

From: [City of San Diego Retired Employees' Association](#)
To: [Monthly Newsletter](#)
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City of San Diego Retired Employees' Association Newsletter August 2010

Vol. 17 Issue: #8

August 2010

[Program](#)

[New Members](#)

[Advocacy Program](#)

[President's Message](#)

[SDCERS' Reports](#)

[General
Announcements](#)

[Website News](#)

[CSDREA Board
Members](#)

TUESDAY, August 10, 2010

Police Pistol Range

4008 Federal Blvd.

Parking is available on site at 4008 Federal Blvd., and also across the street in the empty lot.

Quick Links

[City of SD Retired
Employees' Assn](#)

[Retired Fire & Police
Assn](#)

[SD City Retirement
System](#)

[San Diego City
Council Members](#)

August 10, 2010 Speaker Paul Greenwood, Deputy District Attorney

Board Meeting	9:30 A.M.
General REA Meeting	11:00 A.M.
Program	11:30 A.M.
Picnic Lunch	12:00 P.M.

Guest Speaker will be Paul Greenwood, Deputy District Attorney, specializing in crimes against seniors. Paul not only delivers a sobering message on a very serious subject, but is an effective and entertaining speaker. Rave reviews from all who have heard him.

A picnic lunch will follow the program. MENU:

Fried Chicken
Potato Salad
Corn on the Cob
Choice of two kinds of Pie
Coffee and lemonade
Beer and wine will be available for \$1 each

Join Our List



Member price is \$8.00 at the door. Reservations are required, sign up today! Deadline is Friday, August 6.

Contact hospitality2@csdrea.com

or call Dave Twomey at 619-236-1407.

Dave

September through December Preview of Programs

September 14, at the Balboa Park Club, Ballroom, will be a candidate forum for Council District 6, and 8. Discussion will be about candidates' views, in particular on pension and health care benefits for retirees.

October 12, at the War Memorial Building, SDCERS' Cynthia Queen will discuss a "State of the System" program and will include projections for Corbett, 13th check, and COLA adjustments.

November, meeting will be at the Balboa Park Club, Ballroom, details to be announced.

December 9, Holiday Party, at Tom Ham's.

Dave Twomey

Welcome 60 NEW MEMBERS!

In the past two months, primarily due to the new REA membership brochure that was mailed to all who have retired since 2002. The following list is by order of receipt since mid-June 2010

Diana Drake, Joan Robbins, Christopher Toth, Logan Bellows, Janet Buttmann, Nola Lee Funk, Wayne Hay, Patricia King, Allan Macdonald, James Messersmith, David S. Montes de Oca, Diana A. Ravalli, Ester Siman, Nance I. Thomas, Susann M. Williams-Blair, John Austin, Ross W. Besson, David Cohen, Bette Eberhardt, Sue H. Fox, Yvonne Hamilton, Sussan Johnsen, Trudy Sopp, Paula Thomas, Frances Wyborney, Virginia V. Clark, Thomas

Danfield, Margaret Hegarty, Earl Jaeggi, Margaret Kazmer, William D. Kingsbury, Bryan Manning, Hilda Maroshca, Frances Bookheim, Linda Dederman, Robert A. Gerhardt, Carolyn Grant, Toni D. Grant, Sylvester J. Lisiecki, Jon Daniel McDonald, Arturo C. Quinto, Paul Retsch, Susan C. Scott, Mary E. Staetter, Curtis L. Stewart, Gene L. Suko, Joseph T. Taormina, Cong V. Vo, Douglas S. Bauer, Bonnie Contreras, Linda J. Elliott, Warren Geiske, Marilyn A. Saunders, Julius Schreiber, Cynthia L. Sergott, Jean Stewart, Robert P. Wylie.

June 11, and July 16, 2010, Special REA Events on RETIREE ISSUES - Next one will be in October at a convenient north San Diego location.

Topics supporting SDCERS independence from City politics; keeping SDCERS funded; retiree health care vesting; and when bankruptcy looms in other cities, what are their retirees doing? There is a newly printed advocacy "Alert" brochure that is available, and was mailed to several thousand employees who have retired since 2002.

Advocacy Committee members: Dick Wilken, Jon Dunchack, Jim Baross, Patti Karnes and other REA members held question and answer sessions with representatives from the REA Board, retirees were asked to share their networking contacts with the Board. Healthcare challenges were explained as well as the need to coordinate with other public retiree associations. Board members were impressed by how well informed members are, and that they want REA to be as proactive as possible. Frustration is clear about the lack of objective reporting by the local news media, and several had suggestions to do more to turn this around. Supporting this were informal polls that many (most?) attending indicated support for doubling the current \$2.00 monthly REA membership dues to \$4.00.

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The following 'testimonial' was submitted by Karen Butler who attended the July Pacific Beach session:

REA Dues-Legal Defense Fund-say what?

Did you know, because I certainly did not, that half of

our dues are being allocated for a legal defense fund? Well, let me quickly tell you how I found this out and share a little about the concept. I attended the Advocacy meeting with the expectation of hearing the most recent information about changes in our health care, where the City is now focused in the effort to save money. What I thought would be an unremarkable meeting turned into an eye opening encounter for me.

Here's the gist: current members realized that we, the collective retired we, better earmark some of the REA dues to be used as a legal defense fund. Our benefits have been identified as a reason for the City's financial problems, and it may be only a matter of time before we may need a good lawyer to represent us. We no longer have the unions to fight for us and without coming together our benefits could be compromised.

The second part of the equation, but directly related, is our REA membership. I learned that only 1,100 of the current 5,000 retirees have joined REA, which means that there are a bunch of our ex-coworkers and friends who could be helping this effort. It is not only the dues, though they are an important factor, it is the names, the number of members, that will also give credibility and authority to the association. We must remember that there IS strength in numbers. I know learning this small amount of information has made a difference in the way I view my dues AND my membership. Karen Butler

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by CSDREA President Jim Baross

The July General Membership meeting was a nail-biter for our Program Chair, Dave Twomey, when not only the scheduled speaker, but also the caterer was late arriving. Time to stretch the program! Attendees had the pleasure, I hope, of extended information about retiree issues and a summary of my vacation, just ask me. I have lots of photos. ;-)

Oh, and the speaker, Ruben Navarrette held everyone's attention with subjects ranging from integration to the editorial positions expressed

by the San Diego Union Tribune newspaper.

Our REA web site at <http://www.csdrea.com> is becoming a more valuable resource for not only our activities, but also about pension and health care benefit issues, locally and around the country. It seems that a safe and secure retirement for public employees requires vigilance and REA is providing that thanks to motivated REA volunteers including: Art Brown, Patti Karnes, Joe Flynn, Ty Rogers, Dick Wilken and Jon Dunchack. Thanks!

I hope to see many of you at the August 10 meeting and picnic at the Police Pistol Range. Or perhaps at the next REA advocacy outreach meeting that we have been holding at locations around the county, the next one will be in north San Diego probably in October at a convenient location for members, I hope. (How many members do we have in Hawaii?) The two meetings held recently in Pacific Beach and the College.Rolando areas were well attended.

Oh, here's a warm welcome to our 60+ new REA members, who apparently joined last month in response to the special mailing to all post-2002 City retirees!

Thanks for joining us, and I hope to see you at REA events, become active with our organization, and/or at least hear your questions or concerns about retirement issues. Jim

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For City employee retirees who have not yet joined us. They can log on at <http://www.csdrea.com> or call 858-272-0494 for more information.

CSCERS Board Meetings reported by REA Board Member Patti Karnes

Patti Karnes attended the July 9, 2010 SDCERS meeting.

Net invested assets as of May 31, 2010 is \$4,237,910,559.

Legal issues dominate the meetings including: the Barton case; splitting investment losses between the City and employees 'substantially equal'; retiree health care; and purchase of service credits (PSC) between 8/16-11/1/03, and did not retire prior to 11/20/07.

Mark Hovey, previously on staff, is the newly appointed CEO. It is important to have a person familiar with our issues.

Remember that the SDCERS meetings are at 8:30 a.m., at 401 West A Street. Please attend if you possibly can. These matters are very important to all of us. SDCERS makes parking free in the building.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: August 20, no meeting in September, October 1, November 5, and December 17, 2010. Special meetings may be scheduled as needed with a 72 hours' notice. Committee meetings, not televised yet, are on the Thursday before the regularly scheduled Board meeting: Disability Committee will meet from 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.; Business & Governance will meet 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.; Investment Committee will meet 1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. The Audit committee will continue to meet quarterly on Wednesdays at 900 a.m. on April 7, June 30, September 29, and December 15, 2010.

Complete board minutes and actions, court case details, and taken are available on www.SDCERS.org. Patti

General Announcements

Current SDCERS court ruling of Purchasing Service Credits (PSC): The recent court ruling regards members who submitted or purchased PSC during the three month window, from 8/16-11/1/03. SDCERS has posted detailed information about this on it's website. Retirees should not rely on this brief notice but rather should refer to the SDCERS website

for more information. An ad hoc committee meeting at 10:00 a.m. to discuss this issue will be on FRIDAY, AUGUST 6. REA urges those members who may be impacted to carefully review the SDCERS' notice and attend the August 6 hearing. The full SDCERS Board will discuss this issue at its regular Board meeting on August 20. REA will have REA Board members attend these discussions and will report further in the weeks ahead.

REA Board member position for Secretary is OPEN. Please contact Jim, or other REA board member if you are interested in participating at this crucial time.

We are looking for additional greeters and helpers at meetings. Anyone out there willing to fill in? It's about 4 hours once a month. If you can help out for a couple of months, please come able to help, or contact Dave Twomey @ 619-236-1407
Thanks!

Greeters at July meeting were Jim Foley, Burnie Gibson, Don Presby and Janet Wood.

Happy Birthdays: Virgie McCain will be 100 on 8/24/10!

Members 90 and older: Voyd "Shorty" Beights, 92 on 8/18; Wayne Carr, 95 on 8/20; Treva Lambert, 95 on 8/20; Jim Bentley, 92 on 8/27. Those turning 80, like Paz Rillo, will get a birthday card if they contact Sharon Beach. Happy Birthday to all with August birthdays!

Do you know a member who is ill or who is over 80 years old and having a birthday? Notify Sharon Beach (619-934-8202) so the word gets passed along and a card is sent. Also, if you know of someone who has died, please let us know. You may also submit a short bio of that person for publication.

(EAP) is available to city retirees. This assistance is confidential. Contact EAP at 619-533-3460.

WEBSITE NEWS

SDREA WEB News! Logon <http://www.csdrea.com>
The WEB site is Open to all. Read all the recent postings on subjects important to retirees. You will also discover helpful links to other resources.

Reminder

The Retired Fire and Police Assn. has welcomed CSDREA members to visit their website at [Retired Fire and Police](#)
Logon to see the mutually important retiree information they publish.

CITY OF SAN DIEGO RETIRED EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION BOARD

Board Members

Position	Name	Email Link**
President	Jim Baross 619-281-6908	President
Past President	Nancy Acevedo 619-579-5930	Past President
Vice-Pres Programs	Dave Twomey	VP Programs
Vice-Pres Advocacy	Patricia Karnes	VP Advocacy
Secretary	vacant	Secretary
Treasurer	Gary Hess	Treasurer
Membership Chair	Sylvia Tatum 858-272-0494	Membership
Elected Rep to SDCERS Board	Dave Hall	Retiree Rep
Newsletter Editor	Janet Wood	Editor
Parliamentarian	Robert West	Parliamentarian
Director	Terry Flynn	Director 1
Director	Jon Dunchack	Director 2
Director	Leonard "Ty" Rogers	Director 3
Director	Robert Korch	Director 4

Director	Dick Wilken	Director 5
Director & Webmaster	Art Brown	Webmaster
Assistant Webmaster	John Tsiknas	Web Assistant
MEA Representative	Helen Phillips	MEA Rep
Hospitality Co-Chair	vacant	Hospitality 1
Hospitality Co-Chair	vacant	Hospitality 2
Sunshine Committee	Sharon Beach 619-934-8202	Sunshine
Roster Maintainance	Kaye Carey	_____

****To send a message with your comments, suggestions or questions to an officer, board or committee member, click on their E-mail link above and your mail system should bring up the e-mail form with the proper addressee. We look forward to your comments.**

The board members who have consented to listing their phone numbers in the newsletter have done so to provide you a way to arrange sending a card to a sick member. Thank you for your cooperation.

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