

LEMON TWIST

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Terry Lee Marzell, Editor



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Advocacy Day is coming!

By Terry Lee Marzell, Division 80 President

This year's Advocacy Day will take place on March 23 in Sacramento. The focus this year are two CalRTA sponsored bills in the CA legislature related to STRS audits and the SBMA account.

The first bill is Assembly Bill 1667 (Cooper), introduced on Jan. 19, which will protect a teacher's retirement security by ensuring that any CalSTRS benefit reduction will be covered in the event of an employer mistake. In addition, this important measure will create a more transparent and accountable system to ensure school and community college districts receive timely and accurate information from CalSTRS, reducing the likelihood of reporting mistakes in the future.

The second focus is CalRTA-sponsored SB 868 (Cortese), introduced on Jan. 24, and will protect the purchasing power of California's oldest retired teachers by changing the one-time permanent increase for pre-1999 retirees using excess funds in the Supplemental Benefit Maintenance Account (SBMA). The SBMA is a specific fund within CalSTRS that provides purchasing power to retired teachers whose retirement salary has eroded to less than 85% of its original value.

For additional information on these two CalRTA-sponsored bills, visit: calrta.org/advocacy-action.

On another note, the March Board meeting will be held on Zoom on Fri., March 25, at 9:30 am. Members will receive an email with the link a few days prior to the meeting. If you do not receive the link, send a request to calrtacn@gmail.com. The next General Meeting is scheduled for Fri., April 22.



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Rasshan describes cultural heritage programs

Mr. Khalif Rasshan, the first featured speaker at the Feb. General Meeting, spoke to CalRTA members about how he founded the African American Museum of Beginnings in Pomona. He also shared information about the cultural heritage and academic excellence programs he organizes for students. "I'm on fire to continue my work!" Mr. Rasshan declared.

Members who attended the presentation have requested a tour of the museum, which has been tentatively scheduled for a date in mid-June.



Buenrostro describes Academy of Innovation



The second featured speaker at the Feb. General Meeting was Dr. Sam Buenrostro, Superintendent of Corona Norco Unified Schools.

Dr. Buenrostro shared information about the status of the District, including a description of the Academy of Innovation, a hybrid school that was originally opened to help students who wanted more flexible schedules. During the pandemic, the Academy was adapted to serve students who do not feel comfortable with attending classes in person. Dr. Buenrostro said about 1,500 students are currently enrolled in the program.

Division 80's volunteer hours tallied and reported

The final tally for Division 80's volunteer hours for the year of 2021 has been completed and reported to the Sacramento office. The Division has recorded a total of 5,865 hours. CalRTA says each hour of volunteer work is valued at \$33.61. Therefore, the total value of volunteer hours for Division 80 comes to a whopping \$197,122.65.

Once every division has reported their totals to the Sacramento office, the hours will be combined to arrive at a statewide total that is then used in reports to the public, legislators, and other public relations purposes such as Retired Teachers Week.

For the year of 2022, CalRTA will ask for volunteer hours starting Jan. 1 and continuing through Dec. 31. The deadline for reporting those hours will be Jan. 31, 2023.

Count your volunteer hours for work done in senior centers or service organizations, the time you spend as a caretaker, volunteer hours in hospitals, nursing homes, hospices, or handicapped services, the hours you contribute to your church, civic work on boards or commissions, youth groups, schools, judging events, scholarship committees, library work, museums, or music or art groups. Don't forget your volunteer work with CalRTA counts, too!

Division 80 to participate in Day of the Child event

Division 80 members will participate in the 28th Annual Day of the Child to be held on April 23, 2022, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at City Park located at 930 E. Sixth St. in Corona. The theme for this year’s event is “Calling All Heroes.”

The purpose of the annual celebration is to provide a free day of fun, activities, entertainment, and resources to young children and their families who live in the Corona Norco area. Organizers hope the event will encourage the community to come together as a whole to support local children.

Activities such as pony rides, a petting zoo, bouncers, storytelling, Lizard Wizard, and much more will be available. In addition, food will be available for purchase. Entertainment will be provided by school and community musical and dancing groups. Division 80 will sponsor an activity booth that will feature a bean bag toss.

Anyone who is interested in volunteering to help set up and man the CalRTA booth should contact Terry Marzell at terrymarzell@gmail.com.

Scholarship Committee to choose 2022 recipients

During the month of March, the Division 80 Scholarship Committee is moving forward with selecting award recipients from among the candidates who have applied from our Corona-Norco high schools.

Students will be selected from submitted packets that will include an application form, transcripts, and a personal essay. Because one of the major goals of CalRTA is to support future educators, applicants who intend to pursue a career in education are encouraged to apply.

Our scholarships are primarily funded by donations from members and others, often to honor the memory of fine educators who contributed much to the lives of thousands of students in our district, but also to honor those who valued education and wanted to help worthy young people achieve their dreams. Some people donate to honor the birthday or the contributions of a fellow educator. A heartfelt thank you to all our donors!



Scholarship Gift

CalRTA Corona Norco Division 80 Scholarship Donation Form

Donor’s Name: _____ Date _____ Amount _____

Donor’s Address: _____

In Memory of: _____

Please check one: You may use my name in the newsletter under Scholarship Donations.
 Yes No

Make check payable to CalRTA Div. 80 Scholarship Fund
 Mail to Margit Olson, 2407 S. Cota Ave. Corona, CA 92882-5918

Treasurer's Report

By Margit Olson, Treasurer

This is the Treasurer's Report for Feb. 23, 2022.

Checking account balance: \$16,747.16

Savings account balance: \$ 6,767.40

Total donations received since July 1, 2021:
\$2,367.40

Scholarship donations received in Feb.,
2022:

None



Excursion to Teacups and Treasures rescheduled

The excursion to Teacups and Treasures which was postponed from January due to Covid-19 has been rescheduled for Wed., March 16, at noon. Members who wish to attend can enjoy a meal of soup or salad, finger sandwiches, freshly baked scones, and dessert, in addition to a pot of black or herbal tea. Teacups and Treasures is located at 659 E. 15th St., Suite J, in Upland. Those interested in attending should RSVP to Terry Marzell at terrymarzell@gmail.com.



The National Teachers Hall of Fame honors educators

The National Teachers Hall of Fame (NTHF), is a prominent national organization that promotes the appreciation of PreK-12 educators all over the country. The organization was founded in 1989 as a joint effort by Emporia State University, the ESU Alumni Association, the City of Emporia, and the Emporia Area Chamber of Commerce to honor the nation's most important profession: Teaching.

The NTHF supports a museum, a Wall of Fame, a National Memorial to Fallen Educators, a teacher resource center, and a recognition program which honors five of the nation's most outstanding PreK-12 educators each year. Among the artifacts housed at the facility are classroom relics of a by-gone era: decades-old typewriters, ditto machines, toys, textbooks and curriculum guides, some dating back to 1630.

The museum is located in Emporia, Kansas, on the campus of Emporia State University, 1 Kellogg Circle, Emporia. The facility is open to the public. Admission is free. To learn more about the work of this important organization, click on [National Teachers Hall of Fame](#).

Directory updates

**By Beverley Rouse, Vice President,
Membership**

The following changes should be noted in the blue 2021-2022 CalRTA Directory. You can send your updates to Membership Chair beverleyrouse@sbcglobal.net or leave a message at (951) 689-9861.

Information concealed
to protect members' privacy

MEMBERSHIP TOTALS AS OF FEB. 1, 2022

CalRTA Corona-Norco has 315 paid members as of Feb. 1, 2022, according to the state CalRTA spreadsheet. As a courtesy, the Corona-Norco division usually keeps members on our local list for several months after the membership expires.

As of Feb. 1, 2022, we have 153 members who pay by check and 154 members who use dues deduction, in which the dues are subtracted monthly from the CalSTRS retirement amount. The remaining eight members have lifetime memberships, which is no longer available as an option.



Ready to travel? Here are some senior tour companies

Organized tours are popular among retirees who want to let someone else take care of the vacation details. Senior travel tours can offer great value. Whether you want to explore a destination by bus, train, or even on foot, there are plenty of companies that can help you maximize your vacation enjoyment. Here are a few that are designed for seniors. Just click on the links below:

- **Road Scholar:** Offers educational tours for adults over age 50. (The organization formerly known as Elderhostel is now called Road Scholar.)
- **Grand Circle Travel:** Specializes in senior group travel.
- **Overseas Adventure Travel:** Features small group expeditions for travelers over age 50.
- **YMT Vacations:** Offers guided tours for mature travelers.
- **Adventures Abroad:** Organizes small travel groups for seniors over 50.
- **ElderTreks:** Focuses on adventure travel for seniors.
- **Walking the World:** Offers walking tours around the globe for the 50-plus crowd.

Have You Heard?

Frank Schlesinger Enjoys Dog Park

New CalRTA Division 80 member Frank Schlesinger enjoys taking his two pooches, Olive and Lucy, to the dog park near his home in Anaheim Hills. Frank is a retired clinical psychologist who worked with troubled youth at Juvenile Hall and at Vermont Boys Ranch in San Bernardino County. He says he joined CalRTA because he recognizes the importance of supporting teachers and young people who intend to go into professions that serve students.



Terry Marzell wins DKG Gift Basket

Division 80 member Terry Marzell won a beautiful garden-themed gift basket at the DKG (Delta Kappa Gamma) Area XV 2022 Celebration held on March 5 at Sierra Lakes Country Club in Fontana. Terry was inducted into the Kappa Beta Chapter of the professional educators' organization in 2019.

Condolences, Wishes for Recovery

Division 80 extends heartfelt condolences to members who have lost loved ones recently. Doris Osko lost her beloved husband, Gary, on Oct. 12, and Kathy Shepardson's husband, Jon, passed away Dec. 19.

In addition, Division 80 extends wishes for a speedy recovery to members Dennis Crane and Ulda Revollo who are both recovering from recent surgeries.

Share your exciting news and photos with fellow members! Tell us about your vacations, adventures, special occasions, or new additions to your family. Recommend a great vacation spot, an exceptional book or movie, a great recipe, work of art, or poem. Send your news to the *Lemon Twist* editor Terry Lee Marzell at terrymarzell@gmail.com.



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

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Federal Officials

President Joseph R. Biden

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 Alex Padilla (D)

B03 Russell Senate Office Building

Washington, DC 20510

Phone: (202) 224-3553

www.padilla.senate.gov

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>



Join Our Advocacy Efforts

Watch for our weekly legislative alerts:

Take Action Tuesday
Wake Up Wednesday
Tell Your Representative Thursday

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the 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 80 at calrtacn@gmail.com

Calendar of Meetings

Below you will find the schedule of Division 80 meetings for the 2021—2022 year. Meetings will take place on Zoom unless otherwise announced. Everyone is welcome to attend all Zoom meetings. Board Meetings begin at 9:30 a.m. General Meetings begin at 10:30 a.m. See page 1 for more about how to attend.

Fri., March 25, 2022	Board Meeting
Fri., April 22, 2022	Board, General Meeting
Fri., June 3, 2022	Board, General Meeting



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

ADDRESS LABEL

Time Dated Materials
Address Service Requested