



# Lucent Retirees Organization

[www.lucentretirees.com](http://www.lucentretirees.com)

April 2005

## The LRO Connection

LRO Annual Report for 2004 & Spring 2005 Newsletter

Note to LRO Members: If you have received this newsletter by mail, it is because we do not have a valid email address for you or, for some reason, your email agent rejected our message. The LRO can save printing and postage costs in the future by sending you newsletters via email. Also, you'll periodically receive important email messages. Accordingly, at the LRO Website Home Page [[www.lucentretirees.com](http://www.lucentretirees.com)], go to "CLICK HERE TO CHANGE REGISTRATION DATA" and enter your latest email address information to ensure the LRO records are up-to-date.

## Support The LRO Through Your Membership Dues

The LRO 2005 dues campaign commenced this past January. If you have not paid your dues to date, please mail your check or money order to Bob Janish at LRO Inc., P. O. Box 1535, Cranford, NJ 07016-1535; or, if you have Internet access, your dues can be paid via credit card by accessing the Website [[www.lucentretirees.com](http://www.lucentretirees.com)]. LRO dues are \$25 for annual membership or \$350 for lifetime enrollment. Special individual contributions are always appreciated. Payments made by either check or money order should be accompanied by the registration coupon at the end of this newsletter. *Please do not send cash.*

### Confirmation of payment:

1. Payment made by credit card: Immediately upon acknowledgement of receipt by Paypal, confirmation will be directly sent to the member's email address.
2. Payment made by check or money order:
  - a) Members with email addresses will receive electronic confirmation immediately upon processing of payment by the LRO Dues Bursar.
  - b) Members without email addresses will become aware of confirmation upon receipt of their canceled check or bank statement.

Ordinarily, checks and money orders are processed and deposited in our bank account within three to five days after receipt by the LRO Dues Bursar.

### Membership

As noted in the Treasurer's report in this Newsletter, at the end of 2004 membership in LRO totaled 8,262, representing an increase of 1,353 from the previous year. Deepest appreciation is extended to all the Regional Directors and the many LRO members who solicited enrollment during the past year. Thanks to all of these persons for their help and support. LRO membership increases are best achieved contacting friends, relatives and former co-workers and encouraging them to become dues paying LRO members. Your help is a must in enabling the LRO to grow. Please contact your Regional Director for assistance and guidance in becoming a member solicitor.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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The LRO has formed an **Advocacy Champion Team (ACT)** to champion the concerns and issues of LRO members in their dealings with Lucent, its agents and other entities. Retirees are expected to first use "normal channels" before requesting ACT's support.

When an LRO member has exhausted the "normal channels" on pension or benefits issues, one of the following ACT members can be contacted:

- Larry Myers – Team Leader – email: [lmyers30@nc.rr.com](mailto:lmyers30@nc.rr.com); phone: 919-542-3462; US Mail: 1176 Fearington Post – Pittsboro, NC 27312-5023.
- Lola Hotchkis – Healthcare Issues – email: [lola@caldyneinc.com](mailto:lola@caldyneinc.com); phone: 630-833-6026; US Mail: 130 Sunnyside Avenue – Elmhurst, IL 60126-3212.
- Pat Matthews – Pension & Benefits Issues – email: [mtpatmat@aol.com](mailto:mtpatmat@aol.com); phone: 973-731-5724; US Mail: 125 Fairview Avenue – West Orange, NJ 07052-2611.

ACT is seeking additional volunteers to serve on the team. Please notify Larry if you are able to help your fellow retirees with pension and benefit issues. ACT will help members and retirees deal with pension and benefit concerns. ACT will exercise utmost caution to assure that its communications does not provide improper guidance or is a cause for alarm.

ACT will review all Lucent communications to retirees for accuracy and completeness and convey proposals for action to the LRO Board. In exemplary cases, ACT will assist retirees in filing formal claims with Lucent and government agencies. In exceptional cases, ACT may also recommend legal action.

# The LRO Connection

*(This is proprietary information for LRO members use only and should not be disseminated further.)*

The year 2004 was encouraging and productive for the LRO, a not-for-profit enterprise organized to support the interests and benefits of Lucent Technologies retirees' and their dependents. The key business initiatives reflected in Ken Raschke's address and the view ahead as stated by Jim Breslin, both appearing in our December newsletter, vividly depict the arduous efforts of the many LRO volunteers who have contributed their time and virtually limitless energy throughout 2004. From a financial perspective, the LRO was equally successful with some of our more significant achievements being:

## From Bob Janish Treasurer's Annual Report

- Member enrollment expanded to 8,262, representing an increase of 1,353 members during 2004;
- Income, from dues/contributions and interest on savings, amounted to \$109,433;
- Enhancement of our technology infrastructure and financial operating environment provided us with added internal controls and reporting capabilities;
- Introduction of an online credit card capability offered another option for payment of dues; and,
- Completion of an external audit of our 2004 financial results by our CPA firm revealed our accounting to be sound and in accordance with generally accepted principles.

These major achievements, and the many other unlisted operational day-to-day activities, would not have been possible without the support and assistance of Bob Lear, our accountant; Hugh Evans, our dues bursar; Joe Sciulli, our WEB Master, Dom Gurrera, our electronic mail coordinator; and Charlie Flint, our US mail czar. We are tremendously grateful for the efforts expended by these volunteers and the many others who labored to support our mission.

## LRO Teams With NRLN To Communicate With Government Leaders

The LRO is working with the National Retiree Legislative Network (NRLN) to strengthen the capability of Lucent retirees to communicate with government leaders in Washington, D.C. The NRLN, a grassroots, non-partisan coalition of retiree organizations representing 2 million retirees, is dedicated to protecting the pension plans and retirement benefits of its members. LRO Public Affairs Director Bill Kadereit is serving as the NRLN's Public Affairs Vice President. As the NRLN attempts to influence legislation favorable to retirees, it is critical that LRO members join with other NRLN members in sending messages to President Bush, U.S. Representatives and U.S. Senators when "Action Alerts" are issued via email. The LRO has arranged for its members to have the benefit of Capwiz an Internet-based system to facilitate sending messages to their state's elected representatives in Washington. When important legislative issues arise, the LRO will decide whether a Capwiz message will be transmitted to LRO Members. When a Capwiz "alert" is issued, the LRO Board encourages members to access Capwiz on the NRLN website and forward the message to their Congressman and/or Senators. For more information on the NRLN and Capwiz, visit the NRLN Web site at [www.nrln.org](http://www.nrln.org).

### LRO Board of Directors 2005

**President** – Jim Breslin – [jamesbreslin@bellsouth.net](mailto:jamesbreslin@bellsouth.net) - Phone: 770-416-8459;

Mail Address: 5150 Cralyn Court – Duluth, GA 30097

**Vice President** – Ken Raschke - [kraschke@triad.rr.com](mailto:kraschke@triad.rr.com) - Phone: 336-765-9765;

Mail Address: 231 Pinetuck Lane - Winston-Salem, NC 27104

**Secretary** –Eli Shaff - [retiredelishaff@aol.com](mailto:retiredelishaff@aol.com) – Phone: 972-307-5777;

Mail Address: 3224 Prestonwood Drive – Plano, TX 75093

**Treasurer** – Bob Janish - [rajanish@att.net](mailto:rajanish@att.net) – Phone: 908-276-7596;

Mail Address: 208 Richard St. - Cranford, NJ 07016-2546

**Board Member** – Mike Bard - [mbard@charter.net](mailto:mbard@charter.net) – Phone: 910-270-2394;

Mail Address: 515 Olde Point Road – Hampstead, NC 28443

**Board Member** – Herb Zydney - [eherb@att.net](mailto:eherb@att.net) - Phone: 917-744-8962;

Mail Address: 3010 Grand Bay Blvd. - Longboat Key, FL 34228

**Public Affairs Director** – Bill Kadereit – [wkhome@att.net](mailto:wkhome@att.net) - Phone: 972-772-

0692; Mail Address: 2308 Versailles Court – Heath, TX 75032

**Communications Director** – Ed Beltram – [edbeltram@msn.com](mailto:edbeltram@msn.com) - Phone: 719-

687-6157; Mail Address: 420 Fairfield Lane – Woodland Park, CO 80863

### Regional Directors

**New England** (MA, ME, NH, RI, VT) – Paul Bayliss – [bayliss@suscom-maine.net](mailto:bayliss@suscom-maine.net)

Phone: 207-725-1431; Mail Address: 5 Wren Drive – Topsham, ME 04086

**Northeast** (CT, DE, NJ, NY, PA) – Arthur R. Storm, Jr. – [k2trk@arrl.net](mailto:k2trk@arrl.net)

Phone: 973-765-0105; Mail Address 61 Greenwood Avenue - Madison, NJ 07940

**Mid Atlantic** (DC, MD, NC, SC, VA, WVA) - Hal Worley - [hworley@triad.rr.com](mailto:hworley@triad.rr.com)

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**Southeast** (AL, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, TN) – Walt Ehmer - [wjehmer@att.net](mailto:wjehmer@att.net)

Phone: 770-392-0935; Mail Address: 1785 Brandon Hall Drive – Atlanta, GA 30350

**Southwest** (AR, KS, LA, MO, OK, TX) – Bob Allen – [vetb@bellsouth.net](mailto:vetb@bellsouth.net)

Phone: 318-797-5804; Mail Address: 10090 Chenier Point – Shreveport, LA 71106

**North Central** (IL, IN, MI, OH, WI) – John Woodruff – [jwcepi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jwcepi@sbcglobal.net)

Phone: 317-846-6496; Mail Address: 12444 Pebblepoint Pass - Carmel, IN 46033

**Mountain** (AZ, CO, IA, MN, ND, NE, NM, SD, UT, WY) Pete McCarthy –

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Phone: 520-529-8828; Mail Address: 4288 N. Placita de Sandra – Tuscon, AZ 85718

**West Coast** (CA, HI, NV) - Howard King – [howieking@sbcglobal.net](mailto:howieking@sbcglobal.net)

Phone: 408-268-0429; Mail Address: 6118 Monteverde Drive - San Jose, CA 95120

**Pacific Northwest** (AK, ID, MT, OR, WA) – Charles Whiteley –

[cwhiteley@adelphia.net](mailto:cwhiteley@adelphia.net)

Phone: 208-772-8268; Mail Address: 1632 E. Hanley Avenue – Dalton Gardens, ID 83815

# The LRO Connection

## *From Jim Breslin* President's Perspective

It has been a learning experience for me since becoming your LRO President at the beginning of this year. I have learned that the LRO is dealing with very complex issues as we endeavor to protect retirees' pensions and benefits. I feel fortunate that Ken Raschke remains deeply involved as the LRO Vice President. I'm also thankful to have the support of tremendously dedicated Board members, many of whom are into their third year of service to your organization.

Beyond the Board, the number of members who are volunteering their time to the LRO is growing. But we need more volunteers so we can develop succession plans for Board members and others who have worked long and hard for the LRO and need a break. In this newsletter there are "Want Ads" for future LRO Regional Directors. **If you are interested in serving as a Regional Director or in volunteering to help the LRO in some other way, please notify your Regional Director or Bob Janish.** Their contact information is shown in the LRO Board of Directors directory in this newsletter. Please consider contributing your time and talents toward helping your former co-workers.

My time during the opening months of my term as President, was mainly devoted to establishing communications with Lucent and dialoguing with the LRO Board members through one face-to-face meeting and several conference calls. I and three other LRO representatives – Bob Ardis, Bill Kadereit and Herb Zydney – met with Lucent leaders on January 14<sup>th</sup> at Lucent's Murray Hill, NJ headquarters. In addition to Lucent Chairman and CEO Pat Russo, Lucent was represented by CFO Frank D'Amelio; Mark Gibbens, Treasurer; John Hickey, Vice President of Human Resources; Pamela Kimmet, Senior Vice President of Human Resources; Collette Chilton, President of LAMCO, a wholly owned Lucent investment company; Bill Carapezzi, General Counsel; and Steve Kronheim, Attorney.

The meeting was a first step toward exchanging meaningful information that will hopefully lead to rebuilding retirees' confidence in the security of their pensions, health care coverage, life insurance and prescription drug benefits. The next meeting with Lucent executives is scheduled for May 26<sup>th</sup>. Due to scheduling difficulties for both LRO and Lucent representatives, the length of time between the two meetings is longer than we would like. However, during the period between meetings, I have written three letters to Pat Russo describing retirees' concerns and requesting detailed information about the pension trust, healthcare plans and the life insurance trust.

We are asking Lucent to provide more information in order to analyze more intensely the figures in Lucent's financial reports. In preparation for the first meeting, we did extensive research into Lucent's filings with the SEC and gathered data from independent sources. The "homework" that the LRO representatives are doing in preparation for the next meeting is even more extensive now that we have examined the information provided by Lucent. At this stage, we know we are dealing with extremely complicated issues that are made even more complex by federal laws and accounting regulations. I can't predict when the LRO might be in a position to make statements to address retirees' concerns about the security of the pension and benefit plans. I will say, however, that the LRO will continue to work on these critical issues no matter how long it takes and without regard to the labor involved.

While the potential for forthrightness between the LRO and Lucent is being explored, the LRO made its presence known at the Lucent Annual Meeting on February 16<sup>th</sup> in Wilmington, Delaware. The LRO Board decided to conduct a planning meeting in Wilmington so Board members who are also Lucent shareholders could have their voices heard at the Lucent Annual Meeting.

At Lucent's meeting, two of the LRO members and the wife of a third member made presentations as to why their proxy proposals should be supported. Unfortunately, when the tabulation of the ballots was announced, the LRO-sponsored proxy proposals had not garnered enough votes to pass.

Joanne Raschke, wife of Ken Raschke, submitted a proxy proposal that requested the Lucent Board of Directors to adopt a policy whereby at least 75% of future equity compensation (stock options and restricted stock) awarded to senior executives be performance-based, and the performance criteria be disclosed to shareholders. The votes cast on this proxy proposal were 48.4% "For" and 51.6% "Against."

Jim Stickel, a Lucent retiree and shareowner, sought to amend the company's audit services pre-approval policy so that the public accounting firm retained to audit the corporate financial statements would perform only audit and audit-related work, and not perform services generating tax or consulting fees, including non-audit services related to Lucent's pension and benefit trusts. The votes cast on this proxy proposal were 32% "For" and 68% "Against."

Walt Ehmer, the LRO's Southeast Regional Director, resubmitted his "golden parachute" proxy proposal that received support from 65% of the shares voted at Lucent's Annual Meeting in February 2004. His original resolution was considered "advisory" rather than "mandatory." To make a change in Lucent's bylaws mandatory, a resolution must garner support from more than 50% of all outstanding Lucent shares, not merely those voting. Walt resubmitted his proxy in an effort to make it mandatory. This time, the proxy proposal received support from 21% of all outstanding common shares. Lucent did not announce what percent of total votes cast this 21% represented.

Although the LRO-sponsored proxy proposals did not pass this year, the LRO's actions demonstrate our determination to utilize the proxy statement process as a means to attempt to set higher performance and accountability standards for Lucent.

*(Continued on page 4)*

# The LRO Connection

(Continued from page 3) ***From Jim Breslin President's Perspective***

The LRO also made its presence known at the Annual Meeting through nine LRO members each asking a question of Pat Russo. The questions heard by the attending Lucent Board Members were directed toward issues of importance to Lucent retirees and shareowners.

After the morning Lucent Annual Meeting, the LRO Board spent the afternoon and following day discussing ways to advance the LRO's mission. We were fortunate that

Ralph Maly, CWA Vice President, had attended the Lucent Annual Meeting and agreed to make an appearance at the LRO Board meeting. Maly provided candid comments on the CWA's working relationship with Lucent and provided insights into the new national labor agreement between the CWA and Lucent.

Approximately two thirds of our meeting was devoted to listening to and dialoguing with three attorneys who have extensive experience in assisting retirees with legal issues.

Curtis Kennedy, Denver legal counsel to the Association of US WEST (Qwest) Retirees, described his efforts in guiding US WEST retirees through confrontations with their former employer, including a number of successful lawsuits. Jim Malone and Alan Sandals are the attorneys from the two Pennsylvania law firms who are representing Lucent retirees in three lawsuits resulting from Lucent's elimination of the Death Benefit. They gave confidential presentations on the status of the lawsuits that are progressing through the federal court in New Jersey. In addition, Alan Sandals, who is on retainer to the LRO, discussed a number of client-lawyer privileged issues.

I'm looking forward to the coming months with the hope that the dialogue with Lucent will lead to outcomes beneficial to retirees. Your continued support of the LRO will help sustain us through these arduous endeavors.

I want to convey what is being done to effect legislative change in support of the LRO Legislative Agenda nationally and through your volunteer efforts.

The LRO has implemented a very important legislative tool. In January, the National Retiree Legislative Network (NRLN) board approved expenditure for CapWiz (see details in another article) and the LRO board approved the use of this system to reach our elected officials.

Also, the NRLN has grown its nationwide Grassroots Network. Your LRO accepted primary responsibility for legislative action in 10 states; other NRLN associations own leadership in 40 other states. All are working together in all Senatorial and Congressional Districts in every state. Thousands have responded.

As will be indicated elsewhere in this Newsletter, Pension and Healthcare Issues/ Objectives listed below were addressed with Lucent's officers at the January meeting.

## PENSION OBJECTIVES:

There are six key issues that impact on the security of Pension assets and plan funding:

- Lucent and other companies have taken pension surpluses to pay for financial incentives to induce employees to retire, and for such things as voluntary layoff allowances. The Courts and the IRS have permitted such raids that have proven to weaken plan asset values. Lucent removed \$2.1 Billion from the Lucent Retiree Income Plan (LRIP) during the stock market downturn in 2001-02. Today, that plan holds \$1.7 Billion fewer assets than liabilities (Lucent's 2004 10-K report).
- Faulty interest rates used to set plan liabilities and the future value of plan assets have resulted in a false sense that plans are adequately funded to meet pension liabilities. This has led to disagreement over measurement standards.
- The lack of timely disclosure of plan assets and liabilities, as well as the quality and specificity of information such as actuarial data, has kept plan participants in the dark regarding the security of pension assets. Today, ERISA allows **under-reporting of details**. Also, under current ERISA rules, the status of pension plans is not reported until the end of the following year. For example, Lucent only recently had to report year-end 2003 status.
- ERISA law is not clear; it does not require sufficient disclosure of relevant information to plan participants in a situation where a company is merged with, or acquired by, another company. Participant rights should be more clearly defined.
- Current ERISA policy and law does not restrict company executives from also acting as pension plan fiduciaries. This can lead to decisions that benefit company needs for timing and amount of profitability, liability for funding plans, and, in general -- at a minimum -- it affords opportunities for conflict of interest.
- Current ERISA policy and law does not restrict auditors of company financial reports and other matters from also being the auditor of that same company's pension plans. Since pension credits affect company income, that can present opportunities, for example, to accept riskier portfolios in attempts to increase earnings. An independent pension plan auditor might be much more prone to object to high-risk investment policies that could very well prove unsuccessful and detrimental in the long run.
- The LRO, through the efforts of Chuck Graves, Bob Ardis, Mike Bard and Herb Zydney have prepared legislative proposals. Those proposals would lead to ERISA amendments that would better protect LRO plan participants regarding the first four issues above. Work is underway to complete development on the last two proposals. The NRLN is reviewing our proposals; discussions are planned with Congressional staffs as a means of testing support for specific language changes.

*From Bill Kadereit*

## Public Affairs Update

(Continued on page 5)

# The LRO Connection

## Regional Directors Focusing On "Best Practices"

LRO Regional Directors have begun conducting conference calls to establish some "best practices" for growing the LRO membership. The Regional Directors will be working on explaining the importance of joining the LRO. Where possible, they will work with Pioneer Clubs to spread the word about the LRO.

In several of the regions, action is underway to get articles and/or ads in both daily and weekly/monthly local newspapers and magazines, both free and paid.

A trial ad was purchased in the Shreveport newspaper for \$552. It produced 29 new dues-paying members (\$25 each), including one new Lifetime Member (\$350), plus four membership renewals (\$25 each). The LRO Board has authorized a small budget for Regional Directors to use for paid newspaper advertisements to recruit new members.

*(Continued from page 4)*

In addition to ERISA pension legislation, the LRO and the NRLN are opposed to any form of cash balance plans that penalize or discriminate against older workers.

### HEALTHCARE OBJECTIVES:

Issue/Objective - Oppose the recent EEOC ruling that would protect companies from age discrimination suits if they cancel Prescription Drug or other Healthcare Plan coverage. If implemented, this ruling would allow Lucent to cancel our current prescription drug plan for those over 65 years of age, while still accepting an annual \$60 million subsidy for continuing to offer the plan *even if participants pay 100% of the cost.* This would leave retirees over 65 with Medicare's inferior drug coverage while providing Lucent with a \$60 million bonus!! Under terms of the ruling, those active and retired under age 65 can be offered a different plan. The EEOC ruling permits a form of discrimination contrary to what it has always been bound to protect against! This ruling also extends to all other healthcare plan coverage for those over 65 years of age.

**Action:** The LRO and the NRLN have opposed this ruling in Washington, DC. Our members sent e-mails to Congress and the EEOC; the LRO has written the EEOC directly, and the NRLN staff has met with the AARP's legislative staff to form a coalition position. In turn, AARP filed suit to enjoin implementation of the ruling. ON MARCH 30, THE COURT ISSUED AN ORDER FAVORING AARP. WE WILL FOLLOW – THE RULING MUST WITHSTAND APPEALS THAT WILL SURELY BE FILED.

**Action:** Another solution being pursued is to change the Medicare Part D (Prescription Drug Section) of the law (now scheduled to be implemented on January 1, 2006) to preclude companies from receiving a subsidy if they push retirees over age 65 onto the Medicare Part D plan without offering supplemental coverage to keep those retirees whole with regard to coverage and cost. The NRLN has been meeting with Congressional staffs to convince them of the need to conserve subsidy funds for those companies that assure continued protection of current plans. The White House and many Congressmen and Senators are not responding favorably.

Two other Medicare Part D Issues/Objectives, listed below, that are not EEOC related:

Issues/Objectives – Oppose the recently passed Medicare Part D provision that protects drug companies from having to compete in open market price competition. The bill is to be implemented on January 1, 2006. It does not contain provisions to allow government bidding. Third, oppose the EEOC ruling (SEE ABOVE) impact on prescription drugs for retirees.

**Action:** With regard to the first issue, your LRO -- through our NRLN coalition -- has been actively meeting with Congressional staff and committee members to stimulate support for amending the law to include competitive bidding. So far, they are reluctant to help. Powerful drug lobbyists, Congress and the White House do not want to see competitive bidding. Once we can find a supporter for an amendment, we will ask everyone to campaign with his or her Congressmen on this issue.

Issues/Objectives – Support Prescription Drug Importation. Drug companies operate within an import protection cocoon as regards global competition with other drug producers, but should not deserve such protection when the result is higher prices than an open market would offer. Telecommunication, Airline, Steel, Auto and other U.S industries (with heavy research and design expenses) were stripped of protection and must compete globally – why not the drug industry?

**Action:** Your LRO has banded with all other NRLN Associations in support of drug importation by getting behind S.334 "Pharmaceutical Market Access and Drug Safety Act," known as the Dorgan bill. We recently asked all members of these associations to email their Senators in support of S.334. Almost 5,000 CapWiz emails were sent.

All indications are that Congress will not move to support HR-1322, a bill to protect retirees' healthcare benefits promised by their respective companies. But, we will continue to monitor it and will still strongly endorse its provisions.

The administration has announced that both pension & health care legislation will be forthcoming. We need to be ready to counteract the business lobbyists who are well entrenched. To do this we need volunteers in every Congressional District who will write, visit, call, etc. their representatives. We are not in this alone. We are working with the NRLN & AARP to show a united front. The LRO has been assigned the lead in 10 states that have 124 U.S. Representatives. We need all of your help. Please volunteer to help us help you to ensure that our pensions are protected and that we get meaningful healthcare reform.

If you want to help support your LRO leaders and other volunteers regarding these legislative initiatives, sign up to help in your state. Just let me know and we will get information to you. Send me your email at [wkhome@att.net](mailto:wkhome@att.net).

# The LRO Connection

## Phil MacLaren and Howie King "Retiring" - Art Storm Is New Northeast Regional Director

Restoring leadership is natural in a dynamic organization. The LRO is introducing a new Northeast Regional Director, seeking a replacement for the Western Regional Director, and recruiting others willing to become Regional Directors when vacancies occur.

**Arthur R. Storm, Jr.**, a Lucent retiree in Madison, NJ, is the new Northeast Regional Director. His Bell Labs career began at Murray Hill, NJ in 1956 and ended 39 years later when he took an "early out" in 1995 prior to the Lucent spin-off. The LRO welcomes Art and strongly commends **Phil MacLaren** who served as the Northeast Regional Director for the past two years.

After over two years of lobbying for retirees rights, **Howie King**, Western Regional Director, has decided to take a rest and let someone else take over responsibility in leading membership development and legislative activities. The LRO deeply appreciates the leadership that Howie has provided.

Phil and Howie have requested that their thanks be communicated to the members of their regions for the support they have provided since the creation of the LRO and what they will continue to supply in the future.

In addition to seeking volunteers to serve as the Western Regional Director, the LRO wants to hear from members interested in serving as a leader in their respective Regions at some point in the future. We need individuals who support the LRO's goals and are willing to recruit and enroll members, interact with members in their state/region, advocate their region's interests and concerns to the LRO Board, and represent the LRO on legislative and other issues important to retirees. An individual interested in serving as a potential leader should submit his/her name, phone number, email address and U.S. Mail address to his/her Regional Director or to Bob Janish at [rajanish@worldnet.att.net](mailto:rajanish@worldnet.att.net) or mail to LRO, Inc. P.O. Box 1535, Cranford, NJ 07016-1535.

### LRO Website Adds Member Search Capability

In response to requests from our members who want to find former co-workers and LRO friends, we have added a member search capability to the LRO website, effective April 1<sup>st</sup>. Members whose dues are current and who have Internet access are able to search for friends and former

co-workers from our membership list.

Members may search the LRO database by Name, City, State, Zip Code, or Email address. Matches to the search will contain only that data.

To access the member search capability go to the top of the LRO Home Page at [www.lucentretirees.com](http://www.lucentretirees.com) and "CLICK HERE TO ACCESS LRO MEMBER SEARCH". Your LRO dues must be current and you must enter your last name and registration ID. You may obtain your registration ID by going to the LRO Home Page and clicking on "CLICK HERE TO REVIEW YOUR REGISTRATION INFORMATION" and the information will be emailed to you. Your registration ID is contained in all confirmation emails.

Any member who does not want to share his or her data, should OPT OUT. To OPT OUT, go to the LRO Home Page and click on "CLICK HERE TO CHANGE YOUR REGISTRATION DATA" and check the box at the bottom of the form.

Members without Internet access who do not want their name in the member search database may OPT OUT by placing their name and address on the registration form in this newsletter and checking the line that you DO NOT want your information accessed.

**PLEASE TAKE TIME TODAY TO WRITE YOUR CHECK TO THE LRO AND MAIL IT TO:  
MR. BOB JANISH, LRO TREASURER, PO Box 1535, CRANFORD, NJ 07016-1535**



### LRO Membership Information

Renew My LRO Membership

Register Me As A New LRO Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
First Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
MI

\_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address or P.O. Box #

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address

Check one:  Retiree with Pension  Vested for Pension  Surviving Spouse

Check one:  Management  Non-Management

Retirement Date \_\_\_\_\_ Company At Retirement \_\_\_\_\_ Years of Service \_\_\_\_\_

How did you learn about LRO?  from a friend/former co-worker;  from the LRO web site; from News Articles;  from Credit Union Publication Ad;  Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

yearly dues are \$25  
life-time dues are \$350