

# SDG&E Retiree Times

## October 2014

### President's Message



Hope your summer was nice and that you got to do all that you wanted! Your board is currently planning your Annual Holiday Party – it's hard to imagine this will be the 73rd. You will find your invitation enclosed along with directions, a reservation form and the ballot for your new officers and board members. Please

be sure to get your reservation back to us no later than November 14 to ensure your seat! This is a wonderful time of year for all of us to get together to see old friends and colleagues; to talk about the good times we've had; to enjoy some great food; and maybe even win some prizes! I look forward to seeing all of you on December 9 at the Balboa Park Club. In the meantime, enjoy the Fall, Happy Halloween and enjoy Thanksgiving with your families.

Your President, Samm McDonald

### Habitat for Humanity

**Sempra Energy companies partner with Habitat for Humanity to build a home in June for a veteran and revitalize a neighborhood.**

In collaboration with the San Diego chapter of Habitat for Humanity, the Sempra Energy companies, local businesses, community partnerships and employee volunteers built a single-family home in Escondido for the family of a wounded veteran and help to revitalize the surrounding neighborhood.



Revitalization efforts included constructing a community park for the children, families and other residents of the neighborhood, creating a valuable space for rest, relaxation and recreation, They also

did repairing, painting, landscaping and fencing around 34 homes (providing energy efficiency upgrades as well). This revitalized the neighborhood with a fresh new energy and a renewed look.

More than 800 employees of the Sempra Energy family of companies participated in this project, donating more than 6,500 hours of time while building a shared sense of purpose, camaraderie and teamwork.



### HQ New! More than just a new building!

By Sammantha McDonald



This is the second in our series of the New Sempra Energy HQ which is now under construction in East Village near Petco Park. We'll have a 25-year lease on the building, owned by Cisterra Development, once we move in. Sempra Energy and some of its subsidiaries will be the sole tenants. Century Park employees should not be affected by this move.

The decision to build was a culmination of a year-long intensive review of all the alternatives. The energy efficiency and operational savings from the new HQ essentially make the long-term occupancy cost-neutral, as compared with remaining at 101 Ash Street.

The Architect/Designer is Carrier Johnson & Culture and the General Contractor is Turner Construction.

The building will have a Gold LEED rating/certification, resulting from the high energy-efficient installations

Retiree Times is published by the SDG&E Alumni Association  
Jim Teeter, Editor  
c/o Sempra Energy  
101 Ash Street, HQ10B  
San Diego, CA 92101

**Alumni Association Web Site**  
For updates between "Retiree Times" mailings or to read about volunteer opportunities go to our web site at:  
**[www.sdgealumniassoc.org](http://www.sdgealumniassoc.org)**

#### **SDG&E Alumni Association 2014 Board**

President	Samm McDonald	858-229-9671
Vice-President	Sue Weinmeister	619-283-3273
Secretary	Cindy Young	858-541-2247
Treasurer	Joe Hitt	619-583-7635

Directors at Large: Sally Chew, Ken Clay, Joyce Kelly, Irene Krepak, Alice Myers, Charlyne Oslin-Smith, Vee Pitt, Jim Teeter, Ron Williams  
SDG&E Corporate Advisor: Penney Newell

It will be a total of 393,322 square feet with 14,394 square feet used for the cafeteria and lobby and 301,775 square feet for office space. The sixteen stories at Sempra HQ will rise to 224 feet and the addition of the mechanical house will make it 269 feet. Four underground stories will complete the building.

Parking space will accommodate 499 vehicles, and 800 employees are expected to have workspace in the building.

Outside, there will be an urban plaza on the northeast corner closest to Parkloft Condos and The Mark Townhomes. This 5,000 square foot plaza will include moveable seating, landscaping, lighting and upgraded paving materials.

The southern facade of the tower has been angled so that it will maximize views from and into the ballpark. The facade of the Pack Loft building will be renovated to provide ground floor retail space with residential use on the upper floors.

And, good news for the employees, there will be an exercise facility onsite!

Our neighbors near the building on 8th Ave. and J Street include Fire Station No. 4, a 1930s WPA-built Art Deco historic structure.

On the same block, 7th Ave. and Island Ave. is the Cisterra Development Offices, the former Bledsoe Company Furniture Warehouse, and "Pack Lofts" building, built in 1925, which will be renovated during the HQ building constructions.

Also, on the same block, off of 7th Ave. and J Street is the former Western Wholesale Drug Company. The "Unicorn Antique Mall" building, built in 1927 will also be renovated during HQ building construction.

Move-in is expected in July of 2015.

Questions? Please submit them to Samm McDonald at [samm@samm-mcdonald.com](mailto:samm@samm-mcdonald.com) or call her at 858.492.1200. We'll get answers as soon as we can and publish them in the next issue!

### **San Diego Demands Fair Energy Rates**

Hundreds of thousands of San Diegans currently pay more than they should for electricity because California's energy rate model is broken. Recognizing the need for comprehensive electric rate reform to minimize the

burden of high electricity bills on San Diego families, a diverse group of community leaders and citizens has joined together to form the Fix My Energy Bill Coalition ([www.fixmyenergybill.com](http://www.fixmyenergybill.com)).

The Coalition is co-chaired by former San Diego Mayor and current San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Jerry Sanders, former Escondido Mayor Lori Holt Pfeiler, former San Diego City Councilman Jim Madaffer and community leader Carlette Lewis. The group is encouraging the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to fix inequities in the state's electricity rate structure through a series of long-term residential rate reforms.

### **Public Purpose Hearing**

- To convey that current rates affects a lot of customers who live in mid-size and large homes and/or inland.
- A balanced electricity rate structure is of great importance to thousands of seniors living in San Diego County.
- More expensive tiers are becoming unbearable
- Hundreds of thousands of San Diegans are paying more than they should for power because the current model is broken.
- Customers in tiers 3 and 4 pay 50 percent more than the cost to provide them service because they are paying more than their fair share for environmental and infrastructure improvements.
- Customers in warm inland communities often fall in tiers 3 and 4, despite implementing energy efficiency measures, because they have no choice but to rely on air conditioners to stay cool.

To learn more or to get involved, go to [www.fixmyenergybill.com](http://www.fixmyenergybill.com).

### **Don't be left in the dark!**

SDG&E has new tools and services behind My Account. Customers can receive notifications about outages in their area or keep track of energy use and costs with SDG&E's new energy alert notifications. Using these alerts a customer can:

- Set spending & usage notifications
- Enroll in a weekly energy use summary that includes energy saving tips and shows a customer's progress through the four residential tiers.
- Receive an alert when there is an outage in your area

Enroll here: <http://www.sdge.com/energy-use-alerts>

**Retired and Deceased Retirees**

See <http://www.sdgealumniassoc.org/id7.html>

**Deceased in 2014**

Dwight Adams-Mar	Ralph D Mastro-Feb
John "Mike" Ager-Apr	Robert Mathison-Mar
Thelma Ahrensberg-Jan	Jim McCabe-May
Richard "Dick" Allen-Jun	Charles W McCarty-Mar
Roberto M Anguiano-May	Kent D Miles-Jun
Bertha Aviles-Mar	M Joyce Munson-Sep
Carol A Bartolone-Feb	John T Neil-Jul
Lou Bernath-Apr	William H Neild-Apr
Jerry L Bowers-Feb	Francis C Norris, Jr-Sep
William R Carlson-Jul	Garth O'Brien-Apr
Bill Casey-Sep	Dominic Paradise-May
Dwayne Christensen-Dec	Robert Raymond Picard-Sp
Charles H Christman-Aug	Roy Denis Richter-Jan
Ruth Doherty -Jun	Sam Rinaker-Mar
Don Everberg-Mar	David J Roberts-Jan
Leo Miles Flick-Jun	James Sevier-Jul
Mickie Foster	Larry Steven Sharp-Aug
William Hazelrigg-Jun	Harry E Simons Jr-Feb
Jim Hinrichs-Apr	Raoul A Snodgrass-Jun
Craig Hubble-Oct	Troy Stewart-May
Douglas James-Feb	Donald R Stoudt-Jun
Jim Kerr-Feb	George E Sullivan-Jul
Philip Klauber-May	James A Taramasco-Mar
David E Kniffing-Jan	Frederick L Van Every-Jan
David Knight-Jun	William J "Bill" Velte-Mar
Thomas L Knox-May	J G Villalpando-Jan
Ernest LePage-Jan	Gary Earl Wall-Sep

**Retired in 2014**

John Acuna-Jul	Dan Lamar-Aug
Ted Akers-Aug	Gregg Lawless-Aug
Gerry Akin-May	Ruth Love-Sep
Melissa Andrews-Aug	Larry Luko-Aug
Cristina Ayala-Smith-Oct	Steve Maybury-Aug
Melody Ballard-Jul	Karen McGrath-Aug
Charlie Bender-Aug	Hector Montes-Jan
Sheila Botkin-Aug	Timothy L Moore-Dec
Gloria Bowker-Aug	Ron Munson-Aug
Emma Brillo-Jan	George Nelms-Apr
James Brown-Feb	Charlie Parkinson-Aug
Jimmie C Cobb-Jun	Ken Penyak-Dec
Bill Cunningham-Aug	Harold Poyner-Feb
Deborah Davenport-Jul	Ruth Rabun-Jan
Jeff Elliot-Aug	Jimmy Ramirez-Aug
Earl Fish-Apr	Cynthia Relph-Aug

Belen Flores-Aug	Robert Rios-Dec
Walt Franklin-Aug	Frank V San Filippo-Jul
David Reyes Garcia-Dec	Roger Scheuerman-Aug
Larry "Spike" Gibbens-Aug	Kathy Ellis Sinclair-Jan
Ron Gregorich-Aug	Dave Smith-Aug
Guy Hadley-Jun	William "Bill" Stewart-Aug
Charlie Haley-Aug	Dewayne Tannheimer-Aug
Patrick Harner-Apr	Cindy Tornero-Aug
Bruce Heilbrunn-Aug	Mark Ward-Aug
Manny Hernandez-Aug	Irene White-Jan
Donna Johnson-May	William R White-Apr
John Koufoudakis-Aug	Donald B Zelmer-Aug
Linda Kussman-Aug	

**Alumni Interviews**

This is the fifth in our series of Alumni Interviews in the *Retiree Times*. If you have ideas for people to interview or would like to see us ask other questions, please email Sammantha McDonald at [samm@samm-mcdonald.com](mailto:samm@samm-mcdonald.com). To read the entire article, visit our website, where all past issues of both the eNewsletter and *Retiree Times* are archived - or sign up for the eNewsletter.

**Dave Lowe**

Dave Lowe was born in San Diego and attended Crawford High School, San Diego State University and National University. Dave holds a Bachelor's Degree in Social Science and a Master's in Business Administration. He and his wife Janine have been married 48 years and they have two children, Rick who is Director of Operations for Darden Restaurants and April who is a Sr. Agent for Homeland Security. They have one granddaughter, Ava who is 4 years old. Dave went to High School with several recent retirees including Jim Teeter, Sue Weim, Gene Marshall, Bob Brice, Jim Cassie and Jim Rupe.



Dave began his career at SDG&E in 1968 as a Laborer in the Gas Department and held various positions in Customer Service and Marketing, retiring as Manager of Customer Support Services in 2005. Like many retirees of the Boomer generation, the slower paced life didn't really suit Dave. Within a

month or so after retiring from SDG&E he accepted a position as General Manager of Warner Springs Ranch where he worked for over 3 years. Then he decided to try

his hand at a new hobby, winemaking. He planted a small vineyard on their property in Warner Springs and began to learn about the history and culture of winemaking. At first he made wine for family and friends, but the hobby soon grew too large. By 2009 Dave and Janine began to make plans for owning their own commercial winery.

They purchased several acres on the north east slope of Palomar Mountain and planted Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Malbec grapes. Construction of the tasting room and winery began shortly thereafter and Sierra Roble Winery was opened for business on October 19, 2013. Their boutique winery specializes in traditional Bordeaux varietals and they hope to entice your palate with some of the finest handcrafted wines available anywhere.

Dave, his son Rick, and son-in-law Bill, have completed and passed the Level 1 Sommelier Course & Exam from the Court of Master Sommeliers.

Sierra Roble Winery and Vineyard is located at 34810 Hwy 79 in Warner Springs. They are open noon to 5pm on Friday and 11:00am to 5pm on Saturday and Sunday. Sierra Roble has 6 wines currently available for tasting and the cost for a tasting is \$10. Wines are priced around \$25 per bottle and are available by the glass for \$7.

“Janine and I have already been visited by many of our SDG&E friends. We hope that more of our friends are able to stop by for a visit very soon. We would love to see you and catch-up on what you’ve been doing since you retired. As our daughter loves to say, ‘Come for the wine, stay for the view.’ Hope to see you soon!”

See interviews at <http://sdgealumniassoc.org/id16.html>.

**Reminders**

**Update your address!**

Please notify the Retiree Service Center when you move. This is the address Sempra uses to notify you of any changes and also where this Newsletter is mailed. Contact the My Retirement Information line at 866-491-3316 or visit MyRetirement at <https://www.benefitsweb.com/sempra.html>.

**Retired and Deceased Employees**

If you have any information regarding a newly retired or deceased SDG&E Alumni Member, please contact Alice Myers at 858-278-3803 or [amollyputz@san.rr.com](mailto:amollyputz@san.rr.com). We need your help! SDG&E cannot provide us this info.

**Annual Holiday Luncheon**

The annual holiday luncheon will be held Tuesday, December 9, 2014 at the Balboa Park Club. See forms enclosed. You won’t want to miss our surprise guest!

----- ✂ ----- **DIRECTORY-Sign up here** ----- ✂ -----

If you are already listed in the SDG&E Alumni Association directory, there is no need to submit your information again, unless it has changed. Your information will continue to be included in future editions of the directory. If you need to update your information in the directory or would like to be added to the directory, please provide the information requested below–or enter the information at our website (Directory tab) at [www.sdgealumniassoc.org](http://www.sdgealumniassoc.org). Please check one of the categories below to indicate membership status. Eligible members are:

- 1 \_\_\_ SDG&E Retiree
- 2 \_\_\_ SDG&E Employee with at least 25 years of service on 12/31/97
- 3 \_\_\_ Former SDG&E employee 55+ years of age (if not SDG&E retired, will receive newsletters only if checked)
- 4 \_\_\_ Spouse of deceased member

You may e-mail your information to Penney Newell at [pnewell@semprautilities.com](mailto:pnewell@semprautilities.com) or mail the form to SDG&E Alumni Assn, c/o Penney Newell, 101 Ash Street, HQ10B, San Diego CA 92101. Current laws prohibit SDG&E from providing any personal information.

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (include area code): \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Year Hired: \_\_\_\_\_ Year Retired: \_\_\_\_\_ Month Retd: \_\_\_\_\_

Veteran Status (optional, circle one): Merchant Marine, USAF, US Army, USCG, US Navy, USMC, Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Electronic directory OK? (Y/N): \_\_\_ Electronic newsletters OK? (Y/N): \_\_\_ OK to share your info with SDG&E? (Y/N): \_\_\_