



# COPRA CHRONICLE

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

September 2022

**MEMBERSHIP IS OUR STRENGTH**

Issue 6

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### *"Membership is our Strength"* **MEMBERSHIP**

Membership for COPRA is \$12 per year or \$50.00 for 5 years. If you have changed your address, email address or phone number, or have any questions about dues payments, please contact Mary Jo Sunder.

Mary Jo can be reached by: telephone at 602-206-5515, or by email at [copra.members@gmail.com](mailto:copra.members@gmail.com)

**Mail payments to:**  
COPRA  
PO Box 2464  
Litchfield Park, AZ 85340

**PayPal Payments:**  
You can send in dues via PayPal. Use our email address [phoenixcopra@gmail.com](mailto:phoenixcopra@gmail.com) from your account.

## THE 2023 RETIREE BENEFITS OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD IS OCTOBER 17 - NOVEMBER 14

January 1, 2023, marks the beginning of a new year for the City's benefits plans. The open enrollment period for making changes begins Monday, October 17 through Monday, November 14, 2022, no later than 11:59 PM.

Open Enrollment is the time of year when you can make certain changes to your health, dental, and vision plans to be effective the following January 1<sup>st</sup>. You do not have to re-enroll in benefits unless you are making changes to your current benefit elections, adding, or dropping dependents, or opting out of coverage. There are no changes to medical, dental, vision, legal and Pet Insurance Benefit Plan Options.

As you may be aware, health care costs and utilization have steadily increased over the years. While the City has been able to maintain consistent levels of premium costs for retirees, a difficult, yet necessary decision has been made to increase medical premiums. In the interest of sustainability and to allow the City to continue offering viable retiree medical plan benefits, the Non-Medicare medical premiums for plan year 2023 are increasing by 17 percent overall.

The City continues to offer retirees a comprehensive choice of retiree health care benefits because the City values you and your overall health and well-being. For Plan Year 2023 the City will continue to offer two dental plan options, Vision, Legal and Pet Insurance and a choice between four Non-Medicare Retiree medical plans that include an HMO, PPO, HSA and Catastrophic Plan.

The Human Resources Benefits Office remains dedicated in working every day towards a comprehensive and practical solution for retiree medical plan offerings. The value the City Retirees place on retiree health benefits is worth the determination of finding solutions to keep offering them.

Due to the persistent risk of Covid-19 for retirees, the City is offering Live Virtual Information Sessions, listed below, or at your convenience, you can watch a recorded presentation, available for

*(Continued on page 3)*

## SEEKING BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS

We are approaching the time of year when we need candidates to fill positions on the COPRA Board.

For decades COPRA has been working to develop, promote, and carry out activities for the benefit of its members and ALL City of Phoenix retirees. Many of the improvements and protections of our pensions and benefits have come through the efforts of COPRA. If you are the kind of person who likes to make a difference, consider submitting your name to run for the COPRA Board. We need

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## COPRA HOLIDAY PARTY RETURNS!

The 2022 COPRA holiday party is on! We hope everyone has saved the date of December 2<sup>nd</sup>, and is able to attend. We will once again be meeting at the Washington Activity Center at 2240 W. Citrus Way in Phoenix. The party starts at 11:30 am, with check in at 11:15 am. The cost is only \$20.

This year's party will include a delicious meal with a new caterer, door prizes, toy drive, 50/50 drawing and a city trivia game, followed by our annual membership meeting and board member elections. The 50/50 drawing is \$1 per ticket or 6 for \$5. Plan ahead and bring exact change!

The meal will include Creamy Tuscan Chicken, Baked Lasagna, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans Moroccho, Italian Salad, Warm Breadsticks, Apple Pie, Pumpkin Pie, Coffee, Tea, Lemonade and Water.

After 2 years without getting together in person, the board is very excited to bring the party back and we are looking forward to seeing everyone. The party is a great opportunity to reconnect with other COPRA members who we have missed!

To order tickets, pay via PayPal to phoenixcopra@gmail.com (use friends and family) or send a check payable to COPRA before November 17 to:

COPRA Holiday Party  
c.o. Louis Matamoros  
P.O. Box 2464  
Litchfield Park, AZ 85340

## IN REMEMBRANCE

Name	Date of Death	Department
Valerie Scioscia	12/12/2021	Street Transportation
Alfredo Serna	1/19/2022	Water Services
Joe L. Salazar	2/3/2022	Public Works
Gloria Weissert	2/13/2022	City Clerk
David E. Trottier	3/5/2022	Parks & Recreation
Freddie Harris	3/8/2022	Water
Ada Flemons (L. V. Flemons)	3/17/2022	
Milton Jones	3/31/2022	
Patricia Adair	4/4/2022	Municipal Court
Jerome Korn	4/12/2022	Finance
Inez A. Gomez (Robert S.)	4/15/2022	
Charles D. Willis	4/18/2022	Police
Bill R. Bain	4/21/2022	Street Transportation
Catherine Slater (Thomas)	4/22/2022	
David A. Felix	4/23/2022	Deputy City Manager's Office
Gloria A. Hughes (Ernest)	4/24/2022	
Stephen Krcina	5/2/2022	Water Services
Joe G. Serrano	5/2/2022	Public Works
Nicolette Beloud	5/4/2022	Police
Frank G. Hernandez	5/7/2022	Aviation
Terry S. McKinney	5/8/2022	Human Resources

*(Continued on page 5)*

## THE 2023 RETIREE BENEFITS OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD IS OCTOBER 17 - NOVEMBER 14 (CONTINUED)

*(Continued from page 1)*

viewing after Friday, September 30th. The Benefits Office staff in partnership with United Healthcare will facilitate the Live Virtual Informational presentations and will be available during each virtual event to address any benefit plan option related questions you might have. While there will be much valuable information during the live virtual presentations, we also encourage you to visit [www.Phoenix.gov/benefitsretiree](http://www.Phoenix.gov/benefitsretiree) where you can review and access the 2023 Retiree Benefit Guide, Open Enrollment information, and other important information available on the webpage.

**It is especially important** to keep contact information (including email addresses) up to date. If you know of any employees or retirees who are not receiving Annual Open Enrollment communication material, please encourage them to contact the Benefits Office by email at [benefits.questions@phoenix.gov](mailto:benefits.questions@phoenix.gov) or by phone at (602) 262-4777 to update.

### Upcoming Virtual Information Sessions for Retiree No-Medicare Benefits

Day	Date	Time	
Monday	September 26	9:00 AM - 10:30 AM MST	<a href="#">Click here to register</a>
Wednesday	September 28	2:00 PM - 3:30 AM MST	<a href="#">Click here to register</a>
Thursday	September 29	9:00 AM - 10:30AM MST	<a href="#">Click here to register</a>
Friday	September 30	2:00 PM - 3:30PM MST	<a href="#">Click here to register</a>
Monday	October 3	9:00 AM - 10:30AM MST	<a href="#">Click here to register</a>
Tuesday	October 4	2:00 PM - 3:30 PM MST	<a href="#">Click here to register</a>
Wednesday	October 5	2:00 PM - 3:30 PM MST	<a href="#">Click here to register</a>
Friday	October 7	9:00 AM - 10:30 AM MST	<a href="#">Click here to register</a>
Monday	October 10	2:00 PM - 3:30 PM MST	<a href="#">Click here to register</a>
Tuesday	October 11	9:00 AM - 10:30 AM MST	<a href="#">Click here to register</a>
Wednesday	October 12	9:00 AM - 10:30 AM MST	<a href="#">Click here to register</a>
Thursday	October 13	2:00 PM - 3:30 PM MST	<a href="#">Click here to register</a>

## FLU SHOT INFORMATION

Free flu shots are available at the City facilities listed below. To register visit: [phoenix.gov/benefits](http://phoenix.gov/benefits)

Location	Address	Date	Time
Salt River Service Center	3045 S 22 <sup>nd</sup> Ave	Thursday, September 8	5:30 AM – 11:00 AM
Fire Administration	150 S 12 <sup>th</sup> St	Tuesday, September 9	8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Calvin Goode Building	251 W Washington St	Wednesday, September 14	7:30 AM – 11:30 AM
91 <sup>st</sup> Avenue WWTP	5615 S 91 <sup>st</sup> Ave	Thursday, September 15	7:30 AM – 11:30 AM
Aviation Headquarters	2485 E Buckeye Rd	Wednesday, September 21	6:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Okemah Service Center	3828 E Anne St	Thursday, September 22	5:30 AM – 9:00 AM
Washington Activity Center	2240 W Citrus Way	Friday, September 23	7:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Glenrosa Service Center	4035 W Glenrosa Ave	Thursday, October 6	5:30 AM – 9:00 AM
Union Hills Service Center	138 E Union Hills Dr	Thursday, October 13	5:30 AM – 11:00 AM

## NEW MEMBERS

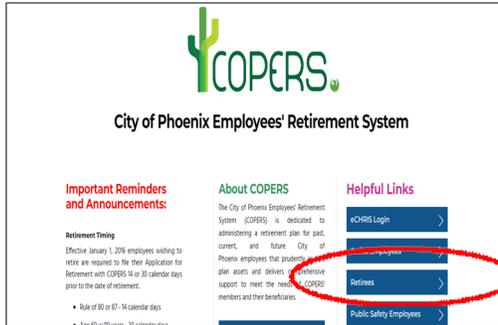
Thomas Hartline	Information Technology
Mark Heitowit	Information Technology
Todd Potter	Aviation Department
Scott Stirek	Water Services

# SUBSCRIBE TO THE COPERS MAILING LIST

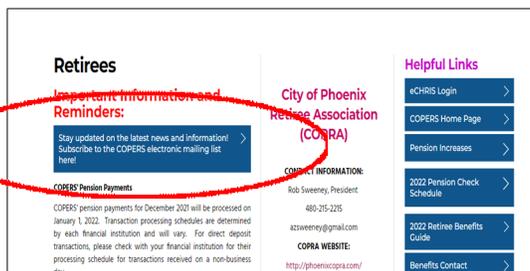
## SUBSCRIBE TO THE COPERS MAILING LIST TO RECEIVE UPDATE FROM THE CITY OF PHOENIX EMPLOYEE'S RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Want to stay updated on the latest news and information from COPERS? Subscribe to their Electronic Mailing List to receive our monthly communications!

1. Go to <https://www.phoenix.gov/copers> and click on the Retirees link.



2. Click on the **Subscription** link under **Important Information and Reminders**.



3. Complete the information, click **Subscribe** and you are done!

The screenshot shows the 'COPERS Mailing List' subscription form. The form includes a checkbox for 'COPERS Mailing List for former city of Phoenix employees', input fields for 'Email', 'First Name', and 'Last Name', and a 'Subscribe' button. A red box highlights the form fields, and a red hand icon points to the 'Subscribe' button.

The COPERS team is dedicated to serving you and is here to assist you.

**Contacting COPERS**  
200 W. Washington St., 10th Floor  
Phoenix, AZ 85003  
Phone: (602) 534-4400  
Email: [copers@phoenix.gov](mailto:copers@phoenix.gov)  
Website: [phoenix.gov/copers](https://www.phoenix.gov/copers)

## IN REMEMBRANCE (CONTINUED)

*(Continued from page 2)*

Amelia Sausedo (Joe M., Jr)	5/8/2022	Public Works
Jack Egoian	5/9/2022	Neighborhood Services
Charles Bingham	5/10/2022	Aviation
Richard Gonzales, Jr.	5/11/2022	Parks and Recreation
Kim A. Guyer	5/12/2022	Police
William T. Hardy	5/13/2022	Information Technology
Violet M. Molczyk (Raymond)	5/15/2022	
Venton McPhearson	5/21/2022	Public Works
Anita G. Coleman	5/22/2022	Police
Lupe V. Antunez	5/23/2022	Municipal Court
Thomas Mason	5/23/2022	Public Works
Robert C. Ramirez	5/24/2022	Public Works
Charles Carlise	5/24/2022	
Espiridion L. Lugo	5/25/2022	Street Transportation
David W. Gustafson	5/26/2022	Development Services
Asa D. Herring (Honor)	5/27/2022	
Yolande Daly (Kenneth)	5/29/2022	
Theodore W. Meier	5/30/2022	Aviation
Randy W. Griggs	5/31/2022	Finance
George Garrett	6/1/2022	Public Works
Armida Hernandez (Guillermo)	6/2/2022	
Christopher Cornell	6/3/2022	Planning and Development
Michael S. Torres	6/3/2022	Street Transportation
James J. Donahue	6/6/2022	Human Services
Ralph G. Gonzales	6/7/2022	Water Services
Edmund Coyoli	6/9/2022	Library
Thomas J. Coughlin	6/13/2022	Information Technology
Alan L. Hammond	6/14/2022	Municipal Court
Jay D. McCasland	6/16/2022	Water Services
Dean Pestrivas	6/21/2022	Aviation
Daniel Ybarra, Jr.	6/23/2022	Parks and Recreation
Henry J. Austin	6/25/2022	Water Services
Juan Dominquez	6/28/2022	
Thomas King (Clara)	7/1/2022	
Thomas Dupree	7/4/2022	Aviation
Linda F. Grafton	7/7/2022	Water Services
Louie E. Bond	7/10/2022	Water Services
Juanita De La Torre	7/10/2022	Water Services
Stephen Kandybowicz	7/11/2022	Parks & Recreation
Frank E. Lopez	7/12/2022	City Clerk
Eugene E. Limbacher	7/16/2022	Water Services
David Satchell	7/18/2022	City Court
Louis Bacchi	7/20/2022	Municipal Court
Wayne Ashby	7/22/2022	Parks & Recreation
Maria Del Mundo	7/23/2022	
Earnest Nicholson	7/23/2022	Public Works
Roberto B. Sifuentes	7/23/2022	Public Works
Ralph Sweeden	7/23/2022	Street Transportation & Maintenance
Michael J. Mendick	7/24/2022	Municipal Court
Michael R. Campbell	7/25/2022	Police
Tony F. Samora	7/25/2022	Public Works
Judy Strohson (Malcolm)	7/25/2022	
Georgina Brown (Richard H.)	7/26/2022	
Margaret Rochin (Miguel)	7/27/2022	
Marvin Sondag	7/28/2022	Law
Hazel M. Lewis	7/30/2022	City Treasury

(Those on the list who are surviving spouses will have the retiree's name in parentheses after the deceased's name.)

## NEW RETIREES (APRIL)

Johnmark Bradley	Property Management	Ralph Marines	Police
Leigh Brown	Library	Mary Lynne Mekenney	Human Resources
Mindy Davis	Housing	Todd Potter	Aviation
Daniel De Leon	Parks & Recreation	Alisa Rankin	Police
Raimundo Dovalina	Public Works	John Reid	Parks & Recreation
Jerry Fincher	Water Services	Scott Schrank	Street Transportation
Harry Fleming	Police	James Sheire	Planning and Development
Esther Gerken	Phoenix Convention Center	Aundrea Valverde	Facilities Operations
Kevin Kazmerski	Finance	Melvin Washington	Planning and Development
Mark Klenner	Public Works	Eric Wolf	Aviation
Thomas Mann	Public Works	Loay Yacob	Street Transportation

## NEW RETIREES (MAY)

Robin Anderson	Neighborhood Services	Linda Palumbo	Water Services
Elizabeth Andrade	Police	Theresa Pina	Municipal Court
Christopher Baggett	Water Services	Loretta Plassmeyer	Human Resources
Clifford Bain	Water Services	Robert Reidenbach	Public Works
Terri Beaty	Finance	Enrique Ruiz	Street Transportation
Daniel Bustamante	Aviation	Mahaliah Sinclair	Human Resources
Annamarie Collins	Human Services	Tamyra Spendley	Human Services
Kevin Dyer	Public Works	Timothy Sterne	Human Resources
Nikki Frisby	Public Works	Victorine Stovall	Aviation
Michael Friske	Water Services	Robert Swadley	Public Works
Robert Gallegos	Parks & Recreation	James Thomas	Water Services
John Jacobson	Public Works	Robert Tucker	Public Works
Bruce Jean	Public Works	Robert Ward	Public Works
Umihana Kapic-Jusic	Library	Linda Wright	Water Services
David Lewis	Aviation	Patricia Wright,	Public Works
John Lopez	Public Works	Florencio Zamora III	Public Works
Glen Naillon	Public Works		

## NEW RETIREES (JUNE)

Jose Acosta	Public Works	Robert Lozier	Neighborhood Services
Vincent Boccio	Public Works	Jennifer Lugo	Public Transit
Paul Carlisle	Public Works	Manuel Medina	Street Transportation
Steve Cota	Fire	Gregg Milliken	Parks & Recreation
Sylvia De Leon-Marquez	Human Services	Teresa Millsap	Police
Reyes Espinoza	Neighborhood Services	Dina Padilla	Human Services
Harold Freas	Budget and Research	Ruben Portillo	Public Works
Al Garcia	Street Transportation	Susan Potter	Water Services
Gerald Gass	Parks & Recreation	Prabhakar Rupal	Street Transportation
Yuchu Hsu	Water Services	John Soliz	Water Services
Jay Leu	Parks & Recreation	Anthony Zozaya	Fire

## NEW RETIREES (JULY)

Marcos Amparan	Street Transportation	Veronica Gavotto	Comm. & Economic Dev.
Phyllis Aro-Trejo	Human Services	Patsy Hernandez	Fire
Kathy Bird	Human Resources	Hamilton Keddie	Fire
Kimberly Fletcher	Police	David Nelson	Public Works
Eric Freeman	Parks & Recreation	Elizabeth Smith	Parks & Recreation

*"To say it was a beautiful day would not begin to explain it. It was that day when the end of summer intersects perfectly with the start of fall." - Ann Patchett*

## YOUR E-MAIL IS YOUR ENTRY

As you all know, receiving the COPRA Chronicle by email significantly defrays the printing and postage costs for COPRA. An added benefit is that if there is any important information that COPRA wants to send you, we have your email address on file and can transmit to you in a timely fashion.

In order to encourage our COPRA members to receive the Chronicle by email, each month we will randomly select one member who receives their Chronicle by email and that member will receive a \$25 gift certificate to a grocery store (Fry's or Safeway).

The May winner is **Patricia Albanese**. **CONGRATULATIONS Patricia!**

If we already have your email address, you are automatically entered!

If you do not receive the Chronicle by email, do so NOW! You can provide your email to Mary Jo Slunder at [copra.members@gmail.com](mailto:copra.members@gmail.com). She can also be reached by phone at 602-206-5515.

**Sign up now!**

## SEEKING BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

*(Continued from page 2)*

members who are committed to our cause, enthusiastic, and willing to advocate for retirees.

There are twelve elected positions on the Board, each serving a two-year term. Elections are staggered with five to six Board positions coming up for election each year.

If you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors, please contact Victoria Correll at [vscorrell@gmail.com](mailto:vscorrell@gmail.com) no later than October 11, 2022.

### Disclaimer

All articles are for informational purposes and not intended to be a substitute for professional, legal, financial or medical advice. Consult an attorney or other professional what is best for your situation. COPRA expressly disclaims and denies liability for any decisions based on the information presented.

COPRA website.....	<a href="http://www.phoenixcopra.com">www.phoenixcopra.com</a>
COPERS website.....	<a href="http://www.phoenix.gov/copers">www.phoenix.gov/copers</a>
COPMEA website.....	<a href="http://www.copmea.com">www.copmea.com</a>
City Retirement Systems (COPERS).....	(602) 534-4400
Human Resources - Benefits Section .....	(602) 262-4777
COPMEA.....	(602) 262-6858

## 2022 COPRA BOARD

President:

**Rob Sweeney** 480-215-2215

E-mail [coprapresident@gmail.com](mailto:coprapresident@gmail.com)

Vice President:

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E-mail [bsuggs@msn.com](mailto:bsuggs@msn.com)

Treasurer:

**Louis Matamoros** 623-734-6624

E-mail [biglou6415@yahoo.com](mailto:biglou6415@yahoo.com)

Secretary:

**Victoria Correll** 602-995-8916

E-mail [vscorrell@gmail.com](mailto:vscorrell@gmail.com)

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E-mail [amdragonetti@cox.net](mailto:amdragonetti@cox.net)

**Linda Henderson** 623-693-9955

E-mail [lindajoyhenderson@gmail.com](mailto:lindajoyhenderson@gmail.com)

**Sue Stites** 602-819-7106

E-mail [ssites@cox.net](mailto:ssites@cox.net)

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**Andy Terrey** 602-653-5460

E-mail [at.copra@gmail.com](mailto:at.copra@gmail.com)

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**Tammy Ryan** 602-430-5965

E-mail [tlgryan1822@gmail.com](mailto:tlgryan1822@gmail.com)

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**Mary Dysinger Franklin** 602-705-8822

E-mail [copranewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:copranewsletter@gmail.com)

### Chronicle Article Deadline

Please be advised that the deadline for submitting articles for the Chronicle is the **20<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:COPRAnewsletter@gmail.com)

Or mail to: Mary Dysinger Franklin, 6208 E Desert Cove Ave, Scottsdale, AZ 85254

## SEPTEMBER COPRA CHRONICLE

Annual dues includes \$5.00 for the COPRA Chronicle  
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**POSTMASTER**  
Please send address corrections to:  
COPRA  
PO Box 2464  
Litchfield Park, AZ 85340



### **2022 MEMBERSHIP MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Washington Activity Center  
2240 W. Citrus Way  
Phoenix, AZ

**November 23, 2022 at 11:30 am - Holiday Party and Annual Meeting**

Board meetings are held monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the Month  
Except for June, July and August.