

City of San Diego Retired Employees' Association

Newsletter October 2007

Vol. 14, Issue 10

Visit our Website at www.csdrea.com

October, 2007

Nancy Acevedo, President (619) 579-5930
Carmen Lutes SDCERS Board Representative via website only
Sharon Beach, Sunshine Lady (858) 273-4067
(Call Sharon Beach to send cards to members who are ill.)

ATTENTION! CHANGE of MEETING PLACE

October 9th Meeting

Recital Hall -Balboa Park

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

The Recital Hall is adjacent to the Balboa Park Club & puppet theater. There is plenty of free parking.

UPDATE! WATERFALL ISSUE - This item was not heard in Sept., and no date is set for it to appear on the City Council agenda. The City Attorney has not returned, as instructed, with the ordinance to complete the process. We will watch for future activity. Interim updates will be published on the website.

Menu \$10

Assorted Sandwiches
Veggie sticks/ Salad
Coffee, Tea, Lemonade/ Dessert

Reservations: call before Fri., Oct 5th at NOON

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

SAVE the DATE!

December 13th

Holiday Lunch-Tom Ham's Lighthouse

\$19.00 per person

Reserve by December 5th

Checks to Treas. SDREA

4185 Galt St, San Diego, CA 92117

Program:

Our speaker this month is Veronika M. Glenn who is the Director of Education and Training of Southern Caregiver Resource Center (SCRC), since 1998. Her responsibility at SCRC includes providing education programs for Family Caregivers and Professionals in the San Diego and Imperial County Community.

Veronika also coordinates large Caregiver education programs with national speakers and often in collaboration with other agencies that provide health services for the senior population. In addition she has forged a strong network in the health services industry with her experience in Home Health, Hospice and at SCRC to provide a safety net for Older Adults.

Veronika has written many articles/in-services on the Aging Process such as *What is Normal, What is Not, Dementia; Realistic Caregiving at Home*. She also maintains an interest in helping people make End-of-Life decisions. Introducing Ms. Glen will be Virginia Silverman, CSDREA Board Member and our watchdog for "Waterfall".

Message from President Nancy Acevedo

Our September speaker was Thomas Hebrank, CPA, the recently elected Board President.

Mr. Hebrank lamented the fact that although CERS has accomplished much in the past two years, they generally get only negative media attention. As an example he noted the recent move to new quarters that will save \$1,000,000. The headline of the small article noting this stated CERS was moving to a "cheaper" location. Recent advances have included adopting a 20 year amortization period for the \$1 billion pension liability, requiring additional payments to cover any negative amortization; the funding ratio has increased to 79% and investment earnings for the past fiscal year exceeded 14%. He very clearly stated, "CERS is not going to run out of money!"

One question asked by a member was what would CERS do if the current, or a future City Council, voted to revise the Municipal Code to delete benefits that have been negotiated. Mr. Hebrank stated that by law CERS must adhere to the "plan", which is what is provided in the Municipal Code. We must all be vigilant to assure this does not occur and be ready to take legal action if it ever does.

The Park and Recreation Dept. says the War Memorial Bldg is having floors refinished and will **not be available for our October meeting. So, we will meet in the Recital Hall**, in the Palisades Building by the Balboa Park Club.

This change is for OCTOBER only! Access is from

Park Blvd. at President's Way **OR** from 6th Avenue and Laurel to come across the bridge and past the Organ Pavilion to the large parking lot by the Balboa Park Club.
Nancy

SDREA WEB News! HELP !! We need a volunteer to help out with the web site. If you have modest computer skills (like basic word processing and e-mailing), please contact John Tsiknas, at webmaster@csdrea.com. This is rewarding and provides a valuable service to our members. It takes very little time and you can do it at home.

Logon SD City Retired Employees Assn www.csdrea.com Members only section for the latest news. As always, you can access all of the information and updates that have been distributed relating to waterfall issues and other articles of interest to all retirees. If you need the password, call or e-mail one of the board members.

ELECTION COMING SOON-

The City of San Diego Retired Employees' Assn, CSDREA, Nominating Committee is developing a slate of candidates to be proposed for five to six board positions that become vacant this December.

The 2-year term will begin on January 1, 2008. Any-one who has questions or who is interested in holding office should contact by e-mail.

Ross McCollum at Director4@csdrea.com OR Patricia Karnes at secretary@csdrea.com Coming open are:

President First Vice President - Programs
First Vice President - Advocacy
Director (2 openings)

SDCERS Retirement Trust Fund Board Update by Carmen Lutes , Retiree Rep. to the Board

The FY 2005 CAFR was submitted and FY2006 CAFR is on target. The board approved a rule to provide a policy for treatment of Rehired City Employees and San Diego Data Processing Corp as vendor for website redesign project. They also approved the proposed changes to the rule for the Posthumous Grant of Industrial Disability Retirement. Other approvals dealt with investment decisions The chief concern is the Purchase of Service Credit program. There is a shortfall of approximately \$146 million in purchased credits and meetings to elicit feedback from members about possible solutions will be held in the near future. SDCERS issued a news release giving details. For Carmen's complete report and announcements when meetings are scheduled, please visit our website.

**THANK YOU to our September Greeters:
Janet Burgess & Alyse Ford**

VOLUNTEER to be a **GREETER**.. Give some time for CSDREA. Call Dora (619) 464-8595.

Do you know of a member who is ill, hospitalized or had a death in the family? Notify Sharon Beach 858 273-4067 so the word gets passed along and a card is sent.

City of SD Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

The problem solving assistance of **EAP is available to city retirees**. They offer counseling on an array of personal problems, such as stress; child/eldercare; medical; legal; financial; HIV/AIDS. This **assistance is confidential**. Call EAP **619-533-3460**