

# NEWSLETTER

Hello, retirees! As a reminder, I'm Lisa Gutierrez Guzman, the interim chair after Dennis's unfortunate sudden passing in November and then, the elected new chair as of the January membership meeting. I hope for a time when I can properly introduce myself but now is not that time, unfortunately. Please know, however, that we invite any members who wish to honor Dennis Kelly to come to our last meeting of the year (May 15th) to share our thoughts about him as a union leader, as a teacher, and as a friend. Please mark your calendars. His family may still be organizing something, but we in the union want to be able to say "Goodbye." He was honored at the Labor Council and will be honored at the CFT Convention in San Diego this weekend, and now it's our turn.

We will have our **March Retired Division membership meeting next Thursday, 3/20**, at the time and location mentioned to the right. Please plan on attending if you can. We will be discussing two important issues and a presenter will be coming for a 45-minute presentation that may or may not extend a bit into lunch. That person will talk about how to watch out for scams and fraud attempts that might come your way via many different media. We thank Executive Board member, Terry Lai, for finding this interesting speaker for us. Please come with any questions you might have.



**RSVP HERE.**

Moreover, we have not had a dues increase from \$4.00/month ever since our Retired Division was first established in 1991.

Dennis Kelly, for almost two and half years, and myself, as vice-chair and now chair, and most of the Executive Board, thought we were sitting pretty and could afford our holiday luncheons, lunches for our membership meetings, and a conference or two and supplies.



Unfortunately, that is no longer the case. We will give a detailed, but understandable presentation of where \$48.00/year dues go each year, and how much we get back in our little retired division world in S.F. Our Executive Board has met with the leadership and staff of both UESF Active Division and that of CTA/NEA Retired several times and via e-mail. (We have continuous membership with CFT/AFT after we retire. So, we didn't feel the need to meet with them.) We have a better handle on the reality of the situation now. (By the way, some people have been paying erroneous dues, but we are very close to getting that situation cleared up. The retirees who sub may have been paying their dues in a way that appears to affect their status in UESF Retired and/or UESF's affairs.)

Our Executive Board met yesterday and has come up with the following to be voted on in May by all retirees. The wording is not quite yet how we will have it on the 20th, but it will be very close to the following amendment. If you do not agree with it, please at least, hear us out. We will do our best to explain why we need to increase the monthly dues. If you do not want to wait to hear our explanation, you might want to write up an alternative amendment altogether or be prepared to amend our amendment. **WE WILL NOT BE VOTING ON THIS OR ANY OTHER AMENDMENT UNTIL THE MAY MEMBERSHIP MEETING.**

## ARTICLE XVI. DUES

**Section 1.** Effective July 1, 2025, the dues of the Retired Division shall be ~~\$48.00~~ **\$72.00** per year for retired members of the teacher unit or ~~\$24.00~~ **\$36.00** per year for retired paraprofessionals and members of the teacher unit who retire from part-time employment, payable annually to UESF **Retired Division** or by monthly **pension** deduction. (**Dues will be evaluated annually, by April 1st, to determine any necessary increases.**)

**Section 2.** ~~The combined dues of a retired husband and a retired wife or of domestic partners shall be \$60.00 annually for members of the teacher unit and \$30.00 for paraprofessionals. As of September 2005, this section will no longer be in effect.~~

**Section 3.** Members whose dues are more than two months in arrears shall not be in good standing and will be notified and dropped by action of the membership chairperson of the Retired Division.

Please understand that in a perfect world, we wouldn't have to suggest this dues increase, but as it is, we are already dipping into our rainy day fund savings account, and we cannot do that anymore in case we do have a catastrophic emergency in the future.



# UESF RETIRED DIVISION

MARCH 14, 2025

It is a complicated situation, but the entire Executive Board of the Retired Division will be in attendance, including Rudi Faltus former chair of our Division. In addition, an officer or two from the UESF Active Division (the treasurer and hopefully, the president) who represent our “parent” partners and one or two of the CTA Regional Directors who represent UESF at the Region I level will be present in person or on Zoom or the phone.

If you haven't been to our meetings in the past or haven't attended in a long time, all of us would love to meet you and would love to answer your questions. Lunch will be free for the rest of the year (this meeting and that in May), but we need to know how many people will be staying for lunch after these important presentations about our dues structure and how to protect ourselves from scams and frauds.

Please fill out the [March 20th Membership Meeting RSVP form linked HERE](#).

Lastly, we will have paper for you to take notes during the presentation. If you have a specific question re: our finances or the dues issue, please write it down on the index cards provided. If it's a sizable crowd, we might have to be strict about using Robert's Rules of Order in order to get through our meeting and end in time for lunch and clean up. Please limit your questions and comments to 2-3 minutes. Also, although at this meeting UESF will be lending us their sound system, you may consider the following if you have hearing issues of any kind (like I do!). **“For hearing, transcription and recording meetings, consider apps like Otter.ai (iOS, Android), Google Live Transcribe (Android) and Ava (iOS, Android), which offer real-time transcription and recording capabilities.”** Thanks to Mary Anne Ahtye for that suggestion.

We will have a proper newsletter next month. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

*Lisa*

Lisa Gutierrez Guzman  
Chair, UESF Retired