

California Retired Teachers Association



Area XI Newsletter



Director: Norma B. Huhn

Editor: Frances I. Rodenberg

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Core Purpose: To Enhance and Protect the Benefits of Retired Educators

Director's Message

Norma B. Huhn, Director, CalRTA Area XI



Norma

As we begin the 2009-2010 year, I look forward to working with members of our eight divisions. Thanks to all of you who have worked diligently to bring in new members and get them involved in division activities. We extend a special welcome to new members and invite you to attend a division meeting in September. We want to meet you, and we want you to become better acquainted with other retirees and to become involved in division activities. Becoming involved in CalRTA provides

new friendships and opportunities to share your interests and talents.

CalRTA is commemorating its 80th birthday; there is still time for divisions to do something special to celebrate before the end of the year.

The Area XI Fall Leadership Workshop will be held between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 22, 2009, at Tom Ham's Restaurant. All officers and other interested members are invited to attend. We will have officer-category interest sessions and get the latest information from area committee chairs. Our morning speaker will be our new CalRTA State President, Polly Bacich. In the afternoon, CalRTA Legislative Advocate David Walrath will update us on state and federal legislation. Workshop registration forms will be e-mailed to division presidents in mid-August. You are urged to join us for the fall workshop.

San Diego Division 4

*Barbara Bethel and Vi Huprich
Co-presidents*



Barbara



Vi

We wish all of our area divisions a very successful, productive year! Working together, we can better champion the issues and concerns of our collective memberships and make CalRTA even stronger and more effective. In reflecting on the past year, we are pleased with our division's successes. Our programs were well received; we worked with SD City Schools to distribute membership information; and in June, we were delighted to present \$1,500 college scholarships to ten awe-inspiring San Diego high school graduates.

For this coming year, we are continuing to focus on increasing membership; providing interesting, helpful programs and services for members; and accomplishing CalRTA goals.

We appreciate the support of both the area leadership and our division members. We welcome your attendance at our meetings at the Best Western Seven Seas in Mission Valley. For additional information, please call me at 858-270-3483.

N. San Diego County Div. 45

Kathy O'Leary, President



Kathy

Division 45 had a busy year in 2008-2009. We had wonderful programs and excellent meetings with our members. We spent several months investigating a new meeting place. In June, we decided to meet at

St. Michael's Church in Carlsbad and have our lunches catered by different area restaurants.

Souplantation will do our September meeting. We want to keep the lunch cost reasonable for our members.

Thanks to our Program Chairs Ellie Burton and Barbara Thomas, programs are set for next year. At our meeting on September 28, CRTA Communications Consultant Debbie Pate-Newberry will be the speaker. Everyone is invited. Just give me a call at 760-753-1319.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Area XI Fall Workshop in September.

South Shores Division 60

Sara Wood, President

Our division was well represented at the state convention in Los Angeles last May. Delegates took part in general and area meetings, attended interest sessions, and brought back information to share with colleagues.



Sara

We ended the year with our annual Scholarship Award Luncheon. Each of three outstanding Southwestern College students was awarded a \$1500 scholarship to help further career goals in education. Entertainment was provided by the Southwestern College Mariachi Band under the direction of Dr. Jeff Nevin.

We look forward to a challenging and productive year as we work together to provide interesting, helpful programs and services for our members. Please join us on Thursday, September 10, at 11:00 a.m. as we kick off another exciting year at the Holiday Inn in National City. For reservations, contact Lupe Garcias at 619-422-0990 or <ggarcias@sbcglobal.net>.

Palomar Division 63

Suzan Reiner, President



Suzan

A springtime treat for us was to host the North San Diego County Scholarship Foundation awards luncheon. Seeing these youngsters and their families is such an up-lifting

event. For such accomplished students to have already decided to be educators is thrilling!

The other big treat was to have Alfredo Velasco, head of the Palomar Family (Escondido) YMCA, speak at our last meeting. He had some fascinating information about the history of the YMCA organization and the services offered by our local site. Additionally, he left each of us the gift of health in the form of a pedometer. Therefore, our spring session wound up being good for both the spirit and the body!

Imperial County Division 64

Anita Ramirez, Co-President



Anita

We have had a wonderful time in our new location at the Old School House on the Pioneers Museum grounds. It is truly an outstanding place to meet and has brought many nostalgic stories from our teachers as they remember

"when." Our luncheon meetings continue to start at 11:00 a.m. on the third Monday of each month from September through June except December and May.

We have had wonderful programs which have included a CalRTA 80th anniversary celebration for our state organization and our own Division 64 30th anniversary. John Anderson from the Imperial Valley Office of Education, Mr. Gould from Imperial Valley College, and Mr. Roeder from the Imperial Valley campus of San Diego State University joined us at one lunch and informed us about some of the programs they coordinate with Imperial Valley high schools to encourage young students to think about continuing their educations.

Pine School seventh and eighth graders shared some of their sea chanties with us just before they left for a week on a tall ship to sail from San Diego to Catalina. The students work as crew members and teach their songs to regular crew members. In exchange, crew members teach the students about the ship and also some of their songs. A great exchange!

Our own Marielouise Hurley shared information with us about what it takes to be a private plane pilot. (Yes, she is one!) She explained information about what a pilot needs to know and how to navigate the skies and obey the rules. It is quite an accomplishment each time she goes into the wild blue yonder!

We hope that more teachers and their friends will come to our meetings and enjoy the camaraderie, door prizes, programs, and food.

We do have a good time—and we enjoy greeting visitors!

East County SD Division 69

Sharon Davis; Yolanda Lopez
Co-past presidents

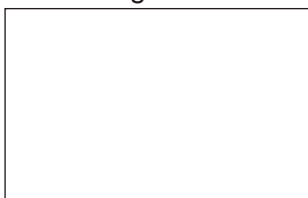


Co-past presidents Sharon and Yolanda

These are exciting times for Division 69! In April, members enjoyed a trip to the Griffith Observatory in Los Angeles with lunch at

Philippe's French Dipped Sandwich Restaurant. Recent programs have included the Chula Vista HS Ballet Folklorico, the singing guitarist Don Halte, a salute to our Gold Stars and charter members, and our chorus concert of American folk songs.

We expect a memorable year with our two new co-presidents,



Co-presidents (l-r) Dick and Aaron

Dick Hoy, who is on the Grossmont UHSD School Board, and Aaron Landau, who is a La Mesa Historical Society officer. Judith Bain is our new vice-president.

Please join us for the installation of our new officers and an interesting program on October 1. The meeting will begin with a social hour at 9:30 a.m. at the La Mesa Community Center, 4075 Memorial Drive, La Mesa. For reservations, call Mae Goldman, 619-443-0076.

North Shores Division 78

Dorothy and Dennis Drake
Co-presidents



Dot and Dennis

We ended our year under the capable, effective leadership of President Abby Bisson.

Contributions to our Scholarship Foundation from Opportunity Drawings increased because of the inspiration of Edie Andrew-Akita who changed from having home-donated prizes to prizes solicited from restaurants, theaters, and retailers.

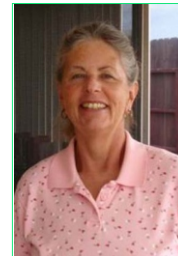
We honored past presidents at one meeting, Gold Star members at another, and a Volunteer of the Month at almost every meeting. In April, Joanne Climie galvanized a group of our members to participate in Legislation Day in Sacramento. Mardi Covill and

Lady Mary Davis brought us informative and entertaining programs, twice finding great substitutions for cancellations.

We are excited about 2009-2010. Tom and Judy Ascher Parry are planning special programs, including listening to and learning about the hammered dulcimer at our Holiday Luncheon. We are looking forward to another year of getting together with our wonderful members and doing the good work of CalRTA.

Avocado Division 81

Sandra Bell; Lucile Reeder
Co-presidents



Sandy



Lucile

We are anticipating a great 2009-2010!

Many of our officers and board members agreed to remain for another year. Our meeting year began in February with our third annual member variety show, and what a show it was! Fallbrook will never be the same! In March, we were entertained by the Fallbrook High School show choir, a very high-energy, talented group. We distributed CalRTA posters and enrollment forms to every school in the Fallbrook school districts.

Our April activity was a field trip to the USS Midway followed by lunch at Anthony's. Also in April, we had a booth at the Avocado Festival. We spoke to many visitors about the mission and goals of the organization and distributed several applications to prospective members. Attendance at the festival is usually 40,000+. The North San Diego Scholarship luncheon was held in May at the Escondido Country Club. Ten scholarships were awarded to students pursuing careers in education.

In June, division volunteers were honored for their dedicated service in many capacities. Several members participated in the Sullivan Middle School Portfolio Day on June 5. It is always interesting to see what these students have accomplished during the year. We also mourned the loss of one of our founding members, Russell Whipple. He will be missed.

Our co-presidents are eager to serve Division 81 this year and look forward to the new term.