

REACTA HOT TOPICS

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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
Mmrbrt2002@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>**



"A Little Bit Country" or "A Little Bit Rock n Roll"?

Most people our age remember the popular hit record of Donnie and Marie Osmond with the above title. Attempting to define their music as one or the other was difficult. That same dilemma is faced by REACTA. Are we a social organization promoting luncheons and meetings to visit with our former colleagues? Or, are we an advocacy organization taking action to protect our pension and health benefits? I personally think the answer lies in the title of the Osmond's big hit. REACTA is "A Little Bit Social Club" AND "A Little Bit Advocacy Organization."

REACTA sponsors several programs that provide opportunities for retirees to socialize. Our Spring Luncheons in each region attracted a total of about one hundred members. Our Annual Reunion and Meeting in Cambria gathers about eighty REACTA members and spouses for social activities and some business. As I stated in the last REACTOR, our resources have been spent on providing college scholarships to family members and our advocacy has pushed for purchasing power adjustments for retirees prior to 1989. REACTA members are very involved in political action including running for office, marching in resistance of current policies and donating time and money to many political campaigns.

REACTA members may choose to be more "country" or "rock n roll" depending on their own interests. Our responsibility is to provide programs that offer a little bit of each!

Annual Reunion and Business Meeting

The REACTA Annual Reunion and Business Meeting is less than two months away. It is time to make your hotel reservations and send in your reservation form to Art. We already have about thirty registered to attend. The hotel deadline is September 1. Our Tuesday morning Hot Topics will include a presentation by one of our Pension trustees. This topic usually generates a lot of interest. More information including registration forms are posted on our website, www.reacta.org. Remember, all CTA retired employees are invited to attend!

Save October 1-3 for REACTA Annual Reunion and Meeting at Cambria Pines Lodge. Deadline for hotel reservations is September 1.

RECENT RETIREES

REACTA congratulates Ara Prigian, Jane Robb and Laura Davis, on their retirement from CTA.

CTA Recommendations for November 6 Election

CTA's recommended candidates for Governor and Superintendent of Public Instruction will be on the November 6 ballot. While much is known about the record of Gavin Newsom, there are many who are unaware of the work done by Tony Thurmond to provide a quality public education for all students in California. CTA's rationale, as explained to its members, was as follows:

As a state Assembly member, school board trustee and city councilman, Thurmond has always kept California's kids as his top priority. While on the West Contra Costa Unified School District board, he oversaw truancy prevention programs, supported school-based mental health programs, and launched a program to teach entrepreneurial skills to disadvantaged students.

Thurmond passed legislation to provide millions of dollars to school districts to keep kids in school and out of the criminal justice system, fought for money to make sure that all California youth in foster care can go to college, and increased funding for early education programs.

In the next HOT TOPICS I will have additional information regarding other candidates recommended by CTA.

REACTA – CSO Reception

The CTA Summer Institute at UCLA provides training on a multitude of topics to over 1000 CTA members. The staff trainers work long hours to make sure our leaders are fully prepared to advocate on behalf of the members. One of the brief “escapes” for trainers is to relax, eat and drink at an informal reception off campus. For many years Jim and Mary Essman opened their home for this event. Over the past five years Alice Clement has been our hostess. On July 31 this year our reception was another big success. The pictures below tell part of the story. Thanks to all who helped with this party!



Our prep team - Cindy, Marilyn, Patricia, Felice, Ros, Alice and Marla



CSO Staff taking a break!