

Join CWC
The Professional
Association
For Workforce
Professionals

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Page 2

President's Message

Page 2

CWC: Help Wanted!

Page 3

Retiree Corner

Page 3

Workforce Development
is Crucial

Page 4

Why You Should Serve

Page 4

New on the Website

Page 5

State Nominations Sought

Page 5

Toll Trust Award Details

Page 6

Bybee Grant Tips

Page 6

Ray Cabrera: Hello Fresno!

Page 7

Inventing Your Life

Page 8-9

Around the State:
District & Chapter News

Page 10

Membership Form

CWC STATE OFFICERS 2023/2024



President
**James
Thomas**



First
Vice President
**Val
Moeller**



Second
Vice President
**Arlene
Bautista**



Membership
Coordinator
**Lucely
Tut**



Treasurer
**Phil
Dwyer**



Bybee
**Arlene
Bautista**



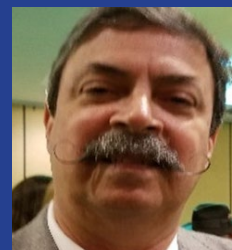
District 1
Director
**Tanya
Davidson**



District 2
Director
**Fred
Ruibal**



District 3
Director
**Dadisi
Elliott**



District 4
Director
**Raymond
Cabrera**

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

MESSAGE FROM THE CALIFORNIA WORKFORCE CONNECTION **PRESIDENT**

*By Dr. James Thomas, President,
Silicon Valley member*

We are excited to begin the year with our newly elected state officers. We have begun planning training, leadership workshops, and skill building programs. CWC will be taking advantage of zoom presentations to enhance leadership skills for individuals. Our presentations and workshops will focus on leadership development, promoting teamwork, and morale building. We want the membership actively involved at the State, Local Chapter, and District meetings to stay informed of activities. We continue to offer networking possibilities to meet new professionals and offer career development opportunities. We want everyone to be informed of what CWC has to offer for the membership.

We are dedicated to supporting our communities where we live. CWC will offer

guidance designed for skills development, information sharing, and advancement techniques. This is the opportunity to invest in you. We seek future leaders with visionary concepts and a willingness to share knowledge. Investing in yourself will open the door toward upward mobility, increased leadership skills, and improved self-awareness. We promote innovative thinking, creativity, insightful development, and idealistic visionaries. We believe in you and your abilities to be successful.

CWC membership should take advantage of the Karl E. Bybee Educational Grant. The grant has eligibility criteria for members who are interested. If you have been a CWC member in good standing for one year, and recently completed training from an accredited training facility within the fiscal year, visit our website to obtain more information.



PRESIDENT DR. JAMES THOMAS

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 supplied is the President's Message, CWC Website, Retirement Message, Legislative Update, 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.

HELP NEEDED

CWC Seeks To Fill Position For: Executive Office Manager/Cal-Liope Editor

The Executive Office Manager/ Cal-Liope Editor/ Salary \$325 (Monthly)

Editing, and electronic distribution of the Organization's Newsletter, the Cal-Liope.

(1) Provides the Finance Committee the estimated costs for publishing the Cal-Liope. The contracted service will provide the cost for the new fiscal year.

(2) Establishes the deadline for receipt of materials for each issue: e.g., articles, new items, reports, publicity, pictures, etc.

(3) Receives news or updates from CWC officers,

committee chairpersons, Local Chapter presidents and other sources for distribution.

(4) Included in the *Cal-Liope*:

a. Notices, events, trainings, CWC Conventions, and Educational Conferences.

b. Reports of meetings of the CWC Board of Directors.

c. Local Chapter activities or events.

d. Awards programs and contests.

e. Notice of any change in the amount of the annual dues.

f. Information about candidates for CWC offices.

(5) Will send an alert to

the EDD Directorates office that the *Cal-Liope* is available online for all EDD employees distribution.

Maintains the Executive Office for the CWC by teleworking from home. Equipment and supplies provided by CWC. Maintains a digital/or original records, files and archives of all CWC correspondence.

(1) Receives and files reports presented to the CWC Board of Directors or membership in Convention by CWC officers and committees, Local Chapters, the Karl E.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

OFFICE MANAGER SOUGHT

FROM PAGE 2

Bybee Education Foundation Board, etc.

(2) Receives the files, equipment, records and supplies of any special committees whose terms expire and disposes of them as directed by the CWC Board of Directors.

Notifies the Secretary of State, at the beginning of the Administrative Year, of the name and address of the new President, Treasurer and Executive Office Manager. Such notification is required by law. The address of the CWC's principal office is not changed when new officers take office. New office address: XXXX XXXXX, CA Zip code.

Billing Process for EDD

i. The Membership Coordinator by July 15 will send two alphabetical membership lists, one for Rank & File and one for Exempt, that need to be submitted to EDD. These lists need to be submitted to EDD within five days of receipt from the Membership Coordinator for the validation of membership.

ii. When the lists are returned by EDD, these lists need to be sent to the Membership Coordinator within five days of receipt.

iii. The list process may involve several back and forth returns until the list information is verified.

iv. When the validation process is completed, the Membership Coordinator will send the validated lists to the Executive Office Manager for submission to EDD.

v. Send billing letters to the Controller's Office once the information is verified.

vi. Will maintain communications via email, video conferencing, texting or by phone with the CWC President, Executive Board, and the Board of Directors.

Qualification for the position:

1. Knowledge of Photoshop and other computer software platforms such as Adobe to create, edit, and update documents for *Cal-Liope* use.

2. Work history for the last two years to include skills in Word, Excel, WordPress, etc.

3. Permit a background check.

4. Prefer a person with an AA degree.

5. Must be bondable.

6. Be able to maintain a working relationship with the Marketing Chair Team.

7. Provide two samples of written materials with resume.

8. Must be a CWC member.

Please respond with your resume and written examples by close of business August 31, 2023, to:

Dr. James Thomas at: zelodisjt@gmail.com or

Val Moeller at: retire2k07@aol.com

RETIREE MESSAGE

By Nanette Bowman, Orange Empire Member

This is the sixth of a ten-part 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>)

If a family member has Alzheimer's disease, I will have it, too.

A person's chance of having Alzheimer's disease may be higher if he or she has a family history of dementia because there are some genes that we know increase risk. However, having a parent with Alzheimer's does not necessarily mean that someone will develop the disease. Learn about your family health history and talk with your doctor about your concerns.

Environmental and lifestyle factors, such as exercise, diet, exposure to pollutants, and smoking also may affect a person's risk for Alzheimer's. While you cannot control the genes you inherited, you can take steps to stay healthy as you age, such as getting regular exercise, controlling high blood pressure, and not smoking. Learn more about Alzheimer's genetics and what we know about preventing Alzheimer's disease.

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.



NANETTE BOWMAN

Workforce Development is Crucial

By Dinah White, State and Los Angeles Education Chair

Recent years have seen a rapid rise in technology at work. Machines and automation have shaken up historically concrete roles and resulted in high turnover rates and a shift in necessary job skill sets. When organizations overlook the people building their business, they risk losing talent that can grow and mold with the company. Workforce development prioritizes human development and boosts morale, retention, and productivity.

Workforce development keeps your personnel prepared for the future, equipped to handle further technological changes or skill demands. It also expands the value they provide to your organization, encouraging multi-faceted roles that are less likely to phase out with modern technology.

There are several benefits of workforce development, for both you and your employees.

Job satisfaction – When employees feel a sense of belonging, ownership, and purpose, they are likely to feel happier, work harder, and stay longer. Workforce development encourages employees to feel like assets to the business and bottom line, encourages feelings of job security and satisfaction.

Lower turnover – Investing in your employees is investing in fundamental business needs. Founders and leaders who hire to grow tend to find more success than those who hire to simply outsource or check a box. Employees who feel neglected or taken for granted will look elsewhere. Although navigating the job market is always a tough task, skilled workers will do so to find a job that suits and appreciates them.

Better morale – Wise employers realize that work is just one part of their employees' lives and that is OK. By positively developing your workforce, you provide more value to your employees than a paycheck. You create room for creative, innovative thinking and provide the confidence needed to try new things and test new theories. Only then can your company grow and stand out among competitors.

Increased productivity – Unnecessary stress from work can

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Why You Should Serve on the Board of a Local or State Chapter

By Nanette Bowman,
Orange Empire

Serving on the Orange Empire Chapter Board provides experience with developing and demonstrating leadership ability. Promotional examinations and orals often ask the applicant to describe leadership assignments and examples including results. Volunteering for the California Workforce Connection (CWC) is a safe environment. You can learn more about your strengths and weaknesses where you can build and overcome them safely.

Other board members become your mentors and your role models. The team is comprised of staff at all levels from multiple branches and each one is an equal partner.

Some of our members may feel they have reached the apex of their careers and would not benefit from serving on the Board. Journey level

staff, happy with their work assignment, might gain insight into resources that improve their service to clients. Managerial staff might have the same experience. Both levels can expand knowledge of other offices and agencies' operations as well as open opportunities for promotions, other assignments, or transfers.

Attending meetings and conferences provides a forum to interact with executive staff and peers – putting a face with their name. It tends to ease some tension if you walk into an interview and see the familiar face of someone you met on one of these occasions. When you step up to make an introduction at an event you make an impression on a person who might make hiring/transfer decisions.

Few people do not feel challenged by writing an article or preparing a speech, but it keeps us going. I

enjoy meeting fresh board members and watching them demonstrate their skills. This is an exciting time and I look forward to sitting back to observe as they thrive.

Volunteering with this organization, known by the various names, has never been a burden to me. As the years go by, I consider this one of my anti-aging activities. Through this connection, I stay in touch with old and new friends statewide. Another reason to stay involved after retirement.

My initial motivation to get involved with the local chapter board was to observe how the organization was using my \$25 annual dues. That was about 1980. I was invited to conference planning meetings and was impressed with the dedication of the committee members to hosting a successful event. I moved from Office Representative to each elected chair position and finally became President

of Orange Empire in 1990. I did not aspire to be President because of my fear of public speaking. Strangely enough when the microphone was in my hand it did not seem so scary. It is easy to speak on a subject you believe in to a friendly, supportive audience. Representing the Orange Empire at my first California Chapter Board meeting was overwhelming. It takes a while to really 'get' what is going on, so I did not participate in discussions. Since our chapter was taking top awards, I was encouraged to get more involved and even run for a California officer position. That certainly was not on my agenda, but I did serve either as a committee chair or other officer continuously to this day. Just to let you know where I am going with this story, my goal is to attempt to share some of the benefits and encourage YOU to become more involved with CWC.

What's New On The Website!

www.californiaworkforceconnection.org

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

New on the CWC website:

You can see 2023 Nominees and Award Winners at the State Conference on Award Page.

Posted on the News and Events Page are the New Officers and local chapter upcoming event flyers.

New on the Members Only Portal, you can find:

On the Board Tab are the recent Board reports from the meeting on May 4.

On the Training Tab are

the 2023 Conference Videos available for viewing.

Also On the Training Tab members can view a new SOQ video.

A new tab – Gallery is being filled with 2023 Conference pictures.

The Resource tab has information for local Chapters about the Patricia M. Thornton Education Fund Application and guidelines. Also available is an updated Planning Calendar fillable template.

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.californiaworkforceconnection.org can help you get connected to what is happening!

The About Us page provides an overview of our organization and who are currently on the Board.

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

Join Now has the updated fillable pdf membership form to download.

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

California Workforce Connection State Award Nominations

By Arlene Bautista, State Second Vice President, East Bay Chapter President

The California Workforce Connection (CWC) State Chapter Annual Awards Program provides an opportunity for EDD management and staff to nominate staff, peers, workforce partners, employers and community organizations for outstanding efforts, innovation, and service in workforce development. Recognize those who go above and beyond the norm by nominating an amazing manager or staff member for a CWC State Chapter award this year! Awards recognize both members and non-members for their hard work and dedication to excellence. Anyone can write a nomination! All award nomination entries must be postmarked or emailed by March 1, 2024.

CATEGORIES

Award of

Distinction – Eligibility:

Member or Non-member – individual and group – Recognizes outstanding contributions to the CA Chapter or to workforce development programs. The recipient(s) must be from the private sector or a non-governmental, non-profit organization and not employed by a workforce development entity.

Meritorious

Award – Eligibility: *Member* – individual and group – Recognizes outstanding service or achievement beyond normal expectations or job requirements that benefit CA Chapter and the workforce development field. Nominees must have demonstrated individual initiative and creativity outside of their job responsibilities.

TOLL TRUST AWARD

By Verletta (VAL) Moeller, Past Presidents Association President

The Toll Trust Award was established to present an award to a California member whose activities or accomplishments most contribute to the advancement of the California Workforce Connection (CWC) activities and are exclusive of job performance.

Nominees must be members during the nomination year (2023) and a member at the time the award may be presented.

Some of the accomplishments that are considered include:

- Level of commitment
- Investment of time
- Years of CWC service
- Promotion of membership
- Professionalism
- Volunteerism
- Local Chapter Participation and/or mentoring
- District and State participation

Please email your nomination by March 1, 2024, to Val Moeller at retire2k07@aol.com

Services to Veterans

Award – Eligibility: *Member or Non-member* – individual and group – Recognizes those who have done the most to assist veterans and promote interest in their rights in the workplace. In addition, it recognizes an outstanding, innovative program or awareness and promotion of veterans' interests and rights in the workforce.

Retiree Award

– Eligibility: *Member* – individual – Recognizes a retiree who has shown continued outstanding commitment to the association's objectives following retirement. Nominees should have demonstrated exceptional accomplishments in advancing CA Chapter objectives, e.g. leadership on a board, committee or initiative group (not restricted to CA Chapter); participation in educational, membership, communication, fund-raising or legislative activities; mentoring chapter leaders and/ or participation that advances the member's local community.

Employee Performance

Award (EDD & Partner)

– Eligibility: *Member* – individual and group – Recognizes an individual or group who has gone above and beyond their assigned duties to provide outstanding service to the public through excellent performance. The Nominee must have demonstrated exceptional achievements that contributed to the smooth performance of operations through positive attitude, accuracy, representing the agency with the public, handling workload under unusual conditions, adaptability, initiative and dependability.

Customer Service

– Eligibility: *Member or Non-Member* – individual and group – Recognizes exceptional service to customers served throughout the workforce system including, but not limited to work with job seekers, UI claimants, businesses, schools, and vocational rehabilitation, people with disabilities, former felons, youths, welfare

recipients and job training participants.

Fostering Partnership

Award – Eligibility: *Member or Non-Member* – individual and group – Recognizes an individual or group who has demonstrated diligent efforts to partner with the EDD and/ or CA Chapter while collaboratively delivering valuable and innovative services to meet the evolving needs of members, employers, workers, and job seekers. Partner organizations such as the Department of Rehabilitation, Workforce Investment Act Partners, the Small Business Administration, Employment Advisory Councils, Chambers of Commerce, governmental agencies, etc. all play an important role in the workforce system and employment security, so the CA Chapter would like to acknowledge them accordingly.

2023 NOMINATION SUBMISSION COMPONENTS

The nomination must be typed, double-spaced, 11 or 12 size fonts, on 8½ x 11-inch paper.

Standard Nomination Form: This form must be the first page of every written nomination.

Narrative: This concise, precise and descriptive narrative must focus on the details/ examples of the actual accomplishment and include any necessary background information that explains why the accomplishment was exceptional to the association or agency. Give information based on the criteria listed on the judging sheet (found on the website in the Local Chapter Handbook), as this will assist the judges

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

significantly impact on your employees' focus and productivity, straining how much your team can get done and how much it impacts on your bottom line. Workforce development helps your teamwork work smarter without working harder and eventually burning out.

A skilled workforce – Workforce development programs keep training and education at the forefront of your organization. By investing in training (and retraining), your company benefits from a highly skilled team, and your employees can feel confident in their job performance and career trajectory.

California Workforce Connection assists the Employment Development Department (EDD) in this endeavor by offering workforce development training that motivates people who want to grow their professionalism and leadership within EDD.

NOMINATIONS FROM PAGE 5

in properly and efficiently scoring the nominations.

Documentation: The narrative must be supported only by documentation that relates directly to the accomplishment activities on which the nomination is based. The documentation may be articles, endorsements, recommendations, testimonials, or original and/ or digital photographs with a brief description of what each photograph is intended to show.

If you need help writing an award nomination, look at awards on the CWC website. For those award categories where a non-member could win, the nomination must be written by a member. 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 (2023) and the year in which the nomination was submitted (2024).

Award nominations should be emailed to caworkforcecbc@gmail.com for all categories and indicate the contact person for the following categories:

- **Retiree:** Nanette Bowman, Retiree Chair
- **Toll Trust:** Verletta (VAL) Moeller, PPA President
- **All other award nominations:** Arlene Bautista

Tips On Applying for a Bybee Grant

By Bybee Board Arlene Bautista, Tom Sims and John Szeibert

Tip 1 Do your research before starting a training program, make sure the training provider is an accredited organization. Check Better Business Bureau for any complaints and ratings for the training provider. Compare that their costs are in line with other organizations providing the same training. Make sure the course is what you want and need for your career enhancement.

Tip 2 You must have been a member in good standing for one year at the time you submit your application.

Tip 3 You must have completed the training prior to applying for the Bybee Grant.

Tip 4 You must have attended a single course, program, or related activity which clearly relates to your professional advancement in the field of workforce development.

Tip 5 The course cannot be a required course for a degree or the purpose of matriculation.

Tip 6 The course is related to career advancement or enhancement of skills in workforce development fields.

Tip 7 Make sure all fields in the application are complete and the form is signed.

Tip 8 Attach all documentation such as:

- Training provider's description of the course, class, certification exam, or training.
- Documentation from the training entity that the course was satisfactorily completed.
- Proof of payment that you paid for the class, training, certification, or program.
- Make sure your contact information is current and you can be reached if the Bybee Board needs additional information.

Tip 9 Respond to any follow-up inquiries from the Board promptly.

Remember they are working to respond to you within a specific timeframe. If you delay in providing the information you may not be approved.

Tip 10 The Bybee trustees can approve grant requests up to \$750 or two grants per member, per fiscal year, whichever is less.

Good Luck in your educational endeavors!

HELLO FRESNO

By Ray Cabrera, District IV Director

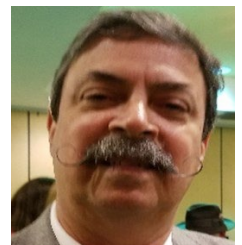
It has been a few years since there was an active, fully functional Fresno Local Chapter. We miss you. When we had our last Conference in Fresno May 2011, it was held at the Four Points Sheraton. There were 130 members in attendance, and we had a great time.

Yes, things have changed a lot since then. EDD has changed. You and I have changed. CWC has worked hard to keep the membership well informed of all things pertaining to workforce development. We have established a website that members can enjoy and learn by keeping up with things: www.californiaworkforceconnection.org

I am now retired, but still working with the help of a lot of other members

to keep CWC alive, knocking out educational training, having meetings via Zoom, and holding in person Conferences again.

We had our State Educational Conference this past May at the Ontario Airport Hotel. There were 104 attendees. It was so well received that we have members asking when and where the next one would take place. The program was educational, and the speakers were spot-on with state workforce development informational facts that may well help our members going



RAY CABRERA

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

"No Limits"

By Rob Claudio, Orange Empire

I saw a story on television several weeks ago that I thought was a rerun and had seen previously. It was about a father and his son with cerebral palsy, who competed in over 247 triathlons. The dad began his first of many different endurance races at age 36. According to him, he was not in the best shape when he began; yet he wanted to compete with his son who was unable to physically do many of these things because of his disability. Dick Hoyt and his son Rick became hometown heroes in Massachusetts over the years, as they evolved from running races, with the dad pushing his son on a special wheelchair. In video footage Rick would light up with excitement from being with his dad in all these competitions and when they took it up another notch to race in triathlons, this elevated physical endurance to new levels. I felt like I had seen this story before, because I remember following them over the years when they made the news.

They also provided much motivation for many other families with children with disabilities that were able to compete with their parents, even if just walking together while pushing a wheelchair when a race competition was in their town. They amassed a following of people who would go to cheer them on if they happened to be in their city for a race. As it turned out I was watching this interview with both of them, because it was Father's Day Weekend and they wanted to focus on a special dad like Dick, who heightened the meaning of what a father is, through the many years that he competed with his son.

Interestingly enough in the interview with Rick, it was discussed how he actually lived alone in an apartment with the aid of assisted living. Dick spoke about how proud he was that his son, who although was severely disabled physically, was extremely bright and smart, while still wanting his independence from his dad. Rick was also a college graduate with a degree in Special Education which took him many years to complete due to his disability. However, Rick persevered just like his father and even got a job at Boston College working in a computer lab



ROB CLAUDIO

helping to develop systems to aid in communication and other tasks for people with disabilities.

Their story is special in so many ways because it has all the elements of what it takes for one to overcome obstacles in life, no matter what hurdles one may be facing. In re-looking at their story, I thought about times in my own life where I believed I was going through such tough periods that I would not be able to overcome them. Miraculously, I always did and now when I look back at my own stumbling blocks, they do not seem to be

as monumental as I remember them to be. It is funny how life gives you this different perspective, if you get the privilege of living more years on this earth.

***"Too many of
you are doing
great stuff
in small ponds,
it's time for a
stir-up, break limits,
break boundaries,
breakthrough.
Go, make it happen!"***

—Bernard Kelvin Clive

Going back to this special Father's Day Story, what I was not prepared for was the ending. I thought both father and son were still doing well, even though Dick ran his last marathon in 2014, and had shifted into retirement watching his son continue to excel in life. However, the story also provided updates to their lives. I was unaware that Dick had passed away in his

sleep in 2021, at the age of 80 years old. Stunningly, I was also unaware that his son Rick passed away in 2023, at the age of 61 from respiratory complications. I sat at the end of this special interview with tears, albeit because of the sad news at the end, I think I was even more emotional in looking at their interviews that they spliced over the years and saw the deep love of a father and son.

In one interview, Dick was asked about his feelings of having competed for so many years with his son in tow. Dick went on to say that when he began, he was out of shape and was not in the best condition to run any type of race, marathon or unfathomable to consider a triathlon. He looked at the camera and began to tear up, because he credited his better health and being in great shape to his son Rick. The interviewer ended with a statement that his son actually saved his life. Then, the full tears came from Dick as he wept and said yes. I was so emotional at the end of this segment, yet I was also grateful to have seen it. I was reminded over and over about the importance of family, love, faith, resilience, community and so much more. I am so thankful to both of them for showing the world what can be achieved as they broke down barriers, especially for those with disabilities about what is possible in this life. I hope you are able to watch some of their inspiring videos, as there are many that will continue to live on via the internet. I know that they will inspire many other folks for generations to come and serve as a great example of the love between a father and son while beating great odds.

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

HELLO FRESNO

FROM PAGE 6

forward. Melissa Stone, Disability Insurance Deputy Director gave a great speech. The conference has been placed on our website under the members' only tab.

There is a rumor that there is going to be another CWC Conference this coming May of 2024. We would like to see many Fresno Chapter members in attendance.

Meafou Pomale-Maga is working hard to get the Fresno chapter up and running again. Why don't you reach out to her and see where you can help? You know you want to get active again, and we can help you. Meafou is waiting for your email to start thing rolling. Send her an email letting her know that you want to help.

Re-establish that Fresno Pride.

DISTRICT II

By Fred Ruibal, District II Director

Welcome to Summer! Time for vacations, enjoying the sunshine, or just trying to beat the heat especially these days as the country is experiencing a massive heat wave! But I am thankful sometimes of where I live, which is in Newark and just off the edge the San Francisco Bay Area. So, we get that bay breeze to cool us off and lately the heat has not been that bad. As I write this, I am travelling with my father to visit family this weekend in Denver, Colorado. It is expected to be hot there, high 80's I believe. Of course, this will influence my packing (t-shirts and shorts). But I look forward to the trip, nonetheless.

Here in District II, we are doing what we do, trying to get the members engaged with activities and what not. July begins the new fiscal year and new beginnings. District II recently had their Installation of new officers for the East Bay and Silicon Valley Chapters. Although this was done via Zoom, the District will be planning a follow-up event at a local venue. We will celebrate the incoming officers and give our members an opportunity to meet them up close and in person.

As a District, we look forward to the rest of the upcoming year, as we plan our calendars to include activities and events that we hope the members will find worthwhile engaging in. We hope everyone is having a great summer so far!



INLAND EMPIRE CHAPTER

CWC INVITES YOU TO JOIN US

By John Szeibert, President, Inland Empire Chapter

Greetings from the Inland Empire. I am honored to serve as the President of the Inland Empire Chapter, CWC for this year. Our board consists of Vice President Margaret Martin, 2nd Vice President Violeta Velazquez, Treasurer Joyce Olayinka, and Community Affairs: Nicole Palomino.

Our board's mission this year is to foster a sense of community among our members through various activities, such as community service, professional development workshops, recruitment events, and other fun events that our members have suggested. We would love to see you at our events and if you are interested in becoming more involved at the board level, please feel free to contact any board member, we welcome everyone.

The pandemic has changed the way we interact and connect with each other. Instead of meeting face-to-face, we have been using virtual platforms more often. This reduced the number of activities and events that were offered in the past, but I hope that we can find a way to balance online and offline opportunities, so everyone can enjoy something from this great organization.

Please keep an eye out for our upcoming announcements from the Inland Empire and thank you for your support.



ORANGE EMPIRE CHAPTER

ORANGE EMPIRE MEMBER RETIRES

By Nanette Bowman, Orange Empire member

TGI Friday's in Orange was the setting for the retirement



DIANE EGGL, NAN BOWMAN, LINDA TAYLOR, JUDY HAUGEN, CAROL KOLESAR, AND LINDA GUERRERO

celebration of Linda Taylor. Family, friends, and colleagues gathered to share stories and toast the contributions made by Linda in her 32 years of service. Linda has been a member of the Orange Empire chapter since the beginning of her career. Several retirees turned out to welcome her to our "golden circle." For some of us, this is an opportunity like a class reunion when we see a familiar face but cannot recall the name. The "reveal" is such a joy! This was every bit worth the one hour it took to go 15 miles in traffic. Congratulations, Linda. Enjoy your retirement.



PUERTO DEL SOL CHAPTER

NEW BOARD INTRODUCED

By Maritza Marroquin-Sanders,
Puerto Del Sol Chapter 1st Vice President

Please welcome the new board members of the Puerto Del Sol Chapter (PDS) of the California Workforce Connection: Solomon Barks, our new Chapter President, has worked for the EDD Workforce Services Branch (WSB) for 3 years. Solomon was promoted to Staff Services Analyst, and currently serves as the Assistant to Annie Ta'amilo, the Deputy Division Chief for Region C. Prior to state service, Solomon was a political consultant from 2011-2020. Solomon wants to help reestablish networks damaged by COVID-19, identify, and address the barriers to upward mobility of our members.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

PUERTO DEL SOL CHAPTER BOARD 2023

 MARITZA H. SANDERS <small>VICE PRESIDENT</small>	 DENETTE DUNN <small>MEMBERSHIP CHAIR</small>	 JENNIFER LUCY <small>EDUCATION CHAIR</small>
 LYNN LAM <small>TREASURER</small>	 SOLOMON BARKS <small>PRESIDENT</small>	 ALEXA NAVARRO <small>SECRETARY</small>

CHAPTER NEWS FROM PAGE 8

Lynn Lam, our new Treasurer, has worked with the EDD for fifteen years. In her time at the EDD, she had worked at the Adjudication Center as an Adjudicator. She was part of the Legislative Referral team, and she uses her multilingual abilities to assist with Vietnamese UI claims and Special Claims. Lynn is currently working with a new department platform called EDDNext as an Analyst. As Treasurer, Lynn would like to bring health and wellness ideas to the PDS CWC members and nurture networking within the CWC. Lynn's hobbies include cooking, hiking, and doing charity work.

Our new 1st Vice President, Maritza Marroquin-Sanders, joined the EDD WSB in 2020 and currently serves as a Business Services Representative and Division Trainer. Prior to state service, Maritza worked in corporate marketing, behavioral health, and training. Maritza values innovation and joined the PDS CWC during the pandemic to help the Chapter pivot to a virtual environment, support change management and foster connection. As 1st Vice President, Maritza says "I look forward to nurturing synergistic connections, community-building and education."

Alexa Navarro, the PDS Secretary, was born and raised in San Diego. Alexa has worked with the EDD for over three years. She began working for the Workforce Services Branch in Chula Vista where she was the Business Services Representative and the team leader for Re-employment Services & Eligibility Assessment (RESEA). In May 2022, Alexa took on a new job as an SSA for the EDD Unemployment Insurance Support Division (UISD) in Sacramento. She joined the CWC to enrich her state experience by networking with fellow members. Alexa says, "I greatly look forward to this upcoming year with the CWC PDS chapter, and I hope to get to know everyone better through more events and group activities. I am excited to fulfill my role as part of the PDS board."

PUERTO DEL SOL GETS A SLICE OF LAUGHTER AT THE BOWLING PIZZA PARTY

By Lynn Lam, Puerto Del Sol Chapter Treasurer and Maritza Marroquin-Sander, Puerto Del Sol Chapter Vice President

The Puerto Del Sol Chapter (PDS) gathered for a fun and exciting bowling event at the Mira Mesa Lanes in San Diego on June 3, 2023. It was great to gather for some cheesy goodness, a sense of camaraderie, and discover those amongst us with a knack for strikes. Denette Dunn, the PDS Membership Coordinator, unleashed some solid bowling skills with a score far above 100 points. Pins will roll!

Savoring well-seasoned connections with a side of laughs, we had members and guests gather from all around San Diego and Riverside County. Our furthest traveler was James Thomas, CWC President. James made his way in from the San Diego Airport, with a short stop in Old Town San Diego, and over to the Bowling Party thanks to the generous hospitality of PDS Treasurer Lynn Lam.

The bowling alley became the perfect backdrop for building meaningful connections and learning about our members'



PINS WILL ROLL WITH THE PDS CHAPTER! PUERTO DEL SOL GETS A SLICE OF LAUGHTER AT THE BOWLING PIZZA PARTY

involvement with CWC. Members had a chance to exchange organizational strategy with leadership such as Phil Dwyer, CWC Treasurer. We also had a chance to laugh at the pickle of a puzzle that was figuring out how to add our names to the bowling alley's score-keeping machine.

CWC serves up laughter, education, innovation and opportunity, ingredients to our recipe for connection. The PDS Chapter looks forward to offering networking events, professional development resources, and ongoing opportunities for a community that values the balanced blend of work and play.

Want to grab a slice of membership with CWC? Join the PDS Chapter or a chapter near you. Visit our website to learn more about upcoming events. Already a member? Check out the new CWC t-shirts today; click here for more information.



SILICON VALLEY CHAPTER

MODERNIZATION PROJECT

By Dr. James Thomas, Silicon Valley Chapter

The Employment Development Department (EDD) Modernization project was designed to update the old system with new modern technology for all EDD customers. The following information outlines the project:

In June 2023, the existing customer portal, called Benefit Programs Online (BPO), was replaced with myEDD, a simpler way to access our programs and services. Customers will log into myEDD.edd.ca.gov with their existing BPO credentials.

In the coming weeks we will be notifying customers about these enhancements that will improve the login process, make password recovery easier through self-service, and protect individual identities with secure login verification like online banking.

We will continue to incrementally implement customer experience improvements as part of EDDNext. This includes improving multilingual access, increasing self-service options, integrating benefit systems, enhancing call center services, and more. To provide transparency and accountability about our progress, we launched an EDDNext webpage with a one-stop location for project information and updates.

The EDD continues to improve services with Paid Family Leave, Work Share Program, Supporting California Workers, and Expanding Outreach to California's Diverse Communities. This information was obtained from edd.ca.gov.

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.