

# REACTA HOT TOPICS

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## REACTA Officers

**Dom Summa,**  
President  
[dsummacal@aol.com](mailto:dsummacal@aol.com)  
760-972-4640

**Marla Reyes,**  
Vice President  
[marlaed@earthlink.net](mailto:marlaed@earthlink.net)  
559-250-6610

**Art McLoughlin,**  
Treasurer  
[Mickey3643@aol.com](mailto:Mickey3643@aol.com)  
831-633-4185

**Pam Bowen**  
Secretary  
[Pambow7@gmail.com](mailto:Pambow7@gmail.com)  
951-235-1722

**Marilyn Bittle,**  
Director-At-Large  
[Mmbret2002@aol.com](mailto:Mmbret2002@aol.com)  
562-434-7113

**Susan Popovich,**  
Newsletter Editor  
[susanpop@aol.com](mailto:susanpop@aol.com)

**Kathie Casas,**  
Webmaster  
[KCASAS@aol.com](mailto:KCASAS@aol.com)  
951-694-0711  
<http://www.reacta.org>



## Keeping Our Members Informed

Welcome to edition five of REACTA HOT TOPICS. This is my attempt to keep our members informed of actions that not only have the potential to impact our pension and health benefits, but also other topics that promote some of the social interaction REACTA is trying to establish. This issue will update you on the following Hot Topics:

- 2017 Purchasing Power Retroactivity FINALLY paid
- Request for Trustee Liaison to REACTA
- Invitation to attend the CSO-REACTA Summer Reception
- Registration Information available for our Annual Reunion and Meeting in October
- A list of active staff who have given notice of retirement

Please share this with your former colleagues who are not REACTA members.

## Purchasing Power Retroactivity FINALLY Paid

The Pension Benefits Trust administrator has finally made the retroactive payment of past due PPA adjustments for 2017 eligible retirees. Our retirees should not have to wait until July to receive what they are entitled to. See the article below about how we want a designated Trustee Liaison to assist REACTA in making sure our retirees receive future Purchasing Power Adjustments.

## Request For Trustee Liaison to REACTA

Over the past three years, REACTA has communicated with CTA, CSO and CAS about the need to make timely Purchasing Power Adjustments to those eligible retirees. This year the adjustments were not made until May and the retroactive payment checks were not sent until July! This is unacceptable since those impacted are the retirees who most likely depend on their pension. The REACTA officers discussed this problem and the following email letter was sent to CTA Management, CSO and CAS:

*Hello Joe, Nicole and Dawn,*

*Please excuse the informality of an email, but I want you to be aware of an issue that is impacting Pre-1989 CTA employees and their dependents. In 2010 CTA added \$1,000,000 to the Pension Trust in order to provide a purchasing power adjustment for Pre-1989 retirees and dependents. A formula was developed that would gradually increase their purchasing power. After 2012, CTA would fund a maintenance factor of 2% to keep the purchasing power floor at the 2012 level. To the best of our knowledge,*

*all of the phases were properly implemented through 2014. We became aware in late 2015 that adjustments were not made for 2015. Some retirees contacted REACTA and others contacted the trust administrators. Apparently a “glitch” occurred and maintenance factor adjustments were not made. In early 2016 the adjustments were made with retroactivity to January 2015. In April 2017 REACTA was again informed by eligible retirees that maintenance factor adjustments were not made. I called the trust administrator and was informed that they were “working on this” and adjustments would be done in late April and retroactivity made in May. The adjustment was not made until May and as of last week, retroactivity was not yet paid. It is unconscionable for our most senior retirees who receive the lowest benefit to have to wait so long to receive these adjustments.*

*The REACTA officers discussed this problem and made the following recommendations:*

- 1. REACTA notify CTA management, CSO and CAS of the problem and express our dissatisfaction about how our pre-1989 retirees are being treated.*
- 2. Request that the Pension Trust trustees raise this issue at the next Trust meeting and request a thorough explanation from the trust administrator about why this problem exists and what steps will be taken to make sure this does not happen again.*
- 3. Request that the Pension Trust trustees designate one trustee to serve as a liaison to REACTA so concerns of retirees can be directly communicated to a trustee.*
- 4. Request that the trust administrator designate one employee to be the liaison to REACTA so concerns of retirees can be directly communicated to the trust administrator.*

*I hope you will pass this information on to your appointed trustees. If you have any questions or concerns, please let me know. It is important for our most senior retirees to receive the benefits they are entitled to and have been paid for by their former employer.*

*Sincerely,*

*Dom Summa, REACTA President*

Joe and Dawn responded and said they would inform their trustees. Nicole asked Alan Frey, CSO Trustee, to look into the situation and Alan called the trust administrator to push them to get this resolved. We have invited trustees to attend our Annual Meeting in Cambria to keep us informed about what is going on with our Trusts.

### **Bargaining Continues on Pension Trust**

The headline is the same as the last three months. There still is no agreement on how to move our Retirement Pension Trust out of the red zone. The next tripartite bargaining session has been scheduled for later this summer. REACTA will keep you informed of the results of the bargaining.

## **Recent Retirees**

*Ranny Kravetz,  
Santa Fe  
Springs*

*Heather Babka,  
Burlingame*

*Douglas Appel,  
Region 1*

*Gerry Fong,  
NODD  
Burlingame*

## **CSO REACTA Summer Reception**

REACTA members Alice Clement and Ros Wolf are hosting a joint CSO-REACTA party, the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual, in conjunction with CTA's Summer Institute at UCLA. The party will be at the home of Alice Clement, 604 Swathmore Avenue, Pacific Palisades at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, August 1. Retirees are welcome to attend! Please RSVP to Alice at [Dmclement@verizon.net](mailto:Dmclement@verizon.net) or call 310-454-1801.

## **Registration Information Available for REACTA Annual Reunion and Business Meeting**

The REACTA Annual Reunion and Business Meeting will be on October 2-5, 2017, at the Cambria Pines Lodge. ALL retired CTA employees are invited to join us in Cambria. We have invited representatives of CSO, CAS and CTA management to attend our Hot Topic Forum on Tuesday morning, October 3. We will have our literary discussion on the book **The Chilbury Ladies Choir by Jennifer Ryan**. Our business meeting will be on Tuesday afternoon and our group dinner on Tuesday night.

For Wednesday, October 4, we have contacted a local tour company that is willing to offer a five hour private tour of three or four local wineries, including a picnic style lunch for approximately \$75 per person. We need to guarantee 14 participants to get that price. We could get a second van but would need another 14 participants to keep the price at \$75. Sign up information is on the registration form. We are also close to Hearst Castle if you want to make your own tour arrangements.

Please encourage your former colleagues who are not REACTA members to save these dates. Non-members may attend all functions, however, they may not vote in the annual business meeting. Registration forms were sent to REACTA members. You may also go to our website, [www.reacta.org](http://www.reacta.org), our Facebook page or email Art - [mickey3643@aol.com](mailto:mickey3643@aol.com). Please register as soon as possible since our room block is quickly being reserved.

**Congratulations to the CTA Retirees listed to your left. If you worked with any of our newest retirees, please call to congratulate them and ask them to join REACTA!**