

A non-profit association devoted to the welfare of all retired City of San Jose Employees and dedicated to the protection and integrity of the Retirement System

P.O. Box 265 15, San Jose, Ca. 95159-6515



Looking Ahead | Moving Forward

by Bob Leininger, SJREA President

Lawsuit Settlement Agreement. The slow turning wheels in City Hall are just about ready to grind out a Legal Settlement Agreement and the City Council is expected to approve the Agreement in the next few weeks. The contract with the City will be effective upon the City Council approval, after which we can focus on implementing various sections of the Settlement (e.g. the payments to certain pre-Medicare retirees, the in lieu health premium benefit, obtaining membership

input concerning allocating the recovery of our \$500,000 of attorney fees, and membership reconsideration of the Association dues rate). Sounds like a lot of work, but compared to the long journey to get to this Settlement, it will seem like a pleasant stroll in the park for many of us!

- City Council appointment of the Retiree Representative to the Federated Retirement Board. Based on input from the Unions as well as this Association, it looks like the City Council will soon amend the current selection process, and direct the City Clerk to undertake another retiree mail-in election, to commence sometime after the July recess. The retiree vote will be to identify the top 3 vote getters for an interview with an expanded panel which will now include a representative from this Association as well as a member of the Retirement Board. The Interview Panel will be informed of the election numbers and its recommendation will be subject to disapproval by the City Council for cause.
- Federated Portfolio Investment Performance. At the May 11 Membership Meeting, Acting Chief Investment Officer Daryn Miller and Retirement Services Director Roberto Pena discussed the performance of the Asset Allocation Model and the current funding status of the system. On a longer term basis, the fund has performed close to its actuarial benchmark rate of return, but the last couple of years have seen underperformance. Of importance to us all, they noted that the City Council is committed to the long range goal of reaching full funding of the pension system and considers required additional funding in calculating the City's annual contribution. It should be further noted that the City is legally obligated for any unfunded portion of the pension system. The feeling of the members present is that we should have the Investment Officers back on a semi-annual basis to keep us up to date on portfolio performance. We are also setting up a subcommittee that will interface with the Retirement Board's Investment Committee and will report back to this Board on investment issues in a timely manner.
- Volunteer Program The City has re-established funding for a volunteer program and staff has approached the Association about our help in connecting retirees with various volunteer opportunities in the City. Board Member Angie Alfaro will lead up our efforts with the City and she would like a couple of volunteers as back up. Shouldn't be very much time, so if you are interested, give Angie a call at 408-272-8474.

A couple of final things. We have decided to reschedule the annual "Sacramento Chapter" luncheon to sometime after the July recess (instead of the usual late June date). The Board felt that more info would be available at the later date e.g. 2018 Health plans, status of implementation of the Settlement Agreement, draft recommendations on By-laws amendments etc. Joan Lockwood will have more detail on the new date in next month's newsletter.

The June 8 General Membership Meeting will include the annual presentation by Brooke Myhre on the City budget and revenue picture for the FY 2017-2018 as well as some longer term projections. Always very informative and so we hope to see you there!

Note: We don't always have enough room to list all of the SJREA Events, to stay up to date make sure and go to the Upcoming Events page at www.sjrea.org regularly.



We Seniors . . .

Reporter: "So you are 100 years old. How did you manage to live so long?"

Old man: "Well, son, I got married when I was 21. The wife and I decided that if we had arguments, the loser would take a long walk to get over being mad. I suppose have been benefitted most by 79 years of fresh air."

RETIREMENTS

Arn Andrews, Chief Investment Officer/Assistant Director, Office of Retirement Services, May 13, 2017

Faia P. Aliifua, Parking and Traffic Control Officer, Department of Transportation, April 19, 2017

Ernest Guzman, Executive Analyst, City Manager's Office, May 1, 2017

Janet M. Smith, Litigation Analyst, City Attorney's Office, June 3, 2017

DEFERRED VESTED

Brenda Battaglio, Employee Relations Representative, City Manager's Office, June 11, 2017

John Burchfiel, Principal Construction Inspector, Department of Transportation, June 14, 2017

Raquel Lomeli, Custodian, Airport Department, April 17, 2017

Charles D. Moody, Public Safety Dispatcher, Fire Department, May 5, 2017

Mark Witsoe, Airport Operator Supervisor, Airport Department, May 4, 2017

DEATH NOTIFICATIONS

Trudie R. Ferreira, Analyst II, retired December 18, 1997, died April 9, 2017

Shalah A. Hade, Accountant II, retired January 3, 2006, died March 16, 2017

Donald P. Mann, Principal Construction Inspector, retired July 13, 1999, died January 7, 2017

Eckhard Schell, Electrician, retired December 9, 2004, died April 15, 2017

Richard J. Worthey, Instruction Repair Foreman, retired October 4, 1987, died March 21, 2017

Kenneth Zelmer, Electrical Inspector, retired July 5, 1992, died April 9, 2017



Let's Do
Lunch

August Membership Meeting

A bag lunch will be provided for members at the August 10th Membership Meeting. **Steve Wayne Yvaska**, *the Antique Advisor* will also be available from 10:30 to 12:30 to evaluate ONE item per person. More information coming in the June Newsletter.



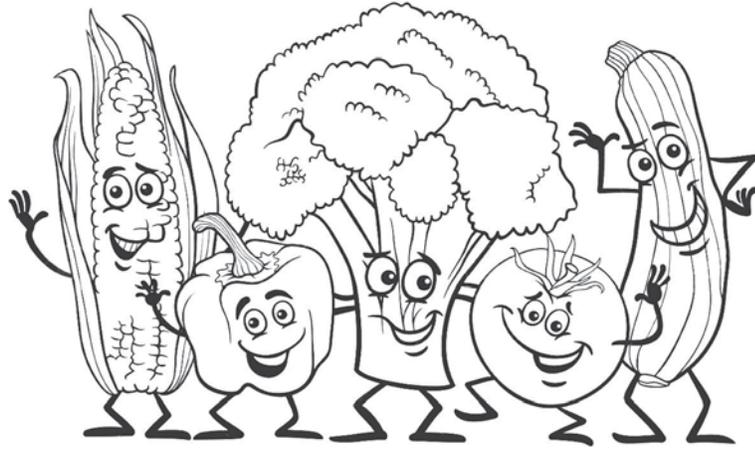
On-line Newsletters... Did you know the SJREA Newsletter goes on-line before it gets printed? ***That's Right.***

Reading the newsletter on-line or downloading and printing it yourself will help the Association save money on printing and postage costs.

The newsletter is easy to find on the home page. You can also read archived newsletters.

Send an email to: newslettersjrea@gmail.com and tell us to take you off our mailing list.

Thank You for considering this alternate method!



Prepare Your Summer Garden in May

May usually brings out the best weather for gardening to begin planting vegetables and flowers that will reach their peak in summer.

Maintain an Early Morning Watering Schedule:

Water your garden during morning hours. Watering at night can cause fungus to grow in moist areas. By watering in the early morning your garden will be sufficiently dry by the time the sun warms up your plants and lawn, but moist enough to offset the heat of the day.

May is The Ideal Month for planting Almost Any Flower:

Plant warm season annuals in May such as begonia, chrysanthemum, geranium, marigold, petunia and verberna. While annuals come and go, perennials will bring backyard enjoyment for years to come.

Use Mulch:

Mulch absorbs water, reduces erosion and keeps weeds in check throughout the year and especially during the growing season. Maintain about three inches of fresh mulch around plants and in areas where weeds are a problem.

Aerate Warm Season Lawns:

Warm-season lawns need attention during May. Aerate and dethatch lawns so water can easily penetrate to the roots. Apply a light layer of lawn topping to keep in moisture and reduce water usage.

Plant Herbs:

If you love to use fresh herbs in your meals, an herb garden is almost mandatory. The cost to purchase an herb plant and keep it watered is much less than buying expensive cut herbs at the grocery store.

Help Needed... Coyote Creek Flooding Damages to Japanese Friendship Garden & Tea House in Kelley Park

The Japanese Friendship Garden in Kelley Park was overrun by water and the beautiful (and recently-renovated) Tea House sustained water damage. The Garden was a gift from San Jose's Sister City - Okayama, Japan. This community treasure has been a place of peace and beauty for decades and the beautiful Tea House has housed many wonderful gatherings, including San Jose Parks Foundation's Annual Summer Soiree Fundraising event.

San Jose Parks Foundation is working with City Staff and local groups like **Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful** and **South Bay Clean Creeks Coalition** to clean up.

To donate to help restore this community treasure, go to www.sanjoseparksfoundation.

SAN JOSE Retired Employees Association

NEXT MEETING: June 8, 2017
TIME: Board Meeting 9:00-10:30 am
Membership Meeting 10:30-12:00 pm
PLACE: Leininger Center
1300 Senter Road
PROGRAM: Brooke Myhre
Budget

Save the Dates:

June 8th - General Membership Meeting
July - Board Vacation - NO MEETING
August 10th - Bag Lunch & Steve Yvaska

For more events go to the events page at www.sjrea.org

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