



Retiree Advocate



STAY CONNECTED • BE PROTECTED • ENJOY BENEFITS

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

My wish is that the approach of the 2021-2022 Association year signals a sequence of new beginnings. We hope to put the wasteful attempt to recall the Governor behind us and focus on reenergizing our efforts to meet again in person, vaccinate to conquer the virus, continue to grow our membership, welcome our newly added Board and State Council members, and rediscover the economic benefits of both CTA and NEA Member Benefits. The time ahead could be bright if we are smart and don't succumb to warrantless suspicions that seem to circulate too often nowadays. **Importantly, vote NO on the Recall. It is a senseless waste of money, the next General Election is set for 2022, and the current Governor Newsom has strongly supported public education and CalSTRS Funding that guarantees our pensions and worked to protect us during the pandemic.**



Orval Garrison
President

CTA/NEA-Retired

The good news with membership is that our ranks continue to grow. The tough news is that so many educators are retiring that replacing them is going to be difficult for school districts to do. A shortage of teachers should increase the pressure in Sacramento to rethink the prohibitions against going back to work soon as substitutes. CTA/NEA-Retired will be there to take part in this rethinking. We believe retirees should not have to wait so long before being able to return to the classroom as subs.

As an organization, CTA/NEA-Retired was active over the summer. Nineteen Retired Delegates attended and played vital roles at the virtual **NEA-Retired Annual Meeting and the NEA Representative Assembly.** Nationally, retirees contributed thousands of dollars to the NEA Fund, the PAC, that protects public education, Social Security and Medicare and keeps us relevant in the political arena. In fact, **NEA-Retired has just reported that member retirees have already contributed \$250,028 dollars during this 2021 fundraising effort.** Much of that money comes from California. CTA/NEA-Retired was also present at the CTA Presidents Conference and the Summer Institute as participants and with Exhibit presentations. We are not passive stakeholders.

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CTA STATE COUNCIL URGES A NO VOTE ON THE SEPTEMBER 14 RECALL

By Dana Dillon, Vice President and Former
Chair of the CalSTRS Board of Directors

At the June State Council meeting delegates voted overwhelmingly to oppose the recall of Governor Gavin Newsom. In addition to the increases in funding to public education his support of CalSTRS is unprecedented.

Governor Newsom clearly values the service of California's educators and recognizes that our pensions are deferred compensation that educators have earned. He has proven this in many ways, from providing for historic increases in educational funding to working with the legislature to increase monies to CalSTRS in order to pay down CalSTRS's unfunded liability. He has also been aware of the difficulties local CTA chapters have had in bargaining with districts that use their contributions to CalSTRS as an excuse not to increase salaries. In recognition of these difficulties, the Governor has increased funding to CalSTRS.

The Budget Act of 2019 provided supplemental payments to CalSTRS to reduce the unfunded actuarial obligation of the system and reduce contribution rates for employers and the state.

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Retired Members

BOARD REPORT By Debra Sheehan, Secretary-Treasurer

CTA/NEA-Retired Board of Directors Meeting and CTA/NEA Retired Annual Business Meeting were both held on June 4, 2021.

Action Items:

- At the Board meeting the following were approved: Russo scholarship expenditure of \$3,000 and Standing Rule changes.
- At the Annual Meeting members approved the 2021-2022 Proposed Budget, Bylaw changes to Articles V, VI, VIII, and IX and the projected goals for 2021-22.

Reports:

- President Orval Garrison** announced the three Russo Scholarship winners are Christina Lopez, Danielle King, and Nely Munoz Pena. Each will receive \$1,000. He stated that the new Pedretti Scholarship, which will be available for college level students interested in teaching K-12, will begin next year. Selection criteria are being worked out.
- He explained the need for renumbering Standing Rules 1-6 due to the addition of Standing Rule 3, which clarifies the additional responsibilities of the Board of Directors. Orval discussed and presented Bylaw proposals for Articles V, VI, VII, and IX. He reported on the 4 additional State Council seats for CTA/NEA Retired representation on State Council, with elections to be held this September.
- Orval shared that our Goals for next year will focus on communications, member opportunities, and growing our association.
- Orval described our communications tools: The Advocate, our Facebook page, and our website.
- Finally, Orval discussed our SBMA (Supplemental Benefits Maintenance Account) New Business Item and our ongoing efforts with Pension Overpayment Recovery.
- Vice President Dana Dillon** reported that CTA/NEA Retired has had the opportunity to participate in the virtual exhibits at this past year's CTA Conferences. She discussed the Membership Workgroup and Website Revamping Committees' work and suggested that local chapters tell their Service Centers to contact CTA if they wish to have Member Benefits workshops.
- Dana announced that the online membership process is now available, while partner membership enrollment is still using paper. She described the two online webinars that were held for educators near retirement about CTA/NEA-Retired and STRS.

- Secretary/Treasurer Debra Sheehan** reported that our membership has increased by 211 since May of 2020, and we now have 19,191 members. The Russo Scholarship balance is \$16,668.00. Debra moved to accept the proposed 2021-2022 Budget. The motion passed at the Board Meeting and the budget was referred to the Annual Meeting, where it was approved by the membership.
- Gretchen Lipow announced that she is terming off and thanked the Board and membership.
- Ed Foglia also announced that he is terming off the Board, after 17 years and he described the history of our organization, the effort to increase our State Council representation and thanked several key people.
- NEA-Retired Executive Council member Alen Ritchie** announced the upcoming Annual Meeting of NEA-Retired and stated that non-delegates can also attend this virtual meeting. He discussed the NEA Fund for Education auction and the importance of contributing to the Fund. Alen mentioned that he, too, is terming off this year and thanked all.
- Bonnie Shatun congratulated Retired chapters who have carried on during Covid. She stated that the State Council Political Involvement Committee (PIC) is urging State Council to oppose the recall of Governor Newsom and approve \$2 million of our Initiative Fund directed to this purpose.
- Bonnie shared about the content and deadlines for the Summer Advocate and urged chapters to send her pictures of their activities to be featured in upcoming issues.

Discussion Items:

- The CTA/NEA-Retired Workgroup is a geographically balanced committee that handles tasks assigned by the Board, including Membership recruitment/retention and member benefits. Ideas and topics were solicited. The members include the three officers, Jim Burfeind, Gerry Fong, Anne Johnson-Curtis and Brian Stafford, our Staff Consultant.

Information Items:

- The next Board Meeting will be held Friday, October 22, 2021. It will hopefully be in person in Los Angeles. Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/ctanearretired (No "membership" in Facebook required).

AT THE 2021 NEA REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY EDUCATORS MET VIRTUALLY AND COMMITTED TO UNITE FOR A BETTER FUTURE FOR OUR STUDENTS, OUR EDUCATORS AND OUR COMMUNITIES

By Bonnie Shatun, District 3 Director

On June 30-July 3, our nineteen elected CTA/NEA-Retired delegates remotely joined the almost 8,000 educators from across the country to set association policy and priorities for the upcoming year for the 3 million-member NEA. This was the 100th Representative Assembly and, as President Becky Pringle reminded us, we are the largest deliberative body in the world and the largest labor union in the nation.

This year's theme was, "Uniting for a better future for our students, our educators, and our communities." And, in keeping with that, the first order of business was to pass New Business Item A. It calls on NEA to create a task force that identifies the criteria for safe, just and equitable schools and to work with national partners, state and local affiliates, racial justice advocates, and community activists to engage in campaigns that advance this critical work.

In President Becky Pringle's first keynote address as NEA's President, she started her remarks by recognizing the challenges educators have faced in the last fifteen months. She said, "This year has defined what it means to reckon with our past, advocate for better in our present, and expand the possibilities for our future. Schools are part of what ties our communities together and shape our children's lives. We believe in and want safe, just, and equitable schools for all students, regardless of race and place."

President Joe Biden was introduced by

long time NEA member and educator First Lady Dr. Jill Biden. President Biden thanked all educators for helping to guide the country



"The vision I laid out to guide that work is that we, the NEA will lead a movement that unites not just our members, but the entire nation to reclaim public education as a common good, and then transform it into something it was never designed to be — a racially and socially just and equitable system that prepares every student, every one, to succeed in a diverse and interdependent world; to be those leaders of a just society."

- NEA President Becky Pringle

Stacey Abrams, former member of the Georgia House of Representatives and a recipient last year of our NEA Human and Civil Rights Award also addressed the RA. Abrams told educators, "One of the reasons I'm always so honored to be in community with the NEA is because you speak for so many young people who may not have the power to act on their own, but they have you to lift their voices up, to make choices that can improve their lives, and to share the values that can build a brighter future for each of them." She added that all educators who believe the right to vote needs to reach out to their elected representatives to urge them to pass both The Voting Rights Advancement Act and S 1, The For the People Act.

NEA Executive Director Kim Anderson recognized the work NEA members did electing pro-public education lawmakers across the country. She urged members to take the next step and actually be on the ballot. "If we want to transform public education, we need to put education professionals in office," she added.

CTA leader Robert V. Rodriguez from Riverside was re-elected to the NEA Executive Committee and Rio Hondo Community College Professor Julius B. Thomas was honored as the 2021 Higher Ed Educator of the Year. Delegates also heard from the NEA Friend of Education Award winner and disability rights activist Judith Heumann, the National Teacher of the Year Juliana Urtubey, and the ESP of the Year Kimberly Scott-Hayden.

The delegates approved NEA's Constitutional Amendments, Legislative Amendments, Resolutions and the proposed budget and strategic plan for 2022. They also debated and voted on 65 New Business Items. Next year's Representative Assembly is scheduled to be in Dallas, Texas.

(For more information and to view the speeches, go to nea.org/ra)

through the COVID crisis and reassured the delegates that the American people stood up and took notice. He spoke about his American Rescue Plan which included nearly \$170 billion in dedicated public education funding and anti-poverty relief for children and working families. And, he vowed that his strong support of public education will continue to be a cornerstone of his presidency.

"NEA is one of the nations indispensable organizations. . . The American people understand what you have been saying for years: You are professionals. All of you. And all of us have a responsibility to make sure you have what you need to educate our children equitably, safely and well."

President Joe Biden to the NEA Representative Assembly

THINKING ABOUT STARTING TO TRAVEL AGAIN?

By Anne Johnson-Curtis, Former President of CTA/NEA-Retired Victor Valley Chapter

Those of us who are retired have the added luxury of traveling during off-peak times. As travel opportunities begin to open up, be cautious and stay safe. Be sure that you check out the CDC website (<https://www.cdc.gov/travelers/map-and-travel-notice>) to make sure the area, to which you are traveling is not on the problem list. Many places and businesses are only accepting travelers who are fully vaccinated and/or have a negative COVID test within 72 hours or less. Broadway plays in New York, Oregon, and some California cities are requiring masks and proof of vaccination and/or negative test results. People who have recently visited or traveled through countries with Covid-19 mutations, such as Brazil, Britain, India and South Africa, may be denied entry or be subject to additional quarantine restrictions. We have all heard about other areas of our country that are having Delta COVID issues. If you go to those areas, take extra precautions.

With air travel, most of the COVID cases seem to be contracted in the terminals. This might be attributed to constant air filtration inside the planes and the strict enforcement of mask wearing. But the terminals are crowded again. Since N95 masks are generally for medical personnel or care givers, consider a KN95 mask if you are in a crowded area or area of increased danger for infection. KN95 masks offer the most protection, followed by surgical masks. The least protective are cloth masks.

Always remember to back up critical travel and personal documents (in a dropbox, on paper, or other tech storage or as a picture on your phone).

DON'T WANT TO FLY, TRY THESE CALIFORNIA GEMS!

Catalina, California is a wonderful place to visit, especially if you're craving clean air, quiet hikes, and a serene beach. Wander the botanic gardens, take a dip in the water, or hike through the rugged mountains spotting bison and other animals along the way. There are no cars, but you can rent golf carts and bikes. Catalina features plenty of spas, dining, hotels, and unique shops to explore. There are Catalina Ferries available from Long Beach, San Pedro and Dana Point.

Paso Robles, California has become an art destination! The New York Times designated Paso Robles and the Central Coast, as #6 of 52 places to visit in the world in 2020. Bruce Munro created "Field of Light" which contains 60,000 illuminated glass orbs with fiber optic lights spreading throughout fifteen acres. It opened in May 2019, then had to shut down and has recently reopened and extended to January 2, 2022. For the reopening, Munro added six-foot musical "Light Towers" inspired by Paso Robles wine bottles. For information and tickets go to sensoriopaso.com. Additionally, Paso Robles offers many wonderful wine tasting rooms, unique hotels, restaurants, spas, golf resorts, and specialty shops. And, of course, the beach and Cambria are close by.

San Simeon, California has much the same temperature year-round – especially nice during the long hot summers we have been having. The beach near San Simeon features the Elephant Seals year-round; during different seasons varying ages of the seals are at the coast. The seals will be involved in different activities at different times of the year (such as birthing). Additional places to visit are Estero Bluffs State Park, Piedras Blancas Light Station, Hearst Castle, amazing restaurants and shops. Some hotels light bonfires each evening for their guests. Additionally, Cambria, and Paso Robles are not far from San Simeon.

Fort Bragg, California is home to our famous towering redwoods. It's there that you can participate in the stress-relieving practice of forest bathing (taking in the forest atmosphere - in all of one's senses). Fort Bragg is full of museums, galleries and murals, hotels, restaurants, and numerous activities to entertain you. Don't miss Glass Beach, which boasts a long shoreline made of sea glass as well as indigenous and endangered plants including the beautiful Menzies' wallflower. Consider visiting the Sea Glass Museum, which has free entry.

Redding, California and the nearby Shasta Cascades are true hidden gems. Some places to visit include waterfalls, Lake Shasta Caverns, hiking trails, and other options at Shasta Lake. The pedestrian Sundial Bridge has a great view, and it's near several local attractions including museums

and theaters. Redding is also nearby to Lassen National Park, which boasts steam vents, mud pots, and hot springs, as well as 'the best stargazing' in the country.

CRUISING

If you are considering cruising, do your homework. Some cruises are strictly for vaccinated passengers and crew. They often require or give you a COVID test. A negative result is required to board. Even so, be careful on the cruise. Even those cruises within the US will dock at ports where vaccination rates may be low. Be sure you understand the company's cancellation policy before you complete the booking. And, trip insurance is important to consider when you are far from home.

The CDC monitors ships sailing from US ports; you can check their website on ships that sail from US ports. They have no authority (and probably no information) on ships that sail from international ports.

Since July 1, 2021, there have been rising numbers of guests and/or crew members who tested positive for COVID-19. Ask about the ship's practices for monitoring and sanitizing on board.

CANCELLATION POLICIES

Check on how you can be refunded if your plane, cruise, or accommodations are cancelled either by you or the company. Many travelers have had problems in this area. Some of the travel industry has been very accommodating in refunds, but definitely not all. Consider purchasing travel insurance to protect yourself.

And, don't forget that both CTA and NEA offer Member Benefit discounts on travel. For information, go to CTAMemberBenefits.org and neamb.com.

For those of you not ready to travel yet, travel from the comfort of your home by watching these movies: Easy Rider (1969), The Endless Summer (1966), Y Tu Mama Tambi'en (2001), The Darjeeling Limited (2007), Into The Wild (2007), The Way (2010), Tracks (2013).

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

By Marc Sternberger, Past President

The Officers and Board of CTA/NEA-Retired take this opportunity to recognize three accomplished leaders who have completed their terms of service with distinction.



Ed Foglia, former CTA and CTA/NEA-Retired president, leaves the Board representing Region 2, having completed his terms of office.

Lobbying in Sacramento, assisting in the formation of new chapters, championing mentorship with new teachers, and acting as Liaison to the CalSTRS are only a few of his significant involvements on our behalf through years of service.



Gretchen Lipow has represented Region 1 on the Board, helped establish the Alcosta-Retired chapter, and engaged in outreach to chapters and Service Center Councils in her region. Those who have known Gretchen will attest to her committed social and political activism at all levels—city, county, state, and nation.



Alen Ritchie, also a former president of CTA/NEA-Retired, has earned the respect of his colleagues in Region 4 and the state. He is known for his ability to influence people positively in a calm but determined way. Serving on the San Bernardino County School Board, he brought the educator's perspective to school district governance. As he leaves the NEA-Retired Executive Council, NEA-Retired leadership already miss him dearly.

To Ed Foglia, Gretchen Lipow, and Alen Ritchie, thank you again for your service. We know we will continue to see as you remain a part of the CTA/NEA-Retired family.

NEWLY RETIRED MEMBERS

If you are a Pre-Retired Life member retiring this year, you must notify the CTA Membership Department by calling 650-552-5278 or send an email to membership@cta.org notifying CTA of your change in status. You will not be able to vote in future CTA/NEA-Retired elections or run for future CTA/NEA-Retired offices if you are still listed as "Pre-Retired!"

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

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I marvel at the resilience and determination of our local Retired chapters that carried on during the continuing constraints posed by COVID 19. Board members and I have attended chapter Zoom meetings, some chapters have had virtual field trips, outdoor events but with social distancing, and chapters are gearing up to commence more in-person activities as public health advisories permit. **My advice: get vaccinated, continue to mask, keep your distance.**

CTA/NEA-Retired is always present at CalSTRS Board meetings including during the summer. Our Liaison to CalSTRS, former Board member Ed Foglia, joins Dana Dillon and me to speak out and contribute ideas and proposals. **We continue to advocate for appropriate spending of the SBMA (Supplemental Benefit Maintenance Account) money to guarantee pension purchasing power. We will press for changes—legislative or budgetary—in the handling of pension overpayment recovery ("clawbacks").** If a reporting mistake was made by a District, the pensioner should not be the victim!

September 2021 will see the completion of CTA's **normal Summer Elections for open State Council seats** and alternates, including the additional CTA/NEA-Retired regional Board and State Council positions.

This cycle commenced on July 20, 2021, with online announcement to all members, and voting to occur in early September. Changes in our Bylaws and Standing rules that were approved at the June 4, 2021 Board and Annual Business Meetings reflect this long overdue increased Retired representation on State Council.

Finally, it is my hope as we gradually come away from the pandemic restrictions, we will have returning opportunities to do things that appeal to us. Members have told me in emails and phone conversations about being socially and politically active with such groups as League of Women Voters, AAUW, Indivisible, Kiwanis, NOW, Rotary, and others—both right and left. One of the reasons that I joined CTA/NEA-Retired years ago was that our members tend to be involved in current important issues. In closing, I encourage you to learn more about **CTA and NEA Member Benefits** (ctamemberbenefits.org) and (neamb.com). You have earned the discounts. I also encourage you to become involved with a local CTA/NEA-Retired chapter.



CTA/NEA-Retired Board members attended a 3-day Summer Planning Session to update 2021-2022 Goals and plan for new scholarships, member recruitment efforts, regional leadership trainings, and Member Benefits outreach. The summer gathering allowed for a sharing of ideas to strengthen services to members and local retired chapters. Pictured are (from top left) Dana Dillon, Bonnie Shatun, Orval Garrison, Debra Sheehan, Virginia Torres, Nessa Connor (CTA Staff), Mary Rose Ortega, and Don Stauffer. Anna Poggi was excused.

CARA DOESN'T STOP FOR SUMMER BREAK. WE PRESS ON!

By Jo Carson, CARA Representative

This summer we are preparing for our 18th Annual Statewide CARA Convention which will be October 26 and 27 via Zoom. All members of CTA/NEA-Retired are also members of CARA and are encouraged to participate in their activities including the Convention. Featured Speakers include Governor Gavin Newsom and U.S. Senator Alex Padilla. It's FREE. You can sign up online by going to www.californiaalliance.org. It's always fun!

While we don't endorse candidates, CARA's position on the Recall is **NO**. We see no reason for this recall. It's an unnecessary expense to taxpayers, particularly when our scheduled election is in November of 2022.

Again, CARA does not endorse candidates. Our goal is to educate voters on important legislation. CARA took positions of support for **AB 695 Home Safe and SB 650 Nursing Home Transparency**. **AB 695** enhances the Adult Protective Services Program (APS). It provides \$100 million in additional funds, lowers the age for protection to 60, and will now cover persons with traumatic brain injuries or cognitive impairments, as well as elder abuse victims. It designates \$30 million to counties to expand the successful Home Safe program. A.P.S. successfully responded to 206,668 reports of abuse in 2019-20.

SB 650 closes loopholes in existing law. It requires corporations owning Skilled Nursing Facilities to file annual financial reports that include,

not just the cost for hands-on patient care, but also the profits they make from their corporate owned suppliers for cleaning services, medical supplies, landscaping, and food services. Reporting ALL profits will ensure that money is spent properly for patient care. Both these bills are in Appropriations and will be voted on in the upcoming session. Please contact your state representatives and tell them to support AB 695 and SB 650.

To keep up with what we do, please sign up for our CARA Alerts. Go to www.californiaalliance.org. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click on Subscribe to CARA Alerts. It's easy to stay informed.

By the time this issue goes out, CARA's Federal Lobby Day will be complete. Every California Congressional Representative will have heard CARA's priorities:

- 1 To protect, improve and expand Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid.
- 2 Pass the American Jobs Plan, especially the \$400 billion for home and community based services.
- 3 Reinstate measures to strengthen the U.S. Postal Services (HR 82/S1302) and stop privatization (HR33).
- 4 Pass the Social Security Fairness Act to eliminate the WEP/GPO that hurt teachers and many public employees.

Let your Congress member and U.S. Senators know that you support these priorities.

CTA STATE COUNCIL URGES A NO VOTE ON THE SEPTEMBER 14 RECALL

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For employers, the Governor provided a one-time non-Proposition 98 General Fund payment of \$2.246 billion. Based on the additional amount paid to CalSTRS, the effective employer contribution rate was adjusted from 18.13% to 17.1% for fiscal year 2019-20. The money was to be allocated as follows:

- \$356 million to reduce the 2019-2020 contribution rate by 1.03 percentage points
- \$250 million to reduce the 2020-2021 contribution rate by 0.7 of a percentage point
- \$1.64 billion towards reducing employers' share of the unfunded actuarial obligation

It was estimated that this will save employers \$5 billion in savings over the life of the funding plan.

For the state, the Governor's budget provided \$2.9 billion over four fiscal years, to be allocated as follows:

- \$1.1 billion in 2019-2020 toward the state's share of the unfunded actuarial obligation
- \$1.8 billion in 2020-2021 through 2022-2023, toward the state's share of the unfunded actuarial obligation

The Budget Act of 2020 redirected the supplemental payment paid by the state on behalf of employers as part of the 2019-20 state budget to reduce the employer contribution rate for fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22.

For employers, the effective employer contribution rate was adjusted from 19.1% to 16.15% for fiscal year 2020-21. The 2021-22 employer contribution rate will be 2.18% of payroll less than the rate set by the board in the spring of 2021.

For the state, the CalSTRS Board initially set the state's contribution rate at a total of 10.828% (including the 2.5% for the purchasing power contribution.) However, the Budget Act of 2020 suspended the increase adopted by the Board. Instead, the total state rate remained at the 2019-20 level of 10.328%. But to ensure CalSTRS was made whole, the state transferred \$297 million in Proposition 2 revenues to bridge the gap.

It is extremely unlikely that this financial support for our pension system would continue under a new governor. We cannot afford to lose Governor Newsom at this critical time. He understands education and the state's obligation to its active and retired educators. Governor Newsom must not be recalled.

CTA Opposes Recall of Gov. Newsom

At \$276 million, the recall is a costly distraction to the issues California faces.

Costs and Abuse of the Recall Process

[The September 14th Special Election is expected to cost California voters nearly \\$276 million](#) – money that could have been used to support students, schools and families. During the pandemic, the recall process was hijacked by some well-funded special interest groups that got an unprecedented three month-extension to gather the required signatures. Now, California will run a costly election less than a year before the next scheduled Gubernatorial campaign.

Newsom's Leadership

Governor Newsom continues to support California's public schools, colleges, working families and communities. The Governor prioritized vaccines for essential workers, educators, and school staff, and now California has the lowest COVID-19 transmission rate in the nation.

While California still ranks far below the national average in per-student funding, the governor's budget plan proposes historic increases for the restart and recovery of our schools and colleges. His plan to expand transitional kindergarten to all four-year-olds and his investment in social and emotional supports will help give students a promising start to a bright future.

Governor Newsom is also leading with record investments to address California's affordable housing and homelessness crisis, expand affordable healthcare and childcare, and increase wildfire preparedness.

The Recall's Anti-Union Funders

[The recall is funded by anti-union millionaires](#) who want to roll back decades of progress on workers' rights in California. The recall backers want to lower wages, eliminate health care, weaken workplace safety laws, defund public education, and kill union jobs. Their next goal is putting forth a school voucher initiative in 2022.

**Gubernatorial
Recall
Election is
September 14,
2021**

How will the recall election work?

All California voters will receive a ballot in the mail asking for a vote on the recall and then a selection for governor.

If a majority votes yes on the recall, the candidate with the most votes becomes California's Governor.

It is possible for the winner to receive less than 50% of the votes.

Want more information about the recall, the associated costs and those pushing the efforts?

**Go to
[CTA.org/Recall](https://cta.org/Recall)**



For more information about the recall and where and how to vote, go to cta.org/recall. Sign up to join us Tuesday and Thursday evenings for phone banks to fellow Union Members around the state by clicking on the red circle at the bottom of that page.



Retiree Advocate

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On Tuesday, July 13th, some members of Stanislaus CTA/NEA Retired braved triple digit heat on a day trip to the Forestiere Gardens in Fresno. A State Historical Monument, the venue is a fascinating labyrinth of architecture, agriculture, and ingenuity. Members offered to wear their masks, but the guide said that since they were all vaccinated, it wasn't necessary at that time. A spirited lunch followed the tour.

WEAR A MASK
BE SAFE
GET VACCINATED!

8



CTA/NEA-RETIRED MEMBERS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR CTA DISASTER RELIEF FUNDS

Have you been affected by one of many wildfires devastating California? CTA's Disaster Relief Fund provides financial assistance grants for CTA members and CTA/NEA-Retired members who have suffered significant losses from fires and other disasters. The DRF is a separate, special fund just for members. It is funded by voluntary contributions from CTA members, and through CTA fund-raising drives throughout the year.

For details and to apply, contact your local CTA Office for forms, information, help to apply, or go to www.ctamemberbenefits.org/drif or call 650-522-5200.

