



The Informer

RETIRED EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION OF ORANGE COUNTY, INC.

REAO Luncheon Set for Wednesday, September 23

 You are cordially invited to join your friends, REAO members and guests at the September 23rd luncheon at Mile Square Park Golf Course Clubhouse in Fountain Valley. A special menu is being prepared, see page 9 for the details.

Our luncheon coordinators, Sharon Sedgwick and Tina Gilman, decorated the tables with beautiful bromeliad plants as centerpieces for the May luncheon. Come see what they have planned for autumn.

You'll hear the latest on Retiree Health Benefits litigation and other pertinent Retiree information. Prizes and surprises are in store, including the \$600 Progressive Drawing! You could be the next winner but you must be in attendance to win. Don't miss out.

Reservations prior to the luncheon are required. Please make your reservation today by sending in the form on page 9 with your check to arrive at REAO no later than Wednesday, September 16th. Check in starts at 11:00 AM and lunch is served at noon. Please carpool if possible.

See you on Wednesday,
September 23rd!

Presidents' Message

Greetings from Linda Robinson and Doug Storm

Welcome back from summer vacation. The change to the Fall season has certainly not been as noticeable as the changes we have all experienced as of late—changes in local, state and national politics, the economy, the cost of health coverage and retirement plans—to name a few. On behalf of your entire Board of Directors please know we are committed to providing the best possible service to you during these challenging times. In this issue of *The Informer*, a number of subjects are addressed and we highly recommend that everyone read each article carefully. You will be reading about the REAO lawsuit, 2010 Medical Premiums, a County audit of insurance coverage for eligible dependents, and other matters of significant interest.

LITIGATION UPDATE: Regrettably, the trial court ruled in favor of the County in the REAO vs. County of Orange lawsuit. You may have already learned this news through newspaper articles and editorials or through the REAO website or by e-mail. Yes, the ruling is disappointing but it is not the final word on this lawsuit.

After thoughtful deliberation and discussions with our attorneys a decision was made to appeal the trial court's ruling. We are optimistic that the court of appeal will view the matter differently. A three-judge panel of

the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals will consider the same arguments and evidence that the trial court considered; however, it will reach its own conclusion as to whether retirees had a contractual right to the medical insurance rate subsidy (the pooling of active employees and retirees in determining health insurance rates).

We remain firm in our conviction that, under controlling California and Federal case law, the rate subsidy was a vested contract right for retirees, based on (1) the County's uninterrupted 23-year practice of providing that benefit, (2) the fact that the County itself treated the rate subsidy as an element of employees' deferred compensation, and (3) the fact that the rate subsidy was a benefit for which employees bargained and exchanged wages and other benefits. REAO made these arguments in great detail in Opening and Reply Summary Judgment briefs. These briefs and the trial court's ruling are

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Presidents' Message

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available on the REAOC website for members to view at www.reaoc.org. While the briefs are lengthy, upon review you will find careful, extensive arguments and numerous cases cited which support REAOC's lawsuit and the Board of Directors' decision to appeal the trial court ruling.

The appeal process is the only avenue available to remedy the financial and medical harm so many retirees are experiencing. The appeal was filed last month in the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. REAOC also filed a motion to expedite the appeal, asking the court to move our case ahead in the long line of appeals pending before the Circuit, in light of the importance of this case and the harm that retirees are suffering every month.

The County opposed REAOC's motion, even though it will have as much time to respond to REAOC's arguments under the expedited schedule as it would have had under the "normal" schedule. It argued that there was no need to expedite the appeal because retirees really weren't being harmed by the new "split pool" arrangement. Apparently the County wanted to benefit from making retirees wait as long as possible for their day in court. In fact, the County threatened to request an extension of the briefing schedule, thereby creating even further delays.

Fortunately, despite the County's strong opposition, the Ninth Circuit granted REAOC's request and moved the briefing schedule up by nearly four months. REAOC's opening brief is now due August 28th and the County's answering brief is due

September 28th. REAOC's reply brief will be due October 12th. Once the briefing is closed the Ninth Circuit will set an "expedited" hearing date. This means a final decision should come many months sooner than normally expected. We will notify members by email or via the REAOC website as more information becomes available.

Winston Churchill once said "Success is not final. Failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts." You have our commitment to continue to fight for the benefits you've earned, and we thank you for your courage and continued moral and financial support. Without your generous contributions, REAOC could not continue the legal actions necessary to fight for retiree rights.

DEPENDENT ELIGIBILITY AUDIT:

The County has retained an outside firm to perform an Eligibility Audit of dependents who are covered under County medical plans. Unfortunately, REAOC was not informed of this audit in a timely fashion nor asked for input. Strict deadlines are being imposed regarding required documentation to prove dependent's eligibility for coverage. If documentation is not received by certain deadlines, serious consequences will result; this according to a County letter dated July, 2009 which was mailed to employees and retirees. We strongly recommend that members make every effort to provide the necessary paperwork to ensure continued coverage for dependents. Lives may depend on it.

2010 MEDICAL PREMIUMS: The Board of Supervisors adopted new rates on July 28th. The majority of retirees will see modest reductions

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REAOC

P.O. Box 1496
Brea, CA 92822-1496
Phone: 714-840-3995
Website: www.reaoc.org
E-mail: reaoc@reaoc.org

OFFICERS

Linda Robinson	Co President
Doug Storm	Co President
Barry Aerni	General Secretary
Frank Madrigal	Recording Secretary
Chuck Hulse	Treasurer
Bob Griffith	Past President

DIRECTORS

Robert Austin
Walt de Vries
Gaylan Harris
Sara Ruckle-Harms

APPOINTED STAFF

Barry Aerni	Office Manager
John Iagjian	Membership Committee
John LaRoche	<i>The Informer</i> Editor
June Marcott	Scholarship Committee
Linda Robinson	CRCEA Delegate

The Informer is published 5 times a year. Readers are encouraged to write *The Informer* expressing their views and comments on the subjects of interest to the members. Luncheons are held at Mile Square Golf Course in Fountain Valley on the fourth Wednesday of January, March, May and September, and on the first Wednesday of December.

A local chapter of REAOC is active in Hemet. Association membership is limited to OCERS Retirees and their spouses. Membership dues are \$1.00 per month, payable through payroll deduction. The mission of REAOC is to promote and maintain the fellowship and camaraderie of OCERS Retirees and their spouses by sponsoring social and recreational activities, and by maintaining contacts via a newsletter and other means of communication. A secondary purpose of REAOC is the tracking and dissemination of information relating to pension and legislative actions, financial matters, physical and mental health care, volunteer and employment opportunities and other concerns that may be of interest to our members.

2009 Keith L. Concannon Scholarship Award Winners

by Kathleen Mattivi

This year we are pleased to award four winners of the Retired Employees Association of Orange County's 2009 Keith L. Concannon Scholarships. These scholarships are named in honor of past REAOC president and representative to the Orange County Employees Retirement Association. For the past five years, scholarships have been awarded to qualified student relatives of REAOC members pursuing a degree at an accredited college, university, or an institution authorized to provide a training program. Each winner receives \$1,500 to be used for tuition, fees, books, supplies, or equipment required for necessary courses in their degree program. Twenty two applications were received this year from a very accomplished, highly-qualified group of students. Evaluation, based on several factors including academic performance, awards and honors, volunteer and work experience was done by REAOC's Scholarship Committee after consulting with an independent panel of educators from the Orange County Department of Education.

Caitlin Elizabeth Bruffey, daughter of 2006 retiree Christine Boyd, is currently attending the University of California at Berkeley with plans to graduate in 2011. During high school, Caitlin was on the Principal's Honor Roll all four years and on the Honor Society her junior and senior



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: **Kelly Elizabeth Keene** with family; **Danica Pauline Schroeder**; **Jacob Luis Dunn** with family; **Caitlin Elizabeth Bruffey**

years. She was also Art Student of the Year in her junior year of high school. Caitlin has been a camp counselor and member of Camp Kesem Berkeley. She is involved in putting on special events and assisting with fundraising activities at camp. Caitlin enjoys working with children and plans to become a child therapist.

Jacob Luis Dunn, nephew of 2006 retiree Stella Oviedo, graduated from Calvary Chapel Murrieta. He has received the Principal's Award, was on the High Honor Roll, and in Club 4.0. Jacob also received a Life in the Spirit honor in football. He is a church volunteer for Reach the Homeless Ministry and a Veteran's Day parade volunteer. Jacob has been very active in Junior Varsity football and basketball as well as Varsity football and basketball. He was the captain of Junior Varsity

basketball and Varsity basketball. Jacob had offers from several universities and has accepted the offer from the University of California at Irvine and hopes to become a doctor.

Kelly Elizabeth Keene, granddaughter of 2001 retiree Christine Smith and 2008 retiree Richard Smith, graduated from El Camino Real High School in Woodland Hills. Among the honors and awards Kelly has received are the California Scholarship Federation, French Honors Society, Musical Achievement and the Scholar Athlete Award. Kelly has been on the honor roll all four years in high school. She has done volunteer work with the City of Los Angeles as an intern, tutored students in math and English at an elementary school, participated in numerous beach clean-up events, helped at a Child Health and Safety Fair, and

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The Great Public Pension

What Your Non-Government Friends Need to Know ... and Brain Health Anyone?

by Lou Scarpino

Admittedly the above title may have you asking yourself if you, or this article's author, are getting senile or manifesting the first signs of Alzheimer disease. Not to worry, there really is a connection – namely the California Retired County Employees Association 2009 Spring Conference. For three days, April 20 to 22, representatives of the twenty 1937 Act county pension associations, including REAOC's Co-presidents Linda Robinson and Doug Storm, along with yours truly, were engaged in a variety of topics critical to retirees.

Retirement System Health

Much of the conference discussion centered on issues surrounding the increasing persistent attacks on current, as well as future, retirees' benefits. Highlights included a roundtable update, by Doug and Linda, on REAOC's law suit over Orange County's separating retirees from the active employee health pool. An update was also provided on the Deputy Sheriff's lawsuit against Orange County. These two attacks, helped serve as a backdrop for many of the other disturbing legislation, initiatives, and other jurisdictions' actions aimed at curtailing retirements. Since *Informer* readers are already familiar with many of these, suffice it to say that all twenty 1937 Act county pension associations are on the alert and preparing both independent and joint defenses.

Chief among these is for retirees

to understand and spread the word to their non-government friends that:

- Public pensions are an outstanding deal for taxpayers
- The Approach is worth better emulating in the private sector
- Public Pensions cost the taxpayer approximately \$0.15 or less for every dollar that a retiree receives. (This cost generally incorporates annual retirement fund revenue gains in excess of projections, revenue that comes in less than projections or losses – that tend to be more fully reported in economic times such as these).

SO, DO YOUR PART AND GET THE WORD OUT.

Brain Health

On a more individual note, Dr. Arnold Bresky, Gerontologist, Medical Director for Camarillo Springs Holistic Medical Center and noted Alzheimer expert, provided attendees with important insights into not just the criticality of, but also methods to maintain the health of our brains. Let's face it, a healthy brain is the key to our existence and all aspects of productive life – including our ability to fight for such things as preservation of our benefits and associated financial health. So what do we need to know?

First, brain pathology studies demonstrate that Alzheimer disease shows up in alarming greater percentages as a population gets beyond age 50. We baby boomers are no different. With current medical

technology, if we all lived to our potential life spans of 120 years, we would also all have Alzheimer disease. At age 80, we can expect to see one in five with the disease, increasing to one in two at age 85.

Fortunately, this is not the end of the story. Studies show that many have remained fully functional and alert into their 90's even with brain tissue extensively involved with Alzheimer disease. Others exhibit symptoms and become increasingly less functional at relatively early ages past 50 years old. So, why the difference?

Like virtually every phase of our lives, we baby boomers are no strangers to the basic answer – arguably harder work than our predecessors. Of course they did not live as long, so the trade off is vastly more favorable to us.

Specific actions, that Dr. Bresky recommends, are outlined in his Nine Point Program that can be found at www.mybraintuneup.com. Without going into the complexities, suffice it to say that the science upon which his program is based, is your body's own ability to produce beneficial chemical combinations that renew and heal – the major ones being:
• Stretch, Exercise – At Minimum Walk – Build up to 150 minutes a week of walking in the sun without sunglasses. This produces the same results as a host of drugs aimed at everything from depression to sexual performance. In addition, walking

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2010 Retiree Medical Premiums

Medical premiums for retirees were approved by the Board of Supervisors on July 28, 2009. These rates are to be effective January 1, 2010.

Medical premiums for retirees enrolled in CIGNA will increase 4.39%.

The increase in premiums for retirees enrolled in Kaiser Senior Advantage is 5.95%. For retirees under 65 years of age enrolled in Kaiser, the premiums will decrease 18%. Rates will vary for retirees with Medicare Part B only or mixed households (one person Medicare eligible and one not Medicare eligi-

ble) in the Kaiser Senior Advantage program.

For all retirees enrolled in the Sharewell or Wellwise PPO'S, premiums will decrease 1.3%.

The rate increase for retirees enrolled in the Blue Cross HMO's is 9%. Increases for enrollees in the Blue Cross fee for service programs will range from 32.97% to 83.02%.

Exclusive Care Enrollees premiums will increase 11.7%.

The Medical Grant for 2010 will be \$18.22 for each year of service, up to a maximum of 25 years.

Brain Health

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stimulates brain cell growth.

- Counter Anger and Depression – Anger often leads to depression and depression kills brain cells: Of course, depressing life events are going to happen to all of us. However, maintaining one's curiosity and challenging one's mind and body are critical and, as it turns out essential to keeping our mind.
- Eat Smart – One example, include ample anti-oxidants contained in fruits and vegetables in your daily diet. These are very important for maintaining proper nerve cell function.



The onset of Alzheimer symptoms can be traced 30% to genetics, and 70% to life style choices. The nine choices that Dr. Bresky recommends to engage your bodies own renewal

and healing powers are:

1. *Search Out Fun and Laughter – Comedians live longer;*
2. *Relax – Engage in meditation, prayer – Integrity, humility and compassion go a long way;*
3. *Music Therapy – Music helps heal;*
4. *Sleep – We are hardwired for sleeping 11 PM to 8 AM (hmm, no one assumed that when I was working);*
5. *Physical Exercise – Defeats physical depression and improves physical performance and general outlook;*
6. *Eat a Mediterranean Diet – Supports brain health;*
7. *Hydrate Properly – Needed for proper body function and brain health;*
8. *Brain Exercises – Engaging regularly in mental challenges, including creative endeavors, dramatically lowers your risk of disease. Increasing your circle of friends and activities falls into this category;*
9. *Do An Act Of Kindness Every Day.*

Scholarship Recipients

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assists the elderly by reading to them. Kelly participated in the marching band all four years of high school and is very active in water events such as the Varsity Swim team and Junior Lifeguard Program. She is currently a swim instructor as well as a pool lifeguard. She has received offers from several universities and has accepted the offer from the University of California at Berkeley. Kelly plans to study communications, public policy, and community organizing.

Danica Pauline Schroeder, granddaughter of 1995 retiree Richard Schroeder, graduated from Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton, CA. Danica has been on the Principal's Honor Roll since the sixth grade and has achieved a 4.0 grade point average as a senior. Her work on the school yearbook includes awards from the National Scholastic Press Association, the American Scholastic Press Association, and the Columbia Scholastic Press Association. Some of the volunteer work Danica has done was to work on the Special Olympics and help out at an animal shelter. She is very active in a community service club, participating in meetings and gaining various service hours throughout the year. Danica has been accepted at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and wants to become a graphic designer.

A heartfelt congratulation goes out to all of our outstanding scholarship winners!

Thanks to all REAOC members for your generous contributions to the scholarship fund to help family members of our colleagues pursue educational opportunities.

Financial News Around the State

by Helen Lotos

Statewide: Californians finally had an approved \$85-billion budget signed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in late July, but only after he imposed \$489 million in additional cuts, mainly from social services. Among programs, his line-item veto affected child welfare and children's healthcare, the elderly, AIDS programs, Medi-Cal administration funds for counties, and state parks. The governor's aides said his last-minute cuts would allow the state to put aside \$500 million in reserve, which Finance Director Mike Genest called "skimpy," but better than nothing for a state that often must respond to fires and other emergencies.

The governor initially included long-term pension reform in his negotiations with lawmakers to close the state's \$26.3 billion budget deficit; however, he later dropped his plan because he said it became a distraction, according to the *Orange County Register*, August 1, 2009. Schwarzenegger will pick up the pension issue again, he said, and wants to start by undoing a retirement package passed by California lawmakers on a bipartisan vote in 1999 and signed by then-Governor Gray Davis. *The Register* reported that Keith Richman, a former state assemblyman, plans to launch an initiative campaign to change state employee pension benefits.

Furloughs take a toll: All courthouses in the state will close on the third Wednesday of every month beginning in September and continue through June. Judges will be asked to take voluntary furloughs one day a

month for a 4.62% pay cut, according to the *LA Times*, July 30. Closures will cause delays in trials and more crowding in jails, said Chief Justice Ronald M. George, who heads the California Judicial Council. The closures will be treated as a holiday.

The state treasury is expected to lose at least \$500 million in revenue over the next three years due to furloughs of state workers who collect and audit tax collections, according to the *LA Times*, July 29. Along with most state employees, Franchise Tax Board staff will take off three days each month without pay. The state would save about \$60 million in salaries by furloughing all board workers; however, cumulative revenue losses would be as much as nine times that amount.

Three-days-a-month furloughs will also affect the state's poor record of handling appeals from workers denied unemployment benefits. With unemployment now at 11.6% and rising, there is a record backlog of more than 82,500 Californians who have appeals pending on their eligibility for checks of as much as \$475 a week. As a result, a June report to the California Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board predicted that the target for eliminating the backlog would be pushed back from June 2010 to February 2012, reported the *LA Times*, July 28.

University of California Board of Regents voted in July to furlough most professors and staff as a way to avoid layoffs. The plan would affect about 140,000 part- and full-time employees at UC's 10 campuses and many satellite facilities. And Cal

State University faculty have voted to accept work furloughs, averting what administrators had warned would be mass layoffs and tens of thousands of class cancellations at the nation's largest university system. State budget cuts could mean the end of classes at local senior centers, which have partnered with community colleges to provide low-cost classes for seniors.

About one in ten Californians with a home loan is now in default, and there is growing evidence that the mortgage meltdown is spreading to commercial real estate. The home mortgage delinquency rate—the percentage of borrowers who have missed several payments are in the first stage of foreclosure—climbed in June to 9.5% in California, according to First American CoreLogic.

In Orange County: Under the state's new budget plan, the County will be hit with a loss of \$89 million to \$93 million, reported the *LA Times*, July 22. Sheriff Sandra Hutchens announced in late July that \$21.6 million in her department budget cuts will include eight of her highest-ranking advisers to save positions of 16 investigators and two supervisors, both the *LA Times* and *The Register* reported. The County Board of Supervisors had directed Hutchens to shave \$28 million, the largest cut of any county department. In all, 191 employees will be affected through demotions, position shifting to reduce overtime, and layoffs. Even deeper cuts are looming next year and Hutchens said she is examining ways to cut \$60 million more from

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Financial News

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next year's budget. Jail closures or early inmate releases could be considered. The woman's jail has already been temporarily closed.

In Los Angeles: A coalition of Los Angeles public employee unions announced that it has ratified a concession agreement that postpones cost-of-living increases for two years and offers an early retirement program, forestalling the need for widespread layoffs and furloughs. The concessions were a critical component of the effort by Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and the city council to close a \$530-million budget shortfall.

San Diego County: The union that represents 10,000 county employees complained this year when the county Board of Supervisors eliminated more than 800 jobs to balance the budget but did not cut their own benefits or favored programs. In mid-July, a 34-year employee served notice that she and other angry workers plan to circulate a petition that would impose term limits on the five elected officials who oversee the county's government, according to the *San Diego Union-Tribune*, July 15.

Riverside County: Officials declared that negotiations for a new labor agreement with a union representing about 6,000 county employees have reached an impasse, leaving the county no choice but to unilaterally impose wage and benefit reductions to contain costs, according to the *Desert Sun*, July 28. Riverside County's jobless rate spiked to a 16-year high in June as payrolls in the public sector and hospitality industry fell substantially. The

non-seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate in Riverside County, based on preliminary estimates, was 13.9% in June, the highest level since July 1993, when unemployment was at 14%, according to the California Economic Development Dept.

Alameda County: A county employee association filed suit against the Alameda County Superior Court concerning the layoff of 13 union members this summer. The Alameda County Management Employees Association, an affiliate of the Operating Engineers Union, filed the lawsuit, saying the court violated its own policies and an employment protection act and did not follow due process rights in the layoff, reported the *Oakland Tribune*, July 24.

Stanislaus County: About 2,500 public service retirees and other beneficiaries won't receive stipends next year to pay for health insurance, according to a report in the *Modesto Bee*, July 9. The Stanislaus County Employees Retirement Association (StanCERA) voted 8-1 to suspend the health benefit for 2010. Retirees have received as much as \$370 per month to help with the rising cost of health insurance. Three months earlier, the retirement board decided not to pay a supplemental cost-of-living increase to 270 older members this year. StanCERA administers pension benefits for retired employees of the county, the city of Ceres, superior court and five special districts. About 200 retirees and employees attended the meeting at the Board chambers in July. A retired coroner's office employee said his medical premiums have quadrupled since his retirement six years ago. The retirement association must give its members 90 days' notice that the health benefit

will end December 31. The board will decide next year whether to pay the benefit in 2011. In April, StanCERA members were angered when the board decided to transfer \$60 million in non-vested benefit reserves so the county could avoid paying an additional \$22.7 million this year to shore up the pension fund.

Hemet Chapter Luncheon on October 13

REAOC'S Hemet Chapter will hold its next luncheon on Tuesday, October 13, 2009 at 11:30 a.m. at the Casa Del Sol Ballroom, 2750 W. Acacia in Hemet. Make your reservation by calling Jeri at 951-672-4594 or Jim at 951-765-9528.

Upcoming luncheons will be held on the second Tuesdays in December 2009 and February 2010.

Presidents' Message

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or increases in premium costs in 2010; however, approximately 200 will see significant increases in rates. Please refer to the article on Page 5 for further information.

As your Co-Presidents, we greatly appreciate your support in these difficult times. Thank you for your membership in REAOC, for the financial contributions you are making to continue REAOC's legal challenges and for the time so many of you have given to your fellow retirees to ensure retiree voices are heard.

Take care and be well.

—Linda Robinson

—Doug Storm

In Memoriam



We extend our deepest sympathy to the families and loved ones of those who meant so much to so many.

January 2009 – June 2009

Anderson, Carol, Superior Court
Blackwell, Etha, OCFA
Brunache, Maurice, Assessor
Cogswell, Horation, Assessor
Cole, Lyn, County Clerk/Recorder
Downing, Richard, Sheriff's Dept
Fox, Mary, County Clerk/Recorder
Garcia, Joseph, Sanitation
Giese, Maxine, Probation
Girod, Frances, Superior Courts
Grandke, Horst, OCTA
Hess, Mike, OC Public Works
Hope, Jean, Probation
Keyes, Diane, Board of Supervisors
Klifman, Jean, UCI
Koch, John, HCA
Krentz, Reinhard, OCTA
Lane, Margaret, HCA
Lightner, Hal, OC Public Works
Mallicoat, Mary, HCA
Martinez, Salvador, Cemetery District
Martinez, Susan, OC Community Resources
Morgan, Kenneth, OC Public Works
Morse, Frederick, OC Public Works
Mullen, James, OCTA
Normandin, Patricia, SSA
Perkins, Barbara, District Attorney
Peterson, Michael, OC Public Works
Phalen, Leeland, OC Public Works
Randall, Barry, Sheriff's Dept
Sandberg, Charles, OC Public Works
Scattergood, Kenneth, OC Public Works
Seijas, Raymond, SSA
Sexton, Marjorie, Assessor
Smith, Rue, Probation
Smith, Sharon, Board of Supervisors
Sprout, Ruth, OC Community Resources
Tabb, Mount, Probation
Telepka, Dolly, SSA
Temple, Eugene, HCA
Terax, James, HCA
Thompson, Marjorie, Auditor-Controller
Ton, Dam, Child Support Services
Warner, Paul, OC Public Works
Williams, Gladys, UCI
Wilson, Donald, OC Public Works
Winterfelt, Jean, SSA
Yielding, Ronald, UCI

Surviving Spouses

Blanchette, Eva
Brau, Fred
Ely, Kathleen
Kreutzer, Mar
Roche, John
Schreiner, Joseph
Thompson, Iva
Wilkinson, Elisabeth

Letter to the Editor

The following Letter to the Editor appeared in the June 28, 2009 edition of the *Orange County Register*.

O.C. Retirees' Fight Will Continue

The Retired Employee's Association of Orange County takes exception to the reporting and opinion expressed in the editorial "Judge rules retiree benefits deal stands" (June 23). If the editors had taken the time to read and understand the briefs in the case, they would not have characterized REAOC's claim against the county as "frivolous".

The fact that the district court ruled against REAOC does not suggest that the claims were insubstantial.

Indeed, the fact that the court took six months to issue a ruling on the case indicates that REAOC's claims presented difficult legal questions that required extensive deliberation. Retirees respect the court and must accept its decision for now, but we remain confident in the merits of our claims and we look forward to continuing this important fight in the court of appeals.

*Linda Robinson
Anaheim
Co-President, on behalf of the REAOC board of directors*

Welcome, New Members

Airport: Janet Howard

Assessor: Ronald Cooper

Auditor/Controller: Alice Sworder

CEO: Robert Rosso, Victoria Landrus

Community Services: Violet Welch

County Counsel: Barbara Evans

District Attorney: Deborah Currier, Michael Koski, Rosalina Tang, Art Echternacht, Christopher Kralick

EMA: Clarence Shaddix

HCA: Carlita Hughes-Darby, Barry Havlik, Robert Huebner, Juliette Poulson, Adrian Williams, Monica Mazur, Harold Cook, Elvira Straub, Carolyn Pane, Julie Heye

OCERS: Isaac Arhin

OCFA: Rick Puvogel, Anh Le, Helen Vesperman, Marc Hawkins, Jody King

OCPW: Pat Seraballs, Marcia Moreno, Greg Walen, Robert Zuhlike

OCSD: Michael Chester, Mohammad Ali Barbaie Livari, Ruth Macias, Daniel Hake, J.P. "Jack" Devereaux, John Crowe, Mark Greiner, Angelina Olsen, John Hartmann, Michael Phoenix, Robert Keister, Valna Wilson

OCTA: Charles Blanton, Marilyn Thompson, James Mulvey, Sr.

PFRD: Alfred Vasquez, Mark Carlson

Probation: Daniel Burtt, Laura Vorie, Connie Dobberpuhl, Marlene Keys
Public Def: Christine Lugo-Rinaldi, James Miller

Registrar of Voters: Rose Marie Duarte
Sanitation: Dennis May

SSA: Judy Hall, Mary Harris, Lynn Hurd, Maria Navis, Carol O'Brien, Joyce Zellar, Dominica Falcuson, Dolores De La Riva, Rachel Forman, Audrey Lappi, Roni Morse, Ellen Gan, Lynn Manhart, Vasile Marchis, Carol Nastasi, Anastasia Loion-Molioo, Lata Makhija, Eve Maram, Helena Zenisek, Elizabeth Correa, Larez Harris, Glorious Lawrence, Nenita Tunac, Sharon Zepel, George German, Noemi Kenny

Superior Court: Virginia D'Anthony

Treasurer: Walter Daniels

Surviving Spouse: Mary Dalen

Not Stated: Eleanor DeRosa, Anthony Nevarez, Allen Stone, Dwight Winters, Christine Hanson, Connie Downing

REAOC Volunteer Opportunities

We at REAOC are very lucky to have many kind and talented friends in our group. We have several committees dedicated to achieving the goals of our Association. Both the Scholarship Committee and the Luncheon Decorating Committee are full at this time, however, we are currently seeking volunteers for several other committees. We hope you will consider participating on one or more of these committees.

Board Watch Committee, Chair, June Marcott, 714-968-9508, web42@msn.com. The purpose is to monitor the Orange County Board of Supervisors meetings to identify any agenda items impacting retirees. Review agendas on-line, listen to or attend the Board meetings, report relevant information to the chair, and attend periodic committee meetings.

Outreach & Fund Raising Committee, Chair, Vicki Gray, 714-838-9413, grayva@aol.com. The purpose is to raise funds to defray legal costs and sign up new members who are retired.

Members call retirees to request contributions, to ask them to join REAOC, to look up retiree phone numbers on the internet, and to search for retirees whose whereabouts are unknown.

Volunteer Coordinator. Please contact June (above) if you wish to volunteer. She will forward the names to the REAOC Board for selection purposes. The purpose is to establish a volunteer program that will provide assistance to REAOC's Board and membership. Identify unmet needs, define purpose and duties of potential committees, rec-

ommend establishment of appropriate committees to the Board of Directors, dissolve committees that are created for a particular purpose when that purpose has been achieved, recruit committee chair persons and members, assist in the coordination of committee activities, and attend REAOC monthly Board meetings to report progress.

Remember, REAOC is only as strong as the commitment of its individual members. Please contact June or Vicki and become involved in your organization.

ON THE CALENDAR: REAOC Holiday LUNCHEON



Please mark your calendar for the REAOC Holiday Luncheon: Wednesday, December 2

Progressive Drawing \$600.00

Aura Gonzalez of Anaheim would have won \$550.00 at the May luncheon if she had joined us. You must be present at the time of the drawing to win!

See you on September 23 at Mile Square Park.

Autumn Luncheon Menu for September 23

*Coconut Macadamia Chicken
Scallion Pineapple Rice
Fresh Garden Vegetables*

House Salad with Italian or Ranch Dressing

Rolls and Butter

Dessert

Coffee and Iced Tea



Directions to Luncheon at Mile Square Park, Fountain Valley

Mile Square Golf Course is located in Mile Square Park, 10401 Warner Ave., Fountain Valley. From the San Diego Freeway (405), take the Warner Ave. exit and proceed East on Warner. Turn into Mile Square Park Golf Course Clubhouse entrance at Ward St. and park (parking is free). Mile Square Park is bounded north by Edinger Ave., south by Warner Ave., east by Euclid Ave. and west by Brookhurst.

Luncheon Reservations Due Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2009

Print Name: _____
Enclosed is my check for \$ _____
for _____ lunches at \$17.00 each.
Also enclosed is a separate check for
\$ _____ for the Litigation Fund.
_____ Vegetarian lunch

PLEASE CAR-POOL!
Check-in begins at 11:00 a.m. and lunch is served at noon. Please make your check payable to REAOC and mail to: REAOC, P.O. Box 1496, Brea, CA 92822-1496

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INSIDE THE INFORMER

REAOC Luncheon Set For Wednesday, September 23

2009 Keith L. Concannon Scholarship Recipients

Litigation Update/Dependent Eligibility Audit

2010 Medical Premiums

Dated Material – Please Deliver Immediately