

Cal-Liope



MESSAGE FROM THE CALIFORNIA WORKFORCE CONNECTION **PRESIDENT**

By James Thomas, President

We are getting excited about the CWC Annual Educational Conference on May 5, 2023, at the Ontario Airport Hotel 700 N. Haven Ave, Ontario, Ca. 91764. We have a distinguished speaker's platform and an exceptional awards program, and it will be a great networking opportunity. We have the privilege of having Nancy Farias, Employment Development Department (EDD) Director, Jesse Cuevas, Division Chief of EDD, and Tiana Sanchez, Motivational Speaker. We believe this event contains one of the most diverse groups of leaders in the state of California.

We continue to support our communities in a variety of venues. Our organizational

goals are designed to enhance your skills, seek future advancements, share knowledge, and invest in yourself. We are interested in developing future leaders and promoting educational development programs. Investing in yourself allows individuals to always be prepared for upward mobility, increase leadership skills, and improve self-awareness. We are continuing to seek forward thinkers, creative minds, innovative personalities, and unlimited visionaries. We believe in you and your team-building skills.

CWC membership should take advantage of the Karl E. Bybee Educational Grant. The grant has eligibility criteria for interested members. If you have been a CWC member in good standing for 1 year,



PRESIDENT JAMES THOMAS

and recently completed training from an accredited training facility within a fiscal year. You can apply for reimbursement for some of the cost or all your costs up to \$750 in a fiscal year.

We hope our members read and enjoy the *Cal-Liope* Newsletter for activities and events from the Executive Board, District Directors, Chapter Presidents, and members. Some of the information provided is the

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NOMINATING CWC 2023-24 OFFICERS

By Melissa Lauritzen, CWC Immediate Past-President

The nomination process for electing the California State Officers for 2023-2024 is underway. Nominations can be sent to me at Ldrinfo@yahoo.com. The District Directors will be elected by their individual Districts at the State Educational Conference/Convention caucuses. The final voting will take place at the Annual Educational Conference/Convention on May 5, 2023. All California State Officers, District Directors, and Local Chapter Officers will be posted on the CWC website and sworn in at our State Conference on May 5, 2023.

The California State Officer positions and job descriptions are:

President
Previously served as one of the following:

- 1st Vice President
- 2nd Vice President

> Membership: Three years minimum
> Will be bonded by CWC (must be bondable)

First Vice President
Previously served as one of the following:

- 2nd Vice President
- District Director

> Membership: Three years minimum
> Will be bonded by CWC (must be bondable)

Second Vice President
Previously served as one of the following:

- District Director
- Local Chapter President, Officer, or Chairperson

> Membership: Two years minimum
> Will be bonded by CWC (must be bondable)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 FOR MORE OPPORTUNITIES

CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

President
JAMES THOMAS

First Vice President
VERLETTA "VAL" MOELLER

Second Vice President
ARLENE BAUTISTA

Treasurer
PHIL DWYER

Past President
MELISSA LAURITZEN

Secretary
NANETTE BOWMAN

Membership Coordinator
LUCELY TUT

Cal-Liope Editor
YVETTE QUEVEDO

District I Director
TANYA DAVIDSON

District II Director
FRED RUIBAL

District III Director
DADISI ELLIOTT

District IV Director
RAY CABRERA



Our association is dedicated to bringing education, opportunity, and innovation to all individuals with a common interest in workforce development

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FROM PAGE 1

President's Message, CWC Website, Retirement Message, Legislative Update, Personal Message, and Activities throughout the state.

The website gives current information on upcoming events, Zoom presentations, new program developments, Chapter calendars, and

District events. Visiting the website will keep you informed of events throughout the state.

NOMINATING CWC 2023-24 OFFICERS

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Join the California Workforce Team!

Treasurer

Previously served as one of the following:

- Local Chapter President, Officer, or Chairperson
- State Chapter Chairperson
- > Membership: Two years minimum
- > Pass background check
- > Minimum Education: AA degree
- > Basic Computer Skills
- > Knowledge of computerized accounting software
- > Background in accounting principles
- > Able to handle confidential information
- > Will be bonded by CWC (must be bondable)

Membership Coordinator

Previously served as one of the following:

- Local Chapter President, Officer, or Chairperson
- State Chapter Chairperson
- > Membership: Two years minimum
- > Pass background check
- > Minimum Education: AA degree
- > Advanced Computer Skills
- > Able to update and maintain an electronic database
- > Able to handle confidential information

Member, Karl E. Bybee Education Foundation Board

Previously served as one of the following:

- Local Chapter President, Officer, or Chairperson
- State Chapter Chairperson
- > Membership: Two years minimum
- > Be bondable
- > Will be bonded by CWC (must be bondable)

What's New On The Website?

By B.J. Sims, Website Administrator and Silicon Valley Chapter member

Streamlined Membership application which includes a new membership category for YEOP participants. The new application allows interested people to join, members to change membership payroll deductions status, members to renew or cancel their membership.

Learn about CWC 2023 Annual Conference Program Updates by visiting: Conference updates page. Confirmed speakers Bios are available there for EDD Director, Nancy Farias; Tiana Sanchez, Motivational speaker on Organizational Training and Development for Preparing Leaders and Jesses Cuevas, EDD Division Chief.

Find the updated 2023 Conference Flyer with registration and hotel reservation information, also posted on News and Events page. Conference online registration deadline is 4/18/23, so RSVP soon to take advantage of Early Bird prices which end April 1, 2023.

See who is nominated for an Award by checking the 2023 Award Nominees page.

See a new video posted on the Members Only Portal on 'Interviewing Techniques' presented by Michael Kane who offered insights on how to nail a job interview.

If you have not requested your Members Only access, just complete the Contact Us form, including your personal email address. After your membership is confirmed, you

will receive an email with your access information.

Our website is always looking for new, fresh information to communicate to members. The CWC website wants your Chapter's News and Events flyers, local chapter training and presentations, as well as educational articles. By sharing your flyers and articles on the website you can market and share them to a larger audience. Having them on the website will also highlight and recognize your efforts. Remember to share your flyer and articles with your Local Chapter President and District Director.

See how www.california-workforceconnection.org can help you get connected to what's happening!

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How To Progress Your Career

PART II

By Dinah White, Education Chair

Career progression is important for most people. Whether you want to progress your career by finding your next role in a new company, by nabbing an internal promotion, or just by creating your own progression through growth and pay rises. **Start setting your goals and plan.** You can't expect to make progress when you don't know where you're going. Being able to grow your career starts with knowing what you want to achieve, what success looks like for you, and what you can feasibly aim for in the next few months and years.

Take the time to think about where you see yourself in five or ten years. Do you still want to

be in your current company, or do you want to work somewhere else? What job do you want to have? What do you hope your salary will be? What experience and skills would you like to gain in that time? Once you've written all these objectives down, you can start working out a 'SMART' plan.

When you set goals for your career, you should always make sure they are SMART – specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and timely. It's not enough to just say, "I want to be more senior in my company by next year." Be specific about what senior means. Figure out how you're going to track your progress, make sure your goal is achievable, in line with your overall career goals, and within a realistic timeframe.

trainings, and activities.

Join Now has the updated fill able pdf membership form for download.

If you have a flyer or activity to post, please send it to the Website Administrator at bjtsims@gmail.com.

RETIREE MESSAGE

By Nanette Bowman,
Orange Empire Member



NANETTE BOWMAN

This is the fourth part of the series on research that shows you can help preserve your health and mobility as you age by adopting or continuing healthy habits and lifestyle choices. Read on to learn about common misconceptions related to aging and older adults. [.\(Source: https://www.nia.nih.gov/health\)](https://www.nia.nih.gov/health)

4. It is inevitable that older people will get dementia.

Dementia is not a normal part of aging. Although the risk of [dementia](#) grows as people get older, it is not inevitable, and many people live into their 90s and beyond without the significant declines in thinking and behavior that characterize dementia. Occasionally forgetting an appointment or losing your keys are typical signs of [mild forgetfulness](#), which is very common in normal aging. Nevertheless, you should [talk with a doctor](#) if you have serious concerns about your memory and thinking, or notice changes in your behavior and personality. These problems can have a range of different causes, some of which are treatable or reversible. Finding the cause is important for determining best next steps.

Sadly, we just learned of the passing of Audrey Baker, a devoted member of our association. She became a life member in 2008 and served on the state board as the retiree chair from 1999 to 2019. Audrey attended most board meetings and conventions. She never failed to arrange a reception for retirees for socializing and education. She is greatly missed. The picture taken in 2018 was the last time we saw her at a meeting.

You are so welcome to send me ideas for articles or share what you are up to – you know my email: nanettebowman@cox.net.

Stay well and stay in touch.



JEAN STEFANIK, MICHAEL WALLER, TOM SIMS, BEN TAKESH'TA, VERLETTA MOELLER, RAY CABRERA, BJ SIMS, AUDREY BAKER, AND NANETTE BOWMAN

NEW ON THE WEBSITE

FROM PAGE 2

The **About Us** page provides an overview about our organization and who is currently on the Board.

News & Events has flyers and information posted on State and current local chapters to let members know about upcoming meetings,

www.californiaworkforceconnection.org

Are you retiring? LET CWC KNOW!

Send that information to CWC to provide you with the retiree rate for CWC

CONTACT US

Did you just get a promotion to management? LET CWC KNOW!

Send your information to CWC to provide you with the manager rate for CWC

CONTACT US

Did you just recruit a new member to CWC from the almost 4,000 new hires in Unemployment Insurance? LET CWC KNOW!

Get that membership application mailed in and help your new friend get their Members Only Login on the CWC website

CONTACT US

CWC State Educational Conference Update

By Raymond Cabrera
Inland Empire member

All systems are GO.

The speakers are in place and the program is being finalized. The conference program will go to the printers later this month and enough programs will be printed for those who are attending. The same thing goes for the luncheon meals. It is in your best interest to place your registration as soon as possible.

Early registration ends on April 1, 2023.

Access the CWC website: www.californiaworkforceconnection.org and select the “News and Events” tab, then select “CWC Annual Educational Conference.” The flyer will give you all the information you will need to reach the Eventbrite online Registration. Remember, the awards luncheon is part of the cost of the conference. For those nominated, good luck.

MEET THE SPEAKERS



NANCY FARIAS
EDD DIRECTOR

Nancy Farias, Employment Development Department Director, has served as Chief Deputy Director of External Affairs, Legislation and Policy at the California Employment Development Department since 2020. Farias was Director of Government Relations at SEIU Local 1000 from 2017 to 2020. She was Deputy Chief of Staff in the Office of Senator Henry Stern from 2016 to 2017 and District Director at the Office of Assemblymember Mike Gatto from 2015 to 2016.

She was Deputy Secretary of Legislation at the Government Operations Agency from 2013 to 2016, Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs at the California Department of Human Resources from 2012 to 2013 and Legislative Director at SEIU Local 1000 from 2009 to 2012. Farias was Senior Vice President at Smith, Ruddock & Hayes from 2008 to 2009 and an Associate at Wolkon & Pascucci LLP from 2002 to 2008. Farias earned a Master of Science degree in Political Science from Suffolk University and a Juris Doctor degree from Suffolk University Law School.

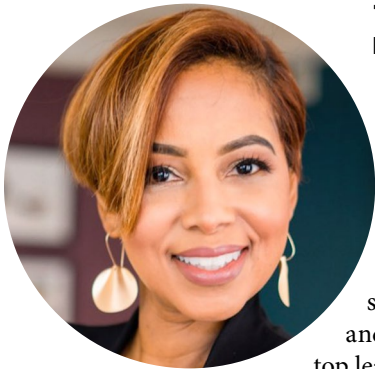


JESSE CUEVAS
EDD DIVISION CHIEF

Jesse Cuevas is the Chief for the Los Angeles/Coastal Workforce Services Division for the State of California Employment Development Department (EDD). He has over 25 years of experience in workforce development and unemployment insurance programs. As the State’s representative in the workforce development policies and implementation, he serves on both the Los Angeles County and City Workforce Development Boards. He is also part of the Executive Leadership Team for the Workforce Services Branch.

Following the COVID19 pandemic, Jesse played an invaluable role in the Department’s ongoing efforts to strengthen the state’s workforce services system and implement improvements to better support hardworking Californians when they needed it most, including the introduction of hybrid and virtual services across the state. The LACWSD has administrative oversight of 12 distinct local workforce development areas within LA County/ City and the Coastal Cities, including Oxnard, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey and Santa Cruz.

He began his career with EDD in 1998 as a Student Assistant in the Youth Employment Opportunity Program (YEOP) and has worked in various classifications throughout his career, including an assignment in the EDD Directors Office.



TIANA SANCHEZ
KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Tiana Sanchez is CEO and Founder of TSI, LLC a Woman-Owned Small Business preparing leaders to achieve next-level results in employee engagement. For over a decade, Tiana has served as a Corporate Trainer and Business Consultant to top leaders in both the public and private sectors across the U.S.

She is a #1 best-selling author, producer, and host of a global podcast that inspires thousands of people in more than 26 countries. She is recognized as an Award-Winning Executive Coach and recipient of the Women of Distinction Award.

Her passion for raising the bar in people development spawned through years in management that was honed during an impressive and long-standing career in the Retail, Food and Beverage, and Financial industries. A pivotal moment in her career is when she was appointed by the CEO to the Strategic Planning team, sparking her interest in organizational culture and establishing her as a skilled speaker.

In 2011 Tiana launched Tiana Sanchez International, LLC an Organizational Training and Development practice that is committed to helping individuals build up key competencies that help them perform better in their careers.

Tiana is a sought-after speaker and has served innovative enterprises and educational institutions including BuzzFeed, Mercedes Benz, BMW Group, Sony Pictures, Psomas, Stanford, UCLA, Cal State LA, Cal Maritime Academy, and UC Merced to name a few. Her books *Undefeatable* and *The UPSide of Failure* have been featured in the media and can be found on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

She resides in sunny Southern California with her husband and their two children.

PRESIDENTS RECEPTION

By Ray Cabrera, Conference Chair, Inland Empire

At this year’s CWC State Educational Conference and Convention President’s Reception, the theme is going to be Hawaiian. Right after the CWC Board meeting on Thursday, May 4, 2023 we will have a get-together reception where all the candidates can speak on their qualifications for State Office. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions of the candidates.

If any member wishes to attend the Board meeting, it is an open to all members, and the reception that will follow. The Board meeting will start promptly at 9:00 a.m. and the Presidents Reception will follow at 6:00 p.m.

We hope to see you there!



2023 CWC STATE AWARD NOMINEES

By Arlene Bautista, CWC State Chapter 2nd Vice President

Below is the list of nominees submitted by staff and management. Do you see your name? Don’t forget to register for the conference. Early registration ends March 31, 2023.

Keep in mind, for those awards that are only given to CA Chapter Members, CA Chapter membership is required in both the year during which the activity occurred (2022) and the year in which the nomination was submitted (2023).

INDIVIDUAL NOMINEES

Able Aguilar	Angelica Gonzalez	Porsha Singh
Francisco Avila	Renee Gonzalez	Michael Sir
Donald Barnes	Susana Gonzalez	Jean Stringer
Marlene Barnes	George Haih	Sandy Thongkham
Daniel Brizuela	Justin Jennell	Kendall Tidwell
Magdalena Brooks	Jessica Linares	Jeremy Tom
Alicia Brown	Alyssa Lopez	Thuy Tran
Gloria Cabral	Michelle Loveman	Andrew Tsai
Henry Cabrera	Heather Maples	Hoi-Ki (Rosa) Tsui x
Maria Cannon	Julio Martin	Fabian Valencia
Jaime Casarin	Alan McKean	Matthew Wallace
Maria Cerda	Allyson Murrey	Daryl Weather-
Alberto Cruz	Chieu-Anh Nguyen	spoon
AnaPatricia Curiel	Kimberly Nunez	Secret Winbush
Lucia DeSalomon	Claudia Ornelas	Rhonda Woo-
Thach Dinh	Jenna Rhodes	ten-Savino
Alma Dreier	Victoria Rosales	Mariela Zamora
Rebecca Eusey	Abraham Saucedo	
Ariel Garcia	Yasmin Silvestri	

GROUP NOMINEES

- RESEA Tea
- DE4365FF Pilot Program Team
- Group Appeals Mgmt. Team UI 017
- Group Appeals Team UI019
- Group Attendance Clerk Team UI 017
- Group Claim Filing Mentors Team UI 019
- Group Determinations Mentor Team UI 019
- Group Fraud Detection Team DI219
- Group Garden Grove EDD Team WS 042
- Group Inglewood UI Center Rapid Response Team
- Group OP Managers UI 017
- Group UIC Riverside Management Team #040

DISTRICT II

By Fred Ruibal & James Thomas

District II CWC participated in the 2023 Bowl-A-Thon at the Earl Anthony Bowl in Dublin, California on January 21. This was the second time we had this event at Earl Anthony Bowl. In previous years it was held at Clover Leaf Bowl in Fremont, but unfortunately, they closed to make way for a new housing development, which seems to be the trend these days. We had the pleasure of having a hello from Paula Castro, retired EPM II manager from San Jose UI. She has usually joined us in bowling in the past but was unable to participate this time, but stopped by along with a friend of hers. She wished each team good luck and may the best team win.

The event turned out to be fun and exciting as it always is! Before bowling, the district had a meeting with its members, which of course includes East Bay and Silicon Valley. After meeting business, the district then had its Bowl-A-Thon. The proceeds collected for bowling usually go to the charity of the winning chapter's choice.

Representing East Bay was George Kawamata and Val Moeller of the Cabrillo Del Rio Chapter, who kindly represented East Bay. Representing Silicon Valley were James Thomas and Fred Ruibal. As the two teams were assembled, you could see them sizing each other up, the gleam in their eyes, wanting to be the winning team to take the trophy home. The first ball was thrown, and as eight pins fell, you could hear the cheers from both teams. Strikes are always exciting. The teams gave each other high fives, even with the opposing players, as is the sportsman-like thing to do after all! You could see each team tabulating the scores in their heads even before the final ball was thrown! Each team wanted to be the highest scorer even if only one team could have that honor. This honor went to East Bay, for the overall high score, and congrats to them! The honorable mention for the most strikes went to James Thomas! The highest Individual score went to Val Moeller! I had the pleasure of getting the most Gutter Balls! A dishonorable mention I suppose, but a mention all the same!

All in all, it turned out great, especially with the cheering section giving everyone a "we will win" attitude. After the game, we had prizes to give out to the participants, which also of course included trophies! We are already getting hyped for next year's game. Everyone has a chance to win! But you can't win if you don't participate! So please join us next year, and let's get bowling!



FROM LEFT: FRED RUIBAL, JAMES THOMAS, VAL MOELLER, ARLENE BAUTISTA, SHARON LAWRENCE, AND GEORGE KAWAMATA



FRED RUIBAL

DISTRICT III

By Verletta (VAL) Moeller

Cabrillo Del Rio Member, District III Awards Co-Chair

District III hosted their annual Award Recognition event on Saturday, February 11, 2023. The Denim & Diamonds Awards Gala was held at The Centre in Lakewood. Thanks to the awards committee, we had a very successful event. We would especially like to thank our sponsors: Optimum Seismic, Revolution National Pest Council, Inc., and the Veterans Advocacy Group of America.

Congratulations to all nominees who received Certificates of Excellence. You are all winners! Prince James Reed-Williams, Employment Program Manager I, Compton Workforce Services (WS), served as the Master of Ceremonies.

Ken Gomez, Region 2 Deputy Division Chief, LA Coastal Workforce Services Division and District III Director Dadisi Elliott welcomed the attendees. CWC State Chapter President James Thomas was also in attendance.

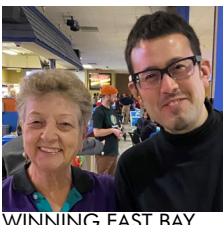
Esau Marquez, Disability Insurance Program Manager made the presentation to the following winners. Employee Performance – Jacob Sutton, Van Nuys DI; Customer Service – Carisa Woods and Delia Flores-Martinez, Long Beach DI; Customer Service Group - Van Nuys Program Technician (PT) Team – Justin Norman, Veronica Disabato, Samantha Galipo, Maria Singson, and Yolanda Selina Lopez. Honorable Mention went to the Van Nuys OJT Team – Ray Yuvienco, Vahan Shahenian, and Stella Markosyan.

Matthew Pierson, Employment Development Administrator Inglewood Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Shanetta Johnson, Employment Program Representative, Inglewood UI, made the presentation to the following winners.

Employee Performance Management Group – Renee Almaraz, Pleshette Burrell, Frank Capitulo, Rina Carr, Luis Chavez, Ceneal Croxton, Eliza Euwing, Mark Fang, Mia Gist, Doreen Goldsmith, Sharonda Grimit, Francisco Huerta, Shanetta Johnson, La Tresa Kidd, Francisco Lindaya, Dionisio Ople, Maritza Osorio, Tracie Ponds, Irene Preciado, Vance Richards, Maria Shintani, Delores Vargas, Kim Ward, Vahe Yeghiayan, Fredrick Warren, Linda Phu, Nadia Moreno, Abel Monreal, Loranda Cutrer, and Matthew Pierson.

There were three nominations for UI Customer Service: Inglewood Rapid Response Team, Inglewood Peer Mentor Team, and Inglewood Emergency Employer Response Team. The winning team was the Inglewood Employer Response Team, members: Eliza Euwing, Irene Preciado, Francisco Huerta, Abel Monreal, Hope Aldama, Sonia Alvarez, Antoinette Carter Collins, America Cortez, Althea Chang, Harold Fisher, Otis Hollins Jr., Eric Morgan, Margie Sanchez, Katherine Smith, Janet Alexander, Faraz Aqil, Veronica Delatorre, Charles Freeman, Jacqueline Nichols, Nam Tram, Maria Villegas, Kacie Love, Arlene Carrillo, Raylena Ruiz, Laura Noe-Hernandez, Sylvia Gentry, Lisa Smith, Quenton Tatum, and Loranda Cutrer.

Honorable Mention went to the other two Inglewood UI



WINNING EAST BAY TEAM MEMBERS VAL MOELLER AND GEORGE KAWAMATA

MORE DISTRICT NEWS CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



FROM LEFT: DADISI ELLIOTT, PRINCE JAMES REED-WILLIAMS, EMMANUEL EYO, STERLING BARBOUR, KEN GOMEZ, AND TOVA BARBOURO



FROM LEFT: DADISI ELLIOTT, ADRIANA RIOS, ARMENAG CHEMSIAN, LYDIA AGUILERA, CHEN (JOSH) CHENG, & DIANA HERNANDEZ (PASADENA BUSINESS SERVICES TEAM-GROUP CUSTOMER SERVICE WINNER)



FROM LEFT: DADISI ELLIOTT, DISTRICT III DIRECTOR WITH THE DISTRICT DIRECTOR DIAMOND AWARD WINNERS

DISTRICT III NEWS FROM PAGE 6

groups: Peer Mentor Team of Cristina Arballo, Bridgette Hewings, April McKinley, and Maritza Osorio and Rapid Response Team of Marco Martinez, Yesenia Olvera, Farrah Pleasant, and Maritza Osorio.

Services to Veterans awards were presented by Tova Barbour, President Veterans Advocacy Group of America and Sterling Barbour, President Revolution National Pest Council, both sponsors for this event. There were two nominees for the Individual award – Alan McKean and Roxana Gomez. The winner was Alan McKean, San Luis Obispo. There was one group nomination – **the Los Angeles South Bay Vet Group** (pictured above left) – members David Uyematsu, Jesse Tobar, Emmanuel Eyo, Mark Gray, and Prince James Reed-Williams.

The Workforce Services Employee Performance Awards were presented by Cesar Valladares, Region 1 Deputy Division Chief. These are the winners: Customer Service Representative Rosario Sandoval, East LA Office and Employment Program Manager III Katrena Carruthers, Cluster Manager for Compton/Long Beach/West Los Angeles.

Ken Gomez, Region 2 Deputy Division Chief presented the Customer Service awards for Workforce Services. There were four individual nominees – Jessica Landaverde, Gloria Castillo, Evelyn Lopez, and Tatianna Smith. The winner was Evelyn Lopez, Oxnard Office. Sade Washington was the management winner from the Culver City office.

There were two nominees for Group Customer Services. The winner was the **Pasadena Business Service Team** (pictured above center) – members Armen Chemsian, Jose Garcia Hernandez, Lydia Aguilera, Jennifer Carrillo, and Josh Cheng. The Compton Workforce Services Office received special recognition for their response to the flooding of the office in September. Members are: Christopher Akizuki, Dana Burks, Stephanie Dickerson, Jose Gonzalez, Jessica Hernandez, Alex Lares, Tammie Lee, Madelyn McQueen Whaley, Michelle Miller, Rose Munoz, Alejandra Renteria-Lara, Anthony Sanchez, Dimetrios Vandiegriff, and Carlos Zambrano.

I was privileged to present the **Awards of Distinction. The individual winner was Mr. Ali Sahabi, Chief Operating Officer Optimum Seismic.** Mr. Sahabi is a longtime supporter of District III CWC. His company was also a major sponsor for the event. The group winner was the West LA Employer Advisory Council. The award was accepted by President Willa Robinson, a



FROM LEFT: DADISI ELLIOTT, AWARDS OF DISTINCTION OF DISTINCTION INDIVIDUAL WINNER SAHABI, AND VAL MOELLER



FROM LEFT: AWARDS PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS: TOVA BARBOUR, SHANETTA JOHNSON, CANDY WILLIAMS, VAL MOELLER, DADISI ELLIOTT, DIAH WHITE, AND STERLING BARBOUR WITH JAMES THOMAS, CWC PRESIDENT, IN THE BACK.

retiree member of CWC, and I'm sure some of you recognize her name as a former EDD Manager.

There were three special **District Director Diamond Awards** (pictured above right) presented to Ken Gomez, Matthew Pierson, and Cesar Valladares for their continued and enthusiastic support of District III CWC.

This kind of event takes a team to accomplish. Thanks to the **Awards Committee team** of Dinah White, Tyrone Carroll Jr., Candy Williams, Shanetta Johnson, Tova and Sterling Barbour, Prince James Reed-Williams, and Dadisi Elliott for a successful event!

Congratulations to all award winners!



PUERTO DEL SOL CHAPTER

INTERVIEWING TECHNIQUES

By Denette Dunn, Puerto Del Sol Membership Chair

The Puerto Del Sol (PDS) chapter of the California Workforce Connection (CWC) was pleased to host an amazing virtual 'Interviewing Techniques Workshop' presented by Michael Kane, Employment Development Administrator at the Anaheim Unemployment Insurance Center UIC) on January 23, 2023, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Kane has worked at the Employment Development Department (EDD) for 34 years in a variety of leadership roles. He has held managerial positions at offices in Los Angeles, Compton, East Los Angeles, Inglewood, and Buena Park. He has been involved with the CWC for many years conducting workshops, serving as Master of Ceremony, keynote speaker, and penning articles, so his reputation precedes him.

MORE CHAPTER NEWS CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

PUERTO DEL SOL CHAPTER NEWS FROM PAGE 7

The workshop was an excellent opportunity for everyone regardless of where they are in their employment path, just starting or looking for a change or promotion, to strengthen their interviewing skills. One of Mr. Kane's favorite quotes, and he has many, comes from Norman Vincent Peale: "Change your thoughts and you change your world." Start by asking yourself is what I am doing today getting me closer to where I want to be tomorrow? Goals lead to actions and actions lead to reality.

Realistically, interviews begin before any application is ever submitted on how we choose to invest in ourselves through professional development activities. More examples were provided than this article allows room for me to list, but think rotational assignments, training and development, classes, coaching/ mentoring, and networking (think CWC) to name a few. It's important to consider how other actions can be helpful in the pursuit of our ambitions. Think along the lines of performance reviews, how well you work with others, your work ethic, references, work/life balance, and things of that nature.

Several tips were offered to prepare yourself for the interview, such as getting a good night's sleep, avoiding conflict and annoyances, having an updated and error-free State Application with tips on how to ensure it meets the mark, writing a compelling Statement of Qualifications (SOQ), and conducting research to learn all you can about the position, job duties, and the employer to name just a few.

Additional insight regarding the importance of effective communication techniques, whether in the form of verbal, non-verbal, visual, writing, or listening was also addressed. Examples of these might be waiting for permission to be seated, dressing for success, body language, greetings, eye contact, proper language, and diction, and tooting your own horn. You get the idea.

It is also important to be aware of some common mistakes to avoid such as not being personable, not tooting your own horn, not dressing professionally, being too comfortable with the panel, not acting professionally, and rambling responses to questions are among the top common mistakes.

This article is just a summary of many recommendations provided. If you were not able to attend the live event, please consider becoming a CWC member and watch the recorded version available under the TRAINING link located on the upper right-hand side in the blue bar of the CWC homepage. You will find several training topics to choose from in the library. Watch one or watch them all. Enjoy.

INVENTING YOUR LIFE

"The Color Between Leaves"

By Rob Claudio, Orange Empire

During an extended holiday weekend, I was able to catch up on several films that had been on my to-watch list. One that caught me by surprise was a film titled *Local Color*. It was an older film from 2009. However, it was one of those that matched my profile based on other films I have watched. When one turns out to be way better than expected I am always very pleasantly surprised, especially when it moves me to write something about it.

This story is about an aspiring young artist who loves painting and other arts. When he finds out that a famous retired painter lives near him, he does everything he can to meet the artist, and when presented with the opportunity he also asks him if he can teach him about painting. The film is so much more than about painting. It had many blended life teachings in it which I find fascinating in what life lessons can teach us about our journey on this earth.

Armin Mueller-Stahl plays the part of the tortured retired artist who sees so many things wrong in the world and the lack of appreciation of beauty that is being ignored by many of today's contemporary painters. For the rest of the story, I will let you find some time to immerse yourself in a great little film.

I wanted to focus on a few of the artist's specific lines which touched me as he was attempting to teach a young eager student. In one scene the young man shows him a collection of portraits that he has already painted and wants to be critiqued. The artist looks at all his paintings and simply tells him that he is painting through the eyes of what others have already seen. In a poignant moment, he imparts the wisdom he has accumulated through his many years of living, that one must look at life through one's own eyes and not through someone else's. I loved this because it reminded me of the many lessons that others try to teach us and yet our most valuable tutorials are learned from the mistakes that we each made and how we reacted to them afterward.

Another favorite moment was to look through the trees and see how the light which comes through the leaves paints a greater picture for us than the actual tree itself. This was another teaching moment on ways to see beyond what we sometimes think is right in front of our noses. Think of the many times you may have been in a situation where you could not find the answer or outcome that was wished for. In many of those instances, it was not until after we had a breakthrough in a personal situation, that we realized the response that we sought was often much simpler than what we thought.

I could go on dissecting the many other lessons the artist teaches this young man. However, at the end of it, you feel the life teachings which were imparted went far beyond painting substantial and meaningful portraits. The film provided me with many reminders about what is truly important in our lives. Among them was the need to connect to others, to help people when you are able, and how many of the true joys in our lives come from very simple little things, which in many instances cost little to nothing at all.

I hope that all of you take time consistently to appreciate the multitude of beauty that is already part of your life, even as unexciting as it may seem. Remember that witnessing a beautiful sunrise or a spectacular sunset with someone to watch it with you as a bonus, can make for a joy-filled day. Finally, also pay attention to the colors that you see between the leaves, the clouds, and the stars, along with other nature views that we all may take for granted. There is beauty all around us, we just have to train our eyes to see it. Finally, take a moment to appreciate all the wonders of nature, especially when you find a moment that can easily take your breath away as it fills your heart to the rim with gratitude for having been a witness to it.

Remember to follow the blog at: inventingyourlife.blogspot.com



ROB CLAUDIO



California Workforce Connection Annual Education Conference Registration Form

May 5, 2023

Ontario Airport Hotel
700 N. Haven Ave.
Ontario, Ca 91764

Room reservations are \$125.00/\$135.00 plus tax for single/double (deadline 4/8/2023)
Hotel registration [LINK](#) before 4/8/2023 to get this rate.

Free shuttle from Ontario Airport and self-parking

Register Early and Save! – Postmark your Registration by April 3, 2023

Lunch included in price.

[Eventbrite Online Registration Link](#) Ends April 18, 2023 (Processing Fees Apply)

Early Registration Prices: Member \$65 Non-Member \$75 Retiree \$50 Member \$45 OYEOP \$35

After April 3, 2023: Member \$75 Non-Member \$85 Retiree \$55 Member \$55 OYEOP \$40

2023 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Complete and mail this form (one form per person) with your check (payable to CWC) Attn: Yvette Quevedo, 319 S. Sentous Ave., West Covina, Ca 91792

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail: _____

Home Phone Number: _____ Work Phone Number: _____

Local Office Name and ARU #: _____

Are you a member? Yes No If yes which Chapter _____

Check Number: _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Meal choices (Select one): Herb Roasted Chicken ____ Marinated Tri-tip Roast ____

Please indicate dietary restrictions: _____

Registration Non-Refundable

★ 2023 CWC EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE ★

Embracing Change & Transformation



May 5, 2023

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Held at the
Ontario Airport Hotel
700 N. Haven
Ave. Ontario, CA 91764

[Click for Hotel Link](#)



Nancy Farias
EDD Director



Jesse Cuevas
EDD Division Chief



Tiana Sanchez
Motivational Speaker

Early Registration Prices:

- Member: \$65
- Retirees: \$50
- Permanent Intermittent: \$45
- YEOP: \$35
- Non-Member: \$75

After April 3, 2023:

- Member: \$75
- Retirees: \$55
- Permanent Intermittent: \$55
- YEOP: \$40
- Non-Member: \$85

AWARDS LUNCHEON Noon - 2 p.m.

Registration is Non-refundable

[Eventbrite Online Registration Link](#) Ends April 18, 2023 (Processing fees apply)

For questions, contact: caworkforceconnection@gmail.com

Or visit the CWC website for updates: www.californiaworkforceconnection.org



**California
Workforce
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EDUCATION* INNOVATION* OPPORTUNITY



Membership Application

New Update Renewal Cancellation

Date:

Mail application and payments to: **CWC Membership Coordinator**, P.O. Box 7858, Oxnard, CA 93031
or email application to cwcworkforceconnection@gmail.com (mail payment, if applicable)

*Full Name:	First	Last		
*Local Chapter:	Select chapter you want to join	Telephone:		
*Personal email:				
*Address:				
*Employer:		*Location:		
*Job Title:		ARU#		*Bargaining Unit #:

*Type of Member	Annual Dues	*Payment Option
<input type="radio"/> Employment Development Department (EDD) Employee (Bargaining Unit 1 or 4)**	\$48.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Automatic Deduction (\$4.00) <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Check *SSN:
<input type="radio"/> EDD Supervisor/Exempt Employee**+	\$0.00	*SSN:
<input type="radio"/> Other State Employee (Non-EDD)** <i>Refer to your Bargaining Unit Contract for possible reimbursement</i>	\$98.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Automatic Deduction (\$8.17) <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Check *SSN:
<input type="radio"/> Partner (Non-EDD)	\$98.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Check
<input type="radio"/> EDD Student/Youth Assistant**	\$36.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Automatic Deduction (\$3.00) <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Check *SSN:
<input type="radio"/> Retiree	\$36.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Check

I recognize that the processing of this form/payment may take 1-3 months. If I have selected the **Automatic Deduction** option, I hereby authorize the State Controller's Office (SCO) to automatically deduct from my salary each month the amount listed above and transmit, as designated, an amount for membership dues to the CWC; I understand that processing may take 2-3 pay periods. If I have selected the **cash or check** option, I hereby agree to be sent annual dues renewal invoices (**make check payable to: CWC**). I agree to provide my full social security number, which will be kept confidential. I certify that I am now a member of the CWC and allow the organization to establish, change, and/or cancel my deduction, as applicable. I understand that this authorization will remain in effect until I submit a written request to the CWC Membership Coordinator to terminate my membership and cancel any deduction, as appropriate. I also understand that the CWC organization does not issue refunds for unused dues or the months taken for processing.

*Signature: _____ *Date: _____

Name of Recruiter (if applicable): _____

* Required

** If you do not wish to provide your Social Security Number (SSN), then you must pay the full membership dues for that type of member by cash or check.

+ For this membership type, if you do not wish to supply the SSN, then the amount due is \$98.00.