

From: Liz Bettencourt
Sent: Thursday, December 20, 2012 4:03 PM
Subject: President's Message - December 20, 2012

Members:

Second Harvest Food Drive

Last night ten District volunteers joined dozens of other volunteers at the Second Harvest warehouse to sort and prepare food boxes for the holidays. This year's food drive has been a big success—but it's not over yet—there is still time to contribute food or money to the cause. The food barrels will be picked up on December 27.

On December 5 and 12, mixers were held to promote the Second Harvest Food Bank holiday drive, a combined effort by the three bargaining units. **Merna Leal, Christy Chung, and Eric Olson** organized the events, with assistance from **Cathy Paramo** and **Mark Merritt**. At these well-attended break time events, baked goods, savory snacks, and hot and cold drinks were enjoyed in a festive atmosphere with fellow co-workers. The idea behind the mixers was to promote the holiday spirit, and a feeling of giving and sharing. Through these efforts, the barrels on the second and third floors have been nearly filled, and over \$200 in donations have been collected. On-line and continued cash donations have been made by various District employees during the mixers and well beyond these events. Thank you to everyone who has contributed.

Our thanks as well to the joint union committee **Cathy Paramo, Roberta Stewart, Louisa Mendoza, Eric Olson, Mark Merritt, Merna Leal, Dora Gil and Christy Chung**, for all their work!
<http://www.aqua.gov/trainings/support-second-harvest-food-drive-end-local-hunger>

Members on the Move

Lenny Carrasco was recently promoted from a Water Resources Technician I to a Water Resources Technician II in the Raw Water Field Operations and Pipeline Maintenance Unit.

Ernest Abila has joined the Raw Water Field Operations and Pipeline Maintenance Unit working as a Water Resources Technician I and will be assigned to Coyote and Penitencia recharge facilities.

Bill Smith, Senior Environmental Planner in the Stream Stewardship Unit, and **Gerry Uenaka**, Public Information Representative II in the Communications Unit, are both retiring this month.

Congratulations Lenny, Ernest, Bill and Gerry!

No January Membership Meeting

The Executive Board met this week and we have voted to cancel the January membership meeting which would be held on January 2. It falls during a holiday week in which many people will still be on vacation. We will send out the December officer report to keep you informed about what we've been up to.

Last, but not least, whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Ramadan, Kwanzaa, Boxing Day, Las Posadas or any other tradition, holiday or holy time, the EA Executive Board wishes you happiness and health. Enjoy your time off with family and friends and, *be safe!*

Liz Bettencourt, President
Ingrid Bella, VP of Management Relations
Mala Magill, VP of Grievance
Jan Ortiz, VP of Benefits
Cathy Paramo, VP of Membership
Janell Hillman, VP of Outreach
Michele Keefhaver, Secretary-Treasurer



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