



San Diego Chatter

Volume 2013, Issue 3

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

May/June 2013

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President/Newsletter Editor

Diane Whorton
(619) 264-6280
Email: dlw_union@yahoo.com

Vice President

Steve Haley.
(619) 441-8769
Email: raceready@usa.net

Secretary

Gloria Koch
(858) 455-1917
Email: kochgloria303@gmail.com

Treasurer

Mark Flahan
(619) 977-6275
Email: firemark@san.rr.com

Past President/Membership

Pearl Pacheco
(619) 296-0673
Email: spsandiego1@hotmail.com

PAC Committee

Gaspar Oliveira – Chair
(619) 548-4793
Email: GasparLunaOliveira@gmail.com

District G Representative

(Board of Directors)
Gene Waggoner
(760) 868-0968
Email: sagwaggs@aol.com

CHAPTER EMAIL:

Chaptr17@gmail.com

CHAPTER WEBSITE:

www.CalStateRetirees-Chapter17.info

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

(have your SS# ready)

CSEA Retirees, Inc.

888 808-7197
Fax: 916 326-4364
Website: www.csearetirees.org

CSEA Member Benefits

800 952-5283
CSEA 916 444-8134

CalPERS Headquarters

Lincoln Plaza
400 "Q" Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

CalPERS Retired Members

800 352-2238

CalPERS Beneficiary

916 326-3848
800 352-2238

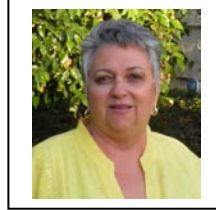
Social Security

800 772-1213

Medicare

800 633-4227

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – Diane Whorton



Hope your Spring has sprung and everyone is in good health and spirits. The roses are blooming so fast around my house I can't pick them fast enough. Definitely providing a great smell in my home and making my mother very happy. The cats add to the entertainment as they have Spring fever as well.

On **April 19th** the CSR board of Directors held a special Board meeting to appoint all statewide committees. Yours truly has been asked to sit on the statewide Finance Committee so you all can rest assured that I will have an eye on your dues money and do what I can to make sure it is spent wisely.

May 8th thru 10th CSR Board Week was held which included Treasurers/ Presidents training, Membership, Health Benefits, Bylaws & Governing Rules Committees, President's Forum and Board of Directors meetings.

Coming up:

June 20, 2013 –Imperial Valley Chapter Meeting –Calexico – Family Style Buffet

June 26, 2013 – Chapter meeting – San Diego – Sizzler, Murphy Canyon Road

November 8, 2013 – CSR Board of Directors Meeting – San Diego – Doubletree Hotel, Mission Valley.

POLITICAL ACTION

California State Retirees (CSR) now has two Political PACs members can donate to.

1. Candidates PAC - These donations can be used to endorse and provide financial donation to candidates running for State offices only.
2. Issues PAC – these donations can be used to support legislation, CalPERS candidates, Lobbyist, meetings and some other things.

Members can decide if they want to make political donations and to which PAC they want to donate to. You can donate to both PACs if you desire. The maximum donation, to each PAC, is \$199.00 per year. This can be done monthly by check deduction or a one-time donation.

MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT

CSR is starting a statewide campaign to recruit new members to our Affiliate. We are in need of our members who would like to participate in worksite visits to talk to employees getting ready to retire. Anyone who has contact with their former worksites, contact information for a person to call to make arrangements for visits, or any other ideas for making contacts please provide the information via the Chapter Email.

We need everyone participating in our recruitment effort.



MEET Laurianne “Laurie” Bella, PAC Committee Member

Laurie joined Chapter 17 in August 2012 after being retired 12 years. Her working career spanned over 30 years with the state working for various agencies beginning her career as the first female Investigator with Alcohol Beverage Control in the San Diego Office. She led the charge for women being included in those infamous “male dominated” positions. She eventually transferred to Dept of Health Services, left to get an MBA back to Health Services in a management position.

She then moved on to a management position at Dept of Consumer Affairs. Retiring in 2000.

After retiring from the state Laurie started teaching GED and ESL within the Adult Education programs in San Diego.

Laurie and another CSR member, Elaine Edwards-Yahraus and a group of their friends recently returned from a 20 day trip to Greece and Italy stopping in Rome and Venus and visiting all the historical sites. She says you don't realize the impact of the history and things we hear about until you have the chance to see them and take it all in. Travel is something she enjoys.

Her goal as a retiree is to stay involved – “times change so fast so you have to know what is going on all of the time.” Protecting our retirement benefits should be a priority for everyone.

She will be attending retirement parties for some friends and will be taking CSR membership applications with her.

LONG TERM CARE INFORMATION

On May 2, 2013 an email came out from CalPERS with the following information:

Hello,

I hope the information below will be useful to you and your membership:

*CalPERS has launched a new video addressing recent changes to its Long Term Care Program. CalPERS **Insight** featuring host Bob Burton in an interview with Ann Boynton, Deputy Executive Officer of Benefit Programs Policy and Planning is available online now at*

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B9bwFQB2gjl&feature=youtu.be>.

CalPERS recently mailed letters to 60,000 Long Term Care Policy holders who purchased LTC Insurance between 1995 and 2002 with lifetime coverage and built-in inflation protection. The letter notifies impacted policy holders of the 5 percent increase in premium that is effective July 2013. As in past years, this letter provided options to accept the increase and maintain current benefit. The letter also details new options that may save policyholders money and still give excellent long term care coverage. Policy holders can now convert their lifetime inflation adjusted coverage to a new 10 year policy that retains their current daily benefit amount, but without inflation protection.

Members with questions can call 888-877-4934 during working hours, or email questions to calpersltc@ltcg.com. For additional information, a list of LTC Frequently Asked Questions is available at www.calpers.ca.gov.

As always, let me know if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Linda M. Evans, CGMP

Acting Division Chief

Office of Stakeholder Relations

California Public Employees' Retirement System



MEETING DATES

2 Chapter Meetings

San Diego and Imperial Valley

IMPERIAL VALLEY – Calexico – June 20th – 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

LOCATION: Family Style Buffet - 222 E. Cole Road Calexico, CA 92231, (760) 768-1440

SPEAKER: Frank G. Salazar, Special Assistant to State Senator Ben Hueso, 40th District

SAN DIEGO: June 26th - 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

****** NEW LOCATION ******

Sizzler Restaurant - 3755 Murphy Canyon Road, San Diego, CA, (858) 278-6988

SPEAKER: District Office staff representative for newly elected Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez, representing the 80th Assembly District, will speak to our member about Lorena's vision for California, committee assignments, and issues of mutual interest such as "Pension and Health Benefits for retirees.

Directions:

I-15 North or South to **AERO DRIVE** - Go West to **Murphy Canyon Road** turn **RIGHT (Stop Light)** - Enter the first Driveway on the right side - Turn right to far end of the parking lot.

COMMUNICATIONS WITH MEMBERS

See the New Website

SEE WHAT HAS CHANGED: www.CalStateRetirees-Chapter17.info

Our chapter website is finally getting the facelift it has been waiting for. It is a work in progress and is going to provide specific information for our chapter areas, political action and general CSR information.

We need your input as to what you want and **NEED** to see, access and so on. It is YOUR site so you need to let us know what is missing. **We are in need of a webmaster for the chapter. Anyone who would like to work on the Chapter 17 website** please contact us via our Chapter 17 email: chaptr17@gmail.com OR call Diane at (619) 264-6280.

NEWSLETTER: Those who would like to be added to the chapter email list, please send an email to: Chaptr17@gmail.com. We will be happy to move you from hard copy to electronic copy. As well, if you prefer hardcopy please notify us of the preference.

If you are providing an email address please make sure you put the Chapter 17 email address in your address book so the email will not go into your SPAM folder.

California 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 4th 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 – June 26, 2013

PLACE: Sizzler Restaurant – 3755 Murphy Canyon Rd, San Diego, CA 92123
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 15 - North or South

AERO DR exit – go WEST

RIGHT on Murphy Canyon Rd – 1st Driveway on right

Holiday Inn on Left – Jack-in-the-Box in front – Sizzler at Right end of parking lot



CSEA Retirees Inc
CHAPTER 17 – IMPERIAL VALLEY
Denny's Restaurant, El Centro

Minutes
March 20, 2013

Call to Order	Meeting was called to order at 11:20 AM by President, Diane Whorton
Roll Call of Officers	President Diane Whorton, Vice President Steve Haley, Secretary Gloria Koch, Treasurer Mark Flahan, excused. San Diego visitors: Elaine Edwards-Yahraus and Laurie Bella.
Pledge of Allegiance:	Location had no flag available
Introductions:	Self- introductions - Approximately 17 members were present at this meeting
Approval of Minutes	First meeting at location.
Treasurer Report	Treasurer, Mark Flahan is excused. Report submitted shows a balance of \$12,885.39 as of 2/17/2013.
President's Report	Diane declared that this was our first meeting in Imperial Valley and would serve to get to know each other and to establish the needs and concerns of the group.
Welcome new member	Beatriz Reina was the only new member present, signed and turned in application at meeting.
Unfinished Business	None
New Business	<i>Established new tentative meeting dates for Imperial Valley as follows:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Thursday June 20, 2013 from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM at Family Style Restaurant in Calexico. Loli Torres will confirm time and place of the meeting.2. Thursday October 17, 2013 from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Place TBD3. The Holiday Meeting will be held in San Diego and would be for both groups. Time and place for the Holiday meeting TBD.

Communications:

- a) Mailing list. Make sure we have correct mailing address and provide Diane with your e-mail address to receive chapter specific information
- b) Use local publications to educate the public about our retirement, how it benefits the local economy and dispel the notion that state retirees are getting huge retirement checks.
- c) Emphasize CSR retiree volunteer activities and how they benefit the community. An excellent example of a volunteer activity would be Loli Torres "Farmers' Breakfast."

What do you want from this meeting:

1. Members would like to have more information regarding health insurance choices available to them during the open enrollment.
2. How is Obama health care going to affect retirees' insurance? Are we going to be taxed?
3. Explanation as to why prices for medications are going up so much under our insurance
4. More information and clarification regarding Long Term Health offered by Calipers.

Political Action Committee PAC – What is the interest for this activity in Imperial Valley?

Attendees expressed an interest in having a non-partisan committee and having meetings with local legislators. Members seemed to be very familiar with their local representatives.

Imperial Valley PAC Members:

Ray Villapando; Manuel Abundis; Maria Elena Rodriguez; and, Liz Gonzalez.

Informational Items

Diane reported on General Council - CSEA cut its delegate count to 1 per 200, however CSR did not. We still have 1 delegate per 100 members. Mail ballot to delegates to change its delegate count to 1 per 100 members will come out in May.

We are working with grant money to build a strong Imperial Valley sub-chapter.

Meeting Adjourned

1:30 pm

Submitted By

Gloria Koch

Gloria Koch
Secretary



CSEA Retirees Inc

CHAPTER 17 - SAN DIEGO

Bi-monthly Meetings

February, April, June, August, October, December

Minutes

APRIL 24, 2013

Call to Order	Meeting was called to order at 12:25 PM by President, Diane Whorton
Roll Call of Officers	Present: President Diane Whorton, Vice President Steve Haley, Treasurer Mark Flahan. Excused: Secretary Gloria Koch.
Delegates:	Present: Diane Whorton, Mark Flahan, Pearl Pacheco, Nellie Sayer, Marva Roddy, Patricia O'Neill, Elaine Edwards-Yahraus. Absent: Audrey Garner.
Guests	Gene Waggoner, District G Director, J Eric Hereford, Special Asst to the Speaker of the Assembly, John A. Perez, California State Legislature
Approval of Minutes	Minutes of the February 27, 2013 were approved. Motion made by Gaspar Oliveria, second by Pearl Pacheco
Treasurer Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Balance as of 4/24/13 \$9,527.78• Outstanding checks \$508.32• Unencumbered balance \$9,019.46
President's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• March 20th held first chapter meeting in Imperial Valley at the Denny's in El Centro. Thank you to Liz Gonzalez for helping to organize and contact members in the area. 13 members came, we were able to plan for 2 future meetings this year, sign up 1 new member and fix a CalPERS problem for one of our members. Next meeting will be June 20th in Calexico, Loli Torres is coordinating.• March 26th thru 28th - President attended Bylaws & governing Rules and Finance meeting in Ontario. Several changes being proposed and represented to the Board of Directors. One is to eliminate the Grants Committee and put total control in the hands of one person (exec Vice President) to decide if a chapter request should be taken to the board for approval. My feeling is anything having to do with money should NEVER be done by one person. Chapters have many double signature and audit requirements the State CSR should also.• Motion was made by the Finance Committee to Suspend the dues of chapters who exceed their 12 month dues allocation in their savings/reserves and have a balance higher in their operating budget. This will go to the board for a vote. No dues money should be withheld from a chapter, members pay dues expecting that it will go locally to provide service there. They need to look at "adjusting the allocation" and having chapters use their reserves reasonably.• I have been appointed to the Statewide Finance Committee. I am hoping to work on some of these issues with the committee• April 8th & 9th Gaspar Oliveira, Laurie Bella and I attended Lobby Day in Sacramento. I will defer to Gaspar to make his report a little later.• April 18th & 19th a Special CSR Board workshop and Board was held.• May 8th, 9th & 10th the CSR Board of Directors will meet in Sacramento – scheduled committee meetings will be held 2 days before the Board.
Welcome New Members	Buzz Breuer retired from Donovan; Irene Schmidt retired from Donovan; Virginia Salazar retired from EDD

Committee Reports

1. Holiday Committee

Linda Collins, Chair

Holiday Meeting – Mission Valley Resort – Deposit \$250.00 – Wednesday, December 18th

Linda Collins made a motion, second by Sharon Hatch for a \$250 check to place as a deposit for the Holiday meeting at the Mission Valley Resort. The motion was passed. Estimated price pp \$15 each for member and 1 friend. Other non-member guests \$30 pp.

Pearl Pacheco, Chair - Members as of April 1,415.

2. Membership/ Communications

Steve Haley, Chair – No new information.

3. Finance/ Budget

Gaspar Oliveira, Chair and President Diane Whorton– Report on Lobby Day as follows: It was discovered that best way to make contacts with legislators is to make the contacts with them locally on Fridays when they are in their offices in San Diego. We can visit as a group and are more likely to get their attention and explain why we need them to assist us on issues that concern us.

4. Legislative/PAC

It was also noted that our chapter with a membership of 1,415 has a political action committee membership of less than 50%. We need greater participation to provide the funds necessary to lobby our legislators to protect our retirement benefits.

CSR is discussing hiring professional lobbyists to assist us in our quest to protect our retirement benefits.

Unfinished Business

Meeting in El Centro – See the section on the President’s report for more info

New Business

1. Meeting in Calexico – June 20th -Contact Loli Torres
2. Meeting – El Centro – October 17, 2013
3. Delegate Vote – Discussion on Ratio of Delegates to members. Be sure to return your votes on time by mail.
4. Next meeting June 26, 2013 at the Sizzler’s on Aero Drive. Address is 3755 Murphy Canyon Rd. San Diego. 858-278-6988.

Informational Items

CalPERS Elections – Petitions - These are open seats – handouts with 2 candidate petitions – JJ Jelencic, incumbent and Harvey Robinson for B Seat

Speakers

J. Eric Hereford, Special Assistant to the Speaker of the Assembly, John A. Perez, CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE

Eric Hereford spoke of his experiences as a Special Assistant to the Speaker. He stressed the need for members to become involved in the legislative process. Most important is to know that your legislative representative can assist you with problems that concern your community. But you have to ensure that he or she is aware of the problems that need corrective measures. First thing is to find out who your State Senator and Assembly person is and let them know how they can help you and your community.

You can find out who your legislators are via the internet. Visit their local offices. Let them know what you need.

Meeting Adjourned

Motion to adjourn was made by Nellie Sayer, second by Sharon Hatch Meeting adjourned at 2 PM

Submitted By

Nellie Sayer
Acting Secretary