



# 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

# Officers Say 'Aye'

**Retirement group holds annual officer induction ceremony.**

*By Phil Skarin, RLACEI Publicity Chair*



**Ed Harding,**  
RLACEI President

Ed Harding, RLACEI president, reports: "Our Annual Meeting and Elections are now history. I want to thank the members who had enough confidence in me and my fellow officers to re-elect us for another term of office. We'll continue to work hard for you to justify your faith in us.

"This was the first Annual Meeting in 20 years without Larry Jones, our late past president. Filling his shoes has been a tough job."

Ed was referring to the recent RLACEI annual meeting and ceremony to induct new officers.

Ed also reported: "I attended a meeting of the Retired Fire and Police Association Oct. 6 at the Simons Lodge. They had an attorney who told of changes in the Workers Compensation laws that will make for a tougher review of requests."

**New address?:**  
**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.**

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

## Membership NEWS

**Al Jue** ([323] 463-6480) is trying to locate **Martin Glazner**, a former co-worker. Al plays poker weekly with **John Iwamiya** and **Terry Wong**.

**Bob Wilkinson** and his wife took a 17-day cruise to Scotland, Iceland, Greenland and Nova Scotia.

**Fred Hoepner** has composed some pieces that have been recorded on CD: Romances in Ragtime (flute & piano) and River Buffs (piano). If you would like to order one, call Fred for info, (818) 249-8914.

**Elliott Adelman** recommends the Elderhostel program if you are looking for new opportunities to travel, learn, sightsee and/or engage in recreational activities at reasonable costs. There are four categories of programs, each with its own catalog: Domestic (U.S. and Canada); Elderhostel Abroad (the rest of the world); Elderhostel Afloat (ships,

riverboats); and Service Elderhostels (reaching needy Native Americans or people in backward sections of the world, or helping them improve their living conditions.) Most Domestic and Afloat programs last five to seven days, and programs abroad are usually three weeks long. For more information or catalogs, log on to [www.elderhostel.org](http://www.elderhostel.org), or write to Elderhostel at 11 Avenue de Lafayette, Boston, MA 02111-9758.

**Hynda Rudd**, former City Archivist, is the project director of an ambitious project to narrate the history of Los Angeles city government that is close to completion. Sponsored by the Los Angeles City Historical Society, the 22 chapters examine all aspects of the City. The senior editor is **Tom Sitton**, historian at the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History.

## Coming events:

**Thursday, Dec. 9**

**Christmas Party**  
at the Grace E. Simons Lodge

**Tuesday, June 14, 2005**

**Retirees Golf Classic**  
More info to come

### Readers respond:

Jane Hanson, Hemet: "Your writings have been so inspiring."

Del Grubbs, Morro Bay. "I enjoy your column"

Carol Volpe, San Dimas: "Thank you for your Thought for the day."

**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 phone (818) 784-0130 or fax (818)906-3722**

**I would like to hear some news about John Lemons, Don Tillman, Margie Anselmo and others.**



### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

#### *A Thanksgiving for Giving*

*At Thanksgiving time we usually give thanks for our blessings, such as food, shelter, friends and good health. But, why can't we use this time to be thankful for all the things we are able to give to others.*

*We can give our time and companionship to the lonely trust and confidence to those who need support, wisdom and knowledge to those who are searching comfort to those in pain*

*These are some the things that will help to give us fulfillment as we are helping others. So, let's make this a Thanksgiving for Giving.*

**Phil Skarin**



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

... The Guarantee for People who like to win, but hate to lose.

Variable annuities are an important tool to consider for retirement planning. The benefits of investing in variable annuities include tax-deferral on any growth until you begin receiving income, guaranteed income for life and a guaranteed death benefit if you should pass away before you annuitize. While investing in a variable annuity may provide an opportunity for growth of your investment, variable annuities assess certain charges such as mortality and expense risk and administration charges, annual maintenance fees and asset management fees and are subject to risks including the potential loss of value. As a result, variable annuities, like other investments, cause some people to worry about the possibility of losing their original investment. Now there is The Guaranteed Return Option (GRO)<sup>SM</sup>, an optional benefit available with most variable annuities issued by American Skandia Life Assurance Corporation ("American Skandia") for an annual charge of 0.25% of the Account Value allocated to the Variable Sub-Accounts. GRO guarantees you won't lose your original investment if you remain invested for a seven-year period, and every seventh contract anniversary thereafter, provided GRO is still in force. With GRO, the initial investment is directed into variable sub-accounts and a portion of the account is shifted into fixed buckets only to the extent necessary to maintain the principal guarantee. Assets automatically shift back to variable accounts when conditions allow.<sup>1</sup>

### With GRO<sup>SM</sup> you have:

- **Protection** – GRO guarantees initial Account Value (less any withdrawals) after seven years
- **Opportunity** – Ability to increase your guaranteed amount by locking in your contract anniversary value if your annuity increases in value. This will start a new seven-year Guarantee Period.
- **Flexibility** – Use GRO to participate in the equity market, tax-deferred. Select an appropriate, individually-tailored portfolio using American Skandia's broad investment platform.

<sup>1</sup>The fixed investment options may be subject to a Market Value Adjustment upon early withdrawal that may increase or decrease values and benefits so that when surrendered or transferred prior to the end of the guarantee period, it may be worth more or less than the original investment.

Variable Annuities are sold by prospectus. For a prospectus containing more complete information on any American Skandia variable annuity, including information on charges, expenses, risk factors and tax consequences, call 1-800-SKANDIA. The prospectus is the controlling document with regard to this product. It should be read carefully before you invest or send money.

Certain of the most volatile portfolios are not available in the GRO program. GRO is not available in all states or in products where fixed allocations are not approved. An investor may terminate the GRO<sup>SM</sup> program at any time. American Skandia does not provide any guarantees upon termination prior to the end of the seven-year program. Significant or prolonged declines in the value of the variable investment options you choose may result in all or a substantial portion of your Account Value being allocated to Fixed Allocations. While this will protect the principal amount during such market declines, it may substantially reduce your ability to allocate Account Value to variable investment options, particularly during periods of market increase. Guarantees associated with the program and the fixed rate accounts are subject to the claims paying ability of American Skandia Life Assurance Corporation.

Variable annuities are long-term investment products designed for retirement purposes. Partial or complete surrenders of taxable amounts may be subject to ordinary income tax and if prior to age 59½ may result in an additional 10% IRS penalty. Early withdrawals have the effect of reducing the death benefit and cash surrender value. Annuity contracts contain exclusions, limitations, reductions of benefits and terms for keeping them in force. Your licensed Investment Professional can provide you with costs and complete details.

Variable annuities are issued by American Skandia Life Assurance Corporation and distributed by American Skandia Marketing, Incorporated. Both companies are located at One Corporate Drive, Shelton, Connecticut 06484. American Skandia Life Assurance Corporation and American Skandia Marketing, Incorporated are both Prudential Financial companies. American Skandia Life Assurance Corporation is solely responsible for its financial condition and contractual obligations.

### VARIABLE ANNUITIES, MUTUAL FUNDS AND OTHER INVESTMENTS:

7606-3 (11/03) ARE NOT FDIC INSURED ARE NOT BANK OR CREDIT UNION GUARANTEED MAY LOSE VALUE

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