



The Grapevine

APRIL 2017

Representing over 7,124 retirees and their families www.refco1.org • INCORPORATED 1978

Thursday, April 6 Luncheon Reservations

**ALL RESERVATIONS
MUST BE MADE BY CHECK**

PARDINI'S

2257 W Shaw, corner of
W Shaw & Van Ness
Fresno CA

Check-in: 10 a.m.
Sit-down luncheon served
at 11:30 a.m.

"JACKS IN THE BAG" Raffle
50/50 Raffle
FOOD DRIVE BENEFITING
RONALD MCDONALD
HOUSE OF THE
CENTRAL VALLEY
Books, CD & DVD Exchange

WHAT'S NEW AT THE ZOO

Reservations \$14 members;
\$17 nonmembers. Please make
your check payable to REFCO,
and mail to:

REFCO, P.O. BOX 26384
FRESNO, CA 93729-6384

Deadline for reservations is
Saturday, April 1. Your check
must reach us by that date, so
please mail it early to allow for
the USPS delivery. **Except for
free lunches,**

**PHONE RESERVATIONS
WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

You may cancel your reserva-
tion by calling Marianne
Messina at 559-439-9524 prior
to the deadline of April 1. If you
get her answering machine,
please leave your name, phone
number and that you are
canceling your reservation.

**CANCELLATIONS AFTER
THE DEADLINE
CANNOT BE REFUNDED.**

**NEXT EVENT:
JULY 20 LUNCHEON**

President's Message

Hello REFCO members, it is with great humility that I accept the presidency and stewardship responsibilities for your retiree organization through the next two years. We have enjoyed a very successful two years with Past President Linda Hutcheson's guidance and I can only hope to emulate her leadership talent and abilities.



Bob Dowell

Your REFCO Board members just closed out a busy year by holding monthly meetings to address issues related to membership, retirement security, retiree medical plans, media misinformation regarding pensioners and other evolving issues such as selecting an alternative site for our popular REFCO luncheons.

We hope your winter activities have left you feeling relaxed, refreshed and ready to enjoy our Spring season with all of the pleasant changes coming our way. We have been fortunate in receiving ample rainfall this year so your gardens will certainly need some extra attention.

The REFCO website has recently been updated and we encourage each of you to utilize this resource for obtaining current information as well as referring to our quarterly issue of The Grapevine newsletter for critical subject matter.

Your REFCO Board members anticipate attending meetings held by the Fresno County Employees' Association (FCERA), the statewide California Retired Employees Association (CRCEA) and working with their standing Retirement Security Committee. We will once again organize the October Retirees' Health Fair and we will continue to monitor the Board of Supervisor meetings for retiree based issues.

As you can see, we will undoubtedly enjoy another busy year and without your continued supporting membership and input, we would be severely handicapped in performing our duties. So we offer you a hardy thank you for being an active member of this important retiree organization.

Pardini's Was A Huge Success: We Will Have Lunch There All Year

The January luncheon was applauded and cheered by everyone who attended. For those of you who did not attend, we hope to see you at our next luncheon, Thursday, April 6. Due to a scheduling conflict, this date is 2 weeks before our usual date. Pardini's was able to accommodate all of our other usual dates.

Pardini's is located at 2257 W Shaw Ave at the corner of W Shaw and Van Ness. Doors will open at 10:00 am with lunch to be served at 11:30 am. The lunch will be \$14 for REFCO members and \$17 for nonmembers.

Although there is limited parking in front of the building, there is plenty of parking in the back and on the side street. Volunteers will be outside, both in the front and back, to assist you into the building.

FCERA News

FCERA will be providing a 2.0% COLA effective with the retirement benefit paid on April 30th. Those members with retirement dates on or before April 1st, 1983 will receive a 3.0% through the use of the Accumulated Carry-Over ("COLA Bank"). For more information, please see www.fcera.org.

Rain has delayed construction of the new FCERA offices and the move will likely be in August or September 2017.

PLEASE HELP US: Keep Your Mailing and Email Addresses Updated

Every Grapevine mailing results in at least 15 bad addresses and 25 addresses updated by the USPS. Obviously, the *Grapevines* to the bad addresses do not get delivered. The *Grapevines* to the updated addresses are delivered with the USPS notifying us of your new address and billing us for that service.

Unfortunately, the 15 bad addresses are usually the same retirees, but there is no way to contact you for correct information. If you are not getting your

See **Address** on page 3



Who to Call for Help

Retirement Office .559-457-0681

- Retirement Check
- Withholding Forms
- Beneficiary Change
- Address Change
- Retirement Board Meetings

Employee Benefits ..559-600-1810

- County Health Insurance

REFCO559-431-5032

or refco.emails@gmail.com
 mail REFCO, P.O. Box 26384,
 Fresno, CA 93729-6384.

- Grapevine
- Membership
- Address Change

Don Nelson

refco.media_mgr@gmail.com

- New/Changed E-mail Address

Marianne559-439-9524

- Luncheon Reservations

Don't Expect the US Post Office to Tell Us When You've Moved

New US Post Office regulations require REFCO to maintain mailing addresses that are updated no later than 90 days. **To help us keep costs down, we need you to immediately notify us when you move.**

The Grapevine

Disclaimer Statement

The information printed in "The Grapevine" is believed to be from reliable sources. However, no responsibility is assumed by "The Grapevine" for inaccuracies contained herein.

Privacy Statement

REFCO recognizes the need for the privacy of its members and is committed to protecting your personal information. The Officers and Directors of REFCO restrict access to information about you to those who need to know the information to provide services to you.

The information that REFCO has about you is your name, mailing address and payment of membership dues. This list of members is provided to us by the Retirement Office.

REFCO does not disclose any of this information about our members and former members to third parties. The information is limited to those who assist us with mailings such as *The Grapevine* Newsletter. The companies who act on our behalf are obligated to keep this information that we provide them confidential.

REFCO does not sell or share our member lists.

2017 REFCO Activities Calendar

JANUARY 12: Board Mtg 19: Luncheon	FEBRUARY 9: Board Mtg	MARCH 9: Board Mtg
APRIL 6: Luncheon 13: Board Mtg	MAY 11: Board Mtg	JUNE 8: Board Mtg
JULY 13: Board Mtg 20: Luncheon	AUGUST 10: Board Mtg	SEPTEMBER 7: Bingo Bash 14: Board Mtg
OCTOBER 12: Board Mtg 19: Hlth Fair Lunch	NOVEMBER 9: Board Mtg	DECEMBER 7: Christmas Party

- **Meetings** – 9:00 am, FCFCU Admin Offices, 2550 W Shaw Ave
- **Luncheons** – Lunch at 11:30 am, Pardini's, 2257 W Shaw Ave
- **Christmas Party** – Lunch at 11:30 am, Pardini's, 2257 W Shaw Ave

Ronald McDonald House Beneficiary of REFCO's April 6 Food Drive

For the April 6th meeting we will be featuring the Ronald McDonald House of the Central Valley.

The first Ronald McDonald House of the Central Valley opened on Millbrook Ave. in 1984. We were the 4th RMHC to open their doors in California. The new facility was started with a great deal of excitement and support from the local community, and especially the new partnership with Valley Children's Hospital. As the hospital grew, so did the need to provide a larger facility for our families. We are the "House that Love Built" so naturally, on February 14, 2001; we expanded to an 18 bedroom Ronald McDonald House located adjacent to Valley Children's Hospital in Madera, CA.

Each year hundreds of families stay at the Ronald McDonald House of the Central Valley. We rely solely on the generosity of the community to provide for our fam-

See **Food Drive** on page 4

Household Items Requested

- Toiletries – Shampoo, Conditioner, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Soap, Feminine Hygiene Products, Nursing Pads & Diapers (Newborn-Toddler)
- Paper Goods – Plates, Cereal Bowls, Paper Towels, Napkins, Facial Tissues, Ziploc Bags, Coffee Filters, Plastic Wrap & Foil
- Garbage Bags- 13 & 30 gallon size
- Plastic Forks, Knives & Spoons
- White Wash Cloths, Hand Towels & Bath Towels
- Cream or White Fleece Blankets

Food Items Requested

- Fresh Fruits & Vegetables
- Coffee, Tea, Sweet 'N Low & Creamer
- Snack Foods "Grab & Go" Snacks- Granola Bars, Top Ramen, Cup of Noodles, Individual Packaged Snacks, Juice Boxes, and Dried Fruit
- Frozen Foods – Frozen Burritos, UNcrustables, and Dinners
- Milk & Eggs
- Meat & Lunch Meat – Fresh or Frozen

Of course, as usual we accept checks made out to Ronald McDonald House Charities or cash.

DIRECTORY OF REFCO OFFICIALS/VOLUNTEERS

PO Box 26384 • Fresno CA 93729-6384
 Website: refco1.org
 Contact Information:
 Phone: 559.431-5032
 Email: refco.emails@gmail.com

Officers

President.....Bob Dowell
 1st Vice PresidentJudy Lemos
 2nd Vice PresidentRegina Wheeler
 Recording Secretary.....Dick Estel
 Membership SecretaryJoy Clark
 TreasurerLinda Robinson
 Asst Treasurer.....Marianne Messina
 Imm Past PresidentLinda Hutcheson

Directors

June Breese-McClellan
 Julie Hornback Janet Smith
 Don Nelson Sue Wirt
 Diann Phelps Patrice White

Retirement Bd

Bob Dowell Mary Ann Rogozinski (alt)

Committee Chairs

AdvocacyJudy Lemos
 Benefits.....Les Jorgensen
 By-Laws.....Judy Lemos
 CRCEA DelegateDick Estel
 CRCEA AlternateVacant
 Community OutreachPatrice White
 EventsRegina Wheeler
 Finance & BudgetLinda Robinson
GrapevineJoy Clark
 HealthAnnie Lee
 LegislationBob Dowell
 Luncheon
 ReservationsMarianne Messina
 Luncheon Master
 of Ceremonies.....Ken Smith
 Media Manager.....Don Nelson
 MembershipJoy Clark
 Nominating.....Dick Estel
 Parliamentarian.....Dick Estel
 ScholarshipJanet Smith
 SunshineVirginia Quintana
 WebmasterDaniel Moore

Congratulations, New Retirees & New Members!

New REFCO members are **bolded**. *Indicates a deferred member. *Listed alphabetically by last name.*

Note: Missing info on some new REFCO members indicates the info could not be verified by the *Grapevine* deadline.

Mark Abbott	Clovis Vets Mem.....	33.52	Jennifer L Jump	Probation.....	1.47*
Bernadette Aganza.....	Pub Defender.....	18.21	Allen Dennis Kerns	Fleet Servs.....	26.92
Joseph M Aguayo.....	Facility Servs	7.84*	Cheryl A Lawler	Library.....	17.23
Maria D Aguilar	Soc Servs.....	25.27	David R Lawson	ITSD.....	8.70
Peter L J Albert	Sheriff	27.19	Ankara Lee	Pub Hlth	Active
M Lupe Alvarado.....	Soc Servs.....	37.63	Jody L Leffall	Soc Servs.....	17.91
Colleen Amico.....	Dist Attny	19.49	Karen L Mabry	Soc Servs	15.86
Steven Andrada	Gen Servs	8.52*	Toya C Mares.....	VMC.....	5.53*
David Baker.....	Security	11.95	Guadalupe Melendez.....	Soc Servs.....	22.25
Hobby A Ballard.....	Sheriff	15.26	Ronald J Mock.....	Develop Servs	16.24
Carol E Bishop.....	Pub Hlth.....	5.63*	John Montejano.....	CA Sup Cts.....	11.21
Marc Bolger	Sheriff-Jail	Active	Helen Morozov	Comm Hlth	20.72
Brant K Bramer	CA Sup Cts.....	31.97	Greg Mukai.....	Agriculture	10.83*
Daniel R Branam	Sheriff	27.72	Tina L Ortiz		
Mae Brizzee	Assr-Recorder.....	13.86	Myrna Pacheco	Beh Hlth.....	18.08*
Frances D Brown	Beh Hlth	25.11	Christine Palacios	Soc Servs.....	21.63
Wanda Burrow	Soc Srvs		Scott Phipps		
Denise Campos	ET&A		Lynda M Plancarte.....	Soc Servs.....	18.48
Martha I Castro	Soc Servs.....	21.36	Jose Plascencia	Soc Servs	Active
Pon Chin	Active		James P Pratt	ITSD	14.91
Joel Cobb	Sheriff		Joe Quesada.....	Sheriff	7.03*
Susan N Conell	Develop Servs	5.57*	Sandra Ratkus.....	Dist Atty	22.54
Marjorie Conrad	Widow of A Vernon		Dennis Reitz	Sheriff	0.80*
Rosalinda C Cook	Beh Hlth	25.13	Lisa Renteria	Pub Hlth	Active
Linda J Cotta.....	Other Co Operations....	1.33*	Michael Robinson	Ag Comm	
Jerry L Cox.....	Soc Servs.....	11.01*	Gloria Rodriguez	Soc Servs.....	35.56
Vickie Crow.....	A-C/T-TC	13.59	Vivian Rodriguez.....	Child Supp Servs	22.74
Gloria Cunning	Soc Servs	Active	Diana Rosales.....	Sheriff	26.20
Barbara Dodds	Prob	Active	Stacey J Ruble.....	Pub Defender.....	21.10
Simon P Dominguez Jr.....	Sheriff	28.38	Jennifer Russell.....	Beh Hlth.....	15.57
Sharon A Doolittle	Sheriff	24.88	Sandra Sadler	Beh Hlth	25.72
Deborah Duncan	Beh Hlth.....	18.52	Gloria Saucedo	CA Sup Cts.....	27.62
Lydia G Elizondo	Interpreters	Active	Mike C Sayasenga	Soc Servs	Active
Mary L Escutia	Pub Hlth.....	6.09*	R Renena Smith.....	A-C/T-TC	7.02*
Erlinda F Esparza	CA Sup Cts	36.15	Sherry Spears		
Elizabeth Fox	Beh Hlth		Steven R Stinger	Beh Hlth	8.12*
Wayne Fox	Pub Hlth		Rochelle Tabb	Soc Servs.....	27.73
Kevin E Fries	Personnel.....	21.90*	Jimilee S Thaxton	Beh Hlth.....	9.75*
Mary H Garza	Soc Servs.....	17.91	Charleen Torigian	CA Sup Cts.....	18.02
Raul T Garza.....	Pub Wks & Plan.....	10.77	Timothy Van Houwelingen	Sheriff	26.61
Beth C Goering	Library.....	24.50	Deborah Viau.....	Soc Servs.....	9.16*
Michael Grieco.....	Sheriff	25.74	Brenda Villanueva	Active	
Michael Hanlin	Sheriff	Active	De Ann Von Berg	Personnel	27.96
Elaine Henderson	Pub Defender	Active	Thayin Vu.....	Comm Hlth.....	15.08*
Sonny Hicks	Assr-Recorder.....	11.77	Christin Weatherby	Beh Hlth.....	22.10
Robert E Hinojosa Jr	Soc Servs	Active	Loren Wiens.....	Beh Hlth.....	15.20
Joyce Johnson.....	Soc Servs.....	16.41	Tim Wilson	CA Sup Cts	27.80
Timothy L Johnson.....	ITSD	18.02	Veronica Zamora.....	Pub Hlth.....	30.33

IN MEMORIAM

REFCO extends our condolences to the family and friends of the following deceased, as reported by the Retirement Office:

RETIREES

Richard R Allen
Bruce Anderson
June Aoki
Kenneth Badiali
Debra Cooper
Shirley Crosby
Kenneth Farr
Natalie Fries
James George
Ruth Greeley

Carlton Greenwood
Thomas Harper
Sarah Herion
Larry Hill
Joseph Leonard
Shirley Milner
Steven Nitta
Jacqueline Radke
Richard Rose
Carl Sakiyama
Andres Salazar

Robert Tolladay
Bertha Tripp
Lurline Tucker
Billie Upshaw
Carmen M Vargas
Anita Wagner
Harry E White
Jan Wright
Yoshiko Yamamoto

BENEFICIARIES

Neva Ennes of John
Virginia Harker
of Alfred
Catherine Kelly
of Frances
James Kennedy
of Anita

Richard Monroe
of Carolyn
Sadie Ragsdale
of Joe Sutton
Floyd Skaggs of Irene
Sarah Whittaker
of Robert
ACTIVE
Rod Lucas

Address

Continued from page 1

quarterly Grapevine, please contact us with your correct address or a phone # that we can use to contact you. You can leave a message at 559-431-5032. This phone is for messages only. You will get a call back when someone picks up the messages. You can also

contact us with your correct mailing address by emailing us at:

refco.emails@gmail.com.

Every Grapevine emailing results in close to 100 bad email addresses. Sometimes the mail boxes are full, but most times the addresses are not valid, whether from changes to your email address and/or your email provider. If you are not getting your quarterly *Grapevine*, please contact us

with your correct email address by emailing us at:

refco.emails@gmail.com.

We share all updated addresses we receive from you with the Retirement Office to ensure that your retirement check is delivered to the correct address. They will verify the new address with you before making any changes to your address on file with them.

Nails in a Fence

(AUTHOR UNKNOWN)

A long time ago, there was a boy who was smart, talented and handsome. However, he was very selfish and had a bad temper. Nobody wanted to be friends with him. Often he got angry and said hurtful things to people.

The boy's parents were very concerned about his bad temper. They considered what they could do and the father had an idea. He gave his son a hammer and a bag of nails. The father said, "Every time you get angry, take a nail and drive it into that old fence as hard as you can."

The fence was very tough and the hammer was heavy. Nevertheless, the boy was so furious that during the very first day he had driven in 37 nails.

Day after day, week after week, the number of nails was gradually decreasing. After some time, the boy started to understand that holding his

temper was easier than driving nails into the fence.

Finally, the boy didn't need the hammer and nails anymore, as he had learned to hold his temper. He went to his father and told him about his achievement. The father said, "Now every time you hold your temper all day long, pull out one nail."

Much time passed. At last the boy was proud of himself, as all the nails were gone. When he told his father, the father offered to come take a careful look at the fence.

His father said, "You did a good job, my son, but pay attention to the holes left by the nails. The fence will never be the same. The same thing happens when you say hurtful things to people. Your words leave scars in their hearts like those holes in the fence. Remember we need to treat everyone with love and respect, because even though you say you are sorry, the scars may never truly disappear."

GETTING OLDER – from various County Retirees quarterly newsletters

- I started out with nothing, and I still have most of it.
- My wild oats are mostly enjoyed with prunes and all-bran.
- I finally got my head together and now my body is falling apart.
- If God wanted me to touch my toes, he'd have put them on my knees.
- Some days you're the top dog; some days you're the lamp post.
- These days I spend a lot of time thinking about the hereafter...I go somewhere to get something and I wonder what I'm "here after".
- When you don't care where your spouse goes, just as long as you don't have to go along.

January Raffle Winners
50/50, \$211Maria Jacinto
Jacks in the Bag,
 \$10Mary Calote
Food Drive,
 \$50Marianne Messina
FCFCU Goodie BagsRosemary Baltcha, Consuelo Gonzales-Perez, Irene Martinez, Marianne Messina
REFCO, \$20Marti Kleim, Marie Morales, Charlie Tigh, Della Wright
Liberty Mutual \$20 Gift Certificate to IHOPLinda Robinson

Food Drive

Continued from page 2

ilies and the opportunity to continue to expand our services to those when they need it the most. We could not do it without your continuous dedication and support.

As you can imagine, it takes a lot to make a Ronald McDonald House feel like a "home away from home". To provide a loving, caring and supportive environment, Ronald McDonald House Charities relies on the generous donations from our community.

See page 2 for list of items, big and small, that we greatly appreciate from our loving donors. Thank you for your support.



REFCO
 RETIRED EMPLOYEES OF FRESNO COUNTY

Business Sponsors



Fresno County Federal Credit Union
 Member owned. Member focused.



PACIFIC GROUP AGENCIES, INC.

If you know a business that would be interested in advertising and interacting with our members, please ask them to become a Business Sponsor Member. Request a Business Sponsor Membership application from Joy Clark – email her at: ja-clark@pacbell.net. All applications will be reviewed by the REFCO Directors.



Fresno County Federal Credit Union

Member owned. Member focused.

Don't forget, FCFCU offers professional and comprehensive financial planning services to our members. Take advantage of this opportunity by scheduling an appointment with Ted Dietz, **CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™**



You are invited to meet with the onsite Financial Consultants, Ted Dietz and Chue Lor to discuss how to maximize your retirement funds by calling (559) 437-2002 or by email at chuelor@lpl.com.



LPL Financial
 Located at Fresno County Federal Credit Union

Securities offered through LPL Financial, Member FINRA/SIPC. Insurance products offered through LPL Financial or its licensed affiliates. Fresno County Federal Credit Union and LPL Financial located at Fresno County Federal Credit Union are not registered broker/dealers and are not affiliated with LPL Financial.

Not NCUA Insured | Not Credit Union Guaranteed | May Lose Value

You deserve powerful identity theft protection.

Join over 1.4 million members and protect yourself today with LegalShield



LegalShield®
 Worry Less. Live More.

To contact an Independent Associate
PACIFIC GROUP AGENCIES, INC.
 800.511.9065
sales@pgagencies.com

REFCO members could save hundreds on auto and home insurance.



Liberty Mutual.
 INSURANCE
 AUTO | HOME

CONTACT US TODAY TO START SAVING BY CALLING BRENDA: 559-259-9913

Coverage underwritten and provided by Liberty Mutual Insurance Company, 175 Berkeley Street, Boston, MA 02116. © 2012 Liberty Mutual Insurance.