



FRIENDSHIP • UNITY • STRENGTH • GROWTH

Luncheon Meeting

Date: Monday, May 13, 2013

Time: Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.

Place: Jensen's Restaurant

1550 Lover's Lane

Ukiah, California

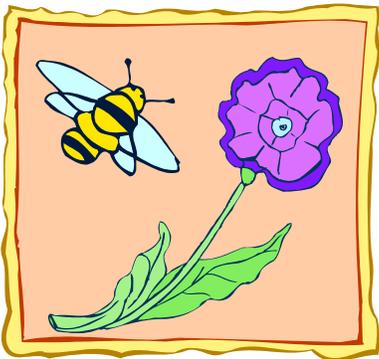
(Cup of Soup and ½ Sandwich of the Day)

Guest Speaker Tom Allman & Plenty of Good Conversation

THE CONNECTION

ASSOCIATION OF MENDOCINO COUNTY RETIRED EMPLOYEES

Post Office Box 903 ☐ Ukiah, CA 95482



Welcome Spring

MARCH - MAY 2013

Tim Knudsen, Editor

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

First of all, I have to mention how much fun the Christmas Luncheon was. With AMCRE picking up the tab for the wine, we had sufficient lubrication to sing Christmas carols to each other which was more fun than anyone would have guessed. I think Vernlyn came up with the idea and it was a good one, consider attending next year if only to see if Margaret Bold will win the raffle, she is truly uncanny.

2013 is bringing many changes to AMCRE, even though our general membership is increasing, the number of functional members is decreasing, causing several of us to "dual fill" the unwanted positions ourselves. Sue Thornhill stepped up and assumed the vice president's duties as well as being our excellent secretary, Tim Knudsen is not only "The Connection" editor, he is our CRCEA representative as well as being your representative on the Retirement Board, keeping his hand on the pulse of issues affecting all of us retired types. Me, I flub my way through the membership duties as well as being the President. We could all use some help but are way tired of asking for it. So, credit Sue for getting the ball rolling.

We are going to make some changes to allow the remaining crew to keep the good ship AMCRE afloat. First of all we are reducing the number of annual meetings from 12 to 8. There will be 4 general membership meetings, held during the months of February, May, August, and December. Board meetings will be in January, April, July, and November, with additional meetings held as needed.

The upside of this is now our General Meetings will now feature food! As you may have noticed elsewhere in The Connection, we are trying a change of venue for our meetings. The February 11th meeting will be at Jensen's Restaurant at 11:30a.m. in what used to be known as "The Ionian Room" in the back. A soup/ half sandwich/beverage lunch will be served for an affordable \$9. We hope to see a bunch of you there, perhaps with some ideas on how to take things forward, and if anyone wants to get off their duff and actually DO something, well, step right up!

The board is also looking into how to bring "The Connection" into the 21st century, we would like to make it available online to cut down on the substantial production and mailing costs, not to mention all the hand work involved. Personally, I lack the computer chops to make this happen, but I would be willing to bet that in a year, a good number of you will be reading this online.

In closing I would like to thank departing vice-president Pat Vetzmadian for all her service in the many AMCRE positions she has held and further extend that thanks to all the AMCRE board members past and present, we all owe them a debt of gratitude for all that they have done.

See you out there, Tom

Tom Liberatore, President
Vernlyn Farnsworth, Treasurer

Sue Thornhill, Vice President/Secretary
Tim Knudsen, C.R.C.E.A. Del/Connection Editor

3 yr. Directors: Doug Sawyer/Tom Destroches
2 yr. Directors: Marilyn Heath/Pat Vetzmadian
1 yr. Directors: Ned Walsh/Shirley Christensen

A.M.C.R.E. GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
FEBRUARY 11, 2013
JENSEN'S TRUCK STOP, 1550 LOVERS LN., UKIAH, CA. 95482

1. CALL TO ORDER: 11:44 A.M.

2. FLAG SALUTE

3. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS PRESENT

4. REPORTS

- a) Treasurer/Presenter: Vernlyn Farnsworth reported \$4,290.93 in the treasury and \$1,495.88 in the legal fund.
- b) Membership/Presenter: Tom Liberatore reported 826 members.
- c) Program/Presenter: Sue Thornhill requested ideas from the floor. Suggestions included Sheriff Tom Allman, District Attorney Dave Eyster, speakers from the local assisted living facilities and Dr. Marvin Trotter.
- d) Retirement/Presenter: Tim Knudsen gave a brief report which included that as of this date the cost of living raise could be 2 1/2%.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

- a) Discussion began regarding ideas to help refresh "The Connection" newsletter. Some ideas were offered by the membership such as a "want ad section", more stories about our members and any new issues that might affect our retirements/benefits.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Discussion and possible action regarding the importance of RSVP's when notices go out for the annual Christmas party

7. SPECIAL SPEAKER: None was scheduled for this meeting since it was the first luncheon. Ideas were presented from the floor including one of the assisted living facilities, Marvin Trotter, Sheriff Tom Allman or District Attorney Dave Eyster.

8. DRAWING: \$10.00 winners were Ned Walsh and Pat Vetzmadian

9. ADJOURN: 1:00 P.M.

Refreshments provided by hospitality chair Shirley Christensen

Tom Liberatore, President
Vernlyn Farnsworth, Treasurer

Sue Thornhill, Vice President/Secretary
Tim Knudsen, C.R.C.E.A. Del/Connection Editor

3 Yr. Directors: Doug Sawyer/Tom Desroches

2 Yr. Directors: Marilyn Heath/Pat Vetmadian

1 Yr. Director: Shirley Christensen/Ned Walsh

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

HELD APRIL 8, 2013 AT 12:00 PM

2721 ROAD E, REDWOOD VALLEY, CA. 95470

1. President Tom Liberatore called the meeting together at 11:44 a. m.

2. REPORTS:

- a) Treasurer/Presenter: Vernlyn Farnsworth reported there is currently \$5,196.14 in the treasury and \$1,496.63 in the legal fund. Vernlyn also requested the Board vote to require the annual dues to be automatically withheld from each members retirement benefit. After some discussion a motion was made by Tom Desroches and seconded by Ned Walsh to make the payment of dues through auto pay a requirement. All votes favorable motion carried.
- b) Minutes of the General Membership Meeting held February 11, 2013. Motion by Pat Vetzadian, seconded by Tom Desroches to approve the minutes as presented
- c) Committee reports
 - Membership Chair Tom Liberatore reported there are 839 members and a total of 1161 retirees

3. OLD BUSINESS:

- a) Discussion and possible action regarding "The Connection" preparation

Information Cut-Off Date Monday 4/26/13

Assembly Date and Location Wednesday 5/1/13

- b) Discussion and possible action regarding future programs. Sue reported she had left a message for Tom Allman to speak at the May meeting and expected to hear from him when he returned from vacation.
- c) Discussion regarding the COLA for the 2013 calendar year. Tim reported the COLA would be 2% on March 31, 2013

4. NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Discussion and possible action regarding the location of the next General Meeting and reminder to be placed in "The Connection". The Board was reminded the new schedule would be General Member meeting would be held in February, May, August and December. Board meetings will be held January, April, July and November.

5. ADJOURN: 2:05 p.m.

Tom Liberatore, President
Vernlyn Farnsworth, Treasure

Sue Thornhill, Vice President/Secretary
Tim Knudsen, C.R.C.E.A. Del/Connection Editor

3 Yr. Directors: Doug Sawyer/Tom Desroches

2 Yr. Directors: Marilyn Heath/Pat Vetmadian

1 Yr. Director: Shirley Christensen/Ned Walsh

ASSOCIATION OF MENDOCINO COUNTY RETIRED EMPLOYEES'
AGENDA OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MAY 13, 2013 AT 11:30 PM
JENSEN'S RESTAURANT, 1550 LOVER LN., UKIAH, CA. 95482

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBER PRESENT

4. OLD BUSINESS:

1. REPORT FROM TIM KNUDSEN ON THE C.R.C.E.A. CONFERENCE

5. NEW BUSINESS:

1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE MEMBERSHIP INTEREST IN
FUNDING an A.M.C.R.E. SCHOLARSHIP

2. DRAWINGS

6. GUEST SPEAKER: Sheriff Tom Allman

ADJOURN

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NEW MEMBERS

Ron Ball 12/31/12

Alan Falleri 12/29/12

Dorothy Gayle Haas 01/02/13

Philip Mateer 01/05/13

James Nosera 12/22/12

Kathleen Sherman 11/03/12

Kendall Smith 01/08/13

County Council

Planning & Building Services

HHS

Sheriff

Farm Advisor

Mental Health

BOS

DECEASED

Winifred Eland 12/14/12

Peter Randrup 12/31/12

Social Services

Fort Bragg Road Dept.

CALIFORNIA RETIRED COUNTY EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION (CRCEA)

By way of introduction let me explain what CRCEA is and its relationship to AMCRE. All 20 of the 1937 Act counties have formed retiree organization like AMCRE and are members of CRCEA which is an organization that works to keep the retiree associations up to date on retirement related issues. Between April 15th and April 17th CRCEA held the first of the 2013 conferences in Long Beach, CA, sponsored by the Los Angeles County retired employees (RELAC). The conference was attended by approximately 90 members and delegates from the various retiree associations. I will cover the topics that I feel are important issues for retirees, and skip the ones that deal with CRCEA business.

Probably the most important issue covered during the conference was a presentation by the Deputy District Attorney for LA County. I'm sure we all have heard of the various scams that many unscrupulous criminals are attempting to inflict on retirees and the elderly, but I think everyone would be surprised by the show of hands by the 90 some attendees of the conference that indicated they have been the victim of an attempted scam. At least half the audience (not me) raised their hands when asked if they had ever been contacted by scammers, but, fortunately, the vast majority of those who were contacted were not fooled by the scam.

The most prevalent scam attempt is the phone call from a young voice saying "grandma/grandpa, I have been in an accident and I need you to send money to an attorney. This is becoming a much bigger issue since so many young kids are putting so much information on social media web sites that the crooks have access to. The DA suggested that all parents and grandparents establish code words with their children/grandchildren and insist that the kids not tell anyone the code word and to be sure to ask the telephoning kid for the code word before continuing the conversation. He also suggested that if you receive these types of call do not panic and send money without verifying the whereabouts of the child calling. There are many other scams so be careful when dealing with telephone calls from people you do not know, never give personal information (Social Security No.) on the phone unless you made the call and know for sure you are dealing with a reputable member of the organization you chose to do business.

He also cautioned on letting any strangers in your home no matter what their story is, and warned that if you do allow a stranger in not to let them out of your sight and if there is more than one stranger do not let one distract you while the other slips out of sight. He also warned not to think a child can be trusted just because of their young age, LA has many groups of thieves who get into houses by asking if a child can use the bathroom, while the parent distracts the home owner the child searches other rooms for valuables.

Another popular scam is one that I was a victim of several years ago while traveling in Mexico, but one that can happen anywhere even in good old Ukiah. The Deputy DA warned about giving your credit card to a waiter in restaurant and allowing him or her to carry the card to another room to process the transaction.

CRCEA CONFERENCE (Continued)

In my case we were in a large chain restaurant between the lunch and dinner hours and were the only people there and our waiter was the only staff we could see (hind sight is 20-20). The waiter was very nice and when he found we were from California indicated he had spent some time in southern CA. Not thinking of the possible scam and taken in by his friendly banter I allowed him to take my credit card out of my sight. When we returned home several days later we received a phone call from the company that monitors our credit card asking if we would authorize the purchase of a plane ticket from LA to Cancun MX, of course we said no but then had to go through the hassle of canceling the card and taking out a new one.

There was a presentation by the Treasurer Tax Collector of LA County dealing with the transfer of the assessed value of a home with a lower value to a new more expensive home if a senior is forced to move because they cannot maintain their home anymore, I won't go into details here but keep it in mind and check with the County Assessor if you find yourself in this situation. He also spoke on the perils and pitfalls of Reverse Mortgages (his words), and described them as one of the most expensive loans available. He suggested checking with other lending institutions before contacting the ones that advertise so heavily on television and checking the web site AARP.org/revmortgage.

There was a presentation from a Security Director with TSA at the LA Airport. Much of his presentation dealt with changes that TSA is going through where they are beginning to "somewhat" profile passengers before they arrive at the airport. This is being done in several cities in the middle east and has been quite successful. It is possible for someone who travels by air a lot, which many retirees do, to enroll in a program that allows them to go through a special line at security without all hassle and shoe removal. He suggested frequent fliers to go to the TSA web site to see how to enroll in the program, could save a lot of time and frustrations.

There was a presentation on the Affordable Care Act and Medicare changes. I don't want to scare seniors but it seems that more effort is going to go into providing health insurance coverage to the younger and poorer among us than to the more seasoned members of society. Some of the information was difficult to follow, since new regulations are being added to the "Act" almost on a daily basis, but seniors who enrolled in the Medicare Advantage program could be affected more by the new rules than others. It was also suggested that seniors check with AARP and the Social Security Office if they feel their insurance is getting too costly for them to afford. The advise given was to not sit idly by thinking there is nothing that can be done to lower health care cost while there are so many changes occurring every day.

PEPPERONI BROS. RACING

The last couple of years have been pretty rough for the Pepperoni Bros. race team, broken parts, broken dreams, long trips back to Ukiah towing a broken motorcycle. After last year's meltdown, I hand carried my broken parts to my engine guru, Mike Rich, in Pennsylvania. It didn't take Mike long to find the trouble, being part Scotch, I had re-used a part that I should have replaced and paid the price, the rod bearings and crank were toast in 1 mile, a large sum to pay for saving \$18!

This year promises to be different, [how many times have you heard that before?] Mike insisted on some major modifications to the lubrication system that I carried out over the fall & winter and the bike is assembled and ready to rock. It is nice to be ready 4 or 5 months early, not my normal MO.

This year we are again running in the 750cc pushrod partially streamlined gas class where the existing record is 151+mph, if we can nail that one down, we will enter the fuel class where the record is slightly lower [go figure] and bag it as well. I'm thinking that the bike has 160+ potential, we will see.

Our long range plans are to evolve into running a car out on the salt, Sandy MacNab offered to loan us his '34 Ford dirt car to run, but the modifications required were prohibitive. Plus, chances were good that we would probably break something, which might take the fun out of it for Sandy. Stay tuned for more details, we WILL go as fast as we can!