

# San Diego Chatter

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CALIFORNIA STATE RETIREES -CHAPTER 17 - SAN DIEGO/IMPERIAL COUNTIES District G

September/October 2012

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CSEA Retirees, Inc. 888 808-7197 Fax: 916 326-4364 Website: www.calcsea.org/retirees

**CSEA Member Benefits** 800 952-5283 CSEA 916 444-8134

PERS Headquarters Lincoln Plaza 400 "Q" Street Sacramento, CA 95814

PERS Retired Members 800 352-2238

PERS Beneficiary916326-3848800352-2238

Social Security 800 772-1213

Internal Revenue Service 800 829-4477

Medicare 800 633-4227

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – Diane Whorton



Chapter 17 Delegates attended the 2012 CSR Delegate Assembly on Friday, August  $31^{st}$ , ending Sunday September  $2^{nd}$ . We went with a total of 9 delegates out of our full count of 14. It was unfortunate that several of delegates became ill or had family members who were too ill to leave.

**A reminder to everyone**: We all volunteers in this organization. We take care of ourselves and our family before we attempt to take on other responsibilities. If we don't, we won't be there for the others who need us. THANK YOU to everyone who volunteered, next time we will be healthier and better.

We will have some comments further in the newsletter from several of the delegates with regards to their impressions of Delegate Assembly and CSEA General Council.

As the direction of CSEA is being drastically altered, each Affiliate will be assuming more and more responsibilities for their organization. It will be very important the people assuming leadership roles in CSR concentrate on what members want by allowing the members more opportunities to voice their opinion and present their ideas for the future of CSR. Every idea is of value, they all need to be discussed and considered, not ignored.

If leaders do not want to listen and truly act with guidance and input from the members they need to step down so the positions can be filled by those who truly care and take their responsibilities seriously.

One of the critical discussions within CSR is our financial obligations and stability. Delegates spent 2 hours the night before Delegate Assembly to try and "balance" a negative budget. Regardless of how you move money around the bottom line is – the money is the same and there is not enough. It is not balanced – it is tweaked!

Because Local 1000 has been allowed to sever ties with CSEA and become their own employer it has created additional responsibilities for the 3 remaining affiliates. This is going to be a major change for everyone. Balancing a budget is never easy. It's even harder when someone stops paying and causes more problems that have to be dealt with. (Local 1000 to CSEA).

By Local 1000 severing ties with CSEA it has also caused problems with staff (UAW) negotiations. UAW has filed an Unfair Labor Practice and this will trickle down to the 3 affiliates left. Where in the CSR budget (and reserves investment accounts) is the money to pay attorneys fees for lawsuits and an ULP?

We were given a memo from the controller that the affiliate would be bankrupt by 2015 if things didn't change – when is that going to start?

## **CHAPTER MEETING, OCTOBER 23, 2012**

At the meeting this month we will have a guest speaker from San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council for discussion of propositions and races on the November ballot. Time certain is 1:00pm.

Please arrive at 11:00 am so we can get our lunch finished and meeting started by 12:00 noon. We will be doing chapter business before the speaker.

There is side entrance you can come to if you arrive before 11:00 am.



#### MEET YOUR SECRETARY – Gloria Koch

Gloria retired in 2010 after 25 years with the state, retiring from Caltrans in San Diego. She was born and raised in Santiago Chile, has two sons, 6 grandsons and provides home care for her mother. She loves to travel, and be with family.

Gloria has always been very active in fighting to retain our benefits and believes that we need

to be working with the Private Sector to help them gain benefits like we are fortunate to have. She feels that union clout has been lost and needs to be regained to establish more respect for the working class.

Gloria is a welcome breath of fresh air and has taken on the duties of Secretary for the chapter.

#### **CSR DELEGATE ASSEMBLY – GENERAL COUNCIL UPDATE**

**Nellie Sayer, Delegate -** Delegate Assembly started on Friday Aug 31 at 9 am. It was attended by retirees of CSEA. The meeting was called to order and the usual procedures were conducted such as the pledge of allegiance and introductions and announcements, etc. Roll call was conducted and the delegates recited the Delegate Oath. Both the Delegate Assembly and the General Council meetings are conducted following very strict association rules.

Twelve Bylaws change proposals and 3 suggestions for Assembly consideration were discussed. Some were passed, some rejected, and some were referred to the BOD for review. An example of a proposal of a Bylaw change was BGR 1/12, which would require the CSR president to call a meeting of the Delegate Assembly as needed, but no less than once every three years. This proposal was carried.

Another example for a proposal of a Bylaw change was BGR 3/12, which would require the meeting and workshops of the BOD, Delegate Assembly, and chapters to be open to all members. This proposal was carried.

There were 5 fiscal proposals presented. Some were carried, some were rejected and some were referred to the BOD for review. An example of the fiscal proposals was FIS 2/12, which was the adoption of the budget 2013, 2014, 2015. There had been lots of discussion about this proposal the night before at committee meetings and workshops lasting until 11 pm, as a result of an unbalanced budget. There was more discussion during the Delegate Assembly and finally the proposal was approved with changes.

Another example was FIS 5/12, which established a new dues range above \$3999. Retirees with monthly PERS retirement income above \$3999 will pay dues of \$12 a month rather than \$10 a month for membership. This proposal was carried.

General Council was called to order Saturday, September 1st at 10 am and was adjourned on Sunday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 12 pm. This is a meeting of all the affiliates, was basically the same except there was a lot more discussion during the meeting as delegates made their pro or con statements on issues to be voted on.

There was only one fiscal proposal, the Budget, and it was easily approved. The other proposals B&P 1/12 through B&P 5/12 took most of Saturday and part of Sunday to discuss and vote.

One example of a proposal was B&P 1/12, which called for 2 Directors to be <u>designated</u> from each affiliate for representation to CSEA to vote on issues that represented all CSEA members. There would be a maximum of 8 voting Directors for CSEA. According to this proposal, there would not be a need to elect a President, Vice President, or Secretary/Treasurer. A Chair and Secretary/Treasurer would be elected by and from the Board of Eight Directors. This proposal was rejected.

Another proposal B&P 3/12 called for a change in the number of delegates elected from 1 delegate for each 100 CSEA members to 1 delegate for each 200 CSEA members. This proposal was carried.

**Marva Roddy, Delegate** - I am grateful to be elected as a delegate. The CSEA staff was most helpful. I am disabled this year and my Chapter 17, and the CSEA staff provided the assistance that was needed. The information and reports provided all that we needed o participate and vote effectively. The conference generated a spirit of caring and sharing that is representative of CSEA philosophy. I have known CSEA for many years as a state employee and have always received the needed support.

**Pearl Pacheco – Delegate** - The Health Benefits committee advise the board members on matters of health benefits, long term care, vision care, dental coverage. The committee makes recommendations to the CSR board. When they first met in March 2012, their first duty was to revise and update and objectives in CSR governing rule 13.03. The amendments were forwarded to the governing rules committee to be reviewed. The committee meets when the board meets. Meetings on health benefits are announced in the CSR monthly paper or on the CSR website. I recommend our members attend meeting and stand up and share info on changes CVS/Caremark, lower co-pay etc. Pearl Pacheco, Past President chapter 17.

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR – HOLIDAY MEETING – DECEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2012



The holiday meeting will be held on **Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup>** at **Tom Hams Lighthouse** on Harbor Island. **Cost \$12.00 per person includes 1 guest; all other non-members are \$25.00 per person**. Reservations must be made by December 7, 2012. Lively entertainment, White elephant giveaway, donations for the Veterans Indigent Patient Meal Fund and much more. Flyer will be sent in November.

#### **NEWSLETTER MAILINGS**

Chapter 17 Newsletter is being sent via email to all members with email addresses. This allows the chapter to save money on postage and printing. All other members will be receiving the newsletter in hard copy.

- 1. If you have an email address and would like to be included on that list please, send a note to <u>Chaptr17@gmail.com</u>. We will add to the email list.
- 2. If you receive by email and you prefer a hard copy please notify us via the chapter email and we will change to the other list.

We have already received requests for the chapter email list, hopefully we have included you this month and removed you from the mailing – thank you all of those who have done this. We are working diligently to get our lists right and save money for the chapter. Please be patient with us.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS WITH MEMBERS**

**WANTED**: Become a "cub reporter". <u>We are looking for a few good men and women to be part of a</u> <u>Communications group to work on the chapter newsletter, website and recruitment ideas</u>. You don't have to be "experienced" just have ideas and be willing to provide input. Let's make it fun and exciting along with being informative and proactive. Please contact us at Chapter 17 email: <u>chaptr17@gmail.com</u> Visit the Chapter 17 Website: <u>www.CalStateRetirees-Chapter17.info</u> (website is under construction) Calif State Retirees – Chapter 17 c/o Diane Whorton 4814 Hart Drive San Diego, Ca 92116

#### **CHAPTER 17 MEETINGS**

Meetings are held 6 times a year – on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the following months: February, April, June, August, October and December – Holiday gathering (this date is flexible to accommodate location). December meeting location and information will be announced separately.

Time for all chapter meetings has been changed to 11:00 am. We will take lunch orders at 11:00 so we can eat a little earlier and take care of our business before our scheduled speakers. Please be prompt.

## DATE: Wednesday – October 23, 2012

**SPEAKER:** Jose Rodriguez, Field Organizer San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council

PLACE: Sizzler Restaurant – 1030 Fletcher Parkway, El Cajon

TIME: 11:00 am – lunch before meeting – Doors will be open early or come to side door TIME CERTAIN: Meeting Starts: 12:00 pm

- MENU: Choice of chicken or steak with soup or salad or unlimited salad bar
- **COST:** \$10.00 per member, chapter subsidizing the rest of the cost

# 11:00 AM

Interstate 8 east to Johnson Ave Left on Johnson to Fletcher Parkway Left on Fletcher Parkway – about 1 block on right Sizzler and Smart and Final in same parking lot