

# REAVC NEWS



Retired Employees Association of Ventura County - "Dedicated to Those who Have Already Served" November/December 2019

## President's Message

By Nancy Settle, REAVC President

Greetings, REAVC members.



As I write this letter, the east winds are howling outside during this record-breaking, high-wind event. I hope you all remain safe and out of harm's way as we face another fire season in California.

- **CRCEA Fall Conference Canceled**

Our REAVC Board Secretary, Will Hoag, and I were scheduled to attend the California Retired County Employees Association (CRCEA) Fall conference in Rohnert Park, Sonoma County on October 28 - 30. Unfortunately, the conference, as well as flights, were cancelled as Sonoma County evacuates over 186,000 people. A critical conference topic was insurance needs for wildfires and natural disasters which may be a timely topic for an upcoming REAVC Luncheon or newsletter article. We are indebted to our firefighters and first responders who risk injury and life for our safekeeping.

- **REAVC Holiday Luncheon - December 3, 2019**

We look ahead to the upcoming holidays and hope to get a good turnout for our REAVC Holiday luncheon on December 3 at Sterling Hills. The deadline for reservations is November 20, 2019. Seating is limited and space is filling up. Contact:

♦ Judy Sewell, 805/654-8304, sewllj119@sbcglobal.net  
or

♦ Cindi Mathieu, 805/525-2885, cccindi66@gmail.com

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*"As it gets closer to the end of this year with Thanksgiving and the holidays coming up, I remind myself of REAVC's mission - to protect the benefits of retirees, and, where possible, to gain enhancements to those benefits. It takes the continued support of you, our members, to help achieve this mission."*

**Nancy Settle, President  
REAVC**

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if you have any questions. This will be a merry event with prizes and entertainment.

- **PGA Supplemental Insurance**

You should have received the Pacific Group Agencies, Inc. (PGA) open enrollment booklet for Supplemental Insurance. While PGA is offered through REAVC (only REAVC members can participate), REAVC has no details on the plans being offered. We do know that 15 other County Retiree Associations offer PGA supplemental insurance and all have indicated satisfaction with the program. For more information please contact PGA directly at (800) 511- 9065 or [www.pgagenies.com/reavc](http://www.pgagenies.com/reavc).

- **Opportunities**

There are many opportunities as a REAVC Board member. Perhaps you would consider joining the REAVC Board. Let us know by contacting us at our email address or call us at 805-644-7814

- **Year's End**

As it gets closer to the end of this year with Thanksgiving and the holidays coming up, I remind myself of REAVC's mission - to protect the benefits of retirees, and, where possible, to gain enhancements to those benefits. It takes the continued support of you, our members, to help achieve this mission. We thank you for this. It also takes the efforts of our Board of Directors who serve on numerous REAVC Committees. Board member efforts include legislative review,

membership recruitment, newsletter, scholarships, informational speakers, website, budget, representation on the Ventura County Employees Retirement Board (VCERA), and California Retired County Employees Association (CRCEA). Many thanks to each of our Board members and our Executive Assistant!

On behalf of the REAVC Board, I wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year!

### **See's CANDIES Certificates**

See's CANDIES certificates will still be \$16 each through the rest of this year and 2020.

These certificates make great gifts for Christmas or other occasions. They don't spoil, expire, and are easy to mail or wrap.

See's CANDIES gift certificates are available to purchase at any of the REAVC Membership Luncheons or by mail order. Just look for the "Candy Man" table at our luncheons.

To order by mail:

- Make a check out to "REAVC".
- Include a self-addressed stamped envelope (each gift certificate weighs about 1/2 ounce).
- Send the check and the self-addressed stamped envelope to  
REAVC - See's, P.O. Box  
7231, Ventura, CA 93006

For more information, please call (805) 644-7814.

# Tickets go Fast and Seating is Limited. Get Your Tickets Today!

Join us as we Celebrate the Holidays at the

## **REAVC HOLIDAY LUNCHEON**

**Tuesday, December 3, 2019, at 12:00 p.m.**

**Sterling Hills Country Club, 901 Sterling Hills, Camarillo, CA 93010**

(Doors Open at 11:00 a.m.)

Come enjoy the entertainment and games, and perhaps, win a \$50 gift certificate.

**COST: \$10 for REAVC Members; \$20 for Guests**

**Reservations must be made in advance** by completing the form below and mailing it, along with a check payable to REAVC, to the following address:

**REAVC - Luncheon  
P.O. Box 7231  
Ventura, CA 93006-7231**

**The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, November 20, 2019**

Be sure to send in your reservation early, as seating is limited.

Once the seating limit is reached, reservations will be placed on a wait list.

*For questions regarding reservations or cancellations, please contact*

*Judy Sewell at 1-805-654-8304 - sewellj119@sbcglobal.net, or*

*Cindi Mathieu at 1-805-525-2885 - cccindi66@gmail.com*

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**Registration form for the REAVC Holiday Luncheon 12/3/2019**

**PLEASE PRINT**

Name(s) of REAVC Member(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of Guest(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Included for: \_\_\_\_\_ Member(s) at \$10.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Guest(s) at \$20.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

**No Refunds after Wednesday, November 20, 2019**



# Board of Retirement Report

*By Art Goulet*



In September, VCERA's assets gained 1.5%, increasing to \$5.90 billion. This gain essentially recovered VCERA's losses of the month before.

At the Board's September 23 meeting, VCERA's Fiduciary Counsel, Ashley Dunning, delivered a presentation on the fiduciary responsibility of the Board with respect to the disability retirement application process. It was well done and enlightening. Her slide presentation is available on the VCERA website. If you would like to see it, click on "Board of Retirement", then "2019 Meeting Agendas and Minutes", and then under "September 23 Agenda" go to Master Page 47.

On October 7, Jordan Roberts was sworn in as a General Member Trustee, replacing Dan Shapiro for the remainder of his term, which ends December 31, 2021. Jordan is a civilian employee of the Fire Department and currently serves as Public Safety Dispatch Supervisor over Training at the Fire Communications Center.

Also on October 7, the Board committed an additional \$50 million to Harbourvest Partners Real Assets Fund IV. As reported previously (when the initial \$50 million commitment to this fund was made in July), VCERA has been investing in various Harbourvest funds since 2013 with favorable results and, with this commitment, the total committed to Harbourvest funds will be \$332.5 million.

Additionally on October 7, as a follow-up to Ms. Dunning's September 23 presentation, VCERA staff brought forward several potential options to address issues identified in that presentation in the current disability retirement application pro-

cess. After a lengthy and thorough discussion, the Board adopted Option 3 (Full In-house Independent Investigation) whereby VCERA would become the primary investigator of applications, replacing the County Risk Management Division. Risk Management would still retain all rights as a party to take a position on any application. This will be a major change, so will not happen overnight. Staff will be returning with a proposed implementation plan and cost analysis for this process. The pros and cons addressed are somewhat complicated, so if you are interested in more detail, go to the VCERA website and proceed as described above to the October 7 Agenda, then to Master Page 308. You may also review the discussion of that item (VII.B) on P.6 of the minutes for that meeting.

At its October 21 meeting, the Board adopted VCERA's 2019-2020 Business Plan. The Plan identifies as its most critical objective "Work(ing) with County Auditor-Controller's (A-C) Office to Accelerate Correction Process". This pertains to correcting the errors in payroll and data furnished to VCERA by the A-C, which affects VCERA's ability to perform its duty to its members to ensure they receive the retirement benefits to which they are entitled. VCERA staff returned to the Board on November 4 with a comprehensive history of the issue, assessment of the associated risk, and potential next steps for how to mitigate it. The extent of the errors and number of active employees affected was startling! The first step agreed upon is for certain Board members and staff to meet with the A-C and County CEO to impress upon them the importance of timely corrections.

On the same date, the Board committed \$50 million to Brookfield Infrastructure Fund IV, VCERA's first foray into infrastructure, to complement VCERA's commitments to Harbourvest Partners Real Assets Fund IV. It also committed an additional \$25 million to the PIMCO Private Income Fund, bringing the total commitment to that fund to \$55 million.

## PapaB1's Ramblings

By Butch Britt

### Things that you were Taught in High School that you Knew you Would Never use - or Maybe?

Those of us who went to high school in the 50's or 60's probably remember asking the teacher, "Why do I need to learn this? I'm never going to use it." How many of us have ever used Avogadro's number or logarithm tables in the past ten or even twenty years, or Shakespeare's, *"Tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow creeps in its petty pace from day to day"...*? Duh. Tomorrow is what happens whether you memorize that soliloquy or not. Can't stop it. Don't try.



One of my teachers loved Robert Frost. Really! A white-haired old guy that couldn't even play shortstop. *"Whose woods these are I think I know. His house is in the village though. He will not see me stopping here to watch his woods fill up with snow..."*

First, what doctor do you know who makes house calls in the middle of winter – even in 1960, in a horse and buggy no less? And does that make it okay to trespass on private property? What kind of message did that send to young people? It's a wonder we didn't all end up in jail.

But over the years, maybe, I've mellowed, and I keep coming back to the last stanza, *"The woods are lovely, dark, and deep. But I have promises to keep. And miles to go before I sleep. And miles to go before I sleep."*

I admit that I do like taking my nap in the afternoon, and sometimes I wake up just in time to go to bed. But I also like being with my wife, kids, and grandkids. I like working on the REAVC Board. I still like doing a little engineering consulting. Overall, I enjoy trying (not always successfully), to be a good person and productive engineer. I'm not ready to take that second leap to the long sleep yet. St. Pete will have to come and get me, and I hope to argue all the way.

We have probably all slowed down a bit, and aches and pains go along with the wisdom of old age. My advice to you, as a newly-minted or aged-to-perfection retiree, is to kick that horse in the rear end and tell old Bobby Frost that you are not ready to take the long nap for a long time. You've earned your retirement. Enjoy it.

Looking forward to seeing you at the next REAVC event. I'll be the fat, bald guy at the candy table. Stop by and say hello. You don't even have to buy any certificates.

PAPAB1 – AKA - Butch Britt/

## Contact Us

For more information about who we are and to learn how to join.

**Retired Employees Association of Ventura County (REAVC)**

**P.O. Box 7231**

Ventura, CA 93006-7231

(805) 644-7814

[info@reavc.org](mailto:info@reavc.org)

Visit us on the web at [www.reavc.org](http://www.reavc.org)

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# Congratulations New County Retirees!

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Teresa **Barrera**, Health Care Agency  
Stanton **Cowen**, Pollution Control District  
John C. **Davis**, Health Care Agency  
Wayne P. **Freeman**, Health Care Agency  
Robert M. **Gross**, Health Care Agency  
Susan **Hart-Ramos**, Human Services Agency  
Michael B. **Henderson**, Care Agency  
Trula **Kinseth**, Health Care Agency  
Gregory **Martinez**, Public Works Agency  
Elaine **McClearen**, Sheriff's Department  
Kimberly N. **Michael**, District Attorney  
Dina **Ontiveras**, Area Agency on Aging  
Lawrence **Orie**, Sheriff's Department  
France **Park**, Retirement Association  
Robert **Robledo**, Sheriff's Department  
Michele **Roth**, Health Care Agency  
Michella **Samsel**, General Services Agency  
Victoria **Satterfield**, Superior Court  
Darryl **Smith**, Sheriff's Department  
John **Torres**, Probation Agency\*

Alma **Betancourt**, Human Services Agency  
Anita **Candelaria**, Public Defender  
Ron **Cayou**, Human Services Agency  
Patrice **Davis**, Health Care Agency  
Maria **De La Rosa**, County Counsel  
Philip **Duffield**, Sheriff's Department  
Jonathan **Eymann**, Health Care Agency  
Thomas **Fennell**, Health Care Agency  
Beatrice **Frias**, Health Care Agency  
Connie **Mah**, Treasurer - Tax Collector  
Karen **Normington**, Health Care Agency  
Theresa **Olmstead**, Superior Court  
Anne **Peters**, Superior Court  
Thomas M. **Rooney**, Airport  
Debra **Scantlin**, Sheriff's Department  
Laurie **Smith**, CEO  
Glenna **Streed**, General Services Agency  
Joseph **Thayer**, Information Technology Services  
Laura L. **Thompson**, Probation Agency  
Beverly **Weatherford**, Health Care Agency  
Brian **Weingart**, Assessor\*

Robert **Bartnett**, Probation Agency  
Glen **Blevins**, General Services Agency  
Thomas **Boscarella**, Health Care Agency  
David **Brantley**, Sheriff's Department  
Carrie **Broggie**, District Attorney  
Catherine **Carter**, Human Services Agency  
Richard **Denham**, Assessor  
Maureen **Dougherty**, Health Care Agency  
Behnam **Emami**, Public Works Agency  
Marcy **Erickson**, Health Care Agency  
Gregory **Guilin**, Sheriff's Department  
Yvonne **Hornsby**, Sheriff's Department  
Gary **Lowery**, Health Care Agency  
Susan **Luberto**, Assessor  
Elizabeth **Main**, District Attorney  
Ana-Maria **Maldonado**, Probation Agency  
Jae **McNay**, Sheriff's Department  
Heidi **Mellein**, Assessor  
Deborah E. **Miller**, Health Care Agency  
Vincent **Morda**, Superior Court  
Gail **Perkins**, Health Care Agency  
John **Ryan**, Public Works Agency  
Michael **Schwartz**, District Attorney  
Kelley **Thomas**, Human Services Agency  
Michaela **Villegas**, Air Pollution Control District  
Dennis **Wellwood**, Health Care Agency  
Theresa **White**, Superior Court  
Linda **Whobrey**, Child Support Services  
Kerby **Zozula**, Air Pollution Control District\*\*

\*From 9/23/19 VCERA Board of Retirement Business Meeting and Retreat Agenda; \*\* From 10/21/19 VCERA Board of Retirement Business Meeting Agenda

## **Collette Travel Update**

***The next Collette Travel presentation  
will be held February 4, 2020. See the  
upcoming REAVC newsletter for  
further information.***

# *In Memoriam*

*Deepest Sympathy is Extended to the Families and Friends  
of the Following Retirees who Have Passed Away*

Patrick **Buckley**, September 10, 2019      Edward **Sizemore**, September 17, 2019  
Harold **Duke**, September 5, 2019      Donald **Sperling**, September 9, 2019  
David **Garner**, September 27, 2019      Denny **Tuan**, September 5, 2019  
Julian **Macdonald**, September 1, 2019  
George F. **Peters**, September 6, 2019

<b>REAVC CALENDAR JANUARY – DECEMBER 2019</b>		
<u><b>January 2019</b></u> <b>15 – REAVC Board Meeting</b> Jan/Feb Newsletter mailed out mid-month	<u><b>February 2019</b></u> <b>15</b> Articles due for Mar/Apr newsletter <b>28</b> Last date for reservations for March luncheon	<u><b>March 2019</b></u> <b>12</b> General Membership Luncheon Mar/Apr newsletter mailed mid-month
<u><b>April 2019</b></u> <b>2 REAVC Board Meeting</b> <b>14-17</b> CRCEA Conf San Diego <b>15</b> Articles due for May/Jun newsletter <b>30 NOTE: DEADLINE FOR 2019 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION!!</b>	<u><b>May 2019</b></u> <b>22</b> Last day for reservations for June luncheon May/Jun Newsletter mailed mid-month	<u><b>June 2019</b></u> <b>4</b> General Membership Luncheon Scholarship Award Presentation <b>11 REAVC Board Meeting</b> <b>13</b> Articles due for Jul/Aug newsletter
<u><b>July 2019</b></u> Jul/Aug newsletter mailed mid-month	<u><b>August 2019</b></u> <b>6 REAVC Board Meeting</b> <b>16</b> Articles due for Jul/Aug newsletter <b>21</b> Last day for reservations for September luncheon	<u><b>September 2019</b></u> <b>3</b> General Membership Luncheon Sep/Oct newsletter mailed mid-month
<u><b>October 2019</b></u> <b>1 REAVC Board Meeting</b> <b>16</b> Articles due for Nov/Dec newsletter	<u><b>November 2019</b></u> <b>20</b> Last day for reservation for December luncheon Nov/Dec newsletter mailed mid-month	<u><b>December 2019</b></u> <b>3</b> General Membership Luncheon <b>10 REAVC Board Meeting</b> <b>13</b> Articles due for Jan/Feb newsletter

## 2019 REAVC OFFICERS, BOARD MEMBERS, and STAFF

<i><b>Officers</b></i>	<i><b>Board Members</b></i>	<i><b>Staff</b></i>
President - Nancy Settle	Butch Britt	Executive Assistant Sharon Hurault
1st Vice President - Roberta Griego	Colleen Bruns	
2nd Vice President - Ken Cozzens	Anne Dana	
Secretary - Will Hoag	Colleen House	
Treasurer - Paul Callaway	Tom McEachern	
Immediate Past President - Art Goulet	Reddy Pakala	
	Cindy Schneider	
	Kelly Shirk	
	Associate Member Representative Maryellen Benedetto	

*Revised 9/2019*



Retired Employees Association of Ventura County (REAVC)  
P.O. Box 7231  
Ventura, CA 93006-7231

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