



# COPRA CHRONICLE

Issued by and for the City of Phoenix Retirees Association  
*Your advocate in pension and insurance matters*

February 2010

**MEMBERSHIP IS OUR STRENGTH**

Issue 7

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### MEMBERSHIP

Changed your address or phone number? For address and/or telephone number changes, or for any questions about your COPRA membership, please contact Marvin Roelse, Membership Chairman. Marvin can be reached by telephone at (480) 288-1046, or by mail at: COPRA Chronicle, 10701 E. Peralta Canyon Dr., Gold Canyon, AZ 85118, or by e-mail at [marvinr567@msn.com](mailto:marvinr567@msn.com)

## DO'S AND DON'TS ON THE CENSUS

Not only is it important to participate in the census, it is equally important to protect yourself against ID theft, a real threat during the census.

With the U.S. Census process beginning, the Better Business Bureau (BBB) advises people to be cooperative, but cautious, so as not to become a victim of fraud or identity theft. The first phase of the 2010 U.S. Census is under way as workers have begun verifying the addresses of households across the country. Eventually, more than 140,000 U.S. Census workers will count every person in the United States and will gather information about every person living at each address including name, age, gender, race, and other relevant data.

The big question is - how do you tell the difference between a U.S. Census worker and a con artist? BBB offers the following advice:

If a U.S. Census worker knocks on your door they will have a badge, a hand-held device, a Census Bureau canvas bag, and a confidentiality notice. Ask to see their identification and their badge before answering their questions. However, you should never invite anyone you don't know into your home.

Census workers are currently only knocking on doors to verify address information. Do not give your Social Security number, credit card or banking information to anyone, even if they claim they need it for the U.S. Census.

**REMEMBER, NO MATTER WHAT THEY ASK, YOU REALLY ONLY NEED TO TELL THEM HOW MANY PEOPLE LIVE AT YOUR ADDRESS.**

While the Census Bureau might ask for basic financial information, such as a salary range, **YOU DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER ANYTHING AT ALL ABOUT YOUR**

Continued on page 3

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The COPRA Board collectively sends our sincere condolences to our Treasurer Gary Gross and his family on the loss of their son, Jeff Gross (47) who died on January 8<sup>th</sup> while skiing in Flagstaff with his family. Jeff was a Captain with US Airways and leaves a wife and two lovely children. Our January board meeting was canceled so that many of us could attend the memorial services for Jeff. I wanted to share this information with all of you since Gary Gross has been a dear friend and dedicated supporter of COPRA, all City Retirees and me personally for many years.

Having shared that with you, I can also say that the board is continuing to be busy in preparation for the upcoming March meeting working with the Retirement Office. Those of you who attended last years meeting know that a great deal of information is shared at this valuable March meeting so we hope you can plan on attending. By now, all of you should also have received your Dental Plan Packet from the City. By the time this Chronicle goes to press the deadline for early January sign-up will have passed. Not to worry, retirees will have another opportunity in June when Open Enrollment happens again. The City should keep you posted on this, but we will also endeavor to keep you updated as well. A big thank- you once again to our Health and Benefits committee for spearheading the effort to get this insurance in place and available to all City retirees.

As a reminder, please continue to check our website at [www.phoenixcopra.com](http://www.phoenixcopra.com) since we make on-going efforts to keep that site updated with the latest information. In closing I look forward to seeing you all in March, and all of us I am sure will continue to think positively for the City as they work through the budget challenges that it appears most likely will impact both employees and citizens alike in 2010.

Jack

## CHRONICLE ISSUES VIA E-MAIL

If you are interested in receiving your copy of the CHRONICLE electronically, send a request (including your name) to [COPRAchronicle@gmail.com](mailto:COPRAchronicle@gmail.com). We will, of course, continue sending CHRONICLE issues to all members who prefer to receive it in the mail. Receiving your newsletter electronically will help defray some of the printing and mailing costs and be COPRA's effort to help make the world a little greener!

# COPRA FINANCIAL REPORT

For the Years Ended December 31, 2009 and 2008

	2009	2008
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Member Dues	\$17,692	\$23,710
Holiday Event	2,936	2,375
Dividends	382	585
Donations	<u>14</u>	<u>83</u>
	\$21,024	\$26,753
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Chronicle	\$11,725	\$11,479
Holiday Event	4,136	5,157
Member Support	996	2,691
Social Activities	377	259
Donations	342	600
Office	<u>83</u>	<u>45</u>
	\$17,659	\$20,231
Net Receipts less		
Disbursements	\$ 3,365	\$6,522
Bank Balance*	\$37,316	\$33,889

\*Includes prepaid dues of \$32,974 in 2009 and \$29,567 in 2008 reserved for future years disbursements.

#### Number of COPRA Members

2009	2,440
2008	2,285
2007	1,966
2006	1,946
2005	1,579

Gary W. Gross, Treasurer  
(pending board approval)

## DO'S AND DON'TS ON THE CENSUS

Continued from page 3

**FINANCIAL SITUATION.** The Census Bureau will not ask for Social Security, bank account, or credit card numbers, nor will employees solicit donations. Any one asking for that information is NOT with the Census Bureau.

**AND REMEMBER, THE CENSUS BUREAU HAS DECIDED NOT TO WORK WITH ACORN ON GATHERING THIS INFORMATION.** NO ACORN WORKER should approach you saying he/she is with the Census Bureau.

Eventually, Census workers may contact you by telephone, mail, or in person at home. However, the Census Bureau will **NOT** contact you by Email, so be on the lookout for Email scams impersonating the Census.

Never click on a link or open any attachments in an Email that are supposedly from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Also - If they ask you if you have a gun in the house - do not answer. It's none of their business and could possibly lead to danger.



**5<sup>th</sup> Annual Camp Colley Golf Tournament**  
**Saturday, April 10, 2010**  
**Aguila Golf Course, 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Baseline Road**

*Camp Colley introduces youth to the fun and education of outdoor recreation and is one of Arizona's most effective interventions for at-risk, inner-city youth and people with life challenges. All proceeds from this tournament will go directly to providing programs at Camp Colley.*

**Please send completed form with check payable to: Camp Colley Foundation, 428 E. Thunderbird Road, #224, Phoenix, AZ 85022**

Entry fee: \$400 per foursome. Four person scramble! (Registration deadline: March 12, 2010)  
 Entry fee includes: 18 holes of golf, tournament shirt, golfer gift bag, range balls, breakfast, lunch and awards presentation.  
 Time: Registration begins at 6:30 AM. Shotgun start at 7:30 AM

**For more information, please contact Kathleen Kilfoyle at 602-359-8023.**

**SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

- TITLE SPONSORSHIP - \$10,000+**  
 Recognition as a "Title Sponsor" on all golf-related material.  
 Corporate logo on event shirt.  
 Twelve complimentary spots in the tournament.  
 Prominent tee signage on holes one and ten.  
 Sponsor banner displayed at registration and lunch.  
 Complimentary vendor booth space to showcase products.  
 Promotional items may be provided in goodie bags.
- SILVER SPONSORSHIP - \$1,500+**  
 Two complimentary spots in the tournament  
 Company name/logo displayed on Longest Drive contest hole.  
 Promotional items may be provided in goodie bags.
- BRONZE SPONSORSHIP - \$1,000+**  
 Company name/logo displayed on Longest Putt contest hole.  
 Promotional items may be provided in goodie bags.
- PLATINUM SPONSORSHIP - \$5,000+**  
 Eight complimentary spots in the tournament.  
 Company name/logo displayed at the Hole in One contest hole.  
 Company name/logo displayed at breakfast.  
 Complimentary vendor/booth space to showcase products.  
 Promotional items may be provided in goodie bags.
- TEE SPONSOR - \$500**  
 Company name/logo on one tee hole.  
 Company name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Authorized signature: \_\_\_\_\_
- GOLD SPONSORSHIP - \$2,500+**  
 Four complimentary spots in the tournament.  
 Company name/logo displayed on Closest to the Pin contest hole.  
 Complimentary vendor/booth space to showcase products.  
 Promotional items may be provided in goodie bags.
- RAFFLE PRIZE DONATION**

*\*Please email company logo to [kathleenkilfoyle@cox.net](mailto:kathleenkilfoyle@cox.net) by April 3, 2010*

**Refer a foursome and receive \$20 in raffle tickets!!**    **TEAM REGISTRATION**    Referred by: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____	City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Shirt Size: _____	Phone: _____ Shirt Size: _____
E-mail: _____	E-mail: _____
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____	City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Shirt Size: _____	Phone: _____ Shirt Size: _____
E-mail: _____	E-mail: _____

**Friend of Camp Colley - \$125: If you can't golf or sponsor, you can still help send a child to camp!**

**To purchase raffle tickets visit [www.campcolley.org](http://www.campcolley.org) or email [kathleenkilfoyle@cox.net](mailto:kathleenkilfoyle@cox.net)**

Editor's note: Because of budget reductions, the financial support for Camp Colley was eliminated by the City, so it is now up to the Foundation to raise the necessary funds to keep Camp Colley operating! Their annual golf tournament is their biggest fundraiser. COPRA donated \$100 to Camp Colley in 2009.

# FINANCIAL PRESENTATION

By the  
CITY OF PHOENIX EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (COPERS)

DATE: March 25, 2010  
TIME: 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm  
LOCATION: Washington Community Center  
2240 W. Citrus Way, Phoenix, AZ

## TOPICS WILL INCLUDE:

1. Economic Overview
2. COPERS' Financial Condition
3. COPERS' Post-retirement Increases

There will be time for questions. Please plan to attend.

Freedom is never free. ~Author Unknown  
Remember to thank our Troops!

## **RENEW YOUR COPRA MEMBERSHIP FOR VALENTINE'S DAY**

It is recommended that if you have not renewed your COPRA membership for 2010, you renew your COPRA membership as a Valentine gift for yourself.

If that is a gift you want:

**Please check the mailing label on this Chronicle for the “Dues Paid Thru:” year. If the “Dues Paid Thru:” year is “2009”, you should renew your COPRA membership now!**

**If you have elected to receive the Chronicle by email you will also receive an email notification when your dues are up for renewal.**

As a retiree, it is important that you stay abreast of events happening in the City that may have an impact on your benefits and the retirement fund. Please renew your membership today. As our motto on the front page of the Chronicle says, “Membership is Our Strength.”

Based on by-law changes approved at the December 3, 2009 annual meeting, COPRA membership dues are now \$10.00 for all members. The dues special is still available so if you pay dues for 4 years (\$40.00), you get credit for 5 years. To renew your COPRA membership, send a check payable to “COPRA” to the following address:

COPRA  
% Marvin Roelse  
10701 East Peralta Canyon Drive  
Gold Canyon, AZ 85118-5130

# NEW RETIREES

## November 2009 Retirees

Richard Alvarado  
Leonardo Alvarez  
Lee Anderson  
Victor Arroyo, Jr.  
Karen Barton  
Kathrin Bass  
Robert Bertrand  
Eileen Brown  
William Camarena, Jr.  
Louie Camargo, Jr.  
Salvatore Campo  
Debra Carnes  
Isabel Cerecedes  
Susan Christiansen  
Raymond Dube  
Arthur Escoto  
Glen Ford

Roger Gray  
Theresa Hayes  
Victor Hernandez  
Pamela Hibbs  
Marilyn Holland  
Robert Hollander  
Carlos Hurtado  
Jody Johnson  
Howard Johnson  
Glenna Kessler  
Donna Konecki  
Richard Kordylas  
Michael Law  
Linda Madrigal  
Maria Martinez  
Eric Miller  
Manuel Murillo  
Scott Oakley

David Owens  
Elizabeth Paulus  
Alfred Preston  
Nancy Ritter  
Roseann Robinson  
Samuel Roland  
N Scamasunder  
Patti Schofield  
Diane Seanor  
Nancy Skinner  
Josie Sonoqui  
George Speros  
Irene Thiss-Carrillo  
Janet Webb  
Patricia Whitfield  
Stephen Williams  
Marsha Wright  
Donald Young

***“Membership is Our Strength”***

## ENJOY LUNCH AND BOOKS AT NEW LIBRARY CAFE

Looking for a relaxing and affordable place to have breakfast or lunch? If so, take the light rail to the Open Book Café at Burton Barr Central Library, 1221 N. Central Ave. The café offers snacks, sandwiches and great coffee, including latte, cappuccino and mocha. The lunch menu includes sandwiches, subs, wraps, and salads for about \$5.50; soup of the day, \$2.25; and sides and fruit for 75 cents. Light breakfast fare is available for under \$2.

The 2,000-square-foot café also has indoor and patio seating, plus free Wi-Fi access.

Hours are:

11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday;  
9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday; and  
1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday.

For more information, visit [www.phoenixpubliclibrary.org](http://www.phoenixpubliclibrary.org).

## *In Remembrance*

Birdie Curtis	11/21/09
Franklin Peworski	12/23/09
Cruz Valenzuela	12/26/09
Norma Herndon	12/29/09 Survivor
Charles Oxford	01/02/10
Nancy Iverson	01/03/10
Wayne Pinley	01/06/10
Paul Newell	01/07/10
Dolores Duran	01/08/10 Survivor
Cruz Tafoya	01/11/10
Arthur Beaumont	01/12/10
Dorinda Forbes	01/12/10
Elouise Swinney	01/17/10
Andrew Makris	01/18/10
Gilbert Regalado	01/22/10

### HEALTH AND COMPASSION

We care about our members and their families. If someone in your family is ill, whether at home or in a care facility, or if a loved one has passed away, please call Mary Dysinger-Franklin at (602) 705-8822

## CLEANING FOR A REASON

If you know any woman currently undergoing chemotherapy for cancer, please pass the word to her that there is a cleaning service that provides FREE housecleaning - 1 time per month for 4 months while she is in treatment. Cleaning for a Reason will have a participating maid service in her zip code area arrange for the service. All she has to do is sign up and have her doctor fax a note confirming the treatment.

Please pass this information on to a woman going through cancer treatment. This organization serves the entire USA and currently has 547 partners to help these women. It's our job to pass the word and let them know that there are people out there that care. Fighting cancer is difficult enough, but living with it is even tougher - and that's where the Cleaning for A Reason Foundation steps in. This newly formed nonprofit offers free professional housecleaning, and maid services to improve the lives of women undergoing treatment for cancer - any type of cancer.

To learn more about this, go to  
[www.cleaningforareason.org](http://www.cleaningforareason.org).

## 2010 COPRA BOARD

President:	<b>Jack Thomas</b> .....(623) 825-6999 E-Mail .....jtn@cox.net
Vice President:	<b>Laura Ross</b> .....(623) 878-3334 E-mail .....ljross50@gmail.com
Treasurer:	<b>Gary Gross</b> .....(602) 992-7495 E-mail .....gwgross1@cox.net
Secretary:	<b>Barbara Kellogg</b> .....(623) 322-5227 E-mail .....avidgolfer@aol.com
Board Members:	<b>PJ Jasso</b> ..... (602) 448-4102 E-mail.....rl-squared@hotmail.com <b>Tami Polinsky</b> .....(602) 327-9217 E-mail ...tamiyourjewelerylady@gmail.com <b>Jim Flanagan</b> .....(480) 497-8317 E-mail .....jamesaflanagan@gmail.com <b>Sue Stites</b> .....(602) 819-7106 E-mail.....sstites@cox.net <b>Karen Clifford-Anderson</b> .....(623) 772-7472 E-mail.....kcliffander@yahoo.com <b>Kerry Wangberg</b> E-mail.....wangwell@qwest.net
Benefits Committee Chair & Health Task Force:	<b>Laura Ross</b> .....(623) 878-3334
Retirement Board Rep:	<b>Kerry Wangberg</b>
Member Support and Social Chair: (Vacant)	
Membership Chair:	<b>Marvin Roelse</b> .....(480) 288-1046 E-mail.....marvinr567@msn.com
Chronicle Editor:	<b>Mary Dysinger-Franklin</b> .....(602) 705-8822 E-mail.....copranewsletter@gmail.com
Past President:	<b>John Burke</b> (ex officio).....(928) 427-9461

COPRA website.....	www.phoenixcopra.com
COPERS website.....	www.phoenix.gov/phxcopers
COPMEA website.....	www.copmea.com
City Retirement Systems (COPERS).....	(602) 534-4400
Personnel - Benefits Section .....	(602) 262-4777
COPMEA.....	(602) 262-6857

## Chronicle Article Deadline

Please be advised that the deadline for submitting articles for the Chronicle is the **20th day of the month** before you want the article to appear. Any member may submit material for publication, but the Editor determines what will appear in the final copy based on suitability and available space.

This is your Chronicle. Help us by submitting articles of general interest. Tell us about yourself, your family, a trip you've taken or an interesting hobby you have. Suggestions are always welcomed.

E-mail to: COPRAnewsletter@gmail.com  
Or mail to: Mary Dysinger-Franklin  
6208 E. Desert Cove Ave  
Scottsdale, AZ 85254

### Disclaimer

Acceptance of advertisements or articles in the COPRA Chronicle does not constitute an endorsement by COPRA of goods or services.



## FEBRUARY COPRA CHRONICLE

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Please send address corrections to:  
COPRA Chronicle, %Marvin Roelse  
10701 East Peralta Canyon Dr.  
Gold Canyon, AZ 85118

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**Washington Adult Center**  
**2240 W. Citrus Way**  
**Phoenix, AZ**  
**1:30 PM**

*Don't forget the March  
Meeting -  
Coming Soon!*

**March 25, 2010 - COPERS Report to Retirees**

**May 20, 2010 - Benefits Information Meeting**

**October 7, 2010 - State of the City with the City Manager**

**December 2, 2010 - Holiday Party (11:30 am)**  
(Mountain Preserve Center)

**Board meetings are at 10 am on the 2nd Thursday of the Month**  
**Except for June, July and August**