

President's Message

by Brian Berger

Welcome to 2023. I hope each of you had a warm, friendly (maybe noisy and hectic), happy holiday season. For Gene and I it was all

of the above, plus different house quests at different times, and lots of laughter, two trips to visit with family in different parts of the country, and a number of great new memories. The new year promises some new, and a few continuing, challenges. I can't even remember my New Year's resolutions, but some of that may be a product of age. It was nice to be able to see so many of you at our holiday gathering on Dec. 8 in Whittier.

We are having our RELAC General Membership meeting on Jan. 26 in the auditorium of Public Works, just next door to our offices on Fremont Avenue in Alhambra. It will be an important meeting as we have a lot to share and will be asking for your support on a couple of issues. You can read more within this newsletter. We look forward to seeing you at this event and to having the chance to simply talk and share stories or adventures.

As you read through this newsletter, you will find that a lot is on the planning table for 2023. With many of the COVID- related health restrictions either eliminated or reduced, we are looking to optimize opportunities for RELAC members to get together. As our planning efforts materialize, you will get plenty of lead time regarding event dates, per one member's suggestion that early lead times would help with individual schedule planning. Thank you for this suggestion. Another note of appreciation goes to thank the increasing number of you who are taking advantage of the RELAC website. It gives you a way to keep current on both RELAC activities and to find quick access on those times when you have an urge to contribute to our scholarship program, meals program, March of Dimes efforts, and others.

Finally, a special thank you to each of you for your continued support of RELAC. The volume of phone call, letters, and e-mails continues to increase, so we can see that interest is high. We also want to thank the many organizations that work in support of RELAC and are a continuing part of our events and programs. We are also pleased that we could support so many L.A. Countyrelated, special focus, retired employee organizations with their individual events over the past year. We are all part of one large family. That support will continue.

Please continue to send us your ideas or recommendations. Ideas are shared with the Board and directed to the appropriate committee or committees for consideration,

Thank you again. We hope to see and talk with you many times in this new year.











Hopkins

Nelson

Berger Elected to Third Term as President

The RELAC Board of Directors has unanimously reelected Brian Berger to serve as president for 2023, his third consecutive term.

Linda C. Hopkins was reelected to her third term as vice president and Dyanne Nelson was returned for her fourth year as treasurer. Bobbie Fesler, who joined the Board of Directors in 2022, was selected secretary, replacing Evelyn Gutierrez, who died in October 2022.

Dave Muir, as immediate past president, is the fifth member of the Executive Committee.

RELAC Scholarship Applications Being Accepted

March 1 is the deadline to submit an application for RELAC's 2023 Scholarship Program, which is open to RELAC members and their families.

Application forms are available on the RELAC website at relac.org and may be returned either by mail or e-mail.

Up to five \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to RELAC members, their children, stepchildren, grandchildren and step-grandchildren.

The Board of Directors has voted to name one of the scholarships in honor of Evelyn Gutierrez, who died in October 2022 of natural causes from cardiovascular disease. Gutierrez, a RELAC director since 2016, was one of the founding members of the scholarship program and served as chair of the evaluation committee. Linda C. Hopkins, chair of the Scholarship Committee, recalled a quote that Gutierrez would cite from Albert Einstein about the importance of going to college: "The value of a college education is not the learning of many facts but the training of the mind to think."

This will be the fourth year that RELAC has awarded scholarships.

For additional information, visit the RELAC website or contact Hopkins at lhopkins1054@gmail.com.

RELAC Funds L.A. Found Lifesaving Bracelet

by Victoria Pipkin-Lane, Chair General Membership Committee

RELAC's Board of Directors, concerned about a steady growth in the number of people with Alzheimer's and other cognitive impairments, has voted to fund a lifesaving bracelet provided by L.A. Found, a County program within the Department of Aging and Disabilities.

L.A. Found, on a motion by Fourth District Supervisor Janice Hahn approved by the Board of Supervisors, is an initiative that provides bracelets equipped with GPS technology to individuals with Alzheimer's and other cognitive challenges who may Investment Board by Joseph Kelly LACERA Board of Investments Trustee

The LACERA boards have been

meeting virtually since the initial

COVID lockdown in spring 2020,

but recently voted to return to



the office but maintain the virtual option until it is no longer permitted under state law. I attended the November Board of Investments meeting in person, and it was very good to see my colleagues again.

LACERA trustees must meet educational requirements each year, and I attended two conferences in recent months that will allow me to meet the requirements. The first was a "Corporate Governance Boot Camp" offered through the Council of Institutional Investors and the New York University School of Law. In short, corporate governance is the system of rules, practices, and processes by which a firm is directed and controlled. As an investor, it is preferable to invest in companies that practice good corporate governance in the hope of avoiding losses and other negative consequences or impacts. A board of directors is pivotal in governance. Proxy advisors and shareholders are important stakeholders who can affect governance. The conference was excellent with a number of well-known academicians lecturing on different modules. The second was a multi-day conference on the economics and finances of ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations), offered through the Pacific Pension Institute.

I wish you all a relaxing and joy-filled holiday season.

LACERA Pension Fund		October	Total Assets: \$67.6 billion	
Returns	FYTD	3 year:	5 year:	10 year:
	- 3.5%	+ 6.9%	+ 6.6%	+ 7.7%

Board of Retirement

by Les Robbins Chair, LACERA Board of Retirement RELAC Board of Directors

If you are an enrollee in either Medicare or Social Security, you get a letter each November advising you what your new benefits will be and what they will cost. As an enrollee in



Medicare and as a recipient of a small Social Security check, I got my letter in mid-November. There was both good and bad news.

As a Social Security recipient, I was advised that I will be getting an 8.7% increase in my monthly check, the largest increase in about 40 years. However, I was also apprised of my new Medicare Part B premium, which amounted to enough to wipe out the entire 8.7 % increase and then some, causing my 2023 benefit from Social Security to actually be less than I was getting in 2022.

Medicare is made up of four parts. Part A is the hospital portion. Part B is the portion that covers physician services, outpatient hospital services, certain home health service and other miscellaneous items. This is the most expensive portion of Medicare benefits. Part C refers to the supplemental plans that can be purchased to augment your basic Medicare benefits. As is in our case as LACERA members, we have a variety of supplemental plans and options available to us that

News From LACERA

by JJ Popowich Assistant Executive Officer

Happy Holidays! What an exciting year 2022 has been and I'm just as excited, if not more excited, about the big things coming up in the new year. I hope your holidays were fulfilling and relaxing!



There is a tremendous amount of work and progress being made at LACERA across many divisions, and I'd like to share these with you.

In my last article, I discussed how we are working hard to address service issues. One of our biggest priorities this year has been meeting the demand in our Call Center and bringing wait times down. I'm happy to report a couple of major steps forward in achieving our goals.

First, we are pleased to report that 14 new specialists completed their training and were assigned to the Member Services Call Center in December. This is a significant accomplishment, and it allows them to begin improving service to our members immediately. While the disruption of our training classes and recruitment pipeline during the pandemic (as well as retirements and promotions) made it challenging for LACERA to develop new staff, we have adapted and innovated new ways to select and train staff regardless of environmental impacts. We are also pleased to announce we are finishing our recruitment for our 2023 classes.

This is great news for all members because it means reduced wait times and faster service. But new staff training and hiring is not the only way we're augmenting our service and expanding how we help our members. In addition to the recent deployment of a call back option, where members who call us on the phone are offered the option of being called back that same day rather than waiting on hold, we are also deploying technological advances and improvements to expand availability of secure and efficient self-service options, along with improved processing of service requests and claims.

We are working to future-proof My LACERA, our one-stop-shop where you can access several helpful resources, electronically and securely upload and share documents, message our specialists for help, view your retirement plan, learn about health care, update your information, sign up for direct deposit, and receive important forms and receipts.

In late December/early January we will have rolled out a new security enhancement to our My LACERA member portal - multi-factor authentication. This is a way to ensure that it is truly you who is accessing your information. The next time you log into My LACERA, make sure you have provided your current e-mail address and cellphone number. To update this information, log into My LACERA and click "Profile" to make your changes. Then, the next time you log in, LACERA will instantly confirm your identity via e-mail or text message based on the contact information we have on file. It's faster and more secure!

We recently released a My LACERA walkthrough video for both active and retired members and a revamped Ready to Retire resources section on lacera.com. These self-help options are aimed at providing members the information they need at their fingertips so they don't have to call and wait for assistance. I encourage you to check out the My LACERA walkthrough video at lacera.com/my-lacera to see the features available to you as a retired member and how to use them efficiently. You can skip ahead to the bookmark at five minutes, 15 seconds for the retiree-specific information.

Don't forget to sign up for My LACERA! It is truly the 24-hour, seven-day a week platform you need to manage your retirement with access to all the important information and forms you need.

Next, I'd like to update you on some important tax changes in the new year. The IRS has redesigned the form W-4P and it is now necessary to use this new form if you are changing your tax withholding elections. Please note, you do not need to submit this form unless you plan to change or adjust your tax withholding elections. The redesigned W-4P introduces some changes, such as the elimination of personal allowances and a new head of household marital status. Eligible tax credits can still be claimed on the form. For more information about the newly redesigned W-4P, visit lacera.com/retirement-payments/changing-your-withholding.

With that, I'd like to wish you a very happy New Year and welcome to 2023! See you next time!



Aging Issues, Bylaws Vote Highlight Jan. 26 Membership Meeting

by Victoria Pipkin-Lane, Chair General Membership Committee

Developments in the area of aging and disabilities and a vote on proposed amendments to RELAC's bylaws will highlight the general membership meeting Thursday, Jan. 26 at the Department of Public Works (DPW), 900 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra.

This will be the first general membership meeting of RELAC in more than two years due to the pandemic.

Dr. Laura Trejo, director of the County Department of Aging and Disabilities, will deliver the keynote address, touching on such issues as wellness and the importance of good nutrition and regular exercise. She is a recognized expert in the field of aging and previously led the City of L.A. Department of Aging.

There also will be presentations on health and dental benefits available to retirees, upcoming RELAC activities and the scholarship fund.

DPW Director Mark Pestrella will provide welcome remarks.

A continental breakfast of fruit, pastries, various breads and drinks will be served beginning at 9:30 a.m., with the general membership meeting starting at 10 a.m. Drawings for gift cards and RELAC logo merchandise also will take place.

Parking is free in the visitors parking lot, accessible upon entering the DPW parking lot from Orange Avenue just east of Fremont Avenue. There will be signs in the parking lot with directions to the meeting location: conference rooms A, B and C.

RELAC members are encouraged to attend. A minimum of 50 regular members is required in order for a vote to be taken on the proposed bylaws.

Proposed Bylaws Amendments and Compensation

Members will be asked to vote on bylaws amendments and director compensation at the general membership meeting to be held at the L.A. County Department of Public Works, 900 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra on Jan. 26 at 9:30 a.m.

The full text of the amendments and the compensation schedule are posted on RELAC's website (relac.org) and copies can be obtained from the RELAC office by calling (800) 537-3522.

Summary of Bylaws Amendments

Art. II, Sec. 2, Associate Membership: Amend to include a partner of a regular member among those eligible for associate membership status.

Art. III, Sec. 1, Regular Meetings: Four general membership meetings are required each year. Amend this section to require an annual meeting in Los Angeles County and at least three other meetings as determined by the Board.

Art. VII, Sec. 2, Other Committees: Delete the requirement that the president's appointments to committees must be ratified by the Board of Directors.

Art. VIII, Sec. 1, Authorization: Add a provision clarifying limits on authority of officers, directors, and employees to enter into contracts or incur debts on behalf of RELAC.

Art. VIII, Sec. 2, Audits: Delete the reference to "audits" and substitute "financial review."

Various non-substantive grammatical and/or typographical changes are proposed.

Director Compensation

Directors serve as officers and as members of various committees, requiring them to devote substantial time and effort to carry out RELAC business. The work performed by directors reduces the cost and effort required of RELAC staff personnel. Directors have always been compensated for their work on behalf of RELAC. Provisions governing the modest compensation are set forth in RELAC's policy manual. RELAC has been advised that director compensation should be approved by the general membership to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest.

The Director Compensation Schedule is as follows: President: \$100/month Treasurer: \$125/month Newsletter editor: \$250/month Assistant newsletter editor: \$100 per issue Chair, Office Management Committee: \$50/month

Directors at Large

Attendance at Board meetings, general membership meetings, and regional meetings: \$60 per meeting.

Attendance at RELAC-sponsored pre-retirement seminars: \$30 per meeting.

Attendance at committee meetings (committee members and other directors attending at request of the chair): \$30 per meeting

Chairs of ad hoc and standing committees: \$50 per meeting

Mileage

Mileage will be reimbursed at the current rate approved by the Internal Revenue Service.

RELAC Director Les Robbins Heads LACERA Board of Retirement

RELAC Director Les Robbins, the longest-serving Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association (LACERA) trustee, will serve as chair of the LACERA Board of Retirement in 2023. It will be his 12th stint in the position.

Robbins, who worked for the Sheriff's Department for 30 years, was first elected to the LACERA board in December 1997, serving as the elected safety member until he retired in December 2004. Upon retirement, he was appointed by Supervisor Don Knabe to the Board of Retirement, where he served until Knabe's retirement in December 2016. The following year he became a RELAC director and won election

as the retiree representative on the Board of Retirement. His term expires Dec. 31, 2023. He also served on the LACERA Board of Investments before his retirement.

In addition to his column in the RELAC newsletter, Robbins writes a popular blog about LACERA issues.

During his 30 years with the Sheriff's Department, Robbins served 12 years as director of the Association of L.A. Deputy Sheriffs and was elected president seven times, more than anyone else in the organization's history.

Letters To The Editor Write On!

I was surprised to see Shirley Walker on the In Memoriam list as I think she was in her 90s. I worked in the same placement unit in Probation as Shirley did in the office on Washington Boulevard. We cared for girls whose families were so dysfunctional that the court ordered them placed elsewhere. The girls had deep emotional hurts and were hard to help. We had a therapist who came to the office regularly to talk to us. Shirley was always very concerned about her girls and conscious to help them. She was also a good friend to everyone in the unit and a charming personality. I know her family gravely misses her. I hope they are all doing fine. Sincerely.

Leslie Silverman (ÁKA Leslie Erickson), Long Beach, California

On the passing of RELAC Director Evelyn Gutierrez:

Hi, Brian [Berger]. Thanks for this information. You are doing a GREAT job also. I am soooooo sorry to learn of Evelyn Gutierrez's passing. I knew her when I was senior deputy for Supervisors James Hayes and Deane Dana (1970s to early 1990s). She was a hard worker who really cared for and served the public so well. As a Retired Employees of Los Angeles County director, she attended events, stayed informed and served retirees so well while being one of the nicest public servants that I have ever known. Her service and she will be truly missed. My best to you.

Mary Lee Gray, Long Beach, California

This was such sad and shocking news. Evelyn was absolutely the best. I am unable to attend the Rose Hills service as I'll be out of town. Perhaps her family or other organizations have wishes to remember Evelyn. I do plan to make a donation in Evelyn's memory to the County of L.A. Library Foundation. If others want to make a similar donation, they can send a check made out to the L.A. County Library Foundation and mail to the L.A. County Public Library Foundation, 7400 E. Imperial Highway, #201, Downey, CA 90242 or online at www.lacolibraryfoundation.org. Evelyn was very active on that board and did so much for the library... especially the East Los Angeles Library. What a loss! Sandy Reuben, Thousand Oaks, California

Our deepest sympathy to the RELAC Family. Joanne Oden, Torrance, California

Rest In Peace, Evelyn. **Vic Aghakhanian, Tujunga, California**

So sorry to hear of her [Evelyn Gutierrez's] passing. My condolences to her family and to you the staff that knew her and worked with her. Sincerely. **Mary Sanchez, Norwalk, California**

Rest In Peace [Evelyn]. **Reza Mohajer, Encino, California**



Remembering Evelyn Gutierrez

Evelyn Gutierrez, a member of the RELAC Board of Directors since 2016, died unexpectedly of natural causes from cardiovascular disease on Oct. 4. She was 79. Andrea Carroll's comments appeared in her LA County Library Foundation blog. Joseph Kelly's comments were excerpted from the eulogy he gave at Gutierrez's funeral.

Andrea Carroll, Executive Director, LA County Library Foundation

Evelyn Gutierrez was loved throughout the County – as a colleague, volunteer, and friend. People responded to her tremendous caring and commitment to the County, its employees, and Library system. Evelyn served on the board of directors for the LA County Library Foundation as secretary and treasurer; and she spearheaded funding initiatives, including for teen programs, cultural resource centers, and Friends of the Library groups. She also volunteered for two decades with Los Amigos of the East Los Angeles Library, weekly serving in their bookstore and building lasting connections with staff, and between children, teens, and adults and their library.

Evelyn enriched the Library Foundation, the Retired Employees of Los Angeles County (RELAC), and the County's Quality and Productivity Commission (QPC) with her creativity, insights, and sense of fun. She freely shared her marketing expertise, honed during 35 years with the County and in the Chief Administrative Office for 15 years as director of workplace programs and marketing. Evelyn also gave generously to support students, and with the March of Dimes Team RELAC, raised awareness and funds for vulnerable babies and their families. She believed in multiplying impact, and generously shared resources and connections among the Library Foundation, Library, RELAC, and QPC to strengthen each organization and increase their value for the people and communities they serve.

Evelyn made our lives brighter, and we miss her very much. The Library Foundation is celebrating Evelyn's legacy by funding Library resources for older adults.

Joseph Kelly, Retired L.A. County Treasurer-Tax Collector and Public Administrator, Former RELAC Director

Evelyn Gutierrez was a very special member of this County Family. I met Evelyn in 2020 as a new member of the RELAC Board, where she oversaw the community support program. I walked out of the very first RELAC Board meeting appreciating that 1) Evelyn knew a whole lot about everything County related, 2) that she was very focused on our members, and 3) that she had an opinion about everything, often a very strong opinion. I was okay with that, because I did, too. I subsequently

Continued on p.14

Thank You to Retirees With 40+ Years of Service

We salute the following recent County retirees who served more than 40 years. Bernadette Aguirre, Child Support; Maurice F. Allmond, Probation; Ae H. An, Children and Family Services; Joseph C. Baiocco, Public Works; Constance D. Beverly, Harbor-UCLA Medical Center; Gonzella Brame, Children and Family Services; Mary Brandon, Harbor-UCLA Medical Center; Maria A. Cabrera, Child Support.

Ted Chue, Internal Services; Robert C. Clendening, Public Works; Kathi M. Condiff, Sheriff; Georgi M. Cox, Superior Court/County Clerk; Mercedes Escarze, Child Support; Tanya R. Gonzales, Sheriff; Ella L. Granston, Mental Health; Sheila Hall, Human Resouces; Mojune A. Hamm, Health Services Administration.

Paul A. Henderson, Public Social Services; David Hernandez, Fire; Carmen V. Higareda, Registrar-Recorder; Bettie J. Hill, Correctional Health; Barbara S. Hitchcock, Children and Family Services; Molinda J. Hope, Children and Family Services; Maria D. Hoyos, LAC+USC Medical Center; Treva S. Jackson, District Attorney.

Tita P. James, Internal Services; Barbara A. Kimura, Sheriff; Dirk R. Kuiken, Mental Health; Melanie A. Leland, Mental Health; Yolanda M. Magana, LAC+USC Medical Center; Linda Martinez, Public Social Services; Danny Mendoza, Probation; Veronica G. Moore, Public Health; Beverly S. Moskowitz, Sheriff; Ann Padron, Public Social Services; Rosie L. Pugh, Children and Family Services; Elsa Rangel, Internal Services.

Phillip Ricks, Olive View Medical Center; Kelly L. Robbins, Superior Court/County Clerk; Keith Robinson, LAC+USC Medical Center; Keira K. Spitzer, Sheriff; Ofelia J. Torio, Rancho Los Amigos Hospital; Sylvia M. Torres, Treasurer-Tax Collector; Carmen M. Villalobos, LAC+USC Medical Center; Rosalind White, LACERA; Linda L. Woods, Public Health; Joyce R. Wyatt, Public Social Services; Margo D. Zeigler, Internal Services.

Celestine Thomas, Sheriff, had the most years of service, working 51 Years, $3\!\!\!\!/_2$ months.

Welcome New Members

Oct. – Nov. 2022

Assessor – Octavio Girbau Health Services - Mildred Brigham, Concepcion Bunuan, David Zamorano Internal Services – Ernest Jones LAC+USC Medical Center – Aurora Cruz, Amal Mikhael Mental Health – Cheryl Avelar, Suzanne Newberry Probation – Jevelon Émanuel Brown, Kindra Elliott Public Defender – William Misener Public Health - Yolanda Moore, Patricia Regan, Myrtis Tracy, Gloria Traylor Young Public Library – Tamera Tarver Public Social Services – Patricia Hunter, Esther Villanueva Public Works - Robert Campbell, Frederick McGlothen, Lorraine Munoz Sheriff - Dana Blair, Ty Labbe, Susan Marlett, **Shonte McBride** Superior Court – **Laderra Turner** Treasurer/Tax Collector – **Bonnie Towns** New Associate Members - Rosemary Girbau, Maria N. Misener, Henry Munoz, Carlos F. Rivera, Jesus Villanueva, Randy B. Young

New Member Referrals

Our thanks to these five RELAC members (shown in bold) who recruited colleagues (shown in italic) during October and November 2022.

Kindra Elliott, Jevelon Emanuel Brown, Probation Christopher Fierro, Cheryl Avelar, Mental Health Christina Loust, Concepcion Bunuan, Health Services Andy Shimoda/Epi Peinado, David Zamorano, Health Services

Winners of Drawing for Referring New Members to be Announced

The results of RELAC's cash drawing for those recruiting new members in 2021 and 2022 will be announced in the March-April edition of the newsletter. Dec. 31 was the deadline to qualify for the drawing.

Twenty \$25 prizes will be awarded, with multiple prizes to the same individual allowed.

In addition to those making referrals in 2022, another 54 are eligible because they were not among the 25 winners selected in 2021.

Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, at right, with her successor, Supervisor Lindsey Horvath.



Goodbye from Supervisor Kuehl

It's been quite a ride these last 28 years in public service! Honestly, as I close this final chapter of my government career, my heart is filled with gratitude and appreciation for all of you for entrusting me with the incredible responsibility of representing the magnificent Third District over these last eight years.

Since joining the Board in December 2014, I'm incredibly proud of our monumental shift toward justice. Early on, I authored the motion to establish the County's first affordable housing trust fund and helped develop

the County's Homelessness Initiative. As a result, we passed groundbreaking rent stabilization and eviction defense protections in unincorporated LA County, including COVID-19 tenant protections during the pandemic.

Over the last eight years, Team Kuehl led the effort to completely transform L.A. County's justice system, implementing a Care First, Jails Last approach to end the cycling of residents in and out of County jails for lack of treatment, services and housing. A seismic shift, this ongoing transformational process represents the first steps toward dismantling a system corrupted by racism in order to build a new foundation for healing.

Our team also championed a once-in-100-year modernization of the County's water infrastructure that will dramatically improve L.A.'s ability to capture, clean, and store water, as well as the creation of the County's first Office of Sustainability, which is implementing our nation's most ambitious sustainability plan. The changes we have made, too numerous to list here, have set L.A. County on the path to a brighter, more equitable, and sustainable future.

Without the excellent work of the incomparable Team Kuehl, these triumphs would never have made it off the ground. Our executive assistants over the years, Bertha, Ellen, Yolanda, and Daniela, I thank you for being the backbone of this operation and our tremendous support staff for dependably and diligently fueling all our efforts. I want to thank my incredibly dedicated field staff for always centering our communities and ensuring their voices were always heard.

I will remain forever grateful to my policy deputies for moving mountains in each and every area of their expertise. From Day One, I tasked them with "Go do good," and they took that freedom and changed the ways in which L.A. County serves its constituents and its vulnerable clients exponentially. Your great work will live on long after we're all gone. Lastly, thanks to my leadership team, Chief of Staff Lisa Mandel and Senior Strategist Torie Osborn, for always steering our ship in the right direction. These two sheroes deserve pretty much all the credit I'll get for policies that will change L.A. County for generations to come.

I am profoundly and eternally grateful for my constituents and their fierce passion for their communities. Thank you for allowing me to serve and standing by me through the past eight years.

Finally, as I hang up my hat, I take comfort in knowing I am leaving the Third District in the capable hands of our great new supervisor, Lindsey Horvath. I know how determined she is to do right by you, and I'm so excited for this new chapter under her leadership.

I am so happy, proud, and contented to have had such an amazing opportunity -- I was paid for trying to do justice. How's that for fortunate? Serving the vibrant, electric, magnificent Third District and all of the people who call it home has been the honor of a lifetime. From the bottom of my heart, I thank YOU so very much.

Retired Health Managers Reunite

Retired health managers of the Departments of Health Services, Public Health and Mental Health met Dec. 1 at the San Antonio Winery in Los Angeles for their annual holiday gathering. The event was hosted by RELAC members Barry Hunt, Richard Marciniak and Harvey Kern.



Retired Female Deputies Meet at Luncheon

by Roberta Abner, RELAC Member President, Retired Female Deputies Social Club

The Retired Female Deputies (RFD) Social Club held its bi-annual luncheon Nov. 5 at the beautiful La Villa Bella at the Historic San Antonio in Upland. Formerly a historic hospital, this wonderful venue is owned and operated by retired Deputy Susan Higgins-D'Amico Coniglio and is a premier wedding and banquet event center.

A total of 64 members and guests gathered for conversation, laughter and fun. As part of the luncheon program, acknowledgement was made of RELAC's support and donation to the event. Every individual received a RELAC informational packet, and the many benefits of being a member of RELAC were detailed and RFD members encouraged to consider joining. It was learned that several of the attendees were already RELAC members and have been so for many years.

RFD is open to retired sworn and professional staff of the Sheriff's Department as well as active employees who were hired 20 or more years ago. It is a social club that facilitates Sheriff's Department employees reconnecting and socializing, with luncheons held the first Saturday in May and November. The next RFD luncheon will be at the oceanfront Ventura Crowne Plaza on Saturday, May 6. Mark your calendars to join in on the fun!



Photo 1:

Left to right: Stephanie Foss, Linda Muse, Rita Hall, Val Burwell, Doris LaCour and Marguerite Waddy. Photo 2:

Left to right: Molly Mitchell, Diane Stone, RFD Board member Michelle Emeneger, Gladys Madden and RELAC member and RFD President Roberta Abner.

Photo 3:

Left to right: Arleen Grey, luncheon hostess Susan Higgins-Coniglio and RELAC member Natalie Salazar. Photo 4:

Left to right: RELAC member and RFD Board member Rosie Banuelos, Molly Mitchell and RFD historian Vickie Panzone.

Golf News

by Gil Sandoval RELAC Golf Director

Chester Washington Golf Tournament – Dec. 5, 2022

In spite of the inclement weather over the weekend, our tournament weather was pretty good, with a little wind for our final tournament of the year. Tony Bacon won the A flight

with a net 69, which was the low round of the day, Michael Hernandez, playing well, took second place with a net 71. Only one back, in third place was Julio Gonzales with a net 72.

First place in the "B" Flight was a real battle as Kenneth Reed, shooting a net 76, edged out Frank Martinez, who brought in a net 77 for second. Steven Lee was two back with a net 79, finishing in third. In the "C" Flight, Richard Duran easily won with a net 84. Terry Black, the only other player in the flight, came in second with a net 86. Illnesses and injury prevented more players from participating.

We did not have any women playing in this tournament, but we look forward to having more playing in the future.

The next tournament is scheduled at Los Amigos Golf Course on Jan. 30. First tee at 8 a.m. The entry form can be found on the RELAC website at relac.org under the calendar tab and must be received by Jan. 11.

If you have a course that you would like to play, please let me know and I can add it to our schedule. Please note: Due to increased charges from the golf courses, the fees will be \$44 per player beginning with the January tournament.



Happy Birthday, RELAC Centenarians

January

Leona Biro, 103, Health Services Helen L. Brill, 101, Public Defender Shirley L. Gruskin, 103, Public Social Services Gloria F. Manly, 101, Health Services Ruby S. Nomura, 102, Internal Services Gilda Saporito, 104, Health Services Inez Watts, 101, Public Defender

February

Connette White, 101, District Attorney

(If you have an upcoming birthday and do not wish your name included in our centenarian list, please notify the RELAC office.)

RELAC NEWSLETTER

Vol 58 - Jan/Feb 2023 Number 1

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

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

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

Board of Directors

President Brian Berger

Vice President Linda C. Hopkins

Secretary Bobbie Fesler

Treasurer Dyanne Nelson

Past President **Dave L. Muir**

Directors

Donald Fandry Judy Hammond J. P. Harris Nora Jackson Epifanio Peinado Victoria Pipkin-Lane Les Robbins Diane Sandoval

Editor: Judy Hammond Copyright © 2023 by RELAC. This information presented in your RELAC Newsletter is believed to be from reliable sources. However, no responsibility is assumed by RELAC or the writers for inaccuracies in the articles as published.

Office Hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday - Thursday Closed Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Public Holidays Ed. Note: RELAC member Bob Martinez worked in the Department of Public Social Services (DPPS) for 35 years, retiring in 2010. During that time he served as an eligibility worker, fraud investigator, appeals worker, program assistant, workfare coordinator and deputy district director.

Searching for My Roots by Bob Martinez, RELAC Member

I hope you have seen the television documentary series "Who Do You Think You Are?" This program has helped me a lot in digging into my roots.

My name is Bob Martinez. I was raised in Ensenada, Baja California, Mexico to the age of 15. When I retired from DPSS, I had plans to continue my search for my ancestors. Like most of us when we were young, I didn't think about ancestors and didn't go past the grandparents. I didn't know the names of any of my ancestors beyond my maternal grandparents.

As I researched, I found my great-grandparents. I later found my second greatgrandparents, William Fisher and Liberata Ceseña. William, who was born in 1810, arrived in Boston, Massachusetts, from England, about 1822. In 1826 he traveled by ship from Boston to Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. He was ill and was taken in by Cipriano Ceseña, to recuperate at his home, where he fell in love with one of Ceseña's girls, Liberata, of course.

William built a ship, the Teresa, there and used it to transport fruits and other goods back and forth from Cabo to San Diego and San Francisco, Alta California. He also used to bring news from Mexico to Alta California. After the Mexican-American War started, he stopped in San Diego on his trip north and brought the news of the war. At the time, ships were the only mode of news media available for the Alta California.

In 1844 he bought a 20,000-acre ranch, Coyote, in San Jose, California for \$6,000 -- which still stands and is a county landmark – and two years later he and his family moved there. In 1847 he and several citizens of San Jose formed a city council in preparation for the American takeover of California, and William was appointed the head of the council. The next year he was asked by the temporary state governor to become the mayor of San Jose, but due to an illness, he declined. He died in May of 1850 at the age of 40. His wife and four children born in Mexico were given automatic citizenship by the Treaty of Guadalupe/Hidalgo. They additionally had two other children born in California in 1848 and 1850.

I have discovered that one of my great-grandaunts was Diana Helen Murphy-Hill, who married a knight, Sir George Rhodes. She was presented and admitted to the Court of King George V of England as Lady Diana Murphy-Hill Rhodes. Diana had originally married Miriam Morgan Hill (later divorcing him), for whom the city of Morgan Hill, California was named. Their daughter, Dianne Helen Hill Murphy, married a French Army captain, Baron Hourdoun de Reinach-Werth, at Saint Matthew's Cathedral in Washington, D.C. in 1911. She died in Saint Pancres, London, England while hospitalized for a mental breakdown after finding out her father had fallen ill and she could not be there for him. A statue was erected in their honor at the city's train station and it's named "Waiting for the Train."

Because of the results of my DNA test, I have met, via e-mail, people from England, Spain, Philippines, Puerto Rico, Africa, Costa Rica and other countries. I even found that the first mayor of Santa Monica was a relative, which means his son, the actor Leo Carrillo or Pancho from the black-and-white movies Cisco Kid, is also a relative.

I have also found a Fisher cousin, Leland Fisher, a pilot and a hero from WWII who received 11 Distinguished Flying Crosses.

Because of my second great-grandfather William Fisher, I've been able to join the California Pioneers as a member. And through my second great-grandmother Liberata Ceseña, I'm a member of the Los Californianos organization. I have found a lot of history here in California and in Baja California. My search has given me an opportunity to see the history of both Californias, including that of one of my relatives, Ildefonso Green, a hero from Baja California, who fought against the American filibuster William Walker in 1853 after the Treaty of Guadalupe/Hidalgo.

I have found my search to be very interesting, even to the point of finding one DPSS retiree, whose name I will withhold because of confidentiality, to whom I'm related. This sure is a small world.

I have utilized several methods to find information, such as Ancestry.com, libraries, and Internet websites (including Find a Grave and Newspapers). The search continues. There is always something new to be found. So far I have found some 17,000+ people with whom I'm connected.

Hope you enjoyed my trip as much as I have.

Now for the pictures: The one with the cap is William Fisher; the lady with the long dress is Liberata Ceseña; the lady sitting with the long dress is Lady Diana Murphy-Hill Rhodes; the young pretty lady is Dianne Helen Hill Murphy; of course the statue is self explanatory.





Lifesaving bracelet continued from p.1

wander from their place of residence. Many of these individuals may not survive without a lifesaving device.

Recent data shows there are more than 166,000 persons living with Alzheimer's in the County of Los Angeles. "The number of people who are living with dementia, autism and a range of cognitive issues is growing steadily," said Brian Berger, RELAC president. "RELAC wants to be part of the solution to help individuals who wander from home."

RELAC's General Membership Committee recommended that the RELAC Board approve the \$375 donation to L.A. Found to fund a bracelet for a resident, who will be identified by the Department of Aging and Disabilities. It is the second time that RELAC has donated to the program.

Keeping Up With Retirees

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

VIRGINIA PRICE HASTINGS



I joined the County immediately upon graduating from high school in 1960. At the time, the County was doing a recruitment with three primary departments: Flood Control, Road Department and Hospitals. My mom responded for me, saying I would probably prefer "hospitals" and there I

started in a stenographer position at LAC+USC Medical Center. I was a pretty hard driver from the beginning and soon became senior administrative secretary for Dr. Margaret McCarron, medical director of Hospitals, and then administrative secretary to Dr. John Affeldt, chief deputy director of Health Administration. In the mid-1970s, I was asked to manage a relatively new program that trained firefighters to treat people in the field under the direction of doctors and nurses over the radio. I became the administrator of the County's Paramedic Training Institute (PTI) at Harbor General Hospital, reporting to Truman Chaffin (recently deceased) and working closely with Dr. Ron Crowell, medical director, and Peggy Stoker, education director.

In September 1982, I was transferred from PTI to the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) headquarters at "313" to implement the trauma system and administer the Prehospital Care Program, which included coordination of all hospital and field programs along with development of all EMS policies and procedures. After Truman Chaffin retired in 1992, I was appointed the director of the EMS Agency.

After 43 years, it made no sense for me to continue working in the County (Plan A) so I retired in 2003, but I was not done working! With my EMS experience, I was asked to consult for a large ambulance company and then later became the EMS administrator for the Inland Counties EMS Agency, a three-county regional system, for another 10 years. Finally, in 2013 I decided to fully retire and enjoy the home Bob and I had in the hills of Yucaipa.

As far as my family goes, I had my two children young and raised them as a single mother while working. Both Keith and Jill have their own families now and have given me four wonderful grandchildren, who I love and adore. They have always called me "Grammie" and kept me running to all of their activities for years. My granddaughter is a champion horse trainer. She continues to ride one of the horses my late husband and I bought and I still own.

While in EMS, I married Robert Hastings, a master chief hospital corpsman in the Navy. He had many



DARLENE (ISBELL) GIDLEY

It's hard to believe that my connections with Los Angeles County go back to the early 1960s (60 years ago—yikes!) when I volunteered as a candy striper at Harbor General Hospital. I remember working in the "barracks"—getting my first taste of a nursing career. When the "new" hospital was ready, I helped move medical records and then later worked in Central Supply sterilizing surgical instruments and needles.

Upon graduating from high school, I entered El Camino College's registered nursing program. Once again, I was back at Harbor General, doing a significant portion of my clinical experience. Talk about hands-on work experience—this was great!

By 1967, the war in Vietnam was dominating our life and I followed my husband, Jim, to Lawton, Oklahoma, where he was briefly stationed at Fort Sill. I was awaiting the results of my state boards and, lucky for me, was assigned to the county's emergency room and recovery room. However, this was to be a brief experience as my husband was deployed to Vietnam in January 1968. So, back to California for me.

Loving the educational environment, I immediately applied for a position at Harbor General and was fortunate to be offered a job in the Emergency Department, where I stayed for five or so years before a brief stint in the Clinical Study Center and then several years in the Cardiothoracic Intensive Care Unit.

As I was anxious to pursue a bachelor of science degree in nursing, I left Harbor General and secured a position at Kaiser Permanente in the Cardiac Care Unit while attending Cal State Fullerton.

Upon completing my degree, I once again found myself back at the now "Harbor-UCLA Medical Center"—this time as an instructor for the Paramedic Training Institute, a part of the County Emergency Medical Services Agency. I was essentially back in the "barracks" again. I had come full circle. I absolutely loved working for the Emergency Medical Services Agency, spending the next 21 years there, advancing from paramedic instructor to assistant director of the agency. And, thanks to Los Angeles County, I was able to attain a master's degree in public administration from Cal State University Long Beach. Eventually, this background and experience prepared me to become the director of Emergency Medical Services for Orange County, where I retired in 2005.

Even more important than work, my family was -- and is -- first and foremost to me. The joy of nurturing two daughters, and now four grandchildren, is central in my life. Early on, my husband and I instilled the love of travel with our daughters. After my husband passed away, I was blessed to get married to my husband, Jeff. Jeff and I have carried on the tradition of family travel. Our family of nine, among other places, has traveled to Southeast Asia and South Africa, and most recently to Australia in December.

Throughout this journey of life, I have always loved being on the water. From the moment I saw a 3x5 card on the bulletin board at Harbor General advertising a 12-foot sailboat for sale, my family has sailed and cruised. After 40 years of sailing on various boats, I am now enjoying life with Jeff on a 50-foot trawler in the Pacific Northwest from May-September, cruising Puget Sound, the San Juan Islands, the Gulf Islands, and the Inside Passage to Alaska. Sheer joy! At home in Long Beach, we are active in our church and community, and enjoy caring for a large vegetable garden we lease from the city.

I love retirement and am grateful to Los Angeles County for the experiences it gave me to shape the life we are blessed to live.

Inside LA County



by Judy Hammond Newsletter Editor

One member of the "Fab Five" Board of Supervisors has retired, but the all-female board remains intact with the election of Lindsey Horvath. Horvath, the eighth woman to be elected as a supervisor (there have been 158 male supervisors), is at age 40 the youngest female ever elected to the Board (she also notes she is the first millennial and the only renter). For 127 years the

Board was run by five men (often referred to as the five little kings). Yvonne Brathwaite Burke broke the barrier in 1979, becoming the first female member. Gloria Molina followed in 1991. Then Sheila Kuehl and Hilda Solis in 2014, Janice Hahn and Kathryn Barger in 2016, and Holly Mitchell in 2020.

Kuehl's last day in office was Dec. 5. At age 81, she was ready to retire. "I've been working for 73 years. I think I've had enough of work life," the former actress said. She says she wants to play guitar again, write poetry, visit old friends in Northern California and relatives in St. Louis, and travel to places she's never been. Already on her trip calendar is Scandinavia next August.

The Departments of Mental Health and Public Works are studying the feasibility of adding a psychiatric urgent care center to the hospital campus at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center in Downey.

The attorney for a 22-year-old driver who injured a group of recruits on a training run in South Whittier said the crash was not intentional as claimed by then-Sheriff Alex Villanueva, but "a tragic accident" that occurred when the man fell asleep at the wheel on his way to work.

Voters overwhelming approved a County charter amendment that will allow the Board of Supervisors by a four-fifths vote to remove a sheriff from office for cause, including violation of law related to a sheriff's duties, flagrant or repeated neglect of duties, misappropriation of funds, willful falsification of documents, or obstructing an investigation.

The Board of Supervisors has granted a gratis lease to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to develop a passive park at the former Mission Canyon Landfill that will include walking trails, fitness trail stairs, open space, picnic tables and seating areas.

The Department of Public Health partnered with Crypto.com Arena, the Lakers, the Clippers, and the Kings to provide in-arena vaccinations for the updated COVID-19 booster and flu vaccine prior to games.

Supervisors voted unanimously to create a new Office of Environmental Justice and Climate Health within the Department of Public Health to address the impacts of industrial pollution and climate change on communities in the county.

The County is expanding public access to the Virginia Robinson Gardens, though still restricting to no more than 140 visitors daily and no weddings.

Supervisors have directed departments to add gender equity as a goal for staff on the Management Appraisal and Performance Plan (MAPP).

Faced with being unable to find enough real estate appraisers to fill the hundreds of positions in his office, Assessor Jeff Prang developed a program with two local community colleges to provide the specialized training that is required. About 60 students were trained his year.

Also experiencing staff shortages, the Department of Mental Health is expanding its in-house student trainee program, hoping to recruit the students when they graduate. The department has a 28 percent vacancy rate, attributed in part to the increase in demand for mental health professionals across the nation.

The Board of Supervisors is exploring the cost of having County employees operate the 2-1-1 information service, saying bringing outsourced contracts in-house increases operational control, improves motivation and promotes knowledge sharing internally.

Long talked about, but finally a reality. An urgent care and primary care center opened in the El Monte Comprehensive Health Center in El Monte, eliminating the need for patients to go to LAC+USC Medical Center in Boyle Heights for urgent care. "This is equity," said Supervisor Hilda L. Solis.

A new policy adopted by the Board of Supervisors requires future County

buildings – whether constructed, leased or renovated – to have single user, all-gender restrooms.

Housing for Health, a division of the Department of Health Services, has launched a fleet of medical field units to make daily stops at homeless encampments throughout the county to address urgent health and social needs. It also opened a 24/7 triage center and walk-in housing facility for the homeless in the West Athens neighborhood of Los Angeles.

The County Department of Animal Care and Control served a search warrant at an animal rescue facility in Littlerock, confiscating 195 cats and 43 dogs, including six dead animals, after finding inhumane living conditions and medical care being provided without a veterinary license.

The new Greater Whittier Regional Aquatic Center, operated by the Parks and Recreation Department six days a week year-round, has opened on what was formerly a parking lot for Pioneer High School in the West Whittier-Los Nietos area. Supervisor Janice Hahn provided \$26 million from her office account for the project.

The County paid \$32 million to settle a lawsuit filed by the siblings and father of Anthony Avalos, a 10-year-old boy who prosecutors say died of abuse and torture in 2018 at the hands of his mother and her boyfriend despite repeated warnings to social workers.

County libraries are being stocked with naloxone to reverse opioid overdoses, with staff volunteers trained to identify overdose and safety administer the naloxone.

The Fire Department's canine search team spent nine days in central Florida to assist FEMA with search and rescue efforts following Hurricane Ian.

The County is buying the West L.A. Courthouse for \$32.2 million to build 926 housing units, 431 of which will be for low income and formerly homeless families and individuals.

The Board of Supervisors voted to begin its meetings with a verbal and visual "land acknowledgment" and wants County departments and agencies to also implement the language, which recognizes that "we occupy land originally and still inhabited and cared for by the Tongva, Tataviam, Serrano, Kizh, and Chumash Peoples" and acknowledges "settler colonization resulted in land seizure, disease, subjugation, slavery, relocation, broken promises, genocide and multigenerational trauma."

The County Museum of Art is close to meeting its fundraising goal for the new Peter Zumthor-designed building now under construction, bringing in \$700 million of the \$750 million goal. The museum's recent Art + Film Gala was its most successful event, raising more than \$5.1 million and attended by numerous celebrities, including Billie Eilish, Idris Elba, Adrien Brody, Sean Penn, Olivia Wilde, Jared Leto, Kim Kardashian, Salma Hayek and Paris Hilton, with Elton John performing. The building is 50 percent complete. We asked five RELAC members to tell us how they met their spouses.





Ginger Irvine Barnard

(Ginger Barnard began her 41-year County career in 1964 as a social worker in the Department of Public Social Services, where she worked until 1974. She transferred to the legislative section of the Chief Administrative Office and later became deputy chief of protocol, serving 22 years in that position before retiring in 2005.)

In the summer of 1967, a co-worker in the West L.A. Department of Public Social Services office invited me to a Sunday afternoon gathering of her single friends. I had only lived in West L.A. for two weeks and knew no one except my social work colleagues, so welcomed the invitation.

When I arrived, John was in the midst of a heated political conversation -- what lawyer doesn't like a robust debate? At almost 6'5", he towered over everyone and caught my eye. I joined the debate group as a listener. Next thing I know, he had his arm around me. We had yet to be introduced.

At the end of the party, he walked me to my car, asked for my phone number, and so it began. We dated intermittently for two years and became a couple in 1970. The wedding was Sept.19, 1970. We just celebrated our 52nd wedding anniversary. We are looking forward to our 53rd Valentine's Day in 2023. Love perseveres and John remains my best friend.

Leigh Nielsen

(Leigh Nielsen worked for four departments during her 40+ years with the County: Probation, Road, Mechanical, and Health Services. Hired as a typist-clerk right out of high school in 1963, she went on to become a nurse recruiter and a contract and program administrator, ending her County career in 2003 as a staff analyst in the Office of Alcohol and Drug Programs.)

I first met my future husband in Pasadena, California in 1981. I was single and looking for a ski club that I could join as they could provide ski trips to Mammoth, Wyoming, Colorado, etc. as a group. I also joined the club's weekly tennis matches whenever I could; and the dinners at a local Mexican restaurant in Arcadia afterwards were always fun.

In 1983 I attended a ski club annual charity auction to raise money for the handicapped skiers' program at Chaffey College. One of the members brought five kittens that had been "orphaned" and the auctioneer said that the first five hands that went up got one. My hand went up unexpectedly and I took home "Annie."

In July of 1995, I got a call from one of our members, Bruce Harris, asking me out on a date. I was surprised. I knew he had separated from his wife; however, he had never asked me out in all the years I had known him before then. I also knew that Bruce was highly allergic to cats, so the first words out of my mouth were, "I still have Annie." He knew, he said, but would start weekly injections for his condition if I was willing to give Annie weekly baths and buy a portable air purifier that we could carry from room to room. So for five years, we dated -- he living at his place and me living at my place. Annie died in November of 1999. And five years to the day of our first date, in July of 2000, we were married.

Sadly, I lost my husband to complications from COVID on Nov. 27, 2020. But I was so lucky to have him as long as I did.





Dean Smith

Don Knabe

(Don Knabe was a County employee for 34 years. He served as chief deputy to Supervisor Deane Dana for 14 years before being elected to the Board of Supervisors in 1996, retiring in 2016.)

Julie and I met in 1967 at the Century Bowl in Lynwood. We both worked for Western Gear (WG) in Lynwood and were in a bowling league. I was waiting to report to active duty in the Navy. She was attending Long Beach City College and working as a mail girl for WG. My dad was an executive with WG and Julie kept messing up, sending me his mail. One night we were bowling against each other and she was telling her teammates that she needed a date to go to a wedding at Fort MacArthur for her best friend's brother. I said, "I'll take you" and, as they say, the rest is history. I went on active duty, stationed at Naval Air Station Alameda, and we got married on March 2, 1968. This year we will be celebrating 55 years of marriage. After I got out of the service, we moved back to Southern California. We lived in Long Beach for a short time and then moved to Cerritos in 1971. If you can believe this, we had to move out of our apartment in Long Beach because they didn't allow children. That was before the Unruh Act became effective. It was the best thing that ever happened to us because it forced us to move and also to buy our first home with my VA benefits. Cerritos was in its beginning stages and we got very involved in city activities and also through our children and church. I got involved with some political campaigns for City Council and other campaigns, never thinking I would run for office. I was elected to the Cerritos City Council in 1980 and went to work for Supervisor Deane Dana in 1982. I was mayor during the Cerritos air crash, which was a life-changing experience for our city and our family! When Deane decided to retire in 1996, I decided to run for supervisor...more of "the rest is history." We have been blessed with two very successful sons and two wonderful daughters-inlaw. They are incredible parents and blessed us with four amazing grandchildren -- three girls and a boy -- who are the apples of our eyes. We have had a blessed life of 55 years together. We continue to keep busy, travel, enjoy our grandchildren and do the things we couldn't do in 35 years of a political life. God has truly blessed our family!

(Dean Smith was a principal analyst in the Chief Administrative Office when he retired in 2004 after 34 years with the County. He began his career as a management trainee in the CAO in 1970, and worked for four other departments: Registrar-Recorder, Parks and Recreation, Beaches, and Beaches and Harbors.)

I met Charlane in the 12th grade at Washington High School as we were both working on our senior yearbook. She was way out of my league, but I got up the nerve to ask her out the day before graduation. We went to Hollywood to see "It's A Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World." At the graduation ceremony, I got an unofficial diploma that had a silver star, and it said I was number 86, out of 750, with a 3.06 GPA. Thinking I was pretty much of a screwup, I now felt like hot stuff. I showed it to Charlane, and she acted impressed, but would not let me see hers. When I finally wrestled it away from her, I saw that she was number six in the class, with a 3.96 GPA! How lucky could I be? She was really cute and super smart!

We dated that summer, fell deeply in love, and started talking about getting married. In the fall, I went to a small university in Oregon, planning to be an optometrist, and she went to El Camino Junior College. We wrote a letter to each other every day (we still have them in boxes in the garage) and talked on the phone (long distance) twice a week. Missing her too much and thinking I could not *Continued on p.12*



Sandra Reuben

(Sandra Reuben retired in 2000 after 35 years working for the County Public Library, the last 11 as county librarian. She began her career there in 1965 as a children's librarian.)

Ken Marks and I met on a Big Blue Bus. We were both commuting to work via public transit during a gas shortage. We both exited the bus in downtown L.A. at the Hall of Records. Ken, a deputy district attorney, turned and walked to the Criminal Courts Building. I entered the Hall of Records and rode the elevator to the ninth floor to the administrative office of the County Public Library. Then I began getting a flurry of phone calls from Ken. We started dating. Busy with careers, we "dated" for 17 years. Finally married in 1996 and are still living happily in our home in Thousand Oaks.

Dean Smith continued from p11

make it through optometry school, I transferred to the University of California, Riverside for my sophomore year, so I could come home on weekends to see Charlane. In the fall of my junior year, I took her to see "The Russians Are Coming, The Russians Are Coming" at a theater in Beverly Hills. After the movie, I found a quiet residential street to park on and proposed to her, saying that she could boast about being engaged to a man in Beverly Hills. She did not give me an answer, but asked, "Poor baby, what are you going to tell your mother?" My mother did overreact, saying that I would flunk out of school, Charlane would get pregnant, and our lives would be ruined, but we proved her wrong. We were married in June 1967 at the age of 20. We moved to Riverside and Charlane worked to support us through my senior year and two years of grad school, where I had a 3.8 GPA, earning a master of arts degree. Also, we did not have our first child until we were 28.

After I finished grad school in 1970, I got my job as a management trainee in the Chief Administrative Office, which led to a fast progression of challenging positions and promotions. My 34-year County career provided me with the rewards of a proud public servant and the financial security (especially "Plan A") not found in many professions. We bought a house in 1972 in Westchester for the "crazy" price of \$31,500. We raised our two children there, and still live there, with no plans to ever leave. Our son and daughter have very successful careers, their own homes, and they have given us three beautiful and bright grandchildren to love. So, our love story lives on and will carry us to the end. My definition of "true love" is finding a person you want to spend the rest of your life with, and I have been the lucky one to have found it.

Celebrating 52 Years of Marriage



RELAC members Barbara and Richard Marciniak celebrated their 52nd wedding anniversary at Mastro's Crystal Cove Restaurant in Newport Beach. The two, who met in 1969 when they worked at the LA.

County General Hospital (now known as LAC+USC Medical Center), got married Dec 5, 1970 and both retired in 2002. They have three daughters, each with three children. The nine grandchildren are aged 4-18.

He Will Always Remember This Birthday

by Dean Smith, 2004 Retiree, Chief Administrative Office

I have been away from e-mail and a computer since last Wednesday (Oct. 26) as I had an accident on my Thursday morning bike ride. I woke up in the hallway of the UCLA Trauma Center around 3:30 p.m., spent the night there, as well as my 76th birthday on Friday, and finally got released around 7 p.m. I have no memory of the crash, so it was a bad concussion, with two fractured ribs near my left shoulder, and a fractured collarbone on my left side, plus scrapes, and bruises, etc. Since this is my fourth crash resulting in concussions, and second with broken bones, my wife says it is time to find a safer way to burn calories. This is the second time she has given me this ultimatum, and it may be the last, as my next crash could be my last.



So, my left arm is in a sling, and typing is tiring. I am not looking for sympathy, but a cautionary tale for retired men, who still think they are 18, might be good.

Smith is shown on his "everyday bike," the 1993 Paramount that he crashed, which he has ridden over 150,000 miles. He took a beating, but the bike came through without a scratch. The photo was taken in 2019 at the start of a ride celebrating the 50th anniversary of his bike club.

Hastings continued from p.8



duty stations, often on a ship around the world! We had many long periods apart as I continued my County work, but we had a wonderful life together -- dancing, shopping (my favorite pastime), going to movies, and traveling. After retirement, we took violin, banjo, and keyboard lessons. We loved bluegrass music and traveled many times to Nashville, Tennessee; Kentucky, and other southern states. I also traveled abroad a number of times. Sadly, Bob was diagnosed with leukemia just before COVID and spent many

days in the hospital alone, succumbing to the disease in 2020. I always say, "Only the good die young." I miss him greatly and the loss of him has changed my life.

I currently reside at Sunrise Senior Living in Rancho Cucamonga, California with my two cats, Sarah and Pumpkin. I am frequently visited by my kids, grandchildren, and friends, including those I worked with in EMS. I am most proud of establishing a world class trauma system for the County and consider myself to be very lucky to have happened on a job where hard work and perseverance pays off!

Retirement continued from p.2

give us improved benefits. Part D refers to the prescription drug benefits, and as LACERA members we are automatically enrolled in Part D as we have better benefits in our retiree plan than what Medicare provides.

More good news for Medicare members is that for 2023 the amount of the Part B premiums at the entry level actually went down from \$170.10 to \$164.90. This is good news, and if you are making \$97,000 or less for your total modified adjusted gross income (MAGI), you can get all of that reimbursed by the County if you are enrolled in one of the Medicare supplemental or Medicare Advantage Plans offered by LACERA. If your MAGI is more than \$97,000, your portion of the Part B premium can be as much as \$560.50 per month. If you want to find out where you fall with respect to your Part B premiums, check out the chart on the LACERA website. It's important to note that your MAGI includes all income, not just the amount that you get from your LACERA pension check each month, so if you take money from another source, such as a 457 or 401(k), that all adds into your total income.



A Stomping Good Time

RELAC member Areta Crowell, retired director of the Department of Mental Health, and her husband, Russ, have resumed their globe-trotting. On a recent "great" trip to Portugal: "We spent a morning picking the grapes -- we filled a couple of barrels -- then came stomping the grapes -- barefoot in a huge vat!"











Ladd

DEPARTURES:

Dr. Jonathan Lucas, chief medical examiner-coroner for past five years, resigned to return to his previous position as chief deputy medical examiner in San Diego County.

RETIREMENTS:

Nyla Jefferson, senior Board specialist in the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors. Donna Seitz, who worked in the County's Sacramento office, with 48+ years. Eileen Fitzgerald, Chief Executive Office executive secretary, with 27+ years. **APPOINTMENTS:**

Dr. Odey Ukpo, 42, named interim chief medical examiner-coroner, the first black to serve in that position since the office was established in 1850. He joined the department in 2014 as a senior deputy medical examiner and became medical director in June 2022. Songhai Armstead, who has served as executive director of the County's Alternatives to Incarceration Initiative since September 2020, selected as interim director of the new Justice, Care and Opportunities Department at an annual salary of \$296,681. Mark Ladd, assistant superintendent of the Hollywood Bowl since 1994, appointed superintendent by the County Department of Parks and Recreation, only the third person to hold the position. Supervisor Janice Hahn is the new chair of the Board of Supervisors; newly elected Lindsey Horvath is chair pro tem (meaning she will automatically become chair in 2024). Newly elected Sheriff Robert Luna selected April Tardy as his interim undersheriff and Jason Skeen as interim chief of staff. Tardy, a 28-year department veteran, is the first female undersheriff in department's 172-year history. Skeen, who also has been with the department since 1994, was head of personnel command. **DEATHS:**

David Lacey, 68, retired district attorney investigative auditor and husband of former District Attorney Jackie Lacey, from pancreatic cancer. Former Sheriff's Commander Raymond "Ray" Leyva, with 38 years in the department before retiring in 2019, who returned to briefly serve as undersheriff to Sheriff Alex Villanueva and then as interim head of the Probation Department, while reportedly coping with a serious illness the past two years. Blanca Estela Torres, a deputy public defender since 2004, who died unexpectedly Sept. 24. Darlene Bonds, 78, who was assistant registrar-recorder/county clerk over election office operations when she retired after 44 years of service. Christopher Elam, 87, the youngest person to make the rank of captain in the Fire Department, retiring after getting injured on a rescue operation. **Curt Livesav**, 82, who served as chief deputy to both District Attorney John Van de Kamp and Steve Cooley, serving longer in that position than anyone else in the history of the department. Former Sheriff's Commander Ramon Sanchez, 82, who had 30 years of service when he retired in 1997. Raymond F. Holt, 96, who was chief of the Detective Headquarters when he retired from the Sheriff's Department in 1976 after 24 years of service. Judith Elaine Zeidler, 92, founding member of Los Angeles County Art Museum and generous supporter of Music Center and Hollywood Bowl, where she and her husband, Marvin, picnicked in their box seats every Thursday night each summer for 30 years. Roz Wyman, long-time member of the County Arts Commission, appointed by both Supervisors Zev Yaroslavsky and Sheila Kuehl, and after whom the Grand Park fountain was renamed. Andre Nicholas Chico, 46, son of retired long-time Internal Services Department employee Nick Chico and brother of Herlinda Chico, deputy to Supervisor Janice Hahn, who died Oct. 24, leaving five children. Thirty-year County employee Michael Castillo, who spent the last 22 years in the Chief Executive Office and was one of the inaugural members of the CEO Homeless Initiative; the Board of Supervisors recently dedicated Room 493 in the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration in his honor. Jason Marcus, a deputy public defender since 1995, who passed away unexpectedly. Edward Young, 85, a probation officer for 42 years, who passed five months after the death of Jacquie, his wife of 63 years. Jacquette Storm Theis, 100, who served in leadership roles at the L.A. County Museum of Art. Gary Sysock, deputy executive officer in Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors, handling technology issues, who retired in 2011 with more than 23 years of County service, including six in the Probation Department. Tom Banks, who headed the special services section of the Internal Services Department, assisting the Board of Supervisors and departments with ceremonies and special events. Former Superior Court Judge Judy Chirlin, who retired in 2009 after 24 years of service, from a brain bleed following a stroke. Ellie Wolfe, who served 25 years with the Aging and Disabilities; Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services; and Community and Senior Services departments.

ELECTIONS:

West Hollywood Councilwoman Lindsey Horvath defeated state Sen. Bob Hertzberg with about 53 percent of the vote to succeed Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, who retired. Former Long Beach Police Chief Bob Luna is the new sheriff, getting approximately 21 percent more of the votes than incumbent Alex Villanueva. Katy Young Yaroslavsky, who has served as Supervisor Sheila Kuehl's senior policy director for the environment and arts during Kuehl's eight-year term – and daughterin-law of former Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky – was elected to the L.A. City Council.

HONORS:

Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk information security officer Daniel Temisanren awarded the prestigious Top Global CISO for 2022 at the Cyber Defense Con 2022 and the California Information Security Leadership Award at the California Cybersecurity Education Summit.

COURTS:

Sheriff's Deputy Remin Pineda, 38, charged with one felony count each of assault with a semiautomatic firearm and assault under color of authority in the shooting of a man on the ground outside his East Los Angeles home last year. He is accused of continuing to fire his gun after the man had dropped his knife and laid with his back facing deputies. Former sheriff's deputies Doral Riggs, Reynold Verdugo, Frank Merriman and Michael O'Hara, and L.A. police officer Marcella Winn (all now retired) are being sued by two men who were wrongfully convicted for a fatal drive-by shooting in Hawthorne in 1997 and spent more than 23 years in prison. John Klene, 44, and Eduardo Dumbrique, 41, who were exonerated last year by the District Attorney's Office after nearly a decade of investigation by a nonprofit group that worked on a pro bono basis, are claiming the five law enforcement officers framed them for murder. Sheriff's Deputy Hiraudi Lopez-Romero, 30, will be arraigned Jan. 31 after being charged with a felony count of assault under color of authority, accused of unlawfully using a Taser stun gun on a man detained for shoplifting in Compton two years ago. She is accused of stopping and exiting her patrol car, then using a Taser on the handcuffed man in the back seat after he shattered one of the windows with his feet.







Elam



Jeffesron



Lucas



Tardy



Ukpo

Leyva Described as Courageous, Really Good Guy by Judy Hammond, Newsletter Editor

Ray Leyva, 68, former interim chief probation officer and long-time member of the Sheriff's Department, including

serving a brief stint as undersheriff, died Oct. 12 after a two-year battle with a brain tumor.

"His strength and determination while battling his health condition was nothing short of courageous," said Supervisor Kathryn Barger when introducing a motion at the Oct. 18th Board of Supervisors meeting to adjourn in his honor.

Leyva began his law enforcement career in 1975 as a reserve officer with the Los Angeles Police Department, joining the Burbank Police Department the following year. He was hired by the Sheriff's Department in 1981 as a deputy sheriff. He was promoted to commander in 2016 and retired later that year due to back and wrist issues.

When Alex Villanueva was elected sheriff in 2018, Leyva was hired as undersheriff on a 120-day contract to help with the organization of the department and spent 3 ½ months in that position. In January 2020 the Board of Supervisors appointed him as interim chief probation officer for a year while searching for a permanent replacement for Terri McDonald.

Leyva made an unsuccessful bid for sheriff in 2006. RELAC Board Director J.P. Harris, a Sheriff's Department retiree, said Leyva "would have made a good sheriff. He was a really good man." Board Director Les Robbins, also a Sheriff's Department retiree, agreed. "I worked with Ray. He was a really good guy."

Leyva served as national president of the Hispanic American Police Command Officers Association and president of the Los Angeles County Chicano Employees Association. He joined RELAC after retiring.

He is survived by his wife, Wendy; daughter, Desiree; son, Matthew; and two granddaughters.



Curt Livesay was Longest-Serving Chief Deputy District Attorney

A celebration of the life of long-time prosecutor Curt Livesay, who served under six district attorneys and as second-in-command for two, was held in Glendale on Dec. 1.

Livesay, 82, who was the longest-serving chief deputy in the District Attorney's Office, died Oct. 19 in Florida after being in a hospice for several weeks.

Former District Attorneys Steve Cooley and Jackie Lacey were among the organizers of the local event.

"Curt Livesay was one of the finest human beings ever to serve in the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office," said Cooley. "He was both John Van de Kamp's and my chief deputy. Curt's always calm demeanor and thoughtful counsel were major contributing factors to whatever success John and I achieved during our terms in office."

Lacey became district attorney after Livesay left the office, but worked with him. "I truly loved the man. He was so wise and kind."

Livesay joined the District Attorney's Office in 1965 as a deputy district attorney, working his way up the ranks before becoming chief deputy to Van de Kamp in 1979. When Van de Kamp was elected state attorney general in 1983, successor Ira Reiner selected Livesay to serve as the assistant district attorney, the No. 3 position in the office.

In 1990, while serving under Reiner, Livesay was featured in California Lawyer Magazine as one of the state's most effective prosecutors.

Livesay left the D.A.'s Office in 1991 to enter private practice as a criminal defense attorney, but returned in 2001 to serve five years as Cooley's chief deputy. In 2009 he became chief deputy to newly elected Los Angeles City Attorney Carmen Trutanich.

"Curt Livesay was a man of integrity and great intellect. He retained his folksy charm while leading with honesty, decisiveness and compassion. He was respected by DDAs and the defense bar for his understanding of the law and his adherence to fundamental fairness for both victims and defendants," said Michele Hanisee, president of the Association of Deputy District Attorneys. "Curt Livesay assisted with hiring of DDAs. He was not interested in their political ideologies. He was interested in whether the future LADA deputies were ethical, analytical, intellectual, and teachable."

An Oklahoma Choctaw, Livesay was devoted to serving the Native American community. He was a member of the board of directors of the California Indian Legal Services and served as its representative for the California State Bar. He was a 40-year member of the board of United American Indian, Inc., a non-profit corporation in Los Angeles that provides comprehensive medical and social support and operates its own accredited high school. Livesay developed a great love of Europe through his travels with his first wife, Bika, with whom he had two children, Elle and Anthony. After Bika's death in the 1990s, he married Barbara "Sunny" Reeves and they travelled to France several months a year as she led art-oriented tours for painting groups and private tours. For the past 23 years, they resided at his childhood home, Lone Star Ranch, in Oklahoma.



Evelyn Gutierrez (seated) with a Los Amigos of East Los Angeles Library volunteer and librarian Xuemin Zhong, joining with other Library Champions to celebrate Dia de Los Muertos.

Gutierrez continued from p.4

learned that Evelyn was also very generous. When she and other RELAC directors designated me a fundraiser in the March of Dimes campaign, I worked hard to raise money. But one morning, when I checked the team stats online, someone at another County department was within \$50 or so of my fundraising total. I sent a quick note of despair to my teammates, and sure enough within the hour I was back ahead by a large margin. A single donation put me there – Evelyn's donation. After she made the donation, she texted me: "No one is taking you down! Evelyn."

RELAC was just one of many County-affiliated organizations that Evelyn served. Others included the Quality and Productivity Commission, the LA County Library Foundation, and Los Amigos of the East LA Library. In serving these commissions and causes, Evelyn didn't just show up. She was a champion of each one, always supportive, always involved, and always caring. "Whether to the nation or to the state, no service can be or ever will be rendered by a more able or a more faithful public servant." Those words were penned by this nation's sixth president, John Quincy Adams, about someone in his cabinet. I would propose to you, however, that those words describe Evelyn Gutierrez, the able and faithful public servant who I knew. In all that she did for this County family, Evelyn's actions inspired others to dream more, to learn more, to do more and to become more.

I am so very blessed to have known Evelyn and to have worked with her. I thank her for all that she did for all of us. May she rest in peace.

IN MEMORIAM

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

Aids Program - Thomas L. Alexander

Alcohol/Drug Pgms. Admin. - Bob Ethridge, Jerry Gottlieb, Henry Olilang, Gloria E. Williams

Ambulatory Care - Daljit S. Arora, Sharon A. Cage, Audrey M. Halcromb, Petra G. Jimenez

Assessor - Pablito L. Aguilon, Jovina Bahiense, Harvey Janis, Patricia L. Macias, Vickie B. Payan, Albert Rodriguez, Ray C. Trebbien

Auditor-Controller - William Eng, Sherry A. Hadnot, Dollie I. Ketchens, Avril J. Wilkerson Beaches & Harbors - Ikbal Fahmy, Rosa S. Holcombe, Manuel M. Holguin, Constance Staten

Board of Supervisors - Gary J. Sysock

California Children's Services - Cecilia Colantonio, Rachel Ramirez, Renee Sweeney Chief Executive Office - Michael D. Castillo, Evelyn M. Gutierrez

Child Support Services - John F. Barger, Kathleen Dominguez, Evelyn K. Hera, Bette J. Nash, Iris Wainer

Children & Family Services - Maria D. Alvarez, Sylena M. Carter, Richard G. Castro Jr., Mary Jo Cysewski, Alma O. Delgado, Angela R. Graves, Jimmy Joe Jiminez, Alice Johnson, Constance C. Lewis, Ann W. Maughan, Althea E. Miller, Vicki Moore, Genoveva Nieto, Benjamin Paniagua, Rosie L. Pugh, Verna N. Schmidt, Silvia Tamayo, Cecelia Williamson, Lorna Wilson, Rosemary Woods

Correctional Health - Wilbur Williams Jr.

County Counsel - Roy J. Daniel, Barbara Mac Nair, Daniel D. Mikesell Jr., Lawrence E. Palmer, Gladys Proctor

District Attorney - Joseph D. Civitate, Edward Lee Cogan, Thelma Ford, Yolanda Yvonne Fuller, Curt Livesay, Hattie B. Nelson, John F. Urgo, Judith K. Velasquez

Engineer Facilities- Thomas Green, Armando C. Guizado, Murry P. Sprunger, Joseph S. Cosnev

Fire - John M. Ambrogio, Hector R. Apodaca, Victor E. Caldwell, Joseph Ferrara, Arthur John Gomez, William D. Hall, Ronald C. Hansen, Clifford Hartman, Gregory Hill, Harold Hofmeister, David D. Lagree, John Mabritto, Donald McClain, Jose M. Ochoa, John R. Sanford, David C. Sias, Douglas R. Sutherland, Arn R. Tretsven, Thomas J. Viren

Flood Control District - Norman D. Peterson

Harbor/UCLA Medical Center - Janice Dickerson, Albert Espinoza Jr., Rachel G. Fierro, Addie Franciscous, Manny Funtanilla, Teresita L. Galan, Alice M. Guy, Linda C. Hicks-Neal, Lagi Hunkin, Margaret J. Lynch, Maria E. Pedraza, Edith Z. Reinhardt, Annie M. Robinson, James S. Seidel, Dalinda Silva, Sandra K. Taylor, Nancy K. Thoben, John C. Tu'upo, Erlinda Untalan, Myles G. Westbrooks

Health Plan Administration - Gordon I. Jensen

Health Services - Bertha K. Robinson

Health Services Administration - Angelica Carroll, Gladys M. Conner, Walter Copeland, Charlavonna James, Beverly K. Kozlow, Faith Rodriguez, Ada Willoughby

Internal Services - George Y. Asato, Thomas R. Banks, Brad L. Brown, Manuel Torres Contreras, Rodolfo Correa, Michael H. Eades, Ronald H. Franzen, Jerry Gilchrist, Robert J. Graham, Tu Voung Lim, Maria A. Lopez, Glendolyn Mitchell, Charles E. Mixon, Noemi Alviar Molina, Heung S. Park, Gregory R. Schumaker, Annette E. Taylor, Bobbye L. Williams Juvenile Court Health Services - Thelma Carter, Charlene D. Rienstra

King-Drew Medical Center - Natividad C. Abrajano, Janet M. Daniels, Jafar S. Daryabagi, Estella L. Davis, Thomas C. Davis, Claudia L. Gay, Evon M. Graham, Willett Greer, Helen R. Jordan, Earl J. Mallet, Maria C. Palacios, Evelyn Portis, Marvin Ann Reed, Stephen Van Zuilen, Bill Weasel Jr

LAC+USC Medical Center - Norma A. Abapo, Primo Casero Acosta, Bobby Asberry, Delores W. Ball, Wilfredo Basallaje, Sarah Burnett, Pete G. Campa, Gladystine Conway, Jeoffrey H. Deeths, Frances E. Dickson, Joe Dolittle, Concepcion Gallardo, Lillie M. Gayles, Michael Glovsky, Ronald Gongora, Deborah Richardson Green, Corinne J. Griffin, John W. Haworth, Brenda Haynes, Thelma L. Henry, Deloise Hoof, Rose E. Hunter Len Ingram, Luz A. Isidro, Leora Jackson, Deiatra Jones, Jeanette Jones, Marian M. Jones, Anthony Keyser, Verneeda Lewis, Emilio Lopez, Shindo Matsuda, James D. Maxey, Pamela J. Oliva, Callie L. Penick, Elinor L. Reeder, Bertha L. Richmond, Rose Rodman, Annette Seltzer, Arnie C. Vince Cruz, Alice Marie Whitfield, Felipa B. Wood, Susana E. Wyatt, Arthur Lee Wynn Jr. LACERA - Philip O. Bradley

Mechanical - Samuel Schultz

Medical Examiner-Coroner - Stella M. Clifton, William G. Grice

Mental Health - Russell P. Cole, Ines Gerson, Ella Glickman, Gary T. Gougis, Wanda C. Hammons, John M. Herrera, Leslie V. Lamarr, Omega G. Lane, Charles Lewis, Carol Palumbo, Katherine Raymundo, Jed E. Schipper, Julia Socorro Sosa

Museum of Natural History - Jane Herwegh-Hellwitz, Richard W. Meier

Olive View/UCLA Medical Center - John W. Barnes, Dalila B. Corry, Inge K. Hunter, R.

M. Lewie, Dilma M. Lopez, Dorothy M. Marbury, Shri K. Mishra, Lamont Pettway, Ernesto Perez, Maria Solorzano, Beverly J. Storey, Joan H. Walker, Edward Waters

Parks and Recreation - Robert Armas, Esther Gonzalez, Debra L. Herzer, Edward Holmes, Maurice Hunter

Probation - Rosemarie Angel, Ann S. Bergman, Robert L. Brown, John L. Chillington, Jacqueline Cochran, Lowell B. Day, Melvin C. Duncantel, Paul S. Feuer, Virginia Foster Gagnon, Louis S. Gaines, Richard D. Griffith, Lois V. Guest, Marshall Heads, Lorraine E. Ingram, Robert E. Jeffress, Muriel R. Jenkins, D'artagnan Narvaez, Ralph Raphelson, Debra L. Robinson, Betty J. Taylor, Robert L. Turner, Sherrie D. Turpin, Bobbie J. Williams, Nancy J. Williams, Dartania L. Williams

Public Defender - Ralph A. Courtney III, Jason H. Marcus, Blanca E. Torres, Penelope Watson

Public Health Program - Erica Balsam, Yvonne W. Beatty, Martha Chapin, Frances E. Garner, Martha Harris Landreth, Doris J. Palazzo-Lubin, Cheryl L. Proulx, Lawrence D. Roberts, Ofelia A. Ruiz, Teresa Thompson

Public Library - James D. Allen, David A. Camp, Lari J. Duette, Olga M. Garcia, Donald P. Gould, William R. Kinman, Elsie A. Kurashige, Catherine Mac Diarmid, Krista L. Roberts, Stanley R. Stephens, Jamie Tang

Public Social Services - Jeannette M. Acosta, Gwendolyn Alexander, Ileana M. Alvarez, James Ashikawa, Leo Barber Jr., Deborah Barmore, Paulette J. Baucham-Reed, Sol Bilgrei, Evelyn Birch, Lillian D. Black, Clyde E. Broom, Audrey June Burge, Pearlean Burrell, Althea M. Chen, Carol J. Coleman, Barbara A. Colores, Rebecca A. Contreras, Estela L. Cuesta, Bertha M. Dantzler, Susan H. Ellman, Donna M. Ellzey, Maria L. Espinoza, Linda M. Evans, Thomas M. Flores, John A. Foster, Susana M. Galvez, Roza Gharibian, Valarie C. Glover, Paul L. Hawkins, Gloria L. Hayes, Idris E. Hill, Betty J. Jackson, Irma Jean Jenkins, Andranik S. Khachian, Varouj Khachian, Sohang Kim, Laura L. Kislow, Jungkyu Lee, Esther N. Martinez, Art Medina, Lorraine H. Mendoza, Mauricio Moran, Joyce Murrell, Robert Murrieta, Hiep T. Nguyen, Edna O'Keith, Hazel Ortega, Horquidia C. Perez, Raul Perez, John Carlo Piraino, Irving Rasnick, Francesca Bianca Rhodes, Harland R. Richards, Virginia G. Rodriguez, Cecilia Y. Russell, Willie E. Saulters, Odessa Shaw, Tracey Spencer, Ruby R. Stuart, Frida Tanudjaja, Charlotte Z. Thompkins, Joanne Elizabeth Tobola, Evangelina Vazquez, Joseph M. Villanueva, Floydia M. Washington, Gayle White, Marguerite E. Wilford, Alice Wilson, Gloria Glover Woods,

Public Works - Joseph L. Baker, Debra A. Capers, Ruben A. Chavira, Mike Gar, Richard H. Gilfoy, Alberto Jeovanni Gutierrez, Bernard A. Heim, Marilyn Jeanette Langlois, Hipolito Lucero, Robert J. Nugent, Teresa Pao, Thomas V. Schriber, Otis Smith, Arturo Villafana, Richard V. Wilson

Rancho Los Amigos Hospital - Gloria J. Bartlow, Paul V. Blake, Emily Browning, Ruth C. Brunings, Kum C. Cho, Alfredo G. Gonzalez, Ted E. Hokom, Carolyn Moore, Ophelia Phillips, Enid Rasmussen, Rosa Reed, Harry E. Rice, Lavera Samuels, Clark E. Watson, Jean S. Yamada Reg.-Recorder/County Clerk - Darlene M. Bonds, Elaine Crowell, Jennie S. Melendrez, Marlene Scott

Regional Planning - Mark P. Child

Sheriff - Virginia C. Alvarez, Larry M. Boyce, John S. Brennan, Armando S. Cano, Gustav R. Carlton, Robert P. Christansen, Gail Colon, Lewis R. Cornelius, Frank G. Decker, Dennis R. Deese, Richard A. Delia, Richard A. Dewitt, Jesse E. Dortch, Kareem M. Douglas, Frances Eubanks, Richard L. Foreman, Ervin C. Forsstrom Jr., Milva A. Gonzales, George J. Gorciak, Thomas L. Gordon, Jacqueline Kay Graeff, Harold F. Grant, Lawrence Harasansky, Frank James Hartog, Eduardo A. Hernandez, Raymond F. Holt, Walter E. Holt, Gilbert T. Hom, Charles E. Iversen, Richard B. Jamison, Eddie Jones Jr., William D. Kinsey, Douglas E. Kissler, Joyce C. Kresge, Raymond Leyva, Larry R. Lowers, Jack P. Morgan, Cordero H. Myers, Gary Delano Osborn, Placida O. Paloma, James W. Pierce, Lola D. Pittman, James Porter, Larry C. Quan, James A. Raines, Douglas L. Rath, Dernice Samuel, Ramon C. Sanchez, Thomas M. Sears, Willis S. Sherrill, Celeste A. Shriver, Delbert J. Souza, David A. Stone, Charles A. Trudeau, Rosa L. Williams, Catherine A. Wills

Superior Court/County Clerk - Pauline Deutchman, Ovenia Handy, Beulah L. Harris, Gladys A. Hernandez, Jeri Ann Jarnagan, Billie J. Kamara, Carol D. Lanier, Bernice LeBlanc, Scott M. Lieblich, Lyle M. Mac Kenzie, Robert T. McGlothin, Taryn A. McCullough, James Lawrence Moran, Brandi M. Murdock, John C. Peddle, Christine Y. Perez, Maria M. Rosales, Rosa M. Sanchez-Chav

Treasurer/Tax Collector - Thelma C. Armstrong, Alberto Carias, Louise Johnson, Willa J. Johnson, Patrick S. Manikis, Doris A. Watson

Women's Hospital - Sylvia Z. Conley, Maryann Pena

Workforce Dev., Aging & Comm. Svcs. - Ursulita M. Cid, Robert M. Crockett, Anatol Miroshnikov, Ray Arthur Sanchez

Unidentified County Agency - Charlotte Kelly, William K. Maeda, William D. Odell, Jack Raymond Sullentrop



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

Return Service Requested

VALENTINE DRAWING

Be Our Valentine and Win \$25 It's that time of year again. In a gesture of appreciation for your continued support, all members are eligible for a special Valentine drawing of 20 prizes – \$25 each. To participate, complete the coupon below and mail to the RELAC office: 1000 S. Fremont Ave., Unit 15 Alhambra, CA 91803-8802. Coupons must be received no later than Feb. 6.

Valentine Drawing
Name
Address
City
StateZip
E-mail
Phone Please Print Clearly

NON-PROFIT U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT #66 PASADENA, CA

Hello









RELAC Congratulates Newly Elected County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath Sheriff Robert Luna

And Thanks for **Their Dedicated Service County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl** Sheriff Alex Villanueva

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.