



Hey, CSL

What's Up?

November 2008

Volume I, Number 11

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

JRC Members

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Vice Chair	
Richard Wolfe	(310) 410-0103
Vice Chair	
Richard Dahlgren	(209) 826-0936
Joanna Kim-Selby	(510) 235-6179
Roberta Marti	(626) 791-7313
Kitty Mesler	(909) 823-7045
Julia Rosenberg	(310) 316-1013
Billie Taylor	(209) 575-1290
Carla Treuting	(559) 561-4155

Leg Committee

Anne M. Mack	(650) 493-7798
Chair	
Craig Orange	(858) 273-7458
Vice Chair	
Alice Loh	(805) 543-9055
Vice Chair	
Eleanor Bloch	(415) 435-1148
Fran Givens	(909) 823-4504
Jane Godager	(909) 883-7951
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Chair's Corner

By Lola Young

First, I want to thank the JRC for the opportunity to serve as chair this year. I am looking forward to working with them, and all CSL members this coming year.

Thanks to the hard work of our members, we are able to return to a four-day session next year. Whether we can continue that depends on how successful we are with our Code 402 campaign. Keep up the good work and get the word out to everybody you know!

Senator Lou Correa will introduce SB 65, which is SP 22 by Senior Senator Connie Eaton. SB 65 will extend the sunset date on the legislation that removed the cost of living clause on the tax check off line. The bill will be introduced in January. As soon as the bill is introduced, we need to start sending in letters of support, and be sure to have organizations that you belong to send in letters of support. This will be critical legislation for the CSL. Every member needs to get behind this.

We have several new members. They are JD Leitaker from Anderson, Lauren Rolfe

from Suisun, and Luis Monge from Chula Vista. All three of these new members are Senior Assembly Members. Welcome to all of you. I want to tell you and all of our members that I am here to serve. Please feel free to email me with questions. I would say call, but I am usually not at home. The email address is young7458@att.net

Unfortunately, we have also lost some members. Consequently our membership is down. We have 6 vacant senior senator positions: 1 each in PSAs 1, 2, 3, 12, 18, and 27. There are also 6 vacant senior assembly positions: 1 each in PSAs 1, 4, 13, 14, and 27. As I am in PSA 4, I have been working with our director and hope to have the position filled by December. I am asking members of the other PSAs to encourage the director to appoint or elect someone to fill those positions as soon as possible.

I am looking forward to working with all of you. Keep healthy, and keep involved. The seniors of California are depending on us.

What are Members up to?

Senior Senator Bill Young and Senior Assembly Member Lola Young –

Attended Senior Steinberg's Volunteer Fair on the east Capitol lawn with a CSL booth.

Senior Assembly Member Margaret Sowma – Was spotlighted in the *RSVP Gateway*.

Senior Senator Joe Murphy – Was featured in the Tracy Press regarding his experiences with the CSL.

Senior Senator Joanna Kim-Selby – Was pictured in the Congress of California Seniors California Legislature 2008 Report Card.

Senior Assembly Member Larry Hartmann – Has a monthly column in the *Ojai Valley News* and featured the CSL's top 10 and top 4 proposals in this last column.

Senior Senator Betty Mulholland and Senior Assembly Members Quincy Campbell, Nery Hartschen, and George Tucker –

Attended a CSL booth at the Healthy Aging Fair in Hayward which was sponsored by the Alameda County Commission on Aging.

Senior Assembly Member Richard Dahlgren – Wrote an article for his local newspaper on the CSL's 28th Annual Legislative Session.

Senior Assembly Member Thomas Lacey – Was interviewed and then televised several times by Channel 3 on cable.

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

If there is any organization or individual that you would like to

receive our monthly newsletter, please send the contact name and address to the CSL office at sjenkins@seniorleg.ca.gov or by snail mail or phone call and those people will receive a copy every month either by email or snail mail.

My memory's not as sharp as it used to be. Also, my memory's not as sharp as it used to be.

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.fbmann@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.

*These days about half the stuff
In my shopping cart says,
"For fast relief."*

Any news for the December Newsletter need to be submitted to the CSL office by December 5, 2008.

Greetings from Session Planning

by Julia Rosenberg

As this goes to press, we are in full swing planning for next year's October Annual Session! As you know, we are returning to the four-day Session schedule in 2009, which will allow us time to more thoroughly conduct business

and not be so rushed. We are in the process of deciding which hotel the banquets will be at and we'll get back to you as soon as that and a block of rooms are arranged. The date has been established as October 26, 27, 28 and 29, 2009, so mark your calendars.

I've heard people offer feedback good and bad on Session effectiveness. Now is the time for you to share your suggestions? We want to know your concerns and always welcome new ideas in order to keep improving the Session!

If you can (and are able to) help on this committee, or have any suggestions for us, please call me at (310) 316-1013 or you can email me at rosenberg@roadrunner.com.

I contend that for a nation to try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle.

-Winston Churchill

Code 402

Be sure to check out the new line number for the CSL voluntary contributions on the California State Income Tax Return. It will now be Code 402 and will remain that number from now on.

Office Closures

The CSL office will be closed on the following dates:
November 11 – Veterans Day
November 27-28 – Thanksgiving
December 24-26 – Christmas Vacation
January 1 – New Year's Eve
January 2 – Vacation

*Just because you do not take
 an interest in politics doesn't
 mean politics won't take an
 interest in you!*
 -Pericles (430 B.C.)

Insurance Scams

Sent in by Shirley Krohn

Over the past several years, members of our state legislature, as well as CSL members, have attempted to get legislation passed having to do with the sale of inappropriate insurance products to seniors. In a presentation I attended recently with an attorney handling a lawsuit against insurance carriers for the sale of these products, I found out that there could be a couple of other ways to address this issue.

As we all know, senior centers, churches, hotels and other venues around the state invite (or are approached to be invited) insurance salespersons to make presentations. They often call themselves "Certified Senior Advisor," "Medi-Cal Specialist," "Senior Specialist," etc. none of which are legal. As CSL members, we have an opportunity through our PSAs and local Triple As to get the word out to senior centers and other facilities **not** to allow these unethical salespersons to make presentations to seniors. The sale of inappropriate annuities to these folks is indeed elder financial abuse and needs to be stopped!

There are other ideas that could be formed into legislation. They are:

- Lengthen the recession time from 30 days to one

year for the purpose of cancelling the transaction.

- Stop banks from enabling insurance salespersons to "set up shop" to entice seniors to purchase inappropriate insurance products. This could be handled without legislation if we let our banks know of our concern for this practice.
- Require insurance companies and insurance agents to disclose, in writing, any commissions they make or pay to agents. This would be a disclosure so that the consumer knows what monetary incentive is associated with the sale.

New JRC Members

Senators:

Vice Chair, Dee Erman
 Alternate: Lynn Pankhurst
 Joanna Kim-Selby
 Alternate: None
 Roberta Marti
 Alternate: Bud Winslow
 Kitty Mesler
 Alternate: None
 Carla Treuting
 Alternate: Mattye Fegan-Perry

Assembly Members:

Richard Dahlgren
 Alternate: Nery Hartschen
 Julia Rosenberg
 Alternate: Jerry Meade
 Billie Taylor
 Alternate: Don MacAllister
 Vice Chair, Richard Wolfe
 Alternate: None
 Chair, Lola Young
 Alternate: Pat Trotter

New Leg Committee Members

Senators:

Chair, Anne Mack

Alternate: Dolores Wright
 Jim Levy
 Alternate: None
 Craig Orange
 Alternate: Marion Faustman
 Bruce Steir
 Alternate: Lenwood Long
 Bill Young
 Alternate: None

Assembly Members:

Eleanor Bloch
 Alternate: None
 Fran J. Givens
 Alternate: Herb Schwartz
 Jane Ann Godager
 Alternate: Walter Brooks
 Alice Loh
 Alternate: Sharon Lamagno
 Richard Shontz
 Alternate: Elizabeth Warren

New Standing Subcommittee Members

Budget & Finance

Chair, Senior Assembly Member Richard Wolfe
 Senior Senator Joe Cox
 Senior Senator Roberta Marti
 Alternate: Senior Senator Bud Winslow
 Senior Senator Kitty Mesler
 Senior Assembly Member Lola Young

Fund Development

Chair, Senior Senator Dee Erman
 Alternate: Senior Senator Lynn Pankhurst
 Senior Assembly Member Richard Dahlgren
 Alternate: Senior Assembly Member Nery Hartschen
 Senior Senator Roberta Marti
 Alternate: Senior Senator Bud Winslow
 Senior Senator Kitty Mesler
 Senior Assembly Member Julia Rosenberg
 Alternate: Senior Assembly Member Jerry Meade

Public Relations

Chair, Senior Assembly
Member Richard Dahlgren
Alternate: Nery Hartschen
Senior Senator Joanna
Kim-Selby
Senior Assembly Member
Billie Taylor
Alternate: Senior Assembly
Member Don MacAllister
Senior Assembly Member
Lola Young
Alternate: Senior Assembly
Member Pat Trotter

Policies and Procedures

Chair, Senior Senator
Joanna Kim-Selby

Senior Senator Roberta
Marti
Alternate: Senior Senator
Bud Winslow
Senior Senator Kitty Mesler
Senior Senator Carla
Treuting
Alternate: Senior Senator
Matty Fegan-Perry

Session Planning

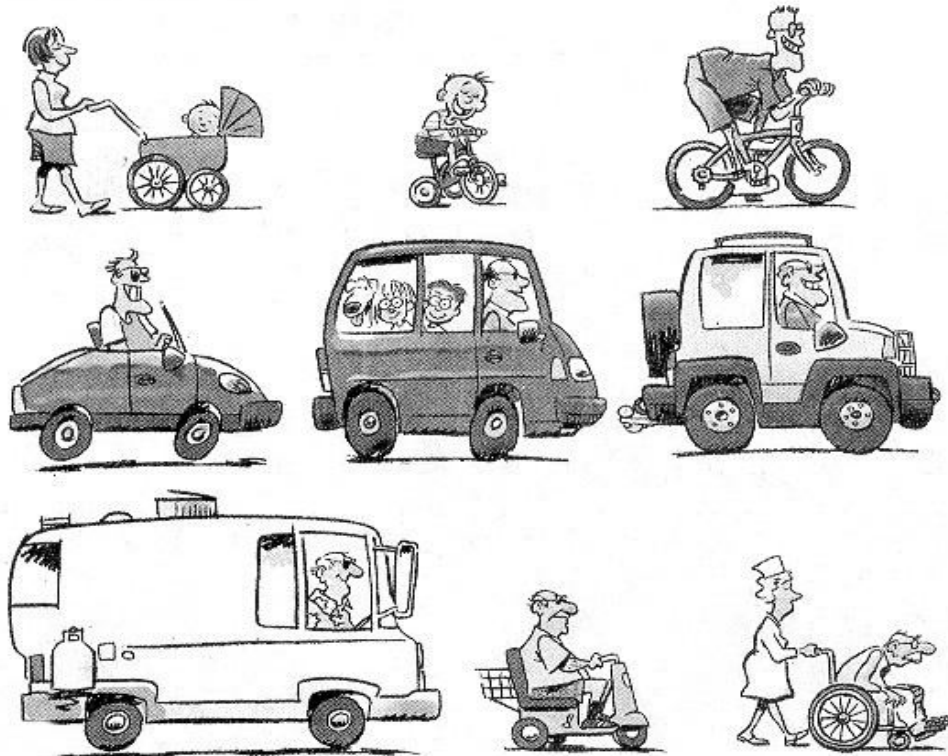
Chair, Senior Assembly
Member Julia Rosenberg
Alternate: Senior Assembly
Member Jerry Meade
Senior Senator Joe Cox
Senior Senator Dee Erman
Alternate: Senior Senator
Lynn Pankhurst

Senior Senator Anne Mack
Senior Assembly Member
Billie Taylor
Alternate: Senior Assembly
Member Don MacAllister
Senior Senator Carla
Treuting
Alternate: Senior Senator
Matty Fegan-Perry

By-Laws

Senior Senator Anne Mack
Senior Senator Carla
Treuting
Alternate: Senior Senator
Matty Fegan-Perry
Senior Assembly Member
Richard Wolfe

The Wheels of Life



**2008/09 CSL Legislation
Top Twenty Proposals**

AP 3 Senior Assembly Member Shirley Krohn
Financial Elder Abuse Reporting

AP 6 Senior Assembly Member Austin Lucero
Food Safety

AP 7 Senior Assembly Member Austin Lucero
Relating to Hearing Aids

AP 8 Senior Assembly Member Austin Lucero
Pharmaceuticals: Labels

AP 9 Senior Assembly Member Alice Loh
Nursing Home Reform

AP 10 Senior Assembly Member Alice Loh
SSI/SSP Benefits

AP 12 Senior Assembly Member Roland Gerbracht
Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse: Sexual abuse or touching

AP 14 Senior Assembly Member Eleanor Bloch
Emergency Transportation

AP 19 Senior Assembly Member Richard Wolfe
Grading System for Nursing Homes

AP 20 Senior Assembly Member Martin Tucker,
Sally Wieck, and Senior Senator Erwin Fromm
Medi-Cal Benefits: Personal and incidental needs

AP 21 Senior Assembly Member Dorothy Sorensen
Senior Convalescent Care Facilities: Personal equipment: Permanent marking

AP 24 Senior Assembly Member Bernard Weintraub
Nursing Homes: Corporate ownership

SP 1 Senior Senator Marion Faustman
Universal Health Care

SP 3 Senior Senators Richard Griswold, Connie Eaton, and Senior Assembly Members June Glasmeier and Larry Hartmann
Property Tax

SP 5 Senior Senator Richard Lundin
Senior Housing: Security

SP 6 Senior Senator Joe Murphy
Alzheimer Silver Alert Program

SP 11 Senior Senator Richard Lundin
Senior Financial Abuse

SP 19 Senior Senator Craig Orange
Prescription Medication Labels

SP 23 Senior Senator Bill Young
Support for the Ombudsman Program and the Senior Legal Hotline

**Top Eight Federal
Legislative Proposals**

AFP 1 Senior Assembly Member Alice Loh
Social Security: Cost-of-living adjustment

AFP 2 Senior Assembly Member Bernard Weintraub
Nursing Homes: Disclosure of ownership information

AFP 3 Senior Assembly Member Lola Young, Martin Tucker, Sally Wieck, and Senior Senator Erwin Fromm, Jim Levy, and Bill Young
Federal Poverty Guidelines

AFP 5 Senior Assembly Member Jane Ann Godager, Juanita Beighle, Fran Givens, and Senior Senator Kathleen Mesler
Social Security Cards

AFP 7 Senior Assembly Member Foster Lopes
Federal Income Tax: Deductions: Medical expenses

AFP 8 Senior Assembly Member Margaret Sowma
Medicare: Home health agencies: Patient rights

AFP 9 Senior Assembly Member Bernard Weintraub
Transparency in Nursing Home Ownership

AFP 10 Senior Assembly Members Patricia Wilson and Richard Wolfe
Federal Social Security: Continuing disability reviews

AFP 12 Senior Assembly Member Lawrence Hartmann
Required Tire Safety Information

SFP 2 Senior Senator Joe Murphy
The Alzheimer Silver Alert Program

SFP 4 Senior Senator Joe Cox and Senior Assembly Member Richard Dahlgren
Medicare Coverage of Dental Care

SFP 6 Senior Senator John Sorensen and Senior Assembly Member Dorothy Sorensen
Unsolicited Blank Checks

The Rest of the Legislative Proposals

AP 1 Senior Assembly Members Phyllis Purcell, John Kirwin, and Senior Senator Lenwood Long
Transportation: Seniors

AP 2 Senior Assembly Members Phyllis Purcell, Juanita Beighle, John Kirwin, and Senior Senator Roberta Marti
Disabled Persons' and Disabled Veterans' Parking Spaces: width and availability

AP 4 Senior Assembly Member Evelyn Freidman and Senior Senator Edward Woods
HIV/AIDS Education for Older Adults

AP 11 Senior Assembly Member Roland Gerbracht
Crimes against Elders

AP 13 Senior Assembly Member Samuel Park
California Senior Legislature: California Senior Citizens' Club

AP 15 Senior Assembly Members Billie Taylor and Senior Senator Mickey Peabody
Notarized Documents: Execution by patient in skilled nursing facility

AP 16 Senior Assembly Members Lola Young, Martin Tucker, Sally Wieck, and Senior Senators Erwin Fromm, Jim Levy, and Bill Young
California Elder Economic Security Standard Index

AP 18 Senior Assembly Member Richard Wolfe
Caregivers

AP 25 Senior Assembly Member Phyllis Purcell, Juanita Beighle, John Kirwin, and Senior Senator Patricia Jones
Funding of Congregate and Home-Delivered Meals

AFP 4 Senior Assembly Member Arthur Serrin
Affordable Housing: Families of servicemen and servicewomen deployed to Afghanistan and the Gulf War Zone of Iraq

AFP 6 Senior Assembly Member Foster Lopes
Social Security Adjustment

SP 2 Senior Senator Clifford Erven
Goods and Services Tax

SP 4 Senior Senator Dolores Wright
Target Population: At-risk seniors

SP 7 Senior Senator Joanna Kim-Selby
Stroke Education Campaign

SP 8 Senior Senator Joanna Kim-Selby
Senior Volunteers

SP 9 Senior Senator Joanna Kim-Selby
Automated External Defibrillators: Signs: Public awareness campaign

SP 10 Senior Senators Jim Levy, Richard Lundin, Bob Jaffee, and Senior Assembly Members Austin Lucero and Lola Young
Increased Access to Community-Based Services

SP 12 Senior Assembly Member Jane Ann Godager
Powers of Attorney

SP 13 Senior Senator Horace Mann
State Department of Mental Health: Suicide prevention program

SP 14 Senior Senator Bob Jaffee
Paratransit

SP 15 Senior Senator Connie Eaton, and Senior Assembly Member June Glasmeier
Affordable Senior Housing: Second units

SP 16 Senior Senator William Young and Senior Assembly Member Lola Young
In-Home Supportive Services: Expanded services

SP 17 Senior Senator Bruce Steir
Elder Death Reviews

SP 18 Senior Senator Richard Lundin
Statewide Elder Protection Courts

SP 20 Senior Senator George Winslow
Public Safety: Crosswalk, curb, and sidewalk
improvement

SP 21 Senior Senator Dolores Wright
Free Sport Fishing Licenses

SP 22 Senior Senator Connie Eaton
Funding for the California Senior Legislature

SFP 1 Senior Senator Richard Lundin
Federal Annuitants: Health premiums

SFP 3 Senior Senator Clifford Erven
Senior Consumer Protection: Deceptive marketing
practices

SFP 5 Senior Senator Marion Faustman
Prescription Drug Safety

SFP 7 Senior Senator Horace Mann
Medicare Support for Shingles Immunization

**Walking Canes Promote
Style and Safety**

By Michael Brown
"Today's Senior Magazine"

If you find yourself needing a little help to walk safely, you can find it in style with walking canes. Connecting style and safety is easy with today's variety of walking canes. Though some walking canes are for collecting, most walking canes are designed to assist you in style and comfort.

If you are wondering what your choices are to connect the safety you need with the style you want, well, the possibilities are endless. Any choice you can think of is probably available to you when you are choosing walking canes. If you are looking for strong support, you may want to choose from the selection of quad canes available to you. These canes have four sup-porting legs on the bottom of the cane, and they also have cushioned handles for added comfort.

You can also find support and style in offset handled canes. These canes offer support of the offset handle with a soft grip. The support shaft is strong and sturdy, and they are capped with a grip at the bottom for added safety. These canes are avail-able in several colors and styles. Finding

walking canes that give you safety in a style you are comfortable with is easy with these canes or from other varieties of canes that are available.

If you are left-handed, you may be looking for walking canes made just for you. With anatomically correct walking canes, you can have the safety you need when you are left-handed. If you are right-handed, you can choose from these canes to give added support and are made to handle the right anatomical weight. There are of course different styles you can choose from to give you safety with your own special taste.

Maybe you need assistance in walking but not all the time. If for getting up or on rocky surfaces, there are walking canes just for you. You can find many different styles in folding walking canes. These canes let you carry your cane and when you need it, you can get it out, unfold and use it. These folding canes may just be the choice for you to have a safe aid in walking when you need it.

Some people may need the safety in the help that walking canes provide but they may also need a little break now and then. You can choose to have that little break if you choose a walking cane that is also a seat. That's right, there are now seat canes and they fold from cane to seat. This may be perfect for sightseeing or any activity you want to participate in - you can have the support of a cane and the rest a seat cane provides.

As you can see, there are many options you can choose from that can connect the safety you need from the aid of a walker to the style that fits your personality. No matter what type of cane you are looking for, you can find walking canes that connect you to the one for you.

*My secret to great stuffing is to let somebody else
make it*

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING
TO EVERYBODY
FROM THE
CSL OFFICE!**

Joint Rules Committee Meetings

November 20, 2008 1:00 p.m. Sacramento
 November 21, 2008 9:00 a.m. Sacramento

“Help the Golden State Support the Golden Years!”

Legislative Committee Meetings

January 6-8, 2009 with JRC Members
 March 10-11, 2009 with Leg Committee Alternates
 May 13-14, 2009
 July 7-9, 2009

California Commission on Aging Meetings Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Field Hearing Topic</u>
December 3-4, 2008	Orange County	Access to Health Care
February 4, 2009	Sacramento	Senior Center Stakeholder Forum
April 7-8, 2009	Fresno	TBD
June 2-3, 2009	Sonoma	TBD
August 4-5, 2009	Sacramento	TBD
December 1-2, 2009	Long Beach	TBD

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