

LEMON TWIST

Volume 26 | Issue 6 | March, 2019

Terry Lee Marzell, Editor



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Margit Olson nominated for CalRTA's Ruth Q. De Prida Award
- Melanie Murphy-Corwin gives presentation about genealogy research
- Division 80 Proposed slate of officers 2019-2021
- Have You Heard? Latest news about CalRTA members
- Board expresses thanks for Division's donation
- Website offers resources for those with disabilities
- Scholarship Fund Update

Celebrating Women's History Month: CalRTA Founder Laura Settle

By Ulda Revollo and Terry Lee Marzell, Co-Presidents

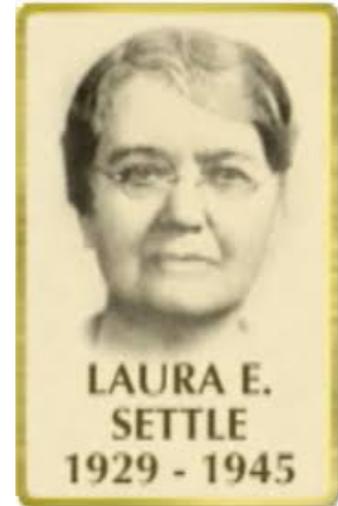
Throughout history, many hardworking educators continue to work towards improving the lives of others, even after retirement. One of these is activist Laura E. Settle, the founder and first president of CalRTA.

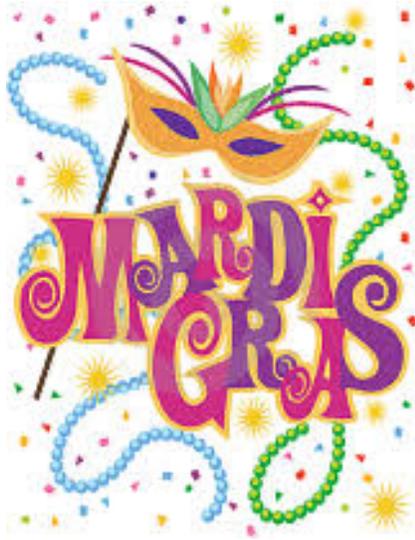
Laura retired as a teacher from the Pasadena School District during the Great Depression. At that time, a retired schoolteacher received just \$500 a year in pension benefits. To rectify this, a group of teachers led by Laura banded together to fight for better pensions for their colleagues who were living in poverty after a lifetime of teaching.

In 1927, Laura was elected the organization's first president. She held this office from 1929 to 1945, a total of 16 years. Because of Laura's hard work, today, CalRTA is one of the nation's largest retired teacher organizations, boasting more than 43,000 members in 86 local divisions throughout the state.

Each year, to honor Laura's memory, a scholarship is given to deserving high school students who have declared an intention to go into the teaching profession.

Laura E. Settle: All teachers, whether currently retired or still in the classroom, owe her a great debt.





Thanks offered for new benefit

By Beverley Rouse

Thanks to CNUSD, CNTA, the bargaining team, and CalRTA Insurance Chair Margit Olson for getting the “Silver and Fit” benefit added to our VEBA contract with Kaiser. This new benefit allows us to have a free gym membership at any one of many gyms in the area, similar to the “Silver Sneakers” benefit. My husband and I were paying \$25 apiece every month, a total of \$600 per year, for our membership at LA Fitness. With this new benefit, added in January 2019, that membership is now free, saving us \$600 each year. Margit Olson, CalRTA Insurance Chair, worked with the CNTA, CNUSD, and the bargaining team to get this benefit added.

Members enjoy presentation about genealogy research

By Terry Lee Marzell

Members of CalRTA Division 80 enjoyed a presentation about genealogy research delivered by Melanie Murphy-Corwin at the general meeting held on Feb. 22.

Anyone who intends to conduct genealogy research should be aware of two things, says Melanie. The first is that the endeavor is very time-consuming, and the second is to prepare yourself to accept unexpected details about their family history. Melanie described examples from research she conducted about her own family. She also warned that census records are sometimes difficult to read, and often contain mistakes.

Melanie indicated that an excellent source for genealogical data is the Family History Center located at the Corona branch of the Mormon church, which welcomes all researchers.



CalRTA member Melanie Murphy-Corwin, left, shares her expertise about genealogy research as members of Division 80, below, listen attentively.



Treasurer's Report

By Erma Paloma

This is the Treasurer's Report for Feb. 22, 2019.

Checking account balance:
\$8,713.16

Savings account balance:
\$6,595.13

2018-2019 Scholarships goal:
\$3,500.00

2018-2019 Scholarships donations to date: \$631.00

Seven 2018 scholarships have been awarded for a total of \$3,500.00. One scholarship remains to be awarded.

Directory Update

By Beverley Rouse

Please welcome our newest member and add her to your yellow 2018-2019 Directory:

Nancy Royce
873 5th Street
Norco, CA 92860-2110
(951) 734-0623
kinderteacher@aol.com
Lincoln

Send updates to
beverleyrouse@sbcglobal.net

Scholarship Fund Update

By Kathleen Shepardson

At our February meeting, we asked members to sign up to interview scholarship candidates. In March, we are set to interview candidates at seven high schools: Centennial, Corona, Eleanor Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy Middle College, Lee V. Pollard, Norco, and Santiago. These interviews are very rewarding, as we meet outstanding young people who hope to enter the field of education.

Our interview teams will include George Corwin, Melanie Murphy-Corwin, Dennis Crane, Jean Kleih, Beth Kearney, Maggie Little, Terry Marzell, Nancy Morgan, Margit Olson, Doris Osko, Ulda Revollo, Kathy Shepardson, Lura Staffanson, and Cheryl Wester.

If you would like to contribute toward a scholarship in memory of or in honor of family, friends, or former colleagues, please send your gift to Erma Paloma, our CalRTA Division 80 Treasurer, at 651 Leyenda Dr. Corona, CA 92879. Use the memo line to designate the scholarship fund and any specific memorials if you wish. Your gifts to the scholarship fund will help us to continue the tradition of helping future educators.

Your help is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Board expresses thanks for donation

The CNUSD School Board sent a letter to CalRTA on Feb. 6, 2019, expressing appreciation for the organization's donation of \$500 to the Corona High School Madrigals. The donation was made to the students to thank them for performing at the general meeting on Dec. 7, 2018. "Staff and students appreciate your generosity," states the letter, in part, written by Judy K. Now, Chief of Staff of Executive Services.



Margit Olson nominated for De Prida Award

By Doris Osko

CalRTA member Margit Olson has been nominated by Division 80 for the coveted Ruth Q. De Prida Award.

The statewide honor was established by CalRTA in 1984, and is named in honor of CalRTA member Ruth de Prida who, for more than 50 years, lobbied for children's hospitals, schools, teachers, and retired teachers. The award is presented to a CalRTA member to recognize exceptional service: one who is an educator and community leader; one who has served California with distinction, dedication, and devotion; one who has served CalRTA with diligence in many elective, appointed, and voluntary capacities; and one who has furthered the cause of CalRTA by being an example for other members of readiness to serve. This description certainly describes Margit Olson.

This amazing educator taught German language courses for children and adults from 1970-1990. In addition, for 26 years she taught High School Completion courses and GED preparation for Corona Norco Adult Education. Margit's former students adore her. At any awards night at Adult Education it was guaranteed that her students would give her a standing ovation to express their thanks for the inspiration and help she provided in helping them get their diploma or complete their GED.

As a Division member, Margit is best



described as the "Energizer Bunny." She has served on the organization's Executive Board, and she been the Insurance Chair for five years now. Since she became Insurance Chair, she has been a present at every District insurance meeting or workshop to advocate for a fair insurance package for retirees. She has been the voice at Division meetings explaining insurance packages and describing the best choices for retirees.

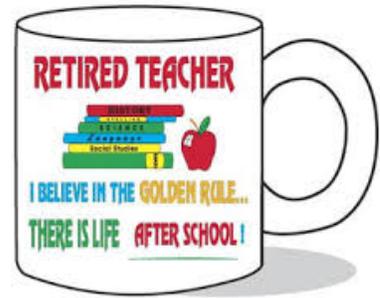
In addition to her work with the Insurance Committee, Margit organizes social outings and programs for the Division membership, is part of the Legislative Committee, and serves on the Scholarship Committee where she annually participates in scholarship interviews.

As if all this were not enough, Margit is also very active in the local community. She serves on the Executive Board for Circle City Kiwanis, and she volunteers at her granddaughter's elementary school. Previously she donated her time as the coordinator of altar services for St. Edward's Church, where she also organized the first children's Mass and taught catechism for grades 3-4.

The recipient of the Ruth Q. De Prida Award will be announced at the CalRTA convention in Los Angeles in May. We wish Margit the best of luck!

Have You Heard?

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.



What's happening with Bridget Boyle?

CalRTA member Bridget Boyle and her husband Tom, also a retired teacher, relocated to sparsely populated Guadalupita in northern New Mexico nine years ago. They purchased a 100-acre ranch where they now raise cattle, grow vegetables, and generally live a country lifestyle.

"As idyllic as it sounds, living this far out is not for everyone," says Bridget. "The census designation here isn't even rural; it's frontier," she continues. And winters there can be very cold, Bridget reveals. She says their first full winter there the low was -32. "But that's a trade-off for an average of 82 in the summer," she confesses.

Bridget is pictured above working on the ranch. To read more about the Boyles and their life in New Mexico you can read Bridget's blog at www.northernnewmexicoranchito.blogspot.com.

Cheryl Wester, proud Grandma

Division 80 member Cheryl Wester has two new grandchildren! Her oldest son, Jeff, had a little girl on Sept. 19. They named the baby Amelia Ann Lenney. Cheryl's daughter, Tracy, had a little girl on January 17. This child is named Savannah Faith Clark. "I'm one proud Grandma," Cheryl says.

Terry Marzell inducted into DKG

CalRTA member Terry Lee Marzell was inducted into the prestigious Delta Kappa Gamma International Society on Sat., March 2. DKG was founded in Texas in 1929 to provide leadership training and support to women educators.



Division 80 Proposed Slate of Officers 2019-2021

By Doris Osko, Legislative Chair

Here is the proposed slate of officers for CalRTA 2019-2021, Division 80, Area IX. **Note:** Officers are elected, and Chairs are appointed by the President with approval of the Board.

Officers

Co-Presidents: Ulda Revollo and Terry Marzell

First Vice President: Dennis Crane

2nd Vice-President: Beverley Rouse

Recording Secretary: Maureen Macomber

Corresponding Secretary: Rondi Verdugo

Treasurer: Erma Paloma

Chairs

Newsletter Editor: Terry Marzell

Email/Social Media Manager: Lynda Archer

Communications Chair: Shirley Sessions

Legislative Chair: Doris Osko

Insurance Chair: Margit Olson

Resource Chair: Janet Griffith

Scholarship Chair: Kathleen Shepardson

Historian: Barbara Harris

Hospitality Chair: Jean Kleih

Measure GG: Beth Kearney

Submitted by the Nominating Committee: Jean Kleih, Kathy Shepardson, and Doris Osko at the Executive Board Meeting on Friday, February 22, 2019. The slate was unanimously approved.

Website offers information, resources for the disabled

As a retired teacher, you may be caring for an aging or disabled parent or spouse, or you may yourself be wrestling with a disability. Where can you go to find helpful information and resources?

Disability.gov is a comprehensive online resource designed to provide people with disabilities with quick and easy access to disability-related information and programs. The site includes information about benefits, civil rights, community life, education, employment, housing, health, technology, and transportation.

Disability.gov was created in response to an Executive Memorandum issued in 2002 by President George W. Bush which directs federal agencies to work together to build a one-stop interagency web portal for individuals with disabilities, their families, employers, service providers, and community members. The website is managed by the US Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP), in cooperation with 20 other federal agencies.

If you need resources, check out this site!

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 representative any day.

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

calendar of Meetings

- March 22, 2019 Board Meeting 9:30 a.m. CNTA
All members are welcome to attend.
- April 26, 2019 Board Meeting 9:00 a.m. CNTA
All members are welcome to attend.
General Meeting 10:30 a.m. CNTA
Joint presentation by CNUSD Deputy Superintendent Sam Buenrostro and representative of CNTA about current programs. Free catered luncheon. All members are welcome to attend.
- June 7, 2019 Board Meeting 9:00 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.



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

**Time Dated Materials
Address Service Requested**