



For Retired Club Members

The Best Years

CITY RETIREE ASSOCIATIONS

Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)



Ed Harding, *RLACEI President*
www.rlacei.com
Contact him: (800) 678-4145 Ext. 703
E-mail: edwardjharding@rlacei.com

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.

Retiree Upcoming Events

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

- April 11:** RLACEI general meeting, Friendship Auditorium
- June 1:** DWP Retiree's Association picnic, Whittier Narrows – Meadows area
- June 6:** RLACEI golf tournament, Alhambra Golf Course
- Aug. 8:** RLACEI picnic, Grace E. Simons Lodge
- Sept. 19:** RLACEI annual corporation meeting and elections, Friendship Auditorium
- Dec. 5:** RLACEI holiday party, 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 202 W. First Street, Suite 500, (LA Times Building), Los Angeles, CA 90012. Hours: 8AM–5PM. 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. www.lacers.org

DWP Retirees Association



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

Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association (LARFPA)

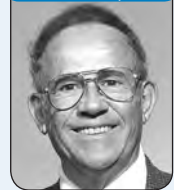


Bill Quinn, *President*
Phone: (323) 283-4441
Fax: (626) 285-1461
9521 Las Tunas Dr. #4,
Temple City, CA 91780
www.larfpa.org

RLACEI

Health Care Reform is Part Of General Meeting Agenda

2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



Ed Harding

By Ed Harding, **RLACEI President**

Next month's general meeting is going to be special. At the meeting, we're having a workshop titled "Health Care Reform: What Does It Mean to You?"

Come to this workshop to learn what changes are taking place as a result of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Experts will discuss changes impacting the health care industry, how health plan carriers are responding to them and the effects on LACERS' medical plans.

Mark this very informative workshop date in your calendar:

- **When:** 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. April 11. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.
- **Where:** Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90017

Presenting at the workshop will be:

- Herb K Schultz, Regional Director, U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Region 9
- Kenneth Reiff, MBA Executive

Account Manager, Kaiser Permanente

- Carmella Gutierrez, President, Californians for Patient Care
- Alex Rabrenovich, Division Manager, LACERS' Health Benefits and Communications

Questions will be answered at the end of each presentation.

There will be door prizes! Lunch and refreshments will be provided! Free parking!

To RSVP, please call RLACEI (800) 678-4145 x701.

See you there!

Detroit: Pensions Might Not Be Protected



Michael R. Wilkinson

RLACEI Law and Policy Issues by Michael R. Wilkinson

Detroit may be the worst-case scenario for how a crumbling economy, allegations of public corruption and a dwindling tax base can have devastating impacts on a city. Former Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick is currently on trial for federal racketeering charges [On March 11, 2013, Kilpatrick was convicted on more than 20 federal felony counts, including mail fraud, wire fraud, and racketeering. – Ed.] and the city has a budget deficit of more than \$300 million.

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder has acknowledged that, "If you look at the quality of services to

citizens, it is ranked among the worst [cities]." Considering the roughly \$14 billion in long-term debt for pensions and other obligations, Snyder sees a crisis that requires looking at renegotiation of all long term debts, including lifetime pension obligations to city workers.

On March 1, Snyder declared a financial emergency and recommended a state-appointed manager take-over, a move supported by the local chamber of commerce. The emergency manager will have broad powers to change existing contracts and also attempt to reduce long-term debts, including pensions to current and retired workers. The City Council has 10 days to appeal the emergency declaration.

While the outcome is uncertain for active and retired Detroit

municipal employees, they are clearly worried about the future. National Public Radio quoted a recent retiree who was concerned that the emergency manager could limit or even eliminate her pension.

Few other cities and states are in as dire straits as Detroit, and it is rare for the political leadership to mount a direct attack on the rights of retired workers, so this is unlikely to spark a trend. In addition, many jurisdictions, including California, have strong constitutional protections for public pensions (Article 16, Section 17 of the California Constitution). That said, Detroit is a warning to us all that we should remain vigilant and keep up with what is going on around us to protect our pensions for the future.



Michael Karsch

RLACEI Legislative Report – Pension Law and Policy by Michael Karsch

As public pensioners we enjoy the security of knowing our pension checks will be in fixed amounts paid to us on time every month. Ours is a defined benefit pension, meaning the checks are determined by the time we worked for the City according to the pension plan offered at the time of our being hired. Part of our pension is paid for by our own payments over all the years we worked, by matching amounts by the City, and by

income from investment of those funds over the years.

Much distress is emanating from the poor performance of the investment fund. Is it all due to the stock market's plunge from 2007 – 09?

According to a recent article in the *Wall Street Journal*, the pension gap in the private sector businesses that still provide pensions are suffering from persistently low interest rates. A pension fund must seek reliable returns that can safely provide enough money for pension payouts; this means one should not rely wholly on volatile stocks and other investment tools. For years before the current crisis,

the reliable investments were bonds that were tied to interest rates influenced by national decisions of banks and the Federal Reserve Board. The returns were reliable but not spectacular. Now the reliable interest rate portfolios are at very low rates, such as below one percent. Reliable, yes, but very low. I can refinance my mortgage at these low rates, but for those relying on interest-rate income, the payout is disappointing. United Parcel Service recently took a hit on its pension plan last year and blamed the downgrading of several banks

– continues, next page

RLACEI Legislative Report – Pension Law and Policy
by Michael Karsch

by Moody's Investors Service. Such a downgrade impacted UPS' holdings. It was the bonds held by those banks that had offered higher interest rates, but after the downgrade, holders of such bonds were well advised to invest elsewhere. Much of the turmoil is related to lower interest rates initiated by the Federal Reserve. UPS's discount rate fell 1.20 percentage points. Boeing's discount rate fell last year to 3.8 percent from 6.7 percent in 2007. That company said in a securities filing that a 0.25 percentage-point decrease in its discount rate would

add \$3.1 billion to its projected pension obligations.

The *Wall Street Journal* article noted that rising interest rates could reverse the dire condition of the private pension funds. The newspaper quoted an actuarial consulting firm (Milliman), saying that a 0.27 percentage point increase in the discount rate, plus strong equity (stock) returns in January, helped the deficit of the 100 largest corporate pension plans shrink by \$106 billion last month.

What does this mean for those of us in government pension plans?

To the extent that those plans are relying on interest rate denominated instruments, changes may have to be made into other, riskier equities that pay higher rates of return. Or wait for interest rates to rise. On the personal level of the individual retiree, if you are inclined to borrow, sooner is better while the rates are low. But your pension payments are protected; if the investment returns fail to meet expectations, the City picks up the difference in its own contribution to the pension plan.

– continued

For Retired Club Members

The **Best Years**

LACERS Update



Mary Beetz

By Mary Beetz,
RLACEI Publicity Chair

LACERS Wellness Workshop Scheduled for April 18, 2013

To kick off the LACERSWell campaign for 2013, the first of two LACERS Wellness Workshops will take place on Thursday, April 18, 2013, at the Friendship Auditorium in Griffith Park from 9 a.m. – noon. Space is limited. To register, visit

your LACERSWell webpage at www.lacers.org/health-webpage/index.html or call LACERS at (800) 779-8328.

A Limited Time Discount Hearing Aid Program Offered by Vision Service Plan (VSP)

LACERS Retirees and covered dependents enrolled in Anthem,

SCAN, or UnitedHealthcare automatically receive vision coverage through Vision Service Plan (VSP). For a limited time, VSP is also offering its enrollees up to 50% savings on digital hearing aids through TruHearing®. VSP's hearing aid discount program is available in addition to the comprehensive eye exams and discounts on contact lenses, glasses, and LASIK surgery that VSP offers its subscribers. Visit www.vsp.com/specialoffers to learn more about VSP benefits and special offers, or call VSP at (800) 877-7195, or TDD (800) 428-4833.

LACERS

RETIREMENT HELPLINE

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
- Phillip Orland Ext. 709
- Neil Ricci Ext. 714
- Helen Salgado (membership) Ext. 713
- Ken Spiker Ext. 705
- Tom Stemmcock Ext. 708
- Michael Wilkinson Ext. 712
- Questions: Ext. 0
- RSVP: Ext. 701

DWP Retirement Plan Office (213) 367-1722

RLACEI:

Officers

- Edward Harding: President
- Kenneth Spiker: First Vice President
- Tom Stemmcock: Second Vice President
- Hal Danowitz: Secretary/Treasurer

Committee Chairpersons

- Mary Beetz: Publicity
- Hal Danowitz: Finance
- Americo Garza: Picnic, Holiday Party and Installation
- Neil Ricci: Health and Nominating
- Helen Salgado: Membership
- Ken Spiker: Legal and Legislative
- Tom Stemmcock: Audit and Golf

Directors

- Mary Beetz
- Cliff Cannon
- Americo Garza
- Michael Karsch
- Gary Mattingly
- Phillip Orland
- Neil Ricci
- Helen Salgado
- Michael R. Wilkinson



Pension System Budget for 2014 Spelled Out at Meeting

LARFPA



Lee Kebler

By Lee Kebler,
LARFPA Director

We had a really great general meeting last month. Our guest speaker, Councilman Joe Buscarino, who represents the San Pedro area, started us off with a delightful talk on his philosophy on life and politics. Joe is a home-grown product, being born, raised and schooled in San Pedro, and he still lives there. His election campaigns were a team effort, with Joe and his wife going door to door talking to voters, attending public functions, participating in civic organizations and responding to public needs as a volunteer and a police officer. He won his first election

when Councilwoman Janice Hahn was elected to U.S. Congress. He promised the residents he would get rid of the parking meters in San Pedro. The parking meters have been removed. He just won his reelection receiving 85 percent of the votes and will be a real asset to San Pedro and the City Council.

One of the nice things that happens at our general meeting is the attendance of the General Manager of the Fire and Police Pension System, Rill Raggio. He gave the membership a briefing on the 2013-14 proposed budget for the Fire and Police Pension System. The cost will be a whopping \$1.96 billion, with the City's contribution more than \$566 million. Member contributions

and the investment earnings of \$454 million bring the total to \$1.021 billion, and the remainder of the funds to balance the budget of \$73 million will come from the corpus of the Pension Fund. As usual, GM Raggio was generous with his time, answering all questions regarding benefits and problems. Thanks again.

I want to remind our members to sign up for the barbecue and the next general membership meeting in June. The applications are in your LARFPA newsletter. If you aren't a member, you should join now and help support the directors in working to protect our member benefits. For more information, call our office (888) 288-5073.

Life After Retirement



I've received a letter from a retired employee wishing to connect with a coworker.

Gary G. Boehm worked as an LAPD Civilian employee from 1984 to 1995. He worked at Parker Center, Van Nuys and Foothill Divisions.

Gary would like to contact **Robert Howard**, a co-worker in the Records and Identification Division at Parker Center. Gary can be contacted at (818) 988-6713.

Gary feels that Robert may still be working, so if anyone knows Robert, please forward this information to him.

Gary, we hope contact with Robert is a success!

Feedback Requested

RLACEI is in the process of changing the way Retirees receive up-to-date news. We are also working on how to better serve you. Prior to implementing these changes, **we would like your opinion** on how we are doing, whether negative or positive. In addition, any ideas on how to better serve you would be appreciated. This is important to us! Submit your ideas or questions to Mary Beetz at (800) 678-4145, mbeetz4841@aol.com or at 137 Westmont Drive, Alhambra, CA 91801.

As a reminder:

If you have news about yourself, family or other retirees that you would like to share with our readers, send it and we will publish it.

If you would like to contact a former city employee that you met or worked with, send your contact information and we will publish it so

they can contact you.

Note: Due to our Confidential Policy, we do not give out any information without authorization.

Mail information to:

Mary Beetz at 137 Westmont Drive, Alhambra, CA, 91801 or Email mbeetz4841@aol.com

The Best Years

For Retired Club Members

2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



By Hal Danowitz,
Secretary, RLACEI

Voodoo in Togo

After a safari, Hal and Co. cruise from Cape Town to England.

PART SIX



Evelyn and I took a 38-day trip, which included four days at the Botlierskop Safari Resort near George, South Africa; a 28-day cruise on the *Ocean Princess* from Cape Town, South Africa, to London; and four days in London at the end. Don and Myrna, our cousins, took the cruise with us.

The itinerary was as follows: Cape Town; Lüderitz and Walvis Bay, Namibia; Cotonou, Benin; Lome, Togo; Dakar, Senegal; Mindelo, Cape Verde Islands; Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands; Casablanca, Morocco; Cadiz, Spain; Lisbon, Portugal; Le Havre, France; and Dover, England.

As we continue the story, it is around 7 a.m., and we are just arriving in Cotonou. It is the economic capital of Benin; the government is located in Porto Novo. Our tour that day visited both cities. Cotonou means "mouth of the river of death." It was here that the Dahomey Kingdom sent about 10,000 slaves per year to the Americas. When European powers attempted to halt the trade in human beings, the Dahomey refused to cooperate since their largest source of income would be lost. So Britain and France seized the areas. The French formalized their control of the colony in 1882, and slavery was banned forever. That is why French is the national language. The county gained its independence in 1960. The government is a multiparty democracy. All that being said, we were warned about the high crime in the area and to be careful. Voodoo was still practiced in the area.

That morning we had breakfast in our cabin. It was easier and quicker than going to the buffet.

We were to dock at around 7 a.m., but due to port traffic (a ship was in our berth) we didn't leave the ship for our tour until about 9:30 a.m. The bus did not have A/C, but the windows were open. The temperature was in the mid-80s, but it was humid. The tour operator provided water for us. We drove an hour from Cotonou to Port Novo to our first stop at the Museum Honmé, Palace of the Port Novo Kings, then to the Ethnographic Museum, then back to the Museum Honmé for a folkloric dance. Then we made the hour's drive back to Cotonou for the stop at the handicraft market. We purchased a warrior mask and a wall hanging. Then we went back to the ship.

The best part of the tour was driving in the cities and seeing the people in their daily life. The streets were a mixture of new, old, very old, rubble and the ever-present garbage.

Each street had its vendors lining the road, selling everything: food, tires, luggage, bootleg gasoline, furniture and everything you would need to set up housekeeping. There were cars on the road, but the main means of transportation was the motorbike/cycle. There didn't seem to be much public transportation. The motor-

bikes also served as taxis. We did not see any begging, like we did in India. We saw many schoolchildren dressed in uniforms. They were very friendly and polite. It was an eye-opening experience, and people who complain about our country should kiss the ground they walk on. Believe me, no one gets on a plane for a vacation in Benin.



The voodoo market in Togo.

Poor is an understatement, but education there is free and mandatory. One of our fellow passengers had candy and another had balloons. They were always a hit with the kids, so I reminded myself to check that night in the ship's shop for some wrapped candy. It's polite to ask if you can take their picture and then give or offer them something. Everywhere we were confronted with big eyes and smiling faces. Despite the low income of the country, the children looked reasonably well fed, clean and happy.

I decided it's possible to take the economic temperature of a country by seeing the shoes they wear. In Benin it was flip-flops.

We think of jazz melodies and voodoo coming from Jamaica, but it all came via the slave trade from West Africa that started between tribes in the 1400s and moved to the new world (Brazil) in the 1500s.

We ate dinner at the buffet and then played bridge. We set the clock back one hour, so we got an extra hour of sleep.

The next day, we traveled to Togo. I looked forward to our tours and hoped they were as interesting as those the day before. We docked in Lome, Togo, on time on the pier side, and the tour buses looked about the same as yesterday. But like yesterday we had a folkloric drum group and dancers to welcome us. I don't think too many cruise ships stop at these ports, so it was still a big deal.

Togo is another long, narrow country sandwiched between Benin and Ghana. In

the 1880s, Germany claimed the 32-mile coast between the French in Benin and the British in Ghana. After 1900, Germany decided to turn Togo into a model colony and began a program of building and development. It became the only German colony to be self-sufficient. In World War I, Togo was occupied by the French and British in 18 days. In 1960 Togo became independent.

It is now a republic transitioning to a multiparty democracy.

Our tour included the National Museum and the Fetish Market.

Our tour left on time, which was nice. The buses were the same as yesterday – no A/C but comfortable. We managed to get a seat with an open window on the right side of the bus, which was better for sightseeing. After many years we have learned the tricks of tour buses. The two guides took turns, both speaking reasonably good English. We also had a security person on the bus. We didn't feel unsafe in any of the ports.

Our first stop was the Fetish Market. For those of you unaware, a fetish market is a one-stop shop for all that is voodoo – bone, horn, toads' eyes, charms, dolls and anything prescribed by a voodoo priest to conduct whatever ceremony you want. We were told that the dolls sold were not real, though. Most of the other items looked authentic.

The sellers were very aggressive, and it was hard to deal with the large number of sellers at the same time. Evelyn took a picture of a young boy, and then he wanted her to give him money. It cost me a dollar to get her out of hock. She should have known. Here you bargain for everything. We bought two voodoo dolls and paid \$10 each. The experience wasn't very pleasant, but interesting.

Our next stop was the handicraft market, where the sellers had a much better attitude. Tourists still needed to bargain hard, and we bought a very nice wood statue and a wall hanging. It was impossible to know what a good price was, so we bargained to a point when we felt we made a good deal. We were told that the first price we were offered was double, so that gave us a base for bargaining. I now have three rules of shopping. The first is, if you like it, buy it, because you won't see it again (as in the next day). Second: Decide what it is worth to you and don't go over that amount. And third: Be prepared to walk away. If only I could take my own advice.

We then stopped at Independence Square and the National Museum. The museum was very interesting; the Togo people seem to be proud of the German colonization and the fact that it had been good for them. The colonial leaders were displayed alongside the current leaders at the museum.

We drove along the beach area to see the fishermen and found ourselves at the Togo/Ghana border, which seemed

a part of Lome. We then drove back to the docks to see the fish market and then back to the ship.

In comparing Togo and Benin, I think Togo is a little better developed, though it is a close call. We drove by the U.S. Embassy, and it made me wonder how much money you have to contribute to not get that job. I guess you could be stationed in Benin instead.

The port area was massive, with many ships anchored offshore. We saw a Mercy ship, which had been here for a number of months, providing free medical services. Our guide said that they had performed many cataract operations that restored sight for many people. It's a simple operation done every day in our country.

My observation about shoes is still a theory, but I noticed fewer flip-flops and more leather sandals in Togo. There were a few more cars, fewer bicycles and mopeds, and larger motorcycles.

I should mention the wonderful cotton prints worn by both the men and women. Loose-fitting pants and shirts on the men and wonderful dresses and headscarves were worn by the women. We saw women carrying all sorts of parcels and baskets on their heads. We tried to lift a pan filled with green coconuts that a woman had lowered from her head, and it was really heavy. It's quite an art. I guess you would say a learned skill. They walked everywhere with bundles large and small without much effort.



Evelyn at the fish market in Togo.

We had dinner in the dining room. The theme was Baltic; the staff wore Hawaiian shirts and the menu had a large selection of fish. Go figure.

The show was very good. Joe Sackenheim, part of the *Princess* onboard entertainment, performed an hour of songs from the 1940s, '50s, and '60s. He had a nice voice and a good stage presence.

Evelyn and I then went to the "African Nights" deck party around the pool. The weather was balmy and slightly breezy, and the party was illuminated by the stars and the lights of the ship. Really, it was very pleasant and romantic. We did not stay for the desert buffet.

Tomorrow we would arrive in Ghana, which will be in next month's article.



Our greeter in Togo.



Hal with a security guard in Benin.

RETIREES:

For Retired Club Members

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

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.

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

Retirements

Here's a listing of all those who retired from the City this month. To all we say, welcome to the Best Years!

NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS
Boyle, Patrick W.	Wwtr Treat. Elec. II	Public Works	5	Garcia, Robert D.	Comm. Electrician	ITA	25	Mohammadi, Reza	Envr. Engr. As. IV	Public Works	26
Calvo, Angel L.	Mgmt. Analyst II	Building & Safety	14	Guerrero, Luis E.	Traffic Officer II	Transportation	30	Norman, Karen E.	Fore. Print Spec. III	LAPD	30
Carstairs, Kathryn	Sr. Clerk Typist	LAPD	12	Hadley, Therese R.	Clerk Typist	ITA	30	Olliff, Frances	Sr. Clerk Typist	Rec and Parks	23
Castro, Gilbert Jr.	Sr. Civ. Engr. Dr. Te.	Public Works	17	Hahn, Janice K.	Councilmember	Council	10	Perez, Roberto	Event Attendant III	General Services	2
Cerna, Guadalupe L.	Mgmt. Analyst II	Airports	9	Kobayashi, Kurtis M.	Mgmt. Analyst II	LAPD	16	Sandt, Ellen	Asst. City Ad. Officer	CAO	22
Cobb, Jonathan	Ref. Coll. Truck Op. II	Public Works	34	Marmol, Romeo E.	Tax Auditor	Finance	23	Russell, Thomas A.	Sr. Asst. City Att.	City Attorney	10
Davis, Tony G.	Sr. Detention Off.	LAPD	34	Martinez, Carmen L.	Division Librarian	Library	8				



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877-801-5522 CA License #0252636

**Club Members!
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Auto Insurance!**

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DIRECT LINE FOR CLUB MEMBERS



Home and Auto Insurance
Services provided
for members of the
CITY EMPLOYEES CLUB

We also have great rates on Homes, Boats, Motorcycles, RV's,
Rental Properties and Apartment Buildings.

A FREE Benefit to members of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles



When it comes to their auto insurance, United Agencies has been serving hundreds of Club Members for years. We provide a high level of personal service, with some of the lowest rates in California. Come experience the difference in service you get when you say, "I'm with the Club!"

Take a look at how **United Agencies** stacks up against the competition!

	COMPANY	(91105 Zip Code)
California Automobile Insurance Premium Survey	Farmers	\$1,482
	State Farm	\$1,339
	Allstate	\$1,329
	Geico	\$1,311
	Auto Club	\$929
	United Agencies	\$876

These insurance products are brought to you by the Club's Partner, United Agencies, Inc. CA Lic. # 0252636 United Agencies represents Mercury Insurance Group, as well as Chubb Insurance, Hartford, Fireman's Fund, Progressive, Civil Service Employees Insurance, Allied, Safeco, Travelers, Unigard and Encompass.

The Best Years

RETIREES AROUND THE WORLD



1

Mediterranean



Gail Turner-Brown, Housing, Retired, 30 years of City service, aboard the Dave Koz and Friends Mediterranean cruise (Spain, Italy and France).



Take the Club with you, wherever you go!

Club members are a well-traveled bunch. Bring your recent copy of *Alive!* with you. Snap a **high resolution** photo with you **holding a copy**, send it in, and we'll publish it. Send to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

2

Philippines



Pablo Niño Franco Jr., Harbor, Retired, enjoyed the Cagsawa ruins, Daraga, Albay, Philippines.

3

Brazil



"My vacation pictures were taken when we were in Brazil in January."

– Joe Apohen, Public Works/Contract Admin., Retired

4

'Fancy Free'



Here's **DWP Meter Reading Retiree Bruce McKinney**, 30 years of City service, at Niagara Falls; in the subway outside Yankee Stadium in New York; in Cozumel, Mexico; and in Mahogany Bay, Roatán Island, Honduras.



For Retired Club Members

Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. is Proud to Present

Health Care Reform – What Does It Mean to You?

Come to this workshop to learn what changes are taking place as a result of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Experts will discuss changes impacting the health care industry, how health plans are responding to them, and the effects on LACERS medical plans.

Date: April 11, 2013

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.*

(Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.)

Location: Friendship Auditorium
3201 Riverside Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90027

Presenters will include:

Herb K. Schultz, Regional Director
U.S. Department of Health and Human
Services, Region 9

Kenneth Reiff, MBA Executive Account Manager
KAISER PERMANENTE

Carmella Gutierrez, President
Californians for Patient Care

Alex Rabrenovich, Division Manager
LACERS Health Benefits and Communications

**Door prizes! Lunch and refreshments will
be provided! Free parking!**

To RSVP, please call (800) 678-4145 Ext: 701

**The workshop will begin immediately after the
RLACEI General Membership meeting
scheduled from 9:30 – 10:00 a.m.*



The Best Years

35th Annual Retirees Invitational Golf Tournament



The 35th Annual Retired Los Angeles City Employees Invitational Golf Tournament will be held on Thursday, June 6, 2013 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 \$67 for R.L.A.C.E.I. and City Club Members (\$77 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 24th** to: Tom Stemnock, Chairman, 4040 Vineland Avenue, Suite 108, Studio City, CA 91604. For any questions, call Chairman Tom Stemnock at (818) 487-6789.

2013 Golf Tournament Reservation Form

Name _____ Phone _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____
 Zip _____
 Amount Included \$ _____ \$67 for R.L.A.C.E.I. and City Club Members (\$77 for all others)
 Luncheon Only: \$25

Make checks payable to R.L.A.C.E.I. NOTICE: SOFT SPIKES MANDATORY!

FOURSOME

Name	Member R.L.A.C.E.I.	Member City Club	Guest
1. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(check all that apply)

Reservation deadline: Friday, May 24th. Mail completed reservation form and check to:
Tom Stemnock, Chairman
 4040 Vineland Avenue, Suite 108, Studio City, CA 91604 • (818) 487-6789



Show Us Your Grandkids!

Retirees: *Alive!* wants to show off your grandkids! So send in those photos!

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 West 2nd 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.



Jack "Chester" Mathews
 May 1, 1926 – Feb. 18, 2013

In Memory of Jack

RLACEI

Jack Mathews, retired City Employee, long-time director of the RLACEI and former leader of the All City Employees Benefits Service Association, died in February. He was 86.

Jack "Chester" Mathews was born May 1, 1926 in Fordyce, Ark. to Arthur and Maeme Mathews. He spent his youth growing up in Arkansas with his older brother "Little Arthur" Mathews, a television personality. After moving from Arkansas, Jack spent the remainder of his youth living in Ohio and Nevada before settling in California.

When Jack became of age, he entered the Navy, where he served proudly. While in the Navy, he con-

tinued his love of sports by playing baseball. After leaving the Navy, Jack played professional baseball in Yuma, Ariz. Jack also spent his life as an acclaimed referee, being inducted to the Southern California Basketball Hall of Fame in 1996. Jack worked for the City of Los Angeles for 40 years.

His accolades include:

- Director, Retired Los Angeles Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)
- Board Member, Los Angeles Federal Credit Union
- 20th President, ACEBSA (Retired)

RLACEI expresses its sympathy to the family.

**"Death leaves a heartache
 No one can heal.
 Love leaves a memory
 No one can steal."**

