



The Billy & Spanner



President's Notes

By Jim Spence

The September 4, 2014 Retirement Services open meeting was culmination of a promise by the Plan Trustees to the Plan members to have greater openness and communication on the operations of the Plan. Around 25 retirees attended the session. Besides providing a healthy spread of refreshments, the presentations gave an overview of who the staff personnel are, duties they perform, and the volume of work produced. A comprehensive handout was available to capture the information for later reference. The Association will post a link to this information on our website. Retiree attendance is key

to keeping this type of update on our retirement plan continuing into the future. The Association urges all of us to attend this type of specific outreach.

The October 9, 2014 Association meeting is one of the most important for the membership. A major topic will be the nomination of officers for 2015. The positions of President and Secretary are open for new candidates. The current holders of the offices of Vice President of Fire, Vice President of Police and Treasurer have expressed a desire to run for another term. The second important item will be a presentation by Retirement Services staff regarding upcoming Health Care changes in fees and services for the November enrollment period.

NOVEMBER 4, 2014 will be a turning point in the governance of the City of San Jose. If we as retirees sit on the fence during this election cycle we can only expect continued attacks on our pension benefits. No, I'm not trying to scare you, just letting you know many of the candidates and majority of the City Council don't have your interest at heart. They can make great headlines by bashing the benefits you worked and paid for. Included in this issue of the Billy & Spanner is the schedule of how to participate in two key campaigns. If you can't physically help, then money donated to the candidates is the next best way. Sitting on the sidelines is not an option. Do nothing, and when you lose benefits you will only need to look in the mirror as to why it happened.

The City Charter amendment to change the governance of the Retirement System and Retirement Boards responsibilities, Measure G, is still an issue of concern. Unfortunately not a large number of our retirees still live in the City of San Jose to vote on this issue. This issue is a double-edged sword. If the Association takes a stand against an issue which in reality we have supported for over thirty years, granting the Board more authority to hire and fire the Director of Retirement Services, this would give fuel for Mayor and City Council to attack any of the political issues and people we are supporting. On the other hand, we have issues with the wording in the amendment which would permanently make new definitions in the City Charter. Our feeling is these definitions would give City Council options not currently contained in the current Charter on their ability to control the functions of the Retirement Boards and Retirement Services. The Association will notify you of our final decisions on this issue before the election.

This month Retirement Services mailed a letter to each of you notifying you of an upcoming vacancy for a retired firefighter representative on the Police and Fire Retirement Board. In reality, our current representative Richard Santos' term will be ending. Dick has done an outstanding job as the Vice Chairman of the Board and as Chair of the Disability Committee for these last 4 years.

Continued on page 2

visit our website at www.retiredsjpoff.org

HIGHLIGHTS OF UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

OCTOBER 9 ASSOCIATION MEETING

- **NOMINATIONS OF BOARD OFFICERS** *(MUST BE PRESENT TO BE NOMINATED)*
- **PRESENTATION ON HEALTH CARE CHANGES**

Volunteers Needed!

After suffering 8 long years of broken promises and foolish actions that have decimated the police and fire departments we served so faithfully and purposefully harmed retirees, actives and San Jose residents, the opportunity to set things right is before us.

The Association is partnering with San Jose Fire Fighters, Local 230 and the San Jose Police Officers' Association to bring the city's public safety vote to the forefront in these upcoming elections. In addition to the our paid campaign activities, we are looking for volunteers to reach out directly to voters. Here are the details:

Weekend Walks will be every Saturday and Sunday

10AM-1PM AT THE POA HALL, 1151 NORTH FOURTH STREET, SAN JOSE. LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED.

Weekday walks will be every Monday and Thursday

5PM-7PM AT THE POA HALL. MEAL PROVIDED.

This election is critical to the future of our city and to the well-being of retirees. Please sign up by sending an e-mail to Jose Guerrero of Local 230 at j.guerrero@sjff.org or phone the POA office at 408-298-1133 or email Nicole of POA at Nicole@sjpoa.com.

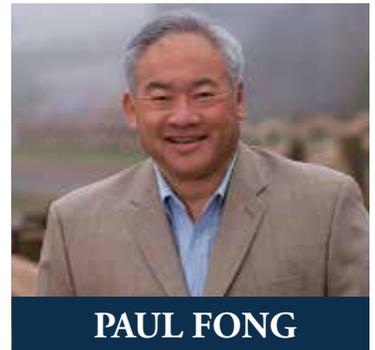
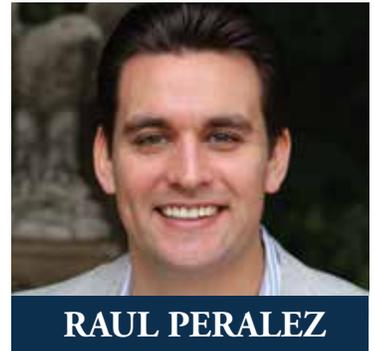
President's Notes *continued from page 1*

He has expressed his desire to seek another term as our retired Fire Representative. In the months to come we will need a strong presence on the Board and Dick has proven he is that individual. Please support and vote for his continued leadership on the Board.

For the next two months each retiree will get a hard copy and an internet copy of the Billy & Spanner. The Association wants each of you to understand the gravity of this election cycle. Our rate of people who actually open the e-mail with the Billy & Spanner is 59%. I am hopeful each of you reads this article and the others in this edition because more than in any other election Police and Fire retirees need to step up and participate in politics.

As always enjoy the retirement you worked and paid for.

Sincerely,



SAVE MONEY, SAVE PAPER.

Sign up for E-Newsletter. By signing up to receive the newsletter through e-mail, you will get the same content, only via e-mail versus regular mail, please send an e-mail to treasurer@retiredsjpoff.org

Police & Fire Retirement Board Report

Nick Muyo, Trustee

My friends, Here is an update on several issues that we have been watching:

DISABILITY COMMITTEE

As I mentioned last month, at the August 20 Disability Committee meeting, a last minute agenda item was added announcing that disability cases would now be passed on to the City Manager's Office, after review by the Disability Committee and the full Board. In other words, when the disability process reaches that point where the Retirement Board is notified that you are maximally medically impaired, unable to continue your career and that there is no position for you in the Police or Fire Department, the City Manager's Office now wants to be advised of such.

At the time, the Director of Retirement Services, Mr. Roberto Pena, assured us that this issue would be taken before the full Board for discussion. Mr. Gurza was unable to attend the 9-4-14 Board meeting and the discussion was tabled for the time being.

WORKERS COMP PROJECT

As many of you know, I have been tasked with looking into complaints about the Workers Comp process. I have spoken to a number of actives and retirees over the past couple of months. Initially, I spoke to and then emailed a questionnaire/survey to many of you who had comments to make, both positive and negative. I have still not received a number of the surveys back. If I emailed a survey to you and you have not returned it to me, please do so as soon as possible. Additionally, I am still gathering information. If you have had issues with Workers Comp (or know someone who has), positive or negative, I would very much like to speak with you (or them).

As a follow-up to this issue, I commented to someone at the 9-8-14 Disability Committee meeting that I was preparing to schedule a follow-up meeting with Deputy City Manager Gurza and Priscilla Morse, Head of the City's Worker's Comp Program. I had previously met with them to discuss early results of my research. Imagine my surprise when I was told that Morse quickly resigned her position within the past month! I am attempting to find out more about this situation. If you know anything, please contact me.

As always, details on our meetings are available on the Retirement Board's website at:
sjretirement.com/PF/meetings/agendas.asp

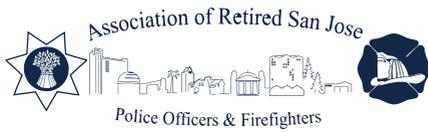
Thank you,

Nick

E-mail: sharx91@aol.com

Welcome New Members

ANTHONY W. MELENDREZ
Pete Urrutia



Association of Retired San Jose

Police Officers & Firefighters

P.O. Box 28041
San Jose, CA 95159-8041

visit our website:
www.retiredsjpoff.org

Volume 22
No.9
September 2014



Association of Retired San Jose

Police Officers & Firefighters

The Billy & Spanner

Calendar of Events

- 10/1 Hick'ry Pit – Gray, 980 E. Campbell Ave., Campbell, 371-2400
- 10/8 City Diner – Tan, 2951 Monterey Rd., SJ – 269-5490
- 10/9 Association Meeting 11AM to 1PM at the San Jose P.O.A. Hall,
1151 N. 4th St., San Jose (Nomination of Board Officers)**
- 10/15 Burger Pit – Blue, 120 Blossom Hill Rd., SJ – 225-6030
- 10/22 Goodies – Wine, 2201 S. Bascom Ave, Campbell 369-1236
- 10/29 El Rancho Steakhouse – Green, 3848 Monterey Road, San Jose - 408-629-1807
- 11/4 Election Day**
- 11/5 Hick'ry Pit – Gray, 980 E. Campbell Ave., Campbell, 371-2400
- 11/12 City Diner – Tan, 2951 Monterey Rd., SJ – 269-5490
- 11/13 Association Meeting 11AM to 1PM at the San Jose P.O.A. Hall,
1151 N. 4th St., San Jose**
- 11/19 Burger Pit – Blue, 120 Blossom Hill Rd., SJ – 225-6030
- 11/26 Goodies – Wine, 2201 S. Bascom Ave, Campbell 369-1236
- 12/3 El Rancho Steakhouse – Green, 3848 Monterey Road, San Jose - 408-629-1807

Association Officers

Jim Spence, President	408-559-1573 president@retiredsjpoff.org
Mike Alford, VP of Police	408-857-2045 vppolice@retiredsjpoff.org
Ray Storms, VP of Fire	510 507-1136 vpfire@retiredsjpoff.org
Tom Scully, Secretary	secretary@retiredsjpoff.org
Larry Samarron, Jr. Treasurer	treasurer@retiredsjpoff.org

Directors-at-Large

Pat Boyd, Jerry Ellis, Mike Moffett, Paul Schmidt, Paul Salerno, Jerry Boyer

Widows & Orphans Officers

President (COA) Bill McCluskey	408-497-1567
VP (SJA) Larry R. Chua	408-926-2709
VP (COR) Wes Good	408-985-7563
Secretary (SJR) Jerry Boyer	408-294-0783
Treasurer (SJR) Jerry Ellis	408-730-9974
Treas. Emeritus (SJR) Mike Moffett	408-867-0405

Police Benevolent Association Officers

President - David Wysuph, Vice President - Steve Windisch
Sec-Treasurer - Larry Lundberg, Sgt at arms - Bob Moir
www.sjpba.net