



# SCARE Newsletter

Sonoma County Association of Retired Employees

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## Calendar of Events 2024

### Membership Meetings

5/21/24; 8/20/24, 11/19/24

Meetings are at 1pm at  
Finley Center and by Zoom

Luncheons Luncheons have  
been canceled due to COVID

### Board Meetings

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

5/1/24; 7/10/24; 9/11/24;  
11/6/24

### **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](mailto: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

Get **Tuesday, May 21**, on your calendar. Starting at 12:30 PM, plan to attend the SCARE Information and Exchange Fair at our May Membership meeting. Our gathering will be a non-traditional meeting where attendees can visit information tables to talk with staff from a variety of non-profits and government entities from Emergency Prep to Sonoma County Parks. Many retirees are downsizing. This will be your opportunity to pass on things that you like but no longer have room for or you haven't used in years, that you think other retirees might like. These will be displayed, and you can take anything you are interested in. Enjoy music by the band Solid Air, while socializing and snacking on food and beverages. We are meeting at Finley Community Center in the larger auditorium. There is no speaker at this meeting so we will not be Zooming the gathering. We would like to have many, many people in attendance, so please spread the word! Bring another retiree or two with you. More information about the event can be found on page 2 . If anyone you know is retiring from the county, remind them to become SCARE members and encourage them to attend this event.

The SCERA Board finally made the decision at their March 21st meeting to change two policies that might make it possible to allow COLAs sometime in the future: the Negative Contingency Reserve and the Interest Fluctuation Reserve. Please refer to the article on page 5. SCARE had good representation at this meeting with over 90 people in attendance. Julie Wyne commented on the number of people in attendance. The SCARE Board is moving forward with developing a message and plan for encouraging the county to consider COLAs for retirees.

Scammers are a concern for all of us. At our February 27 membership meeting we had a great presentation from Hana Aymar, Fraud Manager at Redwood Credit Union, about this topic. A summary of her presentation is on page 4.

Your SCARE Board is working hard to keep getting information out to members. We have been sending more emails to members regarding hot topics. We have a closed (private) Facebook page where we put out information and try to answer questions. We have a website packed with information. The most current information is in our quarterly newsletter. Please take the time to go through all the information that is provided for you. You may ask questions of any board member. All Board member contact information is shown on our webpage under Contacts.

## Board of Directors

### Officers

**President** — Kathy Young

707-539-8027

kyoung2@sonic.net

**Vice President** — Carol Bauer

707 708-1061

bfuzzy51@aol.com

**Secretary** — Shaun Du Fosee

707-303-7336

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**Treasurer** — Phyris Tobler

707-795-6926

phyris@sbcglobal.net

**Immediate Past President** —

Alix Shor

707 495-4992

alixshor@sonic.net

### Directors at Large

Chris Bauer

Paul Carroll

Ed Clites

Cora Guy

Patty Hamley

Lou Maricle

John Pels

### Retirement Board Retiree Reps

Mark Walsh

**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](https://www.sonomacountyretirees.com)

## May 21st Membership Meeting

We would like to invite you to a totally different, fun Membership Meeting.

Do you have items that you would like to get rid of but are just too nice to give to the thrift store? Over time, most of us have collected things, both as purchases and as gifts, and find we have a home overflowing with treasures we are now willing to let go of. Or you have jewelry that used to be perfect when you were working but now you are much more casual and seldom wear it. No clothing please.

This is your opportunity to bring some of these to our next meeting so they can be gifted to other members. We will be in the auditorium at Finley Center and there will be tables where you can set any items you bring. In the past our members have always enjoyed getting free things. We hope you will enjoy this opportunity to recirculate some things that you may have had for a long time and just no longer need to keep. If you want to take home any of your things that have not been scooped up by the time you leave, you can. At the end of the meeting, any items that have not been scooped up will be donated to a local thrift store.

Information tables: there will be several organizations present with information to share:

Council on Aging

Santa Rosa Fire and Sonoma County Fire District – there are differences between rural and city fire districts.

Face to Face will bring Norcan and demonstrate how it is used plus will give some to attendees, if requested

Emergency Prep Help – Emergency Preparedness for Disasters for Seniors

Sonoma County Regional Parks

Redwood Empire Food Bank

We will have a variety of drinks, snacks and different kinds of pizza.

There will be music by Solid Air. Allegra Broughton and Sam Page, founders of Solid Air, play a range of fun, soulful music spanning acoustic and electric genres they call **Original & Eclectic Folk-Rock**, including jug band, cajun, folk, and roots rock'n'roll.

So please join us at 12:30 for a truly social event. And invite any fellow Sonoma County retirees you know. They don't have to be SCARE members.

This meeting will not lend itself to Zoom so we really hope you will join us at Finley.

## JLMBC Report by Phyris Tobler

**Annual Enrollment for 2024-2025 Health Insurance was from March 11–29, 2024.** We are still waiting to hear the results. It is likely that some or many Kaiser members, especially those under 65, may have switched to the more affordable Sutter and WHA plans.

The biggest change was for Medicare recipients in the County Health Plan. They were switched to the new Anthem plan unless they wanted to opt for one of the other Medicare plans available to county retirees. The county made this switch for them so they didn't have to complete any paperwork. The Anthem plan should provide considerable savings over CHP as it costs \$285.50/month which is less than half of what they paid for CHP plus there is no deductible and no co-pays except for prescriptions. People can keep their doctor. This means that for single retirees, the County will cover the full cost of the premiums. The only downside is that for retirees under 65 who needed to stay on the County Health Plan, their premiums rose and are very high.

**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 what 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.

**DISCOUNTED OR FREE FITNESS CLUBS:** You 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.

**Silver Sneakers:** Medicare recipients who are in the new Anthem plan get Silver Sneakers which covers many fitness clubs for free. It covers places like 24 Hour Fitness, Curves, Planet Fitness, and more. This is a great savings. If you go to <https://silversneakers.com/>, you can put in your zip code to find locations near you.

### Money Saving Ideas

As prices increase and our pension doesn't, I thought it would be good to include money saving ideas in our newsletter. I'll start off but I'd love to hear from members what you have come up with to stretch your money further.

**Wool Dryer Balls—** Using several of these in your dryer makes your clothes dry faster, helps to prevent static and wrinkles and eliminates the need for fabric softeners or dryer sheets. Just leave them in the dryer and they are ready for your next load. They last for years. They are available at Target, Walmart, and Amazon.

**Dried Beans—** when cooked, 1 pound of dried beans makes about 3 times the amount found in a standard 15.5 oz. can of beans. It takes a little more work and time than opening a can but the flavor can be much better and it's cheaper. I used to think dried beans had to cook for a long time but I have discovered a way to really reduce the cooking time. Wash beans and put 1 pound of beans in large pan and cover with at least 2 inches of water. Bring to a boil and let it boil a couple minutes. Then cover and turn off heat. Let them sit for an hour or two. Drain and again cover with a couple inches of water. Again bring to boil and then turn off heat. You may want to add seasoning at this point. Check them after an hour or so. Sometimes they are done. If not, you can bring to a boil again and turn off. By this time, most are done. 1 pound of dry beans makes a lot but they freeze well. Or just don't cook the whole pound.

Phyris

# Understanding and Avoiding Scammers

Presentation by Hana Aymar of the Redwood Credit Union

Our speaker for the February membership meeting was Hana Aymar, Fraud Manager for Redwood Credit Union. Hana talked about the different ways scammers get to you and how you can protect yourself.

- a. Impersonation Scams can come from any of those listed below. They mimic a local financial institution and ask that you click on the button provided to clear up a problem. DO NOT click on any link. Close out of the email. Call a trusted number to see if there is any problem with your account. If you get a pop up on your computer screen saying something like, "Your computer is infected, call tech support to solve", immediately disconnect your computer. Have the computer cleaned by a professional to make sure the hacker has not left any programs behind to get into your computer later. If it happens on your phone, you can go to the Apple support app chat for help. Artificial intelligence has made it possible to duplicate a family member's voice and image, so be careful if someone you know is calling for money to be sent.
  1. Financial institutions
  2. Phantom Hacking
  3. Social Security
  4. Friends and family
  5. Virus/Malware pop-up or email
  6. Tech companies
  7. Government Agencies
- b. Romance Scammers. If someone is asking for money, walk away immediately. They often start small and build a relationship with you. They ask for more as time goes on. Scammers also try to get you to communicate outside of the dating app. That way they won't be caught since dating apps do monitor the site for scams.
- c. Social media scams – here they hack into your social media account and contact your family and friends for money to cover a broken leg or some other story. Limit your friends. Verify the account. Contact the relative or friend directly to see if they need help. Do not take financial advice from someone online!
- d. Employment scams – be wary if someone contacts you with a job that is too good to be true. If there are asking for money, gift cards or other forms of payment, stop communication immediately.
- e. Don't purchase any gift cards and send the codes. Check gift cards when you purchase them to make sure they haven't been tampered with. Some are getting the codes and returning the gift card to the rack.
- f. Crypto currency scams are hard to catch. Don't communicate with people you don't know. Don't friend people you don't know. Some scammers will text you asking if you know each other; ignore it.
- g. Many scamming centers are staffed with people who are being trafficked. So they have no choice but to try to get your money for the scammers.
- h. Don't give out your password, social security number, birthdate, or other identifying information.
- i. Pay for a good credit monitoring service.
- j. Check your credit report quarterly.
- k. Use a password manager.

Hana Aymar can be reached at [haymar@redwoodcu.org](mailto:haymar@redwoodcu.org), 707-545-400 X30351

Hana gave a lot more detail in her presentation. We made a recording of the presentation and if you would like to see the whole thing, you can download it at

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kYS4Ps1e40uyhwb7slv6t6F1FDl0layN/view?ts=65df78b9>

This is a large file and can take awhile to download.

## Update on COLA Discussions

We want to thank all the retirees who attended the SCERA Retirement Board meeting on March 21st. There were 9 members at the SCERA office and over 90 on Zoom with most people staying until the end even though it was rather long. Julie Wyne, SCERA CEO, thanked SCARE members for our attendance.

While there was a lot of discussion, the Retirement Board finally approved eliminating the Negative Contingency Reserve and changing the Interest Fluctuation Reserve requirement from 3% to the 1% required by law. This is the first step required to possibly give a COLA at some time in the future. Prior to this change, the cost to give an 80% purchasing power COLA to retirees was over \$1 billion and it is extremely unlikely that we would have ever gotten a COLA. Even with these changes, the cost to give retirees an 80% purchasing power COLA is still over \$300 million dollars which the Board of Supervisors has to approve. There will still need to be considerable discussion with the County to see if they will fund it. Discussion with the CAO probably won't take place until after July as the CAO did not want to discuss current retiree COLA until they had completed discussion with 4 unions that had reopener clauses in order to discuss COLAs for active workers (see description under Alphabet Soup – SCCLC below). There will also be more discussion of the actual COLA policy by the SCERA COLA subcommittee. This will not be a quick fix but at least there has been progress.

We will be monitoring all actions related to COLAs and will keep you updated in the newsletter as we have more information, and by email when action is needed.

## Alphabet Soup by Bill Robotka

**SCCLC:** SEIU and three other labor groups are meeting with the County about active employee pension COLAs. Not much else going on with the group at this point. I hope to have more once they've met with the County. Here is the actual contract language (from SEIU's contract):

### Reopener On Pension Subjects

On or before April 30, 2024, at the initiation of either party, the County and the Union agree to reopen negotiations on the following sections and subjects: Sec. 18.12.3 – Required Employee Contribution Sec. 18.12.4 – Pension Cost Share Arrangement NEW: Pension COLA For Future Retirees

The County and the Union understand and agree that as part of reopener negotiations under this section, either party may offer counter-proposals on terms and conditions of employment outside the scope of the reopener sections and subjects listed above. The parties further understand and agree that they will meet and confer in good faith as defined by State law and that any changes to terms and conditions of employment as a result of this reopener would be subject to mutual agreement.

**ICPC:** Nothing new to report. Next meeting is set for June 6th and the major topic of that meeting should be the annual state of the pension report.

**NBCLC:** The Labor Council has shifted from focus on the Spring primary election to building support for the upcoming general elections. There have been a lot of shifts in assignments and more focus will be known after the upcoming strategic planning session.

## Getting the Newsletter

If you would like to get the newsletter both by email and by snail mail, contact Lou Maricle (maricles2@gmail.com) and let him know that. You will still get all of our hot topic emails.

## 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 and the senior pass for Sonoma County Regional Parks.

While there is a lot of conflicting information about best practices for staying healthy, exercise seems to be the one thing that everyone agrees improves both your physical and mental health, including improving brain functioning. Fortunately in Sonoma County, we have all kinds of county, state and federal parks within the county or near it where we can exercise and also enjoy the beauty of this country. Some of these are free (most of the Sonoma County beaches) and others charge a fee. Go to **Sonoma County Regional Parks** website for information on the more than 60 parks available to you. <https://parks.sonomacounty.ca.gov/> They have many ranger lead hikes that you can sign up for. Do it early as they fill up. Right now, they have information on parks with the best display of spring wildflowers. <https://parks.sonomacounty.ca.gov/learn/blog/sonoma-countys-best-spring-wildflower/walks>. A representative from the Regional Parks will be at our May 21st Membership Meeting and you may be able to buy a pass there.

You can get an annual pass for \$49 if you are 62; it's \$69 if under 62. There are also daily rates and you can pay with credit card at the site. The pass is for your car so you can take friends or family/grandchildren with you. You are bound to find something you like to do—hiking, swimming, camping.

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

**The 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 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. There is an Annual Senior Pass available for \$20 if you don't want to put out \$80.

**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](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. Remember that Sonoma County Libraries have day passes for State Parks that you can check out giving you free access.*

### **Online Fact Checking Organizations**

Since this is an election year, misleading or untrue statements abound in speeches, on television, and particularly on social media. There are several organizations that do fact checking which may help you separate truth from fiction.

Factcheck.org is one. It is non-partisan and points out incorrect statements whether by Republicans or Democrats or those that have gone viral on social media.

### **Sunscreens**

With summer arriving soon, you may be thinking about buying a sunscreen. Consumer Reports tests the SPF value of sunscreens and surprisingly finds that most are under the stated SPF on the label, some well under. Their number one recommendation is Coppertone Water Babies Lotion SPF 50 which actually tests out above 50. It is the only one to get a score of 100. Eucerin Advanced Hydration Spray SPF 50 is their highest rated spray. With these, you can enjoy the sunshine safely.

### **DMV Drivers License Renewal After 70**

One of the more irritating things about getting older is that for DMV renewals after you turn 70, you have to go into the DMV office and you have to pass a written test. Taking the test can be a little scary after not needing to do one for 50+ years. But there is an easy way to do this.

DMV has an online Virtual Test Center at <https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/senior-drivers/> It is available M – F, 8 am to 4 pm. At this site, you can start your online application. The next step is to go to eLearning to review the DMV rules and take the test. Per DMV -- Select “eLearning” on your renewal and enjoy a 20 minute no-fail self-paced exam that you take online from home. eLearning is an easy open-book no-fail course. This is a very easy way to do the test as it provides information on rules in small segments and then tests you on what you have just reviewed. Since it is fresh in your mind, it is easy to answer the questions.

After that, you get a DL application confirmation code and a payment confirmation number. Print those out and take them with you to your DMV appointment. Be sure to make an online appointment at your local DMV office. Doing the above greatly decreases the time you must spend at the DMV. You just have to have a vision test and photograph.

### **Insurance Information on the SCARE Website**

The "Insurance" link on our webpage (<https://www.sonomacountyretirees.com/healthinsurance.shtml>) has link to the Sonoma County Human Resources page that shows the health insurance coverage available to retirees. This includes the Annual Enrollment Booklet, just in case you tossed yours and now would like to check something. Perhaps you or a spouse are turning 65 and now want to see what the Medicare options are. Also shown is information on Care Counsel.

A pdf version of the SCARE insurance offerings through Pacific Group Agencies is available in case you didn't get the booklet or tossed it. Our members get reduced group rates on a variety of types of insurance. Open enrollment for dental and vision insurance is over but all others are available.

### **Car Battery Portable Jump Starter**

Do you occasionally have a dead battery? Do you dislike having to wait for road service? There are now very small portable jump starters available. With these, you can jump your battery without needing assistance—no bulky jumper cables and another car. You just attach the cables to the battery and get in your car and start it. They usually have a USB port so if you lose electricity or you are on the road, you can charge your phone or anything else that uses a USB connection. They are rechargeable and start at around \$40. Carrying one in your car makes you feel much safer.

For guidance on how to safely handle and store foods, you can turn to the USDA's free [FoodKeeper app](https://www.foodsafety.gov/keep-food-safe/foodkeeper-app) at <https://www.foodsafety.gov/keep-food-safe/foodkeeper-app> The app offers specific storage timelines for the refrigerator, freezer, and pantry for various products, including meat, poultry, produce, seafood, dairy products and eggs, and more. The storage times listed are meant as guidelines, not hard-and-fast rules.

The Sonoma Medical Equipment Recycling Program (MERP) allows you to borrow (free) various types of medical equipment. It is only open on Weds. from 11 am-2pm and just moved to 3650 Standish Ave, SR. Get more information at <https://medicalequipmentrecyclingprogram.com/> You can also donate certain types of medical equipment to them if you are finished with them.

### 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 - **Mira Bosche, April Harris, Delores McCord, and Cecilia Proschold**. 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 **Annual Enrollment Booklets**. Contact them at 575 Administration Drive, 116C, SR, 95403, or benefits@sonoma-county.org 707-565-2900

### 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.

### In Memoriam

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



Theodore Dejung	Janice Dorn
Beatrice Harris	Sandra Harvey
Lark Hornbeck	James E Johnson
William Koenig	Gerry Lennox
Ed Newman	



### New Links to Services for Seniors on our Website

<https://www.sonomacountyretirees.com/othersites.shtm> ml. Page down for information on the following.

Caring.com ([www.caring.com](http://www.caring.com)) is a website that provides extensive information on a great variety of services available to seniors. This ranges from detail on the various options available to you and/or spouse under Social Security as well as information on assisted living, in-home care, and memory care near where you live (just enter your zip code). It has over 100 different categories under the caregivers link that range from wills and estate planning, reverse mortgages, how to pay for long term care, best identity theft protection and so many more.

The Senior Advice website ([www.senioradvice.com/](http://www.senioradvice.com/)) offers information on all senior housing including in-home care. Under Resources, it has all kinds of articles related to this. While this is a national site, you can enter your zip code and get local information.

Paying for Senior Care provides information on ways to provide for senior care which can be quite expensive, especially in Sonoma County. It also has info on places that provide senior care.

(<https://www.payingforseniorcare.com/california>)

### Maintaining a Healthy Brain

It's never too late to change your habits and improve your brain function, researchers say—and it could be the key to a longer life. Experts say repeating familiar experiences is good, up to a point: Practicing an old favorite on the guitar changes the brain in ways that improve future performances. But the best stimulation for the brain, young or old, is novelty. Try something new.



***Congratulations New Retirees and  
New SCARE Members (in bold)***



Lis Barca, Human Services  
Helene Barney, Health Services  
Carolyn Bartholow, Human Services  
Kristin Boskovich Muelrath, Auditor/Treasurer  
Monica Cavagnetto, Public Defender  
Regina De La Cruz, Permit & Resource Mgmt  
Darin Dougherty, Sheriff  
**Ann DuBay, Water Agency**  
Craig Fildes, Water Agency  
Maria Fossum, Community Development  
**Laura Frakes, Child Support Services**  
**Edwin Guzman, Human Services**  
William Hillegas, Permit & Resource Mgmt  
Tracy Kane, Auditor/Controller/Treasurer  
Heidi Keith, Sheriff  
John Kirvan, Water Agency  
Jett Langston, Water Agency  
**Janice Mayberry, Health Services**  
Michele Montgomery, Human Resources  
Gregory Myers, Sheriff  
Puthy Pea, Information Systems  
**Aneez Raghaven, Sheriff**  
Anna Reyes, Human Services  
Karen Taylor, Human Services  
John Trabucco, Sheriff  
Socorro Vasquez, Transportation & Public Works  
Raymond Victorino, Information Systems  
Leslie Winters, Human Services

**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>



**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 we verify you are indeed a member of SCARE, or are a spouse of a member, you will be added.

Bob Bulwa and Paul Klonsky

**SCARE Membership and Financial Information**

SCARE currently has 1690 members and 162 associate members for a total of 1852 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.  
Phyris Tobler

**Board and Membership Meeting Minutes  
can be viewed at our website**

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

Address Service Requested

### **General Membership Meeting May 21, 2024**

Join us at 12:30 for an in-person meeting at Finley Center, 2060 W College Ave, SR in the **Auditorium** (no Zoom this time). There will be snacks and drinks and the opportunity to visit with friends. See page 2 for more information

**Vaccinations encouraged. For the well being and safety of all, if you are not feeling well, please stay home**

### **MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

Bring gently used items that you would like to exchange with other members

There will be information tables where 6 local organizations will share information

Enjoy snacks, pizza and drinks along with the music of Solid Air

**Bring a friend**