



THE RETIREE GUARDIAN

Newsletter of CenturyLink Retirees

Issue 2 — 2022

www.cltretirees.org

Message from the Chair

Hello to all and welcome to the second issue of the 2022 *Retiree Guardian*. We have made a lot of changes and additions in the last two years and there is still much to talk about and understand as we go forward.

Our biggest issues continue to be changes generated by the company's move to Businessolvers. There has been a great deal of confusion and questions about updating your personal data to assure that benefit claim reimbursements are made in an accurate and timely manner. Additional help lines have been added with trained representatives to assist us all. Please let us know how we can help if you continue to have issues; we will be glad to get involved. I am reassured by the fact that Lumen has promised that no reimbursement deadlines have been set and remain flexible in getting the database updated.

One great addition to our organization is a new, easily-accessed website for our members. You will find specific login information on available subjects. Please note that a section is available to Retiree Association members only, so be sure to take a look at that. A nice side benefit to this is the increase in membership that the website has generated.

This issue of *The Guardian*, the website, and upcoming emails include a survey asking your opinion on how or

if we should organize an annual in-person meeting or a virtual meeting via ZOOM as we did last year. Please take a moment to let us know your thoughts. If responses show enough interest and attendance to make it viable, we would plan to meet in the Minneapolis area sometime in early to mid-September. If you are unable to attend or not interested in meeting at this time, let us know that as well. In my opinion, it is always fun to meet with colleagues to share memories and stories about our careers with "the phone company."

It has been quite awhile since my last report. In the interim, members of your Board of Directors quickly took over my responsibilities, allowing me to devote full efforts to resolve some health issues. I am happy to report that I appear to be well on my way to recovery. I truly thank my fellow board members for their thoughts, prayers, and extra effort to keep our meetings going, while dealing with the HRA issues and all the other tasks required to keep this organization meaningful. I thank all of you for your kind thoughts and great participation. I look forward to many more years of retirement adventures and hope you do, as well.

Gerold "Jerry" Weldon

Inside this Edition ...

- | | | | |
|---|--|----|---|
| 2 | ◆ Annual Meeting - Input Needed | 10 | ◆ Milestones |
| 3 | ◆ Pension Plan De-Risking | 13 | ◆ Telephone Pioneers of America |
| 4 | ◆ Website Updates and Treasurer's Report | 14 | ◆ North Dakota Pioneers |
| 5 | ◆ Membership and RG Updates | 15 | ◆ Time Capsule - 20 Years Ago |
| 6 | ◆ Lumen Benefits Update | 16 | ◆ Curtis Kennedy Obit |
| 7 | ◆ Recent Scams to Watch Out For | 17 | ◆ What to do when a Retiree Dies |
| 8 | ◆ Memories from NWB - Harold Hodges, Sr. | 18 | ◆ Navigating the Service Center Voice Response System |
| 9 | ◆ Remembering Curtis Kennedy | | |

Our Mission: To preserve and protect the pension and benefits we earned