# ADVOCACY ACTIONS

- COA Outreach Committee began design of website, introducing it in June 2011, <u>www.2nd50yrs.org</u>. The website objectives are connecting older adults with county and community services.
- Russ Salazar supported the new Pollock Pines nutrition site and introduced new activities
- Letter of Support for reauthorization of the Older Americans Act
- Letter to Parks and Recreation and three commissioners attended Public Hearing advocating areas needed for older adults' leisure activities, Norm Smith, Barbara Plexico, Vicki Ludwig

# STATUS OF COMMISSIONERS 2011

John Collins (representative at City of South Lake Tahoe) resigned June 2011, retired from city.

Rob Swain (representative at City of South Lake Tahoe) position eliminated November 2011. New representative from South Lake Tahoe has been appointed.

Al Kahane M.D. of Cameron Park (Community member) appointed March 2011

Russ Salazar (Community member) appointed February 2010 resigned Nov. 2011

Steve Shervey (City of Placerville) appointed March 2011

Barbara Plexico (Community member) appointed October 2008 resigned 2011

Jane Thomas, Supervisor District III appointment since 2004, passed away unexpectedly November 2011

**Current members:** Norm Smith, Horace Holmes, Siubhan Stevens, Marlene Back, Hal Erpenbeck, Vicki Ludwig, Sharon Balch, Connie Eaton, Al Kahane MD, Steve Shervey

Prepared by Vicki Ludwig-Divittorio, Chairperson, 2011 Approved by Commission Members, Date: 1/19/2012



# ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD:

2011

Area Agency on Aging for Planning and Service Area 29.

In accordance with the provisions of Title III of the Older Americans Act, the Commission on Aging serves the following advisory functions to the Area Agency on Aging:

#### PURPOSE

- To advise, to provide input, and to make recommendations for action to the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors and the Area Agency on Aging.
- To provide input to ascertain the changing needs of the elderly and to advocate for all older adults in El Dorado County.

# DURING THIS PERIOD

 Nine of ten meetings convened with a quorum present at sites rotating throughout the county: senior centers, meal sites and community care sites (Ponte Palmero, Cameron Park and Placerville Eskaton).

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### ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Assisted with the Request for Information for the Nutrition Program, monitored progress, and discussed results
- COA Membership developed a new logo to be used on communications and website
- COA reviewed the Senior Legal donation schedule, making suggestions to encourage increased donations for services provided.
- Second Fifty Years Survey for planning: a volunteer member committee provided design and idea input to staff. Members aided in the implementation of the needs assessment survey; providing outreach into the community publicizing the <u>online survey</u>, garnering 800+ responses.
- Commissioners participated in Older Americans Day celebrations at various congregate meal sites in May 2011
- All Commissioners participated in developing a new website, distributing postcards, and arranging for an article in the Mountain Democrat.
- Completed final corrections to By Laws in 2011.

#### REPORTS

- HICAP (Health Insurance and Counseling Advocacy Program) quarterly reports from meeting given-Norm Smith
- EDC Community Action Committee Report-Norm Smith
- CSL reports- elected as PSA 29 representatives and gave overview of bills -Connie Eaton and Horace Holmes
- The Area Agencies on Aging Council (TACC) report from quarterly meetings-Vicki Ludwig
- South Lake Tahoe Older Adult Updates-Siubhan Stevens, Marlene Back, and Rob Swain
- El Dorado Hills and Bass Lake Non Profits: H. Erpenbeck

### SPEAKERS, TOPICS, AND TRAINING

- Diana Steele, Senior Legal Services, gave overview on AAA legal services and elder abuse prevention. She gave a summary of the new non-profit organization, "Friends of El Dorado County Seniors" founded in 2011.
- Training Day for COA Members: To keep the COA members informed on the El Dorado County AAA, state and federal programs for older adults, the staff profiled all senior services, shared handouts or brochures and answered COA members' questions.
- Michelle Hunter, AAA, coordinated COA members to upcoming Area Plan timeframe, survey of needs required to write the 2012-16 Area Plan objectives.
- Cara Hutchinson, Handy Pro, outlined information in a presentation on Aging in Place: "Home Modification for Seniors".
- HCED (Housing) Programs, C.J. Freeland brought information on senior apartments, housing rehab loan program, and other housing projects that are in planning stages in the county.
- Jan Melnicoe, NAMI, discussed mental health issues in older adults, classes available and groups, which can assist older adults due to the limited mental health programs for older adults.
- Maria Mathews, volunteer speaker from Senior Peer Counseling; valuable group of individuals who provide a "listening ear" to older adults who may have depression or are coping with other issues, thus providing another community mental health resource for seniors.
- Janet Kenneweg, El Dorado Hills Senior Center activities and council update