1917

Elizabeth C. Ransom, 103, Flood Control District, Jan. 8, 1916

Regional Activities

by Diane Sandoval, Chair
Regional Support Committee

Happy New Year! After a brief break, the Regional Support Committee is back in action. To date, two areas have been targeted: Lancaster/Palmdale and Anaheim. As other areas are selected, you will be among the first to know.

Lancaster Regional Luncheon Meeting – March 28, 2019

Plans are underway to hold a luncheon meeting at the Elks Lodge #1625, 240 E. Ave. K, in Lancaster on March 28. YES!!! RELAC is returning to the Lancaster/Palmdale area and we sincerely hope you are able to join us.

Tickets will be \$15 - a delicious buffet luncheon will be served. The committee is in the process of obtaining a speaker to discuss the homeless and how Los Angeles County has been impacted.

Doors will open at 11 a.m. and the meeting will begin at 11:30 a.m. Lunch will be served at noon. **Yes, we will have door prizes!** A meeting isn't a meeting without door prizes. Perhaps you will be the lucky holder of a winning raffle ticket. Please plan to attend and visit with your neighbors and catch up with co-workers of years past. **Please return the reservation form below. The reservation deadline is March 11. MARK YOUR CALENDARS TODAY SO YOU DON'T MISS THIS EVENT!**

Orange County Regional Meeting – July 16 or 18, 2019

Plans to hold a meeting at the Anaheim Central Library are still in the preliminary stages; the committee has identified the Central Library, located at 500 W. Broadway, Anaheim as a desirable site. More details will be provided in the next newsletter.

As always, please call the RELAC Office (Monday-Thursday) at (626) 308-0532 if you have any questions regarding these events. We look forward to serving you in 2019 and look forward to seeing you at our future events.



Library Launches Mobile Veterans Resource Centers

by Linda Hopkins, Chair
Community Support Committee

The LA County Library will start visiting sites throughout the County this month to launch a mobile Veterans Resource Center project. This mobile service will target community gatherings focused on veterans and will also visit various County library locations. Information to be provided will include veteran's benefits and a broad range of library services.

Four County libraries (Lancaster, La Puente, Norwalk and Lawndale) also host Veterans Resource Centers. Each center provides a one-stop shop to help veterans and their families find materials of interest and information about services and resources available.

For more information, visit LACountyLibrary.org/veterans.

2019 Retired Los Angeles County Marshal's Office Monthly Luncheon Schedule

All lunches are scheduled for noon.

- Jan. 9 Lazy Dog Restaurant, 8800 Apollo Way, Downey
- Feb. 6 Damon's Restaurant, 317 North Brand Ave., Glendale
- March 6 Katella Bakery, 4470 Katella Ave., Los Alamitos
- April 3 Villa Tepeyac Mexican Restaurant, 2200 E. Garvey Ave., West Covina
- May 1 San Antonio Winery, 737 Lamar St., Los Angeles
- June 5 Lucille's BBQ Restaurant, 1870 Montebello Town Center, Montebello
- July 3 Matt Denny's Restaurant, 145 E. Huntington Drive, Arcadia
- Aug. 7 Black Bear Cafe, 7005 Knott Ave., Buena Park
- Sept. 4 Katella Bakery, 4470 Katella Ave., Los Alamitos
- Oct. 2 Marino's Italian Restaurant, 17126 Bellflower Ave., Bellflower
- Nov. 6 Yang Chow Chinese Restaurant, 3777 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena
- Dec. 4 Villa Tepeyac Mexican Restaurant, 2200 E. Garvey Ave., West Covina

REGIONAL SUPPORT LUNCHEON MEETING

March 28, 2019
Lancaster Elks Lodge #1625
240 E. Avenue K, Lancaster

Name _____

Guest(s) _____

Address _____

Phone: _____

Please send your reservation and check, payable to RELAC,
1000 S. Fremont Ave., Unit 15, Alhambra, CA 91803
\$15 per person \$ _____

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS – MARCH 11, 2019

From LA area:

Take I-5 north to Route 14 North/Antelope Valley Fwy.
Take State Route 14 North Antelope Valley Fwy. (approx. 41 miles)
Take Exit 41 (Avenue L) (slight right turn to Avenue L)
Enter next roundabout and take the third exit (Challenger Way)
Turn right onto E Avenue K, make a U-turn at 17th St. onto Avenue K
Lodge is on the right

What's Happening?

by Evelyn Gutierrez, Chair
Special Events Committee



The RELAC Board of Directors wishes you a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!

Committee members continue to explore and identify exciting events that may be of interest to you. We hope this information enables you to visit and enjoy the many local attractions that exist in Los Angeles County.

La Brea Tar Pits and Museum – 5801 Wilshire Blvd., L.A. 90036

FREE Day on Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2019 and the first Tuesdays of each month. Titans of the Ice Age Exhibit FREE on Feb. 5, 2019 from 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Call (323) 934-7243 for more information.

LACMA (L.A. County Museum of Art) – 5905 Wilshire Blvd., L.A. 90036

FREE admission on the second Tuesday of each month and after 3 p.m. on weekdays. Call (323) 857-6000 for information on exhibits and special events.

The Huntington - 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, 91108

Visit the library, art collections and botanical gardens. Call (626) 405-2100. Admission is FREE on the first Thursday of every month with "advance tickets." Free-day hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Parking is FREE.

L.A. County Arboretum & Botanic Garden – 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia

Visit the Queen Anne cottage, breathtaking gardens and friendly peacocks. FREE admission on the third Tuesday of each month. Call (626) 821-3222 for additional information.

Natural History Museum – 900 Exposition Park, L.A., 90007

Visit the exhibits, take a nature walk and just enjoy visiting the Dinosaur Hall. FREE admission on the first Tuesday of each month. Call (213) 763-3466 for information on current exhibits.

Japanese American National Museum – 100 N. Central Ave., L.A. 90012

OSHOGATSU Family Festival – 2019 Year of the BOAR – Sunday, Jan. 6. FREE 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Ring in the New Year with cultural arts and crafts and exciting performances. Call (213) 625-0414 for additional information.

Please check our website www.relac.org for new postings and updates. Thanks for your support and have a great New Year!



Letters To The Editor Write On!

Dear Board Members: Thank you so much for arranging for today's delightful "Day at the Races." I have to grade everything you did for us with an "A". The facility where we dined was superb (as always). I loved the change of the usual buffet to one that included hot soup, a variety of delicious sandwiches, sinfully delicious desserts, etc. It was also great that you managed to give us the best weather you could have hoped for. Looking forward to our Christmas season get-together.

Shirley A. Donoho, Cerritos, California

Dear RELAC: Thank you for your newsletters. I retired 10 years ago (with 36 years of service) and live in Longview, Texas. I look forward to the newsletters and read them from cover to cover. I appreciate all the articles and updates on benefits. I love reading about the travels of fellow retirees and appreciate the names of co-workers who have passed on. Keep up the good work!

Cynthia Taylor, Longview, Texas

I am on the Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center (formerly Criminal Courts Building) Wall of Fame Committee and wish to nominate Michael Judge for inclusion. With your permission, I would like to send the others on the committee your RELAC article on Michael. I do enjoy your RELAC articles keeping us old-timers in the loop. Best regards.

Robert Kalunian, San Marino, California

(Michael P. Judge, who died July 17, 2018, served as L.A. County public defender for almost 17 years. Kalunian was Judge's chief deputy for 15 years.)

Dear Dave Muir: Thank you for my pocket secretary calendar. I am glad that you still send them out. At my age, I need all the help I can get and I use this helpful booklet all the time. RELAC's support of all retired employees is very kind and helpful. Thank you again. Best Wishes.

Lini Bennett, Fallbrook, California

Dear David Muir and all: I retired in 1989 from Rancho Los Amigos Medical Center. I want to thank you for my calendar – but most of all to thank all of you for doing so much for us retirees. It's above and beyond the call of duty. Thank you ever so much.

Nelle A. Mullinax, La Mirada, California

I want to thank you for sending me a birthday card and the pocket calendar. I think you are doing a good job for all of us retired L.A. County employees. I was from the Mechanical Department, retired in 1986, and I am a veteran of WWII.

Sam Schultz, Northridge, California



SHE'S IN CHARGE

Supervisor Janice Hahn is the new chair of the Board of Supervisors, replacing Sheila Kuehl. Supervisor Kathryn Barger is the new chair pro tem and will become the next chair in December 2019. From left are Supervisors Sheila Kuehl, Barger, Hahn, Mark Ridley-Thomas and Hilda Solis.

RV Outing Notes

by Jeanne Klauk
Assistant Coordinator of the RV Club



Klauk and Mike Reyes, coordinator

Happy Holidays! On Oct. 21 our RV group went to Emerald Desert RV Resort in Palm Desert. This is a very pretty park. They provided us with a really nice club room for our meals and cards. Those attending this outing were: Mike and Veronica Reyes, Bob and Linda Reyes, Ron and Betsy Morgon, Norm and Chickee Nelson, Bill and Janice Hayhurst, Janet Cerato, Paul Ladefogor and Stinne, Dorie Fregeau, Jeanne Klauk, and our wagonmasters, Max Georgi and Dulcy. Linda Gutierrez joined us as well, staying in one of the resort rooms. We had company, too - Mike and Veronica's two daughters, Roberta and Yvonne, stopped over for a visit, as did Gil and Eloise Cardiel and Fred Weinberg. Leon Stegall had surgery, and was home recovering.

We had two great breakfasts and our hors d'oeuvres and potluck. On Wednesday we went to ROC Firehouse Grille, one of our favorites. Bob Reyes won the 50/50 and Paul Ladefogor won the gas card (thank you, RELAC). Our RV holiday luncheon was on Dec. 4 at the Luxe Restaurant. Those attending were: Cliftons, B. Reyes, M. Reyes, Murphs, Cardiels, Medinas, Loomis, Egberts, Georgi, Gerdes, Sorensens, Fregeau, Morgons, Hayhursts, Cerato, Nelsons, Klodts, Quintanas, Colemans, Jacksons, Wilkersons, Stegalls, and me.

Our next outing will be at Pechanga on Jan. 6. Come join us. You can stay at the casino if you don't have an RV. On March 17 we will be at the Banning Stagecoach KOA. They also have rooms to rent. We have a lot of fun and we enjoy good food!



RELAC Member Marianne Reich: A Woman on the Go

"I'm always traveling. I put so many miles on my car, it's ridiculous. I have grandchildren in Ontario and Norco -- two-hour drive round trip."

Golf News

By Gil Sandoval
RELAC Golf Director



Whittier Narrows Golf Tournament Dec. 3, 2018

We expected a cold, cloudy day, but it turned out to be beautiful with a little wind. There were only three players that achieved par or better and two were in the "C" flight. Congratulations to Jim Meek, who brought in a net 69 to win the flight. Frank Martinez came in at net 72 for second place. Arthur Dass came in third with a net 73, just one behind Frank.

The "A" flight players had trouble dealing with the course as they did not play up to the normal standard. Michael Hernandez repeated his last tournament win with a net 75. In second place at net 77 was Benny Martinez, who won in a card off on the fourth hole, with Tony Asuncion taking third place.

Eddie Otero, the third player at par, won the "B" flight with a net 72. He bested Rick Richter and Terry Black as they both shot net 76s, with Rick beating Terry in a card off to finish second.

The ladies flight was very interesting as we had an exact tie for first place as Charlene DeBie and Kay Barrents both shot net 86 to split first and second place awards. Nice going, ladies, as we appreciate your participation. However, we need more ladies to join the festivities and increase our playing rolls.

We have lost players due to death and illness, so need some new golfers to join us at the tournaments. If you can help RELAC recruit new members who are golfers, it would be more than great. So, please take this plea to heart and help us grow.

The next tournament is at the Los Amigos Golf Course on Jan. 28, first tee at 8 a.m. Please note that the entry form is not always part of the newsletter. It can be found on the RELAC website: www.relac.org. Follow the link to activities (Golf).

Whittier Narrows Results:

"A" Flight Winners (19 and under)

- 1st Michael Hernandez (75)
- 2nd Benny Martinez (77)*
- 3rd Tony Asuncion (77)

"B" Flight Winners (20 to 26 Handicaps)

- 1st Eddie Otero (72)
- 2nd Rick Richter (76)*
- 3rd Terry Black (76)

"C" Flight Winners (27 and up Handicaps)

- 1st Jim Meek (69)
- 2nd Frank Martinez (72)
- 3rd Arthur Dass (73)

Women's Flight Winners

- 1st Charlene DeBie (86)
- Kay Barrents (86)
- 3rd No winner

*Winners in a card off

Closest to the Pin on Par 3s

- MEN
- # 5 - No Winner
 - # 7 - No Winner
 - # 10 - Bob Egusa
 - # 15 - Rick Richter
- WOMEN
- # 5 - Kay Barrents
 - # 7 - No Winner
 - # 10 - Kay Barrents
 - # 15 - Charlene DeBie

NEXT TOURNAMENT
Monday, Jan. 28, 2019
Los Amigos Golf Course
 8 a.m. Start
 Entry Deadline - Jan. 10, 2019

RELAC NEWSLETTER

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Number 1

Retired Employees
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91803-8802

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Editor: Judy Hammond
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Office Hours
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Monday - Thursday
Closed Friday,
Saturday, Sunday &
Public Holidays

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

October – November 2018

- Agriculture** – William Myers
- Children & Family Services** – Heesoon K. Lee, Deborah Tolbert
- Fire** – Bobby Laster
- Health Services** – Michael Charr, Elisa Hill
- Internal Services** – Bannie Leung
- LACERA** – Stephanie Wilson
- LAC+USC Medical Center** – Susan Martinez - Arnwine, Bella Maramot
- Mental Health** – Olivia Cadena
- Probation** – Andrea Gordon
- Public Health** – Aundray Burks
- Public Social Services** – Latrell Gibson, Bach-Cuc Le, Annette Moss, Sheryl Spiller, Autrese Strozier, Dennis Veals, Clotilde Villa, Nancy White
- Public Works** – Peter Chang, Eleni Hailu, Henry Zepeda
- Sheriff** – Daphine Bates, Michael Gurrola, Albert Lapenson, Richard Fompa, Deborah Semnanian, David Small, Roger Wallace
- New Associate Members** – Shimelis Amare, Richard Archer, Joel H. Arnwine, Alice Y. Charr, Manuel Hall, Teresa Lapenson, Dinh Le, Seong K. Lee, Selina Leung, Efen Maramot, Anna Myers, Michael E. Nallin, Baker Jr. Odis, Donna Peter, Marquit Strozier, Pamela L. Veals, Veronica Wallace

Thanks for New Member Referrals

We would like to thank the four members who recruited colleagues to join RELAC during October 2018. Due to our aging membership, we must remain vigilant in signing up new members in order to remain a strong organization to protect your hard-earned pension and health benefits. We are the only organization that exclusively serves the interests of Los Angeles County retirees, so help us help you. For membership applications and brochures, call the RELAC office at (800) 537-3522, e-mail admin@relac.org or go online at www.relac.org. Be sure to tell the new member to put your name on the application as making the referral. Our thanks to these RELAC members (shown in bold) for referring new members (shown in *italics*):

- Cristina Diaz**, *Andrea Gordon*, Probation
- James Thurow**, *Peter Chang*, Public Works
- Clark Veals**, *Dennis Veals*, Public Social Services
- Jason Williams**, *Sheryl Spiller*, Public Social Services

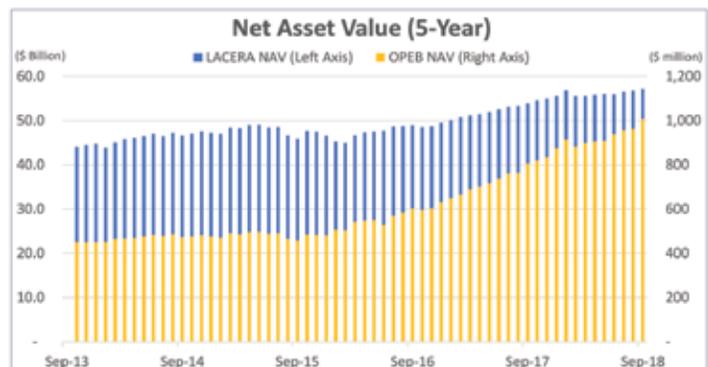
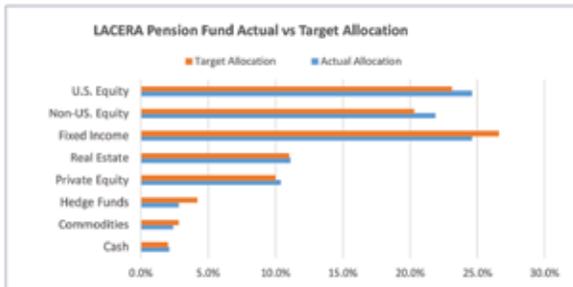


Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association

Investment Dashboard

As of 09/30/2018

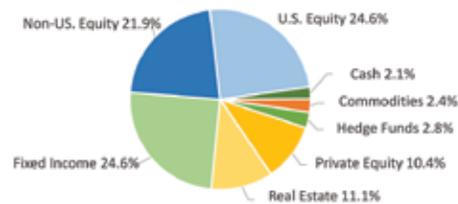
	Quarter End Balance
LACERA Pension Fund	\$57,132,538,952
OPEB Master Trust Fund	\$1,006,713,621



Fund Performance*

	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
LACERA Pension Fund	7.9	9.9	8.0	7.6
Policy Benchmark	7.1	9.4	7.6	7.5
Outperformance / Underperformance	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.1
Performance by Asset Class:				
U.S. Equity	16.4	16.5	13.1	11.9
Non-U.S. Equity	3.6	11.3	6.5	6.6
Fixed Income	0.2	3.5	3.3	5.6
Real Estate	9.3	8.2	9.4	3.6
Private Equity	19.1	13.3	15.2	11.8
Commodities	4.9	2.1	-5.8	-4.6
Hedge Funds	4.1	3.1	3.8	--
Cash	1.6	1.2	0.8	1.2

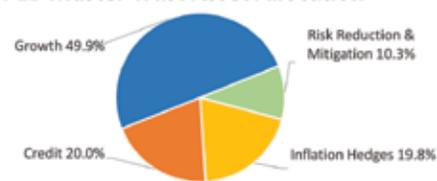
LACERA Pension Fund Asset Allocation



OPEB Master Trust Fund:

	7.8	11.3	6.7	--
Los Angeles County	7.8	11.3	6.7	--
LACERA	7.3	10.7	6.4	--
Superior Court	7.6	--	--	--
Performance by Asset Class:				
Growth	9.9	--	--	--
Credit	--	--	--	--
Inflation Hedges	--	--	--	--
Risk Reduction & Mitigation	1.6	--	--	--

OPEB Master Trust Asset Allocation



News/Update

Open RFP/RFI: Real Asset Administrative Services Search

*Fund performance returns are net of fees. OPEB Master Trust Fund's new asset allocation was implemented in 2nd quarter of 2018; historical performances by asset class will become available after one year.
 **All financial data, returns, and net asset value are unaudited.

SAVE THE DATE

RELAC
Retired Employees of Los Angeles County
Annual Recognition Luncheon

Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2018
Almanson Court
700 S. Almanson St., Alhambra

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

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: JOHN WICKER
LOS ANGELES COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION
DIRECTOR

ALSO FEATURED WILL BE THE UPLIFTING VOICES OF THE
TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION (TSA)
CHORUS

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

Please plan to join us

Reservation coupon available on RELAC website: www.relac.org

Lou Lazatin Selected as LACERA's New Chief Executive Officer

Lou Lazatin is the new chief executive officer of the Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association (LACERA), replacing Robert R. Hill, who had served as acting CEO since the retirement of Gregg Rademacher in October 2017.

Lazatin has more than 30 years of experience in executive positions at leading health care organizations in Southern California, most recently as CEO of the Shriners Hospitals for Children of Southern California and president and CEO of Saint John's Health Center in Santa Monica.

RELAC President Dave Muir, a member of the RELAC Board of Investments, said more than 200 candidates were considered for the position. "We wanted to ensure that we found the right person with the right skills – and, importantly, the right fit and vision – to lead LACERA into the future," he said.

He described Lazatin as a dynamic, innovative and compassionate professional with a deep commitment to community engagement. "Lou's experience and values closely align with LACERA's mission to "Produce, Protect and Provide the Promised Benefits" and they will equip her well to provide LACERA with sound, forward-thinking leadership for the benefit of the fund's more than 165,000 active and retired members."

Lazatin said she is honored to have the opportunity to serve as LACERA's CEO. "I'm energized by LACERA's success in driving industry-leading returns and am eager to execute on a vision that further enhances LACERA's excellence on every level and across pension and health care services," she said. "I look forward to working with the amazing team at LACERA to continue to provide our members with high-quality services, a promise of security and transparency, and a flexible, friendly approach to delivering benefits."



It is a win for #3 horse, Mucho Unusual

A Day at the Races

by Evelyn Gutierrez, A happy attendee

As a first-time attendee at the RELAC "Day at the Races" event in October, I am pleased to say that I truly enjoyed visiting with RELAC members and their friends at the Santa Anita Park. Our reserved area in the Sierra Vista Terrace, great buffet lunch and seating arrangements were outstanding.

As a mobility-challenged gal, my walker accommodations and access to our seating were great. The entrance was directly off the elevators and the service was exceptional. I even had an easy opportunity to make my first bet on a horse (#3) in the third race with the name "Mucho Unusual."

A friend made my \$2 bet on #3 to win! We waited for the race to begin and then started screaming for my horse "Mucho" to win!! Well, guess what, #3 won!!! And my friend, Don, quickly cashed in my ticket for a grand total of \$2.40!!! What a great day!

A big thanks to Mary Rodriguez for all the hard work. Yes, I plan on attending next year and maybe even increasing my bet.

*RELAC Directors
Mary K. Rodriguez
and Don Fandry
chat with member
Charles Yakushiji.*



Attendees enjoy lunch.

PASSAGES

Compiled by Judy Hammond, Newsletter Editor

RETIREMENTS:

Rosalind Wayman, senior field deputy to Supervisor Kathryn Barger. **Maria Badrakhn**, director for the housing management division of the Community Development Commission/Housing Authority.



Wallace



Pedersen



Villanueva



Nuremberg

DEATHS:

Theodore Von Minden, who had 38 years of service when he retired as undersheriff in 1987. **Col. Joseph Smith**, director of the Military and Veterans Affairs Department from 1988 to 2012. Former Chief Deputy Assessor **Sharon Moller**, 65, who retired in 2015. **Robert Johnson**, 53, long-time County deputy public defender who died within one month after contracting West Nile virus. In 2017 he received the County's adult volunteer of the year award for his humanitarian work. Dr. **Irwin Silberman**, former director of the County's Maternal and Child Health and Family Programs. **Brad Nuremberg**, 84, 25-year County employee who was chief deputy treasurer-tax collector when he retired, and Supervisor Mike Antonovich's appointee to the County Fish and Game Commission for 26 years. **William Mitchell Bidgood**, 87, who retired in 1982 after 25 years as a deputy health officer. Long-time County photographer **Dan Madden**, 71, who retired in 2001, from complications of Parkinson's disease. **Elwood Len Doughty**, 93, who had 27 years of service in Sheriff's Department when he retired as sergeant in 1981, passed away 15 days after his wife of 62 years, **Mary Joan (Clanton) Doughty**, 83, died of colon cancer. She was also a County employee, working 42 years at LAC+USC Medical Center, retiring as associate nursing director. **Robert Wallace**, 71, deputy district attorney since 1984, from brain cancer complications. **Pedro Solis**, retired in 1994 as sergeant in Sheriff's Department after almost 24 years. **Anthony Wade**, who retired as Sheriff's Department sergeant in 2008 after seven years. **Rosi A. Pedersen**, 75, wife of 50 years to Curt Pedersen, who was chief of staff to former Supervisor Don Knabe.



Dudamel



Doughty



Barger/Clavreaul

ELECTIONS:

Retired Sheriff's Lt. **Alex Villanueva** is the new sheriff, defeating incumbent **Jim McDonnell** after McDonnell failed to get the necessary 50 percent plus one vote in June to win election. McDonnell got 48 percent of the vote in June, but drew only 47.15 percent in November. Assessor **Jeffrey Prang** – who was also forced into a runoff after getting only 48 percent of the vote in June – won re-election after beating John "Lower Taxes" Loew with 60.34 percent of the ballots. Supervisor **Janice Hahn** is the new chair of the Board of Supervisors and **Kathryn Barger** the chair pro tem.

APPOINTMENTS:

New Sheriff Alex Villanueva, as part of a shakeup that relieved 18 top officials of duty, selected two retired commanders for his executive team: **Ray Leyva** as undersheriff and **Bob Olmsted** as assistant sheriff overseeing custody operations. Both men ran for sheriff: Leyva in 2006 and Olmstead in 2014. Olmsted moved to Nevada after retiring in 2010; Leyva took a medical retirement in 2016 due to back and wrist issues. Olmsted pledged to stay at least two years; Leyva says he will serve only 120 days. Industry station Capt. **Tim Murakami** and Lt. **LaJuana Haselrig**, who worked in fiscal administration, were also tapped to become assistant sheriffs. **Lou Lazatin**, chief executive officer of the Shriners Hospitals for Children of Southern California, named CEO of Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association (LACERA) to replace **Robert R. Hill**, who had served as acting CEO since retirement of **Gregg Rademacher** in October 2017. Perennial Board of Supervisors critic **Geneviève M. Clavreul**, Ph.D., appointed by Supervisor Kathryn Barger to the Hospitals and Healthcare Delivery Commission. Dr. **Steven Steinberg**, a Humboldt State University professor who led the geographic information systems section, hired as County's new GIS officer. **Esa-Pekka Salonen**, conductor of the L.A. Philharmonic for 17 years, named music director of the San Francisco Symphony.



McDonnell



Olmsted

HONORS:

Los Angeles Philharmonic conductor **Gustavo Dudamel** was presented the Dorothy and Lillian Gish award, which included \$250,000 in cash, in New York for his outstanding work in the arts.

COURTS:

Sheriff's Deputy **Marc Antrim** and two associates were arrested in November on federal drug charges, accused of using his law enforcement expertise and access to Sheriff's Department gear to stage a robbery that netted over \$1 million in marijuana and cash. Sheriff's Deputy **Neil Kimball**, 45, was charged with raping and tying up a 14-year-old girl he met in a case he was investigating. He is also accused of dissuading a witness by force or threat.



Prang



Former Chief Deputy Assessor Sharon Moller Dies at Age 65

Former Chief Deputy Assessor Sharon Moller, who retired in 2015 as the highest-ranking female executive to have led the Los Angeles County Assessor's Office, passed away Nov. 9, 2018 at age 65.

"Sharon worked tirelessly to improve services for taxpayers of Los Angeles County and left an indelible imprint on this office," said Los Angeles County Assessor Jeffrey Prang. "She will be missed."

Moller, then assistant assessor, was selected by the Board of Supervisors in 2013 to be chief deputy assessor and de facto head of the department when then-Assessor John Noguez was on leave after being charged with bribery. Prang said Moller was known for her steady leadership during this critical and tumultuous time, as the office worked to regain the public's trust in its ability to process fair and accurate assessments.

Supervisor Kathryn Barger, who brought in a motion to adjourn the Nov. 27, 2018 Board of Supervisors meeting in memory of Moller, said the San Dimas resident "is remembered by those who worked with her as having served Los Angeles County residents with incredible pride, dignity, and commitment."

"She was knowledgeable, highly skilled and an invaluable mentor to her colleagues through her stewardship and steadfast leadership. Sharon worked hard to improve services for the county taxpayers," said Barger.

Moller began her 25-year tenure with the Office of the Assessor as a real property appraiser trainee and was the first female to attain the rank of chief deputy assessor.

Prang said she became particularly known for her highly specialized knowledge and understanding of complex hotel valuations. "The Assessor's Office not only relied heavily on Sharon's appraisal expertise, but also on her ability to mentor staff and provide leadership to her colleagues," he said.

Moller is survived by her husband and three sons. Memorial services were held on Dec. 1, 2018.

Former Department Head Colonel Joseph N. Smith Eulogized

Colonel Joseph N. Smith, director of the County Department of Military and Veterans Affairs from Nov. 28, 1988 to 2012, has died at age 87.

Smith, who died Nov. 22, 2018 of respiratory illness and multiple systems failure, was a Marine Corps officer for 30 years before retiring and becoming head of the County department.

County Supervisor Hilda Solis, who knew Smith for 20 years when she was a California state senator and congresswoman, praised him when the Board of Supervisors adjourned in his memory on Nov. 27.

"He did so many activities to help bolster the representation of the military service," she said. "He will be sorely missed. He has many, many accomplishments (and) served so many people with dignity. And at every point, he wore his uniform and was proud and spoke very, very candidly about how important it is to support our military men and women in uniform."

Brigadier General Ruth A. Wong, U.S. Air Force (Ret.), the current director of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, says Smith "was a wonderful leader and mentor of those who followed in his footsteps. Always a gentleman."

Smith, who received numerous local, state and national awards while serving as director of Military and Veterans Affairs, was a founder of the United States Veterans Initiative, the nation's largest provider of transitional housing for homeless veterans, and served as its chairman for 14 years.

As a Marine infantry officer, Smith commanded and led Marines at various levels, served as a Marine advisor in both Vietnam and Chile, was a congressional assistant for the commandant of the Marine Corps, and while a division chief at the Joint Chiefs of Staff was responsible for 12 treaty negotiations and military representation at the United Nations. During his career he performed duty in and visited 39 countries. His combat service earned the Silver Star Medal, Purple Heart and Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry. Among his other numerous decorations were the Defense Superior Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal and awards from five foreign nations.

Smith, a Seal Beach resident, is survived by his wife, Belen.

Bench Installed to Honor Frank Andrews

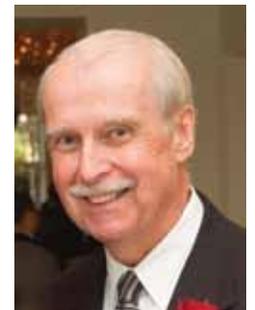
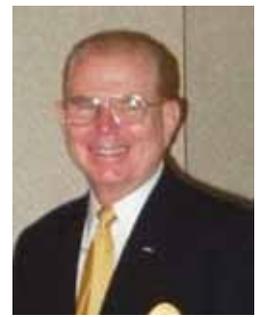
A bench honoring Frank Andrews has been installed at the Animal Care and Control shelter in Downey, where Andrews was stationed during his 12 years as department director.

"As humble as Frank always was, I think he would love knowing that people wanting to adopt a shelter pet can sit on his bench in the get-acquainted area and have an opportunity to get to know each other before adoption. Having an opportunity to spend time together before adoption helps people find the perfect shelter pet and provide a forever-home," said RELAC member Kaye Michelson, who worked in the Animal Care and Control Department throughout Andrews' tenure.

Funds for the bench were raised through donor contributions and support from the Department of Animal Care and Control and the Animal Care Foundation.

Andrews served as director from 1989 to 2001. He died in December 2017 at age 85.

(Additional photo on page 13)





Former County Photographer Dan Madden, 71, Dies

Long-time County photographer Dan Madden, who worked for the Board of Supervisors, Chief Administrative Office, Department of Public Social Services, and Internal Services, has died after a lengthy battle with Parkinson's disease.

Madden, 71, died Oct. 7, 2018 at his home in Santa Rosa after his health began to deteriorate in June. He and his wife, Vicki, moved to Dubois, Wyoming following his 2001 retirement, but relocated to California in 2013 due to his health issues.

Funeral services were held Nov. 11 in Kenwood, California, with another service planned in Dubois in spring 2019, along with scattering of his ashes. The Board of Supervisors adjourned its Nov. 13, 2018 meeting in Madden's memory.

Several RELAC members who worked with Madden offered these tributes:

Former County Supervisor Mike Antonovich: "Dan had a superb work ethic. When called upon, he would be at an event, be it morning or evening, seven days a week. My district was larger than the other four districts combined and I was actively involved with all parts of my district -- Dan never complained. He was professional in doing his job. Dan always had a big smile and wonderful attitude on life. It was a pleasure to know and work with him."

Former County Supervisor Don Knabe: "Dan was our professional go-to photographer. He really worked hard to make the picture "right," not just a "picture." Fun guy, great friend! RIP and free of pain, my friend!"

Harry Hufford, former chief administrative officer: "Dan lived near me here in Santa Rosa and we had a few lunches together. He took hundreds of photos of me as CAO, which are buried in a box in my garage/carpenter shop waiting for completion of home repairs. He told of me of his military career doing air/sea rescue work, as a photographer, and more recently of the joy of visiting his ranch. A very impressive man. RIP"

Former County Counsel Bill Pellman: "Dan was a wonderful friend. I always admired how as a top notch professional photographer he could be so able to be unobtrusive and quiet in going about taking photos and at other times be such a roaring presence with his laughter and quick wit. He had such a wonderful laugh - a laugh that seemed to increase in volume and bubble up until it was contagious for those of us around him. That is the way I will always remember him, saying something witty and then laughing."

Gail LeGros, former deputy to Supervisor Don Knabe: "What a special friend he was to me and the Fourth District. He always went above and beyond to make sure Supervisor Knabe got all the shots he needed for every event."

Carol Matsui, former special assistant to director, Department of Public Social Services: "I knew and worked with Dan during his time with the Media Section at DPSS and continued our friendship when he transferred to the Photography Unit in the CAO. He always had a smile on his face and a good joke

Continued on p. 12

The following article about deputy public defender Robert Johnson appeared in the Los Angeles Daily News.

West Nile Virus took Robert Johnson's life, but not his legacy

By Ryan Carter, Daily News



Daniel Kuperberg was still processing how a seemingly simple mosquito bite could ultimately claim the life of the man he called his best friend, Robert Johnson.

"So freaking random, out of nowhere..." he said, just days after L.A. County health officials confirmed on Oct. 10 that Johnson, 53, of Shadow Hills, became the first person in L.A. County to die this year from West Nile virus.

As word of Johnson's death spread, talk of tragedy has cascaded into memories of a man with seemingly boundless energy, with a penchant for helping the down-and-out and less fortunate.

Johnson, a Salt Lake City native, was known as an accomplished public defender at the L.A. County Public Defender's Office, where he'd worked for 24 years, making his mark on the department's Van Nuys and Downtown L.A. offices, where he took on some of the toughest cases.

Kuperberg recalled bonding with Johnson, his fellow deputy public defender, on the case of Jae Hwan Shim, who in 2015 pleaded guilty to five counts of first-degree murder after going on a samurai sword rampage in the Antelope Valley. They successfully argued against the death penalty for Shim, making a deal for life in prison without parole.

For a public defender whose client is up against death, it was a victory, and Johnson earned accolades among colleagues for the defense of his client. "Robert saved lives," said Kuperberg. "He was doing God's work ... representing clients that had no other voice, who had no one else to defend them."

A career defending such clients was so much his calling that at the beginning, when the department had put a freeze on hiring new deputies, a determined Johnson, fresh from passing the California Bar exam, kept his waiter job and joined and volunteered for the office.

Being a public defender was his dream job, so he simply "overcame" the hiring freeze, Kuperberg said. "It was his calling," he added.

That volunteer spirit wouldn't pass, even many years later. Just two years ago, Johnson was the featured profile in an internal publication, highlighting that spirit. He prepared and helped deliver food to county residents living with HIV, cancer and other illnesses, through a nonprofit called Chicken Soup, according to the profile. And he simply spent time with the recipients of that food.

Continued on p. 12

Dan Madden continued from p.11

to share. He was a talented photographer and was always able to make those difficult shots look so easy. Dan's contributions to DPSS media needs were immeasurable and his talents were quickly recognized by the CAO.

Judy Hammond, former County director of public affairs: "Dan was one of my best County friends. Always made me laugh. So funny. Because he was such a jokester, some people didn't realize how really smart and clever he was. He was a wonderful, creative photographer. I hated it when he retired; I missed the joy he brought to my life."

Loren Clapp, former Chief Executive Office graphic arts coordinator: "Dan's openness, charm and good humor were always a delight. Working alongside of him for certain events (he in Photography, me next door in Graphic Arts) was a pleasure. We always had a good time. In fact, I enjoyed his company so much that my daughter (16 at the time and learning to drive) and I visited his post-County home in Dubois, Wyoming on a driving trip up to Yellowstone. Even thinking of him now puts a smile on my face. I know we are all finite, but it still aches to hear of his death."

Gwen Andrizzi, former administrative assistant to four county chief administrative/executive officers: "I know he had it rough with his Parkinson's disease. He probably was one of the most spirited people I have known. Always positive."

Robert Johnson continued from p.11

The profile chronicled how he still spent Sundays volunteering — a cause he wanted his two young sons to experience. "Compassion is the main thing I want them to learn," he said of his sons. "I want them to enjoy their life and appreciate their good health. But also realize there's kind of a duty to help other people not as fortunate."

Johnson's husband, Scott Montgomery, said the volunteering was just part of his partner's boundless energy. "No day was ever too long," he said.

Johnson's death prompted a stern reminder from the Public Health Department that the virus is "a serious disease" and that people should take precautions such as using mosquito repellent and checking for standing water in their homes or yards, where mosquitoes can breed.

Death is rare from a bite, but in a small percentage of people, symptoms can develop. According to the Centers for Disease Control, about 1 in 5 people who are infected develop a fever and other symptoms. And about 1 out of 150 infected people develops a serious, sometimes fatal, illness.

"It was totally out of the blue," Montgomery said. "Robert, for whatever reason, had the worst possible reaction to it." Over Labor Day weekend, Johnson said he was feeling like he had the flu. By that Monday, he hadn't improved, and his condition worsened from there, leading to the complications that took his life.

Montgomery hoped that someday a vaccine is found to prevent West Nile virus in humans. In the meantime, friends will remember Johnson's humanity — and a man who loved a good beer, Disneyland, gardening and his job. "He made people feel good," Kuperberg said.

Johnson is survived by his husband, two sons and two sisters.

The following article was reprinted from the Southern California News Group

In swearing-in ceremony, LA County Sheriff Alex Villanueva promises new direction for department

By Josh Cain, Southern California News Group

During his swearing-in ceremony on Monday, Alex Villanueva, the new sheriff of Los Angeles County, paused for a moment during his remarks as he heard a woman shouting in the audience. "Si se puede," the woman said, still sitting but chanting and jabbing her fist. "Si se pudo," he said back in Spanish, pointing at the woman. "Yes, we could."

Cheers from activist groups punctuated the ceremony at East Los Angeles College. The same groups in the past have had few occasions to rejoice in electing a new sheriff, a non-partisan position where incumbents rarely face competition for their jobs.

Packed in the Ingalls Auditorium was the collection of political groups that boosted Villanueva's campaign — labor unions, immigration rights advocates and members of some of the county's Democratic clubs. Right next to them were hundreds of rank-and-file sheriff's deputies getting their first chance to hear from their new boss.

Many deputies, too, celebrated Villanueva's election — the union representing the department's rank-and-file members, the Association of Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputies, pumped \$1.3 million into his campaign. ALADS also issued a vote of "no confidence" in his opponent, outgoing Sheriff Jim McDonnell, days before the general election on Nov. 6.

Villanueva spoke to both groups in his speech, reflecting how he was able to complete his one-year rise from a retired sheriff's lieutenant — whose last post was commanding a shift of several dozen deputies at the Pico Rivera



station — to now the top law enforcement agent in the county in charge of a department with a budget of more than \$3 billion. "We must listen to both the rank-and-file," Villanueva said, "and the people they serve."

The new sheriff earned support from the union in part because of his more lenient stance on deputy discipline, as well as promises to cut from the department's top ranks, including a reported purge of executive staff members.

Villanueva appointed seven new executives at the ceremony on Monday. He told deputies the era of promotions based on loyalty was over. He said during his career he was retaliated against for speaking out under previous administrations — Villanueva said throughout his campaign that he wanted to root out corruption left over from the administration of former Sheriff Lee Baca and Undersheriff Paul Tanaka, who were both convicted in a jail-abuse and cover-up scandal.

Speaking to his wife, Vivian, a fellow deputy who sat on stage with him, Villanueva said both of their careers were derailed because of his public stances. "You bared the brunt of retaliation leveled my way for years," he said.

Continued on p. 13

Villanueva continued from p.12

The race for sheriff ended on Nov. 27, when McDonnell conceded in a speech at the department's headquarters at the Hall of Justice in downtown L.A. After leading on election night, McDonnell's share of the vote shrank with each subsequent update, until eventually Villanueva pulled ahead the day after the election. In the final count, Villanueva led with 53 percent of the vote to 47 percent for McDonnell.

The new sheriff drew a stark contrast between himself and McDonnell over S.B. 54, better known as California's "sanctuary state" bill. The law prohibited law enforcement agencies in the state from cooperating with federal immigration authorities. Passed last year, S.B. 54 resulted in sheriff-run jails becoming battlegrounds over immigration policy. While McDonnell questioned the bill, Villanueva embraced it, promising voters he would not allow U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents to use office space inside L.A. County's jails.

The author of S.B. 54, former state Sen. Kevin de León, was among the speakers at the swearing in ceremony on Monday. He said Villanueva's election meant undocumented immigrants no longer needed to fear county deputies would hand them over to ICE agents seeking to deport them. "You can live in L.A. County with dignity, safety, and yes, sanctuary," De León said.

De León, who unsuccessfully ran against Sen. Dianne Feinstein this year and made a name for himself with feisty statements about President Donald Trump, said what LASD does as the largest the country's largest sheriff's department can have implications for other law enforcement policy nationwide. "The country is watching very closely," he said to Villanueva from the podium.

The new sheriff's personal story was also on display at the event on Monday — ELAC's president, Martin Martinez, called Villanueva "one of our own." Villanueva, who lives in La Habra Heights, for years worked as campus police officer in the Los Angeles Community College District, patrolling ELAC and other campuses throughout the system. He met his wife, Vivian, when she was training to become a deputy at the sheriff's East L.A. station.

Villanueva said promoting local ties would be one of his priorities as sheriff. "Kids from Compton should grow up to serve as deputies in Compton," he said. "Kids in East L.A. should grow up to serve East L.A."

Retirement Notes

Rosalind Wayman

Board of Supervisors Senior Field Deputy Rosalind Wayman receives retirement scroll from Supervisor Kathryn Barger. Wayman has been senior field deputy in the Santa Clarita Valley since 2007, first for former Supervisor Mike Antonovich and then Barger. A pet lover, one of her last projects was getting an emergency evacuation center for large animals at Pitchess Detention Center. Wayman has had a love of animals since she was a child, growing up with horses, competing in hunter/jumper events and taking polo lessons. In recent years she participated in book-reading events at the Castaic Animal Care Center, where young people improved their reading skills by reading to dogs.



Maria Badrakhhan

Supervisors Janice Hahn and Mark Ridley-Thomas present retirement scroll to Maria Badrakhhan at Board of Supervisors meeting. Badrakhhan worked for the County for 27 years, including 20 years as director for the housing management division of the Community Development Commission/Housing Authority.

Frank Andrews Bench Dedicated



Marcia Mayeda, director of animal care and control for Los Angeles County, visits with Robert Andrews at bench dedicated in honor of Andrews' father, Frank, at the Downey Animal Shelter, where Andrews was stationed during his 12 years as department director. (Photo by Kaye Michelson)



Inside LA County

by Judy Hammond
Newsletter Editor



The 39-year lease extension of the Mariners Village in Marina del Rey will be a model for how the County will negotiate lease extensions in the future, says Supervisor Janice Hahn. The extension requires the conversion of 196 units at the apartment complex to housing for low-income families – which will more than double the number of affordable units in Marina del Rey – and a \$100 million renovation of the existing 1,000 units. The renovations will take place over six years and units will be converted to affordable housing as they become vacant. Officials say the action was needed because skyrocketing rents are driving families and seniors on fixed incomes out of Marina del Rey.

The Woolsey Fire, which burned for 13 days before being fully contained on Nov. 21, was the worst wildfire in L.A. County in modern history. The 100,000-acre fire destroyed or damaged more than 2,000 structures in L.A. and Ventura counties.

The County has taken a number of steps to help women inmates succeed once released from jail, including establishing a job center at Century Regional Detention Facility; expanding the Reentry Program that provides mental health services, housing and substance abuse treatment; and establishing a well-being center where they can participate in peer groups, learn vocational and other life skills, and work with a mentor.

The Probation and Animal Care and Control departments have a new program called Kitten Academy that allows girls at Camp Scott to foster kittens. The youths learn responsibility while having fun and providing a home to the kittens until they are adopted.

The Arts Commission is now officially the Department of Arts and Culture, with the implementation of a motion adopted in May to transition the commission into a department.

The County is looking at partnering with food and coffee service retailers to increase usage and revenue at its libraries.

Agreement was reached with Service Employees International Union Local 721 only one day before more than 7,000 registered nurses in the departments of Health Service, Mental Health and Public Health were scheduled to go on strike. The nurses had authorized an unfair labor practices strike from Nov 27-30 at all County health care facilities, including acute care hospitals.

An audit of County firefighters' overtime showed more than 640 employees received at least \$100,000 in overtime in 2017, more than two dozen made over \$200,000, and one captain earned more than \$260,000. Overtime accounted for about a third of the average Fire Department employees' annual pay.

The state Fair Political Practices Commission found probable cause that the County violated the law when it paid \$800,000 for ads supporting a homeless services tax ballot measure in 2017, and also should have included language that the County paid for the ads. The Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association contends the County conducted an illegal political campaign, using taxpayer funds for political activities, but County Counsel Mary Wickham disagrees, saying the ads were just educating residents about Measure H and efforts to combat homelessness.

Officials cited widespread progress in the fight against homelessness, saying funds from Measure H sales taxes during the first 15 months provided permanent housing to 9,635 homeless families and crisis, bridge and interim housing to 18,714 people.

Supervisors ordered the Probation Department to erase nearly \$90 million owed by families of juveniles incarcerated in County facilities before 2009. That was the year the County suspended the assessment of new detention fees, but continued to collect old fees owed.

Supervisors approved paying \$3.9 million to settle a lawsuit by three women who alleged Sheriff's Deputy Giancarlo Scotti sexually assaulted them when they were inmates at the Century Regional Detention Facility in Lynwood. In another court case, a jury awarded \$605,000 to a woman who claimed the Coroner's Office cremated her newborn daughter's body before properly notifying her as required by law.

Sophia Shapiro, a resident of Marina Manor, a public housing development owned and operated by the County's Community Development Commission/Housing Authority, celebrated her 105th birthday in October. Shapiro emigrated to the U.S. in 1980 and has lived in Marina Manor since 1986.

The District Attorney's Office sent personnel trained in mass casualty incidents to assist survivors of a Thousand Oaks nightclub shooting, visiting injured survivors at hospitals, sitting with families receiving notifications on the status of their loved ones, spending time with first responders, and assisting families in need of Spanish-language translation. In 2017 the victim services team spent 10 days assisting in the aftermath of the Las Vegas mass shooting.

Los Angeles County officials hailed the passage of Measure W, the Safe Clean Water parcel tax on the November 6 ballot, estimated to raise \$300 million annually for storm water projects. The measure needed two-thirds vote to pass; it received 69.45 percent.

One of the world's largest third-party debt collection companies agreed to pay \$9 million and curb illegal phone-calling practices to settle a civil consumer protection lawsuit brought by the L.A. County District Attorney's Office and other county prosecutors.

A new County ordinance requires the use of cool roofing materials for new building construction, building additions, and major roof replacements in unincorporated areas. Cool roofs are said to absorb up to 65 percent less heat than conventional materials. A UCLA study predicted that by 2050, parts of the County will experience up to three or four times more extreme heat days (temperatures of 95 degrees or more).

To improve the reading skills of black boys – three out of four in California do not read at grade level – the LA County Library partnered with Barbershop Books to create child-friendly reading areas inside 10 barbershops in South Los Angeles. The idea is to help the boys – aged 4-8 years – identify as readers by connecting books and reading to a male-centered space, and by involving men in boys' early reading experiences.

Only about half of L.A. County voters go the polls to cast their ballots. In the November election, 1,673,104 voted at polls and 1,350,313 voted by mail. In the 2020 election, the County wants to make it more convenient for those who do wish to vote in person. It will transition from polling places to vote centers, allowing residents to cast ballots at any vote center location over an 11-day period.

The unclaimed bodies of 1,467 persons who died in 2015 were buried in a single mass grave at the L.A. County Crematory and Cemetery in Los Angeles on Dec. 5 during an annual interfaith remembrance ceremony organized by the County Office of Decedent Affairs. The County has been conducting burials of the unclaimed dead since 1896. There is a three-year gap between year of death and burial to allow time for family members and loved ones to claim remains.

Most County offices closed on Dec. 5 after the Board of Supervisors declared it a Day of Mourning in memory of President George H.W. Bush.

IN MEMORIAM

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

Agricultural Comm./Weights and Measures – Douglas Burleson

Animal Control - Bruce P. Richards

Antelope Valley Rehab. Center – Mary B. Himes

Assessor – Thelma J. Adams, Gloria L. Burdman, Eloise R. Caster, Raymond Chorush, Thomas G. Diffey, Max E. Jagers, Dorothy S. Lester, John W. Meiling, Sidney S. Mendel, George Pask, Letha F. Stephen

Auditor - Mildred D. Mc Graw

Board of Supervisors – Evelyn J. Heath

California Children's Services – Nida V. Generos

Chief Information Office – Samuel J. Davis

Child Support Services – Trudy F. Cooper, Raojibhai N. Patel

Children & Family Services – Ernesto Abolencia, Susan Blair, Richard T. Cudmore, Annie L. Chang, Irene G. Dionisio, Joyce F. Francisco, Lillian A. Gurdal, Elliot F. Lisk, Aura A. Lizardo, Clifortine Matthews, Julita D. Quidio, Delores I. Rodriguez, Jacob M. Shuffer, Jr., Jovita V. Tabangay, James L. Tolbert, Lonnie J. Woods

Consumer Affairs – Bertha Anguiano

County Counsel – Dorothy E. Handler

District Attorney – Sheldon H. Brown, Kent Radford, Raymond J. Sinetar, Clinton J. Thomas, Mark B. Vezzani, Billy D. Webb

Fire – William E. Biller, Robert L. Bruton, Joseph W. Delp, Pierre J. McHale, Ralph G. Mendoza, Neil P. Parker, Reginald R. Perkins, David Phillips, John H. Searcy, Edward T. Wood, Everette E. Wright

Harbor/UCLA Medical Center – Thomas E. Addison, Dorothy V. Allen, Nancy Burrows, Milagros Q. Cabildo, Gilmore E. Denham, Nancy Dunn, Emilia F. Dominguez, Lucille Hanzy, Douglas C. Heiner, Iraj Khalkhali, Shirley J. Ordway, Thelma H. Raney, Odessa Taylor, Karen Trivedi, Norma Zimmerman

Health Services Administration – Joseph B. Bilynsky, Sandra J. Chatmon, Mary J. Doughty, Joseph E. Fortner, Maria Gibson, Marta L. Hernandez, William E. Mitchell, Juliette E. Knox, William Bidgood, Shin Wu

Internal Services – Thomas Alford, Ronald Allen, Betty J. Bernardo, Hazel T. Cole, Harry Currie, Patricia A. Fannon, Arnold F. Gooman, Alexander Jones, Daniel J. Madden, Mary E. Matthews, Florencio C. Munar, Robert L. Rinker, Robert Rodriguez, Bobbie J. Smith, Frank Young Jr.

Juvenile Court Health Services – Kathleen S. Juracek, Parsomsee Ruenprom

King/Drew Medical Center – Delores J. Adkins, Barbara J. Bowman, Lillie M. Brown, Gordon A. Green, William J. Grasska, Barbara J. Leverette, Ray Price, Pearlina A. Roberson, Edward W. Savage Jr., Samantha W. Thorne, Maria L. Sanchez, Hernice M. Willis

LAC+USC Medical Center – Jerry Amaya, Lorraine L. Averiette, Edward Bargman, John E. Bethune, Werner L. Borsig, Julia L. Canillas, Lilly P. Chicote, Daniel Ferrer, Michael E. Foley, Brenda Henson, Debra Johnson, Doris Jones, Henry E. Liu, Loren Lipson, Vicenta Z. Martelino, Gloria E. Mendez, Zenaida C. Oasin, Arnetta D. Outen, Edward D. Sankey, Harriet Sartinsky, Paula S. Simeon, Natalie M. Solis, Louise Thomas, Gregory E. Tilley, Teddy S. Sun, Lorenza P. Vivo, Barbara L. Watson, Sherman M. Woods, Roy E. Whitlow, Linda L. Willis

Mechanical Department - Jose A. Hermida

Mental Health – Gloria L. Caesar, Dorothy A. Scott, William L. Stehle, Yoneo Yamamoto

Municipal Court – Joan T. Abernathy

Museum of Art – William D. Garcia

Museum of Natural History – Nancy J. Blomberg

Olive View/UCLA Hospital – Lance G. Fraser, Joyce M. Hall, Ray V. Hanawalt, David A. Hochman, Chieko Iida, Stephen A. Kanter, Barton L. Mc Nabb

Parks & Recreation – George Brown, Joseph Martinez, David A. Pardo, Richard Tidball, Gary D. Stevens, Barbara Ware

Probation – Esperanza S. Abueg, Ernest J. Butler, H. J. Carr, Delon M. Chetkovich, John Coney, Angus Jackson, William Johnson, Judith Norvell, Alma M. Sandoval, Carole A. Smith, William L. Tan, Alan P. Taplin

Public Health Program – Birdie C. Baldwin, Michael Barba, Doris Bautista, Trandailer Brewer, Ernest J. Chumley, William R. Crigler, Ida V. Lamb, Ethel M. Lavender, Luviminda R. Mc Cool, Norman J. Michiels, Mitchell Molett, Anna M. Pelle, Carmelita R. Pinks, Lou A. Reyes, Fannie G. Smith, Ethel M. Trice-Sanders, Ronald L. Van Tongeen

Public Library – Georgia Frazier, Marjorie Gryka, Barbara Mc Gilligan, Peggy Suehiro

Public Social Services – Martha C. Aguel, Pearl L. Alston, Willie Alvarado, William Autrey, Lawrence B. Becker, Sandra Brunner, Barbara N. Butler, Heng N. Chreng, June L. Doty, Elsie M. Etchells, Anne M. Ferguson, Reba L. Firth, Dorothy D. Gresham, Rosario Holguin, Dorothy C. Hemphill, Anise R. Hooper, Doris J. Hudson, Alecia J. Jackson, Ruby A. Jackson, Patricia Johnson, Connie C. Kalaneh, Jorge Luna, Yolanda Lopez Mesa, Markos Mirzoian, Lillian Muras, Angelus L. Noche, Marva J. Robinson, Sandra L. Rader, Vivian S. Rich, Yola G. Seidner, Delores G. Taylor, Ruth H. Tetley, Marietta S. Welch, Judith A. Wheeler, Willie Williams, Burneace Wilson, William K. Woodry

Public Works – Edward W. Jong, Gregory Bryson, Madjid Hashemi, William L. Leach, W P. McCartney, Barbara K. McGilligan, Phillip G. Latiolait, Sam S. Matzkin, Theodore M. Palmeri, Francisco Q. Quichocho

Rancho Los Amigos Hospital – Lynetta Gray, Betsy Lightner, Lucy Lopez, Lorene Mc Carty, Millie M. Shannon, Willie C. Stroud
Sheriff – Pablo Aguilar, Michael D. Anderson, Michael P. Borghese, Charles A. Bradley Jr., Donald E. Cheney, Patrick O. Devaney, Elwood L. Doughty, Steven S. Downey, Donn P. Dugan, Henrietta A. Duran, Dorothy M. Flemming, Leslie Friesen, Lucious W. Fuller, Doris L. Gainer, Ronald E. Gardette, Leonard D. Gawlik, Byron J. Gayer, Robert R. Garcia, Charles C. Groninga, Gary E. Jones, Phillip Katz, Ada D. McElderry, Ruben Montana, Lela R. Mitchell, Donald V. Morgan, Jacques H. Nadeau, Harold A. Parsons Jr., Teresita C. San Juan, Dwight L. Smith, Dwight E. Sharp, Manuel A. Sison, Sarah M. Steel, Manuel Ventor, Wayne L. Stewart, Theodore H. Von Minden, Anthony R. Wade, Linette Walker, Norman E. Warner, Gary A. Weimann

So. Cal. Air Pollution Control – Hernando Cordoba

Superior Court/County Clerk – John G. Callinan, Betty M. Estrada, Pearl Hirshon, Irene T. Iwasaka, Rudolph T. McNair, Sharon D. Modrak, Flora A. Schoonover, Angeles M. Sorensen, Nieves Suela, Esther Uphoff, Gail Scott

Treasurer and Tax Collector – Ethel L. Jones, Janet M. Willis

Workforce Dev. Aging & Comm. – F J. Baker

Department Not Designated – Taeko Doi, Robert E. Dragoo, John W. Hurst, John R. Krone, Adelle McDermott, Betty Pegram, Margaret Rodgers, Thomas Wood



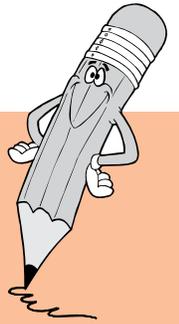
RETIRED EMPLOYEES
of LOS ANGELES COUNTY
1000 South Fremont Ave. Unit 15
Alhambra, CA 91803-8802

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General Membership Meeting

Mary K. Rodriguez, Chair, Program Committee



Thursday, April 11, 2019

Cerritos Park East Community Center

13234 East 166th Street, Cerritos, CA 90703
(1/4 mile east of Shoemaker Avenue)
Phone 562-407-2611

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

Featured Speaker:
To be Announced

DOOR PRIZES

Please bring your RELAC membership card

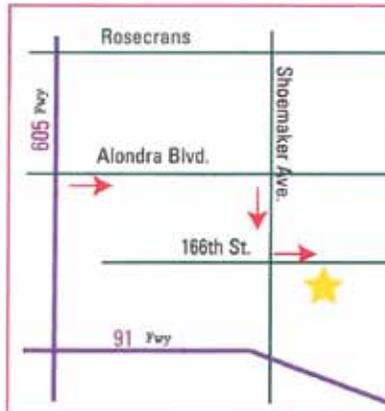


IMPORTANT!
*Are you moving?
Did you change your
name, address or
e-mail address?*

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 the 605 San Gabriel Fwy. going either north or south – exit at Alondra Boulevard. Proceed east to Shoemaker Avenue; take Shoemaker Avenue to 166th Street; turn left on 166th Street. The Community Center is on the right. Park on the east side of the building.