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 (membership)	(323) 728-4930
• 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

Membership NEWS

Bob Russell passed away Aug. 8. He was a charter member of the Civic Center Optimist Club (chartered May 22, 1957) and was a regular attendee

Ernie Muro is the deputy building official for Simi Valley. They are seeking limited-term building inspectors. If you are an experienced building inspector and would like a part-time job, call Ernie Muro at (805) 583-6814. It pays up to $27.15 per hour …

Frances (Hiti) Ambrozich enjoys singing with several choirs and working as a substitute instructional aide with special education children. She would like to hear from her co-workers. Call her at (714) 374-1872 …

Josephine Ball was bored with retirement and now works at the public counter of a school in Lynwood. Phone her at (310) 632-4489 …

Elliot Adelman is a volunteer instructor in the AARP Mature Driver "55 Alive" course and an "ambassador" in the elder hostel educational/recreational programs. More later …

Frances O'Hop Mooney, Carson, works for the City of Rancho Palos Verdes as a freelancer, doing minutes for the council and committees. She had been the secretary for Ed Harding, Jerry Bardwell and Oscar Peters …

Bill Herbert retired in 1979 from the Valley District Engineering Office and now lives in Wisconsin with Anna Roi, his wife of 60 years. You can phone him at (608) 582-2489 or write to P.O. Box 13, Galesville, WI 54630 …

Lupe Chee and her son, **Marshall Chee**, flew to Washington, D.C., for the 2004 Memorial Day weekend for the Flying Tigers 57th annual reunion. Her husband, **Frank Chee**, who passed away May 23,2003, at age 89, had been an armament technician servicing machine gun turrets on bombers for the Flying Tigers during WWII. During the reunion they were given a special tour of the U.S. Capitol and Senate chambers. At the Arlington National Cemetery, a ceremony was held to honor the 115 names of Flying Tigers who had departed in the past year. Lupe was presented with a white rose in memory of her late husband "Frank" (Kwan Y.) Chee.

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, CA 91411, or call (818) 784-0130.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

Faults and Virtues

An engineer, in reviewing plans of a structure, looks for weaknesses that might result in failure. But in people, we should look for qualities that will make their lives a success. Look for their good points, their talents and skills. Try to identify areas of potential and encourage their development. Accept their individuality, even if different from yours.

Did the City Underfund Its Retirement Plan?

By Phil Skarin, RLACEI Publicity Chair

Ed Harding, *RLACEI President*

Ken Spiker, our elected representative to the LACERS Board of Directors and Chairman of LACERS Benefits and Administration Committee, reports that LACERS management, with the help of a new actuarial consultant, has found that the LACERS contracted consultant had made errors in determining the amount that the City owes the retirement fund.

The reported City contribution was short $30.2 million in 2003-04 and $13.4 million for 2004-05, totaling a $43.6 million shortfall to the fund.

Spiker reports that negotiations are under way with City officials regarding the overdue contribution. One possible solution is to permit the City to pay the amount over a 15-year amortization period, plus interest.

He also shared his hopes that retirees are pleased with the new health programs for 2005-06. The cost and service are superior to any other retiree programs for local government agencies. For those who are eligible, they should take a good look at the new SCAN program.

In addition, if anybody knows the whereabouts of Cathy Donati, please contact Ken Spiker and Associates, (213) 748-6001, ext. 110.

Upcoming Meeting: Ed Harding, RLACEI president, invites retirees and their spouses for a free chicken lunch at the Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Senior Center at noon Thursday, Oct. 14. However, you must make a reservation by calling one of the officers on the Retirees' HelpLines at least a week before. The luncheon is in advance of our Annual Corporation Meeting and Election of Officers at 1 p.m. All the incumbent officers who are doing a great job are being nominated for re-election, although nominations can be made from the floor.

By the way, Harding's daughter, Claudia, may invite you to a fish dinner at her house, to help eat a 70-pound tuna she caught in a fishing trip out of San Diego for which she won a $460 jackpot. She was the only woman on the four-day trip.

Health Fairs: LACERS has scheduled the following health fairs for retirees:

Oct. 5, Pomona – Shilo Inn (Hilltop)
Oct. 7, Manhattan Beach Marriott
Oct. 12, Van Nuys, Airtel Plaza Hotel
Oct. 14, Las Vegas, St. Tropez Hotel, and
Oct. 21, L.A. New Otani Hotel.

Registration is 8:15 to 9:30 a.m. (Continental breakfast); the Fairs are from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. (including lunch). Call (800) 779-8328 for reservations.

Website: Hal Danowitz asks you to visit our Website at www.rlacei.com to find the latest retirement news. It will be updated regularly.

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

Coming events:

Thursday, Oct. 14
Annual Corporation Meeting and Election of Officers
Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Senior Center, 5056 Van Nuys Blvd. Lunch at noon and meeting at 1 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 9
Christmas Party and Installation of Officers
Grace E. Simons Lodge from 1 to 3 pm.

Tuesday, June 14, 2005
Retirees Golf Classic
More info to come

In a World of Uncertainty, We Can Offer You a Guarantee...