

UESF RETIREE NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MAY
16

Scottish Rite
Memorial Temple

19TH AVENUE AND SLOAT

10:30AM – 12PM

CALSTRS REPRESENTATIVE KEVIN DUNN FROM THE SANTA CLARA MEMBER SERVICE CENTER WILL BE THE PRESENTER. HE WILL ADDRESS THE CURRENT AND FUTURE STATUS OF THE PENSION PROGRAM.

[Click Here to RSVP for Lunch](#)

RSVP: bit.ly/UERetiredRSVP

RETIRED DIVISION ELECTION RESULTS



Linda Felix

Terri Lai

Lisa Gutierrez-
Guzman

Ken Tray

Mary Anne
Ahtye

Sandra Mack

Nominations closed at the March Membership Meeting with only one nominee for each officer position. As a result, the members of the 2024-26 Executive Board were elected by acclamation and will take office in May.

Terri Lai, retired librarian, and Linda Felix, retired paraprofessional, will join the Executive Board as at-large members.

Sandra Mack and Hene Kelly stepped down. The Retired Division thanks them for the work they did to help bring the Division back after the pandemic had effectively closed down the organization.

Pat Crawford will continue as Treasurer and Dennis Kelly will remain as president. The position of secretary was open after an earlier resignation.

Lisa Guiterrez-Guzman will move from an at-large position to become the vice-president, succeeding Sandra Mack. Mary Ann Ahtye will move from an at-large position to serve as secretary.

Ken Tray and Elaine Merriweather continue in office and round out the at-large members of the Board.

Anyone interested in serving as a committee chair in this all-volunteer group is invited to contact Dennis Kelly.

THE FIGHT FOR WEB/GPO REPEAL AND SOCIAL SECURITY FAIRNESS CONTINUES

For the first time the House Ways and Means Committee is considering support of HR82 the Social Security Fairness Act and possibly voting to support repealing or amending the unfair reduction of hard earned retirement benefits of educators and other civil servants in 26 states, including California. There are now well over 300 co-sponsors of repeal legislation in the House, but it still needs to get out of the committee and onto the floor for debate and a vote.

On the home front it is more than disappointing that Speaker Emerita, Nancy Pelosi, has still failed to become a co-sponsor. Members are urged to call her office and request that she become a co-sponsor of HR82. Pelosi Washington, DC Phone: (202) 225-4965.

GPO and WEP essentially penalize us for choosing careers in public service. Write a letter to your representative now, urging them to repeal GPO and WEP.

HR82, the Social Security Fairness Act, is a bipartisan effort to redress a longstanding problem.

The best way for our union to push this bill across the finish line is by sending a flood of letters to our representatives today voicing our support.

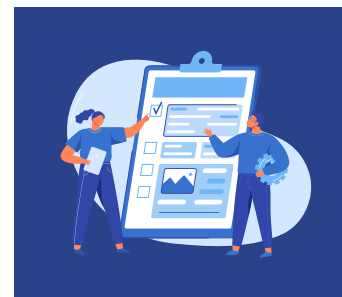
Every member of Congress needs to hear from public service retirees on this issue. Send a letter to your representative now, urging them to repeal GPO and WEP so we all get the Social Security benefits we earned.

[CLICK HERE TO SEND A LETTER](#)

RETIRED DIVISION SURVEY RESULTS

Top Priorities

1. Group Activities
2. Protecting Health Benefits
3. Monitoring STRS and State Legislation affecting Retirees



Membership Meeting topics, and speaker suggestions:

Estate Planning, Health Care Changes, Financial Education, Protecting yourself from scams and fraud, Investment workshop, Health Issues and Exercise for retirees, Labor History and Travel tips.

Activities that members want to participate in this year

Top 4 Choices

1. Theater and Musical Performances
2. Museum/Art Tours
3. Lunch and Brunch visits.
4. Nature Walks

The Executive Board will consider these results while planning for the Retired Division Membership Meetings next year.

GRATITUDE TO OLD TEACHERS

When we stride or stroll across the frozen lake,
We place our feet where they have never been.
We walk upon the unwalked. But we are uneasy.
Who is down there but our old teachers?

Water that once could take no human weight—
We were students then—holds up our feet,
And goes on ahead of us for a mile.
Beneath us the teachers, and around us the stillness.
~ Robert Bly (1999)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DOLORES HUERTA



Dolores Huerta with UESF-R member
Linda Plack at a previous celebration

Dolores Huerta, icon of labor and civil rights, celebrated her 94th birthday in April.

Huerta received an associate teaching degree from the University of the Pacific's Delta College in the early 1950s, but soon recognized that she could do more for more people through organizing.

Her career as an activist started when she was instrumental in founding the Stockton chapter of the Community Service Organization (CSO). Through this work in voter registration and social justice, she met Cesar Chávez and began the work of organizing farmworkers.

Her many awards and recognitions include the Presidential Medal of Freedom presented by President Obama in 2012.

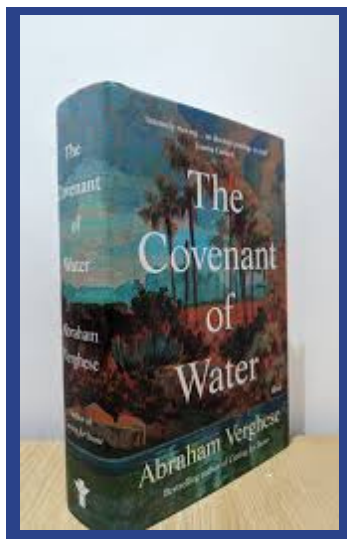
UESF ORAL HISTORY PROJECT READY TO ROLL!

With over a dozen UESF Retired members signed-up, our Oral History Project is getting ready to begin our journey through the past by recording interviews of San Francisco teachers and school-staff and archiving them for posterity.

Dennis Kelly and I met with Bill Shields, Oral History Project presenter at our March Membership meeting and retired Labor History instructor at CCSF, to create a timeline for the project. Bill and his project partner, Guy De Primo, will provide training and guidance as we prepare ourselves for the work ahead.

If you have questions or you want to join in the fun and adventure please email me at Ktray50@gmail.com

MAY 24 BOOK CLUB MEETING



The selection for May is *The Covenant of Water* by Abraham Verghese

****Please note that this is not yet commonly available in paperback, although some British editions may show up on Amazon.**

This book is 700 pages,(but our April book, *Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan)was quite short.

We meet at Squat and Gobble at the Tunnel in West Portal in the 2nd floor area on the 4th Friday of each month. You may place your order downstairs and we will begin at 1pm. For more information, contact:

Alexia Tindol at (415) 333-4045 or Anna Bolla at acbolla@sbcglobal.net

NOTES & REMINDERS FROM CTA/NEA RETIRED

1. SB 765 allows retired teachers to return to work before the normal 180 day waiting period goes into effect from July 1,2024 and expires June 30,2026
2. Disaster Relief Fund- Reminder that as as a CTA/NEA-Retired member if you suffer a loss to property from a natural disaster you may apply for compensation. If a request is made to CTA Member Benefits for assistance from the CTA Disaster Fund, an effort is made to verify the loss and justify the grant assistance. They may contact the CTA Staff or CTA/NEA Retired Leadership for verification of need.

HEALTH SERVICE BOARD MEETINGS

Are you interested in attending and reporting on Health Service Board meetings for UESF-R?

The Health Service Board meetings will be held on the second Thursday of each month at 1:00 pm in City Hall Room 416.

This meeting is open to the public. This meeting will be held in person at the location listed above and can be viewed live on [SFGovTV](#). SFGovTV records the meeting with video, audio, and caption notes. For a complete archive of past Health Service Board Regular meeting broadcasts, please visit SFGovTV [here](#).

Questions or comments regarding this meeting or board materials should be directed to:

Board Secretary
c/o San Francisco Health Service System
1145 Market Street, 3rd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94103
email: health.service.board@sfgov.org
phone: [628-652-4646](tel:628-652-4646)

CARA 2024 SENIOR VOTE PROGRAM

SIGN UP TO BE A SENIOR AMBASSADOR TODAY! CARA (All UESF retirees are also members of The California Alliance of Retired Americans) has successfully reached out to seniors to encourage them to vote. In order to make the CARA Senior Vote Program a success, we must recruit at least 250 Senior Vote Ambassadors. They have already mailed packets of materials and instructions to all of the Senior Ambassadors recruited so far. The goal is to communicate with at least 5000 older voters in each of 5 target Congressional districts.

Sign up today at: <https://californiaalliance.org/senior-vote-2024/>