

The Monitor

Experts on estate planning to keynote Annual Meeting

BY HARRY CULOTTA

Two legal experts on estate planning will be the keynote speakers at the April 25 annual meeting of the VCCCD Retirees' Association.

Their presentation is titled "A Taste of Estate Planning."

Paul Morison and his partner, Christopher Botti, will focus primarily on the revocable living trust as an estate planning vehicle.

They will describe the hazards of probate in California and how to avoid it, the advantages and disadvantages of living trusts versus wills, how to reduce taxes through proper estate planning, powers of attorney for health care decisions, physician directives or "living wills," and other estate planning issues.

They will also answer questions from the audience, distribute printed informational materials, and extend an invitation to attend "full blown" workshops that will be scheduled locally soon after the annual meeting.

Our keynote speakers are principals of the firm Botti and Morison, Estate Planning Attorneys, with

eight offices in Central and Southern California, including offices in Ventura and Westlake Village.

Both Botti and Morison received their law degrees from Whittier College School of Law, where both served as editors of the Whittier Law Review.

They have specialized in estate planning for almost two decades.

This is a great opportunity for VCCCD retirees to learn more about the importance of estate planning, and especially about the revocable living trust, from experts in the field. For retirees who have not yet developed a will or living trust, their presentation on estate planning is a must!

In addition to the keynote address, the annual meeting's agenda includes having retirees vote for officers to lead the VCCCD Retirees Association for the next two years, as the terms of all four elected officers (president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer) will expire on June 30, 2012.

The Association secretary and treasurer have indicated their willingness to stand for re-election to another two-year term, but there will be the need to elect a new president and vice-president.

Anyone interested in serving the association in either capacity or in nominating someone to serve is

Annual Meeting set for April 25

Mark your calendars!

The annual meeting of the VCCCD Retirees' Association is coming April 25.

The meeting will be held at the Ventura County Office of Education Conference Center, 5100 Adolfo Rd., in Camarillo.

President Harry Culotta will call the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

The agenda includes election of new officers for the association and two proposed changes to the Bylaws (detailed elsewhere in this newsletter).

(See PLANNING, page 2)

VCCCDRA president Culotta on chancellor search team

VCCCD Retirees' Association President Harry Culotta has been selected to serve on the 21-member search committee to find a new chancellor for the college district.

Dr. James Meznek, chancellor since July 2004, has announced that he will retire in June or July 2012.

The Chancellor Search Committee is chaired by Patricia Parham, Vice Chancellor, Human Resources, and is assisted by Dr. James Walker and Dr. John Romo of Community College Search Services.

Culotta, a resident of Ven-

tura, was appointed by Steven Blum, Chair of the VCCCD Board of Trustees, as his community representative.

"I'm pleased and honored to be asked to help with the search for the district's next chancellor," Culotta said.

The Chancellor's Search Committee has already drafted a brochure.

Following an approximately two-month recruitment process, the Committee will interview candidates in May, then forward its recommendations to the Board of Trustees for final interviews and action in June.

Retirees offer accreditation help to VCCCD trustees

Members of the Retirees' Association have offered their help to the District Board of Trustees as the members grapple with accreditation issues.

The Political Committee of the association has met with several trustees to offer assistance.

The District has a March 15 deadline to make a preliminary report to the accrediting commission, with a second, more detailed, report due in October.

New membership roster available at annual meet

The 2012 edition of the VCCCDRA Membership Roster will be distributed at the association's annual meeting April 25.

The directory includes contact information for more than 600 retirees, according to Membership Committee chair Don Medley.

The roster also includes association Bylaws.

Estate planning, elections To highlight annual meeting

(From page 1)

asked to please contact John Woolley at jwools@sbcglobal.net or Gary Johnson at freevcnet@aol.com

Finally, the association's Executive Board will ask retirees to approve minor revisions to two sections of the *Bylaws of the VCCCD Retirees' Association*, as follows (with new language in *italics*).

Article III - MEMBERS

Section 3. There shall be no initiation fee. The board shall recommend annual *AND LIFETIME* dues. The amount(S) *ARE* to be

voted upon by the members at a general meeting.

~~Dues were reduced to \$10.00 per year beginning July 1, 1998.~~

Article IV - OFFICERS

Section 7. The duties of the Treasurer shall be:

- e. To prepare *budgets*, financial reports, and annual statements.

Please join us for an exciting and informative annual meeting on Wednesday, April 25, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Ventura County Office of Education Conference Center, 5100 Adolfo Road in Camarillo.

In Memoriam

It is with sadness that we report the passing of our friends and colleagues:

Howard Level
Don Matthews
Julian Tarleton
Ron Zaboski

Membership Report by Don Medley

IF YOU RECEIVE A PRINTED COPY OF THIS, AND IF THE ADDRESS IS HAND-WRITTEN, IT MEANS IT WAS ADDRESSED BY THE DISTRICT, WHICH CANNOT SUPPLY US THE ADDRESS. IF YOU DO NOT SEND US YOUR ADDRESS, WE WILL REMOVE YOU FROM OUR LABEL FILE AND YOU WILL RECEIVE NO MONITORS IN THE FUTURE.

WE NEED ADDRESSES! THERE ARE MANY NEW RETIREES!

WE NEED ADDRESSES/PHONE NUMBERS/EMAIL ADDRESSES FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE. If you can help, call Don Medley at 805-482-8761 or email to don.medley@verizon.net. Thank you for your help.

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|-----------------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Robert Anderson | Beverly Barker | Eddie Baugh | Margaret Boles | James Botting |
| Elizabeth Bowker | Donald Brockett | Reginald Burrier | Vincent Campo | Margaret (Peggy) Castor |
| Susan Carter | Linda K. Chapman | Paul Conley | Christy Corbett | Jeanette Cortez |
| Aseneth Cota | Paulette Cox | James Crowley | Patricia Dozen | Patricia Earl |
| Franceen Fallett | Katherine Felter | Ruby Filar | Dallas Flanigan | Christina Garcia |
| Gullian Dale | Ron Halleran | Lucia Haro | Juan Hernandez | Charles J. Hewson |
| Judith Hunt | Marge Imbach | Erlinda Tuyor Ispahani | Deborah Jacobson | Ralph James |
| Achla Jinda | Donna Johnson | Michael Johnson | Anne Kairschner | Steven Kegley |
| Norma Letinsky | Michael McGann | Gaynor McGhee | Olivia Menchaca | Victorino Mercado |
| Alfred Miller | Michael Munoz | Janet Murdock | Norlene Neal | Earl O'Neill |
| Stasia O'Neil | Garland Orr | James Owen | Lucy Paez | Maria Parker |
| Arthur Preston | Steve Price | Steve Righetti | John Roach | Emile Robb |
| Ofelia Romero-Motlagh | Mary Ruiz | John Fred Schaaak | Joe Sabedra | Tomas Sanchez |
| Isaiah (Zeke) Simmons | Judy Skahl | Larry Smithson | Mark Thomas Spragins | Art Szylewicz |
| E. Burns Taft | Mary Taylor-Parr | Neriman Urkmez | Sue Wall | Florencia Wallace |
| Ernest Williams | | | | |

Please correct your roster with the following changes:

- | | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Jose DeGuzman | Teri Hernandez | Charles Hewson | Frances E. Hughes |
| Maricarmen Ohara | John Ostrander | Robert Reeves | Bill McEnroe |
| Diane Sukiennik | Dora Washington | Lois L. Winter | |

Email address changes: Robert Arce: Gary B. Morgan:

Email address changes needed: All these emails were returned as undeliverable.

- | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Dave & Jean Abraham | Rita Beahan | Marjorie Berg | Alberto Beron |
| Armando R. Castillo | Betty R. Coffey | Terry Colin | Tom Everton |
| Joan Faskin-Johnson | Nancy Feltman | Marjorie Hawkins | Hitoshi Kajihara |
| Marilyn Kauffman | Clara Kimbrough | Virginia Lawler | Clara Lawson |
| Norman Mallory | Lucie Marsh | Michael Meeks | Shelton Mehr |
| Johnna L. Morton | Mary Taylor-Parr | Beverly Pearson | Richard Phelps |
| Steve Pollock | Robert Reynolds | Sharon Starr | William Thieman |
| Eliza Thomas | Suzanne van Marion | | |

And anyone else who does not get emails from us.

**Annual Meeting:
April 25**

Look for us on the Web at

<http://www.vcccdra.org>

2011-2012 Executive Board

Harry Culotta, President

Pat Gage, Treasurer

René G. Rodriguez, Past President

Gary Johnson, Benefits Committee Chair

Gary B. Morgan, Vice President

Don Medley, Membership Committee Chair

Marie Soo Hoo, Secretary

Larry Manson, Political Committee Chair

**VCCCD Retirees' Association
P.O. Box 6216
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