

LEMON TWIST

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Terry Lee Marzell, Editor



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Next term's officers elected

By Ulda Revollo and Terry Lee Marzell, Co-Presidents

During the April meeting, the proposed slate of officers for the two-year term beginning in August was approved, and the Standing Committee chairs were appointed. See page 2 for more information about this.

The first featured speaker at the April meeting was Mary Bryant, who was recently elected to serve as the CalRTA Director for Area IX, which includes our own Division 80. She spoke about the annual CalRTA Convention scheduled for May 12-14, and invited everyone to attend, especially since for the first time, this year the convention is free to all members.

The second featured speaker was Dr. Sam Buenrostro, CNUSD Superintendent. He spoke about issues currently facing District teachers related to reopening schools following Covid-19 closures. "It's been a challenging year for teachers and staff," remarked Dr. Buenrostro, "but with about five weeks left, we can finish strong." He emphasized safety, and observed that of the 52,000 students enrolled in CNUSD, 80% are being served by traditional instruction, as long as health conditions permit. He said 15,000 are still being served through virtual or distance learning.

The next meeting of Division 80 will be held June 4, 2021, via Zoom. The Board meeting will begin at 9:30 am, and the General Meeting will begin at 10:30 am. All members are invited to attend both meetings. To ensure security, members who have email addresses will receive the meeting ID number in an email a few days prior to the meeting. Others may receive the meeting code by emailing terrymarzell@gmail.com, or texting or calling (909) 730-3790.

CalSTRS readies for record number of retirees

CalSTRS recently noticed a significant increase in teacher retirements. They report that in the second half of 2020, the number of retirements totaled 3,202. This was an increase of 26% over the same period in 2019.

In a recent survey of new retirees, CalSTRS learned that 62% of those surveyed retired earlier than planned. Why? Many cited the challenges of teaching during the pandemic (56%) or that they didn't want to continue working remotely (35%).

CalSTRS reported that fluctuations, both up and down, in the number of retirements are normal. Also normal are unusually high retirement levels during unprecedented times. The largest number of CalSTRS retirements was in fiscal year 2009-2010, they say. California was experiencing a severe recession following the global financial crisis of 2008, and more than 16,000 members filed for retirement at that time.

As a result of the pandemic, CalSTRS says they expect their second highest year of retirements. If current trends continue, the total for 2020-2021 will be just under 16,000.

Despite these high retirement numbers, CalSTRS says educators should not worry about

their retirement income. They state they will continue to pay all retirement benefits on time and in full.

~ CalSTRS Blog, Feb. 10, 2021

Division 80 elects officers for 2021-2023 term

During the April meeting, the proposed slate of officers for the two-year term beginning in August was approved, and the Standing Committee chairs were appointed.

Below are the results of the election for officers for the upcoming term.

- President: Terry Marzell
- First Vice President: Dennis Crane
- Second Vice President: Beverley Rouse
- Recording Secretary: Maureen Macomber;
- Treasurer: Margit Olson.

Standing Committee Chairs were appointed. Below are the names of the committee chairs.

- Corresponding Secretary: Rondi Verdugo
- Legislative: Doris Osko
- Communications: Terry Marzell
- Insurance: Margit Olson
- Scholarship: Kathy Shepardson
- Historian: Ulda Revollo
- Hospitality: Lura Staffanson
- CalIRTA/CNTA Liaison: Beth Kearney.

The next term begins in the Fall and spans the two years of 2021-2023. Many thanks for all the hard work of those who have served over the expiring two-year term, including Ulda Revollo, Lynda Archer, and Shirley Sessions.



Treasurer's Report

By Margit Olson

This is the Treasurer's Report April, 2021.

Checking account balance: \$14,840.83
Savings account balance: \$9,974.42
Donations received since July 1, 2020: \$5,707.51

Scholarship donations in March/ April received from:

- Mary Louise Fields, in memory of Jack Brown
- Terry Lee and Hal Marzell, in memory of Jana Bradberry
- Lura Staffanson for scholarship at Corona HS
- Carol Salgado, in memory of Jennie Adamo, Bob Kremer, Mike Olson, and Mary La Bourde
- Catalina Blankenbeker, in memory of Jennie Adamo
- Kathy Takenaga, in memory of Jennie Adamo



MRRC leaders emphasize statewide membership drive

As new membership enrollment numbers continue to fail to match or exceed membership loss, the emphasis in strengthening the effectiveness of the Membership Recruitment and Retention Committee (also known by its initials MRRC) must intensify and expand its influence throughout the organization.

Area IX is seeking members interested in learning more about recruitment practices, politics, and promotion. Those interested are asked to contact your Area Chair to discuss the possibilities.

It's time to increase the number of individuals active in MRRC at the grass roots level and beyond. If you are interested in exploring new experiences in CalRTA's MRRC, please contact Michelle Stoops at CalRTADivision62@gmail.com, or you can call (760) 865-0878.

Dues deduct is convenient!

If you pay your CalRTA dues each year by writing a check, please consider automatic dues deduction. It's convenient and cost effective!

Dues deduct is easy for you. There will be one less bill to pay. No trouble to write a check, find an envelope, put a stamp on it, and get it in the mail.

Also, dues deduct is better for the CalRTA State Office. Staff doesn't have to mail out the dues renewal notices and send letters to those who forgot to send their dues renewals on time. Automatic dues deduction costs no staff time and no postage.

To set up your automatic dues deduction, click on this link to the [enrollment form](#) on the CalRTA website and scroll down to the section on payment information.

In Memoriam...



Georgeanne Dominguez

May 6, 1927 — April 20, 2021

Georgeanne Dominguez was born in Denver, Colorado. Following her high school graduation, she became a nun, serving as an elementary teacher in the Immaculate Heart Community for about 20 years. When she left the community, she moved to Corona and became an educator in the CNUSD, where she worked for another 20 years. She taught first grade at Vicentia Elementary. In addition, Georgeanne was very active in both CNTA and CalRTA, helping with scholarships, the Day of the Child, Back to School activities, and phone banking. “She was still tutoring in her 80’s,” remembered her former principal, Dennis Crane. “She was an outstanding lady, in every sense of the word.” Georgeanne passed away on April 20, 2021, at the age of 93.

Our sincere condolences to
Georgeanne’s family and friends

Directory updates

By Beverley Rouse

Here are the May updates for the purple 2020-2021 Division 80 Directory. You can send updates to Beverley Rouse, Membership Chair, at beverleyrouse@sbcglobal.net or leave a message at (951) 689-9861.

Update the following information:

Archer, Lynda
(951) 675-3005

Bolt, Linda
8828 Rooks Mill Ln.
Dayton, OH 45458-2845

Burkette, Jim
42554 Bradshaw Dr.
Temecula, CA 92592-6639

Email addresses for these people don’t work. Please let us know if you can provide an updated email address.

Gonzalez, Ben
Gruber, Steve
Nelson, Beverly

Deceased:

Dominguez, Georgeanne

Correction: On the proposed slate of officers for next term the nominee for First Vice President was Dennis Crane, not Dennis Brandt, as incorrectly reported in last month’s *Lemon Twist*.

Have You Heard?

Oskos welcome 21st great-grandchild

Division 80 member Doris Osko and her husband Gary welcomed their 21st great-grandchild in April. Jacob Dawson Woodland was born on April 15, 2021, to grand-daughter Melani Willoughby and husband David. “We are expecting two more great-grands by Fall,” remarked Doris. “We are grandparents of nineteen, she continued. “These blessings are the result of combining our two families by virtue of marriage. We are so abundantly blessed,” she concluded. Before she retired in 1998, Doris taught at Letha Raney Junior High and Centennial High School.



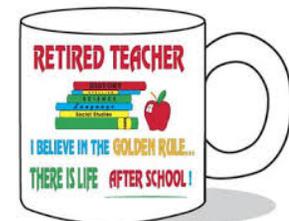
Staffansons visit Utah Butterfly Biosphere

Division 80 member Lura Staffanson, her husband John, and others members of their family enjoyed a visit to the Butterfly Biosphere at Thanksgiving Point located in Lehi, Utah, on April 26. The 40,000 square foot venue is an insectarium and hands-on invertebrate museum and conservatory. In addition to dozens of species of butterflies, the biosphere also has over 20 species of tarantulas, a huge colony of leafcutter ants, an assortment of beetles, and many more bugs. To learn more about the facility, click on this link to the website [Thanksgiving Point](#).

Olsons travel to Death Valley

Margit Olson, her husband Larry, and her sister-in-law Mary enjoyed a short trip together the weekend of April 17. “First we went to Lone Pine and Mt. Whitney, the highest mountain in the continental US,” Margit reported. “Then we spent two days in Death Valley. We had a really great time exploring Death Valley, though it was a little warm,” she continued. The trio also visited Alabama Hills. “So nice to get a change of scenery!” Margit concluded. In addition, Margit celebrated her birthday on April 15.

Share your exciting news and photos with fellow Division 80 members! Tell everyone about your vacations, adventures, special occasions, or any new additions to your family. Feel free to recommend a great vacation spot, an exceptional book or movie, a great recipe, work of art, or poem. Send your news to editor Terry Marzell at terrymarzell@gmail.com.



CalRTA holds virtual annual convention

CalRTA held its 2021 Annual Convention and Delegate Assembly virtually on May 12-14. For the first time ever, the convention was free to all CalRTA members. An advance reservation was required.

The convention featured breakout sessions, the installation of newly elected leaders, and the completion of other association business. The program also included educational sessions covering such topics as the Future of Learning, Technology Tips, California’s Master Plan on Aging, and the CalRTA Educational Foundation. The convention also sponsored area caucuses and concluded with a Delegate Assembly.

Division 80 was represented by delegates Ulda Revollo and Olson. Stay tuned for a report about the convention that will be presented to members at the June 4 meeting.

CalRTA’s State, Division websites undergo updates

The CalRTA website is a living resource and must be continually updated to keep pace with changing technology. Both State and Division websites have experienced tremendous growth over the past several months – impacted by increased interest in the use of technology and the need to make support easily available.

New boxes have been added on the main page and members page. Duplicate information has been consolidated and/or eliminated to streamline access to resources, requiring less searching for member users. The look of individual pages has been modernized, with colored headings reflecting CalRTA’s blue/gold theme.

Both Debbie Pate-Newberry, State Director of Communication, and Ron Scott, CalRTA’s IT Consultant, have devoted their time and expertise to the updates.



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

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 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 2020—2021 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.

June 4, 2021

Board, General



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

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