



# REAVC

NOVEMBER – DECEMBER 2024

*“Dedicated to Those Who Have Already Served”*

## 2024 BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF

President – Reddy Pakala	Directors	
1 <sup>st</sup> VP – Roberta Griego	Colleen Bruns	Jacque Richardson
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP – Ben Emami	Anne Dana	Cindy Schneider
Secretary – Will Hoag	Tracey Pirie	Kelly Shirk
Treasurer – Paul E. Callaway	Lyn Krieger	Bookkeeper – Butch Britt
Immediate Past Pres. -- Nancy Settle	Tom McEachern	Exec. Asst. - Dee Emami
Associate Member Rep. – Maryellen Benedetto	Board of Retirement Alternate – Maeve Fox	Board of Retirement – Art Goulet

## MESSAGE FROM REAVC PRESIDENT - REDDY PAKALA

There’s a chill in the air, stores are starting to play holiday music, and sales galore. It’s certainly a suitable time to count our blessings and look forward to another year. Happy Holidays and a safe and happy 2025 to all of you from your REAVC Board and me.

The REAVC Board of Directors recently approved the following individuals for another two-year term ending December 31, 2026: Anne Dana, Paul Callaway, Lyn Krieger, Tom McEachern, Cindy Schneider, Kelly Shirk, Reddy Pakala, and Jacque Richardson. I thank all REAVC Board Members for their willingness to contribute their time and dedication.

Our REAVC Holiday Luncheon is approaching on December 3 at Sterling Hills. This newsletter provides information about how to sign up for the luncheon. It should be an enjoyable time, and we hope you can attend. Don’t wait too late; this event fills up fast.

REAVC’s appeal to the State Supreme Court against VCERA’s decisions, which have the impact of reducing many of our members’ current pension amounts, is still in progress. A brief has been filed, and we anticipate the State Supreme Court will render a decision in mid-2025.

If you are interested in getting further information on VCERA’s implementation plan or other information on the Alameda Decision, go to [vcera.org/Alameda](http://vcera.org/Alameda). Your REAVC Board had asked VCERA to delay implementation until the State Supreme Court renders its decision, but this request was not considered.

The legal costs to support REAVC’s litigation effort have been considerable, and financial support is still needed. If you would like to support REAVC’s efforts, please send a check made payable to REAVC (you can put “Litigation Fund” on the memo line of the check) and mail it to REAVC C/O Butch Britt – Bookkeeper, 1976 Lathan Avenue, Camarillo, CA 93010. You may also use the “DONATE” button on the REAVC website ([reavc.org](http://reavc.org)) if you wish to contribute using a credit card.

Again, best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season and a safe and happy 2025!

---

### EDITOR’S NOTE: The November/December newsletter is late due to the impacts of the Mountain Fire.

Ben Emami uses Constant Contact to send the newsletter via email. If you need to update your contact information, please contact Ben via [info@reavc.org](mailto:info@reavc.org) or REAVC, P.O. Box 7231, Ventura, CA 93006. Please indicate “Address Update” on written correspondence. You can save REAVC dollars for other membership needs by requesting a PDF version of the newsletter by email at [info@reavc.org](mailto:info@reavc.org).

## VCERA RETIREMENT BOARD NEWS – ART GOULET

August and September's investment results continued to move upward, with a 2.0% gain in August, bringing the Retirement System's portfolio value up to \$8.48 billion and 1.5% in September, bringing it to \$8.59 billion. So far, for the first quarter of the 24-25 fiscal year, preliminary earnings have been 4.9%.

The VCERA Board of Retirement (BoR) was dark for the month of August.

At its September 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, the BoR committed an additional \$30 million to Harbourvest Partners Infrastructure Opportunities Fund III, bringing its commitment to that fund up to \$105 from the \$75 million it had committed in September 2023. In addition to this Harbourvest fund, the BoR has committed \$427.5 million to a variety of other Harbourvest funds.

At the same meeting, the BoR committed \$50 million to Arbour Lane Credit Opportunity Fund IV.

When it met on September 30<sup>th</sup>, the BoR committed \$100 million to Sculptor Real Estate Fund V.

The late September meeting was primarily a Retreat during which the BoR and Staff heard a couple of industry presentations as well as from two very new staff members, the Communications Officer and the Disability Manager, who explained any changes they were planning, as well as providing the BoR with insight into what their positions were responsible for.

After a fairly lengthy recruitment process, including the time it took to work with County HR to create a new classification and commensurate salary, VCERA has hired a new Investment Officer to support Chief Investment Officer Dan Gallagher in managing a growing and complex investment portfolio. Her name is Paris Ba, and she comes to VCERA from the San Joaquin County Employees' Retirement Association (SJCERA), where she was a Retirement Investment Officer. Prior to holding that position, she was employed as a Global Fixed Income Information Officer/Analyst at CalPERS. Paris earned a Master's Degree in Economics from UC Davis, and is a Chartered Financial Analyst.

---

## PAPA B1 - BY BUTCH BRITT



# The TWILIGHT ZONE

This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC](#)

**WHO KNOWS WHAT LURKS IN THE SHADOWS OF THE INTERNET?**

I suppose as I grow older (more mature but not wiser) there are more and more things that really frost my chops (AKA – MAKE ME MAD). Forget “voice mail hell” and “Thank you for your service”. Mostly those roll off my back like dew, and with a quick shrug, one or two gol-dang-its, and I just get on with it.

But things that don’t work, and no one seems to know why, that’s number ONE on my list. A current example is the INTERNET. Goes down without warning sometimes. Usually in the middle of my trying to check my fantasy football scores or check my fan mail. Well, my fan mail que is usually zero, but one can always hope. Most of the time, I can just unplug it the thing with the flashing lights that plugs into the computer, wait five excruciating minutes, plug it back in, and it will reboot good as now.

But this time rebooting five or maybe 22 times did not work. I contacted the UNKNOWN company that provides my internet service, and they suggested I unplug and reboot or use the handy-dandy on-line tutorial to report my problem. Of course, I had to go through 22 minutes of voice mail hell to get to a live person. I just wish I could understand him. I tried shouting, but that didn’t seem to faze him. He didn’t seem to understand that I couldn’t use the on-line tutorial, without internet service.

After some time, he tried running remote diagnostics on my router. What’s a router you say? Well, I only know because I seem to be unplugging it at least 22 times every month. Finally, he opined that the problem was not on their end, their signal was getting through to my house, but not through my router. Gadzooks, a dead router! Is there no end to this mess. I mourn for the people in far off countries that seem to be dropping off the planet in hordes every day, but this is a catastrophic event! Well, the router is over 15 years old, a millennium in electronic years, so maybe it is time to consider replacing it.

The representative from the UNKNOWN company, who still seemed to be speaking Klingon, kept talking. I turned my hearing aid up to full blast, and finally understood that they were offering to send me a new router via Pony Express in only 22 business days or less, for 3 months free, but after that it would be an addition of \$15 to my monthly bill – which is already reaching the magnitude of the national debt. My initial inclination was to refuse and just go to a local Office Electronic Gizmo store, buy a new router, and try to replace it myself. But I remember the last time I tried to do something like this, I nearly burned down the house. My family remembers this too and reminded me of that most vocally. And somewhere in the back of my mind (or what’s left of it), I seemed to recall that the only router that the UNKNOWN company will work with is the one they furnished. Don’t know why. I suspect it may or may not be true, but I couldn’t play with fire – again.

The person who only seemed to only speak Klingon, assured me that it was a “plug and play” or easy to install procedure. I know it won’t be, but if I can’t figure it out, I can always call on my oldest grandson to help. Or I could apply for witness protection and move to another state or country.

I looked around the room at the faces of my grandkids who were already starting to space out because they couldn’t play “Roadblocks” or other games on their hand-held gizmos and figured out that I was between a rock and the end of the world as I know it. I meekly acquiesced to the Klingon on the phone and his surrender demands, and after asking me again, who I was, and what my phone number was, I was left with authorizing payment for a new router and a promise to have it delivered in warp speed, or whenever the next ship docks in Camarillo, whichever comes in last.

I know it’s not going to be easy. To get all my services back, I’m going to have to look up all my 22+ different passwords for Netflix, U-tube, local newspaper, credit union, on-line buying, and everything else, and see if they will reinstate me. And PapaB is getting a little old to be scrunching under my desk unplugging and reconnecting wires and stuff.

If you are reading this, I might have gotten my internet service back up OR I figured out an alternate way to get this epistle to our valiant REAVC newsletter editor. I’m thinking about smoke signals. I’ll let you know next issue what happens. Besides if I don’t keep you in suspense, you might not read this column next issue.

*Spoiler Alert: The box that was supposed to contain the router arrived today. Long story short – no router in the box. Minus one for the Klingons. Come back next month to find out if I have changed providers or decided to go back to the stone age*

*and live without internet. Suspect I will bow to the pressure once again. If you saw smoke over my house, it was me sending smoke signals to our able editor to meet the newsletter deadline.*

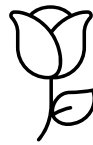
On another note, I hope to see you at the REAVC Christmas Luncheon. (Can we call it Christmas anymore?) If not BAH HUMBUG to the WOKE Patrol. Anne promises a few surprises, a fantastic lunch, door prizes, and singers galore. Anyway, at the next luncheon, I'll be the fat bald guy in the white beard, trying to make enough money to pay my internet bill by selling Sees Candy gift cards. Stop by and buy a few cards, or just say "Merry Christmas". They usually put us in the back corner where few people can find us. Good marketing strategy!

### CONGRATULATIONS TO NEW RETIREES

GARY WILFRED	BUTTERWORTH	COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE	8/31/2024
ARLENE	ARVE	FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT	8/3/2024
MELISSA	BECKHAM	REGIONAL SANITATION DISTRICT	9/1/2024
LINDA JUNE	BENYOUNG	SHERIFF'S OFFICE	8/22/2024
JORGE MARIO	BERMUDEZ	ASSESSOR	8/31/2024
TAMARA LOUISE	BUTTERWORTH	HEALTH CARE AGENCY	8/20/2024
GEORGE WONG	CABASUG	HEALTH CARE AGENCY	8/31/2024
ANNA M	CHAVE	HEALTH CARE AGENCY	8/31/2024
DAVID BRIAN	COLLISON	FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT	8/23/2024
SUZANNE	CRAFT	HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY	8/17/2024
ROSA H	CRAIG	SHERIFF'S OFFICE	8/24/2024
SYLVIA S	DE SANTIAGO	HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY	8/3/2024

## IN MEMORIUM

**LOVED ONES LIVE ON IN OUR HEARTS FOREVER**



**LORI BOYCE**

**MARY J. DAVY**

**ALBERT LYONS**

**BARBARA MICHELS**

**BENJAMIN S. PUGAY**

**ROBERT E. SCHULTZ**

**DANA R. SHEA**

**PHYLLIS A. SILVER**

**SALLY WILLIAMS**

**A member's surviving spouse is eligible for REAVC membership. Applications are available on the REAVC website at [www.reavc.org](http://www.reavc.org).**

# GOLDEN FUTURE 50+ SENIOR EXPO

Southern California's Premier Lifestyle, Health & Active Aging Expo



**THURS. DEC. 5TH 2024**

9:00AM - 1:30PM

**OXNARD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

800 HOBSON WAY  
OXNARD, CA 93030



## EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:

- Free Admission & Free Parking!
- 50+ Vendor Booths!
- Free Tote Bag with Goodies!
- Expert Talks on Retirement, Scams, Health/Wellness & More!
- Hourly Door Prizes!
- Free Haircuts & Nail Manicures!
- Clinical Trials & Health Screenings!
- DIY Jewelry OR Suncatcher!
- Bingo with Cash Prizes!
- Free Samples, Giveaways & More!

SCAN QR CODE TO  
PRE-REGISTER



**14<sup>th</sup>**  
ANNIVERSARY  
☆☆☆☆

**FREE ENTRY!**



PRE-REGISTER ONLINE OR AT THE DOOR



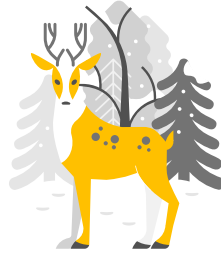
[WWW.GOLDENFUTURESENIOREXPO.COM](http://WWW.GOLDENFUTURESENIOREXPO.COM)

## REAVC LIST OF SOCIAL SERVICES

The go-to resource for “where to find anything” is 211, a 24-hour helpline with an incredible list of County services. Below is a list of county-wide resources, some of which were recommended by other seniors.

Ventura Crisis Line	800-273-8255
Area Agency on Aging	VCAAA.org
Food Share	Foodshare.com
W.I.C.	FNS.usda.gov/wic
Knights of Columbus	Kofc.org
Home Helpers	homehelpershomecare.com
Many Meals	manymealsoftcamarillo.org
Ventura Avenue Adult Center	805-648-3035
Independent Living Resource Center	ilrc-trico.org
Livingston Hospice Care	lmvna.org
Senior Concerns	seniorconcerns.org
Home Caregivers of Ventura	caring.com/senior-care 800-973-1540
Senior Council on Aging, Camarillo	NCOa.org
Camarillo Council on Aging	cityofcamarillo.org/residents/seniors
Housing Resources guide Camarillo	cityofcamarillo.org
Ventura Downtown Lions Club	venturalions.org
Salvation Army	ventura.salvationarmy.org
Help at Salvation Army	needhelppayingbills.com
Catholic Charities	catholiccharitiesusa.org
Livingston Visiting Nurses Bereavement Group	lmvna.org-grief&bereavement
Turning Point	turningpointfoundation.org
Project Understanding	projectunderstanding.org
One Stop showers, mail delivery	vchca.org/health-care-for-the-homeless
Four Generations Foundation	fourgenerationsfoundation.org
Senior Support Line	camhealth.com/senior-support-line
NAMI National Alliance	nami.org programs and services
Ventura Counseling/Wellness Center	venturacwc.org
Alzheimers Association	alz.org
Oxnard Rescue Mission	vcrescuemission.org
Genesis Program	genesisprograms.com
Prototypes	healthright360.org/agency/prototypes
AA Alcoholics Anonymous	aaventuracounty.org
Alanon/Alateen	alanonventura.org al-anon.org On Right side is Alateen
Dept of Rehab	dor.ca.gov
Housing Hotline	hud.gov/states/california/renting 800-477-5977
United Parents	unitedparents.org
Whole Person Care	<a href="mailto:wholepersoncare@ventura.org">wholepersoncare@ventura.org</a> 805-339-1122
Diversity Collective	diversitycollectivevc.org
Rainbow Umbrella	diversitycollectivevc.org/services/#youth-services
Veteran’s Crisis Line	veteranscrisisline.net
Bereavement groups at Churches, etc.	griefshare.org
Sliding scale therapy:	
Jewish Family Services	<a href="mailto:federation@Jewishventuracounty.org">federation@Jewishventuracounty.org</a>
Cal Lutheran	clucounseling.org
New Beginnings	thenewbeginningscenter.com

# NOVEMBER 21 IS THE LAST DAY TO SIGN UP!



## REAVC Holiday Luncheon

Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at 12:00 p.m.

Sterling Hills Country Club

901 Sterling Hills Drive, Camarillo, CA 93010

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

**COST: \$10 for REAVC Members and Guests**

We will celebrate the season and hope you will join in the fun!!!

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

=====

Registration form for the REAVC Holiday Luncheon on December 3, 2024.

***PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY***

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

Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: (*\*Required for Confirmation*) \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Guest(s) at \$10.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

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

**The deadline for both reservations and cancellations is Thursday, November 21, 2024!**

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Anyone who makes a reservation, does not attend the luncheon, and fails to cancel by November 21, 2024, will be responsible for the entire luncheon cost. An exception may be made in case of an emergency. Only attendees who provide an email will be sent confirmation of their reservation.

**Reserve early! Once the seating limit is reached, reservations are wait-listed.** For questions regarding reservations or cancellations, please contact: Anne Dana at 1-805-320-6408, or [info@reavc.org](mailto:info@reavc.org)