



# Hey, CSL

# What's Up?

June 2008

Volume I, Number 6

The California Senior Legislature's Mission: To Improve the Quality of Life for Aging Californians

### Chair's Corner

By Joseph A. Cox

Crunch time is here. We have just sent out important information that I hope you will look over very carefully and act upon. Two of these important items are the award recognition forms for the Moira Jackson Award and the Volunteer Recognition Award. Be sure to consider your choices carefully as these are both distinguished awards.

As I do in every message that we send out, I write about our check off fund. It is our life blood and we must raise \$250,000 if we are to stay alive. We have made some improvement in this area but we still have a long way to go. We really need a fund raising mechanism or some system that will do the job. Do you have the solution?

Our legislative committee and several individuals have done an outstanding job of promoting our proposals this year. We have several that have been chaptered. Hopefully some others will also be passed. Helping seniors is our business and I think that we are doing an excellent job but we can do more. Have you done your part?

We have had several CSL resignations this year. Health reasons have played a major role but some have moved out of state or area and have had to resign. If your PSA has a vacancy, make sure that the empty slot is being filled. We need a full complement to do the work that is necessary to carry out the important functions of the CSL.

Work hard, stay active and promote the CSL. Do more than your part!

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### What are Members up to?

**Senior Senator Bill Young** – Gave a presentation on CSL to the Caring Choices Area 4 Falls Prevention Group.

**Senior Assembly Members Lola Young and Judith Stout** – Gave a presentation on CSL in Davis to the Senior Citizens Commission of Davis. The person requesting this presentation found us through our website, became interested in what the CSL does legislatively, and expressed a desire to partner in some way.

**Senior Assembly Member Shirley Krohn** – Will be an ongoing contributor for *Success in Aging TV.com*.

### JRC Members

- Joseph Cox (209) 826-4318  
Chair
- Dee Erman (714) 528-1489  
Vice Chair
- Lola Young (916) 428-4371  
Vice Chair
- Richard Dahlgren (209) 826-0936
- Connie Eaton (530) 677-2431
- Roberta Marti (626) 791-7313
- Jerry Meade (714) 893-2865
- Billie Taylor (209) 575-1290
- Richard Wolfe (310) 410-0103

### Leg Committee

- Anne M. Mack (650) 493-7798  
Chair
- Ann Gehrig (209) 878-3353  
Vice Chair
- Claudine Duff (619) 461-3916  
Vice Chair
- Fran Givens (909) 823-4504
- Jane Godager (909) 883-7951
- Alice Loh (805) 543-9055
- Lenwood Long (951) 940-9157
- Craig Orange (858) 273-7458
- Bruce Steir (415) 626-8025
- Richard Shontz (818) 704-5369

### CSL Office

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Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 552-8056  
(916) 552-8013 Fax  
[www.4csl.org](http://www.4csl.org)

**Senior Senator Bill Young and Assembly Member Lola Young** – Attended a table at the Citrus Heights Senior Health Fair and acquired information on obtaining college students for volunteers for our Session.

**Senior Assembly Member Jane Godager** – Received a letter from Assembly Woman Wilmer Amina Carter expressing her appreciation for the April "Walk the Halls" visit to her.

**Senior Senator Anne M. Mack** – Gave a CSL presentation to the Retired Senior Volunteer Program in Palo Alto. She then presented the Resolution ACR 111 declaring May to be Senior Volunteer Month.

**Senior Senator Richard Lundin** – Was part of the Armed Forces Day Parade in Torrance and was able to share about CSL with Senator Jenny Oropeza.

**Senior Assembly Member Sally Wieck** – Was presented the gold President's Volunteer Service Award from the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation.

**Senior Senator Kitty Mesler and Senior Assembly Member Jane Ann Godager** – Attended a Health Fair in the Yucca Valley.

*If any members would like a copy of any of the above, please contact the CSL office.*

If there is anybody or any organization that you would like to receive our monthly newsletter, please send the contact name and address to the CSL office and those people will receive a copy every month either by email or snail mail.

**Proposals Update**

The first batch of proposals has

been turned in to the Leg Counsel and more have come in since. Remember the dead-line for submission is June 15, 2008. Also do not forget that your proposal must be sent in on the proper form. If you have not received a form from the office, let Sherry know. The form is in your resource manual on page 25 of section 4. Keep them coming!

*'I have wondered at times about what the Ten Commandments would have looked like if Moses had run them through the U.S. Congress.'*

- Ronald Reagan

**CSL embarks on new funding venture**

by Horace Mann

Corporate sponsorship can add significantly to our annual budget. Do you have any ties to a corporate office - past employer, family member, friend, yourself? Please send any leads to Senior Senator Horace Mann at [www.fbmhann@juno.com](mailto:www.fbmhann@juno.com) or my home address 17900 Ocean Drive, #41, Fort Bragg, CA 95437. Please do not send just corporate or business name without the name of the person responsible for corporate giving.

Any news for the July Newsletter need to be submitted to the CSL office by July 7, 2008.

*I can handle anything that life throws at me - I may not be able to handle it well, or correctly, or gracefully, or with finesse, or expediently- but I will handle it.*

**Good News**

The CSL now has four bills that have been chaptered this Legislative session:

SB 692 (Ashburn) SP-2 (Fromm) IHSS: criminal background checks (Chapter 2, Statutes of 2008)

ACR 111 (Huffman) SP-29 (Kim-Selby) Senior Volunteer Month (Chapter 34, Statutes of 2008)

SJR 12 (Simitian) AFP-1 (Karr) Elder Abuse Awareness Stamp (Chapter 5, Statutes of 2008)

HR 3648 (Rangel) AFP-2 (Lopes) Mortgage Forgiveness Debt Relief Act of 2007 (Public Law #110-142)

Keep up the good work!

**Greetings from Session Planning**

by Lola Young

It is already June with only four more months until our session, and the time is certainly flying by. I am happy to report that we are right on target. The next meeting of the Session Planning Committee will be on June 16. We have much to discuss including the banquet menus, and even some entertainment possibilities.

Our keynote speaker for the Session will be Paul Greenwood, Deputy District Attorney, in San Diego County. Mr. Greenwood is well versed in elder abuse, and I am told that he is an informative and entertaining speaker.

Nomination forms for various awards, i.e. Moira Jackson, Volunteer Award, a Senior Organization that has worked with CSL during the past year, have been mailed out by now so put your thinking caps on. Let us know who you believe is deserving of these awards. Send

the form to the office by August 1. JRC will be voting on your recommendations at our August meeting.

Remember to speak to any organizations that you belong to about placing an ad in our program book, and don't forget your own ad. You should have already received your Program Book Information Form but if you need another one, call Sherry at the office.

We are looking forward to the participation of young people this year: the 4-H Color Guard, and those older 4-Hers that will be able to help out our volunteers.

Speaking of volunteers, don't forget that spouses can volunteer to help, and receive free lunches and dinner.

I keep asking for suggestions to make our session better. I thank those who have taken the time to send in their suggestions. I am hoping more will come in. My e mail is [young7458@att.net](mailto:young7458@att.net). I will bring any and all suggestions to the session planning committee. This is your Session - your ideas and suggestions should and will be considered. Please let us hear from you.

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*Know how to prevent sagging?  
Just eat till the wrinkles fill out.*  
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**CSL Office Closures**

The CSL office will be closed on the following dates:  
June 16-17 – JRC meeting  
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**Senior Voices**

On June 4, 10 or more CSL members attended the Senior

Voices Conference in Sacramento, sponsored by the Congress of California Seniors and the Commission on Aging. The keynote speaker at this conference was the Lt. Governor, John Garamendi, and other speakers included Senator Alex Padilla, Assembly Woman Patty Berg, and Lynn Daucher, Director of Department of Aging. Shawnda Westly, Field Director of "Together for California's Future", a brand new broad-based coalition of consumers and advocates, also spoke.

The topic of this conference was how the Governor's proposed budget cuts would disproportionately affect California's 4.5 million seniors, and would affect many aspects of seniors' lives – cutting off access to essential health care, eliminating home care services that help people stay out of institutions, putting vulnerable elderly at risk for abuse, and lowering financial assistance for daily needs at a time when food and energy costs are skyrocketing. Together these cuts will diminish the quality of life for more than a million seniors and, for some frail elderly seniors, they could mean the difference between life and death.

All of the speakers agreed that the best way to change the minds of the state legislators to consider other solutions besides these cuts is to send letters, emails, and phone calls to them asking them to reject a "cuts-only" budget and find common-sense solutions to fixing California's budget deficit.

Shawnda Westly provided a list of telephone numbers for various counties that will send

you a sample letter to send in that will relate to your particular county. The CSL is asking all its members to call the number related to your county, get a copy of their letter, and send it in as soon as possible. Only if we make a concentrated effort to speak out and let the legislators know that we can't and won't sit still for these cuts can we stop them.

**Kern County**  
Bruce Saathoff (661) 395-0252

**Fresno County**  
Yolanda Moreno (559) 360-3125

**Tulare County**  
Donnell Jordan (916) 288-4937

**Los Angeles, Ventura**  
James Todd (213) 509-7774  
Nancy Gomez (818) 317-4772

**Orange County**  
Denise Velasco (714) 350-8015

**Placer, Colusa, Del Norte, Glen, Nevada, Shasta**  
Sr. Marti McCarthy  
(916) 441-0387 x 305

**Riverside, San Bernardino**  
Ali Cooper (213) 422-8267  
Barbara Smith (951) 372-2522  
Charlie LaChance  
(909) 466-2989

**San Joaquin**  
John Boisa (209) 601-0617

**Sacramento, El Dorado, Placer, San Joaquin**  
Becca Gonzales (916) 849-2284

**Contra Costa**  
Jessica Rothhaar  
(510) 873-8787

**San Diego**  
Marc Victoria (213) 880-5717

**Central Coast**  
Cory Black (805) 952-4510

**Field Director**  
Shawnda Westly  
(916) 201-8582

**Current CSL Legislation**

AP-2 AB 2139 (De La Torre)  
Senior Assembly Member Lola Young  
IHSS Provider Auto Insurance

AP-4 AB 2100 (Wolk/Berg/Krekorian)  
Senior Assembly Member Shirley Krohn  
Elder Abuse Reporting

AP-10 AB 2516 (Mendoza)  
Senior Assembly Member Sharon Monck  
Prescriptions: electric transmissions - **Dead**

AP-12/2006 AB 1765 (Blakeslee)  
Senior Assembly Member Alice Loh  
Elder Abuse: Mandated Reporters - **Dead**

AP-12/2007 AJR 21 (Portantino)  
Senior Assembly Member Arthur Serrin  
Housing authorities: federal vouchers and  
certificates: shared housing

AP-13 SB 1058 (Alquist/Florez)  
Senior Assembly Member Sol Fingold  
Health & Care Facilities: Bacterial Infections

AP-19 SB 977 (Correa)  
Senior Assembly Member Pat Trotter  
Senior Facility Infrastructure Upgrades

AP-22/SP-8 AB 1900 (Nava)  
Senior Assembly Member Martin Tucker & Senior  
Senator Erwin Fromm  
Seniors: elder abuse: death records: fees.

AP-28 AB 2051 (Anderson)  
Senior Assembly Member Shirley Krohn  
Elder abuse offender registry - **Dead**

(Krohn) AB 2543 (Berg)  
Senior Assembly Member Shirley Krohn  
Geriatric & Gerontology Workforce Expansion Act

SP-2/2006 SB 692 (Ashburn)  
Senior Senator Fromm  
IHSS: criminal background checks. (**Chaptered**)

SP-16 AB 2229 (Huffman)  
Senior Senator Dolores G. Wright  
Medi-Cal: dental examinations - **Dead**

SP-18 AB 2160 (Carter)  
Senior Senator Kitty Mesler, Senior Assembly  
Members Juanita Beighle, Fran Givens, and Jane  
Godager

Mello-Granlund Older Californians Act: disability:  
definition

SP-22 AB 2460 (Davis)  
Senior Senator Marvin Goldman  
Consumer Loans: seniors - **Dead**

SP-29 AJR 111 (Huffman)  
Senior Senator Joanna Kim-Selby  
Senior Volunteer Month

AFP-1/2004 SJR 12 (Simitian)  
Retired Member Helen Karr  
Elder Abuse Awareness Stamp (**Chaptered**)

AFP-2 (Lopes) H.R.3648 (Rangel)  
Senior Assembly Member Foster Lopes  
Mortgage Forgiveness Debt Relief Act of 2007  
(**Public Law #110-142 12/20/2007**)

AFP-7 AJR 31 (Jones/Machado)  
Senior Assembly Member Alice Loh  
Government Negotiated Drug Prices

**Other Supported Legislation**

AB 152 Beall  
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority

AB 725 Lieber  
Housing: universal rental housing application

AB 1022 Saldaña  
Continuing care home service

AB 1158 Benoit  
Witnesses: conditional examinations

AB 1444 Benoit  
Physical Therapists: scope of practice - **Dead**

AB 1554 Jones  
Health care coverage: rate approval

AB 2038 Lieber  
Persons with disabilities: victims of crime

AB 2101 Wolk/Krekorian  
Residential Care Facilities - **Dead**

AB 2105 DeSaulnier  
Elder and dependent adult abuse

AB 2137 Saldaña  
Insurance: rescission of long-care contracts

AB 2149 Berg  
Investment Advisors

AB 2150 Berg  
Insurance: sales designations

AB 2157 Horton  
Skilled nursing and intermediate care facilities:  
licensing - **Dead**

AB 2319 Horton  
Identification cards: renewal by mail

AB 2370 Bass  
Residential care facilities for the elderly

AB 2439 De La Torre  
Steven M. Thompson Physician Corps Loan  
Repayment Program: fees

AB 2475 Horton  
Skilled nursing facilities - **Dead**

AB 2543 Berg  
Geriatric and Gerontology Workforce Expansion  
Act

AB 2598 Leno  
Residential care facilities for the elderly

AB 2796 Nava  
Civil obligations

AB 2947 Eng  
Elder and dependent adult abuse: waiver of rights

AB 2967 Lieber  
Health care cost and quality transparency

AB 3000 Wolk  
Health care decisions: life sustaining treatment

SB 1140 Steinberg  
Financial abuse of elder or dependent adults

SB 1164 Scott  
Investigators

SB 1216 Scott  
Insurance: long-term care

SB 1259 Margett  
Witness testimony: support persons: elder abuse -  
**Dead**

SB 1343 Battin  
Witness testimony: support persons: elder abuse

SB 1400 Simitian  
Sweepstakes

SB 1406 Correa  
Optometry

SB 1474 Alquist  
Chronic dialysis clinics - **Dead**

SCR 112 Padilla  
Services for older adults

S 2708 Boxer  
Caring for an Aging America Act of 2008

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**In the Hands of Strangers: Are Nursing Home  
Safeguards Working?**

Recently a copy of Lewis Morris', Chief Counsel to the Inspector General (OIG), testimony given before the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations on May 15, 2008 was sent out to all CSL members. This should provide some interesting reading to all members as he describes the studies, enforcement actions, initiatives and Government-industry collaboration that OIG has undertaken to identify ways to improve the quality of care provided to our beneficiaries. He concludes his testimony by offering several recommendations that he believes will advance this objective.

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*The moral test of government is how that government treats those who are in the dawn of life, the children; those who are in the twilight of life, the elderly; and those who are in the shadows of life, the sick, the poor and the disabled.*

*- Hubert Humphrey*

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**Joint Rules Committee Meetings**

June 16, 2008	1:00 p.m.	Sacramento
June 17, 2008	11:00 a.m.	Sacramento
August 18, 2008	1:00 p.m.	Sacramento
August 19, 2008	11:00 a.m.	Sacramento
September 15, 2008	10:00 a.m.	Sacramento
September 16, 2008	10:00 a.m.	Sacramento
October 20, 2008	10:00 a.m.	Sacramento
October 22, 2008	2:45 p.m.	Sacramento

**“Help the Golden State Support the Golden Years!”**

**Legislative Committee Meetings**

July 20, 2008	1:00 p.m.	Sacramento
July 21, 2008	9:00 a.m.	Sacramento
October 22, 2008	2:30 p.m.	Sacramento

**California Commission on Aging Meetings Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Field Hearing Topic</u>
August 6-7, 2008	Orange County	Access to Health Care
October 15-16, 2008	Redding (Shasta County)	Access to Health Care
December 3-4, 2008	Sacramento	Access to Health Care

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