



## City Retiree Associations

### Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)



Ed Harding, *RLACEI President*  
www.rlacei.com  
Contact him: (800) 678-4145 Ext. 703  
or via e-mail: rlacei@verizon.net

#### Change of Address?

If you change your address, notify Helen Salgado, Membership Chair, at (800) 678-4145 Ext. 713, or write to her at 8372 Arnett Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647. Also notify LACERS.

#### Have News About Yourself?

Contact Mary Beetz, call (800) 678-4145 Ext. 711.

#### RLACEI Upcoming Events

Call (800) 678-4145 Ext. 701 for reservations.

- June 7:** RLACEI Golf Tournament, Alhambra Golf Club
- Aug. 9:** RLACEI Picnic, 11:30 a.m., Grace E. Simons Lodge, 1025 Elysian Park, Los Angeles
- Oct. 4:** RLACEI annual corporation meeting and elections, 1 p.m., Friendship Auditorium
- Dec. 6:** RLACEI holiday party, noon, Friendship Auditorium

#### RLACEI Website

Hal Danowitz asks you to visit the RLACEI Website at www.rlacei.com to find the latest retirement news. If you find it helpful, or have suggestions for improvement, call Hal at (800) 678-4145 Ext. 707.

#### Contact LACERS

The Los Angeles City Employees Retirement System is at 360 E. Second Street, second floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Phone (213) 473-7200 or (800) 779-8328. Contact them to arrange direct deposit of your retirement checks, change your tax withholding or beneficiary, or for questions about your health plans.

#### DWP Retirees Association



Dolores Foley, *President*  
Phone: (626) 445-7376  
E-mail: vinedolores@gmail.com  
www.dwpirees.org

#### Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association (LARFPA)



Bill Quinn, *President*  
Phone: (323) 283-4441  
Fax: (626) 285-1461  
9521 Las Tunas Dr. #4,  
Temple City, CA 91780  
www.larfpa.org

## RLACEI

### Alive! Is Now the Paper for RLACEI

2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



Ed Harding

By Ed Harding,  
RLACEI President

“With this issue, all our members of the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI) will receive *Alive!* instead of *El Pueblo*. Please call me and tell me what you think of the change in newspapers. This is very important to me.

“When Larry Jones was President of RLACEI almost 20 years ago, he made everyone show their RLACEI membership card before a lunch ticket was issued. Therefore, we plan to do the same. Bring your membership card to all our events. If you

have lost it, call Helen Salgado at (800) 678-4145, ext. 713. She will check her membership list and issue you a new one.

“On June 7 we expect a record crowd at our 34th annual Retirees Invitational Golf Tournament, with a great lunch and lots of raffle prizes to our golfers. August 9 is our Picnic at Grace E. Simons Lodge at 1025 Elysian Park. Cris & Pitts will furnish a great buffet lunch. Don’t forget to bring your membership card – it is good for lunch for you and one guest. The City Employees Club and our Directors will give many, many raffle prizes.”



Michael Karsch

RLACEI  
Legislative Report  
by Michael Karsch

“California Pension News: The California State Teachers Retirement System (CalSTRS) is the state’s second largest pension fund (the other is CalPERS, which covers most other state and local government systems, but not the City of Los Angeles) and reported in April that its unfunded liability increased 13 percent, according to an actuary’s report. The unfunded liability increased by \$8.5 billion for a total of \$64.5 billion for the 12-month period ending last June 30. This is reportedly due to poor investment returns, which averaged 5.5

percent over the last 10 years, significantly less than the assumed rate of 7.5 percent. This means that participating employers (the school districts) will have to pay significantly more into the CalSTRS fund. CalSTRS has repeatedly asked the governor and legislature for more funding.

“When we think of severe cuts in pensions, much of it is imposed on future hires. Our readers wonder about recent increases in how much employees must pay into their pension funds, or into their post-retirement benefits, namely medical care. Recent news reports in Los Angeles County show how far severe cuts can go, but these specific ones are unlikely to affect our readers. The City of Vernon is the subject of an audit of

CalPERS, which focused on two-dozen active, inactive and retired employees. Where CalPERS can find instances of improper reporting by the city to the pension fund of how much an employee was paid, there is grounds to review that person’s pension and perhaps reduce it. Such a finding by CalPERS is subject to appeal. Some of the targeted employees were erroneously classified as public safety when they were in fact not so classified by state standards. Others were incorrectly enrolled and received additional years of service credit for which they were not entitled. And yet another employee, an elected official, was convicted of perjury that could result in the forfeiture of years of service.”

## LARFPA

### Pension Commission OKs 7 Pct. Health Subsidy Rise



Lee Kebler

By Lee Kebler,  
LARFPA Director

There’s good news: The Fire and Police Pension Commission finally approved a 7 percent increase in the health subsidy for our retirees. This isn’t as much as the more-than 9 percent increase that premiums for health insurance increased this year, but it helps keep the out of pocket expense down.

The board also appointed Bill Raggio as the interim General

Manager of the Pension System, pending mayoral and Council approval for his permanent appointment. Bill was the unanimous selection at the end of the testing process.

As the past Asst. General Manager of the Pension Division, he will bring experience and continuity to the System. He will do an excellent job.

There wasn’t a majority vote for the election for the next term of the active Firefighter on the Board. The top two vote getters,

L. Scott Gibbons and incumbent Ruben Navarro, will have a runoff for the position in May.

I hope you have your reservations for the June 6 barbeque at Grace Simons Lodge. I’d like to see you there, and if you need any more information, call the office at (888) 288-5073.

On June 30, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., there is a great event, the Heroes Air Show at Hansen Dam.

Most of all, don’t forget to vote on June 5.

# RLACEI Retirees: Welcome to the Club!

## Best Years

### Retiree Hotlines

Who to call? Call the Helpline and reach the officers of the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. If you move or change your address, contact Helen Salgado. Also notify LACERS, ACEBSA, and LAFUCU. For information on problems, activities, meetings or membership. Each officer's extension is listed below.

**City Employees Retirement System:** (213) 473-7200

**RLACEI Retirement Counselors and Retiree Helplines** (800) 678-4145

• Mary Beetz	Ext. 711
• Cliff Cannon	Ext. 715
• Hal Danowitz	Ext. 707
• Americo Garza	Ext. 710
• Edward Harding	Ext. 703
• Michael Karsch	Ext. 704
• Gary Mattingly	Ext. 702
• Neil Ricci	Ext. 714
• Helen Salgado (membership)	Ext. 713
• Ken Spiker	Ext. 705
• Tom Stemnock	Ext. 708
• Michael Wilkinson	Ext. 712
Questions:	Ext. 0
RSVP:	Ext. 701

**DWP Retirement Plan Office** (213) 367-1722

### RLACEI:

#### Officers

Mary Beetz: Publicity Chair  
Hal Danowitz: Secretary/Treasurer  
Edward Harding: President  
Kenneth Spiker: First Vice President  
Tom Stemnock: Second Vice President

#### Committee Chairpersons

Mary Beetz: Publicity  
Hal Danowitz: Bylaws  
Americo Garza: Picnic, Holiday Party and Installation  
Neil Ricci: Health and Nominating  
Helen Salgado: Membership  
Phil Skarin: Parliamentarian  
Ken Spiker: Legal and Legislative  
Tom Stemnock: Audit and Golf

#### Directors

Mary Beetz  
Cliff Cannon  
Americo Garza  
Michael Karsch  
Neil Ricci  
Helen Salgado  
Michael R. Wilkinson



The world's tallest building.



The hotel that's designed like a sail.

2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



By Hal Danowitz, Secretary, RLACEI

## Time and Trivia, and Then Dubai

**Hal and Co. continue their 28-day cruise from Europe to Singapore. Part six.**

On Oct. 11, Evelyn and I, with our cousins Don and Myrna, left for Rome, where we were going to board the Ocean Princess Oct. 15 to sail for 28 days to Singapore. On the cruise we were scheduled to visit Sorrento, Italy; Athens; Ephesus, Turkey; through the Suez Canal; two ports in Egypt; Aqaba, Jordan; Dubai in the United Arab Emirates; Muscat, Oman; and India. In India, we were scheduled to take a side trip to the Taj Mahal. Finally, the cruise would take us to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, before ending in Singapore. We both had reserved mini-suites on deck eight. The Ocean Princess is a small ship, which accommodates only slightly more than 600 passengers and a crew of 250.

That morning the wind was much lighter and the seas were calm. The temperature was in the low 80s, and I was by the pool. Evelyn took a yoga class, and when she came by here she looked like she had a good workout. We had two more days at sea before we reached Dubai.

At that point we were in the Gulf of Aden, not quite out of pirate territory. The level of security on the ship made it obvious just how seriously this threat was taken. Crewmembers patrolled the exterior deck areas 24/7 wearing vests that indicated security. Although we didn't see any evidence to indicate pirates, the security watch was comforting.

Evelyn and I played trivia. We lucked out – we played on a team that was smart, and we won. It was nice to finally claim victory. We wanted to win for the bragging rights, not the prize.

After lunch, Evelyn decided to take a nap and I was by the pool waiting for afternoon trivia, now that I was on a roll. The weather had turned overcast and the winds were now blowing at a good pace.

We decided to attend Friday Sabbath services, more to see which passengers were Jewish. It was a nice service conducted by a man from Brentwood, who I met last week by the pool. The ship's bakery made a pretty good *challah* (braided egg bread).

After the service, we stopped in for drinks at the suite cocktail party with a

couple who played bridge and also attended the service. They lived in West Palm Beach, but were transplants from Chicago.

Evelyn and I and Myrna and Don decided to have dinner in the Bistro, the buffet that turned into a sit-down restaurant on sea days for dinner. It offered a basic menu, and it allowed guests to be more flexible with timing on dining. You can order there anytime from 6 to 11 p.m.; it was a change from strict second seating. We were going to go to the show after dinner, but Evelyn and I both had head colds, so we went back to the cabin. I think we caught the cold on the bus to Petra, but with so many people around, you never know. We hoped to recover quickly. At least with both of us under the weather at the same time, she couldn't blame me for infecting her.

There were white caps on the water, and the ship was rocking a bit more than usual. Evelyn went to the bridge lesson and I was in the Tahitian Lounge writing the blog and reading.

The process was that I write the basic information and then Evelyn fills in the color, so the interesting details are coming from her, as is the correction of my spelling.

Our trivia team added a lady from Whittier, and she was a good player, but we still came in the middle. It was amazing how much useless information there is, especially when you add the trivia from other countries.

We had lunch in the British pub, which is set up in the steakhouse. We all had fish and chips. It was okay. Next time I want to try the steak and kidney pie.

Don and Myrna played bridge, Evelyn took a nap, and I attended the port talk on Oman. There wasn't much to see, and the *souk* (the general term for market) is closed from 1 to 4 p.m. We docked at 1 pm and had to be back on board by 6:30 p.m. The ship informed the souk that we were to be in port and hoped that some shops would open up. The tours weren't much, and there was a "free" shuttle bus to take us to the old town. I didn't know why we couldn't dock early; Dubai is only a short distance from Muscat (Oman).

The next day we reached land after



six days at sea. We arrived in the port of Dubai at about 7 a.m.; it is the largest natural harbor along the Emirates' coast.

The United Arab Emirates, formed in 1971, is made up of seven emirates, of which Abu Dhabi and Dubai are the best known. Abu Dhabi is the capital.

Most of the buildings were completed in the last 15 years. The skyline was a combination of tall buildings, each with unique architecture. The tallest building in the world is here, the Burj Khalifa, at more than 800 meters tall. Our tour included a visit to the tower and a trip to the 124th floor, the observation floor.

Our tour began with a drive from the port to the Mall of the Emirates, the largest shopping mall in the Middle East. It featured indoor skiing (Ski Dubai), with a chair lift, and there was a large play area for children, including a sled run. The temperature was kept at about 32 degrees, and after paying an admission you got parkas and gloves along with whatever equipment you needed for your chosen snow activity. By the time we left, there was a long line of women and children waiting to get in.

Our first stop was Starbucks (the mall has three) so Evelyn could get a mug that has the name UAE to add to her collection. I missed getting one in Egypt by disobeying the first rule of vacation shopping – if you like it, get it, because you won't see it again. If they won't bargain, buy the damn thing if you want it. I checked on eBay later, and the mug I could have purchased for \$25 (which I thought was high) was \$50 on eBay. Evelyn still hasn't forgotten!

This mall had every store you would ever need or want – all of the best top-end designers and shops, and all the chains like H&M and Forever 21. The food courts – and there were at least two – had every American fast food provider

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## For Retired Club Members

RETIREEES: Enjoy These Great

# Member Benefits

As a member of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles, you'll enjoy these amazing benefits:



**City Employees Club of Los Angeles**

*Celebrating the Lives of City Employees*

### The *Alive!* Newspaper

Your own personal edition of *Alive!*, delivered to you each month. (Sent to all RLACEI members in good standing). Stay connected to RLACEI, and to all your Retired City friends, read about exciting City projects, take full advantage of free *Alive!* classifieds, and much more.

### For more information, contact the Club:

- talkback@cityemployeesclub.com
- www.cityemployeesclub.com
- (800) 464-0452

### Full Club Membership

Through May 2013, full Club Membership\*, including:

- **The cheapest tickets in the City—UP TO 70% OFF**
- Great Club apparel and gifts
- Group-rated insurance products for purchase
- Club-exclusive events
- E-mail notices about upcoming events and promotions
- Access to Club Website
- And much more!

\* After May 2013, members must join the Club and pay the regular (reduced) rate for City Retirees to retain Club benefits.

## 34th Annual Retirees Invitational Golf Tournament



The 34th Annual Retired Los Angeles City Employees Invitational Golf Tournament will be held on Thursday, June 7, 2012 at the Alhambra Municipal Golf Course with a "Shotgun Start" at 7:30 a.m. The course is located at 630 South Almansor Street, Alhambra, CA 91801. Check-in is at 7:00 a.m. **SOFT SPIKES MANDATORY!**

- The tournament is open to retired and active employees and friends. The cost is \$65 for R.L.A.C.E.I., City Club and All City Employee Benefits Service Association members (\$75 for all others) and includes green fees, carts, prizes and lunch at the Almansor Court restaurant. Lunch only is \$25.
- Those interested in participating must complete the reservation form and mail it with their check payable to **"R.L.A.C.E.I."** by **May 25th** to: Tom Stemnock, Chairman, 4040 Vineland Avenue, Suite 108, Studio City, CA 91604. For any questions, call Chairman Tom Stemnock at (818) 487-6789.

### 2012 Golf Tournament Reservation Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Amount Included \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$65 for R.L.A.C.E.I. and City Employees Club Members. (\$75 for all others)  
 Luncheon: \$25

**Make checks payable to R.L.A.C.E.I.**

### NOTICE: SOFT SPIKES MANDATORY!

#### FOURSOME

Name

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. \_\_\_\_\_

Member R.L.A.C.E.I.    Member A.C.E.B.S.A. or City Club    Guest

**(check all that apply)**

- 

Reservation deadline: Friday, May 25th. Mail completed reservation form and check to:  
**Tom Stemnock, Chairman**  
 4040 Vineland Avenue, Suite 108, Studio City, CA 91604, (818) 487-6789

## For Retired Club Members

# RLACEI MEMBER NEWS

BY MARY BEETZ

**Jack-Leroy Clemens, Retired, Public Works/Sanitation,** reports: "Retiree life is treating me well! Here I am with my fellow retirees and best friends. It's opening day at Thompson Falls (Montana) golf course."

From left: Jim Boward, Jack-Leroy Clemens, Loren Manderscheid and Larry Young.



**Sue Clark, Retired, General Services,** reports: "Try to enjoy nature once in a while and look up in your trees. You may be surprised at what you might find. This is my residence squirrel who hangs out around my house. I was sitting outside with my morning cup of coffee watching him chow down on a pine cone breakfast. It took him five minutes to turn the pine cone into what looked like a corn cob."

# LACERS Update

By Mary Beetz, RLACEI Publicity Chair



*"Death Notification of a LACERS Member or Beneficiary:* Please contact the Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System (LACERS) upon the death of a person receiving LACERS monthly retirement allowance, continuance, or survivorship at (800) 779-8328. This person may have been a:

- Retired City Employee
- Surviving spouse of a retired City Employee
- Surviving domestic partner of a Retired City Employee
- Any other dependent receiving a continuance or survivorship benefit.

"Be prepared to provide the deceased's full name and social security number. LACERS staff will contact the deceased member's listed beneficiaries for more information and documents.

*"Other Organizations You May Want to Contact:*

- Social Security Administration – Death or survivor benefits may be available: (800) 772-1213; (800) 325-0778 TTY
- U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs – If the deceased was a veteran, death or survivor benefits may be available: (800) 827-1000
- City of Los Angeles Deferred Compensation Program – the deceased may have an account: (888) 457-9460; (888) 466-0381
- City Employees Club of Los Angeles – a life insurance policy may be on file: (800) 464-0452
- All City Employees Benefits Service Association – a life insurance policy may be on file: (213) 485-2485
- Los Angeles Federal Credit Union – the deceased may have an account: (213) 484-864; (877) MY LAFUCU (695-2328)

*"Stay in Contact:* As always, I am interested in what retirees are doing in their retirement years, and what Retirees would like to read in the newspaper. Any comments, suggestions, or ideas are welcomed. Pictures are also welcomed, too:

Mary Beetz  
Publicity Chairman  
Mbeetz4841@aol.com

## Show Us Your Grandkids!

Retirees: *Alive!* wants to show off your grandkids! In an upcoming issue, we intend to begin running a small section of retirees and their grandkids. So send 'em in!

Here's how:

1. Make sure to have the permission from their parents. If you send in a photo, *Alive!* assumes you have already received that permission.
2. Photos with you in them are better... but if not, that's okay, too.
3. Make sure you list the names of your grandkids.
4. Tell us, in a sentence or two, a little bit about them – their school, their accomplishments, what they love to do, how proud you are of them, etc.
5. Digital photos are best! Send them to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Print photos can be sent to:

*Grandkids*  
City Employees Club of Los Angeles  
120 W. Second St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
(800) 464-0452

If you want the print photo returned, make sure you write your name and phone number on the back.



"A 1972 Datsun 510."  
– Anita Olea, Personnel,  
Retired in 1980



"A 1936 Ford."  
– Tony Alvarez, General  
Services, Retired in 1990



"A Datsun roadster, a  
Fairlady, in red."  
– Dorothy Tamashiro,  
Controller's,  
Retired in 2002



"A 1955 Ford (in 1960)."  
– Jerry Olea, Airports,  
Retired in 2010



"A 1957 Chevy."  
– Phillip Orland, Rec and  
Parks, Retired in 2010

# What was your first car?



"A Chevy."  
– Carol Takafuji, ITA,  
Retired in 1996



"A Toyota Corolla."  
– Beverly Anderson,  
LAPD, Retired in 2010



"A 1950 Ford."  
– David Nix, ITA, Retired  
in 2010



"A 1960 Simca."  
– Dennis Harding, Public  
Works, 2005



"A Chevy."  
– Bob Cutler, Public  
Works, Retired in 1996

## For Retired Club Members

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and then some. Everyone took dollars without a problem. The exchange rate was 3.65 AED to the dollar.

After we left the mall, our next stop was the Mall of Dubai, where the Burj Khalifa is. It claimed to be the biggest mall in the world, and it featured an aquarium and all of the same stores at the Mall of the Emeritus and, if you can imagine, even more.

The elevator ride to the observation floor of the Burj Khalifa took exactly 60 seconds. There was no sensation of speed, but my ears popped. Half of the observation floor was outside, and the view was of course outstanding. We stayed about 25 minutes and then took the ride back down. While we were waiting for our group, I bought a “light” Coke for 6 UAE. The price wasn’t a surprise, but the surprise was the “pop top lid” – I hadn’t seen one of those in years. We had to wait a while for our bus due to a flat tire.

Our next stop was for pictures of the Burj Al Arab, the only seven-star hotel in the world. Built on an artificial island, the hotel took the shape of a sail of a boat. You cannot go into the hotel unless you are a guest or have a reservation for lunch, dinner, or high tea. It features 220 two-story suites, ranging from about 300 square feet to more than 2,000. Next time I will make reservations for high tea, at about \$120 per person, and get a better look. Nothing like keeping out the riff-raff.

Our last stop was a mosque that, although closed to us, did have a women’s prayer room. It was one of the largest in the area.

Dubai is very interesting and oil rich, trying to build an economy to maintain itself



once the oil is depleted. More than 75 percent of the population is expats who are here on work visas. The locals are taken care of with free housing and medical and education. There is very little crime and the streets are very clean. Nothing is old; even the old souk is new.

Dubai has become a haven for the very wealthy, as there is no income tax and no sales tax. However, to do business you must have a 51 percent partner who is native born, and there appears to be fees and licensing costs for just about everything.

We got back to the ship around 2:30 p.m. and stopped by the stores in the cruise terminal. I bought two key chains to get rid of my UAEs.

We were hungry, so we headed to the buffet, which means we wouldn’t be eating much for dinner.

After our naps, we sat on the balcony as the ship set sailed for Oman. We saw the port pilot leave the ship, which was interesting. The sun was setting and the reflection of the sun on the buildings made the skyline look like a fairytale city, which just maybe is what Dubai is.

We played bridge until 9 p.m. and then decided to go to the buffet for a snack. We found that the buffet was closed and the bistro was open. The problem was the menu was the same as our last visit (Don and Myrna’s third time with same menu). It seemed that they offered three different menus, which they rotate. We just haven’t been with the right rotation.

Today was Halloween, and many of the passengers and crew were dressed in costumes. Evelyn wore her witch’s hat, which she never leaves home without.

More next month.



Ski Dubai.

### REC AND PARKS

# Banning Ad-Dresses Fashion

The Banning Museum to hold special historic lecture on Victorian attire and etiquette.



Story courtesy Juliette McAllister, Banning Museum

The Banning Museum is offering City residents the chance to learn about Victorian style.

The museum’s third in a series of historical lectures, titled “Victorian Attire and Etiquette,” is scheduled for 10 a.m. Sat., June 23 at the museum, 401 East M St. in Wilmington.

“Victorian Attire and Etiquette” will be presented in three segments. Segment one features models wearing Victorian-era fashions that would have been worn for dinner parties, balls and afternoon tea from 1865-82. In segment two, attendees can learn



about the proper etiquette between a man and a woman, with a question-and-answer session afterwards. Session three’s models will be wearing Victorian-era fashions depicting the years 1883-1899.

This event is free to Friends of Banning Museum members and children under 12. Admission for non-members costs \$5, and no RSVP is required. For more details about this event or The Banning Museum, please contact Friends of Banning Museum at (310) 548-2005. Information on the Museum can also be found at [www.the-banningmuseum.org](http://www.the-banningmuseum.org).

### Phil Skarin Poetry Contest

# Winner!



Phil Skarin, longtime RLACEI leader, has run a poetry contest for a number of years. The current contest is named for him. Phil commented, “It was a very hard decision to make, and I thank everyone for participating.”

## Reflections About Snow Through a Window

By Marcella Butler, Tulsa, Okla.

During night’s silent peaceful rest,  
wrapped in your very test,  
assurance divine,  
knowing all is well  
between me and thee, oh God;  
the gentle snow fell  
when this occurred, I could not tell!

Through your infinite mercy  
I awakened to see  
that this, indeed, had come to be  
so softly yet persistently,  
silently yet victoriously  
as an enemy stealing into a camp.  
Imposing, challenging,  
subduing, conquering  
covering everything!  
A fresh white blanket  
chilling and damp!

As I peered through the window  
through hazy morning eyes,  
so much to my surprise,  
the snow was most assuredly there  
like the snow white crown  
that now adorns my hair.

This reminded me of the porcelain crown,  
snow, that you have sprinkled  
upon and around a majestic mountain peak  
holding your secrets, oh God,  
and wisdom we seek,  
the strong as well as the weak,  
standing in quiet assurance  
against the expanse of blue  
in majestic strength representing you!  
I am, now, white-headed too!



And, as the snow-crowned mountain  
proudly stands against the sky,  
everlasting God, so do I!  
I, too, withstand the elements of time  
softly, gently, quietly, patiently,  
through insistently and triumphantly!  
as you mold and shape the mountain and me,  
we travailing yet prevailing.  
(having survived the storms of time)  
Rest in your caring so very sublime!

During night’s silent rest  
I, wrapped in your very best,  
assurance divine  
knowing all is well  
between me and thee, oh God:  
The gentle snow fell.  
When this occurred, I could not tell.  
But just as the snow shall melt away  
revealing green and flowers one day,  
when birds and children come out to play,  
“Praise God” is all that I shall say!  
For all things will appear anew  
as welcomed as the morning dew.  
So shall one day I’ll come to be with you  
and see the snow from a different view!  
This will be just the beginning  
of my “new Life’s Story.”

Then my crown of white shall be exchanged  
for a radiant brand new crown of Glory!  
then, no more snow and no more nights  
but days shall be forever bright  
illuminated by the radiant light  
of our blessed Savior and Risen Lamb.  
These reflections remind me  
of who and whose I am!

## For Retired Club Members

RLACEI

# The Club at the Spring Meeting

**The major announcement: RLACEI members are going to be receiving *Alive!***



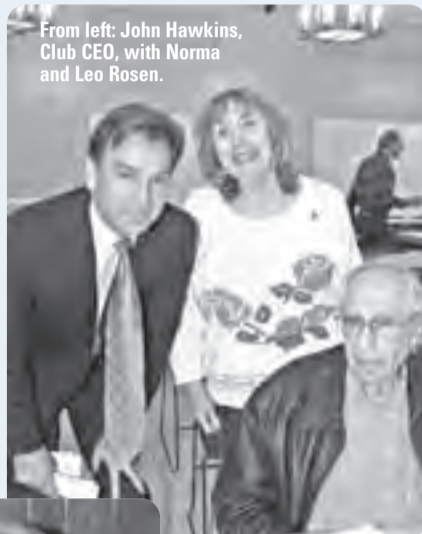
Story by Debbie Schroyer, Club Counselor; Photos by Robert Larios, Club Vice President of Operations

As it has for many years, the Club had a strong presence at the RLACEI annual spring meeting, held April 12 at the Friendship Auditorium.

We met longtime friends of the Club, and we met lots of new friends, too!

We also asked RLACEI members to answer fun questions, and to send in photos of their grandkids. We love family photos in *Alive!*

The Club is happy to be the official newspaper of the RLACEI, and we look forward to lots of RLACEI member participation.



From left: John Hawkins, Club CEO, with Norma and Leo Rosen.



Manuel De La Cruz, Public Works, Retired 1987.



Bebe Jacobsen, LAPD Behavioral Science, Retired 2003.



Shirley Tan, Controller's Office, Retired, 2009.



Harriet Montier, Retired 1995.



Phil and Mariam Skarin.



Mary Beetz, Personnel/Medical Services, and *Alive!* contributor, Retired 2009.



Irving Leemon, General Services, Retired 1999.



Dan Baldrige, Street Maintenance, Retired 1990.



Wilma Rebbe, LAPD, Retired 1970.

## AIRPORTS Cmdr. Brown, Leadership Grad

**Airport Police Commanding Officer Dana Brown graduates from LAFD Leadership Academy.**

Story courtesy Airport Police; Photos by Madelein Flanagan, Airport Police

Airport Police Commanding Officer Dana Brown, who oversees the agency's Administration Section in the Office of Support Services, recently graduated from the LAFD's Leadership Academy. She was elected the class speaker by her fellow graduates.

The LAFD Leadership Academy is based upon a military leadership curriculum with case studies specific to the fire dept.

LAFD Asst. Chief Andrew Fox described Commanding Officer Brown as "absolutely the best candidate we have so far." Dana Brown received a standing ovation for her remarks, in which she challenged classmates to "lead others to new heights."

"I am extremely proud and fortunate to have Dana as a member of our Airport Police family," said Airport Police Chief Michael Hyams. "Her contribution to establishing standards that serve to benefit the division is commendable."



Airport Police Commanding Officer Dana Brown delivers the commencement address.



Airport Police Commanding Officer Dana Brown (right) is congratulated by LAFD Asst. Chief Andrew Fox.

## FALEO Welcome, Arlene!

**Club Counselor gets rare honor to join Filipino-American law enforcement association.**



The FALEO LA Board, from left: Airport Police Officer III Peter Trance, 12 years of City service, Club Member, and President, FALEO LA; Airport Police Officer Jordan Espiritu, 6 years, Club Member, Sergeant of Arms of FALEO LA; Officer Arldwin Flores, LAPD, 14 years, Club Member, and Treasurer, FALEO LA; Christian Buado, Investigator for California DMV, and Director, FALEO LA; the Club's Products Manager, Arlene Herrero; Officer II Benjamin Llamas, LAPD, 5 years, and Secretary, FALEO LA; Officer II Christian Costales, LAPD, 4 years, Club Member, and Sergeant of Arms of FALEO LA; and Airport Police Officer Will Lara, 4 years, Club Member, and Director, FALEO LA.



Story and photos by Noelle Kauffman, Club Counselor

On Feb. 23, the Board Members of the Filipino-American Law Enforcement Officers (FALEO) honored the Club's very own Products Manager, Arlene Herrero, by making her an honorary member of the association and appointing her on the Board as "Sunshine Director." (The Club's Noelle Kauffman is also a member of the association.)

The event took place at the Sheriff's Dept. Stars Center Academy.

According to its mission statement, FALEO was incorporated in 2008 "to promote fraternal relationships and cultural awareness amongst all members (Sworn and Non-sworn) in law enforcement. To that end, FALEO is committed to supporting cultural, educational, recreational, and charitable services within our Communities." The association has two chapters- San Francisco and Los Angeles.

*Congratulations, Arlene! And special thanks to FALEO for this honor.*



Officer Arldwin Flores, LAPD, 14 years of City service, Club Member, and Treasurer for FALEO LA, swears in the Club's Arlene Herrero.



Airport Police Officer III Peter Trance, 12 years of City service, Club Member, and President, FALEO LA, welcomes the Club's Arlene Herrero to the association.