

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENTS Sharon Blattel / Sharon Yool



We were very fortunate to have Jennifer Baker, our state Legislative Advocate, speak to our members at our October luncheon. She explained the process of reviewing many bills daily and then selecting the ones that pertain to CalRTA.

On the handouts provided, CalRTA Position Bill Updates and CalRTA Watch Bill Updates, Jennifer highlighted specific ones that are currently of great importance. It was pointed out that it is important to at least maintain, if not increase, our membership. Those in Sacramento pay more attention to groups with larger current active members. **Thank you** to all that continue to pay your dues either by renewing annually or continuing to pay automatically through your CalSTRS pension. "You provide the resources and numbers necessary to carry out the

mission of CalRTA to 'protect and advocate for retired and active educators' pensions and benefits and to support public education in our communities'. Our membership numbers are our strength. Each of you are part of that number which gets and holds the attention of our elected officials." (Bill Britton, Area IV Communications and Technology Chair).

On October 28th, a tree was planted at Ash Street Park in Newark with the help of Muriel Rodrigues and Sharon Yool, honoring former teachers during Retired Teachers week. For more details look for the Tree article within this newsletter. (Page 11)

Our next luncheon program on Wednesday, January 3rd we're planning a sing-a-long to usher in the New Year. Hope to see you there.

Sharon and Sharon

OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS – Division 91

Co-President: Sharon Blattel	Mini-Grants: Florence Griffin
Co-President: Sharon Yool	Resource Services: Sharon Yool
Secretary: Florence Griffin	Treasurer: Gene Amaral
Reservations: Janie Caldwell	Membership: Muriel Rodrigues
Member Contact: A. King and Sybil Hoffman	Insurance: Yvonne Brown
Communications: Mary Kay Henderson	Cheer & Sympathy: JoAnn Houk
Publicity: Open	Web Master: Jerry Sabo
Legislation: Stella Torres	Web Editor: Jerry Sabo
Events: Carolyn Zeljak	Ducks for Bucks: Florence Griffin
Activities: Open	
Area IV Co-Director: Mary Kay Henderson	Area IV Membership: Open
Book Sales: Lyneil Lansing Wasser	Circulation: Carolyn Zeljak
Financial Secretary: Judy Molander	
Newsletter Editors: Maureen Addiego and Jerry Sabo	

Members-At-Large have no duties. These people just attend board meetings and contribute to discussions.

We need your wisdom and direction as a participant. Please consider attending a board meeting and joining our team.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Announcements	7, 8, 9
Book Club	8
Cheer & Sympathy	2, 6
Directory Changes	2
Help Wanted	7
In Memory	2
Insurance	12
Legislation	12,14,15,16
Luncheon	8,10
Membership	3
Mini Grants	4,6
Officers/Chairs	1
President's Message	1
Quick Tips	5
Resources	5,9,13
Treasurer's Report	6

We Welcome New Members

EDITH CHRISTENSEN
45289 Elk Court
Fremont, CA, 94539-6039
510-623-0852 prefers 510-386-4458
Email: artie_edie@yahoo.com

DONNA D'AMBROSIO
42691 Everglades Park Drive
Fremont, CA 94538-3925
510-673-0266
Email: dkdambrosio@comcast.net

PAULA DOWELL
910 West San Fernando Street
San Jose, CA 95126-3057
408-469-0664
Email: paulaxyz1@hotmail.com (that is numeral 1)

MARY HEATON
38741 Overacker Avenue
Fremont, CA 94536-4325
925-336-2391
Email: missmary007@gmail.com

PAIGE JOHNSON
2452 Medallion Drive
Union City, CA 94587-1955
510-566-9517
Email: paigejohns@msn.com

LUCRETIA PEEBLES
PO Box 3256
Fremont, CA 94539-0325
925-786-0863
Email: lucretia.peebles@comcast.net

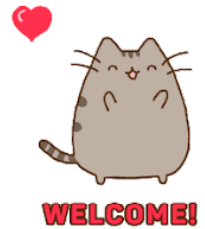
KATHLEEN RICHARDS
711 Old Canyon Road Sp 104
Fremont, CA 94536-1767
510-816-0522
Email: kathln@sbcglobal.net

KARLENE WILSON
6167 Jarvis Avenue #193
Newark, CA 94560-1210
510-565-1166
Email: more-grins@sbcglobal.net

JEFF BROMBERG
1100 Ptarmigan Drive Apt. 4
Walnut Creek, CA 94595-3770
510-599-6505
Email: jbcomedy1@comcast.net

CRISTELA RODRIGUEZ
2228 Hartford Drive
Union City, CA 94587-3227
Phone: none
Email: cristela50@yahoo.com

CAROLE SEGALL
4411 Norton Avenue
Oakland, CA 94602-3542
510-967-6926
Email: csegall1@gmail.com



We Offer our Condolences For the Passing

BARBARA BURRI
CAROLINE HENDEE
ANNE STUPEY
HOWARD THOMPSON
RONALD TYMER

GRACE KAWABE
PAT KOOY
GERTRUDE (TRUDY) MCDONALD
RUTH SIMPKINS
BERNARD HOFFMAN

Volunteer Hours / Directory Changes

I hope you are keeping track of your volunteer hours. They will be due to me about January, 15, 2024. If any member wishes updated information, (s)he may call or email Muriel Rodrigues, membership chairperson or Judy Molander financial secretary

These are the **corrections to the directory** since the last FUN Times:
SHELLEY BARTLEY phone is 510-673-1042
ROSEMARY BRENNAN moved to 3431 Foothill Blvd. #OFC, Oakland, CA 94601-3172
JOAN FRAGUS added email kmadsen4321@aol.com
KUMI KAWASAKI updated email to kkawa716@gmail.com
EMIKO UMAWATARI added email emikoutari@gmail.com

Judy Molander
Financial Secretary
3442 Streamside Circle #218
Pleasanton, CA 94588

Invite a Friend to Join CalRTA Or Your Child or Spouse

Next year CalRTA will turn 95 years old ... we've been fighting for retired educators for nearly a century! As our association, and our membership, gets older, it's critical we actively recruit new members.

Our founder Laura E. Settle spent months driving California's dusty highways to speak with fellow teachers. Today, with one click of our mouse, we can reach thousands of people with our message of retirement security and pension protection.

CalRTA is THE voice of retired educators in California and a strong advocate in Washington, D.C. Help us continue to help you - and those who will someday join our ranks - by inviting someone to join.

Dues are still very low at just \$66 for an entire year. Details are in the links below.

- You can purchase a Gift Membership (or two) for someone you know who supports teachers and public education. You don't have to be a retired educator to join.
- The Advocacy Membership is a digital membership perfect for those who support our cause, but we don't want to be involved locally (including active teachers).
- Our Regular Membership is always available as well.

Thank you for your continued support! WE ARE CalRTA *Membership*

Help a New Member Fill Out This Enrollment Form

CalRTA Division #91

Name (First) _____ (Middle) _____
(Last) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

Retired from _____ When _____ School _____

Please check your selected payment method:

Dues Deduction \$5.50 monthly

Social Security Number _____ (required for dues deduction)

I authorize the State Teachers' Retirement System (STRS) to deduct my association dues.

Should amount of dues be adjusted, as deemed necessary by CalRTA, I authorize that the adjusted deductions shall continue unless I notify the CalRTA business office in writing to the contrary. To terminate dues deduction, I agree to make my request in writing to the CalRTA office.

Cash \$66.00 annually (Make Check out to CalRTA)

Signature _____ Date _____

Did a particular person encourage you to join **CalRTA**? If so, who?

Mail check and application to : Muriel Rodrigues 5342 Westbury Ct. Newark, CA 94560-1353

Grant Committee

Florence Griffin
Grant Committee Chair

Applications were sent to the Districts of Newark and New Haven during Retired Teachers Week, and the following week to Fremont - I was unable to speak to our contact there until later. They need to be returned to their District Office by December 8th, and we will meet on the 12th to read, evaluate, and award the grants. Hopefully, we will be able to deliver the checks in the days following. This year we have decided to award grants in the amount of \$400, and we have \$5,593 to distribute.

I would like to acknowledge Mary Kay Henderson, Gene Amaral, and Barbara Amaral for being a part of the Committee for the past 8 years - we will miss you, and thank you for your service. Linda Hobbs and Madeline Walch have volunteered to be part of the Committee joining Sharon Yool, Dawn Scott, Carmen Jorgenson, Maureen Kamai, Gail Stringer, and myself.

At the January meeting, we hope to have a variety of things to raffle - have jewelry, and two members have promised baskets, one being basket of puzzles. It's the winter season so a basket with a knit cap/scarf/hand lotion??? If one of you knitters wants to knit the hat & scarf, I'll buy the hand lotion and some other stuff to finish a basket. If you're going to donate an item or basket, please let me know ahead of the meeting so I can acknowledge your donation at the raffle.

Hope you all had a peaceful and healthy Thanksgiving week, and look forward to seeing some of you at the January luncheon.



Sharon Blattel presenting CalRTA grant check to Aron Pedigio , Science teacher, along side Assistant Principal of Kennedy High School, Joshua Hunter

Sharon Yool presenting the CalRTA grant check to winner Zoya Zilberman, New Haven teacher

Member Benefit ... Virtual "Tech Talks" Expanded

Based on member requests, the State Communications and Technology Committee (CTC) will be offering virtual "Tech Talk" webinars monthly! These Zoom sessions will be a time to ask questions and share your own tips.



The [Informational Flyer](#) has links for each date. **You must register in advance to receive the Zoom link.**

Friday, Dec 8, 2023 – 10am

Thursday, Jan 11**, 2024 – 1pm

Thursday, Feb 8, 2024 – 10am

Monday, Mar 11, 2024 – 10am

Tuesday, April 23, 2024 – 11am

Thursday, May 9, 2024 – 10am

**Changed from original date of January 25th



<https://calrta.org/resource-library/>

Did you know? When you click on the CalRTA logo on the above, you'll go directly to the state CalRTA website. When you click on the resource box above that says "Resource Library..." you'll go to Resource library and find many resources besides CalRTA information. Similarly, if you click on any of the links on page 13 of the F.U.N. Times, you will find resources from our Division/Area/State



Donations to the mini grant fund

These are the memorial donations to the grant fund since the Fall, 2023 edition of Fun Times:

By Judy Molander, Financial Secretary

IN MEMORY OF:

These are the memorial donations to the grant fund since the Fall 2023 edition of Fun Times:

- Jim Caldwell by Ruth Bell
- Caroline Hendee by Karen Saucedo
- Jean Bloxsom by Kathleen Schuler
- Jean Bloxsom by Diana Roeding
- Jean Bloxsom by Sheila Krishnaswamy
- Jim Caldwell by Diana Roeding
- Jerry Heuer by Bill & Sharon Jager
- Sue Miller by Division 91
- Richard Paynter by Division 91
- Janice McEneaney by Division 91
- TeklaWhite by Sheila Krishnaswamy
- Caroline Hendee by Division 91
- Anne Stupey by Division 91
- Howard Thompson by Division 91
- Ronald Tyszer by Division 91
- Grace Kawabe by Division 91
- Pat Kooy by Division 91
- Gertrude McDonald "Trudy" by Division 91
- Ruth Simpkins by Division 91
- Erin Friedenthal by Division 91



IN HONOR OF

Donor's name: _____

Street Address, City, Zip Code of donor _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Send acknowledgment to (no amount will be shown) _____

Street address, City, State, Zip where acknowledgment is to be sent _____

Amount Enclosed _____

Make check payable to CalRTA Division #91

Mail to Scholarship, CalRT #91, POBox 643, Fremont, CA 94537-0643

Please return this form with your gift.

Treasurer's Report

As of November 30, 2023, the balance is the division's checking account was \$19,883.94. The balance in the division's grants account was \$6,293.34 on that same date.

Winter Holiday Cards

Special thanks to Sharon Blattel, Miranda Miller, and Karen Correra for taking care of the paper version of our semi-annual cards to members. Those of you without emails, should be receiving your cards in the mail soon. The e-version will be going out within the next 2 weeks.

We will continue to send out “Welcome to Summer” cards in late May/ Early June. If anyone is interested in helping please feel free to contact Sharon Yool.

Email: sharonyool@yahoo.com

Text: 510-371-2584

MAILING NEWSLETTERS / WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP ?

Four times a year the paper copies of our division newsletter get folded and each put into an envelope and sealed. We can deliver the materials (newsletters, envelopes, glue sticks) to your home when Staples has them ready for us. This activity can be done in the comfort of your own home in front of the TV! You can even have a friend help you. When you're done with that task, the next day you can bring them back to us or we can come to your house and pick them up. We'll put the labels on and take them all to the Post Office. The dates we need help are the weeks of September 14, December 14, March 14 and June 13. Let us know if you're willing.

Contact Sharon Yool

text or call: (510) 371-2584

email: sharonyool@yahoo.com

Help Wanted

Someone with computer skills, who can send out our Division 91's e-newsletters to members 4 times a year.

Once the list of recipients is created (a one-time step), sending out the newsletter takes no more than 15-20 minutes.

Contact Sharon Yool with any questions.

Email: sharonyool@yahoo.com

Text: 510-371-2584

Your willingness to be one of the people who helps this division function will be greatly appreciated.

CalRTA Book Club

Our next book club meeting will be Monday, December 11, at 11:30 a.m. We will meet at our regular place, Jack's Brewing Company at the Fremont Hub. There is a separate room in the back we use for our meetings. In December we will be discussing the book, THE LIGHT WE CARRY, by Michelle Obama.

We welcome new members to our book club. Our meetings are on the second Monday of the month. The schedule of books we will be reading and discussing in 2024 is listed below. Please feel free to call or text Carolyn Zeljak (510-673-6724) with any questions.

CalRTA BOOK CLUB SCHEDULE FOR 2024

January 8, 2024	WALKING WITH SAM, by Andrew McCarthy
February 12, 2024	REMARKABLY BRIGHT CREATURES by Shelby Van Pelt
March 11, 2024	SECRET BOOK OF FLORA LEA by Patti Callahan Henry
April 8, 2024	THE APPEAL by Janice Hallett
May 13, 2024	THE LAST SECRET OF THE SECRET ANNEX by Wijk-Voskuijl
June 10, 2024	ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS CALL by Kerri Maher
July 8, 2024	TOM LAKE by Ann Patchett
August 12, 2024	FREE FOOD FOR MILLIONAIRES by Min Jin Lee
September 9, 2024	THE RIDE OF HER LIFE by Elizabeth Letts
October 14, 2024	KILLERS OF THE FLOWER MOON by David Grann
November 11, 2024	Meet to choose books for 2025
December 9, 2024	FLOP DEAD GORGEOUS by David Rosenfelt

Luncheon Meeting of October



Guest speaker Jennifer Baker, our CalRTA Legislative Advocate gave a great presentation at our last luncheon



We honored our two longest Division 91 members. Mary Tovar a devoted 37 year member and Jean Ficklin a devoted member of 40 years!!!



Award Nominations Due Early 2024

Ruth Q. de Prida Award - Due January 10th

The award is presented to a CalRTA member for exceptional service. It is intended to be awarded to a member who is not presently in the State leadership and is presented each year at the CalRTA convention.

[Cover Letter \(PDF file\)](#)

[Recipient Data Form \(PDF doc\)](#)

[Recipient Data Form \(Word doc\)](#)

Ed Ely Outstanding Communications Award - Due March 1st

While eligibility for the Ed Ely Outstanding Communications Award is intended for all CalRTA members, the nomination/selection committee gives primary consideration to those whose efforts accomplish the best job of communicating the vision and goals of CalRTA at the Division or Area level. The committee's focus, in this regard, is not intended to exclude consideration of state level officers and leaders. However, because state level officers and leaders are afforded opportunities to communicate CalRTA's vision and goals beyond those available to members at the Division and Area levels, the nomination/selection committee focuses primarily on qualifications at the local levels.

[Nomination Form \(Word doc\)](#)

[Application Form \(Word doc\)](#)

Friends of CalRTA - Due February 2nd

CalRTA does not endorse candidates, but the Association does recognize those leaders who are working toward the same retirement security and public education goals as CalRTA.

[General Information \(PDF file\)](#)

[Nomination Form \(PDF file\)](#)

[Previous Recipients](#)

All instructions and nomination forms are also on the [Awards and Recognition webpage](#).

Mission Statement

CalRTA's mission is to protect and advocate for retired and active educators' pensions and other retirement benefits and to support public education in our communities.

CalRTA

California Retired
Teachers Association

Luncheon Meeting at the Elks Lodge

38991 Farwell Dr., Fremont, CA 94536

Wednesday, January 3, 2024

11:15 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Program

Students of Erin Reis, voice teacher in Newark, will perform for us.

Erin has directed various musical events in our area and her students have also had experience in performing for various groups.



Lunch Menu

Chicken Coq au Vin, Penne Alfredo,
California Mixed Green Salad, Fresh Fruit Salad
Rolls and Butter, Sweet Tray (cookies, brownies, bars)
Drinks

Raffle and Book Sale

We will have various items to raffle off to raise money for our Grant Fund.

We will have used books and puzzles for sale at the luncheon. Paperbacks - \$1.00, hardcover - \$2.00, audio books - \$1.00 or \$2.00, puzzles - \$1.00 or \$2.00, DVD's - \$1.00.

RAFFLE!!!



.....Luncheon cost: \$20.00 per person. Reservations must be received by Tuesday, December 26, 2023. Please send your reservation to Janie Caldwell, 37111 Elm Street, Fremont, CA 94536. Phone (510)797-2462.

.....
.....
Name(s) _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Make your check for \$20 per person payable to CalRTA#91. Check Amount _____

Would you like a ride to the luncheon? _____ If yes, what is your zip code? _____

Are you available to give someone a ride to the luncheon? _____ What is your zip code? _____

Tree planting at Ash Street Park in Newark



Left to right: Muriel Rodrigues, Dr. Penelope Deleon (Newark Unified Superintendent), Sharon Yool, Nancy Thomas (school board member), Phuong Nguyen (school board member) and Assemblyman Alex Lee.



Muriel Rodrigues, Sharon Yool, Young man in glasses was a volunteer with Urban Forest Friends, the lady next to Sharon Yool on the right is Newark School Board member Nancy Thomas, and the one holding the base of the tree is CA Assemblyman Alex Lee fro our District 24. We're in the process of planting our tree at Ash Street Park in Newark.

INSURANCE BITS 'N PIECES

Insurance representative Yvonne Brown

MEDICARE and YOU 2024

This is the official U.S. Government Medicare handbook from CMS-Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services for those 65 years and older who are enrolled in Medicare or Medicaid or both Medicare and Medicaid. This is the Northern California edition.

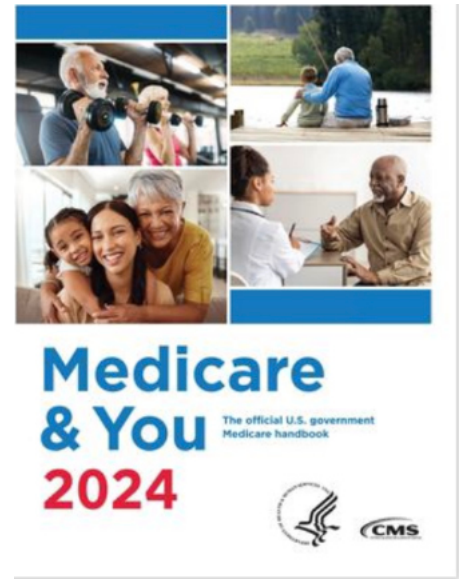
On page 3 you will find a detailed listing of the contents of this VIP guide to Medicare. On the Contents page, p. 3) you will find that pages 4-9 are **VERY IMPORTANT** and should be reviewed each year. At the bottom of the Content's page, a box with symbols can, also, be important as you search for information.

On the back of your copy of Medicare and You 2024, you will find this information...

“Call this number for free, personalized healthy insurance counseling: SHIP (State Health Insurance Assistance Program) for California — California Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) 800-434-0222.”

Locally, Kristie Caracappa, the Health Insurance Information Coordinator for **ALL OF US** in the Tri-Cities Area, is very helpful. She is available for appointments at Washington West and at our local senior centers. Call 510-818-7005 to schedule an appointment. If changes to your health insurance are made, they will take effect January 1, 2024.

In addition, CalRTA has now joined with E.J. Insurance services to form AMBA —Association Member Benefits and Insurance Agency. This is a Board Approved Benefit Provider. Questions? Ask an AMBA customer care representative. Call toll-free: (833) 609-1443.



1-

LEGISLATIVE BRIEF

Save the date

Advocacy Day in Sacramento
Thursday April 4 , 2023

Support your local government and school board.
Be sure to **VOTE**. If you have moved, be sure to update your new address.

Mark Your Calendar!

2024 Advocacy Day
Sacramento, CA

Thursday, April 4, 2024
Watch for details!

CalRTA
California Retired
Teachers Association

How to Find Your Local School Board Meeting

Fremont

In person: 4210 Technology Dr, Fremont, CA 94538, 6:30 p.m.

Video: <https://fremontunified.org/about/board/board-meeting-live-stream-video>

Calendar: Usually on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month with some exceptions: Nov.15, 2023, Dec_13, 2023, Jan.17, 2024, Feb.14 and 28, 2024

Newark

In person: NUSD Boardroom, 5715 Musick., Newark, CA 94560, 7:00 p.m.

Video: Board meeting videos can be accessed through **BOARDDOCS** YOUTUBE channel or the NUSD

Calendar: Usually on the first and third Tuesday of each month with some exceptions. Nov_7, 2023, Dec_5 and 19, 2023, Jan. 23, 2024, Feb. 6 and 20. 2024

Union City (New Haven School District)

In person: 34200 Alvarado-Niles Road Union City, CA, 94587 6:30 p.m.

Video: <https://mynhusd.org/board/board-agendas-meetings/>

Calendar: Usually on the first and third Tuesday of each month with some exceptions. Nov. 7, 2023, Dec. 5, 2023, Jan. 16, 2024, Feb. 6 and 20, 2024

Board vacancies do come up before regular elections, as in this case at New Haven, too late for any action, but something to be aware of. A recent vacancy on the New Haven School Board was announced with an application deadline of Oct. 27. See the following information:

QUALIFICATIONS

- Applicant must be a registered voter and a resident of Trustee Area 2 of the New Haven Unified School District. An employee of a school district may not be sworn into office as an elected or appointed member of that school district's governing board unless and until he or she resigns as an employee. [EC § 35107]
- The appointee will hold office until the next regularly scheduled Statewide General Election for governing board members, which will take place on November 5, 2024, or if and until a special election is required by a petition of District voters.[1] [EC § 5091(e)] Branch news

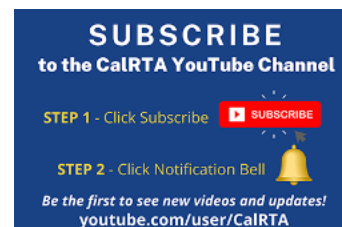
Three Very Important Links



California Retired Teachers Association
F-U-N - Division 91
Your partner in pension protection

<https://div91.calrta.org/>

www.calrta91.org//



<http://www.calrta.org/>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/calrta>



Area IV Report, November 2023

Area IV's Fall Gathering was a Halloween themed event. Not enough "friendly ghosts" signed-up so we reverted to a Zoom format. Eighteen of us attended in various costumes. Our motto was "costumes admired but not required." Our President-elect, Mark Allen, consented to be our "Key-note speaker" and offered updates on topics from the PBI data breach to our close work with CalSTRS. FYI—he also presented CaIRTA news to Division #59's October Luncheon. Good to get to know Mark's back story, as well as his knowledge of the State happenings. Ed TePas, also, Zoomed in to explain the new sub- committee, REACH. "Reach" was formed to offer assistance to Divisions struggling to find Leaders and struggling in general. O u r #1 Division in Pasadena will soon "Merge" with Division #71. Our founder, Laura E. Settle, must be smiling from the great beyond. And this is our 95th year to celebrate—the oldest retired teachers' organization in the nation! Tell your colleagues who have not joined to come celebrate with us. And join.

Another highlight of the Fall Event was a tour of the website presented by our own Area CTC Co-chair, Caprice Caratinni. The evaluations reflected the value of this segment. Caprice reduced the level of hesitancy to explore CaIRTA's site.

Another new subcommittee, Diversity, was explored in break-out rooms where a set of questions were shared regarding how "multicultural" each participant's life has been--diversity in your neighborhood, your teaching site, your organizations, etc. Evaluations showed that more time was needed for this activity. A good start for more awareness of this important new commitment to the new sub-committee.

Advocacy was promoted by our 3 Area chairs. L i n d a and Dale Koistinen and Sharon Buckley offered us an overview of legislation now being considered and the success our GRC has had in making the Supplemental Benefit Maintenance Account for elderly retirees a reality. The supplemental checks are in the mail! (or deposited) Sharon then presented a crossword puzzle for attendees to download, complete at home and return to her for rewards. The crossword challenged puzzlers to show-off their knowledge of CaIRTA's acronyms, dues, committees, WEP/GPO and so-on.

Nancy Meyers, our Area Membership Chair presented a power-point that explained various ways to encourage sign-ups and retention. This power point could also be shared among the divisions and beyond. And Area IV's Fall gathering was delighted to welcome a brand-new member who brought new energy to our "coven."

Finally, our members were reminded of Tech Talks, Armchair Chats, Legislative Alerts, Advocacy articles in each newsletter and important dates for Advocacy Day in Sacramento April 4th and Delegate Assembly, also in Sacramento, June 2024. No tricks but many treats for our loyal leaders of Area IV!

Mary Kay Henderson, Area IV, Co-Char

Ps. Thanks to Muriel and Sharon for representing Division #91 so often and so well.

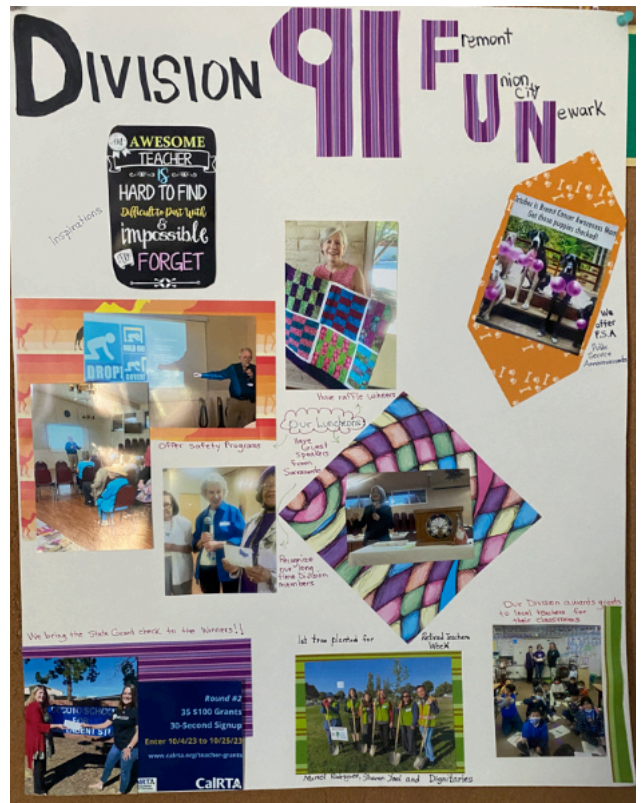
Area 4 "Coven"



Mary Kay wrote such a wonderful Board Report about our get-together that I thought I would share it with you in case you wanted to use any part of it for your division. I'm also attaching the the Diversity sheet, Div. 91's poster, and a photo of the "coven."



To establish ourselves as the premiere retired educators' organization, it's imperative that we consistently promote a unified message. This unified message should emphasize our dedication to growing our membership, serving as a non-partisan advocate at both state and federal levels and communicating to our membership. Additionally, we must highlight the significance of our REACH and Diversity sub-committees. REACH is instrumental in supporting our divisions and proactively work towards increasing leadership among our members. Diversity sub-committee works to ensure our organization represents a broad spectrum of voices and experiences within the retired educator community.



MEMBER DISCOUNTS

& APPROVED VENDORS

New Options! New Savings!

LEARN MORE

California Retired Teachers Association



The DEI committee came up with these categories. Of course, they don't encompass everything/everyone, and every division reflects some composition of these categories. Some people might not feel comfortable even letting you know where they fall on the diversity spectrum. In CalRTA, we are looking at the committee as an opportunity to be more welcoming and friendly. The reality of the bay area is that we are a diverse community, and we want CalRTA to reflect and celebrate that. Here's an activity to open the door to conversation and connection.

Groups to consider:

1. Hispanic/Latinx
2. Black/African American
3. Asian
4. Native American/Indigenous People
5. LGBTQIA+ (Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Trans/Queer/Intersex/Asexual/+)
6. Pacific Islander
7. People with Disabilities (or is it physically challenged, or differently abled?)
8. Seniors
9. Minority religious groups
10. Other (i.e. socioeconomic differences)

Questions to Discuss (you might not have time for all, so feel free to pick and choose):

- At what age did you realize that there were multiple ethnicities in the world?
- Physical abilities, religions, gender id, sexual orientation
- Was your elementary school multiethnic? - how so? How not so? What other kind of differences were acknowledged and/or celebrated (or not)?
- Did you live in a diverse neighborhood?
- How have you endeavored to be inclusive of others in your adult life?
- What inclusion activities did you foster in your classroom while teaching?
- What diversity strengths/qualities do you connect to because of your family history and/or background?
- What have you experienced personally because of groups you're identified with?



Save the Date
**2024 Annual Convention
& Delegate Assembly**
June 7-9, 2024 | Hyatt Regency Sacramento



Join us as we
Celebrate 95 years of success!
Proudly protecting your pension and retirement security.

WE ARE CalRTA

**Note the change to June
for the 2024 Convention.**