

January 2023 Blade Article

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. Also on our website we have a brochure containing a new member application.

Please let us know of any other links you'd like to see on our website.

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. We are pleased that many new retirees are indeed getting application forms from our website.

Remember: The 1st year of membership is free. After that you'll have the option of renewing for 3 years @ \$40.00 or renewing annually at \$15.00 a year.

January's shout out goes to our Library staff. We need our public libraries now more than ever before. Modern procedures make it easy to find and check out books and to renew them as needed (you can renew online!) You can even check out movies and electronic books. Our libraries are tremendous resources for all sorts of information.

In December SLOCREA had our very 1st in-person luncheon since March 2020. It was a great success! We had a banquet luncheon at the Madonna Inn. Forty-eight people attended. People were glad to see each other again. Plus we now have a whole slew of newer retirees who have joined SLOCREA who attended our lunch.

Violinist Brynn Albanese played a for over half an hour for us. She also spoke about her work as an end-of-life doula. She plays her violin at various hospitals and similar facilities in SLO County and Northern Santa Barbara County. She was in Café Musique until they disbanded and was concert master of the SLO Symphony until she resigned in 2020 to follow her heart. She has been concert master of many other orchestras as well (Boston Pops, included). We are so very fortunate to have her in this county!

We decided to switch our meetings to the 1st Tuesdays of the month for our March, May, October and December meetings in 2023. Our July meeting will be the 2nd Tuesday. And we will likely have indoor meetings for March, May and December, probably at the Madonna Inn, and outdoor meetings July and October. Details to be announced closer to the dates.

Dates and venues are subject to change, so please check our website at [slocrea.org](http://slocrea.org), or contact us via email for the latest information. We are making arrangements for those first two meetings as I write this. We anticipate that Carl Nelson will give his annual State of Pension

Trust presentation in either March or May. We'll have an interesting informational presentation in whichever of those 2 months Carl does not give his presentation. Stay tuned.

As I'm sure you all noticed, the election for District 2 Supervisor was very, very close. A number of ballots could not be counted because they lacked the voter's signature. Others were mailed late or not received by the deadline. Oops! I hope none of you forgot to sign your ballot. Let this be a reminder to be sure our voter status is always up to date, we sign where we are supposed to and we get our ballots in on time. We don't get extensions on the voter deadlines.

What new activities and enterprises beckon you in this New Year? I'll be having cataract surgery in January, hoping this restores my color and peripheral vision as well as focus. In April we'll travel to New Zealand for the International Breast Cancer Participatory Dragon Boat Festival, along with other breast cancer survivors from all over the world.

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

Wishing All of You a Safe and Happy New Year!