

# REACTA HOT TOPICS

DECEMBER 20, 2018

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 8

## *REACTA Officers*

**Dom Summa,  
President  
dsummacal@aol.com  
760-972-4640**

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

**Art McLoughlin,  
Treasurer  
Mickey3643@aol.com  
831-633-4185**

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

**Marilyn Bittle,  
Director-At-Large  
Mmr Bret2002@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>**



## **"An Injury to One is an Injury to All"**

It would be nice to report some good news this Holiday Season, but unfortunately our Pension Trust trustees have decided to take "no action" regarding the three retirees who were "overpaid" by the trust. Last month I reported that the retirees received a letter from the trust stating there will be a reduction in future retirement benefits due to the failure of the previous Trust Administrator to accurately determine their benefit. In each case, the retiree selected the Social Security Offset. Each case has its own circumstances that should have led the Trust to deal with these individuals in a more humane manner. Instead, the new Trust administrator has been directed to keep collecting these alleged overpayments which range from \$45,000 to \$140,000, reducing each pension check by up to 25%.

Last month REACTA retained an attorney with expertise in ERISA issues which confirmed that the Trust can only go back and recover up to three years of overpayments. The Trust administrator is going back up the NINE years! If the Trust is allowed to skirt the law in California, it has tremendous impact on ALL current CTA employees and retirees whether CAS, CSO, Confidential, Supervisory, Leadership or Management. I sent a background paper to the Trustees outlining our concerns and offering better solutions. Our Legal Opinion was also shared with the Trustees. To date, I have not received a response!

REACTA is committed to provide the support necessary to assist these retirees. What happened to these retirees could happen to other retirees if a calculation error is discovered. This brings true meaning to the motto "An Injury to One is an Injury to All!"

**REACTA recently learned about the passing of Ara Prigen. Ara was a long time CTA staff member and worked in most areas of the state! The REACTA Facebook page has many comments about Ara and his commitment to his colleagues. Ara retired in September and immediately joined REACTA. May he RIP.**

*Happy Holidays from your REACTA Officers*



## **Cambria Annual Reunion and Meeting Dates**

We have a possible conflict with the meeting dates previously announced for the REACTA Annual Reunion and Meeting in Cambria for 2019. Art contacted the Cambria Pines Lodge and we now have two options:

- We can start on Wednesday, October 2 and finish on Friday, October 4.
- We can start on Monday, October 13 and finish on Wednesday, October 15.

Please let me know via email if you have a preference. I know there was some resistance to ending on Friday because of the commute home. However, some may want to stay Friday night and return on Saturday. Send me your comments and we will proceed with setting a date. Thanks!

## **REACTA Scholarship Program 2019**

Please remind your eligible family members that the 2019 REACTA Scholarship Application Packet is now available on our Facebook page or the REACTA website, [www.reacta.org](http://www.reacta.org). The deadline for submitting your completed application is February 28, 2019. We will award up to three scholarships, each valued at \$2000. Questions should be sent to Marla Reyes.

## **REACTA Officers Election Results**

The REACTA Elections Committee met to count ballots and have released the following results:

President	Dom Summa	178
Vice President	Marla Reyes	182
Treasurer	Felice Strauss	180
Secretary	Pam Bowen	181
Member at Large	Marilyn Bittle	179

Two Write-In Votes:

President, Ramon Romero	1
Member at Large, James Essman	1

Congratulations to the new team of officers!