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# THE INTERCOM

Newsletter of the California Retired  
County Employees Association (CRCEA)  
July 2021

Issue #3-2021



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Mid-summer. I questioned the cold weather in the last issue – what a mistake. All of a sudden, we were blasted with heat up and down the state and it continues as I write. How about some sort of happy medium? Anybody got a contact with a weather person?

Well, all kidding aside, we should all be happy that the COVID pandemic is subsiding, and that California has finally come to a position where we can at least get out and go to dinner, socialize, and get some human contact again.

No, it's not over, but with vaccinations and common-sense, things are moving in the right direction. Each of us has to make the choice, but I know I have gotten the vaccine along with my wife. CRCEA's membership popu-

lation seemed to generally fall in the same category, with some opting out for very legitimate reasons. Whatever your choice and decision, don't be bullied by politicians, tv ads, or temptations at winning the lottery. Each of us makes the decision on our health issues based on our individual position, and that is what matters.

I don't know how many of our members are impacted by the federal guidelines that impact Social Security earnings, but I know that there are some. Working for a public agency and earning a pension from the county affects any payments that you may have also earned by working within the Social Security system – it takes away some of your Social Security benefit just because you earned that public pension. Both of these pensions were paid for and both pensions were earned.

For years (going way back to when I was still an active employee involved in my active member association) this issue has been brought up and lobbied in Washington, D.C. with politicians trying to get the Windfall Elimination

Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO) modified, adjusted, or eliminated. I personally know a bunch of people who have earned the requisite quarters to qualify for Social Security benefits by working before or after their county service. When application is made for those benefits, they get a number and then told it will be reduced simply because you got a pension from a public agency, sometimes to an amount that is simply "beer money".

Recently I became aware of a collation of organizations from across the country who are working with a Massachusetts congressional representative to modify the WEP to take some of that "sting" away. Representative Richard Neal has introduced the Public Servants Protection and Fairness Act, House Resolution 2337 (H.R. 2337). It currently has about 170 co-signers.

However, so far this has not garnered bi-partisan support. This should not be a Democrat or Republican issue. Those members impacted as described above are both

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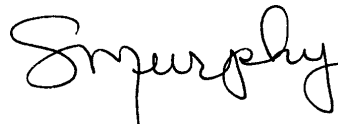
“D” and “R”. I have written a letter to Congressman Neal supporting his effort (I copied both Speaker Nancy Pelosi and House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy) urging that bi-partisan support would ensure passage in the House and could provide momentum to move the legislation through the Senate. But, we have been down this road before. Hopefully, there will be more appetite for modification of the WEP rather than elimination. Things move slowly in Sacramento, but things move REAL slow in Washington, D.C.

I am really looking forward to getting together in person at our upcoming conference in early November. Hopefully most (if not all) of you will be able to attend and partake of the efforts being put out by RELAC (Los Angeles County). Seeing, and interacting with all our old friends, will really be a nice thing. Remember, elections this fall will be for the Vice-President and Secretary conducted at our Business Session. So again, if there is a desire by any member to run for either of these offices, or any of the offices for that matter, now is the time to really think about it. You will have time to give it some thought, review the duties in the bylaws, and then get in touch with the Nominations Committee Chair, Will Hoag.

As I close, once again I want to urge you to be careful and

stay safe while at the same time keeping your mental health and your physical health in check. As we go deeper into 2021, things should be looking up even more. Clearly this organization could not be what it is without you.

Until next time...



SKIP MURPHY, President

**Notice from RELAC  
Fall 2021 Conference**

RELAC is excited about welcoming CRCEA members to Long Beach on November 7-10 for the CRCEA 2021 Fall Conference.

Conference Co-Chairs Dave Muir and Evelyn Gutierrez are planning a great event, including a Sunday Early Bird happy hour at the Shoreline Village, a Monday “After Hours” reception at the Aquarium hosted by Steve Pettee, and a fun Banquet dinner Tuesday night featuring the Bobby Z Band and their tribute to the Beach Boys.

The first 50 members who contact Dave or Evelyn regarding their attendance will be eligible to win a special

drawing prize, a \$50 Visa gift card!!

RELAC looks forward to hosting a great “reunion” conference in November.

Please see next page for event flyer.

Hope to see you there!

**Future  
CRCEA  
Conferences**

Soon we will be getting together again. In that spirit, following is the schedule for the next several conferences:

Fall 2021  
Los Angeles (RELAC)

Spring 2022  
Orange (REAOC)

Fall 2022  
Sacramento (SCREA)

Spring 2023  
San Bernardino (RESBC)

Fall 2023  
San Joaquin (RPESJC)  
Spring 2024

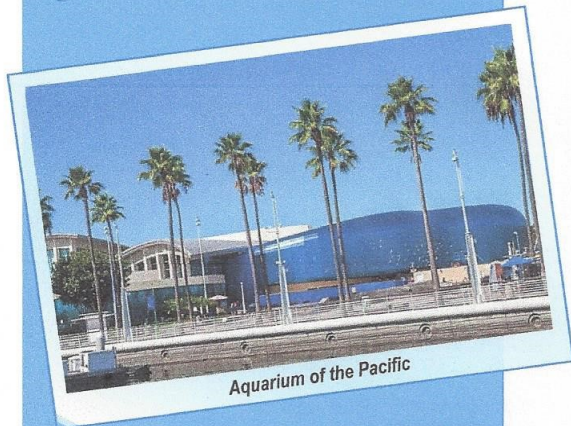
**WE HOPE YOU WILL BE  
ABLE TO JOIN US FOR  
GREAT INFORMATION,  
NETWORKING, AND,  
OF COURSE, FUN!**



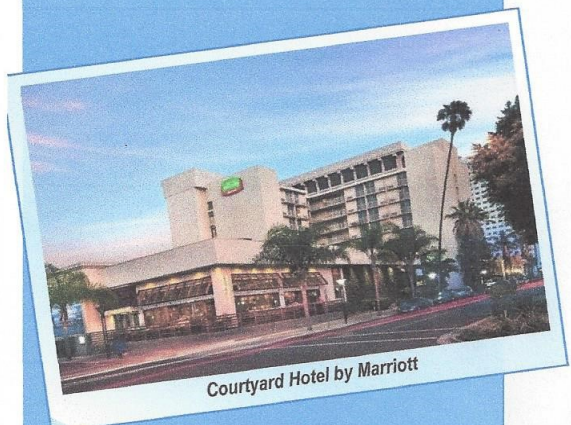
## MARK YOUR CALENDARS



The Queen Mary



Aquarium of the Pacific



Courtyard Hotel by Marriott

# CRCEA

## 2021 Fall Conference

### *New Horizons*

### *“Navigating into the Future”*

**November 7 – 10, 2021**

**Courtyard Hotel by Marriott, Long Beach**

500 East First Street | Long Beach, CA 90802

Reservations: (800) 321-2211 or (562) 435-8511

### **Conference Workshop Topics**

Legislation, Ocean Sustainability, Senior Wellness,  
Healthy Lifestyles, and Social Connectivity

**Sunday Social Hour – Shoreline Village**

**Monday Reception – Aquarium of the Pacific**

**Tuesday Banquet Dinner – Courtyard Hotel**

Hotel and public safety requirements will be observed.

Room rates: \$169 – Single or Double + taxes

Group Rates apply 3 days prior and 3 days following Conference

### **Hosted By**

**Retired Employees of Los Angeles County**

#### **Contact**

Dave Muir  
Conference Co-Chair  
[dmuir6@gmail.com](mailto:dmuir6@gmail.com)

RETIRED EMPLOYEES of



#### **Contact**

Evelyn Gutierrez  
Conference Co-Chair  
[egfiero@cs.com](mailto:egfiero@cs.com)

**CRCEA  
Executive Committee**

E.F. "Skip" Murphy  
President

Doug Fletcher  
Vice President

Carlos Gonzalez  
Treasurer

Virginia Adams  
Secretary

William "Bill" de la Garza  
Immediate Past President

**CRCEA  
Committees/Chairs**

Affiliate (Interim)  
Carlos Gonzalez

Audit/Finance  
Jerry Jacobs

Bylaws  
David Muir

Communications  
Virginia Adams

Conference  
Mike Sloan

Executive  
E.F. "Skip" Murphy

Legislative  
Art Goulet

Legislative Advisory  
E.F. "Skip" Murphy

Membership/Benefits  
Rhonda Bieseimeier

**CRCEA  
Committees/Chairs  
(continued)**

Nominating  
Will Hoag

Retirement Security  
George Shoemaker

Technology Steering  
Gene Pennington

**CRCEA  
Member  
Associations/  
Presidents**

Alameda County  
Marian Breitbart, Acting

Contra Costa County  
Petreyana Boykins

Fresno County  
Kelly Woodward

Imperial County  
David Prince

Kern County  
Robb Seibly

Los Angeles County  
Brian Berger

Marin County  
Gene Pennington

Mendocino County  
Leatha Andersen

Merced County  
Jacqueline Walther-Parnell

**CRCEA  
Member  
Assocs/Presidents  
(continued)**

Orange County  
Linda Robinson and  
Doug Storm

Sacramento County  
Randal Angeloni

San Bernardino County  
Deborah Barmack

San Diego County  
Stan Coombs

San Joaquin County  
William Mitchell

San Mateo County  
Linda Bruzzon

Santa Barbara County  
Annette Paladino

Sonoma County  
Alix Shor

Stanislaus County  
Ron Grider and  
Myrna Lebert

Tulare County  
Kevin Mizner

Ventura County  
Nancy Settle

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