Holidays celebrated in style

By Ulda Revollo and Terry Lee Marzell, Co-Presidents

Division 80 members celebrated the holidays in style at the general meeting held on Fri., Dec. 6. Cookies and punch were provided for the members who attended. Entertainment was provided by the Corona High School Madrigals, under the direction of Choir Director Amy Eden. The 32-member group performed eight seasonal selections with an international flavor, including songs in Spanish, Swahili, Ladino, and Hebrew. In addition, they sang a medley of patriotic songs. Following the performance, the group was presented with a cash gift from CalRTA members. In addition, each student received a bag of cookies prepared by Division members. Entertainment was arranged by First Vice President (Programs) Dennis Crane.
Treasurer’s Report

By Margit Olson

This is the Treasurer’s Report from December 12, 2019:

Checking account balance: $10,471.31

Savings account balance: $6,276.92

2019-2020 Scholarship goal: $3,500.00

2019-2020 Scholarship donations received to date: $2,320.79

Scholarship donations received in Nov. and Dec. from:

• Jane Neptune
• Linda Bolt (in memory of Kay Nichols)
• Mary Louise Fields (for Erma Paloma’s service and in memory of Walter Dunderman and Mary La Bourde Jones)
• Elizabeth and James Kearney (in memory of Mary La Bourde Jones)
• Lynda Archer (in memory of Walter Dunderman)
• Ulda Revollo (in memory of her husband, J. Revollo, a chemical engineer who valued education)
• Bernadette Balance
• Kathy Shepardson (honoring Ulda Revollo’s birthday)
• Lorene Householder (in memory of Barbara Gibson)
• Karen Lynn Jones

Please send your donations for this year’s scholarships to Margit Olson, 2407 S. Cota Ave., Corona, CA 92879-5918.

Holiday Celebration

Members enjoyed the holiday celebration held at the general meeting on Fri., Dec. 6, at the CNTA offices. Paula Lascano and Bernadette Balance (below) enjoyed the festivities. Retired CNTA secretary Lorene Householder (at bottom) also a member of CalRTA, attended as well.
December has been a terrific month for our scholarship fund. We received several generous gifts and are now able to provide five scholarships. We hope to raise enough for two more so that all of the high schools will be included.

In order to raise additional funds, we are planning a fund-raiser at Graziano’s Pizza on Jan. 24, 2020. The restaurant will give 15% of all orders when you mention CalRTA or present the flyer below. Dine-in, take-out, and delivery orders are included. The board will be meeting there that day in order to contribute to the fund by having lunch. You are welcome to join us at 9:30 a.m. for the meeting, and then stay for lunch to help us raise money for scholarships.

For the 2019-2020 school year we are planning to give named scholarships in memory of Mary LaBourde Jones, Julio Revollo, and Jana Bradberry.

Our scholarships are mostly funded by donations from members and others, usually 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 want to help worthy young people to achieve their dreams.

Thank you for all you do!

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CA Retired Teachers Association, Division 80

Scholarship Fund Fundraiser!

Graziano’s Pizza
333 Magnolia Ave., Corona, CA 92879
(951) 734-8500

Friday, January 24, 2020
11:00 am to 9:00 pm

Enjoy lunch or dinner at Graziano’s and the restaurant will donate a portion of the proceeds to the Scholarship Fund of the California Retired Teachers Association, Division 80. Scholarships will go to students in CNUSD schools. (Purchases include dine in, pick up, or delivery. Excludes alcohol.) Full menu at www.grazianoscorona.com

Bring this flyer or mention CalRTA’s fundraiser so our group can get credit for your purchase. Thank you for supporting our students!
Have You Heard?

Cheryl Wester, family meet Minnie Mouse

Member Cheryl Wester, pictured above, met celebrity Minnie Mouse when she attended a Disney event on Christmas Eve. With Cheryl are her oldest son, Jeff Lenney, his wife Chanmony, and their children, Amelia, age 15 months, and Steven, age 4. Cheryl reported that at the event there was a band, a dinner, and Disney characters who took pictures with all the kids. And Jeff is really rockin’ that suit!

Nancy Berry welcomes 17th Grandchild

CalRTA member Nancy Berry announces the birth of her 17th grandbaby, Atticus Blair Berry, born to Nancy’s youngest son Michael and his wife Heather (Webb) Aug. 23, 2019. If you taught at Norco El or Norco Intermediate you may have taught Mike. Atticus, a brunette like Mike, is his third child and first birthchild. Their two previous children, Phineas (blond) and Thomas (ginger red) were adopted. Mike and Heather were able to attend both of those births, and for this birth, Mike helped Atticus emerge and Heather cut the cord. Amazing things are happening in the oldest of processes on the earth. (Or are we returning to the practices of the first parents?) Sure, you may have known that Mike’s favorite book is *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Staffansons celebrate family events

Lura Staffanson and her husband, John, are pleased to announce two exciting family events this month. First, her granddaughter Lonica Jacobson returned from her 18-month LDS mission in the Philippines. Also, her grandson Jalen Jacobson graduated with his Bachelor’s degree in Graphic Arts from BYU Idaho.

Share your exciting news! Tell us about your recent vacations, latest adventures, special occasions, or any new additions to your family. Recommend a good book or movie, or share a great recipe. Feel free to share photos, too. Send your news to Lemon Twist editor Terry Lee Marzell at terrymarzell@gmail.com.

CalRTA: Your partner in pension protection
Members make gift bags

Division 80 members prepared holiday gift bags full of cookies and candies to give to students who performed at the general meeting on Fri., Dec. 6. Shown, left to right, are Jean Kleih, Ulda Revollo, Lynda Archer, Kathleen Shepardson, Beth Kearney, Maureen Macomber, Terry Marzell, and Doris Osko.

Lemon Twist earns praise

CalRTA’s Communication Team recognized the Lemon Twist as the November/December Newsletter of the Month in their Update. The team particularly praised the use of hyperlinks in the Division 80 newsletter. These links give readers opportunities to dig deeper into front page stories. “Punchy headlines with action verbs also tease readers,” the team says. They approved the cautious use of clip art, commending the use of large and colorful real photographs instead. They describe the publication as “Attractive and newsy.”

Chinese New Year coming

According to the Chinese horoscope, the Lunar New Year begins on Sat., Jan 25. The year 2020 is the year of the Rat. In Chinese culture, the Rat is viewed as a sign of wealth and surplus. The animal is connected to knowledge, memory, and learning, and is considered clever, tactical, creative, agile, active, and resourceful. This coming year of the Rat is predicted to be strong, prosperous, and lucky.

Directory updates

By Beverley Rouse

Here are the January updates for the green 2019-2020 Directory. Send updates to beverleyrouse@sbcglobal.net or call 951-689-9861.

Pease, Harlan Frederick
960 Amber Ln.
Lake Elsinore, CA 92530-5244
(951) 674-2275
fred.pease2@verizon.net

Marilyn Boutelle
New Phone: (951) 532-3771
Eliminate the Corona address
Keep the Minnesota address

Cass Daniels
8079 Golden Star Ave.
Riverside, CA 92506-5709

Anita and Dave LaVelle
18315 Bakers Farm Rd.
Colorado Springs, CO 80908

Johanna Faye Van Geloof
2300 S. Main St., Apt. 284
Corona, CA 97882-2519
The Measure GG Oversight Committee met on Dec. 10, 2019, to discuss alleged misappropriation of funds and the Measure GG annual audit report. Regarding the Riverside District Attorney’s Office’s charges against Ted Rozzi, CNUSD Assistant Superintendent of Facilities, and Edward Mieras, CEO of Neff Construction, little has changed. Mr. Rozzi’s arraignment was moved to Feb. 13, 2020. Mr. Mieras’s arraignment was scheduled for Jan. 3, 2020. The charges are theft of public funds, money laundering, conflict of interest, and aggravated white-collar crime. There are 15 counts of money laundering of $1.1M in CNUSD money. Apparently, the fraud not only happened with bond money, but other funding sources as well.

According to CNUSD attorney’s statement the way the funds were misused was not something the Measure GG Oversight Committee could have detected. Contracts were signed between CNUSD and Neff Construction. Allegedly, checks were then written and sent or given to Mr. Rozzi from Mr. Mieras. These checks then paid for credit cards in Mr. Rozzi’s name in several banks that did not conduct business with the District.

The Fiscal Crisis & Management Assistance Team (FCMAT), a state agency that examines the district’s fiscal practices, did an audit on behalf of the Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE) and found about $2.6M in misappropriated funds.

The newest development is that the RCOE is commissioning another third-party audit of CNUSD fiscal practices to determine if CNUSD should keep its “fiscally independent” status. CNUSD is one of about 11 in the state that has this status and by law can write checks to employees and vendors themselves. To keep this status, the District must have controls in place to prevent misuse of taxpayers’ money. The FCMAT audit found that the District’s internal control environment and control activities were insufficient and contributed to the diversion of funds by a member of the district’s senior executive management.

The Measure GG Bond annual audit report period for July 2018 – June 2019 was presented to the CNUSD School Board on Dec. 17, 2019. The audit indicated that expenditures were made as authorized according to the bond requirements.

Our next meeting will be Feb. 3, 2020, CNUSD District Office, 6:30 p.m.
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)
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

“Tell Your Rep Thursdays”

“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.

CalRTA: Your partner in pension protection
Here is the calendar for Division 80 upcoming meetings this year. All Board Meetings begin at 9:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. All General Meetings begin at 10:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Meeting Type</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 24, 2020</td>
<td>Board</td>
<td>Graziano’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 28, 2020</td>
<td>Board, General</td>
<td>CNTA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 27, 2020</td>
<td>Board</td>
<td>CNTA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 24, 2020</td>
<td>Board, General</td>
<td>CNTA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 5, 2020</td>
<td>Board, General</td>
<td>Graziano’s</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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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