RETIRED EMPLOYEES of relac LOS ANGELES COUNTY

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

RELAC newsletter

Your Pension and Health Care Watchdog

March/April, 2019 Vol 54-2

President's Message

by Dave Muir

There's a lot of talk in the media and elsewhere about large unfunded pension liabilities creating a financial crisis for state and local governments. LACERA stands out as one of the better funded systems. The cost to the County to sustain our pensions is reasonable and not a financial burden.

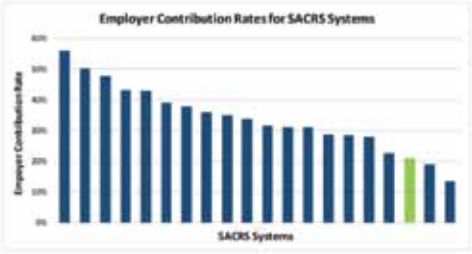
LACERA is currently 80% funded. The funding level of CalPERS as of June 30, 2016 (the most recent report available) was 65.1%. The funding level at CalSTRS as of June 30, 2017 is 62.6%.

Unfunded pension liabilities require employers to make additional contributions over and above the contributions needed to pay for the normal pension liabilities that accrue on an ongoing basis. Similar to a mortgage, the payments are based on amortizing the debt over a period of years, in LACERA's case, 30 years.

Pension contributions are calculated as a percentage of payroll. For example, L.A. County's payroll expense for the month of December 2018 was $682,018,877.75. The County's contribution rate is 20.44%. So, the County's contribution paid to LACERA for the month of December was $139,408,107.51. This includes both the normal contribution and the additional contribution to eliminate the unfunded liability.

LACERA's reputation as a leading, well-managed pension system is dramatically demonstrated by comparing the pension contribution rates required by other agencies in the state. The current contribution rate for L.A. County, as noted above, is 20.44%. At CalPERS, the employer contribution rates during the 2017-18 fiscal year ranged from a low of 19.4% (safety workers) to 52.8% (Highway Patrol).

Twenty California counties, including L.A. County, operate pension systems under the County Employees Retirement Law. The graph below, produced by LACERA's actuary, indicates the contribution rate for each of those counties. LACERA is the green bar. Only two other counties have a contribution rate lower than L.A. County's rate.



As you can see, more than half of the counties have contribution rates greater than 30%. One county suffers from an astronomical rate of 55%!

Two factors have had a major impact on the financial health of retirement systems in California. First and foremost, many pension systems in the state implemented benefit increases in the early '80s when the stock market was going gangbusters and pension system investments were creating surpluses. When the good times in the financial markets ended, pension systems found themselves saddled with benefit structures that were unsustainable. We can thank the L.A. County Board of Supervisors for refusing to go along with the rush to increase benefits.

The second major factor impacting the health of a pension system is the performance of the system's investment portfolio. The County's pension contributions rates assume over the long run the system's investments will earn an average of 7%.

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April 15 is Deadline to Apply for Open Seats on the RELAC Board of Directors

by Dave Muir, Chair
Bylaws/Nominations/Elections Committee

RELAC members interested in serving on the Board of Directors in 2020 have until April 15 to file a letter of interest.

The current Board of Directors will review the list of candidates at its May 8 meeting and select a slate of five nominees to endorse for election. If there are six or more interested candidates for the five open positions, an election will be held in September. The new directors will serve three-year terms beginning in January 2020.

Directors whose terms expire this year are Bill de la Garza, Evelyn Gutierrez, Judy Hammond, and Dave Muir. In addition, there is one vacant director position that will be filled by election.

Applicants' letters should briefly explain their interest and describe the experience and education that enhance their qualifications. The Directors Nominations Committee will interview all applicants before adding their names to the list of candidates. Pursuant to RELAC's bylaws, a person who holds, or within the past 24 months held, a leadership position with an organization that represents County retirees 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.

Candidates should seriously consider the following desired qualifications when applying for a Board position:

Have the time and be willing to commit to attending monthly Board of Directors business meetings, quarterly general membership meetings, and committee meetings scheduled on an as-needed basis. Board and committee members are compensated for expenses incurred.

Have the time to serve the members of RELAC by actively participating on one or more committees, including Investment, Bylaws/Nominations/Elections, Legislation, Recruitment and Marketing, Special Events, Office Management and Newsletter.

Have the time and be willing to participate in RELAC activities and events.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

La Mirada Golf Tournament, March 25 (Page 7)
Lancaster Regional Meeting, March 28 (Page 4)
Cerritos General Membership Meeting, April 11 (Page 16)

News From LACERA

by JJ Popowich
Assistant Executive Officer

I would like to take a moment and thank the RELAC Board for inviting us to the annual Recognition Luncheon. I had the opportunity to sit with a few retirees from different departments and had a great conversation with them. For someone who loves to serve our members, that is a highlight for me. Of course, the program was excellent as well, but nothing beats sitting down and talking to members. I truly appreciate spending that time with you.

The last few years I've kept you all up-to-date on how our March Madness season is going. January is in the middle of the annual March Madness retirement season. That's the time of year when most people call and visit LACERA to retire. Members like to retire on or before March 31 so they can qualify for any cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) that become available on April 1. So far, we are seeing a slight increase in retirements over this time last year. I'll share some actual numbers in the next newsletter.

It's also the time of year when our Retiree Health Care Division sends out the annual Medicare Part B reimbursement notices. These letters ask those members who are enrolled in Medicare Part A and B, or a LACERA – administered Medicare Advantage prescription drug plan or Medicare supplement plan to provide us with a copy of the 2019 Social Security Part B premium verification that shows how much they will pay in Part B premiums. This helps LACERA ensure our members get the full monthly reimbursement amount to which they are entitled.

This time of year everyone is looking for their 1099-R tax forms so they can begin doing their taxes. We mailed all of the 1099-R forms at the end of January and I hope everyone received theirs. If not, we are always happy to send out copies of the 1099-R, or you can also log onto the My LACERA section of lacea.com and print them out. They are located under the "My Payments" section of My LACERA. We also see a lot of calls this time of year from members making changes to their tax elections. This requires a member to mail in a form, or log onto My LACERA and change it online.

Well. that's it for this month's edition. I hope everyone is enjoying their retirement (you should – you've earned it!!) and I'll see you in the next edition of the newsletter.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

December 2018 - January 2019

Board of Supervisors –John McKibben
Chief Executive Office – Isabel Cervantes
Children & Family Services – Arolyn Burns, Sylvia Mercado, Esperanza Orosco
Children Services – Charlene Anthony, Marie Geibel
Coroner – Mark Johnson
Fire – Salvador Chavez
Health Services – Arliss Dawson, Ana Inman, Rosa Johnson, Ardell Otten, Mariam Tutunjian, Novella Wilson
Internal Services – Gus San Miguel
LAC+USC Medical Center – Mary Hill, William Martin, Stephanie Medina
Mechanical – Ronald Siple
Mental Health – Carol Fimbres
Olive View Medical Center – Desiree Wantig
Probation – Betty Ashby, Linda Durr-Dobbins, Lynne Smothers
Public Defender – Thomas Hill
Public Health – Mary Contreras, Deborah Davenport
Public Social Services – Leola Britt, Susan Kallan, Pauline Young, Muriel Woods
Sheriff – Irene Nelson, Frank Konrad, Suzanne Schroeder, Phillip Solano
Workforce Development, Aging & Comm. Services – Joyce Washington
Department Not Designated – Monica January, Michael Rhoades, Virginia Zarate
New Associate Members – Billy W. Britt Sr., Cecelia Chavez, Ramon Fimbres, Richard Inman, Cathy S.Johnson, Rosa Konrad, Robert Mann, Susan Siple, Mkrtich Tutunjian, Eugene F. Yamat

Thanks for New Member Referrals

We would like to thank the 11 members who recruited colleagues to join RELAC during December 2018 and January 2019. 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):

Clemon Brown, *Ardell Otten*, Health Services
Anna Cervantes, *Isabel Cervantes,* Chief Executive Office
David Coleman, *Gus San Miguel*, Internal Services
Gladys Crittendon, *Lynne Smothers*, Probation
Carmen Falcon, *Carol Fimbres*, Mental Health
Gladys Proctor, *Rosa Johnson*, Health Services
Herman Santos, *Deborah Davenport*, Public Health
Sam Stevens, *Betty Ashby*, Probation
Florence Warren, *Novella Wilson*, Health Services
Beverly Williams, *Sylvia Mercado*, Children and Family Services
Cheryl Williamson, *Linda Durr-Dobbins*, Probation

Pat Koulos Resigns as RELAC Office Manager

by Judy Hammond, Newsletter Editor

Pat Koulos, RELAC's office administrator since January 2015, has resigned due to health reasons.

Koulos worked at the RELAC Alhambra office since 2007, serving as secretary to the Board of Directors and assisting with the newsletter before becoming office administrator.

RELAC President Dave Muir said Koulos' retirement leaves a huge void. "Pat possesses extraordinary capabilities. She always had my back and made sure I didn't forget anything. She will be hard to replace. Her work has always been of the highest quality, and her proactive approach and sense of responsibility has played a big part in making sure all of the Board's responsibilities were carried out in a timely manner."

Koulos worked in the County's Chief Administrative Office from 1963 through 1985, beginning in the steno pool one week after high school graduation. She ended her County career as executive secretary to Chief Administrative Officer Harry Hufford, retiring shortly after he left the County. While in the CAO, she worked for Assistant CAOs Ted Reed and Dick Baird, and Division Chief Bill Leone.

Koulos spent several years "purely retired" after leaving the County, enjoying traveling (lots of cruises) and spending time with friends and family. She then started to work a couple of days a week "off and on" at the RELAC office. "Working for RELAC was supposed to be a temporary thing, but here I am 12 years later. I truly enjoyed working with the RELAC Board members and staff and interacting with our members over the years -- I am going to miss everyone."

Board member Greg Walia, who as head of the Office Management Committee has supervised Koulos, said it is "truly hard for me to accept that she is leaving us."

"I've had the pleasure of working with Pat from my CAO days in the mid-to late '70s and then again at RELAC for the past 12 years. Her professionalism, dedication to work with office staff and our members has set a standard that would be challenging to match. On a personal note, Pat, I have admired you and loved you for the person you are. I hope we can stay in touch. My prayers are with you to get well and come back to RELAC."

Her resignation was effective Feb. 28.

Congratulations, Valentine Drawing Winners

The following RELAC members are the lucky winners in our Valentine drawing and will receive $25 each.

Rita J. Andrade, Honolulu, Hawaii; **Edward Anhalt,** Genoa, Nevada; **Kirbie Baldwin,** Harbor City, California; **Dorothy Bertolino**, Fullerton, California; **JoAnne M. Betti**, Laguna Woods, California; **Joyce Breslin**, Pasadena, California; **Melba Brown**, Chino Hills, California.

Ruth B. Cash, Los Angeles, California; **Emily Crosby**, Fontana, California; **Lanny Cunningham**, Georgetown, Texas; **Blanche W. Daniel**, Carson, California; **Carole Duran**, Meadview, Arizona.

Carmen Falcon, Apple Valley, California; **Rosemarie Fernandez**, Temple City, California; **Mary Figgers**, Los Angeles, California; **Delbert Ford**, Crossville, Tennessee; **Linda Forsyth**, Ventura, California; **Alice E. Gonzalez**, Temple City, California; **Shirley Gruskin**, Simi Valley, California; **Alice M. Gunn**, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Betty Lewis, Hampton, Virginia; **Marvin Love**, San Diego, California; **Deanna Luttio**, Cedar City, Utah; **Loraine McCarthy**, La Canada, California; **Alfonso Medina**, Temescal Valley, California; **Rita Mills**, Klamath Falls, Oregon; **Margaret J. Moore**, Bullard, Texas; **Gustavo Morales**, San Antonio, Texas; **Gwendolyn Phillips**, Las Vegas, Nevada; **Raymond Poff**, Lake Havasu City, Arizona; **Nadeen C. Pope**, Redlands, California; **Robert Porlier**, Duarte, California.

Joseph Race, Tucson, Arizona; **Betty J. Rachal**, Los Angeles, California; **Ruth Stegeman**, Arcadia, California; **Dianne Tilley**, Los Angeles, California; **Dorothy M. Walkosz**, Surprise, Arizona; **Nancy Williams**, Bellflower, California; **Soo Yang**, Arcadia, California; **Ronald Zega**, Santa Clarita, California.

Norma Nieto Joins RELAC Staff

Norma Nieto, who retired from the County in 2016 after 38 years, is the newest member of the RELAC staff.

Nieto works part time as a secretary in the Alhambra office and says she is grateful for the opportunity to serve retired employees and plans to be at RELAC "for the long haul." RELAC Board member Greg Walia, who heads the Office Management Committee, said Nieto's many years of County service in several departments will be quite helpful in addressing the needs of RELAC's members and the operation of the office.

Nieto began her County career as an intermediate typist clerk in 1978 at LAC+USC Medical Center in the Women's Hospital Administration and Psychiatric Unit; promoted to intermediate stenographer, secretary III and senior secretary III in the Mechanical Department; then became a judicial secretary in Municipal Court. Her next promotion was senior management secretary II for the Commission for Children's Services under the Board of Supervisors.

She spent most of her career in Juvenile Court Services at the Edelman Children's Court and retired as deputy director secretary to Eric Marts in the Department of Children Services.

"We are glad to have Norma on board," said Walia.

Regional Activities

by Diane Sandoval, Chair
Regional Support Committee

Here I am again – reminding you of our first meeting of the year!

Lancaster Regional Luncheon Meeting
March 28, 2019

There's still time to send in your reservation and check payable to RELAC in the amount of $15. Elisabeth Ben-Ishai, Homeless Initiative, Chief Executive Office, has confirmed she is available to attend as our featured speaker. Please plan to attend and find out what Los Angeles County is doing for the homeless. **Deadline to RSVP is March 11. You will not receive a flyer reminding you of the meeting – this is your last notice to send in your reservation. Look for the reservation form on this page.**

Equally important, please come and reconnect with old co-workers living in your area as well as to reacquaint yourself with your community neighbors. Your LACERA retiree representative, Les Robbins, is also planning to attend and will update you on the latest developments regarding your pension and medical benefits.

You will also enjoy a delicious buffet lunch catered by Three Roses. Lunch will be served at noon. If you're still thinking about whether or not you will attend, let me remind you there will be door prizes. Come and join us – perhaps you'll be the holder of the lucky ticket. As always, please don't hesitate to call the RELAC office at (800) 537-3522 if you have any questions.

Anaheim Regional Meeting – July 16 or 18, 2019

I have nothing more to report – plans are still in the preliminary stages. I promise I will provide more information in our next issue.

As always, thank you for your support. I look forward to seeing you at our future events.

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

President's Message cont. from p.1

Earnings below that level results in an increase in the unfunded level.

LACERA's Investment Office has done a great job in managing LACERA's portfolio. The fiscal year earnings of the investment portfolio in FY 2017 and FY 2018 were 12.7% and 9%, respectively.

The performance of LACERA's investment portfolio in the future is uncertain. Jonathon Grabel, LACERA's chief investment officer, has cautioned in his Dec. 24, 2018 report to LACERA's Board of Investments:

The decade-old bull market may be coming to a technical end, as the S&P 500 stock index is down 20% since peaking in September. December is likely to be the worst month for equities since the global financial crisis, as the S&P 500 is down 15% month to date through Dec. 24. Sentiment is often difficult to describe and quantify, however, market optimism at the end of the fourth quarter in 2018 has decreased compared to most of the previous decade.

Please watch my Board of Investments Reports in future newsletters for updates on performance of the investment portfolio.

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

Deadline for Open Seats cont. from p.1

Have a computer available to receive important messages and reports.

Enjoy interaction with people.

Any candidate who is not one of the five selected for the slate by the Board, or who missed the April 15 deadline for submitting a letter of interest, may file a petition signed by not less than 15 RELAC members. Such petition, along with a letter from the candidate accepting the nomination, must be received in the RELAC office no later than July 3 at 3 p.m. Petition forms are available at the RELAC office. THERE SHALL BE NO OTHER METHOD OF NOMINATION (Article VI, RELAC bylaws).

If an election is held, ballots will be returned to a designated CPA firm, which will conduct the count and report the results to RELAC and directly to each candidate. Results will be announced at the next regular general membership meeting and published in the November/December issue of the newsletter.

Join the 2019 March for Babies

by Linda C. Hopkins, RELAC Team Chair

The RELAC Board of Directors recently approved participation in the 2019 March of Dimes March for Babies.

RELAC encourages member support and donations, which can be made by contacting the RELAC administrative office at (800) 537-3522 or at the General Membership meeting in Cerritos on April 11.

Information on the 2019 walk is as follows:

Date: Saturday, April 27
Registration: 6:30 a.m. – Walk starts at 8:30 a.m.
Location: Grand Park, 200 N. Grand Ave., Los Angeles (across from Music Center)
2019 Walk Chair: Sachi Hamai, Chief Executive Officer, Los Angeles County

Contact Linda Hopkins for RELAC Team T-shirts at lhopkins1054@gmail.com.

Anthony Ayala

Veterans Gerald Munoz, Gil Sandoval, John Arroyo, Les Robbins, Andy Romansiky, Richard Standish, Dave Spelbring, Kazuo Hosozana, Ruth Wong, Dave Muir, Ed Totter, Donald Sachs, Robert Smith, Edward Fehrenbacher, George Caro

Wilmer Abram

RECOGNITION LUNCHEON HIGHLIGHTS

by Evelyn Gutierrez, Chair
Special Events Committee/Luncheon

Highlights of our Annual Recognition Luncheon are provided to our members who were unable to attend and enjoy our annual get-together and networking event.

RELAC's 2019 Annual Recognition Luncheon held in Alhambra was a great event.

Keynote speaker John Wicker, director of L.A. County Department of Parks and Recreation, presented an informative overview of park services and programs that enrich the lives of seniors and their families. Wicker also recognized RELAC's Golf Tournament Committee and Golf Director Gil Sandoval for their support of L.A. County golf courses and promotion of golfing as a great health enrichment activity.

Due to the government shutdown, the TSA (Transportation Security Administration) Chorus and Ernie Perez were unable to join us. A big thank-you was expressed to the Sheriff's Department and Deputy Rocio Encinas for coming to the rescue by singing the National Anthem a capella. In addition, Ernie Hernandez and Felice Hernandez provided a musical salute to our veterans.

Brigadier General Ruth Wong (ret.), director of the Military and Veterans Affairs Department, recognized our treasured veterans in attendance by personally thanking each for their military service and dedication to our country.

A special presentation made by Cynthia Banks, director of the County Department of Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services, recognized RELAC Board member Don Fandry as the Commission on Aging's Volunteer of the Year. Banks also recognized all RELAC members over 90 years young with a sincere acknowledgment of their continued service to their communities and L.A. County.

Following Banks' announcement of her retirement in late January, RELAC President Dave Muir presented her with a RELAC visor and a membership application. Hope to see you soon, Cynthia.

Closing the program, Linda Hopkins announced the launch of RELAC's scholarship program and encouraged members to visit the information table for information and application forms. For additional information, please visit our website: www.relac.org or call (800) 537-3522 or (626) 308-0532.

We hope to see you next year!

Harry Hirakawa

Brian Berger, Linda C. Hopkins, Nate Micinski

Elida Cantu

Don Fandry, Cynthia Banks

Former CAO Employees Reunite at Annual RELAC Luncheon

by Dean Smith

Barry Hunt and I were Chief Administrative Office management trainees in 1970. I happened to have grown up near where he grew up, and we went to the same high school, George Washington. I was one year ahead of him, so we did not know each other until 1970. We carpooled for most of the year, but he went off to Health Services, where he stayed for his whole career, and we never crossed paths again. We have kept in touch. I retired in 2004 after 34 years. Barry stayed for the full 40, even though I kept telling him that it was costing him money to go to work every day. After he joined RELAC, he told me I should join and come to the luncheon. I went to my first one in 2014 and have been going ever since. I do not go to any other RELAC events. Every year I sit with some guys who were in the CAO in 1970. I worked with some and played softball with some. There is Bob Helmar, George Caro, Roy Hansen, and James Yu. It is almost 50 years since we all met, and we have fun telling funny stories about the people we can still remember. When we parted at the January luncheon, I said, "See you guys next year. Hopefully, we will all still be standing."

Former CAO colleagues Dean Smith, Bob Helmar, Barry Hunt, and James Yu reunite annually at the RELAC Recognition Luncheon

What's Happening?

by Evelyn Gutierrez, Chair
Special Events Committee

Welcome to Year 2019 and the many cultural experiences available for you to explore. As the County celebrates Martin Luther King Day and Cesar Chavez Day, visiting local museums and cultural centers, you can experience the cultural heritage and history that makes L.A. County an international community.

California African American Museum of Art
(Located in Exposition Park, L.A.) FREE admission
The museum focuses on showcasing the cultural heritage and history of African Americans. The museum's mission is to research, collect, preserve and interpret the history, art and culture of African Americans. Visit: www.caamuseum.org .

La Plaza de Cultura y Artes
501 N. Main St., L.A. 90012. FREE admission
This Mexican-American museum and cultural center in Los Angeles features interactive exhibits and Chicano art by local artists. Current exhibits include "LA Starts Here!" See and hear the history of the founding of Los Angeles. Visit: www.lapca.org.

"Discover & Go" – LA County Library Initiative
FREE admission to museums.
The "Discover & Go" program provides families the opportunity to visit local museums for FREE to library card holders over the age of 18. Just visit the online portal and reserve free family passes. Museum partners and cultural institutions will provide a limited number of free passes. Visit: www.colapublib.org/DiscoverGo/ . Participating museums include the Autry Museum, Pasadena Museum of California Art, Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum, the Skirball Museum and more.

Committee Chairs Appointed

President Dave Muir has named the following directors to head RELAC committees in 2019.

Benefits, Linda C. Hopkins. **Budget**, Greg Walia. **Bylaws/Nominations/Elections**, Dave Muir. **Community Support**, Evelyn Gutierrez. **General Membership**, Mary K. Rodriguez. **Investments**, Dave Muir. **Legislation**, Les Robbins. **Newsletter**, Diane Sandoval.
Office Management, Greg Walia. **Outreach**, Alice Prouty. **Recreation**, Mary K. Rodriguez. **Recruitment/Marketing**, J.P. Harris. **Regional Support**, Diane Sandoval. **Special Events**, Evelyn Gutierrez. **Website/E-mail Advisor**, Judy Hammond.
Ad Hoc CRCEA Conference (April 2021), Evelyn Gutierrez. **Ad Hoc Scholarship**, Linda C. Hopkins. RELAC member Gil Sandoval will continue to chair the **Recreation/Golf Subcommittee.**

RELAC's Carson Holiday Meeting

Leon Payton, Leone Tillman, Easter Sanders, Roger and Gloria Phlegm

Maciga Boonsomchuae, Sees winner

Anna Price, $50 winner

Diane Merrick, Applebee's winner.

RELAC Directors Les Robbins and Linda C. Hopkins with Robbins's pet dog, the hit of the meeting.

Sandra Scott, Sees winner

Marylyn Fond, raffle winner

Veterans in attendance

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

Golf News

by Gil Sandoval
RELAC Golf Director

Los Amigos Golf Tournament Jan. 28, 2019

Our first tournament of the year began with the largest turnout we have had in some time. In the "C" flight, congratulations to Jim Meek, who brought in a net 63 to win the flight and have the low net score of the day. The fight for second and third were really close as Art Moronez edged out Arthur Stan Dass and Richard Duran to take second with a net 73. Arthur came in third in a card off with Richard as they both had net 74.

The "A" flight players had trouble dealing with the course again except for Eddie Otero, who moved up from the "B" flight to win with a net 72. In second place at net 75 was Bob Egusa, winning in a card off with Gil Sandoval, who took third place.

The "B" flight was a fight to the finish with Don Hughes beating Pete Serrano in a card off for the win as they both brought in net 67s. Chuck McGlothin had a nice net 69, only two strokes back for third place.

The Ladies flight was very interesting again as Kay Barrents bettered her last month's score by 19 strokes and shot a wonderful net 67 to win. Charlene DeBie, giving all she had, finished second to Kay by only one stroke at net 68. Nice going ladies, and we appreciate your participation. However, we need more ladies to join the festivities and increase our playing rolls.

We ask that you keep Benny Martinez and the wife of Rick Richter in your prayers as they both suffered strokes. Benny was fortunate as his stroke was mild in comparison to Rick's wife, but we extend our wishes for a complete recovery for both of them. The membership rolls of RELAC are becoming smaller so if you can help RELAC recruit new members who are golfers, it would be more than great. Please take this plea to heart and help us grow.

The next tournament is at the La Mirada Golf Course on March 25. First tee at 8 a.m.

Please note that the entry form can be found on the RELAC website: www.relac.org. Follow the link to activities (Golf).

Los Amigos Results:

"A" Flight Winners (19 and under)

1st	Eddie Otero	(72)
2nd	Bob Egusa	(75)*
3rd	Gil Sandoval	(75)

"B" Flight Winners (20 to 26 Handicaps)

1st	Don Hughes	(67)*
2nd	Pete Serrano	(67)
3rd	Chuck McGlothin	(69)

"C" Flight Winners (27 and up Handicaps)

1st	Jim Meek	(63)
2nd	Art Moronez	(73)
3rd	Arthur Stan Dass	(74)*

Women's Flight Winners

1st	Kay Barrents	(67)
2nd	Charlene DeBie	(68)
3rd	No Winner	

**Winners in a card off*

NEXT TOURNAMENT
La Mirada Golf Course
Monday, March 25. 2019
8 a.m. Start
Entry Deadline March 7

Closest to the Pin on Par 3s

Men	Women
# 3 – Jerry Nottke	# 3 – Kay Barrents
# 7 – Chuck McGlothin	# 7 - Charlene DeBie
#12 – Ken Reed	#12 & 17 – Kay Barrents
#17 – Jerry Nottke	

RV Outing Notes

by Ed Clifton

(As I was unable to attend the RV outing, my old boss, Ed Clifton, graciously accepted the task of writing the article. Thank you, Ed! -- Jeanne Klauk, assistant coordinator of the RV Club)

Twelve rigs gathered at the Pechanga RV Resort in Temecula to enjoy our first outing of the year. Another one of our regular couples, Bob and Linda Reyes, enjoyed a room in the hotel at the casino. Staying at another hotel in the area another member, Fred Weinberg, joined us each day. We also had two new couples at this outing: Martin and Gloria McNulty and Gus and Sandra San Miguel. We hope they will enjoy future outings as part of our RV group. Another couple who recently sold their motorhome, Al and Diana Medina, stopped for a couple hours to visit. It was good to see them again.

Now for the food department. We had some great hors d' oeuvres on Monday evening. Our wagon masters Joe and Helen Quintana and assistant wagon masters Dave and Darlene Sorensen fixed us tasty breakfasts on Tuesday and Wednesday morning to go along with some great food at our Tuesday evening potluck. After the potluck was over, came our 50/50 and gas card drawing. The 50/50 was won by Dan Coons, who donated half of his winnings back to the club, and the gas card was won by Ed Clifton. So thanks to RELAC for your donation of the gas card.

Our next outing will be March 17 at the Banning Stagecoach KOA. The coupon is on the RELAC website at www.relac.org. Unfortunately, by the time you are reading this, the deadline will have passed, but check with the wagon master listed on the coupon to see if he can get you on the list. This RV park is very accommodating and should be able to add to our group. They also have little cabins that are available to rent -- so be sure to ask for the RELAC club rate. Come join us, we have a very nice time!

Happy Birthday,
RELAC Centenarians

Happy birthday to our members who will be 100 and older in March and April.

They are:

Pen Ching Cheo, 100, March 28, 1919, Arboreta and Botanic Gardens
Alexander G. Espalin, 100, April 4, 1919, Flood Control District
Maxine W. Schulhof, 101, April 16, 1918, Sheriff
Virginia T. De Zell, 102, March 13, 1917, Fire
Beryl D. Shapiro, 102, March 23, 1917, Public Social Services

Jerry Lubin, 93

by Frank Binch

(Ed. Note: RELAC member Jerry Lubin, former director of health planning for the County Department of Health Services and chair of the County's Mental Health Commission, died Dec. 16, 2018 at age 93. He is survived by his wife, Eve; children, Mimi and Philip; and grandchildren. His family said that in the latter years of his life, his greatest pleasure was to read the Los Angeles Times and New York Times cover-to-cover daily, and was incredibly informed. This photo was taken by RELAC member Harvey Kern at the June 2018 luncheon of retired health managers in Los Angeles.)

Jerry Lubin was a delightful and exceptionally knowledgeable colleague, a good friend, and an exceptionally dedicated father and husband. His contributions, both academic and hands-on, to the advancement of health care and regional planning management practice were substantial. And when it was time for lunch in downtown L.A., there was no better guide than Jerry in selecting the restaurant and the food. I am thankful for his friendship and our time together. My family's sympathy and best wishes go out to Eve Lubin and her family.

I headed the Health Services' Management Information team from 1982 to 1985 and collaborated closely with Jerry in his role as the department's planner.

In 1985, planning was added to my unit's responsibilities. With this came renaming of the unit to Planning, Evaluation and Management Information branch. Jerry and two other outstanding professionals were transferred to this branch, which I headed until 1990.

During our years together, Jerry reported to me on paper, but in reality, it was more like a close collaboration. With my input (Jerry would have called it kibbitzing; I called it help), he was the real leader in developing and successfully implementing "PEPS" - the Population Estimation and Projection System.

Jerry recruited partners in PEPS' development. They included the County's Department of Regional Planning (later merged with the Chief Administrative Office), the Los Angeles Unified School District, and regional planning academia at UCLA.

Under any "normal" circumstances, PEPS would have been useful to the County and its partners because PEPS fills in the gaps between each 10-year census by estimating and projecting with reasonable accuracy, year-to-year changes in population and demography (age, gender, race/ethnicity, income, etc.) and PEPS can do this not just for the County as a whole, but for fairly small subsets of the County.

But by an accident of timing, the circumstances were most definitely not normal. The election results for an open seat on the Board of Supervisors were challenged in court on grounds that the district's boundaries as drawn did not meet the non-discrimination standards prescribed by federal law.

The plaintiffs wanted a fresh redraw of the district boundaries, followed by a new election. To succeed, the plaintiffs had to prove that: 1) the boundaries as drawn did not meet non-discrimination standards AND; 2) a timely remedy was available.

PEPS turned out to be that remedy. The boundaries were redrawn based on PEPS data, a new election was held, a different person than the original winner was elected, and the Board's balance of power as well as its interaction, both changed.

Barbara Yaroslavsky, 1947-2018

by Joel Bellman

Barbara and Zev Yaroslavsky, with children Mina and David

As many members of LACERA and the County family already are aware, Barbara Yaroslavsky recently passed away at the age of 71 after a short but terrible illness. Barbara had been married 47 years to former Third District County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, who served on the Board from 1994-2014, following 19 years on the Los Angeles City Council.

In early November, Barbara contracted the West Nile virus and developed serious side infections. It was an anxious and difficult few weeks before her doctors at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center thought they had finally turned a corner and she began showing clear signs of improvement. But only five days after being cleared for discharge to a rehab facility to begin the long journey toward a hoped-for full recovery, on the day after Christmas, Barbara suddenly collapsed during a morning physical therapy session and never regained consciousness.

It was a crushing blow to her family and to the Yaroslavskys' large circle of friends and colleagues. Hundreds of people attended her funeral and interment a few days later; Zev and their two adult children, David and Mina, her brother John, and several others spoke movingly and eloquently of her devotion to family, her lifelong civic engagement as both volunteer and appointed commission member (focused on health, education, and children), and her tireless dedication in every realm of her activities to assisting and supporting others.

Those of us who had served on Zev's staff also felt her loss keenly. Though I have known Zev since I first began in professional journalism back in 1981, I had always heard about, but never met, Barbara until I joined Zev's office as press deputy after his election to be supervisor. She more than lived up to her billing as a passionate, caring, assertive woman with her own strong sense of identity and community leadership quite apart from Zev's outsized presence in the political world.

Many of us on staff heard from her regularly; she was never shy about calling out of the blue with questions or suggestions. But she always prefaced her "ask" with a warm greeting and sincere interest in how we and our families were doing before she got down to business, which invariably involved trying to help somebody or an idea for solving a problem that someone had brought to her attention. Because Zev has a December birthday, we always combined our annual holiday and birthday party at Geoffrey's in Malibu. Sunning ourselves on the patio with a gorgeous panoramic view of the Pacific Ocean, Barbara was always in attendance, having picked out the annual gift for each of the staff members.

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Yaroslavsky cont. from p.8

A longtime news executive friend of mine who has known Zev for nearly 50 years commented after her passing that, "Barbara was the wind beneath his wings." In dedicating herself to taking care of her family, she gave Zev the opportunity to dedicate himself to elective office and public service. Zev and Barbara produced two wonderful children and four grandchildren that they doted on every day, and their dynamic partnership leaves a legacy of accomplishments that has improved the lives of everyone they touched.

As Barbara was eulogized and laid to rest, several speakers invoked the same phrase to describe her: in Hebrew, *eshet chayil*, or "a woman of valor," taken from the verses of Proverbs in the Old Testament. A courageous, principled, powerful and inspiring woman.

She was all of that, and she will be deeply missed by all of us.

APD Celebrates 25th Anniversary

County Supervisors Kathryn Barger and Janice Hahn present scroll to Janice Fukai, head of the Alternate Public Defender's Office, to mark the department's 25th anniversary. The Board of Supervisors created the APD in December 1993 to handle cases in which the Public Defender's Office had a conflict. Bruce Hoffman was the first to head the department and Fukai was his chief deputy. When he retired in 2002 she was named to replace him, becoming the first woman of Asian-American heritage to serve as a County department head. At the beginning the APD served only one court; it now handles cases in all juvenile and adult courts.

Fukai has announced retirement

Health Clinic Dedicated In Honor of Daniel "Skip" Earl Gibson

The new Carmelitos Health Clinic in Long Beach was dedicated in honor of Daniel "Skip" Earl Gibson, a former employee of the County Community Development Commission/ Housing Authority (CDC/HACoLA) whose work was pivotal in ensuring its success.

Gibson was employed with the CDC/HACoLA from July 2007 to October 2014. He died at the end of 2014.

Gibson was instrumental in initiating discussions with the Central Neighborhood Health Foundation, which partnered with the County in developing the clinic and will operate it.

The clinic is in the Carmelitos Public Housing Community, home to more than 1,700 youth, families, older adults, and disabled individuals.

A dedication plaque was installed on the clinic wall in Gibson's honor.

"His compassion and respect for the community laid the foundation for the health clinic," said Monique King-Viehland, executive director of the CDC/HACoLA. "Although Mr. Gibson is no longer with us, his spirit will live forever."

D.A. Management Executive Team: *From top row left: John Neu, Michele Daniels, Gina Satriano, James Garrison, Kellyjean Chun, Scott Goodwin, Maria Ramirez, and Carol Burke. From bottom row left: Pamela Booth, District Attorney Jackie Lacey; Joseph Esposito, Victoria Adams; and Sergio Gonzalez.*

New Management Team Named to Head D.A.'s Office After Retirement of Spillane and Hodgman

District Attorney Jackie Lacey named a new management team following the retirement of Chief Deputy John Spillane and Assistant D.A. William Hodgman in January.

Joseph P. Esposito was promoted to chief deputy, the second-highest ranking position in the office, managing the day-to-day operations, including supervision of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 peace officers and 800 support staff members.

Sergio Gonzalez is the new assistant district attorney of line operations, managing 700 prosecutors who staff the downtown criminal courts, 12 branch and eight area offices. Victoria Adams, the new assistant district attorney of special operations, will manage 300 deputy district attorneys who prosecute some of the most complex and notorious crimes involving fraud, corruption, gang violence, child abuse and human trafficking.

The executive management team also includes Assistant D.A. Pamela K. Booth, who oversees administration, and Chief John J. Neu, who leads the Bureau of Investigation.

Maria Ramirez was promoted to director of the Bureau of Specialized Prosecutions, the first Latina to serve in this position, and Carol Burke was named the new director of the Bureau of Branch and Area Operations, Region I.

The legal management team also includes Scott Goodwin, director of the Bureau of Fraud and Corruption Prosecutions; Kellyjean Chun, director of the Bureau of Prosecution Support Operations; James Garrison, director of the Bureau of Central Operations; and Gina Satriano, director of the Bureau of Branch & Area Operations, Region II.

Keeping Up With Retirees

We asked two retirees to let us know what they have been doing since retirement. Their articles follow.

Wendy, Dennis Watanabe

DENNIS WATANABE

I began my County career in 1976 as a programmer analyst II in the Data Processing Department. In those days, programs were written on "punched cards" and we were walking around with boxes of cards all of the time. I was a member of a team supporting the Secured Basic File System (property taxes). We also installed a retroactive Payroll System and maintained a Vital Statistics System for the Registrar of Voters. Later, we installed a Management Administrative Skills Inventory System for the department and worked on the conversion of the Workmen's Compensation System from Burroughs to Univac.

It was a busy two years and I worked with a lot of great people, but being young and ambitious (foolish?), I left the County workforce for private industry. For the next 28 years, I worked in the information technology (IT) departments of Paramount Pictures (where Robert Redford honked at me for standing in his parking spot), Ralphs Grocery corporate office (where I met my wife, Wendy) various Japanese auto companies (Mazda, Nissan, Honda), and several other companies.

In 2006 I returned to the County workforce as an IT supervisor II for the Department of Beaches and Harbors. Although quite different from private industry, it was also a great experience. The IT staff worked together to stabilize the systems and servers and we eventually outsourced our server data to the Internal Services Department's Information Technology Shared Services Division. I'll always be grateful to Stan Wisniewski, Kerry Silverstrom and Brad Fleischer for allowing me the opportunity to serve both the department and L.A. County.

I decided to retire in September 2011. It was time to slow down and smell the roses after 35 years in IT. I continued going fishing to Sitka, Alaska with my uncle and cousins once a year for king salmon, halibut and black cod. I started going trout fishing with some friends from L.A. on an annual fishing trip to Mammoth Lakes. Golfing and going to the driving range once a week. Meeting with friends during the week for breakfast or lunch during the week.

Wendy retired in 2014 and we left Los Angeles and moved to a quiet retirement community in Henderson, Nevada. It is a golf community with clubs and activities. We started line dancing and joined several other clubs while enjoying the golf amenities of the community. The entertainment, restaurants and medical services here are top notch.

We still enjoy travelling and since Wendy's article in the RELAC newsletter two years ago, we have travelled to Vietnam/Angor Wat, Europe, Japan, China, Taiwan, Silk Road, Canary Islands and Morocco. Of all the places we have visited, I still love the scenic stone mountains of Guilin and the Li River (see picture) in China. We have been there twice and looking forward to our next trip there. The scenery is breathtaking and the nightly show performed by the 600 villagers is amazing.

Thanks to hard work, good health (so far) and L.A. County, we are able to enjoy the next phase of our lives.

YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE

I retired in 2008 after 16 years as a County supervisor. I look back on the four terms I served and remember part of the time was during very difficult years when the County was faced with tremendous problems. Libraries were closing or open for fewer hours, parks were cutting back on maintenance and Children Services was overcrowded with children in need of foster homes.

Fortunately there were some years I served when there was more money and we were able to provide better services. During the lean years I was able to form the Aquatics Foundation with the Parks and Recreation Department to provide additional hours to keep the pools open. I raised money with luncheons where I was fortunate to get people like Mohammed Ali, Coach Wooden and well-known athletes to come out and help. Many people don't realize that as supervisors that is what we had to do to help keep libraries and swimming pools open when times were difficult.

I was blessed with a staff that was hard-working and dedicated to serving our constituency. Many are still working in the County, moving up to more impressive and challenging positions, while others moved into roles on the Los Angeles City Council, state Legislature and business. They are the legacy the County of Los Angeles provides to all of us.

I can't help but marvel when I see the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors now has four women members and one man. When I was sworn in the first time as a supervisor in 1979 I joined a body that was commonly referred to as "five little kings."

Since my retirement, my husband, Bill Burke, who was the organizer of the Los Angeles Marathon, and I have remained living in West Los Angeles with our dog and cat, and a few days a month visit with our granddaughter, Isabella, who is now 4.

We have had a chance to travel to many parts of the world, but we have not done a lot of tourist travel. Most of our travel is work-related. For the last 25 years Bill has chaired the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

For five years I served at the appointment of Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi on the Congressional Commission on Ethics. That work placed me in a position that two years ago I went to Morocco under the auspices of the State Department to meet with young professionals interested in developing ethical provisions in

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Brathwaite Burke cont. from p.10

constitutions of countries evolving after the Arab Spring, a series of anti-government protests, uprisings, and armed rebellions that spread across the Middle East in late 2010. I have shared with young people from Libya, Egypt, and other countries how we develop laws to protect government from corruption.

This year I joined my husband on a trip to Germany and the Netherlands to study electric trucks that may operate autonomously, and operation of environmentally efficient vehicles.

I still work in Washington as a director of AMTRAK; am a member of the California Transportation Commission; serve on the Board of Century Housing, working to increase low and moderate income housing; and am on the LA 84 Foundation, the foundation from the last Olympics. I still work part-time. I no longer practice law, but am an arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association and the Financial Institutions Resolution Authority. I realize some members of the County after many years of service retire and try to enjoy their years of less stress and challenge.

Most importantly, I try to pay back my daughter for her growing up with a mother in government by helping to take care of her daughter when her duties as a member of the Assembly require an assistant nanny.

Bill and I purchased a home in Cabo San Lucas in Mexico some 17 years ago, thinking we would retire there. We do get down there three or four times a year for a few days and always spend the holidays there. When we are lucky, our daughters, Autumn and Christine, join us with their families.

I feel honored that I had an opportunity to serve as an assemblywoman and member of Congress, but I never object when anyone calls me Supervisor.

Department Head Reunion

Former County department heads meet for lunch each December at the old County hangout TAIX restaurant in Los Angeles. Catching up at the last reunion were, from left, Harry Stone, Public Works; Sandra Reuben, Library; Stephanie Klopfleisch, Community and Senior Services; Joanne Sturges, Executive Office, Board of Supervisors; Pastor Herrera, Consumer Affairs; Marv Southard, Mental Health; Brian Berger, Animal Care and Control; Russ Guiney, Parks and Recreation; Sandy Davis, Treasurer-Tax Collector; Areta Crowell, Mental Health; David Janssen, Chief Administrative Office; and Lynn Bayer, Public Social Services.

Letters To The Editor

Write On!

I just finished reading the latest RELAC newsletter. You have made it an interesting way to keep up with county news. In the past I only checked the "In Memoriam" pages. Now, I regularly find several articles I want to check out. My wife, who retired from San Bernardino County, happened to walk behind me and asked what I was reading. She looked it over and commented on all the useful information it contains. This newsletter included news of several people I knew who have died. I was saddened to learn of the death of Dan Madden. I knew him all the way back to the days he was working for DPSS. He was delightful to work with, always there to record important events.
Tom Hibbard, Loma Linda, California

Damn, tears flowing again....Love the tribute for Dan (Madden). Perfect, and please pass along many thanks to those who commented. You, too. I will pass along the article to the PPAGLA (Press Photographers Association of Greater Los Angeles) and his children, Cari and Damien. Dan was the Best; as a humanitarian, a friend that anyone could count on, a jokester, fishing buddy, always a great attitude, Explorer, loved animals, a media gatekeeper/liaison and true artist behind the camera. A true friend 24/7, 365 days. Anytime. Any place. The wooden rocking horse and stuffed reindeer Dan gave us for my daughter Kaela after she was born still sits high on a perch overlooking our living room. Kaela will be 22 years old in April.
Bob Riha, Jr., Long Beach, California

Next to Ernie Miyamoto, Denny Sunabe was the nicest, kindest, and most respectful person you could have ever known in the Chief Executive Office. He will be greatly missed by everyone.
Elena Cervantes, Santa Fe Springs, California

The RELAC newsletter is professional and there has been an improvement since the November/December and January/February publications. I really enjoy "Passages" that go into detail. In fact, the entire newsletter is good reading throughout, and the pictures are very good throughout and filled with good information. Thank you for all your staff does.
Daisy M. Newsom, Inglewood, California
(Retired, Medical Examiner-Coroner)

Thank you so much for the Christmas card and all the birthday cards. I am coming on to my 95th birthday and do not get out too much anymore so I look forward to the newsletter to keep in touch with things going on. My husband, Don, was with the County Engineer for 35 years from 1946, was a RELAC member since 1981 and passed away in 2001. I have been a member ever since. We used to attend meetings and picnic and enjoyed them very much. I have a caregiver now during the day and sure miss all the activities and seeing friends. Most have passed away. Hope you have many more healthy, happy years. Thanks again for all you do. I sure appreciate the raises we get. Social Security sure doesn't go far. Kindest regards!
Shirlee Sappell, Long Beach, California

Thank you for your thoughtfulness! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
Jack Trull, Gardena, California

Thank you all for the Santa Claus card and the luggage ID tag. Happy New Year!
Natalie Scotton, San Pedro, California

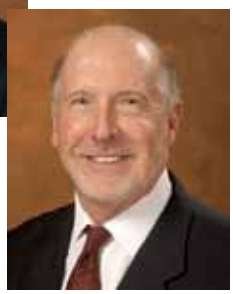
Wishing all of you happiness and good health! Thank you!
Ruben Mares, Los Angeles, California

Dear RELAC and Outreach Committee (Alice Prouty). Thanks so much for all your cheer. I always look forward to receiving your card. Everything is going good at Laguna Hills. On my way to 96 years in June. Whatever birthday you are on your way to, hope you are in good health and enjoying your journey.
Helen Dunning, Laguna Hills, California

To David Muir and Staff. As we begin a new year 2019, I would like to thank you for all your hard work you do to keep us retirees informed on our pension and health care benefits. I enjoy the RELAC newsletter very much which helps me to be informed with County news. Thank you so much for the pocket calendar. I appreciate it very much. Best wishes for a healthy and happy new year 2019. Sincerely,
Linda Campos, Downey, California

Cynthia Banks

John Spillane



William Hodgman

Gary Hildebrand

Retirement Notes:

Cynthia Banks

Cynthia Banks, head of Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services since 2006, receives retirement scroll at Board of Supervisors meeting on Jan. 29. Banks began her County career as a student worker in the Department of Public Social Services in 1972 and was promoted to eligibility worker two years later. After six years she transferred to Superior Court, serving as a judicial assistant and district manager, becoming regional administrator and then human resources director when the Municipal and Superior Courts were consolidated. She is past president and long-time member of the L.A. County Management Council Executive Committee. Retirement plans include a three-month trip to Europe –"a break to allow me to relax and think about what opportunities lie ahead and which ones I want to pursue for my encore!!"-- and a move to near Charlotte, North Carolina to be closer to her children in Florida and Maryland.

Gary Hildebrand

Gary Hildebrand, chief deputy director of the Department of Public Works, receives retirement scroll from Supervisor Kathryn Barger. Hildebrand began his County career in 1983 with the County Flood Control District. During the Board presentation, he was cited for making significant contributions in maintenance and management of watershed health, flood risk management, and water resiliency. Promoted to chief deputy director of DPW in 2017, he was responsible for overseeing all agency operations in business areas, including water resources, transportation, environmental services, public buildings, development services and emergency management.

William Hodgman

Assistant District Attorney William Hodgman, who joined the office as a deputy district attorney in November 1978, has retired after 40 years. He managed the DA's branch and area offices for six years, and served as a director and head deputy district attorney, managing various units, including the Sex Crimes Division, Ad Hoc Rampart Division and Target Crimes Division. He prosecuted cases against O.J. Simpson, Charles H. Keating, Jr. and Marion "Suge" Knight, and was involved in the investigation of child molestation allegations against Michael Jackson. Hodgman was named 1992 Outstanding Prosecutor of the Year by the California District Attorneys Association and the L.A. County Association of Deputy District Attorneys for his work on the Keating case. He was selected as the 2014 Career Prosecutor of the Year by the L A. County Association of Deputy District Attorneys.

John K. Spillane

Chief Deputy District Attorney John K. Spillane, who was appointed a deputy district attorney in October 1979, has retired after 39 years of service. He was named chief deputy by District Attorney Jackie Lacey in 2015. Spillane, a Loyola Law School alumnus, spent most of his career in administration. He was named deputy-in-charge of the Eastlake Juvenile Office in July 1988 and later took the reins of the Antelope Valley Branch Office as head deputy. He was on the executive management team during the administrations of District Attorneys Jackie Lacey, Steve Cooley and Gil Garcetti.

Former Supervisor Visits and Treats Park Staff to Lunch

Former County Supervisor Pete Schabarum visits with staff at the Peter F. Schabarum Regional County Park in Rowland Heights. Schabarum said he wanted to meet the new superintendent at the park, Shawna Joplin, and brought lunch to thank the staff for the great job they do. Schabarum has periodically visited the park since his retirement in 1991. In photo, from right to left, (back row), are Jesus Aguinaga, Sylvestre Lopez, Mario Guzman, and (front row) Antonio Hernandez, Olivia Pinkney, Danny Fraijo, Schabarum, Joplin, Marleen Tao, Brighid Mallon and Anna Shehatta. Formerly known as Otterbein Regional State Park, the 575-acre park was renamed in Schabarum's honor in 1989 and memorabilia from his political career are displayed at the facility. Schabarum, a RELAC member, celebrated his 90th birthday on Jan. 9.

It is all smiles for Armando Nogal, Department of Consumer and Business Affairs executive secretary, as he signs retirement papers.

PASSAGES

Compiled by Judy Hammond, Newsletter Editor

Dudley

Yaroslavsky

Sunabe

Gutierrez

Hurdle

Velasquez

Shaner

RETIREMENTS:
Cynthia Banks, head of Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services, after more than 45 years of service. **Dr. Roderick Shaner**, medical director of the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health since 1996, who began his County career in 1982 in the Department of Health Services at LAC+USC Medical Center in the Psychiatric Emergency Service. **David Dijkstra**, deputy director of public health, after 38 years with County, including as chief deputy director of the Department of Animal Care and Control and manager in the Chief Executive Office. **Armando Nogal**, executive secretary in the Consumer and Business Affairs Department, who had 30 years of County service. Chief Deputy District Attorney **John Spillane**, with more than 39 years of service**,** and Assistant District Attorney **William Hodgman**, with more than 36 years of service. **Gary Hildebrand,** chief deputy director of the Public Works Department since 2017, after 35 years of service.

DEATHS:
Adinah Solomon, field deputy to former Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, first at the Los Angeles City Council and then with the County. **Barbara Yaroslavsky,** 71, wife of 47 years of former Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, from complications of West Nile Virus with encephalitis and meningitis. **Bob Geoghegan,** 74, long-time chief deputy to former Supervisor Ed Edelman. **Daniel Kaufman**, former presiding judge of Van Nuys Superior Court, appointed to L.A. Municipal Court in 1966 by Gov. Pat Brown and elevated to Superior Court in 1976 by Gov. Jerry Brown. RELAC member **Jerry Lubin**, 93, former director of health planning for the Department of Health Services and long-time chair of the County Mental Health Commission. Fire Capt. **Michael Shepard**, 63, who joined the department as a firefighter in 2006, killed in a traffic accident. **Betty Rosenstein**, 97, who served on the County Probation Commission and Status of Women Commission, which she helped found. Former Deputy District Attorney **Wilber "Jess" Sweeters**, 101, who served as president of the Exceptional Children's Foundation after retiring in 1982. **Denny Sunabe**, 55, manager and former head of information technology in the Chief Executive Office, who collapsed and died while at the office. A 32-year County employee, he was cited by the CEO as being the driving force behind the development and implementation of countywide IT systems for personnel, compensation, risk management and the County budget. **Helen Gotses Hud,** 94, who retired in 2006 at age 81 after 15 years in the medical unit of Sheriff's Department. **Seiko "Mary" Tomita Nakayama**, 96, former management secretary to chief deputy director of personnel, with 36 years of service. Retired Sheriff Lt. **Brian Fitch**, after 34 years of service. Former Municipal and Superior Court Judge **Peter S. Smith**, 85, who retired in 1988. **Michael R. Forman**, 83, who had served as a trustee of the County Museum of Art. **Robert Martin**, 96, special assistant to former District Attorney Joe Busch, who was with the department for 22 years and was named Prosecutor of the Year by his colleagues in 1989.

APPOINTMENTS:
Retiree **Fred Leaf**, who had been serving as interim director of the County Health Agency as a 120-day employee, named full-time interim director after agreeing to suspend his retirement benefits, at annual salary of $404,190. **Rick Velasquez**, who joined the Fire Department after the retirement of Supervisor Don Knabe, for whom he served as chief deputy, named assistant chief and budget deputy to Supervisor Kathryn Barger. RELAC member **Gloria Gray**, who worked 30 years for the Department of Health Services and retired as a health care administrator, named first African-American chair of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. RELAC Director **Evelyn Gutierrez** reappointed by Board of Supervisors to the Quality and Productivity Commission, on recommendation of the Chief Executive Office and chair of the commission, for term expiring Jan. 1, 2022. Gutierrez was first appointed in 2003 as Supervisor Gloria Molina's appointee.

DEPARTURES:
Children's and social services deputy **Michelle Vega** leaves Supervisor Kathryn Barger's office to work at the Department of Children and Family Services as public affairs director. **Taylor Dudley**, children's deputy for Supervisor Hilda Solis, leaves after two years to take leadership role at Pritzker Center for Children and Families at UCLA.

COURTS:
County firefighter **Matthew David Winters**, 51, pleaded no contest to one felony count of possession of child pornography and received a suspended sentence of 16 months in state prison, required to register for life as a sex offender and complete 60 days of community labor. Sheriff's Deputy **Marc Antrim** faces a minimum of 12 years in prison after pleading guilty to posing as a narcotics officer to stage a robbery that netted over $1 million in marijuana and cash. In his plea agreement, he said he had used his job to carry out illegal searches and seizures of cash and narcotics at least four other times.

ELECTIONS:
Supervisor **Mark Ridley-Thomas**, who will be termed out in 2020, says he will run for L.A. City Council President **Herb Wesson**'s seat. Wesson, who was chief deputy to former County Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, hopes to replace Ridley-Thomas on the Board of Supervisors. Others seeking Ridley-Thomas' seat are former L.A. City Councilwoman **Jan Perry** and music teacher **Sharis Rhodes.**

RECOGNITIONS:
L.A. Philharmonic music and artistic director **Gustavo Dudamel** received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. A portion of the 105 Freeway has been dedicated in honor of Deputy Sheriff **Didier M. Hurdle**, who was killed in a shootout during a traffic stop in 1977. LA County Library Director **Skye Patrick** named 2019 Librarian of the Year by Library Journal. **Gary Smith,** the Chief Executive Office's film liaison, received the Public Employee of the Year – County Award from the Film Liaisons in California.

Inside LA County

by Judy Hammond
Newsletter Editor

The future of a new Mira Loma jail facility for women in Lancaster is in doubt. The Board of Supervisors refused to award a contract for the facility in January, saying the project needs to be reassessed because it would be too remote for families to visit and had no programs to reflect "a gender-responsive corrections system." Supervisor Janice Hahn said that while the proposal to build the facility has been in the works for a long time, "this is a new Board of Supervisors and we see things differently." Sheriff Alex Villanueva also does not support the location.

The Board of Supervisors has criticized Sheriff Alex Villanueva for reinstating a deputy who was fired in 2016 after being accused of domestic violence and stalking a former girlfriend. The discharge was upheld by the Civil Service Commission, but Villanueva noted that no criminal charges were ever filed and he had doubts about the credibility of the accuser and the time lapse between the alleged crime and the reporting. The deputy, Caren Carl Mandoyan, was a campaign aide in Villanueva's race for sheriff.

With Mark Ridley-Thomas facing term limits next year, the Board of Supervisors faces the possibility of becoming all female, with several women already expressing interest in the seat.

The County will spend $6.6 million to renovate the El Monte Comprehensive Health Center Primary Care Clinic, including adding an urgent care center. Many uninsured San Gabriel Valley patients must travel to LAC+USC Medical Center in Boyle Heights for emergency and urgent care services.

The Board is expanding its program to offer safe parking at County-owned sites to individuals living in their cars. The program offers a secure place to sleep and creates a centralized location where the homeless can receive help in finding permanent housing.

In response to the L.A. Unified School District teachers strike, County supervisors asked the Mental Health Department to find $10 million to enhance mental health care and other wellness programs in the schools and instructed officials to work with the district to hire more health professionals. They also asked County agencies to identify programs to occupy students during the strike. Supervisor Janice Hahn got personally involved, joining the teachers on the picket line.

The District Attorney's Office provided services to 18,856 crime victims in 2018. Of those, 57% were Latino; 19% African-American, 13% white; and 3% Asian/Pacific Islanders. The office provides victim services throughout the County, except in the city of Los Angeles, which has its own program.

District Attorney Jackie Lacey has created a Mental Health Division, the first of its kind in California and possibly the nation, to focus on diversion and provide specialized services for the mentally ill. The goal, she said, is to protect the public and to assist people get mental health and other services they need to be productive members of society, while ensuring jails are reserved for the most serious and violent offenders.

The Board of Supervisors has asked for a plan to increase the number of mental health hospital beds in the County. Supervisor Kathryn Barger said inadequate health care has resulted in increased mental illness among the homeless and in jails.

A Tejon Ranch housing project 20 years in the making has been approved by supervisors on a 4-1 vote. The project, near the Tejon Pass, would add 19,000 homes.

Deputy Luke Lin, the first L.A. County law enforcement officer in nearly 20 years to be charged in an on-duty shooting, has pleaded not guilty to voluntary manslaughter for killing an unarmed motorist at a gas station.

The Sheriff's Department, which in 2014 became the first law enforcement agency in the nation to adopt a comprehensive policy for the protection and support of transgender employees, has at least a dozen transgender deputies, most of whom made the change after being hired.

The Metropolitan Transportation Agency ran out of primary colors to name its transit lines, so will now use letters.

Supervisors are considering establishing a new county department to serve older (aged 60+) residents, saying while most if not all of the departments now provide programs, they are fragmented without coordination.

The County awarded $4.5 million in Measure H funding for five companies that came up with innovative proposals to produce permanent housing for the homeless.

Affordable student apartments will be built on the County-owned site that was formerly home to the South Whittier Library.

A new County ordinance prohibits landlords from denying a lease to prospective renters on the basis of their source of income, such as Section 8 vouchers.

On a unanimous vote, supervisors approved a motion by Supervisor Hilda Solis to reduce and eventually end the incarceration of young girls who are pregnant.

Sheriff Alex Villanueva says the department will continue to cooperate with Immigration and Custom Enforcement (ICE), but not inside the jails. Dangerous, undocumented criminals released from jail will be turned over to the ICE agents in a secure courtyard outside the jail.

In another law enforcement issue, Villanueva said all deputies should soon be wearing body cameras since the department has been able to bring the initial projected cost of $55 million down to $13 million by reducing the number of employees to 11 from 239.

The site of the shuttered courthouse in downtown San Pedro will be redeveloped with market-rate and affordable housing, joint-use open space, and street-level retail space, including a location intended for a grocery store.

The County will spend $500,000 to repair the 1.8-mile Canyon Trail in Santa Clarita Valley, which sustained major damage after the 2016 Sand Canyon fire and the mudslides that followed in 2017.

IN MEMORIAM

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

Assessor – Felipe S. Flores, Sydney M. Meisel, Sharon K. Moller, John E. Zabinsky
Auditor – Gladys Edwards, Leroy E. Hamilton
Beaches & Harbors – James A. Washington
Board of Supervisors – Pauline Jacobson, Adinah Solomon
California Children's Services – Patricia E. Alba, Velma R. Brown
Chief Executive Office – Patricia H. Griffin
Child Support Services – Christene Henderson, Rose R. Reyes
Children & Family Services – Fred R. Beg, Helen F. Baird Thorst, Tonnette K. Caldwell, Patsy Gant, John R. Hicks, Gordonnel Kennedy, Barbarl Ross, Nancy L. Shimer, Sandra Vaughn
County Counsel – James W. Briggs
District Attorney – Robert Martin, Catherine M. Read, Wilber A. Sweeters
Fire – Harlan C. Bateman, Dale R. Cauble, Eugene A. Du Bois, Charles R. Garvey, Robert O. Matkins, Rueben Murrieta, Gerald C. Nolls, Gene M. Pierson, Gerald W. Shaver
Harbor/UCLA Medical Center – Tran T. Berkowitz, William G. Beveridge, Betty T. Friar, Lee E. Harris, Corazon Milan, Dinh N. Nguyen, Sachiko K. Watanabe
Health Plan Administration – Diana S. Bertone, Jean P. Evans, Nadine P. Kelly
Health Services Administration – Virginia L. Avery, Pacita T. Bilog, Ellen M. Boudreaux, Joseph Cerullo, James B. Evrard, Elmer Giebelhouse, Jerome Lubin, Fred L. Johnson, William Y. Lee, Mary Morgan
Human Resources – Robert J. Geoghegan
Internal Services – Mitchell W. Baker, Cecil Beloney, Donel Boss, Madelyn T. Delgado, Dallal Ghattas, Shirley A. Green, Harold A. Hackett, Benton Hewitt, Helen Homutoff, Odessa L. Johnson, Mark Kabacy, Candy Laforteza, Seiko M. Nakayama, Richard Nathanson, Norbert Nissel, Arthur Parsons, William L. Price, Richard A. Reeves, Roselyn Richardson, Annie S. Ross, Naomi M. Schofield, Jackie L. Smith, Donzella Stoneham, Robert Vecchio, John B. Wetmore, James W. Williams
Juvenile Court Health Services – Donel Boss
King/Drew Medical Center – Larice Jones, Koolya D. Kampanth, Hazel Lewis, Geneva Peterson, Edward A. Tramel, Samuel Wallace
LAC+USC Medical Center – Van E. Allen, Mary H. Alvarado, Willie M. Bailey, Elena Barrientos, Marilyn J. Blake, Marion M. Cameron, Jovita A. Chotiwatnano, Rosa M. Duran, Thelma Gates, Fannie M. Hall, Geraldine Hunter, Miriam Latreille, Vivien Lloyd, Ana L. Martinez, Gloston McKinney, Judy Y. Minami, Zelma D. McCrimmon, Shahbudin H. Rahimtoola, Eleanor H. Romo, Angelina Sanchez, Melvin Sisson, Shirley Trimble, Madeline H. Vralsted
Mechanical Department – William S. Tedford, Mario Vitelli, Richard E. Watson
Mental Health – Teresa C. Carter, Beverly Howard, Norman Luce, David J. Lynch, Mary J. Mahon-Fordis, Dale J. Lieberfarb, Ruth A. Zamora
Military & Veterans Affair – Joseph N. Smith
Museum of Art – Victor I. Carlson
Olive View/UCLA Hospital – Mandel Ainsworth, Vallisa J. Francisco, Orest Gorchynski, Mario Hernandez, Adolph E. Jones, Kathleen J. Kearney, Sandra Lopez, Lucy R. Neenan, Joan V. Wisner, Geraldine Woolfork
Parks & Recreation – Felipe G. Avila, Fernand H. Frenette, Ronald L. Gagnon, Charles Graham, David A. Mitchell, Millard Stewart, Larry H. Ware
Probation – Eldred Y. Caffey Jr., Keith Davis, Kathy N. Holmes, Robert T. Justice, Fernando E. Medina, Joseph E. Moses, Lomie B. Shannon Jr., Dean C. Starkey, Dale R. Thomas, J. M. Tobin, Bettye J. Williams
Public Defender – Leticia Fonseca, Robert Johnson, Neal H. Osherow, Lowell E. Salser
Public Health Program – Carlos Correra, Helyne P. Dyer**,** Marie G. Edwards, Millicent E. Francis, Olga Fuentes, Guadalupe Garcia, Stella Hogan, Steven K. Kadomatsu, Arturo Leon, Lorraine Velarde, Ann F. Wakefield, May B. Walton, Janice Wooten
Public Library – Marie C. Brude, Robert W. Stanners
Public Safety – Henry Banales
Public Social Services – Linda Bachelier, Theodora Berger, Doris M. Bordenave, Catherine M. Breem, Bertilla Callahan, Ruth Campos, Olivia Carlson, Albert Carreon, Ralph J. Carroll, Jozella Collins, Elsa G. Crespo, Edna Dean, Rosie L. Dyson, Teresa M. Flowers, Betty J. Frazier, Nancy L. Goddard, Ursula T. Goins, Renee L. Gorbitz, Walter Grabe, Irene Greyer, Beatrice Guerrero, Elizabeth F. Greco, Joseph Herndon Jr., Rex C. Hong, Carolyn S. Ippolito, Rebecca E. Johnson, Doris G. Kellogg, Venancio D. Lanoy, Shirley G. Law, Thomas E. Lawson, Mabel L. Markham, Paul F. Matranga, Khuyen X. Nghiem, Tue T. Nguyen, Lynn I. O'Connell, Mary T. Reynolds, Flora E. Rodriguez, Arlene B. Sanford, Vera Scott, Francene E. Smalls, Renee K. Solomon, Gwendolyn K. Thompson, Mary E. Tedder, Mary E. Tucker, Marie A. Vasquez, Lynda A. Walker, Margaret West, Edmonia C. White, Deirdre A. Williams, John T. Work
Public Works – Robert W. Biendle, Gloria M. Bejarano, Marvin Bjoraker, Harold W. Chalker, Stanley Cooper, Albert B. Creamer, Sergio A. Espinosa, Gaddis Farmer, Beverly Hand, Dwayne J. Newman, Dominick M. Nitti**,** Saturnino P. Orquiola
Rancho Los Amigos Hospital – Mildred I. Brooks, Fernando Castillo, Mildred V. Clarke, Delores F. Dilley, Martin L. Ewald, Ruth E. Freeman, Dorothy H. Jones, Casilda P. Jose, Mary L. Marino, Juan M. Rivera
Sheriff – William H. Alley, Roger F. Anderson, Rupert Adkins, Willie H. Batts Jr., David L. Betts, Gerald A. Boswell, Robert E. Byers, Norval T. Campbell, Melvin Caradine, Jack M. Cather, Nancy J. Clinton, Leair D. Cooke, Denise Cornelous, Lucila Q. Davis, Douglas L. Dickinson, Lolita C. Duero, Leonard S. Duncan, Kimberly A. Fellers, Linda D. Fink, Luz Evelyn M. Gabrillo, Louie H. Garcia, Carol I. Gigandet, Ernestine L. Grimes, Guido J. Gutierrez, Helen G. Hud, Lyle C. Jamison, Gloria A. Lucio, Francis P. Moore, Robert J. Morris, Stephen R. Nelson, Chester W. Newman, Richard E. Obney, Basilio Ortiz, James E. Piper, Alicia M. Ponce, Charles F. Peck, James K. Rich, Jack D. Roth, James L. Schneeweis, Pedro Solis, Michael D. Thompson, Waldon B. Vansciver, Steven A. Velasquez, Alfonso S. Verduzco, Marcia J. Vietti, John T. Wargo, William A. Wollenweber
So Cal Air Pollution Control – Morton Hofflich
Superior Court/County Clerk – Velma M. Blake, Robert R. Fitting, Henrietta P. Garibay, Ethel M. Lambrinck, Gerald S. Levine, Walter C. McKenzie, Deanna R. Norton, Claudia K. Osborne, Roger C. Reaves, Marshall Rieger, Ruby N. Ross, Nora Shaw, Dhirendra Udeshi, David Ziskrout
Treasurer and Tax Collector – Victoria Carrera, Bradley J. Nuremberg, Robert O'Bryant, Tomas A. Vaquerano
Workforce Dev., Aging & Comm. – D. M. Fisher, Araceli M. Oca, Yoshiko Taketa
Department Not Designated –Frank T. Arden, Robert N. Blauvelt, Donald E. Boucher, Edward R. Cruz, Donald L. Givens, Eileen A. Holder, Jerry F. Halverson, Thomas M. Ichien, Clementine Kinchen, Jack W. Larkins, Thomas Montalbano, Muriel F. O'Brien, George T. Payson, Calvin W. Prenosil, Robert B. Schumaker, Lillie M. Stephens, Joann K. Ta'a, Lorene A. Wilson, Patricia J. Woodard

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

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PAID
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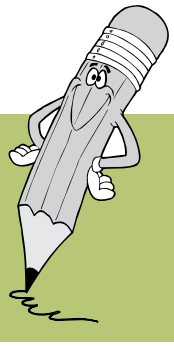
PASADENA, CA



General Membership Meeting

Mary K. Rodriguez, Chair, Program Committee

Thursday, April 11, 2019

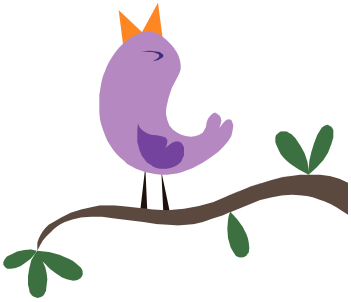
Cerritos Park East Community Center

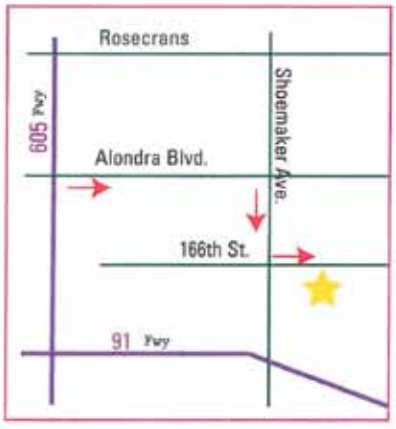
13234 East 166th Street, Cerritos, CA 90703
(1/4 mile east of Shoemaker Avenue)
Phone 562-407-2611

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

Featured Speaker:
Caroline Gutierrez, Kaiser Permanente
Healthy Habits: Healthy Sleep and Stress Less

DOOR PRIZES
Please bring your RELAC membership card





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.

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
E-mail:
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.