

REACTOR

Retired Employees Association of the California Teachers Association

April, 2015

Lloyd Roberts,
President
berdolloyd@aol.com
909-499-4388

Dom Summa,
Vice President
dsummacal@aol.com
760-972-4640

Art McLoughin,
Treasurer
Mickey3643@aol.com
831-633-4185

Marla Reyes,
Secretary
marlaed@earthlink.net
559-250-6610

Marilyn Bittle,
Director-At-Large
Mmbret2002@aol.com
562-434-7113

Susan Popovich
Newsletter Editor
susanpop@aol.com
505-466-4327

Kathy Casas
Webmaster
KCASAS@aol.com
951-694-0711

<http://www.reacta.org>

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

CAS President's Dismissal

REACTA received news that CAS President, Katie Mullins, was dismissed by CTA.

CAS alleges that Katie's supervisor began treating her differently while she was involved in bargaining. After bargaining concluded, the supervisor is alleged to have engaged in micromanaging, harassing, and treating her differently from her peers. CAS intervened with CTA on her behalf and tried to work through the differences. In November, last year, CAS filed a discrimination/hostile work environment grievance on Katie's behalf.

An incident regarding AV boxes in a storage unit arose, and CTA employed a private investigator. Katie is alleged to have made untruthful statements about events and was dismissed. CAS has filed an unfair labor practice charge and plans to file a wrongful termination grievance.

REACTA has extended expressions of concern and offers of assistance to both Katie, and Dawn Basurto, CAS Vice President, now presumably, President.

REACTA reached out to a highly qualified attorney who agreed to be of service to Katie directly and is helping her find a qualified attorney to help and left her that message.

Summary of April 8, 2015 REACTA Board Meeting - Ontario, CA

The Board reviewed proposed bylaw changes and moved to approve them and have them put to the membership for a vote with our recommendation that they be adopted.

Marilyn Bittle reported on contacts being planned for enrolling new members.

Dom Summa reported on plans for his and Lloyd's May 27 meeting with CTA.

We are planning a social in connection with the UCLA Staff Institute on August 5 at Alice Clement's home in Pacific Palisades. The next Board meeting will also be in the morning of August 5 at a location to be determined.

We reviewed final plans for the Spring Luncheons scheduled for May in all Regions and initiated plans for a Region 2 lunch in the Sacramento area. There will be Health Trust reports at all the luncheons.

REACTA plans to offer two \$1,000 scholarships for REACTA children or grandchildren and developed a list of names for potential Scholarship Committee members that will be contacted by Pres. Lloyd.

We are also considering holding our annual meeting at a location other than Cambria. Dom plans REACTOR articles, web site information, and surveys soliciting member input on desirability and location of other sites.

We discussed several Trust, Medicare and personnel issues for monitoring, but took no formal action on them.

REACTA REGIONAL SPRING LUNCHEON DATES AND LOCATIONS

REGION I/Departments

Thursday, May 28, 2015

12 noon

Garden of John and Ruthmary Cradler

777 Bromfield Road

San Mateo, CA

Directions: 650-344-7046

cradler@earthlink.net

RSVP: Debbie Edginton

925-640-5550

debbyedg@aol.com

REGION II BAJA SOUTH

Monday, May 11, 2015

11:30 am

Café 225

Visalia, CA

RSVP: Marla Reyes

marlaed@earthlink.net

Dick Sawtelle

sawtellerg@aol.com



REGION 3

Thursday, May 7, 2015

11:30 am

Geezers Restaurant

12120 Telegraph Rd

Santa Fe Springs, CA

RSVP: Dixie Ditsler

951-201-6254

ctadixie@aol.com

REGION 3 & 4

Friday, May 29, 2015

11:30 am

South Coast Winery

34843 Rancho California Rd.

Temecula, CA

RSVP: Kathie Casas

951-532-8979

kcasas@aol.com

There may also be a luncheon in the Sacramento area. There will be Health and Welfare Benefits Trust reports at all of the luncheons.

(Newsletter Editor is requesting pictures. Please send to: susanpop@aol.com)

HEALTH TRUST REPORT

Roseanne Becher

March 2015

At both the November and January CTA Employees' Health and Welfare Benefits Trust meetings, the committee reports received by Labor and Management Trustees included updates from the Employer Group Waiver Plan (EGWP) Subcommittee. The EGWP is a replacement for the Medicare Retirees' prescription drug plan with the Medicare Part D Retiree Subsidy, effective June 1, 2015. The subcommittee issues reported at the January Trust meeting were plan design requirements, resolution of previously pended items, communications timeline, decisions and approvals needed for implementation, and a summary of remaining pending items.

Some of the previously pended items resolved are as follows:

- Drugs not covered by Medicare Part D, which are currently covered by the Trust, will continue as an enhancement to the EGWP.
- Out-of-network claims will be covered at the Usual & Customary Pricing less the participant's regular copayment.
- Participants, whose enrollment in the EGWP is delayed for a short period of time, will be covered under the "commercial plan" until they are approved for the EGWP.
- The Participants who lose coverage due to non-payment of the Medicare Part D Income-Related Medicare Adjustment Amount (D-IRMAA) premiums will be reinstated in accordance with CMS rules.
- For future participant eligibility, newly eligible participants will age-in through the same Pre-note process as the initial group.
- Participants can request an "Explanation of Benefits" (EOB) to be sent by mail and also view EOBs online. They will not be sent out automatically.

Adding to the initial effective date of June 1, 2015 (previously reported in REACTOR's Health Trust Report), the following was listed in the communications timeline:

- June 1, 2015 – Express Scripts (previously Medco) website for EGWP participants will go live.
- September 15, 2015 or October 15, 2015 – Express Scripts is to send the annual notice of changes to Medicare retirees.
- October 2015 or November 2015 – Enrollment period for calendar year 2016 coverage begins.
- January 1, 2016 – Ongoing effective date.

After reviewing the summary of remaining pending items and decisions needed for implementation, the Trustees agreed to the following:

- 1) Cover test strips and lancet for Medicare-eligible participants under the medical plan in addition to the coverage under the EGWP prescription drug program.
- 2) The Trust will not reimburse the IRMAA Part D payments.
- 3) The Trust will change open enrollment to January 1st going forward.

In addition to the EGWP information, the Trust Consultant presented the (Anthem Blue Cross/Express Scripts) utilization report for the period, **September 2014 through November 2014**. While it was noted the number of actives and retirees remained relatively the same, the expenses per member per

month for retirees increased by 22.07%, whereas, the expenses per member per month for actives, only increased 9.8%. Also, the retiree contributions specifically designated to pay for the retiree benefits increased 1.86%. Of course, the new "Employer Contribution" rate, which doubled January 2015, will certainly affect the percentage increase and be reported at the Annual Health Trust meeting in June, 2015.

It is at the Annual meeting that Labor and Management Trustees receive vendor presentations, renewal information, and make decisions related to the rates employers are to pay for active employees for the coming year. During the 10 years as a CAS Trustee, I found this meeting to be the most comprehensive and, at times, a somewhat challenging endeavor. This year may prove to be one of those times, in that, within weeks after the January 29th Trust meeting, two of the most senior CAS Trustees left the Trust. At this point, it is unclear what impact, if any, their departure will have on this year's Annual meeting.

Please continue to follow the Trust report and read all communications from the CTA Employees' Health and Welfare Benefits Trust. If you can, attend one of the regional REACTA luncheons.

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RECENT COMMUNICATIONS: CTA Employees' Health and Welfare Benefits Trust

March, 2015 a notice was sent to provide you with an updated Summary of Benefits and Coverage that will become effective June 1, 2015 for Medicare-Eligible Retiree and/or Spouse.

The Summary included the changes to your PPO and FFS plans June 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

If you have any difficulty with your coverages, or have any questions regarding the changes or the impact the changes may be having on your coverages, please call The William Earhart Company at the CTA-only toll free phone at 1-877-396-2942 or CTA-only phone at 1-503-460-5242. Please be sure to identify yourself as a CTA Retiree. Pam Howard is the Claims Advocate.

February, 2015 a letter was sent informing you of your prescription drug benefits effective June 1, 2015 when the Trust will implement a Medicare Part D prescription plan through Express Scripts. This new program, which replaces the current prescription drug coverage, is called Express Scripts Medicare (PDP).

Additional information will be coming in April and May.

February, 2015 those covered by Anthem Blue Cross received information regarding the cyber-attack against Anthem, Inc., the parent company of Anthem Blue Cross. REACTA also sent emails and information regarding the cyber-attack to those REACTA members for whom we have an email address. *If your email address changes, please notify Dixie Ditsler at ctadixie@aol.com.*

ANNUAL PROGRAM COMMITTEE: HELP WANTED 2015

We are only about six months away from the 2015 Annual Meeting of REACTA . The dates are October 6-8 and it will be held in Cambria. Your officers would like to encourage all REACTA members to attend and participate in this annual event. Your feedback is very important and this setting allows for great interaction among our colleagues. If you have not previously attended, you should consider joining us in Cambria.

In order to meet the needs of our members, the Program Committee consisting of myself, Art McLaughlin and Susan Popovich would like your suggestions for a Wednesday morning speaker. This session is our chance to engage in lively discussion about hot topics facing our members and CTA. Please email your ideas and suggestions to any member of the Program Committee. We will meet in August to finalize plans for the Annual Meeting. We look forward to hearing from you!

Dum Summa: dsummacal@aol.com

Art McLoughlin: mickey3643@aol.com

Susan Popovich: susanpop@aol.com

HELP WANTED 2016

At the last officers meeting there was discussion about the location for our 2016 Annual Meeting. We have been meeting in Cambria for the last six (???) years and while we enjoy the accommodations and setting, there is a belief that more members might attend if we had our meeting in a different, more accessible location. We will still continue to schedule our meeting for early October, 2016 but are open to considering a new location. If you have a location that you would like us to consider, let me know via email.

Dom Summa: dsummacal@aol.com



Annual Meeting notices and registration information will be sent to all active REACTA members. Look for it this summer in your mail!!

**REACTA DIRECTORY ADDITIONS
and CORRECTIONS
January - March 2015**

New and Renewing Members:

Gerald Branch

3814 Dunford Ln #J, Inglewood CA 90305
Phone: 310/412-2969 Cell: 323/687-1653
Email: branch.gerald@yahoo.com

Associate Staff Retired: 2009
Location: Santa Fe Springs

Rhonda King

4599 Harmony Lane, Santa Maria CA 93455
Phone: 805/938-0848 Cell:
Email: rwrking@msn.com

Associate Staff Retired: 2015
Location: Santa Maria RRC

Cynthia Trotter

4501 Colorado St, Long Beach CA 90814
Phone: 562/743-5155 Cell: 562/412-5155
Email: hollystar@aol.com

Supervisory Staff Retired: 2010
Location: Santa Fe Springs

If you received this newsletter by US mail rather than email -- and, if you have an email address, would you please share it with us.

If you don't use a computer, we will continue to mail your newsletter. But if you use a computer, email saves us volunteer hours -- a trip to the printers, stuffing, affixing labels and stamps, and a trip to the post office to mail the newsletters.

***Please contact Dixie Ditsler at
ctadixie@aol.com.***

Corrections & Additional Information:

Gary Campbell

5153 Remington Rd, San Diego CA 92115
Phone: 619/255-3584 Cell: 619/987-4279
Email: ctgarycampbell@att.net

Professional Staff Retired: 2013

Location: San Diego RRC

Juanita Peterson

Email: bvspeterson@yahoo.com

Archie Macaulay

Email: Macaulay@sti.net

Richard Sawtelle

Cell: 559/217-1201 (no home phone)

Sharon Sawtelle

Cell: 559/217-5517 1201 (no home phone)

Aldine Venable

2964 Sailor Ave, Ventura CA 93001

DECEASED

Ken Johnson

Eleanor Stephens

Ted Kostyshak

More information can be found on the REACTA website: www.reacta.org and on the REACTA Facebook page.

**Treasurers Report
Income and Expenses
January 1 Through March 24,
2015**

Income: Yearly budgeted \$15,000.00
Received to date 4,314.00*

Expenses: Executive Board 2,862.36
Organizing/Membership 929.65
Newsletter 381.92
Total expenses to date 4,173.93

Checking Account Balance \$32,654.24

*Less than 1/2 of the 2014 cash paying membership has submitted their dues for the current year.



REACTA Calendar

Executive Board Meetings:

August 5, 2015
October 6, 2015

REACTA Committee Meetings:

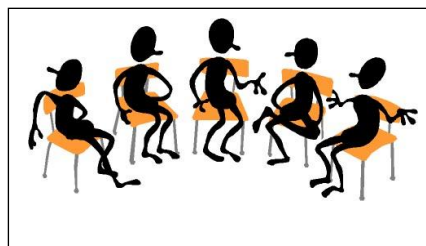
As needed and scheduled.

REACTA Social

In conjunction with
UTLA Finance Institute
April 5, 2015
Alice Clement's house
Pacific Palisades, CA
(Information will be forthcoming)

REACTA Annual Meeting

October 6-8, 2015
Cambria, CA



REACTOR Publication Dates:

January, April, and September

Deadlines for submission of
information/pictures:

March 15, 2015
August 15, 2015
Dec. 15, 2015

Send information to:
susanpop@aol.com

REACTA MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

In an effort to increase the membership of REACTA we would like to recruit your assistance. There are some retirees that haven't joined because they are not aware of our Association, while others have not renewed their membership. We have over 100 who belonged last year who were cash payers and have not rejoined yet this year!

It is important to let our retired colleagues, as well as soon to be retired colleagues, know the benefits of membership – information, knowledge, camaraderie, keeping in touch, and involvement. Everyone joins for different reasons, but most of us join when welcomed with a simple personal invitation. This membership campaign is centered on the personal touch. We are asking all of the current members to reach out and invite their colleagues to join. It really is that simple. We thought it would be motivational to reward your efforts with a contest. You will earn one ticket for each person that you ask to join. We encourage you to ask in person, but phoning, email, texting, etc. are also acceptable. Mass mailing, Facebook posting, etc. is not acceptable. Submit the number of retirees, or soon to be retirees, you contact to Margaret Wallace before October 1, 2015. Tickets, for a variety of prizes, will be drawn at the 2014 Annual Meeting being held October 6-8. Number of prizes will depend upon the increase in membership.

The REACTA Membership Committee would like to thank you for your assistance on this campaign and hope that your contacts relink you with your colleagues and friends, as well as establish a new relationship for everyone.

REACTA Membership Committee

Linda Boitano Dixie Ditsler Art McLoughlin Margaret Wallace

Q&A

Q: *Do you have to be present at the Oct. 6-8, 2015 REACTA Annual Meeting to win prizes?*

A: No. We would like you to attend the Annual Meeting, but you do not need to be present.

Q: *What if the person is already a member?*

A: Have a nice conversation, but NO ticket. If you would like to know who is a member, contact Art McLoughlin at mickey3643@aol.com or 831-633-4185.

Q: *Do I have to prove that I contacted people to earn a ticket?*

B: No, but you are on the honor system. Remember that our goal is increased membership through personal contact so please no mass e-mailings or Facebook postings.

Q: *Does it count if someone has already contacted the person?*

A: Yes. The more the merrier.

Q: *Where do I send the number of those I have contacted and/or any completed forms?*

A: Email or mail them to Margaret Wallace. Please try to send just one document or email by Oct. 1, 2015. Send mail to 2041 Elderway Drive, Hacienda Heights, CA 91745. You do not have to include names, just the NUMBER of contacts. Remember, you are on an honor system.

Q: *What if they ask me how to join?*

A: Attached at the end of the newsletter is the Membership Form. Members can pay cash or sign up to have dues deducted from their pension check. We encourage payroll deduction.

NEWS FROM REACTA MEMBERS



From: Shirley Judy Taylor Mason <kikicat09@live.cl>

Date: February 17, 2015 at 10:43:10 AM PST

To: Dixie Ditsler <ctadixie@aol.com>

Subject: News from Chile

Hello Everyone and Happy New Year

Life here in Chile continues to be very interesting. After a 2 month trip to USA, we returned to Chile to find I had lost my student band due to: comps, student teaching, job hunting, etc. We attended a USA Embassy pre-election get together where I met the Vice Consul and I heard about a professor who might help me get some musicians. So late November, I went to the Pro Jazz Institute looking for Carl Hammond, professor/director of the school big band. I found him and he invited us to his house so he could hear me sing before recommending any musicians. He and his wife Suzie are former San Diego teachers, who, by the way, are very appreciative of the negotiations efforts of the CTA staff. They taught there for 10 yrs. and have lived in England, Canada, Australia, Uruguay and now Chile. He is 1 of only 5 music PhDs. in all of Chile, teaching at the Pro Jazz Institute and the U. of Chile music department. He plays all instruments, directs bands, and is a keyboard wonder. He has played with several well known bands in the US and Europe. Tremendous jazz pianist!!!

After 1 1/2 hours of doing lots of jazz standards together, he told me he would be my accompanist whenever he could. OMG!! I was too excited. We have been working on some songs to put on a CD. So far, we have recorded 6 of them in his studio. We just did our 1st performance together for a restaurant (Valentine's dinner). Also, Wynton Marsalis is coming here for 2 concerts in March. He is doing workshops for the music teachers of Chile and for Carl's bands. Carl invited me to attend the workshops. Of course, it will all be over my head - I don't even read music. But being in the same room with Wynton Marsalis is premium. Surely I'll learn something!!!

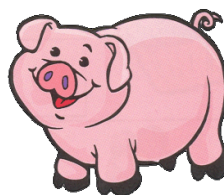
From: Shirley Judy Taylor Mason <kikicat09@live.cl>

Date: February 20, 2015 at 1:55:49 PM PST

To: Dixie Ditsler <ctadixie@aol.com>

Subject: P.S. from Chile

I somehow forgot to tell you about Judy Mason - pig farmer. Last May, Ivan bought 2 piglets from a neighbor. December, we butchered the male pig. February 5, the female pig gave birth to 9 piglets. Yep, all that happened in less than 1 year. Pigs can conceive at 5 months and most pig litters are between 10 and 14 piglets. I'm hoping we will sell them and leave the pig farming to others. I continue to ask myself - What's a nice girl like me doing in a place like this? Lord, the things I've learned!!!!



WORLD SPEED RECORD CLAIM

On January 19, 2015, San Bernardino pilot, William L. Roberts, 88, claimed a new World Speed Record cross-country flight from Redlands Airport, KREI, in Redlands, CA, to San Bernardino International Airport, KSBD, in San Bernardino, CA, a distance of 4 miles. Doug Williams, a licensed helicopter pilot from Yucaipa, CA, was time recorder and an on board witness.

! The record setting flight was conducted in Roberts' 1960, 180 horsepower Piper Comanche, N6628P, PA 24-180, serial number 24-1751, based in Redlands. The flight took place at 1:00 p.m. on January 19, 2015 under sunny skies, with temperature of 75', a barometric pressure of 30.18, and wind from 320' (northwest) at 2 knots. The four statute miles of distance between airports were covered in 3 minutes and 15 seconds, and were measured from a full stop entrance onto the runway in Redlands to full stop on the runway in San Bernardino for an elapsed time speed rate of 73.84 miles per hour. Notice of the flight is recorded in the San Bernardino Airport tower tapes.

! Roberts is a 54 year licensed private pilot, holder of FAA pilot license number 1697060, with single engine land, single engine sea, and instrument ratings.. He has flown gliders, tail draggers, a T-6, a P-51, and is experienced in aerobatics and instrument flying. He helped build a Starduster Too, open cockpit bi-plane, and he and fellow builder, the late Tom Brown, of Burbank, flew it to Oshkosh, WI and Lafayette, LA in 1986.

! Roberts has 1,478 hours of flying time and was presented the FAA Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award by Dr. Paul Foster of the Riverside Flight Service District Office on February 21, 2015 at the Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 845 sponsored Young Eagles Event at the Redlands Airport on Sessums Street in north east Redlands. The Master Pilot Award is given by the FAA to pilots over 80 years of age with 1,000 hours of accident-free flying. He has flown 173 Young Eagles as a volunteer pilot for the EAA Chapter 845 sponsored Young Eagles events, and is a founding member and past Vice President of the Redlands Airport Association. He is Vice President of the Redlands EAA Chapter 845, and is a member of the United Flying Octogenarians (UFO), the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, the International Comanche Society, and the Experimental Aircraft Association.

! He challenges other pilots to break his record, and to set their own records on flights of their choice. "A little lively competition for flight records will add spice, skill and fun to aviation," he says.

FOR MORE INFORMATON:

William L. Roberts
794 Mockingbird Lane
San Bernardino, CA 92404
909-883-2685
909-499-4388
berdolloyd@aol.com



An announcement from member Yvonne Canty who retired from CTA in 2009. Yvonne was associate staff in the Norco CTA office:

"Just sharing exciting news.....I was accepted at Jacksonville Theological Seminary/Revelation Bible College in 2012 and am graduating May 24, 2015 in Jacksonville, Florida. Blessings!"

**ANNOUNCING THE GRADUATION
OF**

Yvonne Canty

WITH AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE IN MINISTRY



Revelation Message Bible College

May 24, 2015

7:00 p.m.

**New Covenant Ministries
2360 St. Johns Bluff Road S.
Jacksonville, Florida 32225**

Yvonne Canty
4737 N. Ocean Dr. #161
Lauderdale By The Sea, FL 33308

Retired Employees Association of the CTA (REACTA)

2015 Membership Enrollment & Member Data for Directory

To join Reacta, please complete this form and return with a check OR a signed Payroll Deduction Authorization form to:

Art McLoughlin, REACTA Treasurer
9540 S Century Oak Road, Salinas CA 93907-1125

-- Dues amounts and Deduction Authorization Request are on 2nd page of this form --

> ***If there is any information that you DO NOT WANT INCLUDED IN THE MEMBER DIRECTORY, PLEASE NOTE THAT BELOW!***

Name : _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

--Please send newsletters/communications via email Yes No

Telephone: _____ Cell phone: _____

Number of Years of Service with CTA and/or Affiliates: _____

Year retired: _____

Location of Office Retired from: _____

Position Retired from: (Examples: PCS, Bargaining Specialist, Field Services Specialist, Secretary)

Position was:

- | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Associate Staff | <input type="checkbox"/> | Professional Staff | <input type="checkbox"/> | Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Confidential | <input type="checkbox"/> | Supervisory | <input type="checkbox"/> | CTA Leadership |

OR I am the:

- Spouse/Domestic Partner of a Retiree
- Surviving Spouse/Domestic Partner (of a deceased former CTA employee)
- Divorced Spouse/Domestic Partner of a Retiree

Date: _____

Use space below if necessary in responding to any of the above...

(OVER for Dues Information)

REACTA 2015 Annual Dues Amounts:

Former Management, Professional, Supervisory or Leadership	\$60
Former Associate Staff and Confidential	\$30
Spouse/Domestic Partner of Former Staff	\$15

Please check one box:

I am RENEWING my membership OR I am a NEW member

➡ **To pay dues annually, please mark the OPTION #1 box below and send your check made payable to REACTA with this completed form.**

OPTION #1 - Annual Dues Payment
\$30.00 Associate and Confidential Staff
\$15.00 Retiree's Spouse or Domestic Partner
\$60.00 All Others (Professional, Supervisory, Management)

OR

➡ **To pay dues by having the appropriate amount deducted from your monthly CTA Employees' Retirement Benefits Plan check, please mark the OPTION #2 box below, sign the Deduction Authorization below, and return the completed form.**

OPTION #2 - Monthly Deduction from CTA Employees' Retirement Benefit Check
\$2.50 Associate and Confidential Staff
\$1.25 Retiree's Spouse or Domestic Partner
\$5.00 All Others (Professional, Supervisory, Management)

_____ **Signed Deduction Authorization enclosed**

DEDUCTION AUTHORIZATION (For those selecting OPTION #2 above, only)

I hereby authorize and direct the CTA Employees' Retirement Benefit Plan (herein "PLAN") and its agents, HSBA, to deduct from regular monthly pension payments due to me the regular monthly dues, fees, and assessments of the Retired Employees Association of the California Teachers Association, or any successor organization (herein "REACTA"), in such amount as may be established from time to time by REACTA and communicated by REACTA to PLAN or HSBA. The amount so deducted shall be transmitted to REACTA. This authorization remains in force from year to year until revoked or revised by me in writing.

Date: _____

Signature

Printed Name

Social Security Number

**Return completed form with check or signed payroll deduction form to:
Art MdLoughlin, 9540 S Century Oak Road, Salinas CA 93907-1125**