



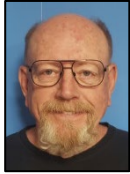
# AMCRE

ASSOCIATION OF MENDOCINO COUNTY RETIRED EMPLOYEES

Post Office Box 903 • Ukiah, CA 95482

FRIENDSHIP • UNITY • STRENGTH • GROWTH

## AMCRE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Welcome all

I hope everyone is enjoying the heat, or at least putting up with it.

The summer BBQ is on the third Monday of August, the 15th. Please RSVP if you are coming. The cost if you RSVP is \$5.00 each. If you don't RSVP the cost will be \$10.00 each, and bring a sandwich, as we may run out of food. Also BYOB, water will be provided!!

There will also be a raffle, one ticket free per person, and you can purchase more tickets at \$1.00, each. This was voted on and passed by the board.

I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable summer!!

Get out and visit family and friends. We have been cooped up for too long !!

SEE YOU AT THE SUMMER BBQ !!!

Thank you,

TOM INGRAM,  
President of AMCRE

## WELCOME NEW AMCRE MEMBERS

AS OF JUNE 2022

1010 Members Strong!

RETIREE NAME	RETIREMENT DATE	DEPT	YRS OF SERVICE
Carmel Angelo	3/20/2022	Executive Office	15
Rae Garman	3/20/2022	Social Services	14
Maureen Lawrence	3/20/2022	Human Resources	11
Shari Schapmire	3/20/2022	Treasurer	41
Charmaine Hu	5/27/2022	Transportation	8
Sterling Long	5/29/2022	Transportation	28
Anna Middling	5/15/2022	HHSA	13
Stephanie Scott	5/6/2022		2
Kevin Bailey	5/29/2022	DA	26

### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

## IN MEMORIAM

AMCRE EXTENDS OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO  
FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF RETIREES LISTED BELOW

RETIREE NAME	DEPARTMENT	DATE
Irvin Brown	Public Works	5/1/2022
Ruth Loran	Mental Health	5/1/2022

## SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

If you know of any of our members who could use a get-well or sympathy card, please email

[amcremendocino@gmail.com](mailto:amcremendocino@gmail.com),

with any details along with

correct names and addresses,

if you have it.

Thank you!

## CRCEA/MCERA MESSAGE

Jill Martin, AMCRE CRCEA Delegate



MCERA

<https://www.mendocinocounty.org/government/affiliated-agencies/mendocino-county-employees-retirement-association/agendas-and-minutes>

7/15/22, a proclamation was read in honor of Julie Forester who has left her position of trustee of the Board of Retirement due to her departure from Mendocino County Employment. Historical benefit review project-no accounts were updated during June due to staffing shortages.

CRCEA - <https://crcea.org/>

In Person Meeting Oct 10-12 2022 - Jill will be attending this conference; Technology Steering Committee - Jill was appointed a member of this sub-committee.

## BRAIN DEFOGGER

- ✓ Create a daily to-do list
- ✓ Stick to a schedule
- ✓ Keep connections thriving

**Board of Directors**

**PRESIDENT**

Tom Ingram

**VICE-PRESIDENT**

Anita Toste

**SECRETARY**

Cyndi Montesonti

**TREASURER**

Cyndie Richardson

**C.R.C.E.A. DELEGATE**

Jill Martin

**DIRECTORS**

**3-year**

Tom Desroches

Dorinda Kay Miller

**2-year**

Donna Glass

Alice Langton-Sloan

**1-year**

Raylene Lucchesi

Ron Parker

**NON-ELECTED POSITIONS**

**SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

Cyndi Montesonti

Marilyn Heath

Tom Ingram

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

Dorinda Kay Miller

**THE CONNECTION:**

**CO-EDITORS ~**

Cyndi Montesonti

Dorinda Kay Miller

**SUNSHINE COMMITTEE**

Donna Glass

**DRAFT**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING  
MINUTES**

**Date:** July 11, 2022, Noon **Place:** Slam Dunk Pizza

**1. CALL TO ORDER:** President Tom Ingram called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL & APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** PRESENT – Tommy Ingram, Cyndi Montesonti, Cyndie Richardson, Donna Glass, Raylene Lucchesi, Ron Parker, Tommy Deroches, Jill Martin, Dorinda Kay Miller. ABSENT: Anita Toste and Alice Langton Sloan. Dorinda Kay Miller moved to approve the minutes from the May 9, 2022 General Membership Meeting. Tommy Deroches seconded. **PASSED.**

**3. REPORTS:**

TREASURER'S REPORT: Discussion with Tommy Ingram and Cyndie Richardson regarding our EIN number for the IRS. The IRS instructed us that no tax filings necessary if we kept the treasury under \$25,000 for non-profits. Original was filed in 1968. Cyndie gave us

received one raffle ticket free and she sold additional raffle tickets for \$1.00. She will also bring the Scholarship Jar to the summer picnic on Monday August 15, 2022 (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday). Dorinda Kay Miller moves we give one raffle ticket free to each person and if they want more than one, it will cost \$1.00 per ticket. Tommy Deroches Seconded. **PASSED.**

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Dorinda Kay Miller reported that we have 1010 members.

SCHOLARSHIP REPORT: Cyndi Montesonti, Scholarship Chair, reported Tommy Ingram, Marilyn Heath and Cyndi Montesonti selected four recipients. One senior from high school and 3 returning students. Cyndi reported that only two seniors applied. One application was incomplete. All details will be in the newsletter that comes out next week. The recipients are: Angelina Losak, Pierce Naughton, Alana Gibson and Angelina Branson. Cyndi talked a little bit about them. She apologized for leaving their applications at home.

CRCEA: Jill Martin reported about the Virtual meeting conference. She said it was well done and she was on computer for about 8 hours when she was in Florida. She was put on the Legislative Committee as Jim Andersen said probably would happen. She expressed interest to CRCEA that she would like to be on the Technology Committee and they moved her. She discussed the upcoming conference in Sacramento and the costs. Cyndi Montesonti told her the Board of Directors voted a long time ago that we would pay for one person to attend the conference. If she couldn't go or didn't want to go, the President could attend. If they chose not to the Vice-President would be asked, and if the Vice-President could not go, the Secretary would be asked to attend. Jill will check out the agenda and go ahead and reserve her room. All her costs would be reimbursed after the conference. Cyndi Richardson gave her the conference fee in advance. Jill plans

the Treasurer's report. In the General Treasury – Balance for March 2022-\$4956.65, Balance for April 2022-the balance is \$5723.47, and Balance for May 2022-\$4,545.96. \$2000 is set aside for Scholarships. Cyndi Montesonti moves we accept the March, April and May Treasurer's report. Jill Martin seconded. **PASSED.** Cyndie Richardson also discussed that she is going to have the Retirement Office direct deposit our monthly money instead of mailing it. She also discussed the high costs from our Spring General Meeting and thought too much food was ordered. She said it was low attendance and everyone had food to take home. Next year we will take RSVPs and reevaluate what we order. Cyndie said everyone

to get in touch with Bohdan from Respect Tech for training on our website.

NEWSLETTER: Dorinda asked Tommy Ingram and Jill Martin to get in their reports within 2 days. Cyndi said she finished her part and Dorinda has it to finalize. Newsletter should be out within 10 days. RSVPs will be required with check for the summer picnic. Details in upcoming newsletter.

**4. OLD BUSINESS:**

DESTRUCTION OF RECORDS: Tommy Ingram reported he and Ron Parker have gone through them and about two boxes will be saved. He found out you save non-profit records for 5 to 7 years (same as tax records). Also will save start up bylaws and all start up documents.

DISCUSSION OF WEBSITE: Jill will contact Bohdan from Respect Tech for training on our website and will handle it after the training.

DISCUSSION OF SUMMER PICNIC DINNER: This year it will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday this year on August 15, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. at Lyon's Park in Redwood Valley. Details in newsletter. Cost this year. Tommy Ingram is starting to pick up things for the picnic. He will buy all the food and be reimbursed. He will have an ice chest with water only. If people want to bring their own beverages they can. He will provide all paper products as well. Cyndie Richardson and Cyndi Montesonti will collect registrations. People will show up to help set up. Members are discounted. Others charged \$5.00 more.

HOLIDAY PARTY: The Broiler will not be opened on Mondays. Tommy Ingram moved we change the date for the holiday dinner if held at the Broiler Steakhouse to Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. Dorinda Kay Miller seconded. **PASSED.** Cyndie Richardson suggested we check with Elks Lodge. People said they set up, decorate, cook and clean up. Cyndi Montesonti will check into that.

TAX FILING ISSUE: This was discussed under the Treasurer's Report. As long as our Treasury remains under \$25,000, we do not have to file.

**5. NEW BUSINESS:**

CRCEA CONFERENCE: Jill Martin discussed the above under her report. She will book a hotel room and pay registration when time and check out the agenda.

MY SENIOR HEALTH PLAN: Tommy Ingram discussed email he received from a speaker that was at the CRCEA Virtual conference. They wanted to advertise in our newsletter. We don't do advertising. Dorinda Kay Miller moved we accept advertising from My Senior Health Plan for the newsletter. Tommy Deroches seconded. **Yeas 0 Nays 9. MOTION FAILED.**

**6. SPECIAL BOARD MEETING:** Monday, October 10, 2022 for Election Nominations. Be thinking if you plan to remain on Board. Next Board meeting will be on Monday, November 14, 2022.

**7. NEXT GENERAL MEETING:** Summer picnic. Monday, August 15, 2022.

**8. NO OTHER BUSINESS OR COMMENTS.**

**9. ADJOURNED:** Meeting adjourned 1:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
CYNDI MONTESONTI  
Secretary

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Mark your Calendars

Below are the listed months that the Board of Directors and the General Membership meet.

**BOARD MEETINGS:** January, April, July, October (*special meeting for Board of Directors nominations*), and November. Board meetings are usually held the second Monday of the month. 12:00 p.m. at Slam Dunk Pizza.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** February, May, August, and December: usually held the second Monday of the month, (Either lunch or dinner) & FREE RAFFLE INCLUDED. *We try and get speakers for the February and May meetings*

## TACO SOUP

- 1 lb hamburger, browned & drained
- 1 can corn, not drained
- 1 16oz can tomatoes, not drained
- 1 can kidney beans, not drained
- 1 8oz can tomato sauce
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1 pkg taco seasoning

Dump all into pot

Simmer 15 minutes

Serve with sour cream, grated cheese & tortilla chips



**MEMBERS CAN NOW RECEIVE THE CONNECTION VIA EMAIL!** If you are a member who would like to receive AMCRE notices by email, along with *THE CONNECTION* newsletter, just contact us at [amcremendocino@gmail.com](mailto:amcremendocino@gmail.com) and **let us know!** We are gathering requests from members with this preference and will include you too! If we do not receive an email from you, then *THE CONNECTION* will be mailed. Thank you.



**COME AND JOIN US !**  
Meet up with friends, former co-workers  
Good times will be had by all!

## **AMCRE ANNUAL BBQ**

### **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**Date:** Monday ~ August 15, 2022 [NOTE: 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday this time]  
**Time:** 5 p.m.  
**Location:** Lions Park in Redwood Valley  
**Cost:** \$5.00 with RSVP  
\$10.00 at Door  
**BBQ – by Chef Tommy Ingram. Bring your own beverage**  
*Tri-tip, chicken, salad, roll, dessert and a vegetarian dish*

The price for AMCRE members and guests is **\$5.00** per person if RSVP has been sent in.  
\$10.00 per person at the door if RSVP has not been made.

**The Scholarship Jar will be on the registration table if you are interested in donating to it.**  
**Looking forward to seeing everyone.**

Call Cyndi Montesonti with questions at (707) 489-7752

**RAFFLE:** Get a free raffle ticket for a chance to win **5 - \$20.00 Prizes** **2 - \$50.00 Prizes**  
**With the option of purchasing additional raffle tickets for \$1.00 each**

----- **TEAR OUT AND RETURN WITH CHECK TO AMCRE** -----

Checks payable to **AMCRE** for \$5.00 per person.

**RSVP must be received no later than August 4, 2022, with this coupon and check for \$5.00 per person payable to AMCRE**

Mail to: AMCRE  
Attn: Cyndi Montesonti/Secretary  
P.O. Box 903 Ukiah, CA 95482

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

# LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

## NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTION

If anyone would like to share a travel adventure or any other newsworthy information/articles, please email your article and pictures to:

[amcremendocino@gmail.com](mailto:amcremendocino@gmail.com)

I have something amusing to share for the newsletter for any folks who lived thru the 60's:

Either Audrey or Katherine Hepburn said (paraphrasing based on my best recollection):

***"The secret to happiness is good health and a short memory".***

Thanks for your consideration,

**Joan Daniels, retired APS**

## MENDOCINO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ADOPTS CODE CHANGES TO RESOLVE PRACTICES IN HISTORICAL RETIREMENT CALCULATIONS

MCERA now seeks to reevaluate proposed retirement recalculations that include service credit purchases, as well as several other pension calculation determiners. A series of resolutions passed by the plan sponsor, the County of Mendocino, would allow a concurrence of past MCERA practices and compliance with the County Employees Retirement Law of 1937 (CERL).

On June 21, 2022, the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors adopted multiple government code sections under the CERL, pertaining to past MCERA practices. With these actions, framed as conforming past practice to the Plan Document, numerous historical errors regarding purchase of service credits will be resolved. Resolution 22-148 requires approval by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as part of MCERA's Voluntary Correction Program (VCP).

**Resolution 22-148** states in part:

### RESOLUTION NO. 22-148

**RESOLUTION OF THE MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CONFORMING THE MENDOCINO COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATIONS'S PLAN DOCUMENT TO PAST PRACTICE REGARDING PRIOR PUBLIC SERVICE PURCHASES**  
*WHEREAS, Government Code Sections 31641.1, 31641.2, 31641.3, 31641.4, 31641.8, 31641.9, 31641.95, 31470.7, 31478, 31479, and 31480, provide that, pursuant to a resolution adopted by the Board of Supervisors, the Mendocino County Employees Retirement Association ("MCERA") may allow a member, the right to receive credit in the retirement association for all or any part of the prior public service*

*he or she rendered during the time if he or she elects to pay, and thereafter pays, in accordance with the election, and prior to retirement, into the retirement fund an amount equal to twice the contributions he or she would have made to the retirement fund as if he or she had been a member, with interest thereon;*

Additionally, **Resolution 22-144**, also approved on June 21, 2022, clarifies an MCERA member's ex-spouse's right to designate one or more beneficiaries to receive MCERA benefits following the death of the ex-spouse.

**Resolution 22-144** states, in part:

### RESOLUTION NO. 22-144

**RESOLUTION OF THE MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ADOPTING AND MAKING GOVERNMENT CODE §31458.4 APPLICABLE IN MENDOCINO COUNTY ALLOWING MENDOCINO COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION MEMBERS' EX-SPOUSES TO DESIGNATE BENEFICIARIES**  
*WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino (the "County Board of Supervisors") has not heretofore adopted Government Code §31458.4 allowing a MCERA member's ex-spouse ("alternate payee") who is receiving or is entitled to receive payments from MCERA, pursuant to a court order dividing the community property interest in the MCERA member's retirement allowance, to designate one or more beneficiaries to receive those payments following the death of the alternate payee; An additional resolution regarding part-time service credit purchases was passed by the Mendocino BOS in December of 2021, and was reviewed in the Oct/Nov/Dec 2021 AMCRE newsletter.*

The application of the numerous provisions contained in the three resolutions is complicated and implementation will be ongoing. Where applicable, IRS approval will need to be obtained. To understand the applicability of these code sections to your specific benefit, if any, please contact the retirement office, MCERA, at 707-463-4328.

**Submitted by,  
Kendall Smith**

### ATTENTION

If you have any interest in being on the Board of Directors or running for office, please notify Tom Ingram or Cyndi Montesonti before the end of September. Several current members will be leaving at the end of their terms and we need to fill their spots.

## SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS FOR 2022/23

If you are a member of AMCRE, and have children or grandchildren going to college or trade school, they should have submitted an application for one of the four \$1000 scholarships we are giving out for the 2022/2023 school year. The Committee



a difficult time deciding. We wish we could honor all applicants with a scholarship. The winners of the \$1000 Scholarship for 2022/23 school year are: Pierce Douglas Naughton, who will be attending the Lindner College of Business at the University of Cincinnati. He completed his Associate Degree in Pre-Business Administration at the University of Cincinnati Blue Ash College. Pierce will be pursuing a Finance Degree. His grandfather was the late Douglas Sawyer from the Assessor's Department. Angelina Losak graduated Ukiah High School with a 4.18 gpa. Her plans are that she will attend in the fall the University of California, Santa Cruz as an environmental science and policy major and will have a minor in business and journalism. Her father is Douglas Losak who retired from the County Counsel's Office. Alana Gibson graduated from high school in Texas and completed her first year at the University of North Texas majoring in Human Development and Family Science. She plans to become an Occupational Therapist and will eventually attend graduate school. Her grandfather is Michael Neal who retired from the Probation Department. Angelina Branson graduated from Liberty High School in Oregon. She attended Portland Community College and is pursuing an Associate of Arts Oregon Transfer Degree. Her grandfather is Ronald C. Parker who retired from the Sheriff's Department.

### *Congratulations to all the winners!*

For further information, please contact Cyndi Montesonti, Scholarship Co-Chair @ (707) 489-7752 email: [tomcyndichili@comcast.net](mailto:tomcyndichili@comcast.net)

The website is [AMCRE.ORG](http://AMCRE.ORG) click **SCHOLARSHIP TAB**

**AMCRE EMAIL ADDRESS:**

**[amcremendocino@gmail.com](mailto:amcremendocino@gmail.com)**

The only way to win with a toxic person is not to play.

## *Greetings Fellow AMCRE Members, TO CONTACT THE FOLLOWING BOARD MEMBERS*

TOMMY INGRAM, President

Email: [t1tom4249@sbcglobal.net](mailto:t1tom4249@sbcglobal.net)

707-462-2780

CYNDI MONTESONTI, Secretary

Co-Editor/AMCRE & Scholarship Committee

Email: [tomcyndichili@comcast.net](mailto:tomcyndichili@comcast.net)

707-489-7752

CYNDIE RICHARDSON, Treasurer

Email: [cinderella9050@comcast.net](mailto:cinderella9050@comcast.net)

707-485-1745

DORINDA KAY MILLER, Board Member

Co-Editor/AMCRE & Membership Committee

Email: [dmiller0404@gmail.com](mailto:dmiller0404@gmail.com)

707-489-8564

### **Write to:**

AMCRE

P.O. Box 903 Ukiah, CA 95482

Email to:

[amcremendocino@gmail.com](mailto:amcremendocino@gmail.com)

WORRYING DOESN'T TAKE  
AWAY TOMORROW'S  
TROUBLES.  
IT TAKES AWAY  
TODAY'S PEACE.



Mystic Hippie Gifts  
and Healing

**AMCRE WEBSITE IS UP AND RUNNING:**

## **AMCRE.ORG**

✓ **SENIOR DISCOUNTS:...** BEST RULE OF THUMB...ask ask ask!

✓ **MOVING, or any notification changes?**

Notify the Membership Committee at [amcremendocino@gmail.com](mailto:amcremendocino@gmail.com), so AMCRE's records stay correct. Be sure you ALSO connect with the Mendocino County Retirement Association 625-B Kings Court, Ukiah, with any address change, telephone and email change (if applicable) as well.

✓ If you have any questions, please call any Board member.

### **How to Keep Your Credit Card Safe at the Gas Pump And Other Tidbits.**

The next time you pull into a gas station, think twice about how you pay for fuel. Cash is best. I seldom use it, because I like my frequent flying miles I earn with credit cards. There was an article published on line by Kathleen Pender for the California State Automobile Association on May 3, 2021. You can read her full article on line at: <https://mwg.aaa.com/via/your-money/protect-credit-card-gas-pump>

I have been gone for two months. First at my daughter's in Colorado Springs, CO, and then as I packed to come back to California, I had to rush to Chicago from Colorado to be with my mom, who broke her hip while in the hospital recovering from another surgery. That is a sad story in itself.



### **Avoid Credit Card Skimmers And Identity Theft At The Gas Pump.**

Gasoline pumps are prime targets for card skimmers, illegal devices thieves attach to payment terminals and ATMs to collect enough information to clone a credit or debit card. That's because pumps see high card volumes and are sometimes hard for station attendants to monitor. Today, most are installed inside the pump, making it important to choose the most secure payment method. Skimmers swipe information stored on a card's magnetic stripe: your name, your card number, and the expiration date, but not the three- or four-digit code known as a CVV. Thieves transfer this data to the magstripe of a counterfeit card and can use collected data for online purchases that don't require a CVV. Thieves can pair a skimmer with a keypad and personal

ID Pin number and access your ATM. Watch You Tube videos on this subject.

You might be wondering why I am talking about this. While sitting at my mother's bedside in both the hospital and later the rehab for 8 to 10 hours a day, somebody did exactly what is mentioned above. I went to a gas station that seemed okay in Homewood, IL, bought my gas for the rental car and continued to use the same gas station often. My husband called me one night in Chicago and asked what the heck I bought for \$3700 in Bloomingdale's of Chicago. I said have you ever known me to shop in an expensive store like that? I didn't even know a Bloomingdale's existed there. Not to mention who had time to shop? Somebody actually went on line and bought \$3700 in merchandise. My credit had been compromised in the fall of 2021. I had everything frozen with fraud protection. So this individual could not collect too much info on me, but he/she attempted to. However, my credit card ended up in one of the things discussed in the article. A "skimmer" was used more than likely, and he/she was able to get my information from the gas pump hidden skimmer and purchase the merchandise. Because everything of mine is on fraud protection, the VISA took the purchase off and I came home empty handed with more hassles than I left with.

**How to Know You've Been Skimmed:** check your credit card bills a few times a month and report unusual charges you know you did not make to the credit card company. Work with a Restoration Agent from our three credit bureaus if necessary (Equifax, Experian and Transunion). If you find charges on your credit/debit cards, your card was probably skimmed. Report that to your bank and credit card company asap. If anything was taken from your bank accounts, you are able to involve the local police and/or Sheriff Department. You can always google and you tube how to tell if a gas pump has a skimmer on it. Interesting.

One final note: After I came home and spent days dealing with someone attempting to open credit cards and personal loans in my name, my "skimmed and hacked" credit card problem, being overcharged in fees by Hertz car rental, and dealing with my mother's health issues and finding a new place to move her and move my sister, my mother passed away on June 5, 2022 at the age of 94. I was so happy to spend the month with her no matter what problems I had to face. Rest in peace mom. I miss you and I love you.

By Cyndi Montesonti  
AMCRE Secretary/Co-Editor

ASSOCIATION OF MENDOCINO COUNTY RETIRED EMPLOYEES

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**MOVING, or any  
notification  
changes?  
NOTIFY AMCRE**

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*Email AMCRE to get  
The Connection  
Emailed to you.*



FRIENDSHIP • UNITY • STRENGTH • GROWTH

# ***THE CONNECTION***

## ***General Membership Meeting***



**Date:** Monday ~ August 15, 2022  
**Time:** 5 p.m.  
**Location:** Lions Park in Redwood Valley  
**Cost:** \$5.00 with RSVP \$10.00 at Door  
**BYOB** Bring your own beverage.

*Tri-tip, chicken, salad, roll, dessert and a vegetarian dish*

**REMINDER**  
✓ It's the **THIRD**  
**3<sup>rd</sup>** Monday of August  
✓ **RSVP**