

**Core purpose: To enhance and protect
the benefits of retired educators**

editor Jean Whiteside



AVOCADO DIVISION 81 FALLBROOK

Newsletter
March/April, 2010

President's Message (Lucile)

Once again fifteen of Division 81's talented members presented a very entertaining variety show for the February General Meeting. If you missed seeing it you won't be disappointed if you put the 2011 variety show on your calendar.

The nominating committee is busy recruiting members for the 2010-2011 board. The slate of officers will be presented in March. If you have a desire to help Division 81 by donating a few hours each month please notify Arlene Sharpe, committee chair.

In May, three North County divisions will present college scholarships for high school graduates; If you would like to be a presenter at the luncheon please notify Lenora Sears.

All board member want to thank each of you for your interest in and time spent helping to make Fallbrook's Division 81 one of the BEST divisions in California.

COMMUNICATIONS CORNER (Lenora Sears)

According to Area XI Communications Chair, Angela Aschbrenner, 20% of CalRTA members reported 2.50 million volunteer hours, saving the state over \$50 million dollars. Just imagine what we could save the state if the other 80% of members reported their hours,

If you haven't reported your hours you'll soon be receiving a phone call asking for your service hours over the months beginning March 1, 2009 through February 28, 2010. California's media and legislators take notice when \$50 million is mentioned. That number helps us educate the state's media and legislators

MARCH GENERAL MEETING

CALRTA DIVISION 81

Wednesday, March 10

Fallbrook Golf Club

2757 Gird Road

Fallbrook

9:00 AM

Buffet Brunch \$13.00

A check to CALRTA Division 81 is preferred

Call Jewell Roberds at 1-760-728-1092

Before Friday, March 5 for reservations

APRIL GENERAL MEETING

CALRTA DIVISION 81

Wednesday, April 14

Fallbrook Golf Club

2757 Gird Road

Fallbrook

9:00 AM

Buffet Brunch \$13.00

A check to CALRTA Division 81 is preferred

Call Jewell Roberds at 1-760-728-1092

Before Friday, April 9 for reservations

Communications Corner cont'd.

about retired educators contributing significantly to their communities and that California would hurt without their services.

That is why we need every member to report their hours of volunteer services. If you are donating your time, without pay, those hours of helping, driving, traveling, tutoring, needle work, giving blood, cooking, attending meetings, etc. all count. If you're not sure, call Lenora Sears at 760-731-7534 before March 1 to determine if your unreported hours can be added to the Division 81 end-of-year report.

MARCH AND APRIL PROGRAMS (Sally Whitlock)

March 10 we will feature presentation on Autism given by Mark Anselmmo who is well-versed in the latest theories as to cause, leading research and treatments. Some of our members have grandchildren who have been diagnosed with Autism and suffer from its limitations and yet are very hopeful for a cure. Please feel free to invite friends and/or family members who may wish to hear Mark's presentation. RSVP by March 5 to Jewell and Bud Roberds at 760-728-1092.

April 14 we will host the very talented Choir from Fallbrook High School's Music Dept. directed by Heather Smith. Those who enjoyed them last year can remember how they danced and sang their way into our hearts! We feel very privileged to be entertained by these multi-talented students again. RSVP by April 9 to Jewell and Bud Roberds at 760-728-1092.

E-MAIL CHANGE Please change the e-mail address in your directory for Joyce Brittain to the following. rejoyce8622@gmail.com. Thank you.

LEGISLATIVE (Sherry Ludwig)

MEMO FROM KEN HEWITT TO STATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE 2010

Here are my notes from a talk with David Walrath on 2/4/10.

The public pension initiative attacks are released, but there is no evidence yet that they are gathering signatures. It seems they have not yet raised the \$2 million they need. So, our first step is a strong defense—DO NOT SIGN ANY PENSION INITIATIVE. Second step, do not get into a discussion outside of CalRTA about the pro and con of the initiatives, as we believe it will just call public attention to the effort to get signatures.

David has assurances from Congress (House) leadership that CalRTA will have a good opportunity in Committee to discuss the WEP/GPO penalties in the context of a broad Social Security examination. But not until the current national economic focus on jobs and housing has run its course This will not get to a serious level until after elections, primarily because of budget and finances. We are holding off any detailed CalRTA plan for now. Letters and calls are still important. But, State initiatives first, then WEP and GPO.

TEACHER GRANTS (Sally Whitlock)

Thanks to all of our members who contributed to the Teacher Grant fund for the 2009/2010 school year. We were able to award 12 grants of \$200.00 each to include Fallbrook High School for the first time. CalRTA members volunteered to travel to the school sites in order to give out the awards as follows:

Iowa Street School

Kathy Leonard: Life Science Studies materials for grades K-8 for hands-on science lessons.

Phil Leonelli: A one year subscription to "Smart Music" learning software to use in the development and instruction of an after school program for grades 5, and 6 at 3 schools—Live Oak, La Paloma, and Iowa Street

Lee LaFave: Mary Fay Pendleton—Lab Investigations: Owl Pellet Dissection and reconstructing a food web—grades 3 to 6 gifted program.

Fallbrook Street School:

Arlene Poulos: purchase of a Kamishibai Stage to enhance traditional story telling, grade 2.

Anita Ahumad: purchase wooden puzzles, plus storage rack, Kindergarten.

San Onofre School:

Laura Herter: purchase class sets of contemporary novels to enhance reading program, grades 7 and 8.

Paula Chester: creation of independent work tasks for low functioning students, special ed. Gr. 3,4,5

Bryan Gunner: Development of a Science Exploratorium, a living, working science museum presented by 8th graders to students in grades 3-6

Maria Flaherty: purchase DVD;s to teach American Sign Language to her class, which also includes a cerebral palsy student who can't speak.

Jana Scott: Santa Margarita Academy, Community Day School. Development of a school yearbook to teach writing, editing, layout, photography, as well as learning to work together. Grades 7, 8

Cherie Jeralds: Vallecitos School—purchase a class set of white boards, markers for instruction in multiple subjects, grade 5. (a picture of this award presentation was on the internet-Village News website)

Carole Vivona: Fallbrook High School: purchase of grammar reinforcement series, "Quack!" for her French classes. Also purchase of reproducible Practice activities, Mastering Verb

All the teachers received their grants with tremendous enthusiasm and gratitude We invite any CalRTA member to become involved in this very rewarding project for the 2010-2011 school year.

TEACHERS GROUP OFFERS SCHOLARSHIPS

California Retired Teachers North County Scholarship Foundation Palomar Division 63, North San Diego County Division 45 and Avocado Division 81 join together in an effort to provide scholarships for deserving future teachers graduating from North San Diego County schools.

The scholarships are available for students who wish to attend San Marcos State University, Mira Costa Community College and Palomar Community College. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of financial need, scholastic record, community service, work experience, and letters of recommendation. Applications are now available at all North San Diego County high schools. Students wishing to apply to the California Retired Teachers' North County Scholarship Foundation can obtain an application through the appropriate office in their high school.

Retired teachers, members of California Retired Teachers Association (CalRTA) and the general public fund these scholarships. Donations may be made by check to Martha Bozulich, Treasurer California Retired Teachers North County Scholarship Foundation, P. O. Box 1636, Valley Center, CA 92082-1636.

NOMINATIONS (Laura Choate)

Nominations for elected officers will take place at our March 10 meeting. If you are interested in running for President, Vice-President Programs, Vice-President Membership, Corresponding Secretary, Financial Secretary or Treasurer, please contact Laura Choate (760-805-1930, lchoate@roadrunner.com) or Arlene Sharpe (760-728-3111, arlenedsharpe@sbcglobal.net). Additional nominations may be made at the meeting. If you are unsure of duties for these offices, check your club bylaws or phone Laura or Arlene.

RESOURCES (Imperial County Div. 64)

If you or if someone you know uses a bank DEBT CARD too make purchases, be sure to check your receipt before you leave the check-out clerk's counter. When you swipe your card, you are asked if you want cash back. If you say "no" you are not out of the woods.

Any clerk can, from his/her side of the counter, press YES and an amount, the clerk can then put the cash back into his/her own pocket when you are preoccupied with gathering your purchases. This has happened at some Walmart and other stores. Sometimes check-out becomes very busy and frantic and it is easy to overlook this infraction. So—slow down, and make sure that you monitor your spending right on the spot before you leave the check-out counter.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

2-5 Sandy Bell
2-15 Sherry Ludwig
2-17 Lenora Sears

2-23 Henrietta B. Goresky
2-24 Karin Schag
2-25 Joyce Brittain

3-1 Jewell Ford
3-2 Snookie Marier
3-6 Ruth Watto, Sandi Pines
3-9 Pat Barnes
3-20 Bud Roberds

3-22 Harry Barton
3-26 Beverly Cole
3-27 Mike Choate
3-29 Louise Pyeatt
3-31 Genevieve Sparks

UPCOMING EVENTS

The North County Scholarship Foundation Awards luncheon is on May 19th at the El Camino Country Club in Oceanside. Some of our members are presenters at this function and they would like to have as many members attend as possible. The cost is \$20.00 and a check may be made to CalRTA, Division 81 and mailed to Laura Choate, P. O. Box 820, Fallbrook, CA 92088. A deadline hasn't be scheduled but if you intend going you may send in your reservation at any time.

MAY 12 TRIP

Get out your hiking poles and shoes! We will take a trip to Torrey Pines State Reserve for a docent-led nature hike to learn about and enjoy the rare and beautiful Torrey Pines. We are expecting a very beautiful and plentiful wildflower bloom. The reserve is located on the bluff over-looking the Pacific Ocean at Del Mar Beach. There will be 2 hiking ability levels offered. (1) moderate, to go out on a trail for about

½ mile or less. (2) very easy walking on level ground, short distance. Both groups will enjoy the visitor's museum and store. Following the hike we will enjoy lunch at Poisiden Restaurant in Del Mar located on the beach! For car pooling, meet at the Park and Ride at I-15 and 76 at 9:30 am. Lunch at approximately 12:30 at the Poisiden, returning to Fallbrook at 3:00. If you drive yourself, please arrive at the Reserve by 10:30. There is a \$10.00 per car parking fee that will be shared by all participants. All car pool riders need to reimburse the driver for gas. If you did not sign the list, please RSVP Sally Whitlock at 760-723-1945 or sallyjean45@yahoo.com.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION—RESOURCES

The Environmental Protection Agency is updating city and highway fuel economy estimates to better reflect the real-world conditions that most drivers experience.

Laboratory testing offers a good way to compare fuel efficiency. However, it is your driving practices along with the condition of your vehicle, that are the most important variables in your mileage.

To improve over-all fuel efficiency the Department of Energy suggest avoiding:

- Aggressive driving, hard acceleration and hard braking—especially in stop-and-go traffic
- Extensive cold weather driving—engines run more efficiently when they are warmed up
- Continuously driving with a heavy load or with the air conditioner running
- Driving with an improperly tuned engine or dirty air filter
- Driving on under-inflated tires

IN PRAISE OF OLDER WOMEN (From Div. 20)

A nameless gentleman reports:

“On our 25th anniversary, I took a look at my wife and said ‘Honey, 25 years ago we had a cheap apartment, a cheap car, slept on a sofa bed, and watched a 10-inch black and white TV, but I got to sleep every night with a hot 25-year old blonde. Now we have a nice house, nice car, big bed, and plasma screen TV, but I’m sleeping with a 50-year old woman. It seems to me that you are not holding up your side of things.’

“My wife is a very reasonable woman. She told me to go and find a hot 25-year old blonde, and she would see to it that I would once again be living in a cheap apartment driving a cheap car, sleeping on a sofa bed, watching a 10-inch black and white TV.”

He then concluded, “Aren’t women great? They really know how to solve your mid-life crises!”

MEMBERSHIP

Remember we are all membership recruiters. Many retired teachers don't know about CalRTA and its benefits. When you meet someone, tell them about our organization and invite them to our breakfast meetings.

Be sure and make your reservations for the March and April meetings. See you at Fallbrook Golf Club on March 10th and April 14th.

