

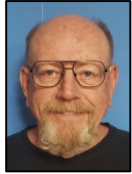


AMCRE

ASSOCIATION OF MENDOCINO COUNTY RETIRED
EMPLOYEES

Post Office Box 903 • Ukiah, CA 95482

FRIENDSHIP • UNITY • STRENGTH • GROWTH



AMCRE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

AMCRE President Tom Ingram

Hey, Happy Thanksgiving everyone, the year is passing by quickly!

I offered a change up for the General Membership Meeting in December this year, but it appears we didn't have time to implement it this year, so will put it out for all of your votes! I suggested a December luncheon at Miss Saigon's on North State Street in Ukiah. The goal was to bring in more members to the AMCRE meeting. So send us a note on your reservation and check for the Broiler Steak House tell us what you think. There aren't many places in and around Ukiah that will hold a large amount of people.

Due to AMCRE having 12 boxes of records from the beginning of time; Directors Glass and Cranmer researched CRCEA and other county retiree associations' records retention policies. The Board of Directors approved the Records Retention. [Look for this policy on AMCRE website.](#)

The Board of Directors has had several directors resign this year. Fortunately we had two new directors to replace them. SO we could use another board member...come join us, we are old, but FUN! I think!

I don't mean to be a Grinch however...to those of you who are placing Christmas lights/decorations in your yards, would you please avoid anything that has RED or BLUE flashing lights together? Every time I come around the corner, I think it's the police and I have a panic attack. I have to brake hard, toss my wine out the window, fasten my seat belt, throw my phone on the floor, turn my radio down, and push my gun under the seat. All while trying to drive. It's just too much drama, even for Christmas.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

(Please keep this going and steal this post like I did.)

Hope you had a good laugh! Sometimes we all need a good laugh.

THANK YOU ALL

Tom Ingram

President/ CRCEA Representative

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS .

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WELCOME NEW AMCRE MEMBERS

AS OF OCTOBER 2024

1034 Members Strong!

RETIREE NAME	RETIREMENT DATE	DEPARTMENT	YRS OF SERVICE
Cindy Carson	5/12/2024	Social Services	19
Roxane Brower	6/23/2024	Child Support	25
Robert Ducharme	6/23/2024	Public Health	9
Deanna Boughton	7/21/2024	Executive Office	19
William Minor	8/4/2024	Library	
Gabriela Burleson	9/1/2024	Public Health	30
Associate Member			
Joanne Craver			



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

RETIREE NAME		DATE
Angelina Lowe	Superior Court	5/15/2024
Veltha Prine		5/26/2024
Larry Gander	Sheriff's Office	5/14/2024
Anthony Craver	Sheriff's Office	6/1/2024
Melba Anderson	Sheriff's Office	7/8/2024
Celia Baca	Social Services	7/19/2024
Erica Demille	Library	7/25/2024
Constance McNally	Family Support	7/31/2024
Carol Gerke	SUDT	8/11/2024
Dennis Miller	Sheriff's Office	9/23/2024
Renna-Le Wolk	Assessor	9/29/2024

Pictures from the August General Membership Meeting: The BBQ was hosted by Tim & Claire Marsh (great cooks-thank you). A good time was had by all.



AMCRE WEBSITE IS UP AND RUNNING:

AMCRE.ORG

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

Need to Write to AMCRE:

AMCRE

P.O. Box 903 Ukiah, CA 95482

or

Email to:

amcremendocino@gmail.com

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

If you know of any of our members who could use a get well or sympathy card, email amcremendocino@gmail.com, with any details along with their correct names and addresses.

Thank you!

Life is all about balance.

You don't always need to be getting stuff done. Sometimes it's perfectly okay, and absolutely necessary, to shut down, kick back, and do nothing.

LORI DESCHENE

Look into businesses that allow you to make day trips to interesting places.

SOUR CREAM APPLE CAKE

Ingredients

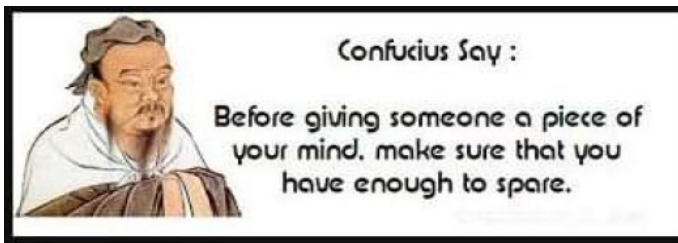
- 1/2 cup butter, softened
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 large eggs, room temperature
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1-1/2 cups chopped peeled tart apples

Topping:

- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans
- 2 tablespoons butter, softened
- 1 teaspoon apple pie spice

Directions:

In a bowl, cream butter and sugar. Beat in eggs and vanilla. Combine flour, baking soda and salt; add alternately with sour cream to the creamed mixture. Fold in apples. Spoon into a greased 9-in. square baking pan. In a small bowl, mix topping ingredients; sprinkle over batter. Bake at 350° for 35-40 minutes or until done.



Mendocino County Retirement Association

Member Status Confirmations: Starting this month, we will be sending letters to confirm the status of our benefit recipients who are at least age 75 and under the age of 77. The confirmation process helps ensure that only eligible retirees and beneficiaries are receiving retirement benefits.

If you receive a status confirmation letter, you must complete the Member Status Confirmation form in the presence of a notary or MCERA staff member and return it to MCERA's office. If you have questions or concerns regarding the Member Status Confirmation form, please contact us at (707) 463-4328.

If any of your personal contact information has changed, you can obtain an [Address Change Form](#) on our [website](#), from your [MemberDirect](#) account under "Forms", or simply ask us to mail one to you.

If you are unable to visit a notary or our office please contact us to discuss how to complete your form. Instructions will be provided on the member status confirmation form.

Contact us if you have any questions at (707) 463-4329.

625-B Kings Court Ukiah, CA 95482

2024/2025 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Two \$1,000 Scholarships were awarded for the 2024/2025 year at the summer BBQ. The first recipient went to Hannah Reynolds-Boatright, the granddaughter

of AMCRE members Richard Reynolds and LuAnne Reynolds. Hannah was present at the picnic and introduced herself and her family to the crowd in attendance. She told a little about herself and said she is working on her Bachelor of Arts Degree at the University of California, Davis. She will be starting her second year. Hannah will finish her Bachelor's Degree with a major in Spanish at UC Davis and declare a minor in education so



she can get into a teaching credential program. President Tom Ingram and I presented her with her first \$500 check as she presented us with her proof of full-time enrollment, her schedule and transcripts.

The second scholarship went to Lilly Losak, daughter of former County Counsel and AMCRE member Douglas Losak and her mother, Stina Losak. Lilly will be attending her second year at Santa Barbara City College. Lilly has played basketball since she was 8 years old. She was recruited to attend this school and get into the basketball program, a sport she dearly loves. She plans to complete an Associate Degree and then a Bachelor's Degree in early Childhood Education. Lilly was unable to attend the picnic and was mailed her first check after she provided us with the required information. Congratulations to both ladies.

We had so many great applications. Applications will be accepted in April 2025 for the 2025/2026 school year.

If your child, grandchild or you won a Scholarship from AMCRE, be sure they read and understand the deadlines for submitting paperwork for their Award reimbursement. All information is on our website at amcre.org under the Scholarship tab.

For further information, please contact Cyndi Montesonti, Scholarship Co-Chair @ (707) 510-8324

email: tomcyndichili@comcast.net

By Cyndi Montesonti/Scholarship Chair

AMCRE MEETINGS DATES

Below are the listed months that the Board of Directors and the General Membership meet. These meetings are usually held the 2nd Monday of the month, except this year the December meeting will be on a Tuesday. Board of Directors meetings are usually held at 12:00 p.m. at Slam Dunk Pizza. General Membership Meeting, places to be announced.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETINGS: February, June, October (*special board meeting*) and November.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS: May, August and December – FREE RAFFLE always INCLUDED with meal

RECRUITMENT: **AMCRE IS** currently looking to fill a Board of Directors' position. What is the advantage to you? Great fun, good company, no pay, but lots of laughter and smiles, and doesn't demand a lot of your time.

Contact Secretary Cyndi Montesonti if interested at tomcyndichili@comcast.net or phone 707-513-8324.

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 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!

Please help us contain costs and only request the print version if it's necessary.

Availability of *The Connection*

Moving? Change of telephone or email?

Please fill out and mail this notice to the following address:

AMCRE, P.O.Box 903, Ukiah, CA 95482

Or e-mail amcremendocino@gmail.com

Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

New Address: _____

City _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

ALSO send any changes to:

Mendocino County Retirement Association

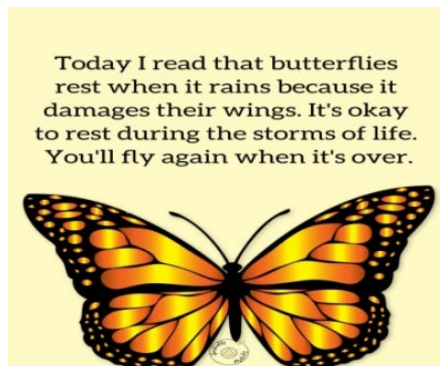
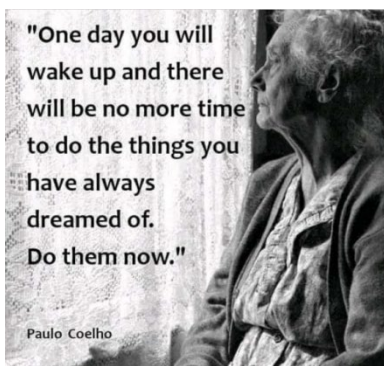
625-B Kings Court, Ukiah CA 95482

ATTENTION AMCRE MEMBERS:

On the next page you will find the dues increase form on an entire page for you to complete raising your AMCRE dues from \$1.00 per month to \$2.00 per month. Please fill this out and return to the Retirement Office ASAP if you have not already done so.

Return the form to MCERA. The address to return it is on the form. All new members joining AMCRE currently pay the \$2.00 per month. So far, out of 1034 members, only 360 filled this form out. We need your support. Fill out, sign and return the form ASAP. Perhaps we can give out another scholarship in 2025 if you do this. Thank you!

REMINDER: The surviving spouse of a retired Mendocino County employee is eligible for AMCRE membership. Must fill out the *Association of Mendocino County Retired Employees -- Application for Membership AND Authorization for Automatic Deduction* form and submit it to the Mendocino County Employees Retirement Association.



We appreciate your prompt signing and returning of this affidavit to MCERA asap. Thank you.

AMCRE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Adopted 4/10/2023



ASSOCIATION OF MENDOCINO COUNTY RETIRED EMPLOYEES

Application for Membership

AND

Authorization for Automatic Deduction

By signing and submitting this form, I agree to become an Association of Mendocino County Retired Employees (AMCRE) member.

I hereby authorize Mendocino County Employees Retirement Association (MCERA) to deduct from my retirement benefit the **current membership dues*** and pay that amount to AMCRE.

Such deduction shall continue without requiring my reauthorization of the deduction, until I provide written notification to revoke this authorization.

Name Phone Number

Mailing Address

City State Zip Code

Email Address

Date Retired Years of Service Department

Signature Date

RETURN TO: Mendocino County Employees Retirement Association:

MCERA

625-B Kings Ct. Ukiah, CA 95482

* **Currently \$2 per month.** AMCRE will provide members with at least 60-days advance of any change in membership dues. You are required to maintain membership in AMCRE to have coverage under any Pacific Agency Group plans and coverages may be terminated without warning should your AMCRE membership lapse. Membership dues are paid in arrears and are deduction from the retirement benefit – i.e., the April dues are deducted from the benefit payment issued April 30th.

Nomination Slate for 2025 AMCRE Board of Directors



President – Tom Ingram

Vice-President – Anita Toste

Secretary – Cyndi Montesonti

Treasurer – Sharon Wedegaertner

3-Year Director – Tom Deroches

3-Year Director – Dorinda Kay Miller

2-Year Director – Donna Glass

2-Year Director – Russell McCutcheon

1-Year Director – Brian Miller

1- Year Director – Vacant

AMCRE Members will vote at the December General Membership Meeting.

Results to be effective January 1, 2025

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

Upcoming Retirement Benefit Pay Dates

October Benefits	10/31/2024
November Benefits	11/29/2024
December Benefits	12/31/2024

Google Is Testing A Way to Leave The Passport At Home with This New Feature.

Technology constantly changes how the world travels, from booking flights and cars to checking in and making payments. Google is now reimagining an essential aspect of travel with its Google Wallet. The tech giant announced that it is [testing its digital ID feature with the U.S. passport](#), which will allow travelers to store the document on their phone and use it as necessary. However, the future of no-physical-passport travel is still far away.

What's in Your Wallet? Like a physical wallet, [Google Wallet](#) allows you to save your debit and credit cards, your flight and event tickets, and even your loyalty cards. In some states, you may also be able to store your driver's license or state ID in your digital wallet, and these are acceptable at select domestic airports.

This means you can use a digital version of your ID at Transportation Security Administration checkpoints in states including California (Los Angeles and San Francisco) and Texas (Dallas-Fort Worth). You still need to carry a physical ID and produce it if asked, but for quick walk-throughs, you can simply present the QR code and move along.

Now imagine doing this with your passport—this is what Google is promising. **Related:** [There's a 4-Year Passport: What Is It, Who's Eligible, and Should You Get It?](#) You can create a passport ID by uploading a picture of your passport and scanning the chip. Google will also ask you to record a selfie video to verify your identity, and then your ID will be ready to use in a few minutes. Look into businesses that allow you to make day trips to interesting places.

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



General Membership Meeting

Date: TUESDAY ~ DECEMBER 10, 2024
Time: 4:00 P.M ~ NO HOST COCKTAILS BEGIN.
4:45 P.M ~ DINNER SERVED. *Please arrive no later than 4:20 p.m.*
Location: BROILER STEAK HOUSE, 8400 UVA DRIVE, REDWOOD VALLEY, CA

RAFFLE: Get a free raffle ticket for a chance to win 5 - \$20.00 Prizes 3 - \$50.00 Prizes

The price for AMCRE members and guests is **\$30.00** per person, which includes salad, bread, entrée, baked potato, dessert and coffee, tax & gratuity. (PLEASE NOTE: The Broiler is charging **\$45.00** per person, but AMCRE Board voted on October 14, 2024, to contribute **\$15.00** per person towards the dinner this year). The **Scholarship Jar** will be on the registration table if you are interested in donating to it.
We hope you all come. Santa Claus will make an appearance.

MUST RSVP TO AMCRE, **NO LATER** than November 27, 2024, with your check and entrée request.
Checks payable to: AMCRE. Any questions email amcremendocino@gmail.com

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

(AMCRE must have your check to confirm a spot for dinner) No refunds after November 30, 2024

Mail to: AMCRE
Attn: Treasurer
P.O. Box 903
Ukiah, CA 95482

NAME: _____ TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

GUEST NAME: _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

CHOICE	MEMBER	GUEST
<u>New York Steak</u>	☐	☐
<u>Fried Prawns</u>	☐	☐
<u>Vegetarian Lasagna</u>	☐	☐
<u>Chicken</u>	☐	☐



Explain what you would like to have happen for our December 2025 General Membership Meeting.
(A luncheon or keep the dinner at the Broiler Steak House? *Please fill in or email* amcremendocino@gmail.com.)

ASSOCIATION OF MENDOCINO COUNTY RETIRED EMPLOYEES

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Ukiah, CA 95482

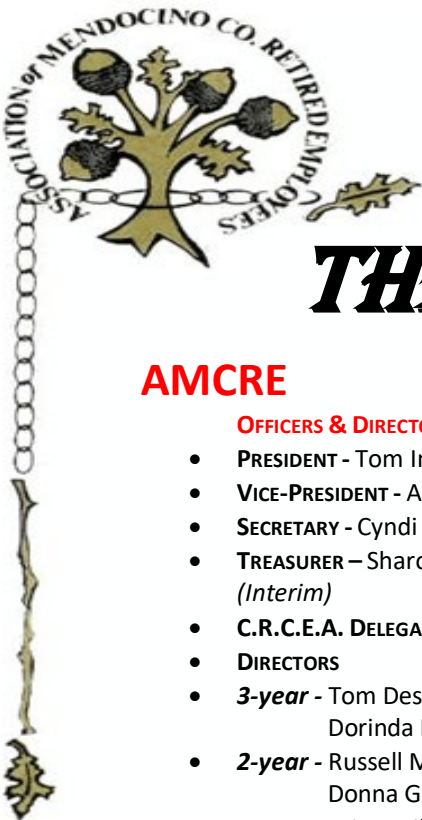
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U.S. Postage
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Ukiah, CA
Express-It

MOVING, or any
notification
changes?

NOTIFY AMCRE

Amcremendocino@gmail.com



FRIENDSHIP • UNITY • STRENGTH • GROWTH

THE CONNECTION

AMCRE

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

- **PRESIDENT** - Tom Ingram
- **VICE-PRESIDENT** - Anita Toste
- **SECRETARY** - Cyndi Montesonti
- **TREASURER** – Sharon Wedegaertner
(Interim)
- **C.R.C.E.A. DELEGATE** - Tom Ingram
- **DIRECTORS**
- **3-year** - Tom Desroches
Dorinda Kay Miller
- **2-year** - Russell McCutcheon
Donna Glass
- **1-year** - Brian Miller
- **1-year** – Juanie Cranmer

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Cyndi Montesonti
Marilyn Heath
Tom Ingram
Sharon Wedegaertner

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Dorinda Kay Miller

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Donna Glass

THE CONNECTION:

CO-EDITORS ~

Cyndi Montesonti
Dorinda Kay Miller

NON-ELECTED POSITIONS

August – September – October – November– December 2024

Co-Editors: Cyndi Montesonti & Dorinda Kay Miller