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CalRTA business continues despite Covid-19 shut-downs

By Ulda Revollo and Terry Lee Marzell, Co-Presidents

Division 80 officers held this month’s Board meeting April 24, 2020, via Zoom. The focus of the meeting was how to stay in contact with members to continue providing services despite the quarantine. The group discussed results of outreach phone calls and strategies for ensuring the distribution of the newsletter.

Board members also discussed plans for the next General Meeting, scheduled for June 5. (No meeting is scheduled for May.) For the June meeting, Susan Meyer from the California Alliance of Retired Americans (CARA) is scheduled to speak. Her presentation, entitled “Empowered Elders,” will cover hospital stay rights, Advance Health Care Directives, and Power of Attorney matters. If the meeting takes place face-to-face, we will gather at 10:30 am at Graziano’s Pizza in Corona. If we are unable to meet face-to-face, we will meet via Zoom. To access the Zoom meeting, use Meeting ID 873-4189-5685 and password 085262.

Co-President Ulda Revollo reminded members it is time for elections of division officers throughout the state. Division 80 is not due to elect new officers until Spring 2021, so the quarantine will not affect Corona Norco. However, Area IX is due to hold an election for Director and Area Chair for 2020-2022. A procedure for holding those elections is currently being developed.

Area IX Coordinator Ron Breyer reported that a webinar for state officers is scheduled for May 12 to discuss the budget. He also said that the annual state convention scheduled for June in Sacramento has been cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions.
Getting the Lemon Twist to Division 80 members

The shelter-at-home directive has made it necessary to make some changes in getting the Lemon Twist out to Division 80 members.

Typically, the publication is printed at the CNUSD print shop. In the wake of the closure of the District print shop, the April Lemon Twist was printed by Press Print Printing and Design Services. We are very grateful to Mike Krumbein, who graciously offered to print the issue free of charge. He even drove all the way from Tustin to personally deliver the copies. Thank you, Mike!

The Board considers outreach to members through the Lemon Twist an essential service, and will continue to work towards providing the publication as usual, no matter what obstacles!

Volunteers make outreach calls to Division 80 members

During the last week of April, CalRTA volunteers made outreach phone calls to those Division 80 members who do not have email addresses on file. The effort was intended to encourage members to shift from print notifications to email notifications in order to improve CalRTA’s ability to stay connected to all members. While it will not be possible to shift every member to email, approximately 20% did agree to the change. While engaged in the outreach, volunteers were able to make sure everyone is coping well with the quarantine, and they also gained some interesting stories for the Have You Heard? feature. Read more on page 5.
This month’s report of the Scholarship Committee is a grateful one. As I began the process of contacting scholarship coordinators at the high schools in January and February, we had only enough money for two scholarships. Which schools should I pick for the awards? I sent out a request to our membership and generous gifts came in.

Last month we had enough for nine scholarships, and this month we received enough funds to add two more. In these difficult times, because of our members, we can help eleven young people achieve their educational goals. Thank you very much!

I would like to give special thanks to our interview teams which consisted of George Corwin, Melanie Murphy-Corwin, Dennis Crane, Jean Kleih, Beth Kearney, Maggie Little, Terry Marzell, Nancy Morgan, Margit Olson, Ulda Revollo, Kathy Shepardson, and Lura Staffanson.

Communications were by email and telephone, thus maintaining social distancing. Trish Mutka printed certificates which will be mailed with the checks this May. Division 80 Co-President Ulda Revollo contacted the office of Assemblywoman Sabrina Cervantes. Her staff has promised to send certificates to our scholarship recipients as well.

Some schools are planning virtual award ceremonies. I am not sure how that works, but I hope that these scholarship awards will be a bright spot for these deserving future educators!

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**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
In Memorium

Donna Mae Schneider

With sadness, Division 80 reports the passing of member Donna Mae Schneider in Albany, Minnesota, on April 10, 2020. She was 88.

Donna was born Sept. 11, 1931, in Minnesota. She earned her Bachelor’s degree at St. Cloud Teachers College.

In the early 1960’s, Donna moved to Southern California, where she accepted a teaching position with the CNUSD. In a career that spanned 40 years, she taught primarily fourth grade at numerous schools, including Eastvale, Washington, Garretson, Lincoln, and Jefferson. For two years she was a Title I Specialist Teacher for grades 4 through 6 in a pull-out program.


State launches program to feed seniors during pandemic

California launched a program created to deliver three free meals per day to seniors during the pandemic. According to the website, individuals meeting the following criteria qualify:

- Those who are 65 or older, or between 60 to 64 who are considered by the CDC as someone who is a high-risk for severe coronavirus symptoms.
- Those who are receiving benefits from other state/federal nutrition programs.
- Those who have an underlying condition.
- For more information about those who qualify, click here.

To learn more about the program and to see about signing up, click here. If you qualify, you would then be able to find where you could receive your free meals once you enter your location.
Linda Bohot involved in tutoring

Many retired teachers continue to serve their communities through tutoring. Linda Bohot is one of these. She is tutoring a first grade student using Reading A-Z, an online program to help kids improve their reading skills. The youngster was being home schooled before Covid-19 school closures, and was already academically behind. Because the child was in danger of falling even farther behind, Linda decided to step in and provide tutoring.

Oskos announce births, graduations

Member Doris Osko and her husband Gary are excited to report several recent family milestones. The Oskos announce the births of their great-grandchildren, twins Dorian and Liona Davie. Granddaughter Heather and grandson-in-law Jared live in Washington State. The twins were premature at 7 months, and each weighed in at approximately 3 pounds. The births make 18 great-grandchildren for Doris and Gary’s combined families. Between them they have 19 grandchildren. Also, they are proud of their grandson Jared Miller, who is graduating from UC Davis, and granddaughter Jordan Miller, who is graduating from Marina High School in Huntington Beach.

By Shirley Sessions

Volunteer Hours tallied

We’d like to thank all of you that turned in your volunteer hours for this year. CalRTA’s state website reports that over the years, members have volunteered more than 2.7 million hours of volunteer service, valued at more than $55 million. That is a significant contribution retired teachers make to their communities.

The following Division 80 members reported 1,000 hours or more of volunteer work in the past year: Judith Horan, Netta Leach, Christine Blum, Carol Conway, Doris Osko, Jean Kleih, Dennis Crane, Ulda Revollo, Kathy Shepardson, Mary Lou Wallace, Mary Knox, and Joanna Haspels.

I know that even now we are not able to get out and do a lot of the volunteering we would normally do. But I would ask you to please keep track of the hours for the things that you are able to do. A lot of volunteer tasks may be things that you are doing for your families and neighbors and friends. Phone calls to see how people are and if you can be of help can be counted. Writing letters to keep in touch can also be counted. If you’re still babysitting grandchildren while parents work, that can also be counted.

Since face-to-face meetings have been cancelled due to the stay-at-home directive, each of these dedicated volunteers will receive recognition in the form of a certificate and a $10 gift card to Target through the mail.

Share your exciting news! Tell us about your recent vacations, latest adventures, anniversaries, special occasions, or any new additions to your family. You can recommend a good book or movie, or share a great recipe, work of art, or poem. Feel free to share photos, too. Send your news to Lemon Twist editor Terry Marzell at the following email: terrymarzell@gmail.com.
CA Assembly Bill that threatens pensions defeated

CalRTA is expressing gratitude to CA Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez (D-AD52). He serves as Chair of the Public Employment and Retirement Committee. Rep. Rodriguez is credited with helping defeat AB 2998, which would have threatened the CalSTRS defined benefit pension for new educators. If passed, the bill would have negatively impacted active and future teachers, and possibly retired educators, as well.

Protecting teachers’ pensions allows them to focus on the needs of California’s children during the pandemic and into the future. The defeat of AB 2998 protects the pensions of current retirees, and has ensured these benefits are safe from political agendas.

Those wishing to write a note of thanks to Rep. Rodriguez can send their letters to:

Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez, Chair
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249

May UPDATES for Lime 2019-20 Directory. Send updates to beverleyrouse@sbcglobal.net or call (951) 689-9861.

Add the following email addresses:

Barbara Blackwell’s email is barbixby@charter.net
Linda Bohot’s email is linda1642@gmail.com
Mollie Cone’s email is mollieen@gmail.com
Dickey Cook’s email is galletas11@aol.com
Wanda Cook’s email is wjcook12b@hotmail.com
Barbara Glenny’s email is b.bglenny@sbcglobal.net
Barbara Harris’s email is harrisbarbara@hotmail.com
Mary Hick’s email is Belovenjunior56@gmail.com
Joyce Hill’s email is autieets@gmail.com
Donna Homuller’s email is missshomuller2@aol.com
Saundra Jeannequin’s email is saundrais@hotmail.com
Reinhold Klein’s email is vayder@verizon.net
Hal Marzell’s email is halmarzell@yahoo.com
David Reid’s email is davidreid@icloud.com
Carol Salgado’s email is carolsoots9694@gmail.com
Judy Salgado’s email is judysalgado1029@yahoo.com
Jeannine Sanchez’s email is j9sanchez@hotmail.com
Dorothy Schweiger’s email is hidotwalk@aol.com
Don Shotliff’s email is don.shotliff@yahoo.com
Sarah Troop’s email is srhrp@gmail.com
Pamela Duke’s email is greetshep@aol.com

Change the following phone numbers:

Donald and Liza Harris’s number no longer works.
Patricia Hayward’s number no longer works.
Melissa Klarr’s new number is (406) 522-3826.
Leonora Prince’s number no longer works.
Don Shotliff’s new number is (951) 310-2052.
Change Beth Kearney’s phone number to (951) 255-9771.
Change Jim Kearney’s phone number to (951) 217-8829.

Change the following addresses:

Lyle Wilkerson
2300 S. Main St.
Corona, CA 92882

James McCormick
2360 Mendocino Ave, Ste. A2
Santa Rosa, CA 95403-3154

Nancy Stevens
3620 Rose Dr.
Yorba Linda, CA 92886-1562
(714)528-9272
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://lcmspubcontact.lc.ca.gov

Assemblywoman Melissa Melendez (R-67)
Capitol Office, PO Box 942849, Room 4009
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: (916) 319-2067
https://lcmspubcontact.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)
Hart 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

“Tell Your Rep Thursdays” are the fourth Thursday of each month. But you don’t have to wait until Thursday to contact your elected officials; you can communicate your concerns to your elected representatives any day.
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 at calrtacn@gmail.com

MISSION STATEMENT

Below is the calendar for Division 80 meetings for the remainder of this year. All in-person meetings have been cancelled until further notice as a result of shelter-at-home directives. Division 80 Board members will stay in contact via email notifications and the newsletter. If you have not already done so, please let us know your email address so we can keep you informed.

Board Meetings begin at 9:30 a.m. General Meetings begin at 10:30 a.m. If the June 5 meeting takes place face-to-face, we will gather at Graziano’s Pizza in Corona. If we are unable to meet face-to-face, we will meet via Zoom. To access the Zoom meeting, use Meeting ID 873-4189-5685 and password 085262.

June 5, 2020 Board, General Graziano’s
CNTA is located at 1189 Mountain Ave., Suite 100, Norco, CA 92860. Graziano’s Pizza is located at 3300 Magnolia Ave., Corona, CA 92879.