

# City of San Diego Retired Employees Association Newsletter October 2005

Vol. 12, Issue 10

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October, 2005

## October 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting in War Memorial Building Balboa Park

Board Meeting.....9:30 a.m.  
General Meeting.....11:00 a.m.  
Program..... 11:30 a.m.  
Luncheon..... 12:00 a.m.

### Program

Deborah Steffen, Director of San Diego County's Office of Emergency Services (OES) will be our speaker for the September meeting. She has overall responsibility for managing OES, for directing the Emergency Operations Center in times of emergency and for representing the county with state and federal agencies.

The County OES coordinates the county's response planning for the San Onofre Nuclear Power Plant as well as other natural and man-made disasters. She recently directed the County's Emergency Operations Center during Firestorms 2003, the worst fires in California history.

Prior to her employment in San Diego County, Steffen was with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) for 11 years. She was the Regional Administrator for Southern Region which represents 60% of the residents of California.

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### Today's Menu

**Beef Lasagna, Veggie Lasagna  
Italian Vegetables  
Antipasto Salad  
Coffee, Tea, and Lemonade**

Price: \$11

**Reservations: call before Fri., Oct. 7th at noon**

Alice Anglim (619) 239-4190 or  
Dora Garcia (619) 464-8595 or  
Sylvia Tatum (858) 272-0494

## Message from President Nancy Acevedo

At our September meeting, our Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Herb Lemmons**, who served in the Navy from 1965 to 1969. "Four years was enough" according to Herb.

Our speaker was **Peter Prevolos, President of the Retirement System Board of Trustees**. He explained some of the behind the scenes happenings, such as his attempt to have the system audit performed by a State of California agency, free of charge. This agency has performed similar reviews in the cities of Richmond and Oakland, among others. That attempt was unfortunately sabotaged by politics. The Board subsequently hired a company to accomplish the same objective.

Mr. Prevolos minced no words regarding what he sees as lack of leadership on the current City Council. Although the recent Charter change regarding the makeup of the Retirement Board stressed that the Board is an independent body from the City, some members of the City Council proposed removing Mr. Prevolos since he was refusing to act as the Council wanted. Fortunately that ploy was unsuccessful. The Council has now appointed two new members of the Retirement Board so now they are only two members short, and hopefully will be more able to conduct business.

In discussing potential solutions to the Retirement System's underfunding, Mr. Prevolos stated that he personally does not support issuing pension obligation bonds, as that is just exchanging one debt for another. He also would not support transfer of land to the Retirement System, as they are not equipped to manage land or leases. Mr. Prevolos is very supportive of the Retirement System staff, stating that they are very efficient and effective. We certainly have seen the results of their excellent investment program. Our Retirement Fund continues to grow due to earnings - as of September 12 the balance was \$3.959 billion, an increase of \$71 million for the month. According to **Retirement System Investment Officer Doug McCalla**, earnings of over \$300 million for FY 2005 assure that there are adequate funds to pay both the 13th check and Corbett to retirees this November.

--Nancy

## Retirement Trust Fund Board Update by Our Representative, Joe Flynn

The key action taken by the Board was the Revision of DROP Distribution rules. These changes will require **review by all retired DROP participants with funds on account with SDCERS**. DROP participants will still be able to take a lump sum distribution and roll the funds over to an IRA, for example, or take fixed monthly payments over life expectancy, or fixed payments over a period less than life expectancy. DROP participants must make a decision on which form of distribution they wish to take, and this must be done by Dec. 1, 2005 so that the changes will meet the IRS required start date of Jan. 1, 2006. All DROP participants will be contacted by SDCERS in the very near future providing more information on your options.

The Retirement Board now meets once a month, on the third Friday. Financial matters are in the morning and all other items in the afternoon.

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Log on to <http://www.csdrea.com> for a rich information trove!

### CSDREA Roster

President, Nancy Acevedo	(619) 579-5930
V-President, Programs, Adam Saling	(858) 271-4556
V-President, Advocacy, Virginia Silverman	(619) 224-1876
Treasurer, Sylvia Tatum	(858) 272-0494
Secretary, Joan Lundy-Boyd	(619) 850-5287
Newsletter Editor, Ruth Ann Hageman	(858) 270-8530
Retirement Board Rep., Joe Flynn	(619) 588-7078
Hospitality, Dora Garcia	(619) 464-8595

Sharon Beach, Sunshine Lady (858) 273-4067  
(Call Sharon Beach to send cards to members who are ill.)

## Nominating Committee Call for Nominees by Bob Headland

Seven Association positions are due to be elected at the November meeting of the Association: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary and three Board Directors. Terms of office are two years for officers and three years for directors. The Association Board is made up hard working and dedicated persons. Collectively, they work hard to improve your benefits, and to protect and conserve assets of our pension system.

The Nominating Committee will present at least one recommendation for each office to the members at the November meeting. At that time additional nominations will be taken from the floor. To run for election, each individual must be a member of the association and sign the nomination form stating they are willing to serve if elected. Each will be given 3 minutes to address the members, after which the election will held. The Nominating Committee needs assistance from all members to select the best persons for these positions.

You may know of members who are well qualified and willing to serve. You might even want to volunteer yourself. Contacts for committee members are:

Charles Buchanan [buchanan2@cox.net](mailto:buchanan2@cox.net) (619) 264- 0235  
John Casey [j.casey1@cox.net](mailto:j.casey1@cox.net) (619) 584 7842  
Bob Headland [headland@cox.net](mailto:headland@cox.net) (619) 501- 5752

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**Mark your calendar!**  
**Next CSDREA Meeting**  
**Tuesday, November 8, 2005**  
**War Memorial Bldg, Balboa Park**