



Retired Employees of Merced County Association, Inc.
A 501(c)(7) Association (REMCOAI) **November 2022**

NEWSLETTER

The quarterly luncheon & business meeting of the Retired Employees of Merced County Association, Inc. will be held on **Tuesday, December 13**, at the Merced Elks Lodge, 19th & "M" St, Merced.

11:00 AM Doors Open
11:30 AM Business Meeting
12:00 PM Lunch served

RESERVATIONS ARE MANDATORY and required by December 1st to have an accurate head count for food. The following people will accept your reservation:

Jackie Walther-Parnell (209) 725-8297
Lola Barnett (209) 658-5109

Officers & Board of Directors

President: Jackie Walther-Parnell 725-8297
Vice Pres: R. Scott Johnston 617-2126
Secretary: LaVon Justice 722-8202
Treasurer: Lola Barnett 658-5109
Director: Michael Harris 357-5566
Director: Jim Pacheco
Director: Eric Swenson
Director: Bernadette Castaneda 725-1929
Director: Lori Sears Norman
Director: Richard St Marie

Retirement Bd Rep: R. Scott Johnston 617-2126
Retirement Bd Alt: Michael Harris 357-5566

Appointed Staff

CRCEA Delg: Jackie Walther-Parnell 725-8297

MCERA Representative and
CRCEA Alt. Delg: R. Scott Johnston 617-2126

Past President: John Carlisle 722-9249

REMCO WEBSITE: www.REMCOMerced.com
MercedCERA WEBSITE: www.mercedcera.com

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Jackie Walther-Parnell, CGFM-Ret

Here we are almost into the holiday season. Time certainly flies! Hope this finds all of you and your loved ones well!

Hope those who attended our October meeting had a good time and learned something beneficial from Steve Pettee about the extra benefits available from Pacific Group Agencies. Also, I hope those who did not attend the meeting were able to watch the presentation and meeting on Facebook. Thank you, Mike Harris, for taking the video of the presentation and the meeting. If you have not seen the video you can catch it on Facebook before it is gone. You must be a member of the REMCO Facebook page to view. Anyone who is a REMCO member can be approved to join the Facebook page. We have no speakers for the December meeting and Mike will be out of town so there will not be a livestream of the meeting, but we will try to make a video and post it on the Facebook page.

I also want to thank Mike Harris for putting out the REMCO Newsletter in September. Great Job! This is a new format using a new company to handle the printing and mailing of the newsletter.

Our next REMCO meeting and luncheon is scheduled for Tuesday, December 13, 2022. This will be our last luncheon for 2022 (of course we'll be back in 2023). Please have your reservations in no later than Thursday, December 1st. You can call Lola or me to make your reservations, or you can make a request on the REMCO Facebook Page. When you request a reservation on the Facebook page I will "like" your request so you will know that I have seen it and have added you to the reservation list.

If you make a reservation but can't make it, please call one of us to cancel. REMCO is charged for all lunches ordered whether the person attends or not. The Elks Lodge, who provides our lunches, has increased their prices due to increases in costs of products and labor. Even though the December luncheon is free for REMCO members (compliments of REMCO), you still must make a reservation. Guests will cost \$12.

Wishing everyone a wonderful holiday season!

Jackie

WHAT IS REMCO:

REMCO is our local organization of over 1300 members who have retired from Merced County employment. Dues are \$3 per month, withheld from pension checks. REMCO membership is optional for retirees but is required to participate in the supplemental benefits provided through Pacific Group Agencies, receive discounts on quarterly luncheon meetings, receive the quarterly newsletter, and receive other benefits of the organization. REMCO membership also includes membership in CRCEA (see below).

WHAT IS CRCEA:

CRCEA is an association of the 20 California counties (including Merced County), whose retirement systems are governed by the County Employees Retirement Law of 1937 (referred to as 1937 Act Counties). CRCEA has a combined membership of over 180,000. Member counties benefit from a paid lobbyist in the state legislature, and a legislative analyst who is also a CRCEA board member. This connection with the state legislature allows CRCEA to take immediate action regarding any legislation which is deemed to be either beneficial or harmful in nature. REMCO membership includes membership in CRCEA. CRCEA holds two conferences each year, one in the spring and one in the fall. REMCO is represented at these conferences by delegates from each member county. The representatives for REMCO are Jackie Walther-Parnell, primary, and Scott Johnston, alternate.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS:

No nominations were received for new directors, so a further notice was put out. There were six volunteers who responded and were considered by the Board at their October meeting. It was determined by the Board to accept the first four volunteers to fill the four empty director positions. Remaining volunteers have been added to a list for future openings. Welcome to newly appointed REMCO Directors:

Richard St Marie
Jim Pacheco
Lori Sears Norman
Eric Swenson

The next meeting of the REMCO Board of Directors is scheduled for Wednesday, January 18, 2023 at 9:30 am. If an appropriate location can be found, it will be held in person. If not, it will be a ZOOM meeting.

2023 General Meeting and Luncheon Schedule:

March 14, 2023 – Quarterly meeting and luncheon – program to be announced

June 13, 2023 – Quarterly meeting and luncheon – program to be announced

September 12, 2023 – Quarterly meeting and luncheon – program to be announced

December 12, 2023 – Annual Holiday meeting and luncheon

ATTENTION ALL RETIREES –

ADDRESS CHANGE REMINDER: If you have changed your mailing address, please notify the Retirement Office and REMCO of your new address so we can be sure you receive your quarterly newsletter. If you provide your email address to REMCO, your quarterly newsletter can be sent by email. This will get the newsletter to you much earlier than snail mail.

New COVID-19 Boosters that target multiple strains are now available: The new COVID-19 bivalent boosters have arrived in Merced County. The new bivalent boosters were developed to generate an immune response from the original COVID-19 virus as well as the BA-4 and BA-5 Omicron subvariants. Supplies may be limited and are currently available across the region at vaccination locations, including pharmacies and medical providers.

Also, as a reminder, if you, or someone you know, are the surviving spouse of a Merced County retiree, please notify the Retirement Office and complete a REMCO membership application. Surviving spouses are eligible for membership in REMCO.

NEW RETIREES

Rhonda	Mae	Cole	DISTRICT ATTORNEY	10/31/2022
Barbara		Gatlin	BEHAVIORAL HEALTH-MERCED CHILDREN	10/31/2022
Javier		Renteria	DISTRICT ATTORNEY	10/31/2022
Jin	R	Soofi	BEHAVIORAL HEALTH-INPATIENT	10/31/2022
Carolyn	Sue	St. Clair	HSA-SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION	10/31/2022
Michael	G	Walejko	DPW-PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION	10/31/2022
Richard	Alan	Winters	DEPT OF ADMIN SVCS-INFORMATION SYS	10/31/2022
Dennis	J	Johnson	SHERIFF	8/31/2022
Kathleen	A	St Marie	SHERIFF-CORRECTIONS	8/31/2022
Raul	M	Delgadillo	HSA-ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIV	7/31/2022
Victoria		Miller	CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES AGENCY	7/31/2022
Rebecca	D	Petty	HSA-EMPLOYMENT SERVICES	7/31/2022
Gloria		Provencio	HOSPITAL	7/31/2022
D	Renee	Smyth	BEHAVIORAL HEALTH-ADMINISTRATION	7/31/2022
Brent		Cronk	HEALTH-ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH	6/30/2022
Lourdes		Frontella	DISTRICT ATTORNEY	6/30/2022
Kellie	Lynn	Jacobs	DPW-PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION	6/30/2022
Joanne	F	Kelly	HSA-ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIV	6/30/2022
Glenn		Rodriguez	SHERIFF	6/30/2022