

For Retirees By Phil Skarin, RLACEI Publicity Chair

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

Some Helpful Advice On Medicare Part D

Don't miss the upcoming

Aug. 11 at

Sign up today!"



Ed Harding, **RLACEI** President

By Phil Skarin, Publicity Chair, RLACEI

d Harding, RLACEI President, reports: "The Eterm 'movers and shakers' has taken on a new meaning, as I am shaking from all the packing involved in moving to a new house in Simi

Valley. I'm downsizing from a three-story, 5,000square-foot house, to a smaller house of 3,100 square feet. My wife, Martha, has a bad knee, so this move will be better for her. My new address is 2890 Waterfall Lane, Simi Valley, CA 93065. If you are out visiting Reagan's Library, drop in for a drink and listen to my collection

of 78-rpm records.

"By the time you read this, our annual picnic Aug. 11

may be history, but circle the date of Thursday, Oct. 6, for our annual Corporation

Meeting and Elections. We will elect six directors. Subsequently, the elected directors will elect the officers. If you

want to be considered for a director nomination, send a statement of your qualifications to Nominating Chair Dave Wilkins at 1000 Fairview Ave., Apt. 5, Arcadia, CA 91007. The meeting is at 1 p.m., but if you come at noon you will be treated to a free lunch, only if you have called one of the officers on the retirees help lines for a reservation a week ahead. The meeting is at the Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Senior Center, 5056 Van Nuys Blvd."

Legislative Update: Ken Spiker, our elected Commissioner to the LACERS Board of Directors, reports that the 2006 health benefits **Retirees Picnic**, programs and premium rates are going to the Grace E. Simons Lodge!

Board later than usual. Premium negotiations are being held due to the uncertainty of the new Medicare Part D prescription

program. The federal program will be effective Jan. 1, 2006, and as of now Federal compliance regulations have not been finalized.

Ken urges retirees not to sign up for the Part D until they have received and reviewed LAC-

ERS analysis and recommendation. Quite likely, LACERS will sign up as the employer contractor and provide the program to the retirees.

Medicare's prescription drug benefit -Medicare Part D - will be implemented through your LACERS health plan effective Jan. 1, 2006. LACERS will receive certain credits or reimbursements for providing drug coverage to you. These savings will be passed on to you in the form of lower premiums. Because Medicare does not allow you to be covered in more than one Part D plan at the same time, your LACERS medical plan will be canceled if you enroll in Part D as an individual or through another group plan.

Through your LACERS health plan, you can fill your prescriptions for very modest co-pays. This will not change. If you enroll in Park D as an individual, there will be significant costs to you in the form of deductibles and other payments.

Although it is a personal decision, I urge you not to enroll in Medicare Part D.

Ken wants to thank all the retirees who recently supported his election as Commissioner of the LACERS Board of Directors. Ken received 78.5 percent of the vote and is honored to serve as your commissioner for another five years.

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THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

Keep the Door Open

People sometimes say or do things that offend or hurt you, and you are tempted to figuratively "close the doors" on the relationship.

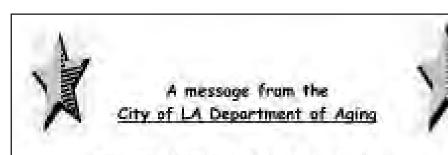
But their actions may not be consistent with their long-term feelings for you. Their actions may reflect some problems in

Upcoming events:

- Oct. 6 Annual Corp. Meeting & Elections at Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Senior Center, 5056 Van Nuys Blvd., Sherman Oaks; 1 p.m. (lunch at noon)
- Dec. 8 Christmas Party and Installation of Officers at Grace E. Simons Lodge; 3 p.m.
- June 6, 2006 the 28th annual Retirees Golf Tournament

Retiree Notes:

If you change your address, notify Helen



Do you have a family member who is enrolled in Medicare but does not have prescription coverage?

their personal life that influenced them, and thereby conveyed a mixed message to you.

Try to be aware of what a person's true character is, and what their long-term feelings for you are, and overlook occasional aberrations, and always keep the door open.

- Phíl Skarín

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If you have news about retirement activities that you'd like to share, call **Phil Skarin** at (818) 784-0130, or write to 5301 Norwich Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91411 or fax (818) 906-3722.

Salgado at (323) 728-4930 or write her at 5423 Dewar St., Los Angeles, CA 90022. If you need a new green membership card, send her a s.a.s.e. Also notify LACERS and Alive!

Visit our Website at www.rlacei.com to find out the latest news.

Neil Ricci represented us at the June 27 swearing-in ceremony of Eric Garcetti, Councilmember, 13th District, at Barnsdale Park. The many testimonials made it clear that he was well-liked during his first term. Mayor-elect Antonio Villaraigosa and half of the Councilmembers were present as Eric's father, Gil Garcetti, swore him in for his second term of office.

They may be eligible to receive a free prescription creatt for 5300 to purchase their medication.



Time is running out. Call NOW! Please Call -800-510-2020 to find out how.