Breaking News

You may find this edition of The Informer to be somewhat different. The January 23, 2019 luncheon was cancelled due to Mile Square Park construction. We apologize for any disappointment you may experience and hope you stay healthy and happy through the next few months. Our March newsletter will contain the usual luncheon information.

In the meantime, holiday photos from both the Fountain Valley and Hemet Chapters, including the Aliso Niguel High School Choir and Singer Dennis Alvarez are presented.

Progressive Drawing Winner

Ray Cole, who was present at the December Luncheon, won $500 from the year-end drawing. Remember—you must be present at the time of the drawing to win! See you on Wednesday, March 27, 2019, at Mile Square Park for the next Progressive Drawing.

Presidents’ Message

From the Desks of Linda Robinson and Doug Storm

CHEERS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR! The entire REAOC and ARECC Board of Directors wishes everyone happiness, perfect health and exciting adventures in 2019. May this year bring peace and prosperity to you, your family, friends and all REAOC retirees.

It’s time to bring out those New Year’s Resolutions and turn them into reality. Be brave. Embrace new opportunities with optimism, resilience and an unwavering belief in our ability to make this world a better place. Let us never forget we worked for and earned the right to be retirees—valuable, contributing participants in our own domains and communities. Let’s seize the day and be the best we can be in 2019!

We have been honored to serve as your REAOC Co-Presidents since 2007. At the December 5, 2018 Holiday Luncheon and Annual Business meeting we were re-elected to serve a 12th year in this capacity. Thank you all for your consideration and support. Big thanks from each Officer and Director for your continued vote of confidence in electing them to the positions they have held and will hold on your Board in 2019. We are dedicated to provide the best services we can during this new year.

Please know every Board member values and appreciates your continued membership, support and participation in REAOC. To all new and associate members who joined REAOC in 2018—WELCOME. The well-earned retirement benefits we worked for during our years of service to the public must never be taken for granted. Challenges continually arise and it is up to all of us to stay informed, active and united when new or continuing challenges arise. There is strength in numbers and REAOC will continue to diligently work toward increasing membership. To-date, efforts have been ongoing and effective. Our membership now totals more than 6,100. If you know or are aware of any retiree who is not a REAOC member, please feel free to encourage them to join us.

2018 was certainly an adventure. With the mid-term elections behind us, attention will be focused on what the future holds for government retirees and employees at the national, state and county levels. Moving forward, Team REAOC will continue to track and report to you political decisions, legislation and policies that could affect retirees’ financial security and well-being. Though not

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Welcome, New Members

Welcome, New Members

HCA: Carolina Lim, Maria R. Del Pozo
OCCR: Kent Grigsby
OC Public Works: Ruth (Randi) Dunlap
OC Sanitation District: Bernardo DeAnda, III
OCSD: Carlos Soto, Jerry Culp
OCTA: James Cook, Jr.
Probation: Pedro Lopez
SSA: Elizabeth Saxby
Superior Court: Richard Amezquita
Not Stated: Nanci Turner-Mitani

* * *

Presidents' Message
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

all inclusive, here are some examples of the types of activities your Board will pursue during the next twelve months.

Board members and volunteers will work closely with the California Retired County Employees Association (CRCEA), the statewide organization representing over 180,000 County retirees from all twenty 1937 Act counties. Networking with other retiree associations and continued vigilance regarding pension reform platforms will continue. REAOC will interact on a national level with the National Conference of Public Employee Retirement Systems (NCPERS) to expand our capacity to protect retiree rights and benefits.

Board members will attend OCERS retirement system meetings; provide presentations for pre-retirement seminars; work with Pacific Group Agencies, Inc. which provides a variety of insurance offerings to our membership; and publish five editions of The Informer newsletter to update members on current issues. In addition, up to four, $2,000 scholarship grants will be awarded to accomplished students in pursuit of a college or advanced degree (thank you, REAOC members, for your generosity and investment in the future); countless service hours have and will be provided by retiree volunteers through monitoring of Board of Supervisor meetings, planning retiree luncheons held in both Fountain Valley and Hemet, tracking legislation, working with the County's Employee Benefits staff to better understand and provide input into the selection process for health plans; provide an annual health insurance informational workshop for OCERS retirees during Open Enrollment; and last and certainly NOT least, provide member services through our extremely talented, REAOC Executive Director, Iliene Barcenas.

In closing, please know that retirement-related issues are ever-evolving and we are committed to addressing and seeking resolution to each one. Happy 2019 everyone! Take care and be well. Stay united, retirees!!

Linda and Doug

Hemet Chapter Luncheon

When: Tuesday, February 19, 2019 at 11:30 a.m.
Where: The First Presbyterian Church, 515 E. Kimball, Hemet
Price: Only $9.50 per person
Menu: Lasagna, Green Salad, Garlic Bread, and Brownies

The Hemet Chapter invites new members and all REAOC members who live in the area or within driving distance to join them for the luncheons. Call Jane Pabitzky at (951) 237-3240 or Mary Little at (951) 485-7738 by February 7, 2019 to reserve your seat.

REAOC
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Phone: 714-840-3995
Website: www.reaoc.org
Email: reaoc@reaoc.org

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Linda Robinson Co President
Doug Storm Co President
Rebecca Guider Secretary
Bill Castro Treasurer

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Frank Eley
Robin Mattocks
Gaylan Harris
John Iagjian
Larry Leaman
Sara Ruckle-Harms

APPOINTED STAFF
Iliene Barcenas
John Iagjian
Robin Mattocks
Vacant
Norma Roberts
Linda Robinson
Lou Scarippo
Rebecca Guider

Executive Director
Membership Committee
The Informer Editor
Luncheon Committee
Board Watch
CROEA Delegate
Legislation
Scholarship Committee

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 them.

The mission of REAOC is to promote and maintain fellowship and camaraderie of OCERS retirees and their spouses by sponsoring social and recreational activities and by maintaining contacts via the newsletter, the REAOC website, email, or other means of communication. A secondary purpose is 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.

OCERS retirees and their spouses are eligible for regular association membership. Dues are $3.00 per month, payable by payroll deduction. Active employees, who will receive their retirement through OCERS, are eligible for Associate Membership. Dues for associate members are $1.00 per month payable for the year each January.

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.

Menu:
Lasagna, Green Salad, Garlic Bread, and Brownies

Price: $9.50 per person

Where:
11:30 a.m. Tuesday, February 19, 2019 at Mile Square Golf Course, Fountain Valley

Telephone: 714-840-3995
Email: reaoc@reaoc.org
Website: www.reaoc.org

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REACC is happy to announce our annual Scholarship Program will continue this year! Starting January 2, 2019, scholarship applications may be requested by email at reaoc@reaoc.org or by telephone at 714 840-3995. Now in its 15th year, the Scholarship Program assists bright and accomplished students in their pursuit of a college or advanced degree. Four scholarships in the amount of $2,000 each are available.

**Qualifications** Applicants must be full-time students having at least a 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale. Students must be either high school seniors who have been accepted as full-time candidates for a college degree program in the Fall of 2019; or students already pursuing a degree at an accredited institution. Accredited educational institutions include colleges and universities, institutions authorized to provide full credit toward a bachelor’s or higher degree, and accredited institutions authorized to train students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation.

**Deadline** Complete applications, including the response to the essay question and certification, must be electronically submitted to REACC by Monday, April 1, 2019. The official transcript and reference letter must be mailed separately with a postmark no later than April 1, 2019. Please visit the REACC website, www.reaoc.org, for more information regarding the Scholarship Program. Applications should be thoroughly reviewed to ensure requirements are met. Please encourage your family members to apply for a 2019 REACC Scholarship grant!
In Memoriam 🌺

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

September 2018 – November 2018
Abbott, Richley, OC Public Works
Backus, Larry, Assessor
Bartosiewski, Larry, CC Sheriff’s Dept.
Benedict, Rose, UCI
Bobbitt, William, Vector Control
Brown, Rachael, OC Public Works
Cook, Constance, SSA
Cornelius, Joann, Auditor Controller
Finkle, Robert, DA
Gonzales, Jesse, CC Waste & Recycling
Harris, Barbara, HCA
Hughley, Sandra, OCCR
Hurt, Jo, SSA
Klingenberg, Britt, CC Public Works
LaFontaine, David, CC Sheriff’s Dept.
Lee, Wilma, SSA
Marshman, Wyona, HCA
Miller, Glenn, CC Sheriff’s Dept.
Montano, Victoria, CC Public Works
Nguyen, Thoa, HCA
Perez, Rogelio, OCTA
Peterson, John, CC Public Works
Pham, Hanh, CC Public Works
Recor, Caren, HCA
Roberts, Patricia, SSA
Snyder, Randall, OCTA
Standiford, Matilda, UCI
Stauffer, William, Probation
Tran, Melinda, SSA
Uggwe, David, CC Sheriff’s Dept.
Vankeuren, Margaret, Superior Court
Walker, Gerald, HCA
Watts, Betty, Assessor
Whitcomb, Edna, CC Sheriff’s Dept.
Surviving Spouses
Jahn, Fred
Massey, Barbara
Oxandaboure, Norma
Richardson, Dorothy

Hold These Dates
The following dates have been reserved for our 2019 luncheons:

**FOUNTAIN VALLEY**
March 27
May 22
September 25
December 4

**HEMET**
February 19
April 16
June 18
October 15
December 17