

ASSOCIATION OF MENDOCINO COUNTY RETIRED EMPLOYEES

Post Office Box 903

Ukiah, CA 95482

MOVING, or any  
notification  
changes?

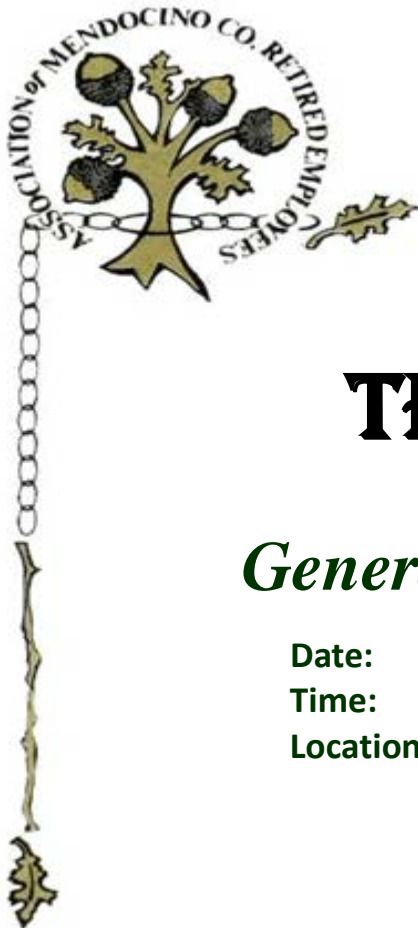
**NOTIFY AMCRE**

## *General Membership Meeting – August 8, 2016*

May-June-July 2016

Co-Editors:

Cyndi Montesonti &  
Dorinda Kay Miller



FRIENDSHIP • UNITY • STRENGTH • GROWTH

# **THE CONNECTION**

## *General Membership Meeting*

**Date:** Monday, August 8, 2016  
**Time:** 5:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Redwood Valley Lions Club Park  
8920 East Rd, Redwood Valley, CA

*See Page 8 for more information.*

**Free BBQ**

**\$ Raffles \$**





# AMCRE

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FRIENDSHIP • UNITY • STRENGTH • GROWTH

<http://www.amcre.org>

Issue #3-2016

## FROM THE DESK OF...



### AMCRE PRESIDENT SUE THORNHILL

Dear Fellow Retirees,

With summer comes traveling, BBQs and fun. I hope this finds your summer healthy, happy and out and about enjoying the sunshine. For those of you in Texas and the rest of the south we pray that you are drying out and had no damage due to the storms.

I don't know about the rest of you but Chuck and I have spent the last several years exploring the good old "Upper 48" rather than traveling out of the country. There is so much to see in this great nation, it is well worth your time.

Your AMCRE board is busy preparing for our annual picnic to be held August 8 at the Redwood Valley Lions Park. Once again AMCRE will provide all of the food and you need only bring your drinks and your laughter to share with friends. As always if you need transportation to and from the event just contact one of the board members and we will make sure it happens.

As you will see from other articles in this newsletter the scholarships recipients have been chosen and checks will be issued once school begins and proof of enrollment has been received by the scholarship committee. I want to thank the committee consisting of Tim Knudsen, Cyndi Montesonti and Marilyn Heath for their efforts on AMCRE's behalf. We were disappointed in the number of applicants this year and hope to receive many more in the future. Please remember to remind your children and grandchildren we offer 3 \$500.00 scholarships for those leaving high school to attend college or trade schools and 1 \$500.00 for a prior recipient returning to complete their educations.

Within the next couple of months the Mendocino County Board of Retirement will renew their discussion regarding how our Cost of Living increases are calculated. We the members of the AMCRE board plan to attend those meeting in an effort to influence their decision, we will be asking as many of you as possible to attend with us simply to remind them who we are and what we have done for Mendocino County.

For now let's just enjoy the warm weather and I hope to see many of you at the picnic and catch up on what you've been up to. Always remember you are welcome at all of board meetings (except for any closed session items).

Cheers for now,  
Sue Thornhill, President

## WELCOME NEW RETIREES

*Please come to our functions.*

As of June 2016 - 927 members strong!

RETIREE NAME	RETIREMENT DATE	DEPT	YRS OF SERVICE
Schroeder, Thomas	01/26/15		
Vest, Deborah	12/27/09		
Prine, Veltha	04/01/10	DOT	20+
Tucker, Wanda	03/24/07	HHSA	9+
Collins, Valerie	12/13/06	HHSA	7



Ford, Patricia		03/28/16
Valentini, Emily	DA's Office	04/08/16
Sandoval, Kathryn		05/28/16

- Should you have any questions regarding the contents of this newsletter, please contact the following people. **PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE RETIREMENT OFFICE.** They have nothing to do with the AMCRE or this newsletter.
- **HAVE QUESTIONS?**
- **PLEASE CALL A BOARD MEMBER!**
- SUE THORNHILL, President
  - Email: [rsthornhill@comcast.net](mailto:rsthornhill@comcast.net) 707-485-7600 or
- CYNDI MONTESONTI, Secretary and Co-Editor/AMCRE
  - Email: [tomcyndichili@comcast.net](mailto:tomcyndichili@comcast.net) 707-489-775 or
- RAYLENE LUCCHESI, Treasurer
  - Email: [raylenelucchesi@att.net](mailto:raylenelucchesi@att.net) 707-468-0751 or
- DORINDA MILLER, Board Member & Co-Editor/AMCRE
  - Email: [dmiller0404@gmail.com](mailto:dmiller0404@gmail.com) 707-489-8564 or
- Write to: AMCRE
  - P.O. Box 903 Ukiah, CA 95482

*Board of Directors*

**PRESIDENT**

Sue Thornhill

**VICE-PRESIDENT**

Tom Liberatore

**SECRETARY**

Cyndi Montesonti

**TREASURER**

Raylene Lucchesi

**C.R.C.E.A. DELEGATE**

Tim Knudsen

**DIRECTORS**

**3-year**

Tom Desroches

Dorinda Kay Miller

**2-year**

Marilyn Heath

Jim Tuso

**1-year**

Shirley Christensen

Richard Stenback

**NON-ELECTED POSITIONS**

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

Dorinda Kay Miller

**THE CONNECTION:**

**Co-Editors ~**

Cyndi Montesonti

Dorinda Kay Miller

**SUNSHINE COMMITTEE**

Shirley Christensen

**WEBMASTER**

Grandville Poole

**ASSOCIATION OF MENDOCINO COUNTY RETIRED EMPLOYEES'**

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**May 9, 2016, 12:00 p.m.**

**Slam Dunk Pizza**

**Ukiah, CA**

11:45 a.m.

**Impromptu Board Meeting**

held at 11:45 a.m. prior to the General Meeting on an urgent matter regarding the current mailing list of AMCRE members. **Present:** Sue Thornhill, Tom Liberatore, Cyndi Montesonti, Tim Knudsen, Dorinda Miller, Tom Desroches, Marilyn Heath and Jim Tuso. **Absent:** Raylene Lucchesi, Shirley Christensen, and Richard Stenbeck. Dr. James Wilbanks, Retirement Administrator, sent to AMCRE a contract he wanted us to sign regarding the distribution of the confidential mailing list by a company we would pay to print labels and mail our newsletter at a discounted rate. Dorinda Miller reported that *Express It* gave a price quote of \$418.15. *Express It* had to sign a

Confidential Agreement for the Retirement Administrator. *Creative Workshop* will prepare the newsletters, and we will take them to *Express It* to have the labels printed and discounted postage put on. Tim Knudsen reported that after the Sonoma County lawsuit settled on confidentiality of retirees' personal information, we have no rights to receive any confidential mailing information or mailing lists, nor would we receive updated address changes or information from the Retirement Office. The Retirement Administrator said that they would provide the information to *Express It* and after they print labels and mail the newsletters out, they will destroy the list until it is time for the next newsletter to be published. We had to agree to this and sign the Agreement. We really had no other choice. Dorinda and Cyndi expressed the importance of AMCRE members notifying both the Retirement Administrator's Office and/or Dorinda Miller or Cyndi Montesonti for AMCRE of any and all address changes, email changes and phone number changes.

Cyndi Montesonti moves to accept the Agreement as presented to us by the Mendocino County Employees Retirement

Association so that they will provide current mailing information to *Express It* in order for us to get our quarterly newsletter published and mailed out. Marilyn Heath Seconded.

**AYES:** Tim Knudsen, Tom Liberatore, Jim Tuso, Cyndi Montesonti, Dorinda Miller, Tommy Desroches and Marilyn Health

**OPPOSED:** Sue Thornhill due to language issues on the agreement.

**MOTION PASSED.**

Impromptu meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

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**1. CALL TO ORDER THE GENERAL MEETING:** President Sue Thornhill called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

**2. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS PRESENT AND ROLL CALL:** President Sue took roll call of Board Members. Absent Board Members: Raylene Lucchesi and Shirley Christensen. All others present. She asked for introductions of the retirees and their guests. 43 retirees showed up for the lunch.

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Officer Adams

**4. LUNCH** served.

**5. SPEAKER:** Officer Adams from the California Highway Patrol talked while members were eating lunch. He discussed senior driving and answered any other questions we had. The main focus was: When is it time to hang up those keys, ask for a ride, take a bus or get a taxi, but don't get behind the wheel? He said it is hard for most people to accept the fact that they are unable to drive anymore. He shared with us that when a CHP sees erratic driving, they have a right to stop you and ask many questions. If you are unable to answer them, they get you and your car to safety, maybe call someone for you, and then you will probably end up having a driving evaluation or take a written and driving exam before you can get behind the wheel again. If you are driving erratically due to drugs and/or alcohol, that is a completely different story. He talked about due to airbags in cars; hands should be at 8 and 4 position on the steering wheel. Not 10 and 2. He also said if you plan to be away from home for a half day, to be sure that you have extra medications with you, just in case something comes up and you can't get home as planned. He also discussed not always relying on a GPS and use a map. All in all, it was a very interesting program.

**6. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- **TREASURER REPORT:** Cyndi Montesonti reported for Raylene Lucchesi that the most recent information was as reported in the latest newsletter.

- **MEMBERSHIP:** Dorinda Miller reported there are 936 retirees as of April 2016.
  - **SCHOLARSHIP:** Tim Knudsen is the Chair of this Committee. Cyndi Montesonti and Marilyn Heath also are on this Committee. No scholarship applications have been received yet. We will be giving 3- \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors and 1- \$500 scholarship to a returning college student. (\$250 each semester with proof of enrollment) See the latest newsletter for more details. Applications can be found at [amcre.org](http://amcre.org) Go to the SCHOLARSHIP tab and print it out. Otherwise call Tim Knudsen, Scholarship Chairman for an application. All applications are due by May 27, 2016.
  - **C.R.C.E.A.:** Sue Thornhill attended the conference and has the report in the current newsletter.
- 7. OLD AND NEW BUSINESS:** No Old Business reported.
- NEW BUSINESS:**
- **AMCRE MAILING LIST:** Sue Thornhill advised the members in attendance of the issues we are having obtaining current information from the Retirement Office on AMCRE members in order to have an accurate mailing list. The Retirement Office will no longer provide the information to AMCRE, but will provide it to a company called Express It, who will prepare mailing labels and send out the newsletters at a discounted postage deal. She said the Board Members had an impromptu Board meeting to vote to sign the agreement the Retirement Office sent to AMCRE. She said it passed but she opposed due to language issues and restrictions. Dorinda stressed the importance of getting any address change info to her. She also said we will be unable to email the newsletter anymore. She will also put something in the next newsletter for everyone to sign and submit to her giving current emails or information should we need to get an emergency email out to our membership.
  - **SUMMER PICNIC:** Sue reported it is usually held at the end of August, however, it will be held at Lions Park in Redwood Valley on the second Monday in August (8/8/16)

at no cost to retirees. It will be our annual BBQ. Tom Liberatore will reserve the Park for that date. It will be at 5:00 p.m. Details will be in the next newsletter.

- **CPI:** Tim Knudsen reminded the members they just received a 3% COLA. Tim will keep the membership posted when the Retirement Board decides to have a big meeting to discuss changing the CPI area or change in any retiree benefits. Tammy Weselsky said she would be interested in sitting on any Ad Hoc Committee, should there be one, to participate in researching this. Tim also discussed the makeup of the Board of Retirement and who sits on it. He said there have been discussions again to attempt to change the CPI area from the Bay Area to maybe more rural. It was discussed we should stick together and show up for any meetings when this is discussed to keep the CPI using the index from the bay area. Tim also discussed the lawsuit from Sonoma County which says Retiree names and addresses are not public info.
- 8. DRAWINGS:** Raffle winners are as followed:
- \$ 10.00 winners: Karen Seydel, Don Woskow and Myron Sawicki
  - \$ 20.00 winner: Doug Sawyer, and he donated his back to the Scholarship Fund. The Scholarship Jar was passed around for donations as well. Thank you and Congratulations everyone!
- 9. COMMENTS:** Cyndi Montesonti will be out of State the month of July and will not be able to attend the Board Meeting. She asked Raylene Lucchesi to take minutes and Dorinda Miller will assist if necessary. Cyndi will have the minutes of this meeting and the newsletter ready to go and submitted to Dorinda in June.
- 10. ADJOURN:** Meeting and lunch was adjourned at 2:00 p.m. Thank you for a great time and delicious lunch Slam Dunk Pizza.

Respectfully submitted,  
CYNDI MONTESONTI, Secretary



Some of the retirees who attended the May meeting:

*Jim Tuso, Debbie Stenback, Ron Parker, Dorinda Miller, Richard Stenback, Jan Kespohl, Don Woskow*

ASSOCIATION OF MENDOCINO COUNTY RETIRED EMPLOYEES'

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

July 11, 2016, 12:00 p.m.

Slam Dunk Pizza, 720 N. State Street, Ukiah

1. CALL TO ORDER – INTRODUCTIONS: President Sue Thornhill called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Present: Sue Thornhill, Tim Knudsen, Dorinda Miller, Tom Desroches, Marilyn Health, Richard Stenback and Jim Tuso. Absent: Raylene Lucchesi, Shirley Christensen, Tom Liberatore, and Cyndi Montesonti.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was made by Marilyn Health and seconded by Richard Stenback to approve the Minutes from the May 9, 2016, General Meeting. Passed.

3. REPORTS:

TREASURER REPORT: Sue Thornhill reported the balance in the treasury as of April 2016 was \$7,945.37, which includes the Scholarship Fund Balance of \$297.00. The Legal Fund has a balance of \$1,499.34. Check received and deposited for \$909.40. Raylene had also paid out a few bills. May 2016 treasurer’s report was \$7,613.44; it included the Scholarship Balance: \$297.00 and Legal Fund Balance is \$1,499.34. Check received and deposited from the County for \$974.74. Raylene paid a few incoming bills. Richard Stenback moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report. Tim Knudsen seconded. Passed.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: 927 Members - Dorinda Miller

SCHOLARSHIP REPORT: Tim Knudsen, see his report in this newsletter.

CRCEA REPORT/RETIREMENT MEETING REPORT: Tim Knudsen. Sue Thornhill and Tim Knudsen received the itinerary for the October CRCEA conference. Both were in agreement that there was nothing that applied and would of interest to us; therefore, they will not be attending this year.

Tim Knudsen did report that he is on the Retirement Budget Committee and that Supervisor Gjerde believes that the retirees automatically receive a 3% cost of living increase every year. Tim explained to him that is the maximum allowed; he might ask Dr. Wilbanks to generate a report that shows the cost of living percentage that the retirees have received for the last 20 years.

Tim Knudsen also reported on the testing of the MCERA Pension Gold MemberDirect self-service website. Retirement contacted him to participate; which he did and said it seems promising. The test and survey only took about 10 minutes.

4. OLD BUSINESS: Discussion and Possible Action Regarding: --REACH and/or CalStar issues. Anything to report?: Sue Thornhill-wants to keep this on the agenda just encase something does come up. However, REACH for Life is now AirMedCare Network. See article below.

--Newsletter Preparation ---THE CONNECTION: > Dorinda Miller had received the President’s Message and Tim Knudsen reported his article will be to her on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

As this is the first newsletter to be mailed using Express It, Dorinda Miller will contact:

Creative Workshop to let them know the newsletter will be coming to them 7/15/16 or 7/18/16;

Retirement to let them know to send their list of members and addresses to Express It on 7/15/16 or 7/18/16.

She will also be contacting Express It to give them a heads up that Creative Workshop will be contacting them approximately Wednesday. [Express It assured her it will be top priority and will be mailed no later than Friday (7/22/16)].

5. NEW BUSINESS:

Details for the August General Meeting were discussed. It will be on 8/8/16 at 5 pm: Sue and Chuck Thornhill will be the cooks and Meat, salad, bread, dessert will be provided. Members are asked to provide their own drinks. Dorinda Miller moved that AMCRE pay for the BBQ and Tom Desroches seconded it. Passed. People wishing to help set up, please be at the park at 4:00.

6. ADJOURN: President Thornhill adjourned the meeting at 12:45.

Respectfully submitted, Dorinda Kay Miller

Submitted by: Dorinda Kay Miller

REACH for Life is now AirMedCare Network

On June 24, 2016, we received letter making us aware of an upcoming branding change. Per the letter: "...The logo and name will transition from REACH for Life to REACH Air Medical Services. This change will not affect your membership benefits or coverage in any way. ...Your membership provides access to service from more than 240 aircraft across 32 states. You will have no out-of-pocket expenses for medically-necessary transports by any of these providers."

They enclosed new membership stickers, reflecting the new brand. And requested you please contact their Membership Department with any questions at 800-793-0010. For more information, they encourage you to visit their websites: www.REACHair.com or www.AirMedCareNetwork.com.

If you are a member and have not received this letter, I strongly encourage you to contact them.

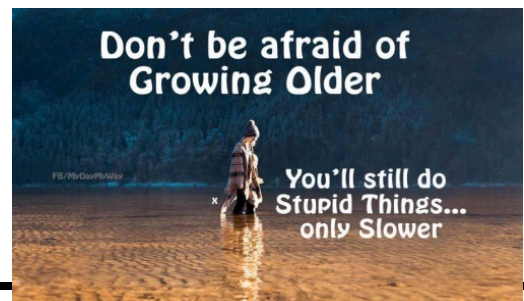
DISCOUNTS GALORE

Don't forget to ask for discounts as an AARP member

Regal Entertainment Group:

Enjoy great movies and concessions at Regal Entertainment Group theatres. AARP members receive \$3 off any small or larger popcorn and soft drink combo.

- Members must also be a Regal Crown Club member and show both their AARP membership card and their Regal Crown Club card at the time of purchase.





*Disrupt your aging and embrace growing older.*



Does anyone else put things in a safe place and then forget where that safe place is??



**DAYTRIPPING**



*"We'll Take You There In Style!"*

Check out [www.godaytripping.com](http://www.godaytripping.com) and learn more about the company by find a list of upcoming day or overnight trips. There 2016 calendar is out of day trips and longer trips.

Email [info@godaytripping.com](mailto:info@godaytripping.com) to request to be placed on their mailing list and/or with any questions/requests regarding upcoming trips, or telephone them at (707) 577-8894. They are located in Santa Rosa and Martinez. **Has anyone else used this company? Email Cyndi or Dorinda your experience with them.**

**Well.. I'm never lonely. Because I have four men in my life. I get up with Charlie Horse.**



**I spend the day with Arthur Itis. I dine with Will Power, And I go to bed with Ben Gay!**

**DO YOU HAVE MISSING OR HIDDEN MONEY YOU WOULD LIKE TO LOCATE OR DOES A FAMILY MEMBER THAT YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT?????**

It can be somewhat easy to locate it without having to pay for somebody to do it. Check out an article on line in AARP titled **"DON'T PAY FOR YOUR MISSING MONEY"** link: <http://blog.aarp.org/2016/04/29/dont-pay-for-your-missing-money/> You may be entitled to a portion of the billions of dollars in "unclaimed property" that sits in state treasuries — money from forgotten bank accounts, insurance policies and safe deposit boxes; uncashed paychecks and stock dividends; never-returned security deposits paid to utility companies; and the like. But you certainly don't have to pay to claim it.

It costs nothing, and takes only minutes, to check for yourself if any money is owed to you. Just visit [www.MissingMoney.com](http://www.MissingMoney.com) or [www.Unclaimed.org](http://www.Unclaimed.org), websites affiliated with the National Association of Unclaimed Property Administrators (NAUPA), an association of unclaimed property programs run in every U.S. state, usually by the state treasurer's office. You can also directly contact the treasurer's office in each state where you have lived. The article goes on and on with more tips and details and other links. Very interesting.

**When I'm an old lady  
I'm going to leave  
snacks in little bags on  
the floor all over the  
house in case I fall  
down.**

[www.facebook.com/Humormeetscomics2](http://www.facebook.com/Humormeetscomics2)

# AMCRE GENERAL MEETING

**DATE/TIME:** MONDAY ~ AUGUST 8, 2016 5:00 P.M.

**PLACE:** REDWOOD VALLEY LIONS CLUB PARK  
8920 East Rd, Redwood Valley, CA

**RAFFLE:** Get a free raffle ticket for a chance to win  
5 - \$20.00 Prizes  
1 - \$50.00 Prize  
1 - \$100.00 Prize

*Free BBQ Picnic: Provided by AMCRE*  
BRING YOUR OWN BEVERAGE

**COME AND JOIN US !**  
**\*MEET UP WITH FRIENDS, FORMER CO-WORKERS\***  
**GOOD TIMES WILL BE HAD BY ALL!**

*Hip Hip Hooray  
Retirement!*



**R.S.V.P.** AS SOON AS YOU CAN TO EITHER:

>AMCRE at Post Office Box 903 Ukiah, CA 95482

Or better yet:

>email to: [dmiller0404@gmail.com](mailto:dmiller0404@gmail.com)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Attendees: \_\_\_\_\_