

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

Check out our website at www.slocrea.org. We have links to many organizations important to Seniors, people considering retiring, &/or people needing info for aging relatives. Please let us know of any other links you'd like to see on our website.

Also, on our website we have a brochure containing a new member application. Your 1st year is free. The dues for subsequent years is \$15.00 per year or \$40.00 for 3 years: your choice.

We are an all-volunteer organization for everyone who receives a pension from SLO County Pension Trust. Everyone, including DROppers and divorced and widowed spouses.

This month's shoutout goes to the county road crew. If December's rains are any indication of what this winter will bring, you are all going to be very busy.

Our December Holiday Party was a great success! We had a record number of Attendees filling the Madonna Inn's Round Room with 60 people! We had 3 people on our waiting list, but not even one person cancelled. Entertainment was by the Bald Spots, a 6-man singing group of guys who also sing in the SLO Master Chorale. They include 2 county retirees. They received 2 standing ovations! We plan to have them sing for us again in 2024.

In 2024 we expect to again have lunch meetings in March, May, July (outdoors), October and December. The July event is usually the 2nd Tuesday. The March luncheon will likely be Monday the 11th, because Tuesday the 5th is Election Day for the California Primary. The other meetings will likely be on the 1st Tuesday of May, October & December. We are retired and volunteers... Check our website near these months to ascertain our meeting details.

January is a great time to assess your retirement plans. What are your criteria for retiring? Your age? Health considerations? Grandchildren to spend time with? Aging parents or disabled relatives to help? Attaining a monetary goal in Deferred Comp? Attaining a certain percentage in the formula? Whatever it may be, does it need updating? Do you need to tweak your plan to attain your goals? No time like the present to do that.

Guess what! You can get burned out in your volunteer positions in retirement, too. It's best to have a plan for that: an exit strategy, and perhaps some other endeavors in mind as replacements. I am pleased to announce that this year I'll be transitioning the presidency of SLOCREA to Brian Reynolds. Last January I became past president of Central Coast Dragon Boat Association and this January I'll step off their board entirely. That will give me more time to learn Italian and train for dragon boat racing. I'm looking forward to it.

Wishing All of You a Very Happy New Year!

The opinions expressed in this article are solely those of its author and are subject to change without notice.