This month we attended the CalRTA annual Delegate Assembly and Convention held May 14-17, 2019, in Los Angeles. Insurance Chair Margit Olson and Treasurer Erma Paloma also attended.

We were able to take advantage of the informative sessions organized by state CalRTA leaders. Included were seminars on membership recruitment and resources, using Facebook to share news about the Division, a legislative update, budget and bylaws, technology support, fraud watch, and a newsletter clinic. We also attended a Presidents’ Workshop and a caucus meeting for Area IX led by our Area Director, Ron Breyer.

Delegates met to discuss and vote on a variety of proposals, to adopt the state organization’s budget, and to install the newly-elected CalRTA state officers. Among those sworn in was Dr. Jim Mahoney, who is now the new state-level President.

The keynote speaker was David Walrath, CalRTA Legislative Advocate and our state lobbyist. His presentation included an overview of the CalRTA state advocacy platform and a brief discussion of the most recently approved position bills and their status.

To learn more about the convention, see the state Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/CalRTA/. To learn more about CalRTA at the state level, click on https://calrta.org.
Directory Updates

Here are the May 2019 updates for the yellow 2018-2019 Directory:

New member:

Andrea Fulford
711 Raphael Circle
Corona, CA 92882-8514
(562) 833-9485
afulfor@earthlink.net

Changes:

Ruby Griffith
Spanish Cove
11 Palm
Yukon, OK 73099
(405) 805-6522

Patricia Johnson
24335 Crestley Drive
Corona, CA 92883

Anne Tibbet is now deceased.

Send updates to beverleyrouse@sbcglobal.net or call her at (951) 689-9861

Margit Olson earns Mathiesen Award

Heartfelt congratulations go to Division 80 member Margit Olson, who was named a winner of a Martin P. Mathiesen Award on Thurs., May 16, 2019, at the CalRTA Convention and Delegate Assembly held in Los Angeles. Margit earned the recognition because of her many years of devoted service to the educational community and to CalRTA.

Division 80 Treasurer Erma Paloma, below, listens attentively to the budget proposal at the annual Delegates' Assembly held on May 16 at the CalRTA Convention held in Los Angeles.
Make your reservations now for June meeting, luncheon

All Division 80 members are invited to the June meeting and luncheon to be held June 7 at 10:30 a.m. at Graziano’s Pizza, located at 3300 Magnolia Ave., Corona, Ca. 92879. Agenda items for the meeting include installation of new officers and recognition of volunteers. Anyone who wants to order a lunch should make your reservations now, because the restaurant needs an approximate head count. Browse the menu options below and make your selections. Denis Crane will have some order forms available at the April 26 meeting, or you can also make reservations with Margit Olson at (951) 737-3320.

Graziano’s Banquet Menu
$12.00. Includes drink

Choose from our great tasting
8” grinders
OR individual one-topping pizza

Grinders: (Grazi style, add $1.09)
Ham  Turkey  Beef  Tuna  Pastrami  Torpedo
Meatball & cheese
American  Pepper Jack  Provolone  Cheddar  Mozzarella  Swiss

Choice of condiments:
Lettuce  Tomato  Onion  Mayo  Mustard  Italian dressing

Pizza:
Pepperoni Sausage Canadian Bacon
Onion Mushrooms Pineapple Bell Peppers

Choice of chips or:

Salad:
Cheese  No cheese  Tomato  No Tomato
Italian  Ranch  Blue Cheese  1000 Island  Fat free Italian
French  Honey Mustard  Caesar  Balsamic

Treasurer’s Report
By Erma Paloma

This is the Treasurer’s Report for April 26, 2019:

Checking account balance:
$12,662.33

Savings account balance:
$3,759.23

Amount moved from savings account to checking account to fund scholarships:
$3,500.00

2018-2019 Scholarships goal: $3,500.00

2018-2019 Scholarships donations to date:
$1,294.00

Scholarships donations received since last newsletter:

• Maggie Little, in memory of Leann Bitterolf, John Richardson, Pat Scott, Dr. Priscilla Garcia, and Barbara Gibson

• Barbara Rikensrud, in honor of Dorothea Wilson

Correction to March 22, 2019, Treasurer’s Report:

2018-2019 Scholarships donations received to date:
$1,094.00

CalRTA: Your partner in pension protection
Dr. Sam Buenrostro addresses Division 80 members

By Terry Lee Marzell

Dr. Sam Buenrostro, CNUSD Deputy Superintendent of Instructional Support, addressed a general meeting of Division 80 members on Friday, April 26.

One of the topics he discussed was current efforts the District is expending to address safety and mental health issues. He emphasized that the safety of students and employees is a top priority for the District. He said the District is actively pursuing grants to help fund the cost of hiring additional counselors and psychologists.

Dr. Buenrostro also described the services provided by the Parent Center, including day care, summer camp, tutors, homework club, emergency supplies, family counseling, and services for English language learners.

The presentation was followed by a free catered luncheon provided by CalRTA.

Members participate in Corona’s annual Day of the Child event

Division 80 members participated in Corona’s annual Day of the Child event held at the 6th Street Park on Saturday, April 27. At the celebration, children were invited to play a corn hole game and then they were given an animal print pencil as a gift. Pictured at the CalRTA booth are, left to right, Division 80 members Terry Marzell and Ulda Revollo, and community member Claudia Braga.
Have You Heard?

Raney teachers reunite

Division 80 members and other CNUSD educators meet for a reunion of Raney Junior High School teachers at Marie Calendar’s in Corona on April 3, 2019. Seated, from left to right: Bridget Boyle, Linda Gallardo, Cara Tarini, Jan Oosten, Doris Osko, Linda Linville, Janice Garabedian. Standing, from left to right: Kevin Treischel, Robin Wallace, Lenny Elkins, Rick Albrecht, Maureen Macomber, Jan Morgan, Larry Olson, and Heidi Sutton.

Where in the world has member Lura Staffanson been?

CalRTA member Lura Staffanson and her husband John enjoyed a fun-filled cruise to the Mexican Riviera with a group of good friends from their church. Ports of call included Cabo San Lucas, Mazatlan, and Puerto Vallarta. Activities included a tour of an ancient hidden city, a visit to botanic gardens, a ride in a speedboat, lunch on the beach, and plenty of relaxation on the deck of the cruise ship.

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.
CalRTA lobbies for HR 141 in Washington, DC

By Joyce Rittman, Government Relations Representative, CalRTA Division 74

Bob and I just returned from CalRTA’s Lobby Day in Washington, DC. On April 10, over 60 CalRTA members from around the state visited the DC offices of every California Representative to educate them and their staffs about CalRTA’s position on WEP/GPO Social Security penalties, President Trump’s proposed repeal of the Affordable Care Act, and his budget proposal for a $5 billion Education Tax Credit program. Additionally, on April 11, the CalRTA delegations for the first time visited members and staff of key committees and subcommittees.

The delegations were well prepared to lobby our positions. On Tuesday, April 9, we met with David Walrath, CalRTA’s Legislative Advocate, who discussed the issues to be lobbied and fielded questions from the group. Then AARP officials discussed two House bills aimed at stopping big pharmaceuticals’ ability to keep generic drugs off the market.

Each team picked up packets of information to leave the legislators/staffs they would be visiting. The packets contained handouts about the issues to be discussed and about CalRTA. A handout was included for each particular congressional district showing the impact of retired educators’ income on the local economy. For example, in Representative Paul Cook’s District 8, the annual economic impact is estimated to be $76,155,820, which supports 1,958 jobs.

As a sign that Congress is aware of the need for repeal of the WEP/GPO, a full-repeal bill was introduced on the first day of the new Congressional session, January 3. It immediately garnered many signatures, and now has 158 co-signers. Education efforts are especially important this year, since so many new legislators were elected last November.

Four of the five legislators from our Area IX have co-signed HR 141, so we asked them to request an amendment to repeal the WEP/GPO to another House bill, HR 860, which improves Social Security benefits, but does not mention WEP/GPO repeal.

Since our Representative, Paul Cook, has still not co-signed HR 141, we are asking your help. Please call, email, or visit his local office to request his signature on this important legislation! Since he co-signed a similar bill in the last congressional session, he should be amenable to co-signing HR 141, and perhaps just needs a push from all of us. A good selling point for Congressmember Cook is that the WEP/GPO also affects military and safety personnel, whom he champions.

Bob and I enjoyed our opportunity to discuss the issues with legislators and staffs. We are very thankful to our division for subsidizing our trip. For the first time, four other divisions in our Area IX, recognizing the critical importance of this lobbying effort, sent us donations to help with the expense.

Note: Congressman Ken Calvert has co-signed HR141 and has supported the repeal of the unfair WEP/GO legislation. He was unable to meet with the Rittmans in Washington, but his assistant, Joe Fuentes, represented the Congressman in a meeting. Many thanks to the Rittmans for making the trip to Washington, DC, on our behalf. Now it’s up to us to do as Joyce Rittman suggests, and contact Representative Paul Cook to get on board and co-sign HR141.
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.
Calendar of Meetings

June 7, 2019  Board Meeting  9:30 a.m.  Graziano’s
All members are welcome to attend.
  General Meeting  10:30 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.

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

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

ADDRESS LABEL