

# REMCO

## NEWSLETTER

Retired Employees of Merced County-June 2013



The quarterly luncheon will be held on **Tuesday, June 11th** at the *Merced Elks Lodge*, 19th & "M" Streets, Merced. The doors will be open at 11:30 AM. The program will begin at 12 Noon and lunch will be served at 12:30 PM. Reservations are a must so the proper amount of food can be prepared. REMCO is required to pay for the number of meals ordered so unpaid reservations come from our treasury. The following people will accept your reservation:

**Karolyn Alvarez** (209) 358-9372 or  
Email: Karol\_retired\_95301@yahoo.com

**Lola Barnett** (209) 384-4185 (Office 8-5,  
Mon-Fri or leave message)

### Officers & Board of Directors

President: Sandy Teague, PhD	769-7331
Vice President: Kaye Greeley	394-9091
Secretary: Lavon Justice	722-8202
Treasurer: Lola Barnett	384-4185
Director: Michael Sofranek	374-3465
Director: Marie McDonagh	723-0917
Director: Vivian Stierwalt	723-7065
Director: Linc Clendenin	722-1306
Director: Scott Johnston	617-2126
Director: Ron Kinchloe	409-8394
Past President: Lola Barnett	384-4185
Retirement Bd Rep: Ron Kinchloe	409-8394
Retirement Bd Alt: Scott Johnston	617-2126

### Appointed Staff

CRCEA Delegate: David Baker  
CRCEA Delegate: Kaye Greeley  
Newsletter Editor: John Carlisle 722-9249  
[jbc76@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jbc76@sbcglobal.net)

REMCO WEBSITE: [www.REMCOMerced.com](http://www.REMCOMerced.com)



Greetings REMCO Members:

Thank you for allowing me to assume the duties of President, Retired Employees of Merced County, REMCO. I say assume because there was no election and since my name was the only one on the ballot for this position I will become the President.

This is both an honor and a humbling experience to be entrusted with the responsibility of managing an organization as well as being ever vigilant in monitoring the health and welfare of all county retirees. I am frighteningly aware of the haphazard approach members of REMCO have taken toward the management of the organization. There is a time in our lives when we realize enough is enough, and not wanting to get involved with the responsibilities, after all we did our time and now its time to enjoy our retirement. I fully understand and applaud that decision, however there are those still among us who are willing to participate just a little more.

While we are sitting at home enjoying the retired life there are outside influences that are continuing to attempt to erode those benefits you have worked so hard to earn. All of us spent countless hours going to work each day, sometimes not wanting to, in the realization that we would have a county retirement check and health benefits for the rest of our life. When retirement day finally arrived, we though "Oh Boy". But today that "Oh Boy" moment is being scrutinized ever so closely to find ways to reduce the commitments promised by the County. The County maintains that current budget just does not allow for such extravagance. This is very close to being a true statement when you realize that we now have more people on retirement than actively working

Merced County is currently being sued over pensions by one of the unions. Tulare County, through their continued efforts was rewarded by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals who ruled in their favor. This allows them to

continue their case to show that the County's written statements and individual testimony consistently told retirees about health benefits they would have during retirement. This should be a wake up call to alert us to the fact it could happen here. Right now we do not have funds to fight these battles.

REMCO needs to stay abreast of these developments as they present themselves in order to provide a quality service to its members. Fortunately, as past secretary to CRCEA, I have continuing access to the newsletters of all twenty county associations. A valuable tool to see what is happening to pensions and healthcare elsewhere in the state. Members cannot remain apathetic to the management of REMCO. Its officers and Board of Directors should be held accountable for reporting related current events as they happen here.

Therefore, I would like to propose a shift in how business is conducted. There should be Board of Director Meetings monthly, especially now, with current health issues being discussed. Each Director should present in writing their current involvement in each assigned committee at the monthly meeting. The Secretary will record these topics and present them at the next quarterly general meeting.

The quarterly general meeting can be restructured in such a manner that it becomes enjoyable and informative to attend. The President should open the meeting and have the Secretary read the minutes from the last general meeting and the combined minutes of the preceding Board of Directors meeting. The Treasurer can then address the budget. This should take no more than fifteen minutes. The next fifteen minutes can then be given to a guest speaker, who will address current topics, such as health issues, pension reform etc. Other guest speakers can speak to financial planning for retirees, medical resources available for picking up prescriptions, transportation to appointments, etc. The last thirty minutes of the meeting should be

devoted to eating and enjoying good friends.

All this sounds like a lot of reorganizing, but I think it is essential if REMCO wants to continue to be a recognizable and creditable representative of all the retirees of Merced County.

Update: As of now, John Carlisle will continue as news letter editor, Lola Barnett will continue as Treasurer and Kaye Greeley, VP, will act as president until Sandy returns later this year. Thank you everyone for your tremendous support.

### REMCO WEBSITE NEWS

Please check the REMCO website: ([www.REMCOMerced.com](http://www.REMCOMerced.com)) in the near future for detailed information you should find interesting from the CRCEA Conference.

### REMCO SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED!



On May 8<sup>th</sup> the REMCO Scholarship Committee met and considered a dozen scholarship applications. It was a very difficult decision, because there were so many exceptional students in the running! Each of the four winners will receive a \$500.00 scholarship from REMCO.

*Congratulations!*



**Graduating Seniors**  
**Group 1**

**Mattea Nicole Clarke**  
*(Granddaughter of REMCO Member  
Ron H. Clark)*

**Madeline Chavez**  
*(Granddaughter of REMCO Member  
Jim Copher)*

**Continuing Education**  
**Group 1**

**Katrina Justice**  
*(Granddaughter of REMCO Member  
Alice "Lavon" Justice)*

**Austin Christian Pacheco Timmerson**  
*(Grandson of REMCO Member  
Albert Jorge Pacheco)*

Congratulations to all of the applicants and especially to these outstanding students!

And, speaking of students, our own REMCO President, Sandy Teague, can now be addressed as "Dr. Teague", since he graduated from the University of Alameda on March 26, 2013 with a PhD. in Business Administration! Congratulations to Dr. Teague for demonstrating to us all it is never too late to learn!



GEORGE LUTTS, FIRE 12/30/2012  
LINDA DILL, DPE 01/08/2013  
GARY CASERI, AG COM 03/02/2013  
CONNIE HARRIS, HSA 02/10/2013  
MARY ALANIZ, HSA 02/13/2013  
LANE CLARK, SHERIFF 03/03/2013  
PATRICIA WRIGHT, MCMC 02/25/2013  
KEITH MAHAN, AG COM 02/01/2013  
GODDARD, MARK GODDARD, DA 03/30/2013  
FRANZ CRIEGO, PD 12/28/2012  
MARY MORENO, MH 04/03/2013  
SUZANNE ROWE, HSA 04/09/2013  
CYNTHIA SINGH, HSA 04/01/2013  
DOMINGO LEYRO, SHERIFF 03/29/2013

*In Memoriam*

June L. Combs 1/28/2013  
William H. Powell 1/22/2013  
Clifford R. Eason 1/30/2013  
Evelyn Robinson 2/1/2013  
Newman M. Warren Jr. 2/15/2013  
Rose E. Medeiros 2/16/2013  
Johnnie Ramondini 2/20/2013  
Ruben Castillo 2/19/2013  
Charles F. Breshears 2/17/2013  
Martha Galvin 2/26/2013  
Dayle Conroy 2/28/2013  
Robert S. Mrozek 3/6/2013  
Robert L. Monroe 3/7/2013  
Kazuko Lena Boyle 3/28/2013  
Juanita Morrow 3/24/2013  
Helen M. Pattison 4/21/2013



**REMCO**  
Retired Employees of Merced County  
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Merced CA 95344-3605

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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