



SCARE Newsletter

Sonoma County Association of Retired Employees

Published Quarterly May 2023 Volume 323 Issue 2

Calendar of Events 2023

Membership Meetings

5/23/23, 8/22/23, 11/28/23

Meetings are at 1pm at
Finley Center and by Zoom

Luncheons

Luncheons have been canceled
because of COVID

Board Meetings

1:00 PM Dates may change so
call Board member first.

5/3/23, 7/12/23, 9/6/23,
11/1/23

Get Newsletter by Email:

Many members have agreed to get notices and newsletters via email. This saves money and trees and lets us get info to you more quickly. Plus you can increase the font size for easier reading!! If you are willing to get notices and the newsletter via email, send an email to communications@sonomacountyretirees.com authorizing SCARE to send them to you. Please add that address to your address book so spam filters let it through.

The SCARE Newsletter is printed quarterly. The information printed in the newsletter is believed to be accurate and from reliable sources. However, no responsibility is assumed by SCARE, the Editor, or the writers for inaccuracies in the articles as published.

President's Report by Kathy Young

Spring has arrived, the drought is over, and your SCARE board has started its campaign to educate the Board of Supervisors (BOS) and inform the Sonoma County Employees Retirement Association (SCERA) of the need to address Cost of Living Adjustments for current Retirees. After 15 years, the "We can't afford it" argument no longer works. A solution needs to be found. All of you should have received a SCARE Retiree COLA Survey, a self-addressed stamped envelope and a two-page letter explaining the need for your help in this effort. We have included the letter and the survey in this newsletter in case you missed seeing the other versions. You may respond to the survey by reply mail or online at https://bit.ly/SCARE_COLA. We all know there is a lot of misinformation circulating, making it more important that we distribute the right information. You may attend the SCERA Retirement Board Meeting virtually. It is usually held the third Thursday of the month from 9-10:30. The agenda is available online 2-3 days before the meeting and contains the Zoom link. Go to their website for information on how to log in and make comments. You may also attend BOS meetings virtually.

It is important to get the facts. Please read the information in this newsletter and the information sent to you. Ask questions if you are confused about an item. We will continue to send out emails with updated information and we have a closed Facebook page. Thank you to Paul Klonsky for setting up the online survey and maintaining the Facebook page, along with Bob Bulwa. Please note that if you requested to receive a physical copy of the newsletter, you may also sign up to receive email notices (more on page 5).

Our next Membership Meeting will be on Tuesday, 1:00 PM, May 23rd. You may meet in person at the Cypress Room of the Finley Center or on Zoom. The Zoom link is: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81458871841>. Emily Rogan from United Policyholders will give us an overview of the programs and services available. Emily spoke to us several years ago and members found the presentation very informative. We are pleased to have her back, especially since home insurance costs have skyrocketed and are sometimes difficult to get. She will cover what we need to know before and after a disaster. Emily will also let us know how to access workshops and online educational events. There will also be a short presentation by the Redwood Empire Food Bank.

Board of Directors

Officers

President — Kathy Young

707-539-8027

kyoung2@sonic.net

Vice President — Phyris Tobler

707-795-6926

phyris@sbcglobal.net

Secretary — Patty Hamley

707-579-1726

phamleyis@hotmail.com

Treasurer — Chris Bauer

707-874-9149

bfuzzy51@aol.com

Immediate Past

President — Alix Shor

707 495-4992

alixshor@sonic.net

Directors at Large

Carol Bauer

Ed Clites

Shaun Du Fosse

Cora Guy

Lou Maricle

John Pels

Bill Robotka

Retirement Board Retiree Reps

Tim Tuscany

Alternate: Neil Baker

Committee Chairs & Tasks

Health Benefits/JLMBC: Phyris Tobler

Membership: Patty Hamley

Financial Oversight: Phyris Tobler

CRCEA Rep: Carol Bauer

Alternate: Lou Maricle

Newsletter Editor: Phyris Tobler

Programs: Cora Guy

Scholarships: Ed Clites

Nominating: Cora Guy

SCCLO, ICPC, NBLC: Bill Robotka

Facebook Coordinator: Bob Bulwa

Contact info on website

May 23rd Membership Meeting Speaker from United Policyholders (UP)

United Policyholders was founded in 1991 as a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization to assist consumers in all 50 states in dealing with insurance issues occurring before and after disasters such as wildfires, hurricanes, earthquakes, and the recent atmospheric rivers pounding California this past winter. UP services are provided through three programs: Roadmap to Recovery, Roadmap to Preparedness, and Advocacy and Action.
<https://uphelp.org/preparedness/wrap-resource-center/>

At our membership meeting on May 23, 2023, Senior Program Officer, Emily Rogan, will provide an overview of the programs and services provided by UP.

Highlights of Ms. Rogan's presentation include:

- What consumers should know before and after a disaster
- What to do if you are "dropped" by your insurer
- Home insurance coverage check-up
- Understanding the fine print
- How to save money in these unprecedented times
- Wildfire mitigation actions that may qualify you for discounts

Emily will also advise members on how they can access workshops and on-line educational events sponsored by UP, and inform members of volunteer opportunities available through UP.

Ms. Rogan is a San Francisco native, she graduated from University of California Riverside with a BA in Sociology and earned a Post Graduate Certificate in Non-profit Management from San Francisco State University. Emily began her employment with UP in 2008. Ms. Rogan believes collaboration is critically important to an organization's success, and she is actively engaged with Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD), and numerous other non-profits, government, faith-based communities, and organizations.



Redwood Empire Food Bank

We will also have a short update on what is happening with the Redwood Empire Food Bank. Preview: Two and a half years into the COVID-19 pandemic, North Bay nonprofits big and small are struggling to keep up with demand from residents seeking food and other necessities. The massive wave of demand at the start of the pandemic and other disasters never fully subsided. Making matters worse, increases in the costs of food, gas, rent and other necessities over the past two years have impacted struggling residents and the nonprofits attempting to help them.

"We have everyday disasters that are familiar, you know, whether people get injured, unemployed, sick, whatever the issue might be, and then we have these larger scale public disasters, whether they are fires or floods or global pandemics. After each one of these, we have a new baseline... Service never returns to pre-disaster times. Our numbers never went back to pre-pandemic levels in terms of service," said David Goodman, the executive director of the Redwood Empire Food Bank.

COLA Subcommittee Report by Phyris Tobler

Since SCERA has established a COLA subcommittee to explore the possibility of granting COLAs - as discussed on page 3 of the February newsletter - the SCARE Board has also formed a COLA subcommittee to work on ways to support what SCERA is doing. It is unlikely that this will be a quick fix as the cost to provide an 80% Purchasing Power COLA is almost \$300 million which the Board of Supervisors would have to approve and fund and there are reserves that also have to be restored.

Ed Clites, Shaun Du Fosee, John Pels, Bill Robotka and myself are on the SCARE subcommittee. We have met several times and agree that retirees have to put pressure on the Board of Supervisors and other decision makers if we want this to happen. That means we have to find out how a lack of a COLA since 2008 has affected retirees. We also need retirees to support actions at the BOS or SCERA Board meetings. In order to facilitate this, SCARE did a mailing through USPS to all our members and sent the same thing out by email to those who get information that way. We realize that not everyone opens their emails and some go into spam, and not everyone opens their mail either. We really want to reach all our members with the following message so we are repeating it here.

Dear SCARE Member,

This is an update on your SCARE Board's efforts toward securing a COLA for current County of Sonoma retirees, and a request for your assistance. SCARE board members have been actively lobbying both the Sonoma County Employee's Retirement Association (SCERA) and So Co Board of Supervisors (BOS) members, and working with our labor partners to move the County towards actually doing something positive about the lack of a Sonoma County pension COLA. We've attended and spoken at sessions of the BOS and SCERA Board, we've provided information and analysis to local press, and were even quoted in a positive Bohemian article in February. This is all important work towards our common goal of getting changes to the existing BOS/SCERA policies that have resulted in no COLA for the last fifteen (15) years!!

Now, what we request of you: We need personal examples of how the lack of a COLA has impacted our members. We want to protect your identity so we will use only your initials if we are doing reports to the BOS/SCERA or the press. You, of course, should feel free to personally call or email the BOS or SCERA. We need to know some basic facts along with impact descriptions. That is what the "SCARE Retiree COLA Survey" is for. You can go to https://bit.ly/SCARE_COLA (case sensitive), complete the survey online and submit it that way. Or go to page 6, complete survey and mail to SCARE, c/o Ed Clites, 133 Fleming Way, Santa Rosa CA 95407

1. We need to know if you'll show up for events, in person or by Zoom, when we need to demonstrate our presence and concerns. e. g. BOS and SCERA Board meetings, and possibly other opportunities as they arise. If you will, please make sure we have your current contact information. Also, for those that will show up, we now have t-shirts and hats for us to wear and be identified as representing SCARE.
2. We need to know if you'll be willing to make phone calls and/or send postcards to the BOS, SCERA and others (like the CA Senate/Assembly) to help us accomplish our goals.
3. Help us increase our membership. As of now, about 1/3 of the retirees from the County have joined SCARE. That is really good for a voluntary membership group, but the greater our membership the more leverage we can apply to the BOS and SCERA. So, talk to those fellow retirees you're in contact with and ask them if they're a SCARE member, and if not encourage them to join us. It's their interests we are advocating for!
4. Help us educate the general public about retirees and pension concerns. There is so much misinformation that gets media attention, while some important basic facts about our pensions seldom get the exposure deserved, and needed, for a good understanding of the questions and issues being discussed. We've provided some bullet points to help with this. We also encourage you to access both the Pension Information link on our web site at www.sonomacountyretirees.com/pensions.shtml, and the one SCERA provides as well. Get the Facts!! See the next page for some ideas.

We know that we're asking you to stretch out of your comfort zone to help us out, but it's going to take a lot of effort and persistence to move the County on this. Please know that we appreciate anything you can do to help us!!

Continued on page 4

TALKING POINTS

- ♦ The County of Sonoma is the ONLY California County that doesn't provide an automatic annual COLA to its retirees. The last COLA provided by Sonoma County was in 2008 and for those retiring after 2002, they have had none!!
- ♦ In 2008 the County and SCERA adopted a COLA policy that has precluded SCERA from recommending a COLA and provided the BOS a perfect pat response to our requests, "We don't have the funding for it."
- ♦ The Consumer Price Index for CA has increased by over 42% since 2008.
- ♦ Half of the current retirees (2,799) would need at least a 20% increase in their pension to just reach 80% of 2023 purchasing power. More than 15% (892) of these retirees will need an increase of 50% or more to meet that 80% point.
- ♦ The press focuses on the retirees who receive more than \$100,000/year. That is less than 5% of retirees, whereas 50% of retirees get less than \$35,000/year.
- ♦ County of Sonoma employees are paid significantly less on average than private sector employees, and the pension helps offset that "pay penalty." That's the assessment of the UC Berkeley Labor Center Research Brief, "Understanding Public Pensions in Sonoma County" which is on our website: sonomacountyretirees.com/pensions.shtml
- ♦ That research showed an almost 16% wage differential between public and private sector employers for comparable jobs.
- ♦ Our pension is one of the most stable and well funded in the state and country. As of 12/31/21, the pension fund is approximately 102% funded on a market value basis, and 93% funded on an asset-smoothing basis. That is also from the UC Berkeley Brief.

This will be a long-term project for us. We hope you'll consider helping us by completing the survey on page 6 and joining us when we see the need to demonstrate our concerns to the people that make the decisions about our COLA and other benefits. Also, be sure to attend our membership meetings, read our newsletter, and if you can, join our private Facebook group to stay informed about the things that concern you, and how your SCARE Board is advocating for your interests.

Thanks for your help. Your SCARE Board of Directors

February 28, 2023 SCARE Membership Meeting Speaker

Trinette Neuerburg owner of Oakmont Travel gave us an update on various travel issues now that COVID is no longer in emergency status. She noted that most travel agents are now working from home as they had to give up offices during COVID. Check reviews and ask questions to make sure they are legit as there are scammers here too.

- Everything you need to know regarding travel, visas, passports, etc. can be found at www.travel.state.gov.
- Travel agents are your advocate, and they rarely charge a fee for arranging travel for you unless you are booking stand-alone air flights.
- Traveler's checks are a thing of the past. Plan to use your credit card as it is much easier for exchange rates. Some charge a fee in a foreign country so check yours.
- So many people are traveling now that it can be difficult to get reservations.
- To save money and have more availability, do not travel during holidays and summer. May and Sept. are particularly good.
- Masks are no longer required but she recommends wearing one on airplanes.
- Hotels and cruise ships are still taking precautions to keep people safe from COVID. If you are going to an Airbnb or VRBO, you should check references carefully as there can be problems with some of them.
- You can get TSA precheck at STAPLES in Santa Rosa, or global precheck at SFO. First go online to start the process and set up appointments. There is a fee but then it is good for 5 years.
- Consider getting travel insurance and make sure it covers financial default
- A member suggested ParkSleepHotels.com to help with airport parking.

If you want more information from Trinette, you can call her at 707 539-0424 or check her website - OakmontTravel.com. Note: This information can also be found under the Helpful Information tab on our website.

JLMBC Report by Phyris Tobler

Open enrollment has ended for both County insurance and PGA dental and vision insurance. You can enroll in the other PGA insurance plans at any time. If you did not get the PGA booklet in the mail and would like one, send email to Patty Hamley at phamleyis@hotmail.com and she will mail you one.

HRA Update: If you are a member of the SCARE lawsuit class (retired by 6/30/16), there will be another small deposit into your HRA with P&A on July 1, 2023. I wasn't able to get an exact amount but it will probably be \$20—\$30. If you have any unpaid claims with P&A, you will receive immediate payment. If you don't have any unpaid claims, you might want to file one before that date so that you get immediate payment of whatever new money is put in your account so it doesn't get eaten up by the P&A monthly fee. The claim form is available online or by calling P&A at 800 688-2611. Since the deposits into your HRA are getting smaller and smaller, it is a good idea to make sure you have Direct Deposit set up with P&A as they will not write a check for less than \$25 but they will deposit it into your checking account. If you don't want to do that, you can still use your card at your doctor's or dentist's office, but you must know the exact amount you have in your HRA. You can get that online or by calling P&A. Have the doctor charge that exact amount to your card and pay for the rest some other way. If the doctor charges an amount larger than you have in your account, the whole thing will be rejected. If you notice that your card will be expiring soon, don't worry about it. P&A will automatically reissue it.

Medicare Changes: There were changes made to Medicare prescriptions under the Inflation Reduction Act. Some like negotiating lower rates for some drugs do not go into effect yet but there are a couple that do. Finally, the shingles vaccine, Shingrix, is considered a preventative vaccine and is free to those on Medicare. The only people this is likely to affect are those on the AARP/UnitedHealthcare plan which has a percentage share of cost for higher cost drugs. Our other health plans cover Shingrix. It is highly recommended once you reach 50 and all our insurance plans cover it without a copay, but you need to check with your doctor to see how it is covered—whether as a prescription or under medical. Shingles is not only very painful but it can have some devastating residual effects. On a personal note, my sister lost the vision in one eye as a long term result of shingles.

Another change is to limit the copay for insulin to \$35 for a 30-day supply. Again, for our retirees, the only people this may affect are those on the AARP/UnitedHealthcare plan as our other plans have low co-pays for prescriptions.

NEW BENEFIT—DISCOUNTED OR FREE FITNESS CLUBS: You will be able to get discounted membership in many different fitness clubs and gyms through Kaiser and Western Health Advantage as of June 1, 2023. They offer membership in Active and Direct Health Clubs for \$28/month. There are a number of fitness centers available and you can check availability at <https://www.activeandfitdirect.com/>. This is for all members, not just Medicare.

AARP/United HealthCare **covers total cost of membership in the Renew Active system.** You can see what clubs are available by going to <https://uhcrenewactive.com/>

New Option for Getting Information from SCARE

Up until now, members had the option to get newsletters and other notices by email or regular mail. Sometimes when we felt the information was very important, we would send notices to members who gave us their email address but didn't want to get the newsletter that way.

Now you have an option to get the newsletter by USPS mail and get all notices by email. If you want this option, contact Lou Maricle via email at maricles2@gmail.com or call 707 538-7342. Make sure that we have your current email address and that you send an update if you change it.

Free Entrance to California State Parks through the Sonoma County Library

This includes Mendocino libraries. You can check out a **California State Library Parks Pass** just the way you check out a book. You will get a vehicle hangtag with the words "California State Library Parks Pass" that allows you to get into State Parks free. If you go online to library and do a search on the pass, it shows you passes available at each library. You can put pass on hold.

Care Credit by Bill Robotka

A few years ago, my wife needed to have extensive dental work done that wasn't covered by our insurance. I looked around and found this option for zero interest financing that allowed us to spread the cost out over a two-year period. The following is from their web site (<https://www.carecredit.com/howcarecreditworks/prospective/>).

CareCredit is different from a regular credit card. Use it to pay for out-of-pocket expenses not covered by medical insurance, and special financing options are available that you may not be able to get with other cards.

Pay for health, and wellness care at over 250,000 enrolled providers across the nation. Once you've applied, you can use it again and again at any location that accepts CareCredit.

With shorter term financing options of 6, 12, 18 or 24 months, no interest is charged on purchases of \$200 or more when you make the minimum monthly payments and pay the full amount due by the end of the promotional period. If you do not, interest is charged from the original purchase date.

SCARE Retiree COLA Survey

Please tell us about your County service and how not having a built in Retiree COLA (or 80% Purchasing Power COLA) has impacted you.

Name: _____

E-Mail: _____

Years of Service: _____

Year Retired: _____ (*Disability* **Yes / No**)

Age at Retirement: _____

Department at Retirement: _____

Position at Retirement: _____

Monthly Pension (before deductions): _____

COLA (if any is listed on paystub): _____

Are you willing to help by showing up for BOS or SCERA meetings, rallies, or making calls/sending emails, etc. when called on? **Yes / No**

How has a lack of COLA/PP COLA impacted you (personal, financial, housing, food or anything else you would like to share with the BOS and other decision makers)?

Please add another page if you have more information on this. Complete survey and mail to SCARE, c/o Ed Clites, 133 Fleming Way, Santa Rosa CA 95407 or go to https://bit.ly/SCARE_COLA where you can respond online.

April SCERA Update by John Pels

OPERATIONS: SCERA is now back to in person meetings with the public allowed to appear personally or by video. Staff is monitoring several legislative bills relating to the open meeting laws and relaxing the rules around teleconferencing for Board members. SCERA presented purchasing power COLA information to the Board in its annual presentation of cost information in order to communicate it to the County and to SCARE. Trustees discussed the scope of the pending meeting with County representatives regarding the COLA program and the fact that under the current COLA program the only option for a COLA is the purchasing power COLA SCERA is currently operating under. There is no existing legal authority for SCERA to offer a different level of COLA to a subset of retirees and beneficiaries. To do so would require legislation.

2022 year to date investment earnings were well below the assumed investment earnings rate of 6.75%. The actuary will recognize 1/5th of this loss in the December 31, 2022 actuarial valuation and it will be offset, to some degree by deferred investment gains. SCERA will review and the Board will approve its actuarial valuation at the May 4, 2023 meeting. In addition to the usual demographic information presented by the SCERA Assistant CEO/Chief Legal Counsel, a new slide will be included illustrating both the average and median annual pension amounts broken down by general vs. safety membership and Plan A, Plan B and Pre-Plan A categories. While the SCERA actuary uses averages and averages are widely used across pension systems, median amounts give you the mid-point of the annual benefit amounts and reduce the impact of really big or really small pensions.

INVESTMENTS: Investment returns through March of 2023 are in line with the plan's investment earnings assumption. SCERA is currently in the midst of its Asset Liability Modeling (ALM) which is a precursor to its triennial experience study, where the actuary compares the actuarial assumptions with plan experience over a three-year period. The purpose of the ALM is to determine whether the plan's asset allocation would benefit from different asset classes or changes to the amount SCERA invests in its existing asset classes. SCERA will present the results to the Board sometime later this year.

Alphabet Soup by Bill Robotka

The Sonoma County Coalition of Labor Organizations (SCCLO) members have been advocating for the County to deal with the lack of a SCERA (pension) COLA, for both current retirees and employees (future retirees). SEIU has settled with the County now without much movement on pension/COLA issues, but did secure reopener language that will allow the issue to be revisited in the next year. In the meantime, SCCLO will continue to lobby and advocate for a pension COLA and other benefit improvements.

The Independent Citizens Pension Committee (ICPC) has been activated after a year long hiatus, due to now having again attained an operating membership. **The lack of a COLA was a major point of discussion in the first two meetings of this year, and will continue to be a focus. Also, the ICPC will be reviewing the upcoming report on "The State of the Pension" to the Board of Supervisors (BOS).**

The North Bay Central Labor Council (NBCLC) has also continued advocating for us on pensions and the lack of a COLA, and has now collaborated with the UC Berkeley Center for Labor Research and Education in issuing a research based report on the Sonoma County pension and it's lack of a COLA. That report can be found on our web site at <https://www.sonomacountyretirees.com/pensions.shtml>

It's Time to Visit A Park

We sometimes rerun articles for new members and for those who missed it the first time. Or for those who have turned 62 and are now eligible for the Federal Senior Lifetime Pass.

Fortunately in Sonoma County, we have lots of parks in the Sonoma County Regional Park system. Passes are available for \$69 or \$49 if you are 62+ (parks.sonomacounty.ca.gov/).

National Parks entrance fees have gotten pretty expensive but here is information on ways to decrease that cost.

SUPER SAVER: The National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Lifetime Senior Pass

The Lifetime Senior Pass: There are some advantages to getting older and one of the best is the Federal Senior Pass that gets you into all National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands (over 2,000 recreation sites managed by 6 federal agencies) free as well as into some local areas. For instance, you can use it in place of the Northwest Forest Pass that is required at most hiking trailheads on National Forest Lands in Oregon & Washington, or in place of the Red Rock Pass in Sedona, AZ. There are undoubtedly many more places that I haven't discovered. This pass is available once you are 62 years old. It costs \$80 for a **lifetime** pass. That may sound like a lot but it's good for the rest of your life, and it covers anyone in your car. Entrance fee to National Parks is often \$30 and will undoubtedly continue to increase. **The Access Pass:** A free, lifetime pass available to people who have been medically determined to have a **permanent disability** (does not have to be a 100% disability). It also covers anyone in your car.

Both passes: In addition to entrance fees, you also get camping in most National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands/Forests for half price. What a deal if you like to travel! You can buy passes at the entrance station to any National Park or online. Go to <https://store.usgs.gov/faq> for more information on all America the Beautiful passes. They have annual passes as well and you don't have to be 62 or disabled.

California State Parks also has a discount pass for the permanently disabled that gives you 50% off on entrance fees and camping. Go to http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=1049 for more information (page down as it is toward bottom of page). There are other passes available as well.

And now you can get a 21 day California State Park pass through the Sonoma County Library system (see page 5 for more information).

In Memoriam



Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of the following retirees:

Carol Alexander

Tomas Donovan

Emma DeHernandez

John Ewing

Elizabeth Koetke



Updating Contact Information

If you move or change your email or phone number, you need to give your **updated information** to the following organizations. They do not share information.

SCARE - send changes to Lou Maricle via email at maricles2@gmail.com, or address to 4720 Santa Rosita Ct, Santa Rosa, CA 95405, or call 707 538-7342. We also need changes of phone numbers and email addresses. And if we don't hear from you, this is what happens: Mail and newsletters were returned with no forwarding address for the following members - **Vincent Caparo, April Harris, Lori Laughlin, Cecilia Proschold, James Shine**. Board member, **Alix Shor**, attempts to contact these people by phone and/or email but has not been able to reach them so we have no way of contacting them. If anyone knows how to reach them, would you please contact them and ask them to contact Alix Shor at alixshor@sonic.net or 707 495-4992 or give her their number and she'll call them.

SCERA - You get your pension check from them. Contact them to report changes at 433 Aviation Blvd., Suite 100, Santa Rosa, CA 95403, or call them at 707 565-8100.

Sonoma County Human Resources Benefits Unit - They handle health, dental, and life insurance and send out Open Enrollment Booklets. Contact them at 575 Administration Drive, Suite 116C, SR, 95403, or benefits@sonoma-county.org, or 707-565-2900.

Congratulations New Retirees and New SCARE Members (in bold)



Aceves George - Probation
Allen Carol - Human Resources
Avila Jose - Sheriff's Office
Banthrall Dianna - Human Services
Baughn Richard - Sheriff's Office
Bratton Sheryl - County Administrator
Brazis Phil - Sheriff's Office
Buchignani Mechelle - Sheriff's Office
Buijten Jonathan - Probation
Burningham Sherri - Child Support Svcs
Cavanaugh Lori - Regional Parks
Chavez Carlos - Sheriff's Office
Chong Jennifer - Water Agency
Clark Gloria - General Services
Cole Cyndia - Human Services
Cole Natasha - Sheriff's Office
Essick Mark - Sheriff's Office
Fike Melissa - Health Svcs
Day John - General Services
Dean Donald - Health Services
Diaz Juan - Clerk/Recorder/Assessor
Dikeman Tara - Health Services
Foisy John - Child Support Services
Greene Melissa - HR
Hamby Hope - Human Svcs
Hernandez Rebecca - Human Services
Lambert Frederick - Health Services
Lee Katherine - Human Services
Lemus Sylvia - County Administrator
Lepori Evan - Public Works
Lucas John - Sheriff's Office
Maritzen Michael - Health Services
Martinez Ruben - Sheriff's Office
Matthews Christina - Human Services
McCord Edith - Sheriff's Office
McGeough Colette - Health Svcs
Mogel Eric - Water Agency
Mosblech Susannah - Superior Court
Murillo Nunez Elva - Superior Court
Penn Betsy - Clerk/Recorder/Assessor
Philips Jo Ann - Human Services

Pimental Michelle - Human Services
Rawson Joanne - Sheriff's Office
Richeson Darlene - Probation
Saschin Alex - Air Quality District
Shinzy Paula - General Svcs
Skinner Peter - Sheriff's Office
Sundberg Cynthia - Human Services
Tannehill Kathleen - Auditor/Controller/Treas
Thompson-Stalder Deena - HR
Weger Maranee - Sheriff's Office

Encourage Fellow Retirees to join SCARE!

While we add many new members, we are stronger with even more. If you see people you know on the above list who have not joined SCARE, please encourage them to do so. That way they can continue to have a say in the future of their benefits and keep up to date on what is happening to retirees. They can call Patty Hamley at (707) 579-1726 to get a copy of our application form or go to our website —
<http://sonomacountyretirees.com/application.pdf>

Board and Membership Meeting Minutes can be viewed at our website or you can request a copy from Patty Hamley.

Reminder—**SCARE has its own Facebook Page**
This is a private (closed) group meaning that the public may not view the contents, and membership must be requested and approved. For those of you already on Facebook, it can be found by searching for Sonoma County Association of Retired Employees (SCARE)" or using the direct link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/socoretirees> To join the group, go to the page and at the top you will see a box that indicates "Join Group." Once I verify you are indeed a member of SCARE, or are a spouse of a member, you will be added.
Bob Bulwa

SCARE Membership and Financial Information

SCARE currently has 1620 members and 151 associate members for a total of 1771 members. We do not include our financial information in the newsletter, but if you are interested, contact me and I can provide you with a copy of our financial statement (contact information on page 2). I can send this information to you either via email or postal service.

Chris Bauer

Sonoma County Association of
Retired Employees (SCARE)
P.O. Box 5513
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Address Service Requested

General Membership Meeting May 23, 2023

Join us at 12:30 for an in-person meeting at Finley Center, 2060 W College Ave, SR in the Cypress Room. There will be snacks and drinks and the opportunity to visit with friends.

Vaccinations encouraged if attending in person

Then for those of you who can't attend in person, join us at 1:00 pm for the meeting on Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81458871841>. Or call 669 900-9128; Meeting ID: 81458871841; No Passcode is needed

MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA

- I. SPEAKER – EMILY ROGAN OF UNITED POLICY HOLDER & REFB, see page 2 for more info**
- II, JLMBC REPORT**
- III. SCCLO/ICPC REPORT/COLA SUBCOMMITTEE**
- IV. GENERAL INFORMATION/QUESTIONS**
- V. DRAWING FOR GIFT CARDS (3 for those at Finley and 3 for those on Zoom) Must be present to win**