



NETWORK

Newsletter of The Retired Employees of San Diego County Since 1961

Vol. 43, No. 8

Honoring Yesterday—Protecting Tomorrow

August 2011

CHULA VISTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING



WHEN: Tuesday, August 23, 2011, 10:00 am

PLACE: Chula Vista Police Department—Community Meeting Room.
Southeast corner of 4th and F in Chula Vista. 315 4th Ave., Chula Vista

PROGRAM: Michael Lincoln or his representative from The Foundation For Personal Education will speak about personal financial issues pertaining to retirees. This will include current monetary concerns, questions, and matters regarding retirees.

Coffee and donuts will be served at 9:30 am. Meeting begins at 10 am

Directions: From the North: Take 1-5 South, exit 8B for E Street, right turn at Bay Blvd., 2nd left onto F Street, turn right at 4th Avenue. From the South: Take 1-5 North, exit 8A for H Street, turn right at H Street, turn left at 4th Avenue.

Parking: Parking is available in the parking structure (on third floor only.) Enter on Garrett Street. Extra parking is available in library parking lot across the street.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Susan Mallett



It is my pleasure to welcome nearly 200 new members, who joined us through a recent recruitment mailing campaign. All members can be assured that RESDC board and committee members have been actively monitoring and attending events of importance to the interests of retirees. I encourage you to read the Benefits Committee Chair's article for information regarding proposed health administrative costs that may impact retirees who participate in SDCERA health/dental programs. We have a good working relationship with SDCERA staff that we value, and appreciate the opportunity to meet with them when concerns arise. In that regard, we will keep our members apprised of such concerns as soon as feasible either through the monthly newsletter, postings on our website or occasionally through group email communication when timeliness is paramount.

The topic we have been monitoring for over a year, privacy vs. public disclosure of retiree pension and personal information through public record act requests to SDCERA

has reached a decisive legal conclusion recently. On June 28th, the California Appellate Court issued its decision to deny SDCERA's appeal of a Superior Court order, in November 2010, to release requested individual retirees' names, pension and pension calculation documents. As you may recall the request was made by a public pension watchdog group, California Foundation for Fiscal Responsibility (CFFR). In writing their decision, the Appeal Court Justices acknowledged that the expert opinions, presented by SDCERA, regarding elder abuse and financial victimization, "constitute substantial evidence of potential harm, a relevant factor in the balancing test under section 6255." (California Public Record Act, Gov. Code 6250 et seq.) Nevertheless, they noted, "SDCERA presented no evidence of any actual adverse consequences from previous disclosures," and they cited, since 1985, the disclosure of similar pension information for retired state employees from CalPERS has not resulted in any reported untoward consequences. Ultimately, the Appellate Court agreed with other California courts viewing retired public employees and active employees alike, in that, we relinquish some privacy related to compensation when accepting public employment. We do not know if SDCERA plans any further legal action, but as always will keep members informed of developments.

We are disappointed by the court rulings but appreciate SDCERA's efforts to resist disclosing any personal retiree information as other California retirement systems have
(President's Message Cont'd on page five)

August Calendar of Events

- 2—(Tues.) Deadlines for Nominations to RESDC 2012 Board of Directors**
- 4—(Thurs.) SDCERA Board of Retirement Meeting**
2275 Rio Bonito Way, Suite 200, 8:30 a.m.
- 11—(Thurs.) RESDC Board of Directors Meeting**
7860 Mission Center Ct., Suite 209, 9:30 a.m.
- 18—(Thurs.) SDCERA Board of Retirement Meeting**
2275 Rio Bonito Way, Suite 200, 8:30 a.m.
- 23—(Tues.) RESDC General Membership Meeting**
315 4th Ave., Chula Vista, 9:30 a.m.

TURNING TO HEALTH AGAIN

By Stan Coombs, Benefits Committee Chair

Three volunteers from RESDC attended this rarely called but public Board of Retirement Benefit Committee meeting on June 21st.

Board of Retirement Benefit Committee members were there, including then-Committee Chairman Jim Feeley, the elected Retiree Representative on the Board of Retirement for many years, who recently ran successfully for the Retiree Alternate Board Seat instead, and would step into that role in July.

Loretta Morris, a talented Public Member of the Board of Retirement, appointed by the Board of Supervisors, and unfortunately just replaced by someone apparently more attuned to the ideologies of the Supervisors.

The elected County Treasurer, Dan McAllister, is a designated member of the Board of Retirement by state law, but was called out of this particular committee meeting due to an emergency.

Other matters were listed on the committee agenda, but the main subject was clearly a report on negotiations for 2012 retiree health insurance premiums by Aon Hewitt, the Board's primary health consultant firm, and SDCERA staff.

Negotiations hadn't ended, according to Aon Hewitt, and while early Retiree - Non-Medicare rates could ultimately increase 8.5% to 14.8% - sobering but not unexpected for early retirees - overall health premiums could remain relatively stable compared to other recent years. A 5.9% increase had originally been proposed by providers for all plans combined, and negotiations had reduced that to 4.4%.

Individual 2012 premiums, we were told, could change as follows: Non-Medicare: HealthNet + 9.0%; Kaiser + 8.5%; United Health Care HMO + 14.8%; United Health Care PPO + 13.9%. Medicare Advantage: HealthNet + 5.0%; Kaiser 0.0%; United Health Care - 2.0%. Medicare Supplement: HealthNet + 12.5%; Kaiser 0.0%; United Health Care - 2.0%.

Then came better news, an awaited report on plans for Federal Early Retiree Reinsurance funding from the

Health Care Act of 2010, intended "to reimburse some health costs for early retirees." It's a first-come, first-serve federal program, in place until funding is exhausted. SDCERA had applied and received \$1,034,754 to offset health premiums or for reductions in plan participant contributions or any combination thereof so long as all participants benefited.

Staff's recommendation (hallelujah) is to apply the monies against 2012 medical premiums for all plan participants, in a one-year, pro-rata distribution based on the total expected number of retirees, dependents and survivors, they said. Each participant could receive a monthly reduction of about \$12.32.

Not bad! Even a \$12.32 reduction in monthly health premiums charged against health or supplemental benefit allowances would be welcome compared to the continuing increases we've been experiencing.

But, then came those nefarious details within which the Devil resides. Seems that SDCERA health administration funding practices were recently reviewed, exposing a problem in need of correction.

Ever since the retiree health and supplemental benefit "reform" in 2008 - that's when Tier A health benefits became a taxable, supplemental pension payment - program health administration costs have been charged against the pension fund. "Not allowed by the Internal Revenue Service," says SDCERA's new legal types!

Several options may exist to resolve that, we think, and SDCERA has apparently been busily occupied straightening out the situation to the satisfaction of their new legal

(Continued on page six)

PROCLAMATION FOR RESDC'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Chairman Bill Horn presented President Susan Mallett and members of the RESDC Board with a proclamation on June 14th, 2011 in honor of RESDC's 50th anniversary. Photo from left to right: Supervisor Bill Horn, President Susan Mallett, Directors Stan Coombs and Merrilyn Carpenter, Past President George Shoemaker, and Director Carlos Gonzalez.



ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President.....Susan Mallett
 1st Vice Pres.....Skip Murphy
 Secretary.....Joan Wright
 Treasurer....Frank Bittner

ASSOCIATION DIRECTORS

Merrilyn Carpenter, Stan Coombs,
 Christopher Glenn, Carlos Gonzalez
 Joe McGuire, La Rue Pierce
 Roma Stronach

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

George Shoemaker

Office Staff.....Karen Hazel
 ...Sharon Kay
 ...Anne Schwartz



Are you thinking about buying a new car? Did you know that San Diego County Credit Union has a free Auto Buying Service to help you purchase a new or used car? Our Auto Express Sales and Leasing representatives will do the work for you. Select the new or used vehicle you want, determine the make, model, year and desired options, and then sit back while we find and negotiate the best price for you. Once we find it, we'll deliver the vehicle to your local branch. It's that easy! Call the Auto Express Sales and Leasing office at (877) 732-2848 ext. 6500. You can also get more information at any one of our 28 branch locations or visit sdccu.com.

AVONELLA LEE

By La Rue Pierce, RESDC Director

Avonella Lee who served on the RESDC Board for many years passed away on May 18, 2011. She was 92 years old.

Avonella will be remembered for her concerted effort on behalf of County retirees. In the early years of RESDC she helped formulate many of the organization's policies and goals. She was dedicated to the task.

Her daughter said that when Avonella went on Hospice care, they gave her three weeks to live. She lived for two and a half more years.

IN MEMORIAM

Merle R. Armstrong
 Richard R. Babbitt
 Edeze A. Bergeron
 Ruth E. Burkhardt
 Jacqueline Crites
 Robert E. Downer
 Annette J. Evans
 Ronald L. Flint
 Edward J. Fourre
 Durell Freeman
 David H. Geer
 Gerard Gentile
 Leatrice L. Gross*
 Helen E. Haskell
 Thomas S. Hobbs
 Ray Hosier
 Morris L. Johnson
 Flora M. Jones
 Mary P. Kay Avary
 Doyle W. Krouskop
 Avonella S. Lee
 Rex Liggett
 Bonnie J. Livingston
 Joan C. Loney
 Juanita Love
 Patricia A. McAuley
 Harry A. Miller
 Bruce E. Oakley
 Joan Presnall
 Olive L. Rodrigues
 Paul H. Ryan
 Eleanor W. Sanders
 Donald L. Steinert
 Lyle S. Strand
 Donald E. Taylor
 Theodore Unander
 Cornelia Vanbeek
 Ralph C. Witcraft

Sheriff
 Surviving Spouse
 General Services
 Assessor
 Sheriff
 Revenue & Recovery
 Recorder
 Health & Human Services
 Municipal Court
 General Services
 Sheriff
 General Services
 Health & Human Services
 Sheriff
 Probation
 Sheriff
 Agriculture
 EDP
 Health & Human Services
 Sheriff
 Health & Human Services
 Sheriff
 Health & Human Services
 Sheriff
 Health & Human Services
 Surviving Spouse
 Sheriff
 Superior Court
 Surviving Spouse
 Marshal
 Probation
 Health & Human Services
 Superior Court
 District Attorney
 Medical Institution
 Health & Human Services
 Surviving Spouse
 Health & Human Services

***Active**

**Gone from our sight, but never our memories.
 Gone from our touch, but never our hearts.**

The Surviving Spouse of a member is eligible for RESDC membership. For enrollment assistance, call 866-688-9229.

MEMBER PRIVACY

Any retiree or surviving spouse who does not want his/her death notice published in the "In Memoriam" section of this newsletter may notify the RESDC office and your privacy will be maintained.

WELCOME

NEW MEMBERS

Jocelyn S. Abadiano	Sheriff	Linda L. Kelley	Auditor & Controller
Stephen A. Algya	District Attorney	Edward Kinsey	Public Defender
Evelyn Arreola	Health & Human Services	Diane T. LaMarch	Health & Human Services
Elayne R. Berman	County Counsel	Jeffrey C. Landers	Parks & Recreation
Nova J. Berry		James D. Lang	Environmental Health
Sandra L. Berry		Margaret Marsh	Health & Human Services
Miguel Blanco	Probation	Shelley L. McGee	Health Department
Jeri Bonesteele	Health & Human Services	Mike Miller	Sheriff
Nancy Lee Bowen	Health & Human Services	Karen L. Miner	Social Services
Cheryl M. Castro	Health & Human Services	Alicia A. Mones	Health & Human Services
Valerie L. Chelseth	Sheriff	Cindy Monohan	Health & Human Services
Paula Coffey	Health & Human Services	Charles Nares	
Judy Kay Coleman	Health & Human Services	Deborah S. Newton	Assessor/Recorder
Mark S. Collins	General Services	Michelle Nickols	
Linda L. Craig	Superior Court	Jerry L. Nielsen	Health & Human Services
Lynn A. Crane	Superior Court	Linda S. Nuzzo	Health & Human Services
Diane L. Culverson	Health & Human Services	Manuel A. Pacheco	Probation
Charlotte A. Cunningham	Medical Examiner	William W. Packard	Health & Human Services
Natthakone Dengpheng	Health & Human Services	Renato A. Padama	Sheriff
Judith Duffy	Probation	Potter F. Park	District Attorney
Bobbie Fallon	Child Welfare Services	Brenda Price	Health & Human Services
Cynthia Mae Forsythe	District Attorney	Carolyn J. Provost	Probation
Karen S. Fox	Social Services	Barbara Schipke	Health & Human Services
Margaret L. Gadberry	Sheriff	Adele Schwartz	Associate Member
Apolinario G. Garcia	Sheriff	James B. Sexton	Sheriff
Sonya M. Garcia	Social Services	Ardyth Shaw	Parks & Recreation
Thomas Gattegno	District Attorney	Ann R. Sixtus	Agriculture Weights & Meas.
Perseveranda M. Goins	Public Defender	Donalde A. Smith	Probation
Susan J. Gonzales	Probation	Elaine B. Snyderman	Assessor
Guadalupe R. Gonzalez	Health & Human Services	Martha Terriquez	Social Services
Raymond Goodrich	Assessor/Recorder Co Clerk	Willis Tony Tolliver	Assessor
John R. Gregory	District Attorney	Susan Laura Tran	Probate
Deborah L. Haney	Health & Human Services	Connie J. Tunnell	Superior Court
David L. Harrell		Nancy J. Uffelman	Pubic Works
Nancy Harriman		Joanna Urquhart	Health & Human Services
Adelia A. Harrington	Library	Jean L. Vukotich	Health & Human Services
Frederick Highbaugh	Health & Human Services	Margaret Waznis	Library
Myhue Ho	Social Services	Cory Weinberg	Health & Human Services
Virginia L. Hoeben		Wendy Wiegand	Probation
Gerardo V. Jabinal	Superior Court	Susan K. Williams	Health & Human Services
Antonette P. Johnson	Edgemore Hospital	Linus J. Yurkus	Sheriff
Minda M. Josafat	Auditor & Controller	Sarah Ann Zellers	Health & Human Services

ATTENTION WWII VETS – HONOR FLIGHTS

The WWII Monument in Washington, D.C. was finally completed almost 60 years following the end of WWII. Honor Flight San Diego sponsors through private donations “Missions of Honor” trips for our veterans to visit THEIR memorial. Veterans travel at no cost to them (transportation, food, and hotel provided).

Honor Flight San Diego is an independent non-profit Hub. There are more than 100 independent Hubs throughout the United States in the Honor Flight Network. The Honor Flight Network is headquartered in Springfield, Ohio. Honor Flight was founded in 2005 to honor America’s veterans for all their sacrifices, and since that time more than 65,000 veterans have made the trip to Washington, D.C.

Honor Flight San Diego transports our Southern California heroes to Washington, D.C. to visit and reflect at their memorial. Top priority is given to these senior veterans – WWII survivors, along with those other veterans who may be terminally ill. It was World War II that truly threatened our very existence as a nation - and as a culturally diverse, free society. Now with over 1000 veterans dying each day our time to express our thanks to these brave men and women is running out.

You can help by becoming a volunteer, a guardian, or assist in fundraising efforts. Honor Flight San Diego (HFSD) is classified as a California nonprofit charity under IRC Section 170 (b) (1) (A) (vi). Donations should be made payable to HONOR FLIGHT SAN DIEGO; mail to 9423 Keck Court, San Diego, CA 92129.

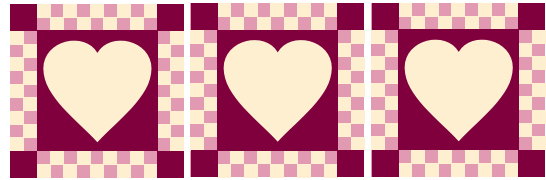
Volunteers and Guardians are needed too. The Website www.honorflightsandiego.org provides detailed information and applications for WWII vets, guardians, and volunteers. They can be reached at 619-892-2058 (Gary), 858-365-7360 (Jeff), or 858-442-8337 (Dave).

Thank you for your support on behalf of these WWII veterans.

Info from Dave Smith, Co-Founder & Roma Stronach, RESDC Director

(President’s Message Cont’d from page one)

not been as protective and released requested information without challenge. In spite of the lack of actual victimization, we know that seniors are falling prey to financial scams, identity theft and crimes committed in their homes. I urge each of you to safeguard your personal and financial information, especially when using the internet or when people perform work inside your home. For valuable information on preventative measures and advisories on current schemes to defraud citizens, visit the District Attorney’s website, www.sdcda.org, under the “preventing crime” tab, or your local law enforcement if you live outside of San Diego. Wherever you are, stay safe and enjoy the rest of the summer.



BITS AND PIECES

Ed Kues and his wife, Yukiko, celebrated their 56th anniversary in June. Ed retired in 1992 after nearly 20 years as a Probation Officer. Before he worked for the County, he spent 23 years with the U.S. Marine Corps. Ed still lives in San Diego. Every year Ed and Yukiko travel to Tokyo for a two week vacation and to attend Yukiko’s high school reunions.

Ed Fahey reached his 82nd birthday last month. He spent a total of 15 years in booking and supervision of the San Diego, El Cajon, and South Bay jails. Ed retired in 1989. Ed’s wife, Eira Pat, passed away a year ago. They were married for 60 years. He has 21 great grandchildren. Ed also retired from the U.S. Navy. He is currently a senior volunteer with the Lemon Grove Sheriffs.

Roger Stafford and Joyce Stafford celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in Hawaii with friends. Roger is a retired Assistant Marshal and Joyce retired from the District Attorney’s office where she was a Supervising Investigative Specialist. They live in Escondido and keep very busy. Roger just finished remodeling their home and he plays senior softball two days a week. Joyce uses her time utilizing her investigative experience with the DA to track down family members and ancestors. She has a database with over 18,000 family members. During their travels in the motor home, they often spend time in cemeteries looking for their ancestor’s tombstones.

David “Wayne” Hunt and his wife, Patrice, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this month. Wayne retired from the Assessor’s Office as a Principal Appraiser with nearly 21 years service in 1982. He earned his Masters Degree in Management in 1986 and went on to earn a Juris Doctor Degree in law in 1998. Wayne was recently chosen to be a subject of biographical record in Marquis Who’s Who in America for each of the years 2008 through 2011. He also enjoys a membership in Mensa, taking courses, traveling with Patrice, reading, exercising and motorcycle riding.

Joyce Thomas retired from Health and Human Services in 1992 after 11 years with the County. She and her husband, Bill, enjoy traveling by motor home and they make an annual trip up the Pacific Coast from San Diego to Bainbridge Island in Puget Sound, Washington. They enjoy meeting new friends along the way as well as visiting with family and old friends. Joyce has been married four times, but says she finally found her prince and has decided to keep this husband for a while.



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The information printed in the NETWORK is believed to be from reliable sources. However, no responsibility is assumed by the NETWORK for inaccuracies contained herein. Circulation: 7300

SCHOLARSHIP THANKS

*By La Rue Pierce,
 Scholarship Committee Chair*

RESDC has received thank you notes from Luke Augustyn, Imani Howard, Jillian Johnson, and Kristi Pettit, the recipients of our 2011 Scholarships. Each expressed appreciation for the awards and the help the scholarships will give them at the start of their college careers.

It was nice to hear from these young people.

Many of you are sponsors of former RESDC Scholarship winners. We would love to hear from you or from the Scholarship winners about their college careers or their progress. Feel free to drop us a note and we will publish it and put it on our website.



Have a safe and happy summer!

(Turning to Health Again Cont'd from page 2)

tax consultants and, of course, IRS. This issue may have arisen during development of a periodic application required by the IRS for their re-designation of SDCERA as a tax-free entity, so earnings on the fund aren't taxed. Of course, we all want that! We hope it's just a matter of rearranging the right "cost pegs" into the right "accounting holes," and not extra costs.

RESDC has submitted several letters to the SDCERA Chief Executive Officer on the subject.

At the conclusion of Aon Hewitt's negotiations with providers, and resolution of the health administration accounting issue, recommendations are expected to the Board of Retirement in early August for final approval of retiree health premiums before the open enrollment period starts in November, and the health administration matter.

No financial report of the most recent fund performance has yet been published due to cancellation of the regular July 7th monthly meeting of the Board of Retirement. Fund performance for April 2011 will be reported as soon as it's available.



SAVE THE DATE HEALTH FAIR/PICNIC REMINDER

This year's Health Fair/Picnic is scheduled for Wednesday, October 12, at Admiral Baker Field from 10:00 am to 2 pm.

The registration form for the picnic will appear in the September and October issues of the NETWORK.

