

## **Planning to Retire? Plan to join SLOCREA: SLO County Retired Employees' Association!**

Check out our website at [www.slocrea.org](http://www.slocrea.org). We have links to many organizations important to Seniors, people considering retiring, &/or people needing info for aging relatives. Want to see other links on our website? Let us know.

Find our brochure and new member application at [www.slocrea.org](http://www.slocrea.org).

We are an all-volunteer organization for everyone who receives a pension from SLO County Pension Trust. Everyone. Including DROPpers! Yes, if you are in DROP, you are qualified right now to join SLOCREA! Divorced and widowed spouses are also qualified to join.

This month our shout out goes to foster parents and everyone who helps support foster parents and foster children.

Last September my column covered the importance of having a will and a living or revocable trust. I'm reinforcing that here. You need a will! And you need to keep it up to date.

There's a lot of good info about wills and trusts online these days. You may choose to do your own, based on the info you obtain online. I do recommend that you hire an attorney to do it if you have children or real property or much of anything of value. This is especially true if you and your partner have offspring from prior relationships. You want to be sure that the will and trust are comprehensive and an accurate account of your wishes.

An attorney will also be sure you have a legal Advance Health Directive. Mine is easy to copy and give to a doctor or hospital.

Remember, having a will & trust avoids Probate.

I have also learned it's important to create a list and an assemble documents for one's Next of Kin. In fact one entity is promoting a "NOKBox." It's a go-to place for whoever survives you, where they will find all the info they need beyond the will and living trust. I think we can create our own Next of Kin document(s) ourselves. The commercial one is super comprehensive, so the main advantage could be to be sure you have not forgotten anything. Again, the Internet is replete with that type of information.

Don't wait till it's too late!

SLOCREA's March meeting was well attended even though we had a late change in topic. SLOCREA Member Barbara Bullock presented her Dahlia growing endeavor and gave each of us a Dahlia seedling. Her Dahlias are stunningly beautiful!

**Next General SLOCREA Meeting: Tuesday May 7<sup>th</sup> at SLO Elks Lodge.**

**Topic: Health of our Pension Trust, by Katie Girardi**

**Buffet Lunch. Cost: \$20.00 for SLOCREA Members; \$25.00 for Non-Members.**

**RSVP to [mikigillman@gmail.com](mailto:mikigillman@gmail.com) by 8:00 PM Tuesday April 30, 2024.**

**Next SLOCREA Board Meeting: TBA. Contact Miki as above if you want to attend.**

**Happy May! Happy Mother's Day!**

*The opinions expressed in this article are solely those of the author and are subject to change at any time.*