



Newsletter

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Jim Baross, President (619) 280-6908

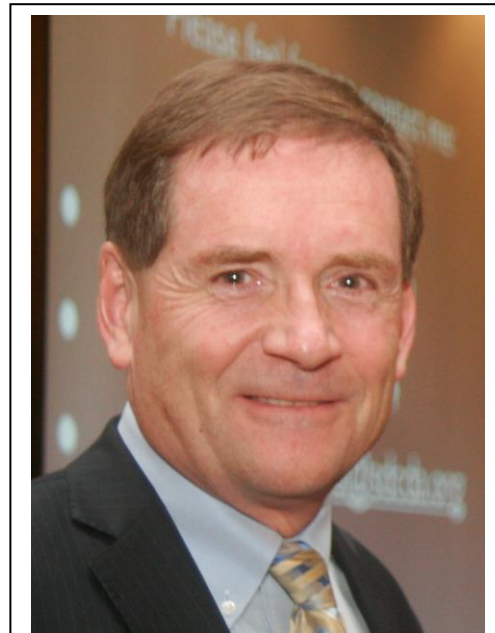
*2017 Goal - use Facebook & Twitter to more effectively communicate on PENSION, Social Security & other current issues. **

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

July 11, 2017 PROGRAM:

The speaker for our July meeting is **Paul Greenwood**. Paul has an extensive resume including: his current position of Deputy District Attorney, Office of the San Diego District Attorney. His education was at Leeds University, Leeds, Yorkshire, England, he received a Bachelor of Laws in 1973, and was admitted to California Bar in 1991. He has 38 years in the legal profession.

His practice area is Criminal Prosecution; he has been the Head of Elder Abuse -Prosecution Unit in San Diego since January 1996. He has testified before the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging in June 2001, July 2007 and November 2012. He has been involved in the prosecution of over 600 felony cases of elder and dependent adult abuse, both physical and financial, is the Co-Chair of California's DA Elder Abuse Committee, and has assisted with drafting Elder Abuse legislation for the California Evidence Code. He has received many awards including being named as one of the "Lawyers of the Year", has been an instructor with the California District Attorneys Association (CDAA); the National District Attorneys Association, and the American Prosecutors Institute. He has been



married to his wife Sue for 38 years and has two children, and twin grand-daughters aged 4. He was awarded the 2005 “Visionary for Change” Award in October 2005 at the Dementia Care Conference in San Diego; and received the Services Award in Nov. 2010 for “collaboration & leadership in the prosecutorial field. He was inducted into Elder Rights Advocacy Hall of Fame in 2011 by National Association of Legal Services Developers; and was speaker at inaugural session of Elder Justice Council in Washington DC and again in October 2016. It has been several years since Paul has spoken to us about senior issues and we welcome him back!

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.

LUNCH will be catered by returning favorite: Phil’s BBQ

MENU:

¼ BBQ Chicken

Sweet Baked Beans

Potato Salad

Rolls & Butter

Bottled Water or Lemonade

COST:

\$10 REA Members and \$12 for Non-Members

RESERVATIONS:

RSVP by 5 PM on Friday, July 7, 2017 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 need a few more people in our volunteer pool to assist with set-up, serving, and clean-up at our monthly meetings. We only 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.

Please welcome SEVEN NEW members: Janet Atha, Raul Ayala, Celina Cumberbatch, Kathleen Damon-Sanchez, Timothy Dewey, Nhon Dong and Michael Finnerty! We hope you can join us at monthly meetings and possibly be on a committee of interest to you.

FUTURE PROGRAMS at War Memorial Building to complete 2017:

August 8: City Attorney Mara Elliot;

September 12: TBA;

October 10: SDCERS financial update; and

November 14: final program will be Carl Luna on all things political, local and national.

And Last Event of 2017: December 5 Tuesday: HOLIDAY PARTY and Luncheon at Bali Hai. \$30 per person, please mark your calendars!

REA Members who are 80 years, or more, celebrating July Birthdays:
Edythe Campbell, Irving Jacobs, Benjamin Lopez, Sheryl Pharnes, Mildred Pickle, William Quiett, Paz Rillo, and Barbara Tuthill! Happy Birthday to All!

June Health Fair Membership Recruitment- Reported by Karen Butler -

CSDREA had our usual table set up fairly close to the entrance of the meeting hall. The coffee and cookies did the usual magnetic draw for many attendees. Who can pass up cookies and coffee? Not too many it seemed. Our REA team consisted of Jim Baross, Dave Twomey, Mike Bresnahan, Mary Ann Stepnowsky, and Karen Butler. There were lots of questions to be answered by members and non-members alike. We were actively working toward increasing our membership due to the normal attrition that happens with aging. At last count, including the two that Jonathan Hayes signed up, was 21 automatic withdrawals members and 1 annual dues payer. All in all it was a successful Health Fair!

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT JIM BAROSS -

I bet that you are probably sorting through the health and other insurance offerings that you will be making decisions about this month, right? I'm avoiding the potential confusion by carrying over my previous choices, but I'm considering taking advantage of the newly available offerings to REA members; have you noticed these? Your REA Board, initiated by Advocacy Committee Chair Mike Bresnahan, approved making these offerings available to our members both to help you and to bring some new members to REA (20+ so far). Info about these additional insurance offerings may be

found at www.sdpeba.org or by calling 888-315-8027. Once again I thoroughly enjoyed meeting and greeting retirees at the recent SDCERS Health Fair. The folks I met are making the best of their retirement years - keep it up! Jim Baross

ADVOCACY - Mike Bresnahan Reporting - Monthly Meetings are scheduled for FOURTH Thursdays - Meetings are in the Mission Valley Library from 9:30 AM to 11:15 AM. Next meeting will be July 27, 2017.

Hi! Hope everyone will have a happy and safe 4th of July. As you may have seen by now the REA Board has entered into an agreement to provide many new benefits to REA members. We have partnered to create San Diego Public Employee Benefit Association (SDPEBA).

Members now have access a variety of benefits previously not available as a result of your REA membership. Included in these benefits are MetLife Dental HMO & PPO, Hyatt Legal, VSP Vision, nationwide Pet Insurance, and others. SDPEBA has very helpful staff to help you review these plans and determine if they fit your needs They can be reached at 888 315 8027 or at info@sdpeba.org.

They will be able to help you with the enrollment process if one or more of these plans is of interest to you. Should you know retirees from the City of San Diego who are not REA members please tell them about these new benefits. Maybe this will encourage them to join REA!! Have a great summer.

MAY GENERAL MINUTES - Reported by - Brad Jacobsen repeat of report

The minutes for the April 2017 meeting and the April Treasurer's Report were approved. President Jim Baross asked members to ratify a change to the By-Laws to clarify the definition of a Board quorum. The motion was approved on a voice vote with no opposition or abstentions.

Cynthia Queen of SDCERS announced that there is now a full SDCERS Board; at the next meeting the Board will vote on a recommendation from staff that a 2% COLA be approved. (Editor's note: COLA was approved!) Open reenrollment begins June 5; the booklets are currently being printed should arrive in early June. Finally, she reported that SDCERS staff ran a disaster-preparedness exercise to assure that in the event of a catastrophe, retirees' checks would still be deposited on time.

Vice-President for Advocacy Mike Bresnahan updated members on the proposal to offer additional insurance coverage to REA members, including dental, vision, travel, and pet insurance. Integrated Labor Solutions will act as broker through a new MEA subgroup called San Diego Public Employees' Benefit Association (PEBA) that would

comprise all MEA and REA members who wish to participate in the supplemental insurance program. Premiums would be paid through payroll deduction. Final details are still being worked out, but we hope to have this in place by open enrollment.

Chris Brewster informed members of a proposal to increase to move half of REA's Legal Fund from a stable but low interest-producing Money Market account into a more aggressive Exchange Traded Funds (ETF) investment with a far better return rate. We would rebalance the ETF portion of the investment periodically to maintain a 50/50 balance between the two investment strategies. This would keep at least half of our Legal Fund in a liquid account.

PROGRAM - Our speaker was Charlotte Sousa from Kaiser Permanente, who walked us through the basics of Medicare. She explained the different Parts, including qualifications and premiums. In a nutshell, Part A covers hospital, skilled nursing, hospice, and in-home care; Part B covers outpatient and physician services; Part C provides coverage through private carriers; and Part D covers prescription medications. She reminded us that you need to enroll before turning 65, preferably three months in advance; there are severe, lifelong fiscal penalties for not doing so. For more information, she directed members to www.Medicare.gov and www.SocialSecurity.gov.

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 by a person during business hours Monday through Friday. 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. A few months before you turn 80, tell us and furnish a birth date, so you can be

included in our birthday listing, (If you have not contacted us--- we do not have your birth date.)

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 Assn.](#) has welcomed REA members to visit their website. Log-on to see the mutually important retiree information they publish.

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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Retirees Issues Task Force	Karen Butler	retireetask@csdrea.org
Luncheon Reservation	Luncheon Reservation	hospitality3@csdrea.org

