

# SDG&E Retiree Times

## February 2016

### President's Message



It's 2016! Think of all the changes we have seen in our lifetimes. My husband and I were waiting for a friend to join us for lunch when we received a text that she couldn't be there due to a combination of factors. What did we do before cell phones? We would have waited for a period of time, worried about her and gone

in search of a pay phone to call to be sure she was ok. I would be pounding this out on a typewriter or writing longhand instead of on my Microsoft Surface. Many of you have received this newsletter via email, but 100% of you would have received it the old fashioned way ... printed and sent via U.S. Mail. Self-driving cars are expected in the near future with over 10 million expected to be on the road by 2020. This is probably good news for us seniors as it will allow us to maintain our independence a little longer. The Hover Boards of Back to the Future are here (sorta) and the Chicago Cubs still aren't making it to the World Series. Did you miss last Sunday's Downton Abbey? Not a problem; it's probably on your DVR or you can watch it On Demand. And how about them Chargers? Will we be saying good bye in 2017, now that they have announced they will remain here for the 2016 season? And please; don't get me started on the Presidential candidates.

I'm sorry I was unable to join you at the Holiday Luncheon on December 9, but I understand that it was fabulous, as always. We had 397 reservations this year, although not everyone was able to attend. Frank Hoffman was our oldest attendee; he retired in 1980. It's always great to get together with our colleagues of the past, isn't it? Thanks to Joyce Kelly and her committee for putting this all together and special thanks to Ed Davis and Ranch Catering for the food and Dan LaMar for stepping in to emcee. We should have a date confirmed for this year's event in the next few weeks, so as they say, stay tuned!

### SDG&E is Committed to Helping Customers Get "Safely Out" During Emergencies

At San Diego Gas & Electric, safety is a number one priority for our customers and employees. Outside of

efforts to help the region prepare for weather-related emergencies, our safety focus is also aimed at helping customers prepare for emergencies such as fires and floods. With the promise of unusually heavy rains and potential flooding due to El Niño conditions, SDG&E proactively engaged in a campaign to assist our most vulnerable customers in being as prepared as possible in the event of an emergency and in particular in the event of emergency evacuation.

SDG&E partnered with Citizen Voice on the "Safely Out Campaign." Citizen Voice is a non-profit organization whose mission is to inspire, inform and involve citizens, especially those that are most vulnerable. Through this partnership, special "Safely Out" kits were created for homebound seniors, those with special needs or anyone in need of extra assistance in the event of an emergency evacuation.

The kits contain instructions, materials and tools to help customers better prepare for emergencies and inform police and first responders that they are "Safely Out" in the event of an evacuation.

SDG&E partnered with a variety of local organizations to ensure these kits reached the right customers. A few of the partnership and distribution highlights include:

- Nearly 4,000 kits distributed directly by 2-1-1 San Diego to SDG&E's Medical Baseline customers in the High Risk Fire Areas (HRFA)
- Over 3,2000 kits distributed directly to homebound seniors through Meals on Wheels San Diego
- 1,500 kits given to American Medical Response (AMR) San Diego, the largest local ambulance company, to distribute on transport service and at local preparedness events
- 200 kits distributed at Councilmember Chris Cate's sandbag distribution event following heavy El Niño rainfall

Other partners who are assisting with kit distribution and education include ElderHelp, who helps seniors live independently in their own homes and Access to

<p><i>Retiree Times</i> is published by the SDG&amp;E Alumni Association Jim Teeter, Editor c/o Sempra Energy P O Box 129831, HQ08S2 San Diego, CA 92112-0750</p>	<p><b>Alumni Association Web Site</b> For updates between "Retiree Times" mailings or to read about volunteer opportunities go to our web site at: <b><a href="http://www.sdgealumniassoc.org">www.sdgealumniassoc.org</a></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SDG&amp;E Alumni Association 2016 Board</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">President</td> <td style="width: 33%;">Samm McDonald</td> <td style="width: 33%;">858-229-9671</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vice-President</td> <td>Sue Weinmeister</td> <td>619-283-3273</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Secretary</td> <td>Cindy Young</td> <td>858-541-2247</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Treasurer</td> <td>Joe Hitt</td> <td>619-583-7635</td> </tr> </table> <p>Directors at Large: Gloria Bowker, Jerry Crouch, Sally Chew, Ken Clay, Joyce Kelly, Irene Krepak, Dan LaMar, Alice Myers, Charlyne Oslin-Smith, Vee Pitt, Jim Teeter, Ron Williams</p>	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
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Independence, which provides a variety of services to people with disabilities.

To learn more about the "Safely Out" kit visit [www.citizenvoice.org](http://www.citizenvoice.org) and click the "Safely Out" door hanger logo.

If you work with or are affiliated with an organization interested in helping distribute "Safely Out" kits please email [smartenergysolutions@semprautilities.com](mailto:smartenergysolutions@semprautilities.com).

**Retired and Deceased Retirees**

For a full list of retired and deceased retirees, see the archive on our web page at <http://www.sdgealumniassoc.org/id7.html>.

**Deceased in 2016**

John Gus Lekos-Jan                      Lynn Marie Timony-Jan

**Deceased in 2015**

Rose Aftreth-May	Anita Jacobs-October
Joe Arce-Jul	Rick C Jenkins-Dec
Lloyd Barnes-Aug	Billy Jones-May
George Henry Bartee-Jun	Richard F Jones-Feb
Vern Bridgman-Oct	Philip L Kincaid-Sep
Herbert Leon Briggs-Oct	Virginia D Kirby-Smith-Mar
Peter Bryson-Sep	Carland D Lee-Jan
Fred Caruso-Sep	Douglas Long-Jan
Patsy J Castillo-Apr	Rosalie Longoria-Nov
Patricia Marie Cavallin-Jul	Roger W Lutes-Jan
B L "Roy" Caylor-Mar	Mary Means-Mar
Robert L Cole-Mar	Ralph L Meyer-Jan
Joseph Croasdale-Oct	Jerome Mulherin-Mar
Robert C Davis-Mar	Robert N Newsom-Sep
Daniel L Dietrich-Jul	Benjamin P Palma-Feb
Jorge A Dietsch-Mar	Orpha L Parks-Mar
Jim L Faucher-Jul	Lionel R "Dick" Parlin-May
Evelyn Helen Ferree-Sep	Joyce Eleanor Pawlak-Sep
Larry J Fischer-May	Lorraine Peterson-Mar
Frank Flores-Oct	James Petruzelli-Dec
Jim Freund-Feb	Edwin W Pohle Jr-May
Cedric E Fritz-Jun	Karl Henry Preibisius-Jul
Johnny Ray Gibson-Nov	Oscar B Reano-Jan
Joanne Gleason-Apr	Howard W Rhodes-Oct
J R Gowen-Jan	Matthew L Rivera-Oct
William R Graham-Jul	Anne R Schmidt-Nov
Richard "Gus" Gustafson-Jul	Katherine L Schraud-Nov
Allan L Hamilton-Jul	Jeanne Scranton-Apr
Carolyn Harter-Aug	Moses Small-Mar
William J Henderson-Oct	Donald Ray Taylor Sr-Sep
Hendricks, Mildred-Aug	Ralph Tenison-Jul
Bob Hoch-May	Neville I Thacker-Jun
William H Holt-Jul	Ruth C Tierney-Feb
Thomas M Hopewell-Sep	Robert Tvrz-Feb
John W Hunter-May	Juan Urrea-Feb

Rick Vincent-Dec  
Edward T Wade-Mar

John Westmoreland-Aug  
Lloyd W Wilson-Jan

**Deceased in 2014**

David F Grubbs-Oct

**Retired in 2016**

Beverly Blessent-Jan  
Linda Bustard-Jun  
Jose Rosales-Feb  
Mark Serrano-Jan

Ann Stice-Feb  
Neil Sybert  
Clayton Tong-Mar  
Mark A Williams-Feb

**Retired in 2015**

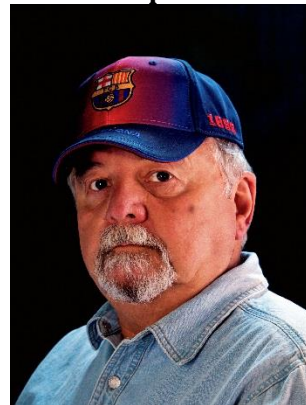
Kathy Babcock-Oct  
Mike Calcagno-Oct  
Sharon Chavez-Dec  
Tom Chouinard-Oct  
David Crosthwaite-Oct  
Dale DeMille-Aug  
Timothy Dowdle-May  
Steven Dyer-Sep  
Ferreola Ferrer-Sep  
Marzelia Gartrell-Sep  
Al Gelbart-Dec  
Robert E Gohsler-Sep  
Yvonne Hicks-Mar  
Renell Hill-Jun  
Patti Horan-Dec  
Les Jerke-Dec  
John Killmer-Oct  
Mark A Lujan-Aug

Lela Manning-Nov  
Walter Manning-Jul  
Ray Will Nicol-Dec  
Ronald G Paape-Jul  
Joel Pointon-Apr  
Barry Richardson-Dec  
Jane Roome-May  
Lou Roubitchek-Jan  
Bob Schlax  
Susan Scott-Aug  
Patti Staack-Dec  
Becky Tsai-Apr  
Diane Wahlgren-Sep  
Murray Weg-Sep  
Nikki Wood-Oct  
Nancy "Brienn" Woods-Dec  
Alma Zaragoza-Aug

**Alumni Interviews**

This is the tenth in our series of Alumni Interviews in the *Retiree Times*. If you have ideas for people to interview or would like us to ask other questions, please email Samm McDonald at [samm@samm-mcdonald.com](mailto:samm@samm-mcdonald.com). Visit our website, where past issues of the eNewsletter and *Retiree Times* are archived; or sign up for the eNewsletter.

**Rick Phillips**



Rick had a peripatetic (traveling from place to place) 30 year career at SDG&E: he worked in District offices ranging from Oceanside in the north, to Chula Vista in the south, and Eastern in the... well... east; and, there were stops in the Phone Center, Planning, Rates, collections, energy services, Large Consumer Billing, Meter Services Staff, Distribution Asset Management; and, the merger team!

During vacations, he honed his interests in archaeology by assisting the U.S. Forest Service with digs in California, Arizona, and Nebraska. Also, he spent many weekends excavating the Early Man Site, on I-15, east of Barstow. Eventually, he began digging deeper and helped a National Geographic team excavate the pelvic girdle of a plesiosaur and assisted The Smithsonian with recovery of a Cretaceous Period Horseshoe Crab in Wyoming.

After work he was involved in service organizations, political campaigns, and youth sports. He spent eight years teaching martial arts and earned second-degree black belts in taekwondo and hapkido (the Korean hard and soft forms of self-defense).

Since retiring, most of his volunteer time has been above ground serving as a docent for Tallac Historic Site (<http://www.tahoheritage.org>), the Natural History Museum, Cabrillo National Monument, and, currently for the Living Coast Discovery Center in Chula Vista (<http://www.thelivingcoast.org/>).

In their RV, Rick and his wife, Mary Ellen, have driven all the western states; visited most of the Indian pueblos in Arizona and New Mexico; and, driven Highway 1 to its northern terminus to see the lighthouses along the way. Now, except for the occasional weekend trip, the RV is gathering cobwebs as they have turned to cruising. So far, they've done an Atlantic crossing, Venice to Galveston; the Panama Canal; Mexico's "Gold Coast"; the Western Caribbean; Alaska; and cruised round-trip to Hawaii. Next October, they are booked on a cruise from Los Angeles to Tahiti via Hawaii. Twice, Rick has been on cruise ships and seen other SDG&E alumni.

On the topic of alumni ... every couple of months, Rick has lunch with three of his old bosses: Gary Wright, John Vanderlinde, and Jim Teeter. And whenever he travels north of Los Angeles he stops to see Marianne Selindh, his So Cal Gas boss on the merger team.

"I started taking photos as my high school's newspaper and yearbook photographer and have never stopped," is how he described his longest lasting interest. Currently, he writes a blog on photo venues in San Diego (<http://www.examiner.com/article/photographing-a-working-ranch-mexico>) and, "I make a little pocket change doing portraits."

Rick is offering free portraits (2-3 electronic images) to any SDG&E retiree who comes to his Bonita in-home studio before March 31st. To make an appointment, send an email to [Photosbyphillips@aol.com](mailto:Photosbyphillips@aol.com).

Currently, he spends time four-wheeling his Jeep in the Anza Borrego or photographing his family: his daughter is a director of an international financial services firm and she has a three-year old son and a two-year old daughter. His son is a Captain with the Solana Beach Fire Department and has a daughter and son, with another "bun in the oven."

<http://about.me/PhotosByPhillips>

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 MyRetirement Information line at 866-491-3316 or visit <https://www.benefitsweb.com/sempra.html>.

Remember to update your e-mail address, too! On our website see <http://www.sdgealumniassoc.org/id37.html>.

### **Employee Discount Cards**

If you move and forget this, it will cost you money. I know first-hand! It's enough when you forget to do something right, like filling out an employee discount card when you move. It's quite another when a service provider can't shake hands with current employees. So if you encounter the same problem I did, there's a work-around. If you call the SDG&E Call Center at 800-411-SDGE, they tell you that active employees get an employee discount from their timekeeper. Retirees don't have a timekeeper, so we are supposed to call the Retiree Service Center (RSC) at 866-491-3316 to obtain an employee discount card.

Unfortunately, when you call the RSC, they refer you back to the SDG&E Call Center, who—you guessed it—refers you to the SDG&E Retiree Service Center. The work-around? Go to our website FAQ page and download a copy of the form with instructions where to return. See the FAQ page at <http://sdgealumniassoc.org/id45.html>. Right now might be a good time to check your latest SDG&E bill to make sure you are still receiving your discount.

### **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 [amolyputz@san.rr.com](mailto:amolyputz@san.rr.com). We need your help! SDG&E cannot provide us this info.

### **E-Newsletter**

If you gave us your e-mail address, you're also receiving occasional electronic newsletter updates. If you haven't but would like to receive them, go to our website at

[www.sdgealumniassoc.org](http://www.sdgealumniassoc.org) and click on the Directory link (E-mail Address Update page) and fill in the online form.

**Sempra's New Contact Address**

Now that Sempra headquarters has moved, there is a new address for our SDG&E Alumni Association liaison. It is:

SDG&E Alumni Association  
P O Box 129831, HQ08S2  
San Diego, CA 92112-0750

**Holiday Luncheon**

Pictures from the 2015 Holiday luncheon are posted on our SDG&E Alumni Association Facebook page.

The 2016 luncheon will be set for a date in December very shortly, probably Tuesday, December 13 at the Scottish Rites Event Center. If you've sent us your e-mail address, you'll find out in about a month in our eNewsletter or on our website. Otherwise, the info will be in the next issue of *Retiree Times* in summer. Hope to see you there!

-----✂----- **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 Gabe Gutierrez at [ggutierrez2@semprautilities.com](mailto:ggutierrez2@semprautilities.com) or mail the form to SDG&E Alumni Assn, c/o Gabe Gutierrez, HQ08S2, P O Box 129831, San Diego CA 92112-0750. 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): \_\_\_

-----✂----- **Special 2016 Events-Sign up here** -----✂-----

We're planning some special events this year in addition to the Holiday Luncheon for those of you who have interest. If you're interested in attending any of these events, please contact Jim Teeter by e-mail at [TeeterJS@aol.com](mailto:TeeterJS@aol.com), call 858-999-5141, or tear off this coupon and mail your information to SDG&E Alumni Association, c/o Gabe Gutierrez, HQ08S2, P O Box 129831, San Diego CA 92112-0750.

Please CIRCLE event you would like to attend and fill in your name and phone

Aug – Day at the Races Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Oct – Trip to Museums (Getty, San Diego, other) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Trip to local casino (or Las Vegas) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Other suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_