



# San Diego Chatter

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

Chapter EMAIL: [CSRchapter17@gmail.com](mailto:CSRchapter17@gmail.com) Chapter WEBSITE: [www.CalStateRetirees-Chapter17.info](http://www.CalStateRetirees-Chapter17.info)

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

#### Diane Whorton, President



This is my last writing as your chapter president. I have enjoyed the past six years as the leader of a great bunch of people. I have met new friends and got re-acquainted with those I haven't seen for a while. Thank you all so much for the support you have given to me. I ask that you do the same for Elaine Edwards-Yahraus as she takes the reins and leads the chapter on. It takes a while to get used to the challenges so help and support her as she moves forward. The gavel will be passed at our June 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. Swearing in of officers

will take place during the CSR Board of Directors Meeting on Thursday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at the Hilton Hotel – San Diego Mission Valley. Members are welcome to attend.

**INCOMING OFFICERS:** **President** – Elaine Edwards Yahraus; **Vice President** - Steve Haley; **Secretary** - Gloria Koch and **Treasurer** – Diane Whorton.

### MEET YOUR PRESIDENT – Elaine Edwards Yahraus



Elaine Edwards first came to California in 1969 to teach in Kern County. She spent one summer session at San Diego State and decided San Diego was where she wanted to live. It took a few years but in 1975 she returned to San Diego and worked in private industry for two years before going to work at CalPERS. She started as an Account Clerk but went on to be the Manager of the San Diego Regional Office for twenty years.

Elaine retired in December 2004 but continued to work as a retiree until 2012. As a retiree she enjoyed working in all the Regional Offices.

Elaine was very active in CSEA Chapter 17 when she joined State service. She served as treasurer and three decades later serves as Treasurer of CSR Chapter 17. She is currently a member of the CSR Health Benefits Committee.

As a retiree she has enjoyed traveling far and near. Her favorite trip was to China to work on the panda preserve. When she is not traveling she is quilting, her retirement hobby. She has traveled to Paducah, Kentucky to National Quilt Museum and Festival. She has acquired enough fabric to quilt for the next decade.

### Margaret Brown, CalPERS Board member is coming to visit on June 7th



**Position:** Elected representative of active and retired CalPERS members

**Committees:** Board Governance; Investment; Risk & Audit

**Board Term:** 2018-22 (current term)

Margaret Brown is serving her first term on the CalPERS Board of Administration. She earned a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of California, Riverside, and holds business and real estate degrees from Chaffey College.

She has administered billions of dollars in school capital program expenditures for nearly 30 years and has managed financial records for review by boards, state auditors, and independent, citizen oversight committees.

Margaret currently serves as the director of facilities in the Business Services division of the Garden Grove Unified School District (GGUSD), where she is responsible for the planning, funding, and construction of large-scale capital projects. Under her leadership in capital planning and energy stewardship, GGUSD received in 2017 a Zero Net Energy Schools Leadership Award in the Visionary District category from the New Buildings Institute.

## **SOMETHING NEW ON THE HORIZON**

**CHAPTER 17 PICNIC** - We will hold our first annual chapter picnic on Thursday October 4<sup>th</sup>. This is our regular meeting day. Location will be Admiral Baker Field off of Friars Road. (Not far from our regular meeting location). Details are being worked out.

Reservations will be necessary so we have enough food for everyone.

More information will follow. Watch for a flyer with your registration information.

## **CHAPTER MEETINGS**

- 1. Meeting Dates: 1<sup>st</sup> THURSDAY of the following months: February 1<sup>st</sup>; April 5<sup>th</sup>; June 7<sup>th</sup>; August 2<sup>nd</sup> and October 4<sup>th</sup>. December meeting is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday on the 13<sup>th</sup>.**
- 2. Regular meeting Location:** Sizzler, 3755 Murphy Canyon Road, San Diego, CA, (858) 278-6988. Off of I-15 – take AERO DR exit from North or South – go West to Signal -Turn Right. Entrance at back of building with a parking lot. Doors open at 10:30 am. Lunch - 11:00 am to 12:00 pm. Meeting 12:00pm to 2:00 pm. **OPEN TO ALL CHAPTER 17 MEMBERS**
- 3. December 13<sup>th</sup> meeting will be at the 7 Seas in Mission Valley.**

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

### **2018 Schedule –**

- 1. JUNE 7, 2017 – Member Meeting – Sizzler Restaurant – Guest Speaker: Margaret Brown, CalPERS Board Member**
- 2. June 26<sup>th</sup> thru 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – CSR Statewide Committees and Board of Directors Meeting – San Diego Hilton, Mission Valley**
- 3. AUGUST 2, 2018 – Member Meeting – Sizzler Restaurant – DISCUSSION TOPIC: Open Enrollment**
- 4. OCTOBER 4, 2018 – Member Meeting – CHAPTER PICNIC – ADMIRAL BAKER FIELD – INFO TO FOLLOW**
- 5. OCTOBER 22<sup>nd</sup> thru 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 – CSR Delegate Assembly – Sacramento Hilton**
- 6. DECEMBER 13, 2018 – Year End Celebration – 7 Seas in Mission Valley.**

**NEW CHAPTER EMAIL ADDRESS: [CSRChapter17@gmail.com](mailto:CSRChapter17@gmail.com)**

We are still gathering current email addresses for members wishing to receive the chapter newsletter and other correspondence by electronic means. Please send an email to the chapter email address above that includes your name for verification. We will add you to the chapter database.

## **ELECTION RESULTS**

Results of delegate elections will be out by our June meeting. We will announce the names of the delegates then. Thank you to those who ran and thank you to those who voted.

## **MESSAGE TO ALL**

As the new term begins with new officers in place it is important that members reach out and let the new leadership know what you want to hear about, do as a chapter and ideas that will provide you information you need. We want the chapter to be viable for everyone.

Those who feel we have nothing to offer you – now is the time to speak up and let us know what will excite you to become active and involved.

New retirees are leaving other organizations you may not have been happy with. Retirees are very different. **WE ARE NOT A UNION – WE DO NOT HAVE CONTRACTS – WE ARE NOT AN “IN-YOUR-FACE” ORGANIZATION.**

Retirees focus on CalPERS issues to save our benefits. Pensions are under attack – small cities are essentially taking retirement away from their employees. **WE DO NOT** want that to happen to us. We need everyone to help fight this fight. A promise was made to us when we started working for the state – the state needs to keep that promise. It takes everyone to make that happen.

Health costs are going up. This becomes a threat to us, the retiree, as it could potentially affect what we are able to get for coverage and premium costs that are mostly covered by the state. If premiums go up the state may not be able to cover them and these will become out of pocket expenses.

We are making visits to the state and requesting additional benefits in vision and dental care opportunities. They are listening. VSP now has a new advanced benefits plan. California State Retirees (CSR) are on the move and working for all of us.

We need all retirees to join the effort. Come to our meetings and take part in discussions. Bring your ideas of how we can protect our benefits. Be available to write a letter, visit your legislator. Help make retirees issues be in the fore front of our legislators and help them understand how critical it is to maintain our benefits as promised.

Make one visit and see for yourself.

**See you at the meeting on June 7<sup>th</sup>**

California State Retirees – Chapter 17  
c/o Diane Whorton  
7563 Central Avenue  
Lemon Grove, CA 91945-2337

**Time Sensitive**

## IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

### CHAPTER OFFICERS

#### President

Elaine Edwards-Yaharus  
(619) 435-4044  
[EYaharus@gmail.com](mailto:EYaharus@gmail.com)

#### Vice President

Steve Haley – (619) 441-8769  
[Raceready13@gmail.com](mailto:Raceready13@gmail.com)

#### Secretary

Gloria Koch – (858) 455-1917  
[Kochgloria303@gmail.com](mailto:Kochgloria303@gmail.com)

#### Treasurer/Newsletter Editor

Diane Whorton – (619) 467-7861  
[dlw.union@gmail.com](mailto:dlw.union@gmail.com)

#### District G Director (CSR Board)

Gaspar Luna Oliveira  
(619) 548-4793  
[GasparLunaOliveira@gmail.com](mailto:GasparLunaOliveira@gmail.com)

### SUB CHAPTER-IMPERIAL VALLEY

#### Chair

Tom 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

#### Review Committee (Finances)

Steve Haley – Chair (619) 441-8769  
[Raceready13@gmail.com](mailto:Raceready13@gmail.com)

#### Legislative Committee

Laurie Bella – (619) 435-3688  
Email: [lbella@san.rr.com](mailto:lbella@san.rr.com)  
Gloria Koch – (858) 455-1917  
Email: [Kochgloria303@gmail.com](mailto:Kochgloria303@gmail.com)

#### Membership Committee

VACANT

### IMPORTANT NUMBERS

**(Have your Social Security # ready)**

**California State Retirees, Inc (CSR)**  
(888) 808-7197  
[www.CalRetirees.org](http://www.CalRetirees.org)

#### CSEA Member Benefits

(800) 952-5283  
[www.calcsea.org/benefits](http://www.calcsea.org/benefits)

#### CalPERS Headquarters

(888) 225-7377  
[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

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



**CHAPTER 17 – San Diego  
Member Meeting**

**April 5, 2018  
12:00 pm to 2:00 pm**

**MINUTES**

**Call To Order**

Diane Whorton, President 12:04 pm

**Pledge of Alligence**

Steve Haley, Vice President

**Roll Call of Officers**

Diane Whorton, President; Steve Haley, Vice President; Gloria Koch, Secretary-excused; Elaine Edwards-Yahraus, Treasurer

**Delegates**

Diane Whorton, Elaine Edwards-Yahraus, Steve Haley, Gloria Koch-excused, Gaspar Oliviera, Danny Morales, Patricia Oneil-excused,

**Committee Chairs**

PAC Committee Co - Chairs - Laurianne Bella, and Gloria Koch-excused,  
Membership Chair - VACANT

**Introductions**

- Gaspar Luna Oliveira, District G Director

**New Members**

**Approval of Minutes**

Approval of Minutes of February 1, 2018- Correction from Ardell Wieczorek states that her first name was misspelled in the Minutes. Motion to approve the February 1, 2018 minutes as corrected make by Tom Gibson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gaspar Oliveira. Passed

**Treasurer’s Report**

Elaine Edwards Yahraus

February – Beg Bal \$5762.19; Receipts \$1574.00; Expenses \$2133.65; EndingBalance \$5202.54

March – Beg Bal \$5202.54. Receipts \$1582.05; Expenses \$2140.91 Ending Balance \$4643.68

Motion to approve Treasurer’s Report made by Danny Morales and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bruce ?? Passed.

**Guest Speaker**

Sarah Beaupre’, Development Associate, San Diego Oasis.

Sarah presented the history and goals of Oasis. Its goal is successful aging for its members and participants. Oasis offers a large variety of classes and trips year round; it is based on a trimester system for offerings. It relies on volunteers for the programs. Oasis also partners with library branches throughout San Diego County. It offers online and paper catalogs.

Oasis new location and address is 5500 Grossmont Center Drive Suite 269, La Mesa, CA 91942.

Current enrollment is about 5500 participants. Membership is free to those who are 50 years old and older.

**President’s Report**

Diane Whorton, President

Lobby Day and the Presidents’ Board Meeting will be held April 9 to 11, 2018 in Sacramento.

April 20<sup>th</sup> is the beginning for delegates for the Delegate Assembly. For Chapter 17 there are 4 officers to be elected and there is no competition for those offices. There will be voting for the 7 delegates to Delegate Assembly.

Diane announced that Margaret Brown, a new CalPERS Board member, will Be Chapter 17’s guest speaker for the June 2018 meeting.

Diane also asked for each member to verify her/his email address and send any changes in an email to Diane for corrections.

## **Committees Reports**

### **Membership**

VACANT

### **PAC/Legislation**

Laurie Bella – Gloria Koch

Lobby Day coming up on April 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> in Sacramento.

### **CalPERS Report**

Elaine Edwards-Yahraus

The Discount Rate has been lowered from 7.5 to 7%---more monies from employers and employees. CalPERS has 1.9 million members and the average monthly allowance for all retirees is \$2,876. There are only 3% of the members who earn pensions greater than \$100,000. These are typically city leaders, physicians, and university employees.

Elaine distributed a handout outlining the Medicare Changes to ID Cards to Prevent Fraud. New Medicare cards will be mailed out starting in April 2018. The mailings will be over a period of time. The cards will have a unique eleven digit number which will not be the Social Security number. CalPERS Medicare retirees won't have to take any action. CMS will provide CalPERS with the new Medicare numbers.

The Health Plans will have the same deductibles as last year. The rates as of this date have not be determined and are still pending.

### **Sub Committee**

Laurie Bella – Elaine Edwards- Yahraus – Networking with San Diego Retiree Groups - Security Roundtable –

The Retirement Security Roundtable was held on March 21, 2018 in San Diego. There were updates on the California Rule Court Case, San Diego Proposition B appeal, Reed/DeMaio Initiatives, Secure Choice Programs update and Supreme Court decision on union dues update. The next meeting will be October 3, 2018 in San Diego.

### **New Business**

None

### **Old Business**

Beverly Durcan reported on the Chapter 17 picnic plans. After discussion regarding a date, it was decided that October 4, 2018 would be a good date. This is also a regular Chapter 17 meeting date. The location will be the bay side of the Mission Bay Hilton Hotel which is off interstate 5. Steve will bring his bar-be-que setup and do the bar-be-queing for the group. Chapter 17 will provide the meat, drinks and paper goods for the picnic. The starting time will be 10:30-11:00 a.m. on October 4, 2018.

### **District G Report**

Gaspar Luna Oliveira, District G Director

Gaspar reported the Chapter 17 nominations for the officers: President, Elaine Edwards; Vice President, Steve Haley; Secretary, Gloria Koch, and Treasurer, Diane Whorton –all uncontested. He also outlined that there are 7 delegate positions to be filled for Chapter 17 with 9 candidates. Ballots need to be returned to Sacramento by May 21, 2018 at 5 pm.

Gaspar stated that Lobby Day is scheduled for April 10 and 11, 2018. Dinner is on the 10<sup>th</sup> with the guest speaker, David Miller, a new CalPERS Board member; Lobby Day at the Capitol on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

Regarding the Delegate Assembly, Gaspar said that District G has 16 representatives from the 4 Chapters in District G. In the State, some Chapters are very small and others are extremely large, such as a Sacramento Chapter that has 8,000 members. There may be some changes coming during this next year on the delegate allocations.

The current building where CSR is located is being sold by CSEA. A new building is being purchased by CSEA and CSR will be renting space from CSEA in the new location.

In summary, Gaspar indicated that CalPERS is constantly under attack by groups regarding investments and returns. He said that the downturn of the stock market in 2008-2009 impacted all of us, including CalPERS. At this time, CalPERS invests in Global Equities.

### **Meeting Adjournment**

2:07 pm