

# LEMON TWIST

Volume 26 | Issue 5 | January/February, 2019



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## Black History Month

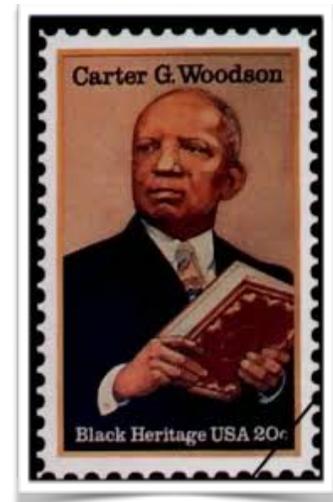
By Ulda Revollo and Terry Marzell, Co-Presidents

This month, teachers throughout the country are currently observing Black History Month, an annual celebration of the many important contributions African Americans have made to our country. But did you know that Black History Month, itself, was the brainchild of a brilliant American teacher?

Educator Carter Godwin Woodson (1875-1950) is credited with organizing, advocating, and inaugurating annual Black History Month celebrations in American schools since 1926. Certainly this is an admirable accomplishment in and of itself, but there is so much more to learn about this outstanding educator.

Did you know that, as a youngster, Carter was forced to work on the family farm rather than attend school? Nevertheless, he taught himself to read using the Bible and local newspapers. He didn't finish high school until he was 20 years old. Did you know that he once worked as a coal miner in Fayette County, West Virginia, and then later went back there to teach school to the children of Black coal miners, serving as a personal role model for using education to get out of the mines? And did you know that Carter taught school in the Philippines, and then became the supervisor of schools, which included duties as a trainer of teachers, there?

Carter Godwin Woodson: Truly a remarkable teacher.



## Treasurer's Report

By Erma Paloma

This is the Treasurer's Report for January 25, 2019.

Checking account balance:  
\$8,931.68

Savings account balance:  
\$6,949.53

2018-2019 Scholarships goal:  
\$3,500.00

2018-2019 Scholarships donations to date: \$631.00

Donations received at the meeting on Jan. 25: Jean Kleih, Terry Lee Marzell

## Division seeking new Treasurer, Hospitality Chair

Division 80 is seeking interested members to fill vacancies that will be opening up at the end of this term. Treasurer Erma Paloma has announced that, after dedicating nearly 20 years to the position, she would like to retire. It is possible to become an intern or assistant treasurer in order to prepare for the transition. We are also seeking a new Hospitality Chair. If interested, contact Margit Olson at [margito@aol.com](mailto:margito@aol.com).

## Members visit Hindu Temple

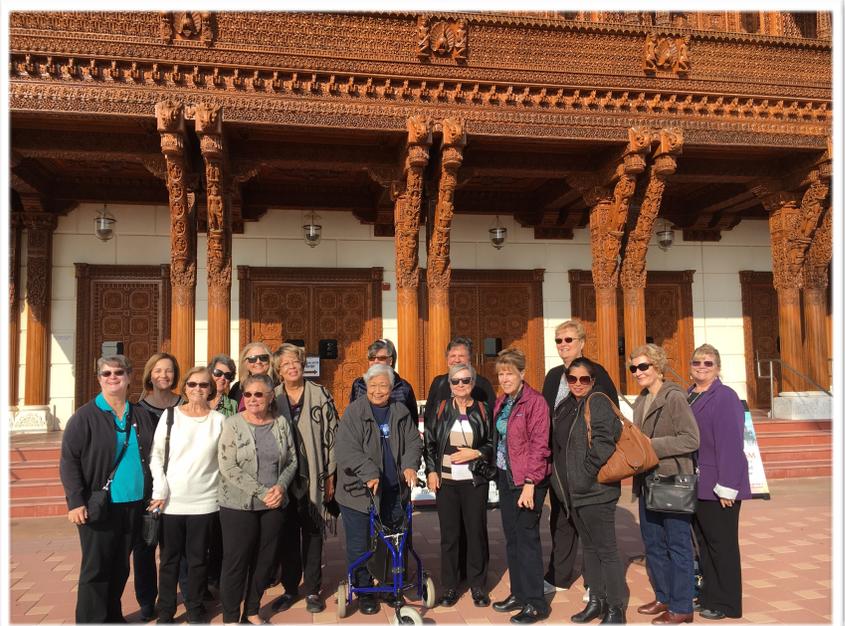
By Terry Lee Marzell

Members of CalRTA Division 80 enjoyed a guided tour of the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandi Hindu Temple located in Chino Hills on Thurs., Jan. 10.

This unique building is one of only six such temples like it located in the northwestern hemisphere. The temple sits on a 20-acre site which includes a 90-foot lotus pond with fountains, a visitor's center, a gymnasium, a reception room, and classrooms. The earthquake-resistant structure was constructed from 35,000 hand-carved pieces of Carrara marble from Italy and pink sandstone from India. The temple complex features two large domes, five pinnacles, 122 pillars, 129 archways, and 4 balconies.

The 6,600 carvings which adorn the temple and surrounding buildings depict traditional Hindu motifs and East Indian historical figures. These carvings were painstakingly created by 1,500 specialty artisans in India and then shipped to the United States. It is estimated that more than 1.3 million man hours were invested in the creation of these carvings.

For those who missed the tour but still would like to visit the temple, the address is 15100 Fairfield Ranch Road. The facility is handicapped accessible; it is required to remove shoes before



## Measure GG Oversight Committee Update

**Beth Kearney, Senior Representative**

Our last meeting was on December 3, 2018. At that time I was under the impression that I was finishing my last term as Senior Representative affiliated with CalRTA. However, members may serve three consecutive terms. So I have begun my last term.

The Committee is comprised of 13 overseers. Currently, there are SIX openings on the Bond Oversight Committee. They are:

- Corona; Business representative, 3-year term
- Corona; Parent representative, 3-year term
- Eastvale; Parent representative, 3-year term
- Norco; Parent representative, 2-year term
- Corona; Parent/PTA representative, 2-year term
- Eastvale; Parent/PTA representative, 3-year term

As you've probably guessed, this is NOT a good situation. Without a quorum (at least 7 of the 13 committee members present), no business can be done (no votes or motions). If any reports are given, the whole committee does not hear the information, and the public DOES NOT KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING. In the 2018 year, we had six meetings scheduled. On two of those scheduled meetings, we did not have a quorum and could NOT have a meeting.

The citizens of our district need your help. Without oversight, lots of things can go wrong. The Board of Education will be making these appointments to the Committee. One of the requirements by law for Measure



GG was the establishment of a Citizens' Oversight Committee to oversee the expenditure of bond money for the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of school facilities at CNUSD. This committee communicates its findings to the Board and the public to ensure

that school bond funds are expended only for the purposes described in the California Constitution, and that projects are completed wisely and efficiently.

The application process is easy. Persons interested in being considered should apply. The two options for the application are found on the CNUSD Website under Measure GG Oversight Committee, Notice of Vacancy/Application. Please submit only one of the following:

1. Citizen' Oversight Committee online fill-able PDF Application emailed to: [vdingler@cnusd.k12.ca.us](mailto:vdingler@cnusd.k12.ca.us)
2. Citizens' Oversight Committee handwritten submission Application to: Business Services Department, 2820 Clark Avenue, Norco, California 92860-1903

Meeting occur about every 2-3 months. The meetings are not long, about 2 hours, and dinner is provided. If you have a relative or neighbor that you think could and would serve, please encourage them to do so.

If you or they have more questions, please call me at 951-734-5977 or email me at [bakearney21@att.net](mailto:bakearney21@att.net)

## Seeking ideas to increase CalRTA membership

**By Beverley Rouse, Second Vice President (Membership)**

Do you have any ideas for how we can increase our membership? I'd love to hear your suggestions for getting new retirees to join and for encouraging current retirees to maintain their memberships. Please send your ideas to [beverleyrouse@sbcglobal.net](mailto:beverleyrouse@sbcglobal.net). (Notice the British spelling of Beverley. If you send me an email, I won't get it if you use the American spelling.)

Why increase our membership? Numbers matter. Our CalRTA membership numbers matter when our professional legislative advocates meet with state legislators and federal Congresspersons to discuss issues that are important for our futures. When our legislative advocates meet with lawmakers, they mention how many retired teachers they represent. The more people they represent, the more likely they are to be taken seriously when they talk about protecting our pensions, eliminating the Government Pension Offset and Windfall Elimination Provisions (WEP/GPO), and providing funding for public schools.



Did you spend part of your life paying into Social Security instead of into CalSTRS? If so, you know that your Social Security benefits will be lower than what is shown on your Social Security statement. Why? Because you have a pension from CalSTRS. CalRTA is working to eliminate the WEP/GPO provisions that don't let you get all the retirement income you earned. That's just one of many good reasons to be a CalRTA member.

## Claiming credit for your volunteer hours

**By Shirley Sessions, Communications Chair**

This is the month when we total up our volunteer hours from March 1, 2018, to Feb. 28, 2019. Turn in your hours to me so I can total them and send them to our Area IX Communications Chair. I need to turn in our hours to the Area before March 15.

Be sure to count any service that you do that you don't get paid for. Count the time you spend telephoning, travel time to and from the place that you volunteer, and the time that you were there. Estimate if necessary.

I'm sure there are lots of things that you do to help your church, service organizations, community service, helping someone who is sick, your family, babysitting, taking care of grandchildren, etc.

You can email your hours to me at [musicsps@aol.com](mailto:musicsps@aol.com), call me at 951-735-4317, or mail them to: Shirley Sessions, 2650 Temescal Ave., Norco, CA 92860.

## Here's the scoop about getting your Real ID

**By Terry Lee Marzell**

If you haven't yet gotten your REAL ID, it's time to start working towards getting one. Starting Oct. 1, 2020, everyone will need to present a REAL ID in order to board commercial aircraft or access Federal facilities. A valid US passport, a military ID, or another form of federally approved ID will be accepted to board a domestic flight and some federal facilities after Oct. 1, 2020, but obtaining a REAL ID will make air travel and visiting government buildings more convenient.

The 2005 REAL ID Act was enacted after 9/11 as a means to set uniform standards for issuing government identification, including driver's licenses as a means of improving homeland security.

To obtain your REAL ID, make an appointment at your local Department of Motor Vehicles. Bring proof of your identity, such as a valid passport, birth certificate, or certificate of naturalization. You will also need your Social Security number, W-2 form, 1099 form, or pay stub. Also, you'll need evidence of California residency, such as a home utility bill, medical documents, or a bank record.

To learn more, visit this website: <https://www.dhs.gov/real-id-public-faqs>.



## Scholarship Fund Donations needed

**By Kathleen Shepardson**

February is a time to think of love and flowers and candy. May I suggest that you also think of honoring someone you love with a generous gift to our scholarship fund? As I explained last month, we need additional donations to make it possible to give several scholarships this coming June. If you would like to give a gift in memory of a valued colleague or relative, or in honor of a dear friend whom you admire, we would greatly appreciate your generosity. College students have many needs and each student would benefit from a scholarship, as current tuition charges are very high, and student loans can be a burden for decades. Please consider giving a gift to future teachers from our area.

We are also inviting members to participate in the committee that will interview and select recipients of the scholarships. If interested, contact Kathleen Shepardson at (951) 737-2898.

## Upcoming Division events

The Feb. 22 CalRTA meeting will feature Melanie Murphy-Corwin, who will provide a presentation about genealogy research. Election of new officers will take place. Soup, salad, and bread will be provided to those who attend.

The April 26 meeting will feature Corona Norco Unified Schools Deputy Superintendent Dr. Sam Buenrostro, and a representative from CNTA. The pair will provide information about current programs offered by the District. A free catered luncheon will be provided.

# Legislative Report

By Doris Osko, Legislative Chair



“Take Action Tuesdays” have now been changed to the fourth Thursday of the month. These days will now be called “Tell Your Representative Thursday.” But you don’t have to wait until Thursday to contact your elected officials; you can communicate your concerns to your representative any day.

## Call to Action

Once again, we have a call to action. Susan Dixon, Government Relations Committee Chair, and David Walrath, Legislative Advocate, sent the following legislative alert on January 24, 2019:

We have a bill! Congressman Rodney Davis (R-IL-13) has introduced **H.R. 141 Social Security Fairness Act of 2019**. Currently there are 70 co-sponsors, including 13 from California. If your representative is not on the list below, tell him or her to become a co-sponsor.

Rep. Anna Eshoo (D-CA-18) Original Co-Sponsor	Rep. Jerry McNerney (D-CA-31)
Rep. Julia Brownley (D-CA-26) Original Co-Sponsor	Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-CA-15)
Rep. John Garamendi (D-CA-3) Original Co-Sponsor	Rep. Linda Sanchez (D-CA-38)
Rep. Mark Takano (D-CA-41) Original Co-Sponsor	Rep. Pete Aguilar (D-CA-31)
Rep. Salud Carbajal (D-CA-24)	Rep. Duncan Hunter (D-CA-50)
Rep. Jimmy Panetta (D-CA-20)	Rep. Raul Ruiz (D-CA-36)
Rep. Grace Napolitano (D-CA-32)	

## Suggested Message

I am a proud member of the California Retired Teachers Association (CalRTA). We have 40,000 members, but we represent more than 280,000 retired educators and their beneficiaries in the California State Teachers’ Retirement System (CalSTRS).

Congressman Rodney Davis (R-IL-13) has introduced **H.R. 141 Social Security Fairness Act of 2019** to repeal the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO). I am asking you to **PLEASE SIGN ON AS A CO-SPONSOR** of this important legislation.

The WEP and GPO are unfair penalties that target retired teachers in 15 states—California being one of them—as well as other public employees in California and all 50 states. The GPO unfairly penalizes a beneficiary’s survivor and harms him/her financially.

The WEP penalizes teachers who took second and summer jobs or had previous jobs through which they paid into Social Security. These Social Security penalties are applied to EARNED BENEFITS. They are drastic and cause financial hardship to many California retired teachers. These penalties need to be repealed.

(Include, if you wish, how the penalty affects you personally.)



## Contact Your Elected Representatives

### State Officials

#### Governor Gavin Newsom

1st Floor State Capitol, Suite 1173

Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: (916) 445-2841

FAX: (916) 558-3160

<https://govapps.gov.ca.gov/gov40mail/>

#### Senator Richard Roth (D-31)

Capitol Building, Room 4032

Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: (916) 651-4031

<https://sd31.senate.ca.gov/send-e-mail>

#### Assemblywoman Sabrina Cervantes (D-60)

Capitol Office, PO Box 942849, Room 2016

Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: (916) 319-2060

FAX: (916) 319-2160.

4740 Green River Rd., Suite 310

Corona, CA 92882

Phone: (951) 371-6860

<https://lcmsubcontact.lc.ca.gov>

#### Assemblywoman Melissa Melendez (R-67)

Capitol Office, PO Box 942849, Room 4009

Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: (916) 319-2067

<https://lcmsubcontact.lc.ca.gov>

### Federal Officials

#### President Donald Trump

The White House

1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW

Washington, DC 20500

Comments: (202) 456-1111

FAX: (202) 456-2461

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>

#### U.S. Senator Diane Feinstein (D)

Hart Building #331

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: (202) 224-3841

<https://www.feinstein.senate.gov>

#### U.S. Senator Kamala Harris (D)

Hard Building #112

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: (202) 224-3553

FAX: (202) 224-2200

<https://www.harris.senate.gov/contact/email>

#### Congressman Ken Calvert (R-42)

Rayburn Building #2201

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: (202) 225-1986

400 S. Vicentia Ave., Suite 125

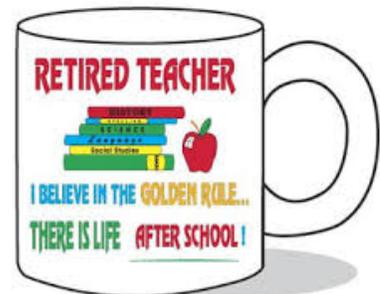
Corona, CA 92882

Phone: (951) 277-0042

<https://calvert.house.gov/contact>

## Have You Heard?

Share your exciting news with your fellow CalRTA members. Tell us about your recent vacations, latest adventures, special occasions, or any new additions to your family. You could also recommend a good book or movie, or share a great recipe. Feel free to send photos, too. We'll print as many submissions as we can fit in an upcoming issue of the Division 80 newsletter. Send your news to *Lemon Twist* editor Terry Marzell at [terrymarzell@gmail.com](mailto:terrymarzell@gmail.com).



**MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of California Retired Teachers Association is to mobilize retired teachers to advocate for an independent, financially secure, and fulfilling life, and to provide all educators with the tools to achieve a secure retirement.

View our web page at <https://div80.calrta.org>

Contact the Corona Norco Division at [calrtacn@gmail.com](mailto:calrtacn@gmail.com)

*calendar of Meetings*

Feb. 22, 2019 General Meeting 10:30 a.m. CNTA  
Presentation by Melanie Murphy-Corwin about genealogy research. Election of officers. Soup, salad, and bread potluck.

March 22, 2019 Board Meeting 9:30 a.m. CNTA  
All members are welcome to attend.

April 26, 2019 General Meeting 10:30 a.m. CNTA  
Joint presentation by CNUSD Deputy Superintendent and representative of CNTA about current programs. Free catered luncheon. All members are welcome to attend.

June 7, 2019 General Meeting 10:300 a.m. Graziano's  
Recognition of volunteers. Installation of new officers.

Aug. 23, 2019 Board Meeting 9:30 a.m. CNTA  
Planning meeting. All members are welcome to attend.

CNTA is located at 1189 Mountain Ave., Suite 100 Norco, CA 92860. Graziano's Pizza is located at 3300 Magnolia Ave., Corona, CA 92879.



**Beverley Rouse, Membership**  
**Corona Norco, Area IX, Division 80**  
**16471 Brightridge Lane**  
**Riverside, CA 92503**

**Time Dated Materials**  
**Address Service Requested**