



Retirees NEWS

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:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| • Edward Harding (805) 584-9417 | • Jack Mathews (310) 762-1942 |
| • Phil Skarin (818) 784-0130 | • Helen Salgado (323) 728-4930 (membership) |
| • Robert Wilkinson (818) 886-1000 | • Americo Garza (562) 928-2051 |
| • Jerry Bardwell (818) 782-5568 | • Neil Ricci (310) 394-1971 |
| • Harold Danowitz (310) 472-0224 | |

DWP Retirement Plan Office: (213) 367-1722

For Retirees

By Phil Skarin, RLACEI Publicity Chair

Retirement Negotiations With City Closed; Dental Subsidy Moving Along



Ed Harding,
RLACEI President

Ed Harding, RLACEI president, welcomed more than 200 members and guests to our barbecue picnic at the Grace E. Simons Lodge. He thanked all those who called to make reservations.

(MOU) between the City's unions and the City contained a provision to increase the retirement enhancement package from 2.16 percent a service to 2.36 percent per year. Other provisions would have provided a Health Benefit Subsidy for our disabled retirees. Union members did not meet the agreed-upon vote of 90 to 95 percent acceptance, thus negotiations on the passage have ceased.

Also, the October 2000 letter of intent regarding retroactive application of the MOU's provisions has expired. Those employees who retired after October 2000 will not receive the retirement adjustment many expected.

The ordinance now in place providing the 50/30 retirement window will expire Sept. 30. Those employees meeting this criteria will have to decide prior to that date whether to take advantage of this opportunity.

Ken reports that the LACERS Board's unanimous action to endorse a dental subsidy to our surviving spouses has been referred to the City Council, where he plans to encourage their adoption. 3,084 current members would be affected upon Council approval.

Poetry Contest: Our annual Poetry Contest deadline is coming up: October 1. Get your creative writings to Phil Skarin, chairman, at 5301 Norwich Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91411-3910. Poems can be of any style or length. There are separate categories for members and spouses, and more than \$100 in prizes. Everyone who participates is a winner!

Coming Events: Oct. 17: Annual meeting and elections at the Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Senior Center; and Dec. 11: Christmas Party and installation of officers at the Grace E. Simons Lodge. 🏠

Our next event will be the annual meeting and elections at 1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 17, at the Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Senior Center. If you come at noon, you will be treated to a free lunch, courtesy of the RLACEI, but only if you make a reservation by calling one of the officers on the Retirees Help Line at least a week in advance.

Nominating chair Dave Wilkins will present a slate of nominees for first vice president and five directors of the executive board. Nominations can also be made from the floor. There will also be informative speakers, refreshments and valuable door prizes.

President Harding has been very busy attending breakfast meetings with Councilmembers Ed Reyes, Martin Ludlow and Jan Perry. He is trying to make them aware of the needs and concerns of retirees. He said that all of them are extremely knowledgeable and the City is fortunate to have people of their caliber helping to run the City.

Legislative Update: Ken Spiker, our legislative committee chairman and the elected member of LACERS Board of Administration, reports that the civilian retirement negotiations have been brought to a close.

The Memorandum of Understanding

Membership NEWS

■ **Robert Fairington** deserves some "kudos" for traveling the farthest to play in our golf tournament in June. He came from Oregon.

Next year, our retirees Golf Classic will be held Tuesday, June 15, at the Alhambra Golf Course again. Start planning now.

Joe Pecora supplements his retirement pay by working part-time as a security guard at the Getty. He will let us know of other opportunities there.

Steven Uranga, Rec and Parks, reports that his father, Librado, 85, passed away July 28. Librado retired in 1992 after 25 years in the Bureau of Street Maintenance.

Rachel "Mina" Canales-Meckle died June 5, 2002, of complications of diabetes. Her last assignment was as secretary to Chief of Detectives Thad Brown. She left in 1966. She leaves behind her husband Ed, a retired lieutenant at the LAPD; a son, Christopher; a sister, Henri; and countless friends. Ed said that many of her friends were unaware that she had passed.

SHARE YOUR NEWS: If you have any news about a retiree that you'd like to share, send it to Phil Skarin at 5301 Norwich Ave., Van Nuys, 91411.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Oct. 1- Deadline for Annual Poetry Contest

Oct. 17 - Annual Corporation Meeting and Elections at the Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Senior Center

Dec. 11 - Holiday Party and Installation of Officers, at Grace E. Simons Lodge, Elysian Park

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

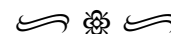
If you change your address, please notify Membership Chair Helen Salgado at 5423 Dewar St., Los Angeles, CA 90022. Phone: (323) 728-4930.

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:
"Nothing is politically right which is morally wrong."



L.A. Natural History Museum In Need of Volunteer Docents

The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County seeks volunteer docents. It's a great opportunity with wonderfully satisfying returns! Give a little time as a museum docent and you just might inspire wonder in children, discover new knowledge for yourself, and share experiences with like-minded people.

During the school year, docents enhance the museum experience of school children by introducing them to the museum's wonderful exhibits in one or more of 15 science and history halls. The museum's collections include dinosaurs, Native American cultures, mammals, California history, gems and minerals, marine biology and more.

Extensive training (26 weeks) is provided. Commitment is four hours one day per week the first year, two hours per week the second year.

Added perks include lectures, luncheons, periodic visits to other museums and points of interest, and special museum events.

The museum is now accepting applications for its fall training class.

Call (213) 763-3531 for additional information.



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