



## The Retirement View

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### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Introducing Our New Assistant Retirement Administrator** 1
- Member Portal: Your Access, Your Time, Your Information** 2
- Happy New Year! Taxes 2016** 3
- Health Fairs—A Chance To Meet** 3
- Calendar** 3
- Payment Schedule** 3
- Live Audio Broadcast** 3
- Board Members** 3
- Meet the Staff** 4

### Introducing Our New Assistant Retirement Administrator



Fresno County Employees' Retirement Association is pleased to announce that after an extensive search, we have selected our new Assistant Retirement Administrator, Doris Rentschler. The Assistant Retirement Administrator works under the Retirement Administrator to manage the day-to-day operations of FCERA and is charged with directing the work of managers, interacting with internal and external resources including legal, actuarial, and technological services, providing the final approval for many documents and publications, preparing, justifying, and managing the department budget, facilitating the annual audit, making policy recommendations relating to public pension plan administration, and much more.

Doris comes to FCERA from the city of Tucson, where she worked for the past 21 years. Doris gained extensive retirement experience during her 13 years with the Tucson Supplemental Retirement System (TSRS) where she started as an Administrative Assistant documenting and streamlining their workflow processes. As an Analyst and then Lead Analyst with TSRS, she saw the organization through numerous changes and challenges. After spending 2 years with the city of Tucson Public Safety Retirement Systems as the lead analyst-secretary to the local boards, Doris went to the city's Revenue Division, as a Finance Manager where she oversaw municipal sales tax collections and business licensing. She is a Certified Financial Planner (CFP), and has a Master's in Management from Northern Arizona University and a Bachelor's in Business Administration from the University of Arizona. Doris relocated to Fresno with her husband, and so far they are enjoying the transition and look forward to getting more involved in the community.

Doris brings to FCERA all the knowledge that comes from working up through the ranks, as she has done in her previous positions. Her work philosophy relies heavily on communication within and between all levels of an organization. Doris believes that with information from all staff, she is able to make the best management decisions. We aspire to learn from Doris as she learns about working for a retirement system under the 1937 Act in California.

Doris looks forward to meeting new challenges head-on, whether they are known challenges like investment markets or the political environment surrounding defined benefit plans; or unknown challenges that will arise in the future. Doris believes with a strong team and clear communication, we can improve processes and increase efficiency here at FCERA. We are thrilled to have Doris as an asset to our members, as her CFP designation helps the organization focus on the larger picture of financial education and retirement planning for our members. Please join us in welcoming Doris Rentschler to the County of Fresno and FCERA.



## Member Portal—Your Access, Your Time, Your Information

We launched our Member Portal in October, and in one month we had over 1,400 members sign up! While that is an impressive number, it is actually a small section of our membership.

Here's what some of those members have had to say about the Member Portal so far:

*"This website is great! It takes a lot of the guessing out of my coming retirement time."*

*"...Registering was easy and I appreciate being able to log in and review my information."*

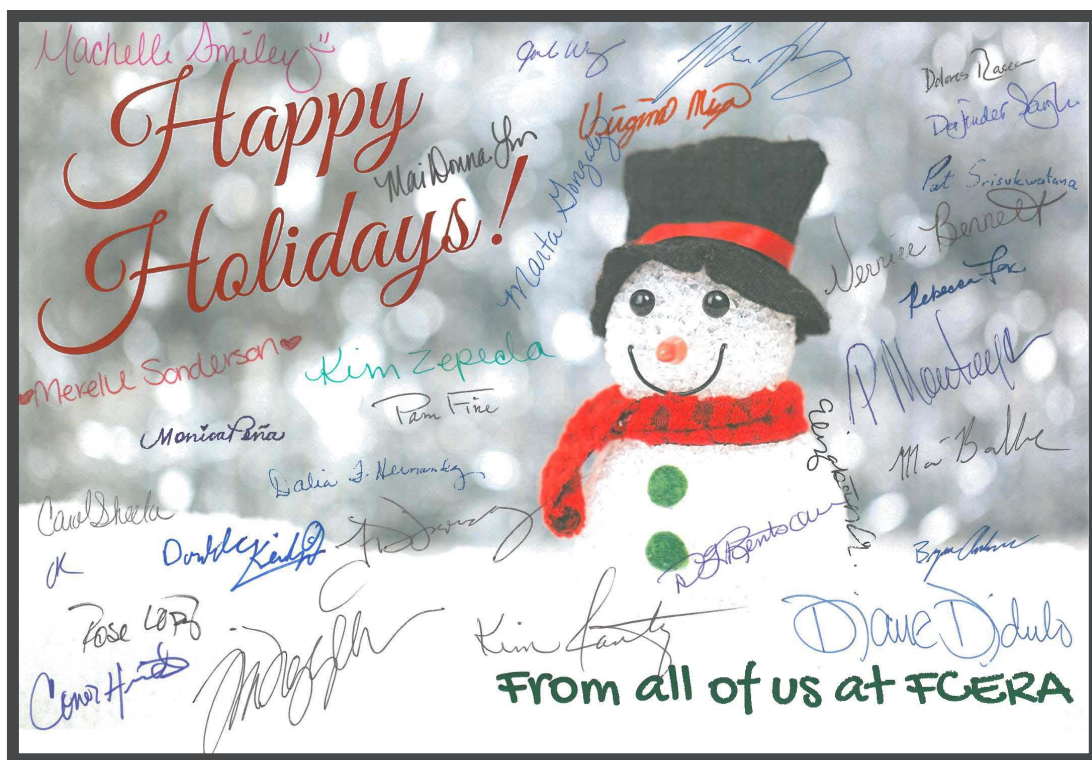
*"It is easy to navigate..."*

*"I sure love this new Member Portal! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!!!"*

In order to register, you will need your **Unique ID #**. This was sent in a letter to your home in September or October. If you need to get your **Unique ID #**, you can do so with a simple phone call to our office at **559-457-0681**. We will ask you a few security questions to verify your identity before providing it to you. Once you've registered, you can access the Member Portal anytime! Active and deferred members can run benefit estimates, view current service credit and final compensation information. Retirees can see their payment history and retirement summary. All members can verify personal and beneficiary information, easily contact FCERA, and request verification letters. Register today!



Winter 2016-17





## Happy New Year! Taxes 2016

As the New Year approaches we have updates to share with our retirees. By Federal law, your Form 1099R must be mailed to you no later than January 31, 2017. Our bank, Northern Trust, will be mailing the tax forms out as soon as possible; and per IRS guidelines, your Social Security Number on the Form 1099R will be masked. If you have not received your Form 1099R by February 10th, please contact us.

As with prior New Years the income tax withholding amounts will change effective January 1st which may affect your tax deduction. Please contact your tax professional or the IRS for tax assistance. Withholding forms are available on FCERA's website if you wish to modify your income tax withholdings. The form must be received at FCERA by the 10th to be effective in that month.



## Health Fairs—A Chance To Meet

For the first time this year, FCERA set up at Health Fairs as a vendor. Health fairs we attended include: the Retired Employees of Fresno County (REFCO), the Superior Courts of Fresno, the County of Fresno Plaza Building, and the County of Fresno Satellite fairs. While we don't have cool giveaways (of course not, that would be spending your pension fund!) we did have forms, member portal demos, and most importantly: people to answer your questions. For us, it was a great chance to meet our members, show off the member portal, and find out what you want to know from us. For the staff who participated behind the table, it was a great experience. If you didn't get a chance to meet our staff, be sure to look for us next year!

## Calendar

### Next Regular Board Meeting:

- January 18, 2017
- February 1, 2017
- February 15, 2017
- March 1, 2017
- March 15, 2017

### Location:

FCERA Boardroom  
1111 H Street  
Fresno, California 93721

Time: 8:30 A.M.

## Pension Payroll Payment Schedule

- Tuesday, January 31, 2017
  - Tuesday, February 28, 2017
  - Thursday, March 30, 2017
- \*Please allow 3-5 days for mailed checks.

## Live Audio Broadcast

FCERA broadcasts most Board meetings live via streaming audio. Visit [www.fcera.org](http://www.fcera.org) for more information.

## Board of Retirement

- Dr. Rod Coburn, III, Chair
- Steven J. Jolly, Vice Chair
- Laura P. Basua
- Gregory J. Baxter
- Alan Cade, Jr.
- Oscar J. Garcia
- Robert Dowell
- Eulalio Gomez
- Mary Ann Rogozinski, Alternate





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## Meet the staff: Maria Baker—Retirement Communications Officer



Hello, I'm the Retirement Communications Officer for FCERA. I've been here since February of 2016 and I'm the first in this position. I've been really enjoying my time at FCERA and I look forward to growing as the position grows. One of my job duties is the creation of this newsletter. Typically, I'm trying to find someone to be featured as our meet the staff, and this issue was no different. Since we had no volunteers, I guess it must be my turn!

You may have seen me this year out at the health fairs. With the creation of this position, FCERA is working to be out in the membership more frequently, so we can answer questions, empower members, and assist retirees in a more efficient manner.

I started at the County of Fresno in the Department of Social Services in May of 2015 before taking this position. I have a bachelor's degree in Social Work, but my background and experience spans case management, customer service, and management in social services, hospitality and tourism.

I'm a transplant to Fresno; I was born and lived in Springfield, Illinois until college, when I moved to central Connecticut for 5 years. Then I moved to California almost 5 years ago and took a job in Kings Canyon National Park, where I met my husband. In our free time we like to travel, especially by road trip. My other hobbies are low key, like reading, playing guitar and playing board games with friends.

