



# THE INTERCOM

Newsletter of the California Retired  
County Employees Association (CRCEA)  
January 2015

www.crcea.org

Issue #1-2015



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Where has the year gone? Our conference was just over. Then came Thanksgiving and then came Christmas followed by a New Year.

I can only hope that each and every one of us made it through 2014 with a minimum of trouble and a maximum of good news, feelings, and hope.

As we head into 2015, let me begin by thanking everyone for the vote of confidence given to all of the members of the Executive Committee by re-electing us to another term. The responsibility is not taken lightly. We must keep vigilant in all the issues that impact or even might impact us as retirees. Watching the goings on in our counties, in California and throughout the nation may well give us a peek into the future antics of those that wish to do harm to the pension systems and benefits that we all rely on.

While the attack in Ventura County was averted, the tactic

and rhetoric of those involved have already put us on guard for what might be lurking in the weeds for 2016 (if not before).

The bankruptcies in San Bernardino and Stockton seem to be working themselves out, but with an opinion of one judge indicating that retiree benefits could be attacked (even though it did not happen) leaves me with less than a comfortable feeling.

Along these lines, CRCEA is active in San Diego County in a small coalition of other retiree groups searching for common ground that ALL retirees might stand on to resist any adverse actions against our retirement benefits. The group is made up of representatives from the city retirement system, the county retirement system, CRCEA, and CalPERS and CalSTRS. We will be meeting again in February for further discussion and brain-storming.

We also continue to monitor the Long-Term Care situation that was brought about by CalPERS announcing an 85% premium increase going forward. The special ad hoc committee has been constantly monitoring those issues as well as what may be able to be done to protect our members who have policies with CalPERS LTC.

The first hurdle was jumped when the court did not allow CalPERS to keep the suit from being a class action. That specific issue was discussed at our Conference in October by one of the attorneys working on the case. Dave Muir (LA County) has kept in close touch with the law firm and will report any breaking news. As you all probably know, nothing moves quickly when it comes to litigation.

You have noticed that I have mentioned the CRCEA October Conference, so I cannot close without recognizing the very positive responses we got back from those attending in Sacramento. The location was great, the agenda was great, and it showed off the work and planning that was done by the host committee.

Our next gathering will be in San Bernardino in April. That's just around the corner so be sure to mark your calendars for April 20-22, 2015. The Fall Conference should be another good one.

At the risk of being a broken record, again CRCEA continues to reach out for Affiliates. Those are businesses that provide services to retirees and who we can approach to be affiliates of CRCEA. If anyone

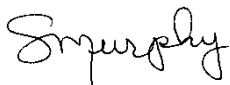
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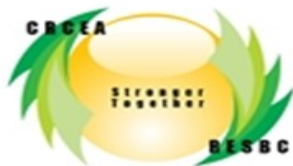
has a suggestion or recommendation, please contact Bill de la Garza, or any member of the Executive Committee, and we will do the work.

CRCEA is the only organization looking out for the retirees of '37 Act counties on the state level. If any of you know any retirees who are not members of your local retiree association, talk with them and encourage them to join. Only through numbers do we have strength and only through our strength can we obtain success.

Until next time.....



Skip Murphy  
President, CRCEA



**See You at the CRCEA  
Spring Conference in April!  
by Deborah Barmack  
Chair, Planning Committee  
RESBC**

The Retired Employees of San Bernardino County (RESBC) are proud to host the 2015 CRCEA Spring Conference in Ontario on April 20-22. Our conference theme "STRONGER TOGETHER" represents the importance of the 20 county retirement sys-

tems throughout California constituted under the 1937 Retirement Act to build a strong coalition and work together to strengthen and protect the benefits guaranteed to retired public workers.

RESBC has built an agenda designed to educate and entertain CRCEA members attending the conference. There is a great line up of speakers, as well as a new legislative format under development to focus on both state and federal initiatives affecting pension fund rights and management.

We look forward to seeing all of the CRCEA Counties at the Ayres Hotel and Suites in Ontario, California. This beautiful hotel was selected to provide first rate accommodations in a relaxed and quaint atmosphere that lends itself to good fellowship and discussion among our members. Look forward to receiving your registration packet in the mail soon. We urge you to share information about the conference with all of your membership!

We look forward to seeing you in April 2015!

**A New Website for CRCEA  
by Mike Sloan  
Vice President, CRCEA**

CRCEA's webmaster, Ann Gregory, has managed, updated, and improved our website for the past six years, and she has now decided that it is time for her to retire from this

position. Ann has done a yeoman's job of monitoring and caring for our website, and the Board of Directors is fully aware of the time required to fulfill the responsibilities of this position.

With that in mind, the Board has decided to consider outsourcing the position, and at the same time, investigate the possibilities of redesigning and updating the site. To this end, I have begun a search for an individual, or company, who might be interested in assisting the Board in designing, implementing, and maintaining the site.

I have sent surveys to all 20 association presidents in CRCEA, asking for input regarding their website and their recommendations for improving our site. I also quizzed each of them regarding how happy they are with their current webmaster, if they would recommend their services to others, and if their webmaster would be willing to work with me in developing CRCEA's new site.

To date, I have received responses from six of our twenty associations, and four of the respondents are interested in any information regarding my findings, so they can either update or start their own site. Also, I am aware of two others associations, Los Angeles and Contra Costa, are planning to upgrade their sites, and are interested in possibly "piggybacking" on our upgrade. Having multiple juris-

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dictions interested in similar products could possibly result in a lower cost for all.

I have talked to at least four website providers, and have been given prices to build a new site that varies from free to \$5,000. So far, I do not think any of the associations are interested in spending at the high end for a site. There are several proposals in the \$2,000 range for set up, and then approximately \$600 per year to update and maintain the site.

Shortly after the first of the year, we will be sending out a RFP (Request For Proposal) to those companies and individuals that have expressed interest in submitting a bid. If you believe your website provider would be interested in providing service to CRCEA, please have them forward an email to me advising of their interest, and I will be sure to include them, when the RFP is ready. My e-mail address is: [mesloan1@aol.com](mailto:mesloan1@aol.com)

**2015 Spring Conference  
Deadline Dates  
by Dorothy Lueking  
Secretary, CRCEA**

If you or your Association have any proposals to be considered at the 2015 Spring Conference in Ontario (San Bernardino County), please take note of the following deadlines which must be met in order to have proposals placed on the Business Ses-

sion Agenda. The Conference will be held **APRIL 20-22, 2015**. The Business session will be on the last day of the Conference, Wednesday, April 22, 2015.

**90 DAYS BEFORE THE CONFERENCE – JANUARY 20, 2015:** Any proposals to change the dues rate or structure must be submitted in writing to the President and Secretary; any proposals for Bylaws changes must be submitted in writing to the Chair of the Bylaws Committee and the Secretary.

**60 DAYS BEFORE THE CONFERENCE – FEBRUARY 19, 2015:** CRCEA notifies, in writing, Associations of any proposed changes to dues rate or structure; Bylaws Committee notifies Associations of Bylaws changes to be considered at the Conference.

**45 DAYS BEFORE THE CONFERENCE – MARCH 6, 2015:** Nominating Committee recommendations must be submitted to the Executive Committee. NOTE: There are no elections to be held at this Conference.

**30 DAYS BEFORE CONFERENCE – MARCH 21, 2015:** CRCEA Secretary sends Official Notification Letter to all associations stipulating the date of the upcoming Conference and any dues rate/structure or Bylaws changes to be considered at the Conference.

If you have any questions regarding these deadlines, please contact CRCEA Secre-

tary Dorothy Lueking.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**  
CRCEA President, Skip Murphy: email address: [smurph65@cox.net](mailto:smurph65@cox.net)

CRCEA Secretary Dorothy Lueking: email address: [dottylu@roadrunner.com](mailto:dottylu@roadrunner.com)

Bylaws Committee Chair David Muir: email address: [dmuir6@gmail.com](mailto:dmuir6@gmail.com)

Anything in writing may be mailed to: CRCEA Secretary Dorothy Lueking, P.O. Box 310756, Fontana, CA 92331

**Upcoming CRCEA  
Conferences**

Spring 2015  
San Bernardino (RESBC)

Fall 2015  
San Joaquin (RPESJC)

Spring 2016  
Kern (REOKC)

Fall 2016  
Contra Costa (CCCREA)

Spring 2017  
Ventura (REAVC)

Fall 2017  
Alameda (REAC)

*“You can avoid having ulcers by adapting to the situation. If you fall in the mud puddle, check your pockets for fish.”  
~Author Unknown*

**CRCEA  
Executive Board**

E.F. "Skip" Murphy  
President

Mike Sloan  
Vice President

Carlos Gonzalez  
Treasurer

Dorothy Lueking  
Secretary

William "Bill" de la Garza  
Immediate Past President

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Committees/Chairs**

Affiliate  
William "Bill" de la Garza

Benefits  
John Michaelson

Bylaws  
David Muir

Communications  
Virginia Adams

Conference  
Betty McCollum

Executive  
E.F. "Skip" Murphy

Finance/Audit  
Jerry Jacobs

Legislative  
Art Goulet

Legislative Advisory  
E.F. "Skip" Murphy

**CRCEA  
Committees/Chairs  
(continued)**

Membership  
Rhonda Biesemeier

Nominating  
Will Hoag

Retirement Security  
Mike DeBord and  
George Shoemaker

**CRCEA  
Member  
Associations/  
Presidents**

Alameda County  
Stephen Scheinman

Contra Costa County  
Mike Sloan

Fresno County  
Julie Hornback

Imperial County  
Manuel Quintero

Kern County  
Phil Franey

Los Angeles County  
David Muir

Marin County  
Mary Ann Gallardo

Mendocino County  
Sue Thornhill

Merced County  
Leon "Sandy" Teague

**CRCEA  
Member  
Associations/  
Presidents  
(continued)**

Orange County  
Linda Robinson and  
Doug Storm

Sacramento County  
Kiyoshi "Pat" Adachi

San Bernardino County  
Wes McDaniel

San Diego County  
Susan Mallett

San Joaquin County  
Bob Palmer

San Mateo County  
Linda Bruzzon

Santa Barbara County  
Annette Paladino

Sonoma County  
Carol Bauer

Stanislaus County  
Rhonda Biesemeier

Tulare County  
Kevin Mizner

Ventura County  
Nancy Settle

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