### www.cityemployeesclub.com



## **Retiree Hotlines**

Who to call? Following is a list of contacts for the City and for the DWP:

City Employees Retirement System: (213) 473-7200

### **City Retirement Counselors:**

• Phil Skarin	(818) 784-0130	<ul> <li>Jack Mathews</li> </ul>	(310) 762-1942
<ul> <li>Robert Wilkinson</li> </ul>	(818) 886-1000	<ul> <li>Helen Salgado</li> </ul>	(323) 728-4930
• Jerry Bardwell	(818) 782-5568	Americo Garza	(562) 928-2051
• Edward Harding	(805) 584-9417	Neil Ricci	(310) 394-1971
• Harold Danowitz	(310) 453-0506		

**DWP Retirement Plan Office:** (213) 367-1722

# **City Budget Presents Challenge To Funding of Retirement System**

### Ed Harding, **RLACEI President, reports:**

**For Retirees** 

"All of the directors on the Executive Board join with me in hoping that all of our retirees have a fabulous 2003. We will be working all year towards this goal. Happy New Year.

"There were more than 100 retirees at our Christmas Party and Installation of Officers Dec. 12. I wish to thank the following people for their help in putting this party together: Carol Watkins of the Mayor's office; Eric Robles of General Services; Karen Senia of Cultural Affairs; Loraine Luguna Buchanan of Councilman Alex Padilla's office; and Councilman Tom LaBonge, who installed our officers.

"We received many nice Christmas cards and thank you notes from Mayor Jim Hahn and his family, Council President Alex Padilla, Councilwomen Ruth Galanter and Jan Perry, and Councilman Eric Garcetti and his fiancée, Amy. We wish to thank all those who remembered us during the Holidays."

Ken Spiker, RLACEI Legislative Chair, reports that the City's general fund is being billed for \$130 million to fund the retirement system for 2003-04. Ken said the amount is more than twice the amount the City was required to contribute last year and he believes was based upon inaccurate and outdated fiscal assumptions.

By Phil Skarin, RLACEI Publicity Chair

Due to the City's financial status brought about by the economy and cutback or elimination of the Federal and State usage assistance, this unexpected debt furthers the City's severe financial status.

The Board of Administration of the Retirement System will consider various options of reducing or deferring the increase over a period of the next three to five years.

Spiker said he is going to support the most equitable formula to assist the City with its fiscal problem as long as it doesn't jeopardize the retirement system's fiscal solvency. He believes most retirees would support this position of helping the City, since City officials have responded favorably to our requests for help and he believes they will continue to do so when financially feasible.



Ed Harding, RLACEI President

# **Membership**

Carl lottola celebrated his 90th birthday Jan. 6

■ Jack Allen, who was the RLACEI 1st Vice President for many years, is a patient at the Windsor Terrace Healthcare Center, 7447 Sepulveda Blvd., Van Nuys, CA 91405, (818) 787-3400. Send him a card, or drop in for visit.

SHARE YOUR NEWS: If you have news of a retiree that you would like to share, send it to Phil Skarin at 5301 Norwich Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91411-3910, or call him at (818) 784-0130.

# **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

April 18 –	General Membership Meeting at the Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Senior Center
June 3 –	Golf Tournament at the Alhambra Golf Course
Aug. 15 –	Picnic
Oct. 17 –	Annual Corporation Meeting and Elections at the UN/SO Senior Center
Dec. 11 –	Holiday Party, location TBA.

# **CHANGE OF ADDRESS:**

If you change your address, please notify Membership Chair Helen Salgado at 5423 Dewar St., Los Angeles, CA 90022. Phone: (323) 728-4930.

### **MEMBERSHIP CARD:**

If you need a new, green Membership Card, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Membership Chair Helen Salgado at 5423 Dewar St., Los Angeles, CA 90022. Also, notify LACERS.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

A tax tip from Mark Twain: "When in doubt, tell the truth."

# Valentine's Day Stories of Romance

arranged to accompany her on some ride- Jeri Rodin alongs to give her pointers on photographing

Roh Poarco

### Love

### Continued from page 1

lunch at Bob's Big Boy. "I remember that very well," Pat said.

Ed added that he's always said he could have been a better editor of his high school paper, but he was "severely distracted" by Pat.

### Art Mochizuki

### **Photographer, DWP**

The common experience of working as photographers for the Los Angeles Police brought together Art and his wife, Jean.

After leaving the LAPD to work for the DWP, Art often went back to visit his old police photography friends. In March 1990, they introduced him to a new employee, Jean. When she got assigned to the graveyard shift, which Art had covered for four years, he crime scenes at

On their night. first ride-along together, Art discovered that Jean,

working his old

shift with his old

partner, had been

given his old radio

name-per-

destiny at

Their first date

wasn't an official

date, Art said, as

call

haps

work.

they went to Denny's downtown, and ended up sitting in the car afterward talking for two hours. "It kind of took off from there," he added. The couple, married 10 years, has a 9year-old son, Alex.

### **Recreation Facility Director, Rec and Parks**

Ghouls and goblins meant romance for Jeri, as she met her boyfriend of 15 months, David, at a Halloween party in 2001.

David got Jeri's E-mail address from a friend after the party, and the two began a daily E-mail correspondence. For their first official date, they met for coffee at Starbucks.

Because other holidays tend to focus on families, "We've decided that every Valentine's Day we want to do something special," Jeri said. Last year, Jeri

and David went to a "really romantic" dinner dance hosted by a local radio station. This year, they will spend Valentine's Day weekend in Santa Barbara so they can attend a friend's wedding.

### **Retired Information Systems Manager, DWP**

Serving as the best man at the wedding of a school friend led to Bob becoming a groom a couple of years later, when he married Hope, the maid of honor from his friend's nuptials.

Bob's friend married Hope's cousin, and Bob and Hope got acquainted at the wedding reception. "We talked and it grew from there," he said, and the couple now has been married 37 years.

Bob and Hope took a "very romantic" honeymoon to Hawaii, and just returned there about a month ago for the first time since then. Although there are a lot more buildings, cars and highways than there were in the 1960s, Bob noted that the friendliness of the Hawaiian people remains unbeatable.

Besides their four grown children-Deborah, Phillip, Greg and Danny-Bob and Hope have two grandchildren, Sierra, 9, and Ronnie, 4.