



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
• Robert Wilkinson	(818) 886-1000	(membership)	
• Jerry Bardwell	(818) 782-5568	• Americo Garza	(562) 928-2051
• Harold Danowitz	(310) 472-0224	• Neil Ricci	(310) 394-1971

DWP Retirement Plan Office: (213) 367-1722

For Retirees

By Phil Skarin, RLACEI Publicity Chair

Medicare B Reimbursements To Rise Beginning Next Year

Ed Harding, RCLAEI President, invites all retirees and guests to our Annual Christmas Party on Thursday, December 11, 2003, from noon to 3 pm. It will be at the Grace E. Simons Lodge at 1025 Elysian Park Drive, L.A. 90012. There will be a light lunch at noon for those who have called an officer for reservations. See the RCLAEI Winter newsletter for a map.

Harding accepted an offer by Jerry Qonsul, General Manager of the Checker Cab Company, to have two cabs to carry members from the parking areas to the Lodge.

There will be entertainment by Ronnie Minnis; a singer; Christmas songs; 30 valuable door prizes; and Installation of officers (elected in October) by Councilman Tom LaBonge.

Harding attended a reception for Councilman Tony Cardenas at the San Antonio Winery Oct. 29. President Harding does a fine job in keeping in touch with our elected officials to keep them aware of the needs of us retirees.



Legislative News: Ken Spiker, our elected Commissioner to the LACERS Board of Administration, reports that the board has approved the Medicare Part B reimbursement from the current \$58.70 to \$66.60 per month effective Jan. 1. More than 5300 of our retirees will benefit from this increase. The proposal to provide a dental subsidy for surviving spouses is working its way through the

legislative process. Our Retirement fund is about \$7.4 billion and our pensions are fully funded. All health plan contracts have been renewed for 2004. If you are going to be 65, you must enroll in Medicare Part B through the Social Security office to continue receiving a health plan subsidy from the City.

There was some delay recently for those getting their retirement checks in the mail. Those with Direct Deposit weren't affected.

News You Can Use: Getting birth and death records has become harder because of

a new state law aimed at curbing fraud and identity theft. For more information, call the L.A. County Clerk's office at (562) 462-2137 or go online to www.lavote.net.

Holiday Squeeze: The L.A. Federal Credit Union has some sweet deals if you need some dough for holiday gifts or to pay taxes. There are Visa convenience checks at 2.9 APR until May 31, and "Holiday Dream" unsecured personal loans for qualified members until Dec. 31 at 9.9 percent APR. They are also supporting the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots program. Donate a new, unwrapped toy to any of their branches by Monday, Dec. 15.

Join RLACEI: Helen Salgado, Membership Chair, reports that we have 9105 members. If you are retired and are not a member and you wish to join and help support our association's worthy efforts, contact Helen at (323) 728-4930, and she will send you an application right away. 📧



Ed Harding,
RLACEI President

Membership NEWS

■ **Angela Hughes** writes that the check she got for first place in the Poetry Contest made her very happy. Her entry was titled "Sadness".

■ **Jane Hanson** wrote that her check for her poem "Wondrous Love" will help pay her grocery bill.

■ **Ivan Forbes** was in Turkey in 2000 and viewed the 150-foot-long petrified remains of Noah's Ark. He has photos he'd like to show.

■ **Ron Black**, who was the disc jockey at our picnic in August, also does Square Dance and Line Dance Calling. Call him at (818) 752-6810.

■ **Larry Jones**, past president, was at the executive board meeting Nov. 10. He has had some health problems in recent years, but he looked great. Why not send your best wishes to Larry and Helen at The Oaks of Pasadena, Apt. 222, 2954 E. Del Mar Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91107.

I want to hear from all retirees about what they're doing. Send it to Phil Skarin, 5301 Norwich Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91411-3910, or phone (818) 784-0130, or fax (818) 906-3722.



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

*When you make up your Christmas list, one of the most valued gifts you could give to others is your time –
– time to listen quietly
– time to make them feel special
– time to share their joys and sorrows
– time for them to feel loved*

*When I make up my Christmas List
My number one request will be for
A little of
Your time.*



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Assess your goals and find the right investment mix. A Prudential Securities Financial Advisor will help you decide how much you need to invest and how much risk you can take, based on when you'd like to retire.

Make the most of your tax-advantaged investment opportunities. Prudential Securities can walk you through your choices and help you create a tax-advantaged investment strategy

Consolidate your retirement assets. We'll help you roll over your assets and manage them in one account.

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