

City of San Diego Retired Employees Association Newsletter November 2005

Vol. 12, Issue 11

Visit our Website at www.csdrea.com

November, 2005

November 8th 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

Our November speaker will be reporter **Evan McLaughlin, who covers San Diego City Hall for Voice of San Diego**, a nonprofit local news website.

Evan graduated with history and communication degrees from UC San Diego, where he was editor in chief of the student newspaper.

He completed a fellowship at the Washington Center for Politics & Journalism while reporting from the Las Vegas Review-Journal's Washington bureau. He has collected awards from the California Newspaper Publishers Association, California Intercollegiate Press Association and the San Diego Press Club.

In his first year at Voice, Evan has covered the city's budget hearings, elections and ongoing pension and audit problems. He lives in Pacific Beach and is a life-long Californian.

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Today's Menu Turkey and Ham

String Beans and French Onion Rings
Fresh Cucumber & Tomato Salad
Coffee, Tea, and Lemonade
Pumpkin Spice Cake

Price: \$11

Reservations: call before Fri., Nov. 4th at noon

Dora Garcia (619) 464-8595 or
Sylvia Tatum (858) 272-0494

Special Announcement!

You will want to mark your calendars for your Retirement Association's *Holiday Luncheon* for fun, companionship and good food.

Tom Ham's Lighthouse

Thursday, December 8th

11:00 AM: Social Hour

12 Noon: Welcome & Award Presentation

Buffet Luncheon:

Roast Breast of Turkey, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy,
Fresh Fish in Season,
Cheese Enchiladas, and Sumptuous Salad Bar
Coffee, Tea, Milk & Dessert

Deadline for reservations is November 30th. Send \$18 per person check payable to SDREA to

Sylvia Tatum

4185 Galt St.

San Diego, CA 92117

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Message from President Nancy Acevedo

Our October meeting Pledge of Allegiance was led by distinguished veteran **Ray Skinner**, who served in the Navy during WWII and Korea, including Guadalcanal.

Our speaker was **Deborah Steffen, Director of San Diego County's Office of Emergency Services**. Her organization coordinates response to disasters, provides training and buys equipment for events they hope will never happen. San Diego County has a governing body called the Unified Disaster Council, where the county and all cities join together to plan regionally. From the information we received we can feel assured that our region is much better prepared to respond to a disaster than what we saw occur in the Louisiana area. We all still need to prepare by having food, water and other supplies on hand for several days - and it was suggested that you and your family agree on an out-of-state contact that everyone can call to provide information if you are separated.

--**Nancy**

More News...

Members present at the October meeting approved a minor change to our By-Laws: to allow Board members who accept an interim term as an officer to return to their Board member position and not have to re-run for election.

Also, members voted to increase dues next year by \$1 per month, with the extra funds going to establish a legal fund to be used if necessary to protect retirees' interests.

This past month our Retirement Fund decreased by \$59 million. As of October 10th the balance was \$3.9 billion.

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Log on to <http://www.csdrea.com> for a rich information trove! Ever read the Pension Reform Committee Final Report? The latest news articles on the Retirement Trust Fund problems? Read them here!

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.)

Retirement Trust Fund Board Update by Our Representative, Joe Flynn

The newsletter deadline has moved up to beat the campaign mailings so this is a preview. Please check the website www.csdrea.com for an after-the-fact report on the Retirement Board meeting.

One new member was appointed and one resigned. George Murray is a retired securities director appointed by Council on Oct. 10. John Torres, elected to represent active general members, has resigned. He believed the allegations and litigation detracted from his effectiveness as a trustee.

Scheduled for the October 21st Board meeting are the following items: a) the progress report by Navigant, the firm hired by the Board to do an investigation of SDCERS; b) a new investment management firm is to be selected for a portion of the Pension Fund portfolio, ending a three month selection process; c) consideration of earnings on DROP accounts; d) selection of a new Actuary, and e) a new policy for responding to public records requests.

DROP participants by now should have received a certified letter with instructions on options for withdrawing account funds. If you are a DROP participant and have not yet received this information, you should contact SDCERS at 619-525-3600.

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