



## CWC STATE OFFICERS 2024/2025

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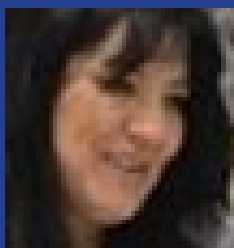
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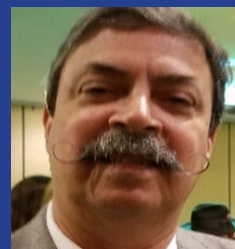
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### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

#### Page 2

President's Message

#### Page 2

Members Only Portal

#### Page 3

Retiree Corner

#### Page 3

Education Report

#### Page 4

Inventing Your Life

#### Page 5-11

2024 CWC Educational  
Conference & Luncheon

#### Page 12-14

Around the State:  
District & Chapter News

#### Page 15

Membership Form

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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**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*

Our Annual Educational Conference was an outstanding event on May 3, 2024. We had the pleasure of hearing from EDD Director Nancy Farias, Deputy Division Chief Cesar Valladares, Deputy Director Javier Romero, Deputy Director Melissa Stone, and Deputy Director Grecia Staton. The Awards Luncheon presenters were Division Chief Ferdinand Guzman, Employment Development Administrator Meg Carbonell, and Division Chief Ken Gomez. We cannot forget our Master of Ceremonies, Tyrone Carroll Jr. Our motivational speaker was Mr. Deven C. Hughes, who was exceptional. We had a presentation from Matoya Terrell from the State Council on Department Disabilities, Willa Robinson, and John Szeibert, Disability Insurance Manager III. Congratulations to all the award winners put together by Arlene Bautista and Val Moeller. A special thank you to our Conference and Program Chair, Raymond Cabrera.

Your newly elected board and officers are already hard at work, planning for new educational programs, upward mobility strategies, and individual development

training. Our Executive Board, Local Chapters, and District Directors are actively scheduling and planning training programs. CWC takes immense pride in offering our membership the best educational programs, tailored for your success. We encourage you to invest in yourself by sharing your expertise, knowledge, and skills. Remember, your growth is our success.

CWC's goals and vision sharing of knowledge, skill building, and self-development have remained the same. We will continue to invest in our leaders and promote exceptional educational programs. Investing in yourself creates a better opportunity for upward mobility, increased leadership development skills, and improved self-awareness. We continually seek forward thinkers, inventive minds, innovative personalities, and unlimited visionaries. CWC will always believe in you!

CWC membership, we want to ensure you are aware of the valuable resource that is the Karl E. Bybee Educational Grant. This grant, designed to support your educational pursuits, has specific eligibility criteria for members who are interested. If you have been a CWC member in good



PRESIDENT DR. JAMES THOMAS

standing for 1 year and have recently completed training from an accredited facility within a fiscal year, you are eligible to apply. This grant can cover some or all of your training costs, up to \$750 in a fiscal year. We believe in your potential and want to support your growth.

We hope our members read and enjoy the *Cal-Liope* newsletter, which provides information on activities and events from the Executive Board, District Directors, Chapter Presidents, and members. Some of the information provided is the President's Message, CWC Website, Retirement Message, Legislative Update, Personal Message, and Activities throughout the state.

The website provides 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.

## What Is In the "Members Only" Portal?

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

Why does the California Workforce Connection (CWC) website have a private Members Only Portal? Our website serves two functions: first, to build awareness of our organization so that the public knows what we do; Second,

through our Members Only Portal, members can access Information and documents that assist local chapters and members with papers and forms to administer the organization's needs.

Prior to having a website, each chapter collected flyers, educational materials,

and documents. As you can imagine, storing and retrieving all the Information from stored boxes could have been more convenient and comfortable. Going virtual not only helped to organize the Information and save trees, but it was also a consistent way to share current CWC

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

## RETIREE CORNER

By Nanette Bowman, Orange Empire Member

This is the ninth 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>)

I'm "too old" to quit smoking: It doesn't matter how old you are or how long you have been smoking, [quitting](#) at any time improves your health. Smokers who quit have fewer illnesses such as colds and the flu, lower rates of bronchitis and pneumonia, and an overall better feeling of well-being.

The benefits of quitting are almost immediate. Within a few hours, the carbon monoxide level in your blood begins to decline and, in a few weeks, your circulation improves, and your lung function increases. Smoking causes an immediate and long term rise in your heart rate and [blood pressure, but quitting can](#)

[lead to a lowering of heart rate and blood pressure over time.](#)

Quitting smoking will also lower your risk of cancer, heart attack, [stroke](#), and lung disease. Quitting will also reduce secondhand smoke exposure to other family members or caregivers in the home. It is never too late to reap the benefits of quitting smoking and setting a healthy example for your children and grandchildren. Learn more about how to [quit smoking and where to find help](#).

Congratulations to BJ Sims who was presented with the Retiree of the Year Award recognizing her for her continued outstanding commitment to CWC objectives following retirement.

You are so welcome to send me ideas for articles or share what you are up to – you know my email: [cwcsecretary2023@gmail.com](mailto:cwcsecretary2023@gmail.com).

Stay well and stay in touch.



NANETTE BOWMAN

## EDUCATION REPORT

### INFLUENCE IS AN ESSENTIAL LEADERSHIP SKILL

By Dinah White, Education Chair, Los Angeles Chapter member

The ability to influence is an essential leadership skill. To influence is to have an impact on the behaviors, attitudes, opinions, and choices of others. Influence is not to be confused with power or control. It's not about manipulating others to get your way. It's about noticing what motivates employee commitment and using that knowledge to leverage performance and positive results. A leader's ability to have influence with others is based on trust; in fact, our influence expands in proportion to the amount of trust that exists in a relationship. Let's look at how leaders effectively build trust and increase their influence with others.

#### Establish Credibility:

Leaders begin to build trust by establishing their credibility. Stephen Covey, author of *The Speed of Trust*, described four foundational elements needed to establish one's credibility: integrity, intent, capabilities, and results. Integrity is being honest; it's walking your talk. Intent has to do with ensuring your motives are clearly understood. Capabilities are the skills and knowledge necessary to perform your job well. Results are what we accomplish, it's our track record; your ability to get done what you said you will do. Stephen Covey said that credibility "boils down to two simple questions:

- 1) Do I trust myself? and
- 2) Am I someone others can trust?"

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

## MEMBERS ONLY PORTAL FROM PAGE 2

information more efficiently among officers and members.

State and local chapter presidents and officers can retrieve Posted Information. The only caveat is that current Information needs to be sent to the website administrator to be posted. Some information is used to verify local chapter activities, which are used to calculate the Chapter Activity Award, which recognizes chapters that helped their members. Flyers, newsletters, planning calendars, reports, and Education and Training Information help local officers plan and market activities and events.

The tabs are Overview, Archives, Board, Budget, Gallery, Resources, Surveys, and Training, each containing pertinent Information for each tab. Archives has each chapter flyer, Board, and Information needed to conduct Board meetings; the Budget has Treasurer information for local chapter treasurers; the Gallery has photos of prior Conferences; resources have many templates of forms that can be downloaded, and Training access to videos and PowerPoints developed and shared by local chapters.

**If you still need to request your Members Only access**, complete the Contact Us form, including your email address. After confirming

your membership, you will receive an email with your access information.

Our website always seeks new, fresh Information to communicate to members. The CWC website wants your Chapter's News and Events flyers, local chapter training and presentations, and educational articles. By sharing your flyers and articles on the website, you can market and share them with 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](http://www.california workforceconnection.org) can help you get connected to what's happening!

- "The "About Us" page supplies an overview of our organization and the current Board members.
- "News & Events" has flyers and Information posted for local chapters to inform members about upcoming meetings, trainings, and activities.
- "Join Now" has a fillable PDF membership form to download, complete and return.

If you have a flyer or activity to post, please send it to the website administrator at [bjtsims@gmail.com](mailto:bjtsims@gmail.com).

By establishing credibility, we begin to establish trust, which is an essential step in gaining influence with others.

Engage others and build a connection: Leadership is not a solo act. If you want to influence others, they have to be involved. Seek input on important decisions that will affect them individually or the team. Involve employees early on when proposing or implementing changes. Another way leaders increase their influence is through building connections with others. Seek to understand the needs, motivations, and values of others. By showing a sincere commitment to what matters to someone else you'll begin to build greater influence with them as they realize your actions include a genuine concern for their interests.

**Clarify expectations and practice accountability:** To get great results, leaders must be able to enlist, persuade, and engage others. However, before expecting employee commitment, leaders must clearly delineate expectations. Define the results and clearly communicate them to others. Once the results have been defined practice accountability. Hold yourself and others accountable to the expectations. When leaders fail to clarify expectations and do not practice accountability they contribute to and unintentionally create a low-trust environment where mediocrity is the norm. This directly impacts your ability to positively influence others.

**Share your passion:** One of the reasons why passion is so important is that it produces energy; it ignites others. There is a contagious

quality to passion. Passion is not something you can fake. It must be real and authentic. In their book *The Leadership Challenge*, Kouzes and Posner state, "If a leader displays no passion for a cause, why should anyone else care." Research has shown that one of the traits people admire most in leaders is their ability to be forward-looking. It's not enough for a leader to have a vision; he/she must be able to communicate it and get others excited about it and supporting it. Effective leaders influence others by sharing their enthusiasm and excitement.

**Be open to influence:** Influence should be reciprocal. One of the quickest ways to increase your influence with others is to be open to influence yourself. This means truly demonstrating openness. Be willing to listen to others' ideas; invite and consider alternative viewpoints. Make use of others' skills and expertise. By displaying openness you'll begin to build respect and trust with others and that will increase your influence. Leadership has been described as the ability to influence others. An effective leader moves followers into action not with coercion but by eliciting their desire and conviction in the vision and goals articulated by the leader. Misused influence can bring about catastrophic results. But properly channeled, positive influence can bring about great change as individual actions align with group efforts to produce gains that grow exponentially. A leader, who, through focused and deliberate effort, exerts positive influence in others; will build trust and become a true driving force toward excellence.

## "The Kindness Legacy"

By Rob Claudio, *Orange Empire*

There are many inspirational quotes and signs that often feature acts of kindness. I enjoy reading all of them because I use them as reminders of what I should be doing consistently.

For me, kindness can begin with the smallest of actions, such as a simple smile towards another person with whom one may be crossing paths. On an early morning a few weeks ago, it was a cloudy and misty start to the day as I was getting into my truck, and a lady walked right by me on what appeared to be her morning walk. I stopped, smiled, and said good morning to her. She, in turn, just kept walking right by me without any response. As I drove off, I smiled and chuckled to myself as I came up with a couple of excuses for why she didn't reply back. What I have learned over time is that I still must continue with what I value in this world, like continuing to be kind to others without having any expectations. Usually, people respond positively and smile back over ninety percent of the time.

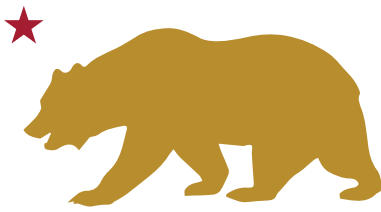
The other levels of kindness can also take many forms, from donating money to a worthy cause close to your heart to volunteering for an organization or a special effort. These combined examples speak to the possibility of what we would like to define in our lives as a cornerstone of our essential values. It was also no coincidence that as I was writing this, I happened to see an interview on television where a young boy in the southeast part of the country was given a dollar by his father for getting good grades in school. He ended up encountering a man who happened to be praying outside a diner early in the morning and the boy thought he was homeless and offered him the dollar. As it turned out, the man was shocked by the young boy's actions, and he proceeded to tell him that he was the owner of a sporting goods store, where the alarm had gone off, and he came to check on his establishment super early that day. It occurred so early that he had yet to pay attention to what clothes he threw on before he left the house. It was a bit of a mismatch of clothing, and then he realized that it all added up to how he could have been mistaken for a homeless individual. The man ended up buying the young man breakfast at the diner, and when he found out that the boy was willing to give him the only money he had, his heart was full.



ROB CLAUDIO

*We cannot underestimate its [kindness's] power, and while the world is watching to see what is not going right, it is an excellent counterbalance towards showing that same audience what is going quite well...*

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



# Navigating and Meeting Challenges for Tomorrow

2024 CWC STATE EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE & LUNCHEON

## One For The Books!

*By Raymond Cabrera  
CWC District IV Director  
and Conference Chair*

Thank you for attending the California Workforce Connection Educational Conference on Friday, May 3, 2024.

The conference had its share of challenges, but it was your active participation and support that helped us overcome them. Your contributions made the conference a resounding success, exceeding our expectations.

I want to thank the EDD Director and the Deputy Directors who participated in the Directors' panel. Those in attendance were able to ask questions and get good, thought-provoking responses. After all, it was an educational conference.

Unavoidable circumstances caused us to change things with the motivational speaker, Devin C Hughes. He was very flexible when we had to change his presentation from the morning to the afternoon at the last minute. Devin has spoken to our members before, and they enjoyed his presentation back then and earlier this month.

Arlene Bautista and her



2024 CWC STATE EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

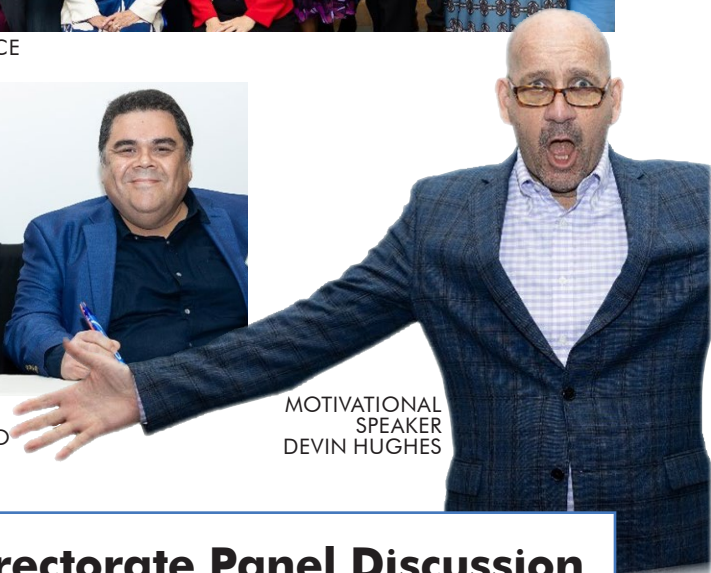


DEPUTY DIRECTORS, FROM LEFT: MELISSA STONE, GRECIA STATON AND JAVIER ROMERO

team put on the awards banquet. My congratulations to all the award nominees and winners. Many pictures were taken, and they will show up on our website as soon as the photographer edits and arranges them for a proper presentation. Then, our website team looks at them for professionalism. We will let you know when they become available.

I have never done this job for me, but rather for you, our members. With tremendous gratitude and humility, Dr. James Thomas, CWC State President, surprised me when he presented me with the President's Award. A job like putting together a conference takes a team, honestly. And I had the best team possible.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



MOTIVATIONAL  
SPEAKER  
DEVIN HUGHES

## Directorate Panel Discussion at CWC State Conference

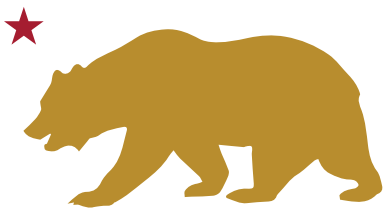
*By Fred Ruibal  
District II Director  
Silicon Valley Chapter*

The Directorate Panel Discussion began with Cas Jones, WS Deputy Division Chief, introducing the Directors of the Disability, Workforce Services, and Unemployment Insurance branches.

Melissa Stone, Director of Disability Insurance (DI), gave a shout out to the other directors. She discussed how the office culture often revolves around the customer experience. She highlighted

how her department revamped their strategic business plan, emphasizing that success depends on everyone working together to streamline processes for both employees and customers. Exciting tech innovations are coming, such as piloting a new contact center starting with one office before expanding to all DI offices. She also mentioned that Paid Family Leave (PFL) is moving to State DI Online, celebrating the program's 20th anniversary. Melissa shared

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



# Navigating and Meeting Challenges for Tomorrow

2024 CWC STATE EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE & LUNCHEON

## Five Takeaways from the CWC State Educational Conference

By Arlene Bautista, Bybee Chair,  
State Chapter 2nd Vice President

The 2024 CWC State Educational Conference was incredible. Beginning with the President's Reception the night before, it was the perfect time to spend time with people. Here are five takeaways from the 2024 State Conference:

During the **President's Reception**, there were many first-time attendees. Each mentioned that even though the conference didn't start until the next morning, the excitement had already begun.

**The Master of Ceremonies was Tyrone Carroll Jr.** He not only led the conference program with lots of humor, but he also provided music which added great energy.

**Presentations:** The very first presentation was a Bybee Presentation by Bybee Board Trustee John Szeibert. Then EDD Director Nancy Farias updated us with the latest EDD News including EDDNext. A Directorate Panel presentation followed which included the Deputy Directors of Workforce Services, Disability Insurance and Unemployment

Insurance. All appreciated and enjoyed the presence of the EDD Director and Deputy Directors.

**The Awards Luncheon** was a highly anticipated part of the conference where it recognized the remarkable accomplishments of the EDD staff and/or Partners. The winners' accomplishments were truly astounding.

The program ended with the **Installation of the CWC State Chapter Executive Officers** for the next administrative year July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

Interested in enhancing your leadership skills? Consider taking a leadership role at CWC. You can take baby steps by volunteering at your local chapter and be a fully active member, then move up to the local chapter executive board. You can also enrich your professional development with a Bybee Grant. This grant is intended to assist eligible members to defray training costs which increases career aspirations.

Looking forward to seeing your Bybee application.

### FOR THE BOOKS FROM PAGE 5

I cannot wait until the next issue of the *Cal-Liope* comes out so that I can read the comments of those who attended and how they found the convention.

Your feedback is invaluable to us. If you have any suggestions on how we can improve our conference in the future, please don't hesitate to share them with the CWC State President. We look forward to reviewing them at our upcoming August meeting.



RAY CABRERA AND THE DEPUTY DIRECTORS

### DIRECTORATE PANEL FROM PAGE 5

her personal connection to the PFL program and emphasized the goal of processing claims more efficiently, noting that 70 to 80% of claimants will need wage replacement to take time off.

Grecia Stanton, the UI Director, discussed the significant changes her program has undergone in recent years and how they navigated these transitions. She emphasized the focus on communication and transparency, noting the vastness of the departments that Employment Program Representatives (EPRs) may not fully realize. The UI department is in the process of hiring more EPRs and aims to implement hands-on, real-time training. They are recalibrating and expanding offices, with an emphasis on succession planning and development. Grecia

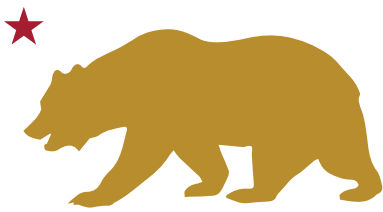
mentioned the goal of bringing back staff from UI centers into project groups. She also highlighted the updates and revisions to the EDDNext UI online application, which will make it significantly different. Grecia concluded by thanking everyone for supporting the program.

Javier Romero, the Workforce Services (WS) Director, shared plans to better support workers who are being laid off and to expand their virtual footprint. He emphasized the importance of proximity to other branches and raised questions about the customer service experience with EDDNext. He suggested hiring a third party to engage staff and gather insights, as they have the resources to improve services. WS programs will be redesigned to enroll staff into training programs, with the goal of

making people's lives better and providing the community with access to services as an access point.

Cas Jones then led a question-and-answer session with the panelists. The panel members responded in depth to various questions. The DI Director emphasized the importance of communication skills, while the UI Director discussed new programs to enhance career development for staff, such as rotating into different branches.

Overall, it was a great opportunity to hear the directors discuss current developments and future expectations.



# Navigating and Meeting Challenges for Tomorrow

2024 CWC STATE EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE & LUNCHEON

## Insights Revealed Into the State Council on Developmental Disabilities

By Phil Dwyer, CWC Treasurer and Puerto del Sol Member

Matoya Terrell, CWC Member and former Manager in the Disability Insurance Branch, now works for the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) and shared the goals of the independent state agency and how the SCDD helps its clients.

The primary message was that caregivers are not alone in their journey of taking care of a person with developmental disabilities. There are many valuable resources in the community, such as Special Olympics which helps individuals socially in meeting friends and focus on wellness. Self-Determination Advisory Committees (SAC) provide supportive trainings for the clients and their families.

SCDD promotes and advocates for self-determination, independence, productivity, and inclusion in California. It is a great resource for jobseekers who need assistance in getting back into the job market. This can include Reasonable Accommodation requests. Family members who are care givers can gain support to help their relatives with housing, transportation, and safety. Community members can advocate for resources to assist the developmentally disabled and serve as mentors, organizers, and coaches to support SCDD.

The state of California is divided into twelve regions to offer support for people with Developmental Disabilities (DD). Each region works with local partners to assist the clients in their area. Some of the medical conditions which are char-

acterized as DD include autism, cerebral palsy, legally blind, brain injury, seizure disorder,

and Down Syndrome. There are 650 thousand people in California who are DD and can be served by the agency. The SCDD coordinates a self-advocacy network, provides resources and information on self-determination, and provides training. Some of the trainings include Social Security benefits for people with Disabilities, Transition Planning after High School, and Disability Rights. Matoya shared that the SCDD and related stakeholders advocated for Senate Bill 639, which will eliminate the sub-minimum minimum wage effective next year. The agency also attends job fairs and community events to spread the word on the organization's mission.

By sharing all the resources that are available to the developmentally disabled and their families, Matoya Terrell met her goal that they are not alone. Emphasizing independence and self-determination are key characteristics that are helping the agency reach its vision: Californians with developmental disabilities are guaranteed the same full and equal opportunities for life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness as all Americans.

For additional information on the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, go to the website: [www.scdd.ca.gov](http://www.scdd.ca.gov).



MATOYA TERRELL



PUERTO DEL SOL CHAPTER MEMBERS WITH EDD EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

## What's Most Important To You Right Now?

### A REFLECTION ON THE WORKFORCE SERVICES BRANCH PANEL DISCUSSION

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

Imagine that you are at an educational conference for workforce professionals. A curious thing about this kind

of conference is the caliber of interactions and insights that are possible. You may have scrolled past the organizational charts, your Branch vision and mission statements, and the professional profile photo of your executive leadership. But what if you could share

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

## Melissa Stone at the CWC Conference

By Jennifer Orozco, Los Compadres Chapter

Disability Insurance (DI) Deputy Director, Melissa Stone, honored us with her presence for the second year in a row, at the California Workforce Connection (CWC) Conference held in Ontario, on May 3, 2024.

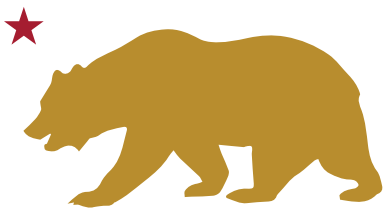
Melissa Stone was part of the Directorate Panel that included Workforce Services Deputy Director, Javier Romero, and Unemployment Insurance Deputy Director, Grecia Staton.

She spoke passionately about the growth and innovation that supports the current and future state of DI programs. She highlighted some of the current initiatives in motion which include the Integrated Contact Center (ICC) Pilot Project driven by EDDNext, Senate Bill 951 which will increase Disability benefits and cover 70-90% of wages starting in 2025, and current changes in Paid Family Leave (PFL) such as

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



MELISSA STONE



# Navigating and Meeting Challenges for Tomorrow

2024 CWC STATE EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE & LUNCHEON

## WHAT'S MOST IMPORTANT TO YOU RIGHT NOW?

FROM PAGE 7

a fifteen-minute educational moment with the person in the photo, the person that leads the teams that develop the programs you are currently delivering remotely or at your field office. What if you could gain insight, first-hand, about what they do, how they plan to do it, and most importantly, their why.

Let's go back to the educational conference. Your Employment Development Department executive leadership has flown in from Sacramento, making generous efforts to be part of this conference. You recognize them from their photos on the EDD Intranet as they make their way to their seats. You observe how the focus shifts in the ballroom, as they get ready to speak on the Conference panel. With this opportunity to ask them questions, what would you ask?

Some might say it depends on where you're at in your career. At a conference like this you witness very intriguing questions from the audience. Some folks are exploring how to journey map their own career and wondering, "How did these executive leaders get to where they are and why?"

Our EDD Workforce Services Branch Deputy Director Javier Romero was asked what kind of guidance he might give an earlier version of himself who is starting out in a workforce services career. Simple and elegant, his guidance was to



EDD EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP RECEIVE CWC T-SHIRTS

reflect often on what's most important to you right now.

Romero responded to additional questions with sincerity, candor, and with a little bit of humor. During the Panel discussion, Romero had a chance to share about where we are headed as a Branch. Romero described how we're uniquely situated to help the people that are most in need. He referenced the Tesla layoff and the Meta layoffs, relaying that Workforce Services did not really see many of these dislocated workers. However, when Farmer John's had a layoff, Romero reported we saw a lot of these dislocated workers, and our services were needed. Romero posited that we are the entry point in the workforce system, and we can see a wide range of populations because of our proximity to the Unemployment Insurance Branch and Disability Insurance Branch.

Additionally, Romero nodded to the plans for upgrading technology and the measures for doing this. He described the big technology project in the State has four phases and the 2nd phase has been extensive. He took us through what kinds of

questions this phase is asking: What do our employees say about it? What do our stakeholders need? What has the customer experience (CX) been thus far?

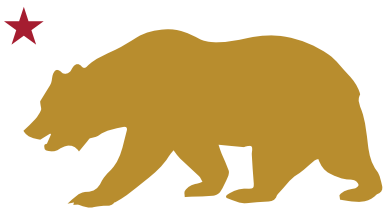
What do our employees say about it? Romero described how impactful our EDD staff has been. Romero shared that EDD employees have been surveyed twice to offer insight to CX from various access points. Romero took us through his current focus on the Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment Program (RESEA). He related this program to a platform and expressed how especially impactful the RESEA program was during the Pandemic.

What do our stakeholders need? Romero shared the importance of working with our stakeholders, our workforce partners and our community-based organizations. Romero emphasized how valuable it is having our stakeholders at the table to help inform the growth of services and programs. Our stakeholders have resources and services that our customers need.

What has CX been thus far? Aligned with the elements of

servant leadership, Romero outlined that the customer is here to be served. We want our customers to stick with us so we can connect them to our partners. It is important to make a good impression. One tool our EDD Staff has been equipped with recently is trauma-informed training. Romero urged the importance of offering a value proposition that is apparent to our customer. Trauma-informed training helps to develop a lens to understand our customer's immediate needs, short term goals, mid-term goals, long term goals. Romero detailed that our customers might come in to receive assistance to open a claim or to keep it open. We have an opportunity to gauge what other supportive services the customer needs. Romero enthusiastically concluded that we're an access point and we are in a distinct position to connect our customers to a robust network of services.

To listen to the full panel discussion with our EDD Directorate including Nancy Farias, Melissa Stone, Disability Insurance Branch (DIB), Grecia Staton, Unemployment Insurance Branch (UIB), and Javier Romero, Workforce Services Branch (WSB), join California Workforce Connection today. Visit the CWC website at: [www.californiaworkforceconnection.org](http://www.californiaworkforceconnection.org) to complete a Membership application. Conference archives are available with Members only access.



# Navigating and Meeting Challenges for Tomorrow

2024 CWC STATE EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE & LUNCHEON

## Toll Trust Awarded

By Nanette Bowman  
Orange Empire Member

The Toll Trust was established to present an annual award to a CWC member whose activities or accomplishments contribute most to the advancement of CWC activities and are exclusive of job performance. Nominees must be members during the current year and at the time the award is presented. Accomplishments may span a period before the calendar year but must be continuous into the previous calendar year. Some of the accomplishments considered include: level of commitment, investment of time, years of service, association pride, fundraising, legislative action, sustained effort, promotion of membership, professionalism, volunteerism, local Chapter Mentoring, and program planning and assistance.

Nominated by the Orange Empire Chapter, Carol Kolesar more than meets the criteria for this honor. She has been a member since she started working for EDD in 1993. By 1998 she was elected Orange Empire treasurer and still holds that position. Her resume also includes serving one term as Orange Empire president, one term as District IV Director, and two terms on Bybee Board. Carol has served on convention committees, awards committees, and as a convention delegate. She has received membership recruitment awards and was Retiree of the Year for 2011. She was granted a life membership in CWC in 2023. Her financial reports are always timely and exemplary. Congratulations to Carol, the 2023-2024 recipient of the Toll Trust Award.

### TOLL THE BELL!

*My most memorable moment during the 2024 Annual Conference Awards Luncheon was the announcement by the CWC Past Presidents' Association, PPA, that I had been awarded the 2023 Toll Trust Award. It was with shock and awe that I made my way forward to receive this honor along with the Golden Bell and the monetary amount that came with it. Needless to say my heart is bursting with pride at receiving the Toll Trust Award along with the recognition attached to it.*

*I would like to take this opportunity to thank the PPA members for this honor and I truly appreciate all the members who have helped me over the years and continue to help me during this journey with the California Workforce Connection and my local Orange Empire Chapter affiliation. Thank you.*

*– Carol Kolesar, Orange Empire Member*



NANETTE BOWMAN AND  
TOLL TRUST AWARDEE CAROL  
KOLESAR

## BJ Sims Honored With Retiree Award

By Fred Ruibal, Silicon Valley Chapter  
and District II Director

The Silicon Valley Chapter is pleased to announce that our very own BJ Sims has been honored with this year's Retiree Award at the annual state conference.

BJ received this prestigious award in recognition of her unwavering dedication to our organization over the years. She began her journey with the Coastal County Chapter, the predecessor to the Silicon Valley Chapter, where she was one of the founding members.

BJ has always been a devoted member at the local, district, and state levels, including serving as a District II Director for many years. Though she has retired from both the State of California and the City of San Jose, her contributions to our community continue to be significant.

Her extensive contributions include arranging speakers for chapter events, managing technical aspects such as providing projectors and laptops, and ensuring speakers have everything they need for their presentations.

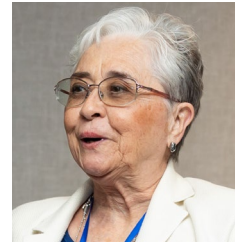
Currently, BJ serves as the Marketing Chair and Website Administrator for the state chapter, ensuring the California Workforce Connection website is up and running, with events posted and updated regularly.

As a member of the Silicon Valley Chapter, BJ's insight and assistance have been invaluable. She handles the arrangements for member awards, coordinating with local trophy shops, and manages banners and other event props. BJ plans the purchase of items like pens and other swag for our conferences.

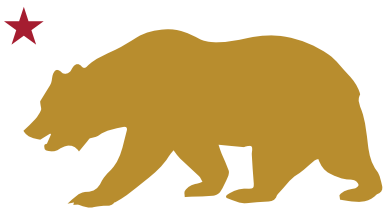
BJ is known for her ambitious nature and unparalleled enthusiasm for CWC. She has hosted chapter business at her home, such as training new officers and district directors. Currently, she serves as the Secretary for the Silicon Valley Chapter, ensuring our meeting minutes are clear and concise. BJ is also generous with the use of her car for our annual participation in the San Jose Veteran's Day Parade.

Additionally, BJ is our Zoom coordinator, setting up meetings for presentations such as SOC training.

On a personal note, BJ has been a great mentor to me. She has always been my go-to person for advice and direction. She was the one who recruited me into the organization when she was my EPM I at the Campbell One-Stop, where I began my EDD career.



BJ SIMS



# Navigating and Meeting Challenges for Tomorrow

2024 CWC STATE EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE & LUNCHEON

## California State Annual Award Event Honors Winners

By Arlene Bautista, California Second Vice-President,  
East Bay Chapter President

The California Workforce Connection (CWC) held the annual Awards Event during the 2024 Educational Conference/Convention on May 3, 2024. Our sincere thanks to the awards' presenters: Ferdinand Guzman, Disability Insurance Division Chief, Meg Carbonell, Disability Insurance Employment Development Administrator (EDA) for DI San Bernardino and Riverside, Ken Gomez, Workforce Services Deputy Division Chief, LA/Coastal Division – Region 2, Nanette Bowman, Retiree Chair and CWC State Chapter Secretary and Val Moeller, State Chapter First Vice President and Past Presidents Association (PPA) President.

Here are the winners:

### DISABILITY INSURANCE (DI)

*Employee Performance Individual* – Winner: **Jennifer Orozco**, DI/EDDNext Sacramento

*Employee Performance Group* – Winner: **The Training Team, DI Sacramento**: Irma Aguilar, Luigi Bertini, Luis Cervantes, Shannon Brown, Lynda Joseph, Ruth Kariuki, Melissa Lauritzen Chinyere Okugo, Steve Tu, Tina Wess.

*Customer Service Group* – Winner: **The DI Support Staff, Van Nuys ARU #218**: Justin Norman, Sergi Torosian, Armond Grigoryan, Selina Yolanda Lopez, Maria Singson, Samantha Galipo

*Customer Service Group Management* – Winner: **The “Fearless Four Team (FFT)” Van Nuys ARU #218**: Delia Hernandez-Gorospe, Andres Saavedra, Susanna Keshishyan, Nalani Jolly

### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (UI)

*Employee Performance Individual* – Winner: **Katrin Charmahali**, UIC Inglewood ARU #006.

*Employee Performance Management* – Winner: **Mark Fang**, UIC Inglewood ARU #006.

*Customer Service Individual* – Winner: **Rosana Mendoza**, Riverside UI Center ARU 040.

*Customer Service Group* – Winner: **The Language Translation Team Riverside ARU #017**: Jacklyn Shih, Winna Hui, Phoebus Hon, Kathy Tran

*Customer Service Group Management* – Winner: **UI Workload Team Riverside ARU #040**: Megan Rivera, Lilia Betancourt, Jacinda Peyer, Juanita Ahumada, Natalie Sierra, Rosana Mendoza, Lennin Caceres

### WORKFORCE SERVICES (WS)

*Employment Performance Individual* – Winner: **Ian Park**, Los Angeles/Coastal Workforce Service Division

*Employment Performance Group* – Winner: **The Management**

**Team of Region 2: Compton/Long Beach/West Los Angeles WSB**: Alma Diaz, Pamela Norris, Sadie Washington, Joseph Velasco, Jorge Perez

*Customer Service Individual* – Winner: **Evelyn Velasco Quintanilla**, WSB Long Beach ARU #155

*Customer Service Group* – Winner: **LA/Coastal Workforce Services Division Staff**: America Solis Bowman, Nancy Galoussian, Maria Nelson, Jacquelin Gomez, Amara Morris, Ian Park, Michael Sherwood, Narine Oganyan, Eliana Gonzalez-Alfaro, Lilian Hernandez, Dadisi Elliott, Elaine Elsayed, Tyrone Carroll Jr, Russell Kontos, Alex Sarafian, Relda Demoica, Helen Trang, Jeremy Torres

### SERVICES TO VETERANS

*Services to Veterans Individual* – Winner: **David Uyematsu**, West LA WorkSource Center ARU 168

*Services to Veterans Group* – Winner: **The Veteran Team, WSB Santa Ana ARU #042**

### FOSTERING PARTNERSHIPS AWARD

Winner: **Managed Career Solutions (MCS) Business Services Team**, Dion Wiltshire, Manager, Los Angeles, CA

### RETIREE

Winner: **BJ Sims**

### MERITORIOUS AWARD

*Individual* – Winner: **Angel Urbina**, DI/EDDNext, Sacramento, CA

*Group* – Winner: **The CWC Membership Committee**: Tanya Davidson, Dadisi Elliott, Rebecca Eusey, Melissa Lauritzen, Shunlonda Nathaniel, Dinah White, Dr. Candy Williams, Dr. James Thomas

### TOLL TRUST AWARD

Winner: **Carole Kolesar**

### AWARD OF DISTINCTION

*Individual* – Winner: **Samuel Cabrera**, PVJOBS

### CHAPTER ACTIVITY AWARDS

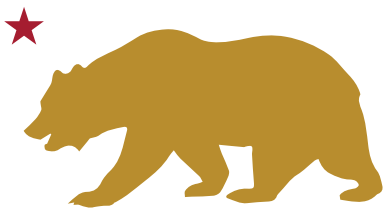
Chapter Activity is the area where all the work the Local Chapters accomplish in serving their membership is recognized. Scoring from Local Chapter reports is done on a calendar quarter basis. Points are given in numerous categories based upon the documented activities of the chapter. This year's winners are:

*Small Chapter* – **East Bay**

*Medium Chapter* – **Silicon Valley**

*Large Chapter* – **Orange Empire**

Congratulations to all the winners at the conference who are truly deserving of this recognition. Their hard work and dedication have paid off.



# Navigating and Meeting Challenges for Tomorrow

2024 CWC STATE EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE & LUNCHEON

## Timing Is Everything!

By Annette Wiley  
Marketing Chair

Oprah Winfrey famously coined this phrase, and in my experience, she is right. This year, I had the opportunity to attend my first CWC Educational Conference, something I had always wanted to do but never managed to make time for. This year was different. I decided to step out of my comfort zone and attend the conference for both personal and professional growth.

The experience began when I registered for the conference, made my room reservations, and booked my flight. I was committed!

I arrived half an hour before the conference was set to begin. The registration representatives greeted me with smiles and hugs. Entering the Tahoe room, I didn't know what to expect, but the room had a positive vibe. There were employees from EDD, and we were delighted to see each other, exchanging hugs and smiles as we reacquainted ourselves and took pictures to capture the moment. Everyone took a seat as Dr. James Thomas called the convention to order. At the end of his speech, he encouraged us to introduce ourselves to someone nearby, which was a great icebreaker. I introduced myself to several EDD employees in the room, including a retiree who was a former Disability Insurance Representative and an Employment Development Administrator. This was a proud moment for me, a testament to the power of

stepping out of my comfort zone.

The highlight of the morning was a presentation by Nancy Farias, EDD Director. Nancy shared the goals of modernizing the department and focusing on the customer/user experience through the EDDNext project, emphasizing the importance of staff input. She also held a brief question-and-answer session. Following her presentation, a directorate panel from Unemployment Insurance, Disability Insurance, and Workforce Services held their own Q&A session.

During the luncheon, CWC honored and recognized fellow EDD employees with awards for their outstanding achievements.

After lunch, we had the pleasure of listening to motivational speaker Devin Hughes. His presentation highlighted how human connections have been diminished by excessive electronic usage. Devin engaged the audience with exercises and activities that encouraged communication and interaction. One of the exercises involved grouping people to discover commonalities, fostering meaningful conversations.

In conclusion, I was in the right place at the right time to network, learn, and support CWC. The conference provided a wealth of opportunities to connect with fellow professionals, learn from department leaders, and contribute to the growth of our field.

## Conference Reflections

By Joyce Olayinka, Treasurer,  
Inland Empire Chapter

Where do I begin? The mix of fear, excitement, and nervousness consumed me as soon as I entered the hotel. I've been part of this organization since the pandemic hit. We all remember how crazy that was—working from home, trying to merge our home life with our work life, and dealing with an epidemic that none of us had ever experienced before. As the hotel doors opened, I took a deep breath and walked in. Keep in mind, I had spoken to so many people in CWC but hadn't physically met anyone yet. The first person I met was our District Treasurer, Phil [Dwyer]. He was the one I talked to the most while learning my treasurer duties, and I was beyond thrilled to finally meet him. We hugged like long-lost family members who hadn't seen each other in decades. At that moment, I knew I was at home. The conference kicked off with upbeat music, and the MC was amazing and engaging throughout.

The directors' speeches were mind-blowing. Nancy Farias, the EDD Director, spoke, and I was in complete awe. We often see her messages, "A message from the Director," in our work emails, but in person, her sense of humor shone through. She had some great jokes. Two phrases that stuck out to me were "Challenge the process" and "Ask why." I used to always get reprimanded for asking why — why do we do it this way, why can't we try it

that way? When she said that, I had the biggest

smile on my face because I knew we had a director who wants to challenge the process for the better. Melissa Stone, the DI Deputy Director, gave an informative talk about new technologies and how they will be implemented in our daily work lives. Garcia Staton, UI Deputy Director, spoke candidly about merging leaders and cultivating cultures. She also emphasized challenging the process and not just accepting phrases like "because we've always done it this way."

Javier Romero, the WS Deputy Director, talked about the need for cross-training between departments. I thought this was a fabulous idea. As someone with UI/DI knowledge who has also assisted at the AJCC/WS offices, this cross-training has made me a better State Servant and Manager, helping me understand processes from all angles. Lunch was great — we got to mingle with people we might never cross paths within our daily lives but who shared a common interest. I wholeheartedly recommend attending the CWC conference to experience this for yourself and meet some amazing people in the process. I promise you won't regret it.



JOYCE OLAYINKA

the integration onto State Disability Insurance Online (SDIO).

Melissa Stone's presence at the conference exemplified the power of positive leadership. Her approach to revamping operational procedures from the ground up, with a focus on collaboration and cross-training, resonated deeply with attendees. Her ability to connect with the audience, without a facade of knowing it all, emphasized the value of humility in leadership.

During the panel discussion, Melissa did not solely focus on "big picture" items, but also on fostering simple skills within our internal customers that would be impactful in their own way. For example, she mentioned helping build confidence within DIB

when faced with challenging situations by providing the necessary skills, training, and tools. This way of thinking highlights strategies that will enhance customer interactions. Her philosophy of stepping back to identify areas of improvement was a testament to her thoughtful and inclusive leadership style. Melissa's vision of fostering a sense of family within the organization and valuing each member's contribution to the collective goal is inspiring.

Overall, Melissa was relatable, kind, funny, and approachable during her time at the CWC conference. Her influence at the conference was not just motivational, but also actionable. She inspired everyone to be their best versions of themselves and aspire to greater heights.

## **INVENTING YOUR LIFE**

FROM PAGE 4

Consequently, he invited his newfound friend to a shopping spree at his store and gave him anything he could grab in 45 seconds. The interview ended with both smiling and speaking about their newfound friendship, which ultimately featured how that act of kindness brought them together. They were able to share the story with the rest of the world.

This story further validated the importance of this action and how one never knows how deeply it could touch another person. Suppose you have already put this action into practice or are contemplating making minor changes to enrich

your life. In that case, I recommend you take those steps towards adding to your kindness legacy. We cannot underestimate its power, and while the world is watching to see what is not going right, it is an excellent counterbalance towards showing that same audience what is going quite well among everyday folks around us.

*"Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear, and the blind can see."*

– Mark Twain

Remember to follow the blog at:

[inventingyourlife.blogspot.com](https://inventingyourlife.blogspot.com)

## **EAST BAY CHAPTER**

### **AN EVENING WITH MICHAEL KANE: YOUR LEADERSHIP JOURNEY**

*By Arlene Bautista, East Bay Chapter Presentation, Bybee Chair*

Michael Kane, the Employment Development Administrator (EDA) for the UI Center #017 in Anaheim, gave a presentation on a topic that he knows best: Your Leadership Journey.

On April 25, 2024, in a Zoom general meeting for the East Bay and Silicon Valley Chapters, Michael began the evening by asking, "What must we do first? We must determine who we are and that we must define our leadership. Not an actual manager? Even though you may not currently have a big fancy title, you are still a leader."

He went over a list of important traits found in a leader. Throughout the presentation, he also included many quotes that emphasized the topics.

Do you have a manager or supervisor that has leadership qualities that you respect? You can also imitate those qualities but remember- "you be you."

In the end, he urged the attendees to "take each day as it comes. It is important on how you use your energy."

Mr. Kane's presentation was inspiring, and it was clear that he was very passionate about educating us about how to become an effective leader.

## **FRESNO CHAPTER**

*By Dr. James Thomas, CWC President*

Fresno Chapter President Meafou Pomale-Maga graciously invited me to their engaging workshop on April 24, 2024. The topic, "Together is Better – Maximizing Team Harmony," was met with great anticipation by the Fresno officers, who were eager to enhance their leadership skills. It was a pleasure to meet them and witness their active participation before the workshop commenced.

The presenters were Wyattte Gilbert, Corina Wing, and Dr. Jenelle N. Gilbert, CMPC. The presenters began the presentation with a picture, which they used as an icebreaker. We instantly started using analytical skills, teamwork integration, and problem-solving strategies. We, as a team, presented the final solution. We gave examples of helping co-workers feel their best and how co-workers could do the same for us. We supported each other, showed caring attitudes, and provided positivity. We shared complementary skills, values, and accountability for our actions.



TEAM HARMONY

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

MORE CHAPTER NEWS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

As the hour flew by in a whirlwind of learning, it became clear that the Fresno Chapter has a knack for hosting engaging workshops. Previous topics have included Keys to Effective Communication, Leaning into Leadership, Managing Stress Intentionally, Catching Confidence in the Cubicle, and Creating and Cultivating Team Culture. Stay tuned for more exciting workshops that promise to be as informative and interactive as this one.



## INLAND EMPIRE CHAPTER

### HEART AND STROKE WALK

By Margaret Marting, 1st Vice-President, Inland Empire Chapter



On April 27, 2024, the CWC Inland Empire Chapter had the pleasure of walking for a worthy cause near and dear to many. Our chapter loves uniting with community events where we can not only give back but make an impact with our actions by giving time to worthy causes like the Heart Walk. Hundreds of people came out to show support for loved ones and friends who are dealing with and or are survivors of Heart disease for this event sponsored by the American Heart Association. We're all tied to heart disease in some way. Still, this walk gives us all an opportunity to change things with our donations and time, which helps the American Heart Association with the ability to conduct more research and identify more medical breakthroughs. CWC Inland Chapter was also supported by some of our members who shared their experiences.

Secret Winbush, a shining example of inspiration, joined the cause and walked in solidarity for all survivors. She shared, "It was a privilege to join the CWC in their efforts to support our local community activities. The American Heart Walk was not just a physical activity, but a powerful way to raise awareness about the impact of heart disease on individuals and their families. We had a fantastic time with our fellow co-workers from various offices, and we were able to show our support for those walking for their loved ones and those who have triumphed over the disease."

Sherrill Weathers also came out to join in the walk and walked and shared she has a personal connection and wanted to represent. She reported, "My experience at the Heart Walk was a time I was able to connect with my constituents outside of the worksite and to participate in a cause that is dear to me as my mother passed away due to heart complications. Representing

my mother and my 041 (San Bernardino) office at the walk was a joy. It was a powerful time to see survivors and the many families representing a loved one or just for themselves. I also enjoyed all the positive interactions among the participants and vendors. Dancing was fun!"

It was a rewarding experience to see the smiling faces and unity among strangers as we all shared in one vision by walking and representing survivors!



## LOS COMPADRES CHAPTER

### CWC LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP - THANK YOU!

By Bob Woodford  
CWC Financial Accountant  
Los Compadres Chapter

To the Los Compadres Chapter President Angel Urbina, the CWC Board of Directors, and Los Compadres members, I would like to express my sincerest appreciation for sponsoring my CWC Lifetime Membership.

I am proud to be a member of CWC and the Los Compadres Chapter. I am truly honored by this award and blessed to be recognized in this way. I will become more involved in chapter activities, and I am willing to serve in any capacity that would benefit my chapter. I will be on the lookout for upcoming events and participate whenever possible.



ANGEL URBINA AND  
BOB WOODFORD



## ORANGE EMPIRE CHAPTER

### "AVOIDING IDENTITY THEFT" WEBINAR OFFERED

Thursday, June 6, 2024 • 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Presented by

**TOBI WEST, PHD**

Cyber Center Director

Pre-registration required due to limited spots.

This is the Zoom link for participants to register for the meeting.

**REGISTER HERE:**

<https://cccd-edu.zoom.us/j/7546123456>  
[D4pG9BJ95LEk8-OZcSoOPG8JlkD](https://cccd-edu.zoom.us/j/7546123456)

All members welcome

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

MORE CHAPTER NEWS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

## PUERTO DEL SOL CHAPTER

### ALTA VISTA BOTANICAL GARDENS VISITED

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

Why did we choose this activity? Our Puerto Del Sol (PDS) Chapter strives to bring people together to share common interests and nurture a space for educational and professional development opportunities. An enthusiastic group of PDS members and guests met up Saturday, April 13, 2024, at the Alta Vista Botanical Gardens (AVBG) in Vista, California to take a walk together, take in the interesting flora and fauna and network.

AVBG Volunteer, Jeanne Wilson, welcomed us and offered a brief history of the Gardens. We learned that Alta Vista Botanical Gardens (AVBG) was established in May of 1999, the nonprofit Vista Botanical Garden Foundation was established through the private donations of Founders Dr. M. E. Darian, Rocco Valluzzi, Larry Hoekstra, JoAnn Hoekstra, and Joe Lentz. Fun Fact: AVBG's original name was the Vista Botanical Forest.

What was fun? We had an opportunity to receive a remarkable docent-led tour by Naomi Stein, one of the founding members of the Children's Garden at AVBG. One of the first stops was a spectacular statue called, "Serpent" by Ricardo Breceda and donated by Nancy & Don Jones, Judy Ritter Family, Virginia Hueth, and the Woman's Club of Vista GFWC in 2016.

Patricia Coladonato, PDS member and retired Workforce Services Employment Program Manager, poured pebbles into one of the most popular musical instruments in the Children's Garden. Patricia and the group were enchanted with the rain stick sound effects. Retired Employment Development Specialist Jennifer Lucy and past PDS Secretary delighted us with festive percussion of a musical bucket. Inspired by a sense of levity and ease, we kicked off the morning promenade together with a short scavenger hunt which included exploring how cotton grows,



species of bamboo and tasting some lemon verbena. This section of the gardens also included a vivaciously colorful bird house tower and an endearing community garden with scarecrows lovingly donated by garden festival contestants. Maritza Marroquin-Sanders, PDS 1st Vice President, shared nostalgically how her children grew up participating in the AVBG Children's Garden programs with Farmer Nancy Jones.

The tour included team building activities including a group photo in the Garden's robust labyrinth paved with juniper bushes and rosemary, fragrant and in full bloom. The grounds tour included a trip through the Prehistoric Garden with more sightings of Breccera statues including two eight-foot dinosaurs, a life-sized horse, and a well-camouflaged bush made out of iron. George Haith, past Chapter President, found an impressive giant scorpion statue. With child-like awe, we all gathered to take a closer look. We enjoyed a lovely rock river garden with a variety of whimsical painted rocks and delighted in tasting fennel at the Edible Garden section of AVBG.

There were turtle sightings at the ponds that brought about lively conversation and connection. Phil Dwyer, CWC State Treasurer and Luis Perez offered guidance and insight to PDS leadership about upcoming Chapter activities, including planning our annual Puerto Del Sol Picnic in San Diego. Stay tuned for more Picnic updates on the CWC website.

Would we go back? Yes! AVBG offers generous membership options, volunteer and sponsorship opportunities, as well as community events like Mead in Garden, Yoga in the Garden, Children in the Garden programs and annual festivals. To learn more, visit the AVBG website: [altavistabotanicalgardens.org](http://altavistabotanicalgardens.org).

If you would like more information about the Puerto Del Sol Chapter or California Workforce Connection, please reach out to [PuertoDelSolSD@outlook.com](mailto:PuertoDelSolSD@outlook.com), and visit [www.californiaworkforceconnection.org](http://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

## 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](mailto: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.