



COURT GAZETTE

San Diego County Court Employees Association

June 2005

PAGE 1

SDCCEA

Board of Directors 2005

Kay Elbik - President
 Carol Albrecht - 1st Vice President
 Amy Shillingburg- 2nd Vice President and
 CIPELC Representative
 Lance Brown - Secretary
 Doug Carlson- Treasurer
 Frances Mercer - Historian

Cindy Schmidt Warren Smith
 Adrienne Aron Pat Seavey
 Joann Pickrell Alison Blackwell
 Irene Elguira Laura Llamas



Hello,

Did you know that if you were a student worker or seasonal worker for the Court's or the County you can buy-back some of that time? Contact the Retirement Board at (619) 515-0130 and they will send you out the forms. Just fill them out and send them in and they will calculate what the cost will be to you.

By the time this newsletter comes out we will probably be in Negotiations with the Court. Your "team" has been very involved in putting together a proposal that addresses your many concerns. We could not put all of your varied suggestions into the proposal but we are proud to say that the majority of your ideas were used in our approximately 40 item proposal. We look forward to the commencement of Negotiations and we will keep you posted via the newsletter and flyers.

Be sure to let us know if you have moved so that we have your most current home address.

Your Association's Social Committee has been looking into a special summer event, perhaps in July, to give the membership a chance to socialize outside of the work environment. We will keep you informed of what, where, and when as it becomes finalized.

We are in the process of ordering lanyards for your identification cards. Once they arrive, if you would like one, please see a Board member.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support!

Kay Elbik
 President



WHAT'S INSIDE:

- Presidents Message I
- Labor Relations Manager Message and Discount Ticket Info. II
- Article by CIPELC Lobbyist - Michael Mattoch, Esq. III
- Board meeting minutes IV



Contact Us:

525 B Street, Suite 250
 San Diego, CA 92101
 Phone (619) 264-6685
 FAX (619) 243-0741
 Jeff Carr: ext. 204
 jcarr@sdcccea.org
 Kristen Byrom: ext. 208
 kbyrom@sdmea.org



LABOR RELATIONS MANAGERS REPORT...

by Jeff Carr



Negotiations with the Courts Management Team commenced on Monday, May 23rd. The Associations Team and the Management Team also met on the 24th, 26th, and 27th. Both sides have traded their proposals and have gone to great lengths explaining the logic behind each proposal. I will say this.... the Courts proposal is a much shorter list than the Associations but this is no surprise. We have tentatively agreed to many items and are close to agreement on many other items. I can report that we are being asked by the Court to consider another long term agreement and of course if the proposal meets the needs of our membership we will certainly consider their offer in that regard. Please remember that all agreements that your Team makes with the Court are tentative agreements.

They are tentative pending your opportunity to vote on the entire new agreement. It is also important that based upon the continuing relationship the Court maintains with the County we do not negotiate your flexible benefits or your medical plans. We are acutely aware of how much your medical benefits are costing however when we are in negotiations we will not be negotiating any facet of your health benefits as the Court is tied to the County on that, in the same way your retirement is. It is frustrating for your Negotiating team to know how important it is to increase your benefit allowance in that area and not have the ability to change it. It is our commitment to keep you up to date on the progress that we are making and we will continue to do so.

San Diego Zoo: Deluxe Package

Adult: \$24.00
Child: \$14.75

San Diego Wild Animal Park: Deluxe Package

Adult: \$20.00
Child: \$14.50

Legoland

Adult: \$29.95
Child: \$29.95

Magic Mountain

Adult: \$22.00
Child: \$15.00



Sea World: Day Pass

Adult: \$39.00
Child: \$34.00



Movie Passes:

AMC and Pacific Theater \$5.50
Regal Combo* \$6.50

*UA, Edwards & Regal

1. When using US mail, please include an additional \$4.42 to send Return Receipt/Certified Mail. This guarantees a safe delivery. You may waive this fee by notifying us in writing
2. Make all checks payable to ILS

TRIAL COURT 'SAL' GROWTH FACTOR ALLOCATION: A QUESTION OF EQUITY

By Michael S. Mattoch, Esq.



Mike Mattoch is our new lobbyist. He represents our interests in Sacramento and specifically for us, the Courts. SDCCEA is a member of the California Independent Legislative Council (CIPELC). Amy Shillingburg is the CIPELC Secretary and attends all of the Board meetings. We asked Mike to inform us about the new budget process the State and AOC are utilizing this year.

In ongoing meetings between labor representatives (including CIPELC) the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), legislative staff and staff from the Schwarzenegger Administration over trial court funding, one thing is clear to me, the debate centers around a question of equity for all the courts.

What is being contested is the State Appropriations Limit Adjustment (SAL) as of the 2005-2006 May Revision of the Governor's Budget.

So the question is: Should the 6.64% SAL Adjustment (\$138,092,011) be given equally across the board to all the courts to establish the baseline budgets in this initial budget year after the reorganization of court administration, or should the AOC be able to distribute the SAL adjustment in a manner reflecting their own priorities?

All labor representatives agree that it is very important in this initial year of the SAL adjustment to the Governor's base budget that the SAL adjustment of 6.64% should be allocated equally across the board to meet the constitutional guarantee and legislative mandate of "equal access to the courts."

As a co-equal branch of government (along with the Executive and Legislative branches) the Judicial Branch has been provided with a SAL that effectively acts as a cost of living adjustment (COLA) to be adjusted from year to year.

Labor is of the opinion that this year the SAL should be distributed equally to all courts to utilize as efficaciously as they see fit. The AOC's proposed budget allocations reflect the priorities determined by the AOC alone.

There is an underlying fear that the precedent being set by the AOC opens the door to manipulation of the SAL in a manner that discriminates or would adversely impact the budgets and critical programs (such as interpreter services) of smaller, underrepresented or otherwise disadvantaged courts, as well as a concern that the SAL will be used as a tool to gain an unfair advantage in collective bargaining.

The parties will continue to meet and confer on this important issue throughout the budget debate. Given that the AOC does not have to follow the same open meeting rules as other governmental agencies, this is the time and place to make our case.

Michael S. Mattoch is an attorney and lobbyist with Norwood & Mattoch, government relations advocates for CIPELC in Sacramento, California



SDCCEA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
May 4, 2005



Present: K. Elbik, C. Albrecht, L. Brown, F. Mercer, C. Schmidt, D. Carlson, J. Carr, W. Smith, L. Llamas, A. Blackwell, D. Castle, P. Seavey

Excused: A. Shillingburg, I. Elguira, J. Pickrell, A. Aron

Report of Officers

Minutes of previous meeting - The minutes from the board meeting of 4-6-05, having been previously emailed, are approved, and filed.

Treasurer's report – Doug reviews the Treasurer's report, which is filed as read.

The Board reviews and discusses the Labor Relations Manager written report.

Report of Committees

Social Committee – Cindy discusses plans to have a member event, tentatively scheduled in July 2005 at Harvest Ranch, near Sea World. Frances provides photo albums that she has assembled, containing Historian's photos.

By-Laws Committee – tabled.

Membership Committee – tabled.

Budget Committee – Doug and Cindy give an overview of the recent budget committee meeting with Jon Hayes. The committee is nearing a budget proposal to present to the Board, possibly as early as the June meeting. Doug states that we are under budget in several areas, so we are able to cover the travel expense reimbursement. Doug provides the form that can be used by Board members for travel reimbursement.

Security Committee – Doug gives an overview of the Sheriff's security meeting he attended on 4-26-05; he states he now has permission to attend these meetings once per month. Doug discussed various security issues.

CIPELC report – Jeff gives an overview of CIPELC activity. The next CIPELC board meeting is scheduled for 6-18-2005 in San Diego, at the MEA Headquarters. Issues to be discussed include current and pending legislation, planning Board of Director's meetings in advance, and a review of CIPELC's new lobbyist.

Promotional Item Committee – tabled. The promotional item committee will look for promotional items on a regular basis, and be ready as the need arises for new promotions. Jeff gave an update on the lanyards; there will be no charge for the incorrect lanyards. A new company has been found that will supply us the lanyards at a reduced cost.

Negotiation Team – Jeff discusses the negotiation team efforts, and provides a draft of the team's proposals to the board for review. The next negotiation team meeting is scheduled for 5-12-05 at SDCCEA Headquarters. Jeff also discusses the Court's proposal to limit our team to eight members, and the board discusses this issue.

Unfinished Business

Discussion of Washington Mutual Treasury Bonds – tabled. The members of the Budget committee are discussing ways to reposition the Association's funds.

Parking at ILS – tabled. Kay states that this issue has been rectified; as long as members arrive prior to 6:00pm and leave after 8:00pm, parking is free.

New Business

Jon Hayes provides information to the Board on a written proposal from St. Paul's Traveler's Insurance covering general liability at \$785.00 per year. Pat makes a motion to accept the quote for insurance, and Doug seconds the motion. The motion carries unanimously. Jon will contact the company for immediate coverage.

Jon further gives a presentation on the Association website, and discusses options with the Board. After much discussion, the Board directs the website committee to meet with Jon to immediately update our current web page, and discuss other options with Jon and his new ILS website designer when he comes on board. The committee will then report back to the board by the July meeting. Warren makes a motion to engage ILS at \$50.00 per hour to update our current website, not to exceed a total of 5 hours. Pat seconds the motion. The motion carries unanimously.

Kay discusses a request from a former member for dues reimbursement in the amount of \$13.30. Carol makes a motion for reimbursement; Doug seconds the motion. The motion carries unanimously. Jeff gives an update on the membership drive, and encourages more involvement.

Open Forum- Cindy and Doug discuss other social plans, including a possible "Court Road Rally".

Adjournment-The meeting is adjourned at 8:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for June 1, 2005, at 6:00 p.m. at MEA Headquarters