



# 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

Lola Young	(916) 428-4371
Chair	
Dee Erman	(714) 528-1489
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
Jim Levy	(714) 535-1509
Bruce Steir	(415) 626-8025
Richard Shontz	(818) 704-5369
Bill Young	(916) 428-4371

### CSL Office

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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](mailto: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.

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**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 28<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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

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*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.)  
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**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.

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**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

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**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

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**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**

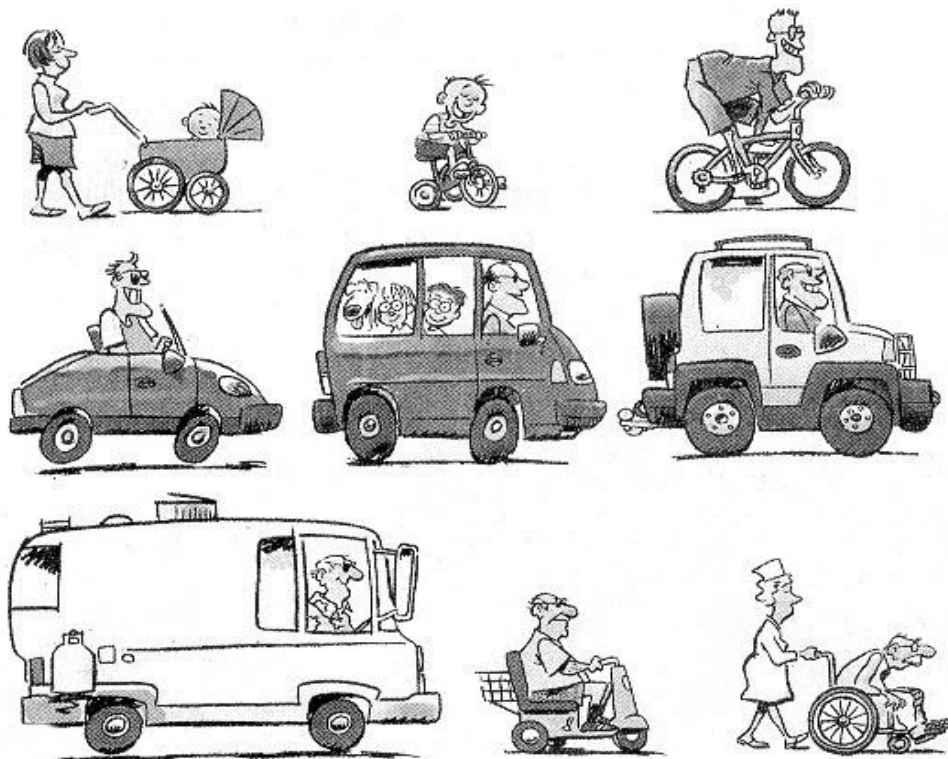
Chair, Senior Assembly  
Member Julia Rosenberg  
Alternate: Senior Assembly  
Member Jerry Meade  
Senior Senator Joe Cox  
Senior Senator Dee Erman  
Alternate: Senior Senator  
Lynn Pankhurst

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  
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# 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

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**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.

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

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

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**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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