Dom Summa, President dsummacal@aol.com 442-334-7137

Marla Reyes, Vice President marlaed@earthlink.net 559-250-6610

Felice Strauss Treasurer felicecso@gmail.com 949-742-0377

Pam Bowen Secretary Pambow7@gmail.com 951-235-1722

Marilyn Bittle, Director-At-Large Mmrbret2002@aol.com 562-434-7113

Newsletter Editor Margaret Wallace marwall@aol.com

Kathie Casas, Webmaster KLCasas@gmail.com 951-694-0711 http://www.reacta.org



**Retirement Trust Update** 

This week we all received a letter from our Retirement Benefits Trust about the condition of our pension plan. Although it is long and can be complicated, it is very important for retirees to carefully read this letter in order to understand our current situation. You can read the answer to Q 11 on page 4, breathe a sigh of relief and file the letter with your retirement papers. The statement that "No changes can be made for anyone who is already receiving benefit payments from the Plan..." assures us the status quo. However, any changes to the plan for current employees will impact not only their future benefit but the overall financial health of the Plan. As retirees, we should understand the many causes of the current move to the Red Zone. As advocates, we should encourage all parties to the Collective Bargaining Agreement to adopt a rehabilitation plan that has the least impact on all current employees. Your REACTA Officers will closely monitor these developments and keep you informed.

## **Schools and Community First**

CTA is part of a coalition that is sponsoring a ballot initiative for 2020 that will place "Schools and Community First." They will need our help in gathering signatures and working on the campaign. The California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act:

- Restores over \$12 billion a year for services that all Californians rely on like schools and community colleges. \$4.5 billion will support K-12 education and community colleges. The remainder will be shared by counties, cities and special districts to support community services.
- Reforms commercial property taxes, while guaranteeing existing protections for residential property and agricultural land.
- Closes the millionaire, billionaire, and big corporation tax loophole by requiring all commercial and industrial properties to be assessed at fair market value.

## Important Numbers to Remember:

Administrator for the CTA Employees' Health Trust: William C. Earhart Co. 12029 NE Glenn Widing Dr. Portland, Oregon 97220 (503) 460-5242 (877) 396-2942

Administrator for the CTA Employees' Retirement Trust: BeneSys Administrators 7180 Koll Center Parkway, Suite 200

Pleasanton, CA 94566 P. O. Box 154 San Ramon, CA 94583 (833) 265-2277 (925) 208-2277 Fax: (925) 395-4101

Congratulations to recent retirees Linda Virden (R4), Tami Besada (R3), Mary Jordan (R3), Georgine Tomasi (R4), Angela Boyle (R3) and Don Hillman (R3). Welcome to our world and we hope you join us in REACTA!! More information is available on their website, <a href="https://www.schoolsandcommunitiesfirst.org/">https://www.schoolsandcommunitiesfirst.org/</a>

REACTA has been in contact with new CTA Executive Director Joe Boyd to offer our assistance. Political Education Chair Conrad Ohlson will be our liaison to CTA's Political Organizers. Please contact Conrad at <u>ctaswede@aol.com</u>.

## A Day With The Angels

This is not what you may think! REACTA is considering purchasing a block of tickets for our members and their guests to attend the May 31, 2020 baseball game between the Los Angeles (still Anaheim to me!) Angels and the New York Yankees. Reserved Field Level tickets will be \$45. We would have to purchase 20 tickets and the Angels will hold another 20 seats next to the original block until three weeks prior to the game. Before making the purchase of 20 tickets, I would like to know how many of you might be interested in attending. If the response is greater than 20, I will purchase additional seats. Payment will be due early next year. Please send me an email with the number of tickets you are interested in purchasing. Thanks!!

## **Cambria Annual Reunion & Meeting**

The REACTA Annual Reunion and Meeting in Cambria for 2020 will be held on October 4 - 6. We will start with a reception on Sunday afternoon, October 4. Our Hot Topics Forum, Business Meeting and group dinner will be on Monday, October 5. We will hear reports about the status of our Pension Trust and Health/Welfare Trust. Political Education will be an important Hot Topic! Representatives from CTA Management, CSO and CAS will be invited to attend. Save the dates. Registration material and other information will be available in early 2020.