



# San Diego Chatter

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

Volume 2014 Issue 2  
2nd Quarter

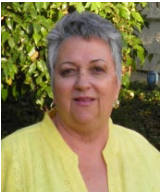
Includes  
2014 Meeting Calendar

Chapter EMAIL: [Chaptr17@gmail.com](mailto:Chaptr17@gmail.com) Chapter WEBSITE: [www.CalStateRetirees-Chapter17.info](http://www.CalStateRetirees-Chapter17.info)

## SPRING / SUMMER ARE HERE!

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Diane Whorton, President

2014 has started out with confusion and communication issues. I apologize for that.



Since the chapter has changed to quarterly meetings beginning 2014 and the regular locations have been changing it has been hard to keep things straight for the state paper the **RETIREE** as well as locally. I will list the schedule for the rest of the year. Please make a note and keep it handy. NOTE: We will not be able to continue meeting at either Sizzler location because of cost and new guidelines for the banquet room. They are both "Under New Management".

**MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR**

**CALENDAR OF MEETINGS: All meetings are on Wednesday from 11:00am to 2:00pm**

- **Sub Chapter Meetings in Imperial Valley**

**June 18<sup>th</sup>** – Calexico – Family Style Buffet – 222 E. Cole Rd – 11:00am to 2:00pm - \$10.00 per person

**September 17<sup>th</sup>** – El Centro – Golden Corral – 2018 N Imperial Ave – 11:00am to 2:00pm - \$10.00 per person

- **Meetings in San Diego –**

**July 2<sup>nd</sup>** - Location: Coco's Restaurant - 10430 Friar's Rd - San Diego - 11:00 to 2:00 pm - \$10.00 per person.

**DIRECTIONS:** I-15 to Friar's Rd EAST. Go approximately 1 mile. Left turn on Riverdale. Black Angus is on the corner. Turn right in 1<sup>st</sup> driveway on the right. Pass Coco's and park on that side, closer to the entrance. Close to Kaiser Hospital.

**September 24<sup>th</sup>** – Location to be determined – More than likely will be at Coco's if this meeting room works out well.

- **HOLIDAY MEETING in San Diego – ALL Members**

This is the annual holiday meeting with fun and entertainment. It is open to ALL MEMBERS near and far. Please plan on joining us.

**December 17<sup>th</sup>** - Mission Valley Resort – 875 Hotel Circle South - San Diego 92108. 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. \$15.00 for members and 1 guest. \$30.00 for non-members.

**Chapter Treasurer** – I want to say thank you to Mark Flahan who has helped Chapter 17 tremendously, over the past several years, in getting ourselves back on track with our finances. Mark stepped up to the plate after his 1st meeting as a Retiree and helped work through some issues our chapter was having.

Mark has recently resigned as Treasurer because of numerous other personal obligations but assures us he will still be around to keep an eye on us. Thank you Mark for all your help.

Our new Treasurer is Elaine Edwards-Yahraus. Elaine was Treasurer many years ago for Chapter 17 when it was a rank and file chapter in CSEA. Do any you remember when that was the case??? I did not. Thanks to Elaine for “volunteering”.

**Email** – We are automating our correspondence with our members. If you have an email address and wish to receive information from the chapter that way **PLEASE GIVE US YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS**. The newsletter is sent this way as well as any other information that needs to get to the members quickly. It also helps the chapter save money from our budget for printing that can go to other things.

**Website** – Chapter 17’s website is up and running. We are still tweaking it here and there and getting people familiar with it. It is there for your use. Take advantage of – use it – and if something is missing let us know. Go online and look it over. <http://calstateretirees-chapter17.info/>.

**CalPERS Questions – ASK ELAINE** - There is a place to ask questions about CalPERS. Our member, Elaine Edwards-Yahraus, former Region Manager of the San Diego CalPERS office has agreed to answer questions you may have. If they are not “personal” the question and answer will be posted on the website. She will get back to you with your answer via email.

**Volunteers:** We are looking for volunteers for chapter 17 activities. We have new faces at our meetings who have expressed their ideas for various things. We need you to help the chapter be able to use those ideas and reach out to potential and active members.

**Webmaster:** Do you have the desire to work with the Chapter website and help keep it updated? Please contact Diane at: [chaptr17@gmail.com](mailto:chaptr17@gmail.com)

**Membership:** Need volunteers to work with our Membership Chair on ideas to contact state workers, **from other employee organizations**, who may be retiring soon. All State workers are eligible to be California State Retirees. If you know someone that fits those criteria please give them an application and sign them up. Applications are on the CSR website: [www.californiastateretirees.org](http://www.californiastateretirees.org). You can download it from there, cut and copy from the RETIREE and get applications at our meetings. It is also on the Chapter 17 website listed at the top of this newsletter.

## **LOBBY DAY**

Laurianne Bella, Gaspar Oliveira and I attended Lobby Day April 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> in Sacramento. We were able to meet with 9 legislators and/or staff members. This event was very well organized and gave us a real opportunity to make visits and connections that should be easily continued in our local offices.

Legislators will be on break in July and September so we will be planning some visits to keep them informed of the needs for CSR members.

Laurie and I were able to make additional connections in the airport with Shirley Weber, Lorena Gonzalez, Brian Maienschein and Brian Jones since the plane we were ALL “flying” on had an electrical fire on the runway and we had to turn back to the terminal and exit. We all spent the rest of the day/night trying to get another flight home. A little stress, tired laughs and finally boarding a plane we all survived. Thank you Southwest for taking us off the plane. All in a day’s work for Retirees!!!! Home by Midnight!!!! At least we

didn't become part of history. One thing about it – these legislators know who we are!!!!

## MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Gaining new members in our chapter is critical in supporting the issues of State Retirees. We have to stay on top of legislation that will affect our checks and Health Benefits.

All persons who have worked for the State of California are eligible to be members of the California State Retirees (CSR).

There are three classes of membership

- **Active Retiree** – Retired from State Service & receives a PERS check
- **Associate Member** – work for - did not retire from the state – does not receive a PERS check
- **Beneficiary** – Spouse of a Deceased Member of CSR and receives a PERS check.

All Bargaining units within State Service can be members of CSR.

Think about those you worked with and ask them to come to a meeting and visit or just plain sign them up.

## CaIPERS INFORMATION

**QUESTION:** I just completed my taxes and I need to change my tax deductions, how can I do this?

**ANSWER:** Your options are:

1. Call CalPERS and ask that the tax forms be mailed to you. Once received, complete and return to CalPERS.
2. Download forms from CalPERS web site, complete and mail to CalPERS.
3. Visit a local CalPERS office where the staff will provide a form and mail the completed CalPERS Headquarters.

## ENCLOSED INFORMATION

We have included an information sheet with Chapter contacts and other pertinent information members may need. It also has information about CSR and what with are doing. Please keep this close by so you have the information if needed. THESE HANDOUTS ARE AVAILABLE IF YOU NEED MORE. JUST LET US KNOW.

Also included ase applications for membership. Please mail original or email a copy to DIANE WHORTON, Chapter 17 President. [Chaptr17@gmail.com](mailto:Chaptr17@gmail.com) or 4814 Hart Drive – San Diego, CA 92116

## MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT & LEGISLATIVE “FAIR” IN SAN DIEGO – NO GO FOR 2014

Even though there was an active and lively discussion at the Chapter 17 E-Board meeting on February 19<sup>th</sup> centering on a possible recruitment and legislative fair during the summer there did not seem to be interest at the members meeting on March 26th. Because of this and the time restraints we will not be trying to put this together in 2014. Because it is an election year it would have been an ideal time.

This can be further discussed at the upcoming meetings and be a possibility for the future. Think about it and if the members are interested please be sure and express that interest.

These types of events take time and coordination to put together.

If you have ideas or offers to help please contact **Steve Haley, Vice President, who will be overseeing this event if it happens.** Information is on the back of the newsletter. You may also contact any officer or committee chair.

California State Retirees – Chapter 17  
c/o Diane Whorton  
4814 Hart Drive  
San Diego, Ca 92116

## IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

### CHAPTER OFFICERS

#### President/Newsletter Editor

Diane Whorton - (619) 264-6280

[dlw.union@gmail.com](mailto:dlw.union@gmail.com)

#### Vice President

Steve Haley.- (619) 441-8769

[raceready@usa.net](mailto:raceready@usa.net)

#### Secretary

Gloria Koch - (858) 455-1917

[kochgloria303@gmail.com](mailto:kochgloria303@gmail.com)

#### Treasurer

Elaine Edwards-Yaharus

(619) 435-4044

[EYaharus@gmail.com](mailto:EYaharus@gmail.com)

#### Past President

Pearl Pacheco - (619) 296-0673

[sppsandiego1@hotmail.com](mailto:sppsandiego1@hotmail.com)

#### District G Director

#### (CSR Board of Directors)

Gene Waggoner

(760) 868-0968

[sagwaggs@aol.com](mailto:sagwaggs@aol.com)

### SUB CHAPTER – IMPERIAL VALLEY OFFICERS

#### Chair

Thomas Stroud – (760) 353-1749

[stroudtom@hotmail.com](mailto:stroudtom@hotmail.com)

#### Recording Secretary

Ray Vialpondo – (760) 353-2445

[raynov1@roadrunner.com](mailto:raynov1@roadrunner.com)

### COMMITTEES

#### Finance Committee - Chair

Steve Haley – (619) 441-8769

[raceready@usa.net](mailto:raceready@usa.net)

#### PAC Committee – Co-Chairs

Laurie Bella – (619) 435-3688

Email: [lbella@san.rr.com](mailto:lbella@san.rr.com)

Gaspar Oliveira – (619) 548-4793

[GasparLunaOliveira@gmail.com](mailto:GasparLunaOliveira@gmail.com)

#### Membership Committee - Chair

Aida Canonizado – (858) 735-9247

[aida.canonizado@gmail.com](mailto:aida.canonizado@gmail.com)

\*\*\*\* If there is a committee you wish to help with please contact the President so you can be assigned \*\*\*\*\*

### IMPORTANT NUMBERS (have your SS# ready)

#### CSR Retirees, Inc.

888 808-7197

Fax: 916 326-4364

[www.californiastateretirees.org](http://www.californiastateretirees.org)

#### CSEA Member Benefits

800 952-5283

[www.calcsea.org/benefits](http://www.calcsea.org/benefits)

916 444-8134

#### CalPERS Headquarters

#### Retired Members

800 352-2238

#### Beneficiary

916 326-3848

800 352-2238

[www.calpers.ca.gov](http://www.calpers.ca.gov)

#### Social Security

800 772-1213

[www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)

#### Medicare

800 633-4227

[www.Medicare.gov](http://www.Medicare.gov)



**CSEA Retirees Inc**  
**CHAPTER 17 - SAN DIEGO**  
**Quarterly Meetings**  
**March, June/July, October & December**  
**Minutes**

March 26, 2014

- Call to Order Meeting called to order at 12:13 by the President Diane Whorton. The Vice President Steve Haley lead the pledge of allegiance.
- Roll Call of Officers Officers present: President Diane Whorton, Vice President Steve Haley, Secretary, Gloria Koch- excused, Nellie Sayer acting Secretary today, Treasurer Elaine Edwards.
- Delegates: Delegates present: Diane Whorton, Elaine Edwards, Nellie Sayer, Marva Roddy, Patricia O'Neill.
- Delegates not present: Mark Flahan- absent, Pearl Pacheco- excused
- Guests Gene Waggoner, District G Director
- Approval of Minutes Motion made by Steve Haley to accept the minutes of October 23, 2013 as written. Second by Marva Roddy. Motion passed
- Treasurer Report
- |                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Balance 12/31/2013 = | \$ 4,649.37 |
| Revenue =            | \$ 4,481.01 |
| Disbursements =      | \$ 436.06   |
| Balance 3/18/2014 =  | \$ 9,394.32 |
- President's Report Diane reported that a new structure has been instituted for chapter dues. Beginning 2014 each chapter will be given \$1000 plus 35 cents per member assigned to the chapter per month. Grants will be more difficult to get for the chapters. Last year we were awarded two grants that helped with mailing costs and support of the EI Centro member meetings. This year we will have much less funding to work with. We will need to watch our budget carefully and spend wisely.
- The Farmers Breakfast in EI Centro went well.
- Speakers Gene passed out information regarding S567 a legislative plan to strengthen the Social Security program for current and future generations. It would do this by requiring persons making a million dollars or more to pay the same percent of their income as someone making \$30,000 a year. He encouraged us to call Senators Boxer and Feinstein and urge them to sponsor this bill.
- Gene Waggoner, District G Director
- All members are encouraged to support C-PAC by signing up for monthly payments to ensure there are sufficient funds to continue to lobby to protect our retirement healthcare and pensions.

Unfinished Business      We are still looking for a centrally located meeting place for our next meeting. Today's meeting had to be scheduled at the Fletcher Dr. Sizzler due to the unfinished construction at the Sizzler located on Aero Drive. There might be a time problem as well at the Aero Drive Sizzler due to their 2 hour time limit for use of the meeting room. We will follow up on this issue when it re-opens in April. If we continue at the Sizzlers we need to have a one choice only salad bar for meals, to keep the price at about \$10.

New Business      Holiday meeting – Mission Valley Resort planned location for our holiday meeting, Wednesday December 17, 2014.

Member Recruitment & Legislative Fair –  
At the E-board meeting in February there was a discussion about having a recruitment and legislative fair in San Diego to “meet and greet” with legislators and possible new members. It was thought that the best time would be sometime between June and November. Several locations were discussed as ideas: at Cal Trans parking lot and Union halls.

The President asked for feedback from the members. There was none at this time. With no response we will not plan for 2014. This can be considered for 2015.

A reminder that the planning of an event like this is labor intensive. If we want to do something like this we are in need of volunteers to help make it happen. If you are interested and feel this is a good event to consider contact Vice President Steve Haley if you have ideas or want assist with this project.

Committee Reports      Legislative - Co-Chairs Laurie Bella & Gaspar Oliveira, both excused. Lobby Day will be held April 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> in Sacramento. Gaspar Oliveira, Laurie Bella, Elaine Edwards and Diane Whorton will be attending.

Patricia O'Neill – Reported there is an initiative in Sacramento to block unauthorized persons from obtaining information of retired state employee's income. C-PAK is working very hard to get this legislation passed. Patricia encourages retirees to join C-PAC with \$4 a month support to continue this work to protect our pensions and health care.

Membership - Aida Canonizado. There are plans for “Ambassador Visits” to work sites to provide information about Chapter 17 to persons planning to retire in the near future. No list has been received from State Membership Chair for visits as of this time. Volunteers are needed in helping with this effort. Contact Aida if you'd like to be a part of this.

Welcome new members      Wilfred M. Ferrel and Linda Beuchat

Meeting Adjourned      Meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm

Submitted by      Nellie Sayer, Acting Secretary



San Diego Coronado Bridge

# California State Retirees



## Chapter 17 San Diego and Imperial Counties District G



Imperial County Farm Land

### CALIFORNIA STATE RETIREES (CSR)

#### MISSION STATEMENT

**“Protect the pension and health benefits of all retired state employees”**

#### WHO ARE WE?

California State Retirees are the largest retiree organization in California with over 33,000 members. We are former active state employees, from all employee groups, working for the State of California; including California State Universities, rank and file, supervision, exempt, health & safety, law enforcement, fire, engineering, and many more.

#### WHAT DO WE DO?

In 1927 California State Employees and Retirees joined forces and began the fight for a retirement system. On June 9, 1931 the bill was signed into law and the retirement system was born; **California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS)**. With the effort of many became the creation of the Retirement System and many benefits for active and retired state workers including cost-of-living increases, supplemental payments for those whose pensions have lost more than 25 percent of purchasing power, increased health benefits, dental benefits and long term care.

#### We continue to:

1. Advocate for current and future retirees and member benefits with the California Legislature, CalPERS, Department of Human Resources and other entities.
2. Fight to protect our benefits as dollars become scarce and inflation continues to rise
3. Appear before CalPERS to fight for improvements in health benefits and stop abuse of increases by medical providers
4. Develop legislation to maintain and improve benefits for state workers and retirees
5. Do Public Service in our local communities

#### WHAT DO WE NEED FROM YOU?

- Support in fighting to maintain our health benefits without takeaways
- Support in keeping our retirement compensation in tact
- Support of legislation to increase benefits and help sustain livable standards for retirees
- Support in changing public perception of state workers

# CHAPTER 17 CONTACT INFORMATION - 2013 thru 2015

Chapter EMAIL: [Chaptr17@gmail.com](mailto:Chaptr17@gmail.com)

Chapter WEBSITE: [www.CalStateRetirees-Chapter17.info](http://www.CalStateRetirees-Chapter17.info)

- PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE for current information, calendars of meetings, CalPERS updates and more.
- IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A COPY OF THE CHAPTER NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL PLEASE CONTACT US AT OUR EMAIL ADDRESS LISTED ABOVE.

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## CHAPTER OFFICERS

### President/Newsletter Editor

Diane Whorton - (619) 264-6280  
[dlw.union@gmail.com](mailto:dlw.union@gmail.com)

### Vice President

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### Social Security

[www.SSA.gov](http://www.SSA.gov)

800 772-1213

### Medicare

800 633-4227

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## HIGHLIGHTS FOR MEMBERS

- ❖ **Chapter Meetings** are held each quarter. One location is in the San Diego area and one location in the Imperial Valley.
- ❖ **Chapter Newsletter, *San Diego Chatter***, is mailed or emailed to ALL members of the chapter 4 to 6 times a year that includes current information and resources, meeting dates, times and locations, special announcements, etc
- ❖ **Informational speakers** are at every meeting i.e Legislators, CalPERS, safety, etc.
- ❖ **Holiday get-together** is held in December for ALL members of the chapter





# Membership Application - California State Retirees

Chapter # 17

(Please print) Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ M.I. \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_

Number and Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Retirement Date \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Recruiter's Name \_\_\_\_\_

State Department where you last worked \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership (check one)

- RETIRED MEMBERSHIP** Available to state retirees only. See Dues Table
- BENEFICIARY MEMBERSHIP** Available only to beneficiaries of deceased CSEA employed or retired members. Dues are \$1.00 per month. Decedent Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_
- ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP** Available only to person not eligible for Retired or Beneficiary membership. Dues are \$12,00 per year (payable annually)

**DUES TABLE FOR RETIRED MEMBERS**

Monthly Basic PERS Allowance (check one)	Monthly Dues
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 0 - \$ 399	\$ 1.00
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 400 - \$ 799	\$ 2.25
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 800 - \$ 1,199	\$ 3.25
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 1,200 - \$ 1,599	\$ 5.00
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 1,600 - \$ 1,899	\$ 6.50
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 1,900 - \$ 2,299	\$ 8.00
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 2,300 - \$ 2,699	\$ 8.50
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 2,700 - \$ 3,099	\$ 9.00
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 3,100 - \$ 3,499	\$ 9.50
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 3,500 - \$ 3,999	\$ 10.00
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 4,000+	\$ 12.00

I hereby apply for Retired/Beneficiary/Associate membership in the California State Employees Association and agree to abide by the Association Constitution and Bylaws. If applicable, I also authorize the Public Employees Retirement System to deduct CSEA dues from my PERS allowance. I further agree that the Association act as my agent in payroll deduction agreements and transactions between myself, my CSEA chapter and PERS.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

RET form 001 (Rev. 02/14) Send your completed application to: California State Retirees, 1108 O Street, Suite 300, Sacramento CA 95814 (888) 808-7197



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