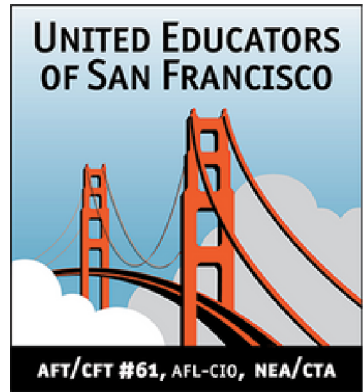


VOL. 1 ISSUE 2

UESF-RETIRED DIVISION

APR • MAY • JUN 2023



ACTIVE NEWS

by Dennis Kelly

- 1) Join us to learn about WEP/GPO
 - What it does to your pension.
 - What you can do about it.
- 2) Constitutional Amendment to designate Division Chair as the convention and conference representative.
- 3) Lunch: Please RSVP so we'll have enough for everyone.
RSVP to Amanda Saiz via email at asaiz@uesf.org or call (415) 956-8373 by **Tuesday, May 16th.**

Support UESF in its fight for a fair contract for all members!

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Date: Thursday, May 18, 2023
Time: 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM
Location: Scottish Rite Masonic Center
2850 19th Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94132
Sloat & 19th Avenues

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WEB/GPO NEWS

by *Kenneth Tray*

Join us on May 18th for a WEB/GPO discussion about the draconian impact upon teachers' retirement in 15 States and public employees in 26 States. California Congressman John Garamendi will speak about efforts in Congress to amend and/or repeal WEB/GPO and retired teacher Anne Hunt will explain how WEB/GPO hurts public employees' retirement and how UESF Retired Division members can support the fight to repeal it.

Important WEB/GPO info from Social Security Fairness:

- What are the Social Security Offsets?

The Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision Security cut retirement benefits that have otherwise been fairly earned by government workers.

- What is the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP)?

The WEP is a penalty imposed on one's own Social Security retirement benefit when one begins to collect a pension from a public agency that did not collect FICA taxes during your employment.

- What is the Government Pension Offset (GPO)?

The Government Pension Offset is a Social Security provision that penalizes individuals who apply for Social Security spousal or survivor benefits if they themselves worked for a state or local government in non-SS-covered employment and are entitled to a government pension from that employment.

- What can be done to address the offsets?

We seek total repeal of both the GPO and WEP. In the 118th Congress (2023-24) the House of Representatives Social Security Fairness (full repeal) bill is: HR 82 introduced by Graves (R-LA) and Spanberger (D-VA).

See you on May 18th for this important discussion!

"Why do Teachers, Firefighters, Social Workers, Police Officers, and other Civil Servants across the country suffer significant cuts to Retirement Benefits due to WEB/GPO Retirement Penalties?"



by Pat Crawford

With our recent dues rebate, we currently have the following balances in our accounts:

Since reactivating in October 2022, our UESF dues have been used to pay for lunches for all in attendance at our three membership meetings and for new retirees at our **NEW RETIREE LUNCHEON**. We hope to continue this practice and look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.





AFT ORGANIZING CONFERENCE

by Mary Anne Ahtye

Hene Kelly (AFT Retirees Program and Policy Council member) and Mary Anne Ahtye (UESF-R Executive Board) represented the UESF Retired Division at the first-ever AFT Retiree Organizing Conference in Orlando, FL, April 17- 20, 2023.

We were joined by 200 + educators, government workers, and others from all over the USA including Puerto Rico and Alaska. We were introduced to a new term for retirees, "Daytime Warriors" to add to our repertoire of union titles and sayings.

The main focus of the conference provided us with an organizing framework to strengthen our Retiree Organizations. The highlights were to strategically plan for a campaign, develop a committee plan with tasks, role-playing practice in talking and communicating with retirees in their areas, and free choice breakout options to focus on what we wanted to accomplish in our organizations.

The best part of the conference was meeting other retirees who shared their challenges in organizing their chapters.

The sharing of issues ran the gamut of organizing a whole state, to resuscitate our 700+ UESF Retired Division and electing a new Chair & Executive Board and our efforts to provide a program our members will be proud of. The conference provided a comprehensive framework of resources that included staff time, printed materials, charts, and AFT communication vehicles.

We left invigorated and energized to use and follow up on all we learned at this conference and to begin our individual organizing processes.



SEEKING YOUR INPUT!

by Susan Kitchell



Survey Notice:

Your Retired Division Officers and Executive Board are seeking your input! We will be asking you to complete a brief survey about this year's RD programming as we begin our preparations for the coming year. We are looking forward to seeing you on May 18th at 10:30 AM at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center on 19th Avenue. Turn in your completed survey when you pick up your free lunch!



L-R: Honorary Guest Tom Ammiano, Ken Tray, Dennis Kelly, & Susan Kitchell

ACTIVITIES & RESOURCE COMMITTEE (ARC)

by Lisa Gutierrez Guzmàn

Hello everyone! This short note is from your friendly co-chairs of the Activities and Resource Committee (ARC). The Retired Division is in a position to offer complimentary catered food at all of our membership meetings this year. In our planning for next year, we want to evaluate what worked for you and what did not. At our May 18th meeting we will be handing out a short survey asking you what you thought about the food, the service, the location, and the speakers at our meetings. Please give us your honest opinions. Our feelings won't be hurt at all. We need your thoughts so that we can determine if our outreach efforts should change next year.

In addition, please RSVP if you will be attending the May 18th meeting so that we will know how many lunches to order for our final meeting of the year (and let us know if you unexpectedly cannot attend by a day or two before the event so we don't order too much food). We hope to see you on Thursday, May 18th!

Appreciatively,
Lisa Gutierrez Guzmàn
Mary Anne Ahtye
Co-Chairs of the ARC Committee of the UESF-Retired Division