

REACTA HOT TOPICS

MARCH 17, 2021

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 3

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Medicare Advantage Plan...A Seat at the Table

A "shout out" thank you to the many REACTA members who responded to our last Hot Topics Special Edition on Medicare Advantage Plans. I received many compliments and concerns from members about potential issues if our Trust moved to replace our Medicare coverage with an MA plan from Anthem. Our concerns were strongly communicated to both labor and management trustees and it had a positive impact. REACTA was invited to attend a virtual meeting with Trust administrators, Anthem Blue Cross representatives and both labor and management trustees. The purpose is for REACTA to communicate directly with the Trust and present our questions and concerns to the actual decision-makers. This meeting will take place on April 13, 2021.

Your officers still want to hear from you about your concerns with a Medicare Advantage Plan. **REACTA will host a Virtual Town Hall Meeting for members on Tuesday, March 30 at 4 p.m.** You can enter the meeting by using this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87245117380>

As stated earlier, retirees with Kaiser are already covered by the Kaiser Medicare Advantage plan. This apparently works well since there is a seamless transition using the existing Kaiser network.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Pension Trust Moving Toward Green

Your officers received a report from Alan Frey, our Pension Trust liaison, that our Trust is much stronger financially due to the increased contribution from CTA and a robust stock market gain in 2020. We should spend 2021 in the "yellow" zone and move into the "green" zone by 2022. This is very good news given the number of times we were in and out of the red zone the past ten years. A more detailed report will be in the April REACTOR.



Important Numbers to Remember:

Administrator for the CTA Employees' Health Trust:
William C. Earhart Co.
3140 N.E. Broadway
Portland, OR 97208
(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

Congratulation to recent CTA retirees including Jim Schlotz, Ramon Gomez, Susan Midori Jones, Shirley Avila, Mark Herrmann, Pat Fuentes, Bonita Lovell and Nancy Stinson!

Scholarship Deadline Approaching

The postmark deadline for submitting a complete Scholarship Application Packet is **April 15**. The packet is available on the REACTA website and may also be obtained by sending an email to our committee chair Marilyn Bittle. Thanks!

Virtual Book Club Will Meet Again!

After a very successful book club meeting in February, Margaret Wallace will host another book club discussion on **April 28, 2021** at 5 p.m. The book selected is Midnight Library by Matt Haig. To register, please email Margaret.

Zoom Into Spring Happy Hours

Your officers decided that we will have virtual Spring Happy Hours this May instead of in-person dining. We know many members are receiving vaccinations but feel it is too soon to gather in person. **Our "Zoom into Spring Virtual Happy Hours" will be on Monday, May 24 for Regions 1, 2 and Headquarters. Tuesday, May 25 will be the date for Regions 3 and 4.** You may attend both sessions which will start at 5 p.m. Save these dates and more information will be sent with the April REACTOR.

Annual Meeting Plans Going Forward

The REACTA Annual Meeting is scheduled for **October 4-6, 2021** at the Cambria Pines Lodge. Our Hot Topics, business meeting and group dinner is scheduled for Tuesday, October 5. Our current contract with the hotel requires us to give notice by July 1 if we want to cancel without any penalties. We are still hopeful that we can meet in person in October. However, it would be helpful if we had a better count of how many might plan to attend in person. Please email Kerry Moriarty if you might attend. This is not a guarantee as we all know situations may change later.

On a sad note....

Former Region 1 manager Vince Amendola passed on March 3. He was 97 years old. Vince was a larger-than-life figure who had a major impact on the growth of CTA, especially in the SF Bay Area. Vince and Claire attended several of our REACTA Annual Meetings. Our condolences to Claire and his family. Cards may be sent to 527 Fulton Ln., St. Helena, CA 94574.