



Newsletter

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Visit our web site at www.csdrea.org

Jim Baross, President (619) 280-6908

*2017 Goal - use Facebook & Twitter to more effectively communicate on PENSION, Social Security & other current issues. **

Address: CSDREA
1286 University Avenue #396
San Diego, CA 92103
Phone No.: 888-730-4935

Regular November 14, 2017 PROGRAM

Dr. Carl Luna returns for his 5th visit with us; always in November to take advantage of his commentary on the political scene following the most recent election. This year his visit falls 1 week after the off-year elections and 1 year after the election of Donald Trump as President. Carl is sure to have a quiver full of arrows for the occasion.

Known to many as one of the region's most quotable political pundits, Carl Luna is a go-to figure during any election year. He figures he has done over 1,000 media interviews and has served as a Fox 5 News analyst.



Carl earned a doctorate in political science from American University in Washington, D.C. and has been a professor of political science at Mesa College for the past 25 years. He has also served as a visiting professor at USD for more than 15 years. He was instrumental in founding Restoring Respect, a collaborative effort aimed at bringing civility to the political arena. The group held its first conference in the spring of 2012 and continues to work with local school districts, colleges and universities to promote

public dialogue that builds community consensus and resolves problems for the common good.

Our Meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month at the War Memorial Building, 3325 Zoo Drive, located at the north end of the zoo parking lot. General meetings start at 11:00 AM, the speaker starts by 11:30 AM, and lunch is served at around Noon.

November 14, 2017 LUNCH will be catered by returning favorite:

Phil's BBQ

MENU:

BBQ Baby Back Ribs (Pork)

Baked Beans

Potato Salad

Rolls & Butter

Bottled Water or Meyer Lemonade

COST is \$10 for Members and \$12 for Non-Members.

RESERVATION Deadline 5PM Friday, November 10, 2017.

RSVP to Brad Jacobsen at hospitality3@csdrea.org or (619) 295-8764.

NO SUCH THING AS A FREE LUNCH?

There *is*, if you volunteer to help with the REA lunch! We DO STILL need a few more people in our volunteer pool to assist with set-up, serving, and clean-up at our monthly meetings. We need two people per month, so you won't have to do it every time. It's a fun way to become involved with REA - *and* you get a free lunch! If you'd like to volunteer or want to know more, please contact Brad Jacobsen at hospitality3@csdrea.org

TWO New members joined us this month: Charles Delao and Ray Purtee! We hope you will get involved and attend our meetings!



The REA Annual HOLIDAY PARTY and Luncheon is the Last Event for 2017.

The Party will be at the Bali Hai Restaurant on Tuesday, December 5.

**PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY, IT IS A BIG HELP TO US IN
COORDINATING OUR RESERVATION WITH BALI HAI.**

Checks for \$30 per person should be mailed to:

REA

1286 University Avenue #396

San Diego, CA 92103

The address for the restaurant is:

Bali Hai

2230 Shelter Island Drive

San Diego, 92106

Reservations must be received no later than Friday, December 1, 2017.

For further information contact either Dave Twomey @ 619-236-1407 or Brad Jacobsen @ 619-295-8764

The View is wonderful of our San Diego Bay, and the Food is Good and Plentiful.
The menu is:

Entrees:

**Blackened Salmon
Teriyaki Roasted Chicken
Kalua Pulled Pork**

Sides:

**Seasoned Vegetables
Garlic Mashed Potatoes**

Salad:

House Blend Local Greens

Dessert:

Chef Selection of a Festive Dessert

Drinks:

2 Bowls of Non-alcohol fruit punch

Alcohol is available for sale at the event

Remember - whether or not you attend the Holiday party, this is our annual time to donate to the San Diego Food Bank. All donations go to San Diegans in need. Please send checks to our REA address. THANK YOU! The Food Bank can always use donations throughout the Year.

Eleven REA Members who are 80 years, or more, celebrating November Happy Birthdays: Charles Calabrese, Carolyn Chrystal, Helen Dover, Mary Garcia, Katie Heise, Bill Lingo, Goldie May, Roy Pletcher, Jane Rappoport, Harry Slayer and Evelyn Worrel !

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT JIM BAROSS

I just returned from the SDCERS Annual Meeting in Balboa Park. They did a good job explaining SDCERS significant progress with garnering investment returns for the retirement fund; over \$8,000,000,000 in valuation!! And, staff will be recommending to the SDCERS Board that we get the 13th check and Corbett settlement payments this year... making for a happier Holiday season for many of us.

The recorded meeting is to be available soon for viewing as a video from the SDCERS.org web site. If you haven't already, you will find that registering on their web site can provide you with lots of information not only about SDCERS but also detailed information about your own account.

ADVOCACY - Mike Bresnahan Reporting

Monthly Advocacy Meetings are scheduled for FOURTH Thursdays - Meetings are in the Mission Valley Library from 9:30 AM to 11:15 AM.

NOTICE OF LAWSUIT TO COLLECT UNDERPAID OVERTIME THE CITY MAY OWE YOU

For Retired Employees Association (REA) members who have recently retired, if the City paid you “time and a half” overtime for working more than forty (40) hours during a seven-day week at any time in the PAST THREE YEARS -- **while you were also participating in the City’s Flexible Benefits Plan** - it is likely that the City has underpaid you for your overtime work.

The City has known for a long time that it was underpaying overtime by using the wrong overtime rate. In fact, the City sent an email to current employees to say that this underpayment problem was fixed as of July 1, 2017. But the City has said nothing about paying what current or retired employees are owed for past underpayments. With each day that passes, the City’s liability for past underpayment overtime is reduced because the statute of limitations on claims is running. This is why MEA has filed a case to assure that every Municipal Employee Association (MEA) represented employee who has a claim has the opportunity to join to protect his or her rights to full payment. MEA has now agreed to allow affected REA members to also join this

suit. If you choose to join, MEA will pay the fees and costs to file and litigate this lawsuit. MEA will also provide critical staff support to facilitate the communication and completion of necessary paperwork. Once you complete and return the paperwork required of you, your work is done.

Using your private email account - not City email - notify Nichole Johnson at MEA that you want to join the lawsuit. Send an email to njohnson@sdmea.org giving her your name. Nichole will send you documents to your private email which you should complete and send to her. You can call MEA at 619-264-6632 if you have any questions.

OCTOBER GENERAL MINUTES - Reported by Brad Jacobsen

The minutes for the September 2017 meeting and the September Treasurer's Report were approved. Joan McNamara reminded members that reservations for the backstage tour of the Old Globe must be made by October 22. Jim Baross asked for nominations for Board positions; none were forthcoming.

PROGRAM The program was SDCERS annual meeting preview; the annual meeting itself will be on October 20. Marcelle Voorhies Rossman, Chief Benefits Officer, announced that staff will be recommending that the SDCERS Board approve the 13th Check. She also announced that a test run of the disaster recovery plan was made in March and all pensions were properly disbursed. Senior Investment Officer Anders Norrman had some very good news: the rate of return on investments in June was 13.4%. SDCERS is in the top 18th percentile of over 400 plans nationwide, and in the top 5 percent for 20-year returns. Chief Executive Officer Mark Hovey stated that the actions of the SDCERS Board in September to lower the assumed rate of return, while controversial, actually makes good fiscal sense and benefits the City. By smoothing the City's contributions, the City will save \$300 million over 10 years. Hovey said he was very proud of SDCERS, and assured members that it is on very solid footing. Assets are now over \$8 billion, up from a low of \$3.2 billion in 2009.

Jim Baross presented Hovey with a Tivoli radio as a token of our appreciation for his work on behalf of retirees.

Board meeting minutes can be found on the webpage or click [here](#).

JOE FLYNN Reporting for Retirees:

Good news from Mark Hovey, CEO of SDCERS who said today that based on earnings, staff will be recommending at the November 3rd Board meeting, approval of the Corbett payment and the 13th Check.

Board approval is necessary before payments can be made. Hovey said that as of June 30, 2017 SDCERS earnings were at 13.4%. These earnings place SDCERS in the top quartile of Pension funds nationwide.

The 20-year earnings of 8.1%, ranks SDCERS in the top 5% of all USA pension plans. And this year, the pension fund topped \$8 billion dollars!

The SDCERS team of Hovey, Chief Investment Officer Liza Crisafi, Member Services Director Cynthia Queen, Member Benefits Officer Marcelle Voorhies-Rossman and Information Manager Jessica Packard attended general membership meeting of both REA and RFPA on Oct. 10, 2017 to deliver the good news. Obviously, it was well received.

The only somber note was the announcement that November 3 SDCERS Board meeting will be Mark Hovey's last; he retires Dec. 1, 2017. As retirees, we cannot in good faith discourage him from joining our ranks, so we will wish him well with tears in our eyes. Mark said being SDCERS CEO for eight years was the best job he has ever had, so we will have to try to cheer him up after December 1.

Did You Know?

That there is a wealth of activities available to senior citizens? The City of San Diego publishes a quarterly issue of The Scroll. You'll find listings for services, programs, volunteer opportunities, arts and crafts sales, dances, walks, performing arts, bus trips, community news.

You can access the entire publication online at www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/activities/seniorservices/ or join their mailing list by calling (619) 239-6905.

Here's a topic that has been of interest to many senior citizens:

Senior Computer Group of San Diego

Saturdays: 9:30 a.m.

For 32 years, the Senior Computer Group of San Diego has been helping explain how to use computers and smart phones effectively and safely. Open to all ages, and free to visitors. Costs \$1.00 a month to join and get weekly updates, same price as when the group was first founded. Group and individual instruction provided. Coffee, tea and chocolate provided at no charge.

Location: Wesley Palms, 2404 Loring Street, San Diego, 92109
Tom Sprague at (858) 459-9065 or www.scgsd.org

(Thank you to Mary Ann Stepnowsky for this information)

The ADDRESS for ALL CSDREA correspondence is:

CSDREA

1286 University Avenue #396

San Diego, CA 92103

And the toll-free telephone number is 888-730-4935.

This telephone is answered during business hours Monday through Friday or you can leave a voice mail message.

San Diego City Employees' Retirement System (SDCERS) information numbers are: toll free 800-774-4977 or local 619-525-3600.

Has your home Address, Phone Number or Email Address Changed?

Update your information, and help keep our data as accurate as possible! Please let us know when you change your address, telephone number and/or e-mail address, we do not get changes in information you may provide to SDCERS for your pension check.

If you now have e-mail and can drop the print version of this newsletter, please let us know.

Since we do not have birth dates, a few months before you turn 80, contact us and furnish a birth date, so you can be included in our birthday listing.

REA WEBSITE -The [REA website](#) 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 & Police Association](#) has welcomed REA members to visit their website. Log-on to see the mutually important retiree information they publish. SDCERS has information that is relevant and interesting for retirees at www.sdcers.org - their website.

REA BOARD MEMBERS - To send a message with your comments, suggestions, or questions, to an officer or board member, copy their E-mail address below and paste into your email providers' 'Send To' Line. Board members who have consented to listing their phone numbers in the newsletter have done so to provide you another way to contact them.

Position	Name	E-mail Address
President	Jim Baross (619-280-6908)	president@csdrea.org
Past President	Nancy Acevedo	pastpres@csdrea.org
Vice President Programs	Dave Twomey	vpprograms@csdrea.org
Vice President Advocacy	Mike Bresnahan	vpadvocacy@csdrea.org
Secretary	Brad Jacobsen	secretary@csdrea.org
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