

# News Update

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Focusing your life solely on making a buck shows a certain poverty of ambition. It asks too little of yourself. Because it's only when you hitch your wagon to something larger than yourself that you realize your true potential.

~ *President Barack Obama*

## LETTER TO GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATIVE LEADERS — BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GARY STUCKY

To Governor and State Legislative Leaders:

During the past 15 years our State and local governments have been in decline. We have ridden the economic roller coaster ignoring the structural problem with our State budget in good times and fooled ourselves in the bad times. We were convinced that all we had to do is ignore the reality and somehow borrow money, shift funds and delay payments until the economy came back. It seems the “day of reckoning” is finally upon us and the games are over.

I need not tell you of the problems we face as a State, because they are clearly staring each of you in the face. I do not envy you because the challenges and obstacles before you must seem impossible to overcome. It seems you are in a no win situation and that no matter what you do now, the people you were elected to serve will

suffer the consequences of the past and present legislators’ failure to act responsibly and to make the difficult decisions necessary to correct the structural imbalance in the budget which would have prevented the problem. It seems obvious that government, especially at the State level has been and continues to live beyond our means. Our State Government has become bloated and unfocused to the extent that taxpayers have no idea of how their taxes are truly benefiting them and they are convinced that their hard earned income is being wasted on programs and pork-barrel spending they do not support and for which there is no accountability.

The May 19 rejection of your latest scheme should not be interrupted as a rejection of reasonable taxation. Rather, it was an indictment of your collective ineptness to provide the leadership necessary to construct a fair, equitable and

balanced budget. Given the lack of accountability for the expenditure of current taxes it was fool hearted to think that the voters would impose additional taxes upon themselves. It is almost unfathomable to believe that \$100,000,000 was wasted on this pointless election, at a time when we could least afford it. Please excuse me for being so blunt, but this decision was not just poor judgment it was simply dumb. Each of you was elected to lead this State, not run it into the ground. This was a pure and simple waste of valuable revenues.

Governor, I support your efforts to scrutinize closely the operations of government in order to establish accountability in those programs that serve us well and have intended outcomes consistent with good public policy. Such objective scrutiny should also be the basis to discontinue wasteful and preferential spending that is not serving the best

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## SCEA Board

### President

Gary Bengs - IT

### Vice President

Ben Harper - Facility Manage.

### Secretary/Treasurer

Lorie Thomas - Child Support

### Past President

Kurt Schoenwald - Agriculture

## Directors

### Agriculture

Michael Berry

### Animal Control

*Vacant*

### Assessor's Office

Pete Jensen

### Superior Court

Danette Able

Maria Carmona (Alternate)

### Child Support

Terry Barber

### Health

Alice Williams-Root

### Housing Authority

Cyndi McClellan

### Library

*Vacant*

### Mental Health

Robert Ahu

### Community Development

*Vacant*

### Public Works

Ray Hogan

### Facility Management

Tod Littlefield

### Office Revenue Collections

Ginny Tolliver

### Social Services

*Vacant*

## WEBSITE FEATURES REVIEW

BY OFFICE MANAGER ANNA ANDERSON

I would like to bring some features of the SYCEA website to your attention. I hope that they will be useful to you over the years.

If you are on the main or homepage, you can navigate to pages by clicking the green bars on the left-hand side that include Calendar, Newsletter, Benefits, Boards and Contact.

You will also see upcoming calendar items listed on the homepage, but if you click the green bar with "Calendar" you will be forwarded to the SYCEA

Calendar where you can access two months of scheduled meetings. If you wish to view further information about the meeting, on the right-hand side of that page you can click the ► next to the item and it will turn to a ▼ and give more detail about the meeting. Click your back button arrow at the upper left-hand corner of your screen to return to the previous page. You may need to click it several times.

Under the Local #1 logo, you will find "Latest News" where we will post anything crucial going on. Maybe we

are unable to send out a bulletin so we post this important information and let our Site Representatives know that it is available. Then by word of mouth, most employees will hear of it and can access it later at home or pass the information on to other employees during a break. Also, we are trying to post Quick Notes in this section and in the Site Rep section after the Site Representative Meetings that are held almost every month. If there is a ballot or vote on something, this is the quickest way to see the results as we will be able to post that

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## LETTER TO LEGISLATIVE LEADERS

*(Continued from page 1)*

interests of the general public. However, I cannot support the finding that the voters' decisions on May 19 should be interpreted as a mandate against taxation when such is appropriate and necessary. Your position simply seems convenient and caters to the extreme element on the political spectrum that would have the safety net of our free society dismantled.

The message

communicated on May 19 seems abundantly clear to me and should be likewise clear to anyone willing to objectively receive it. Allow me to put it in plain English, *"We the people are not in a position nor do we have the time to competently and fully understand the complexity of State Government and its relationships to local government and schools. It is no longer acceptable to avoid the obvious and to manage our State based upon gimmicks*

*and shortsighted schemes. We have elected you our State leaders to make the difficult decisions in the best interest of all concerned. We are unwilling and should not be asked to make the decisions for which you were elected to make and we expect you to make on our behalf."*

Governing from a perspective of extreme political views and stubbornness will not result in a positive

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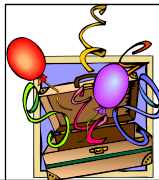
The **California State Fair** runs from August 21–September 7 this year. Discount prices are available May 15–August 19.

General Admission—\$12  
 Children (0-4) free  
 Parking \$10

Poppy Pak—\$39.95 (save 43%)  
 4 General Admissions  
 4 Monorail Rides  
 1 Parking Pass  
[www.bigfun.org/GeneralInfo/store.asp](http://www.bigfun.org/GeneralInfo/store.asp)

**Pelton's Party Rentals and Sales**

715 Plumas Street, Yuba City  
 10% discount on retail items  
 674-2790



**DO YOU KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DEBT REPAYMENT VS. DEBT SETTLEMENT**

**DEBT SETTLEMENT – HIGH FEES**

No monthly payments to creditors. Paying back only some of the money owed can have adverse effect on your credit report and possible tax consequences.

**DEBT REPAYMENT PLAN**

Monthly timely payments. Paying back all monies owed can improve your credit report. Major creditors reduce interest, late and overlimit fees.

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NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR CREDIT COUNSELING  
*Knowing the difference can make all the difference.*

Member National Foundation for Consumer Credit Serving This Community Since 1968  
 A Non-Profit Community Service

**718 Bridge Street • Yuba City**

Americans... still believe in an America where anything's possible - they just don't think their leaders do.

~ President Barack Obama

**YCEA Board**

**President**

Ryan McNally - Public Works

**Vice President**

Ramona Mallonee - Child Support

**Secretary**

Carol Witherow - Auditor's Office

**Treasurer**

Dennis Moseley - IT

**Past President**

Robin Timoszyk - 1 STOP

**Directors**

**Professional Unit**

Tracy Hutchinson - Probation

Alex Hadley (Alternate) - Health

**Supervisory Unit**

Traci Rongey - Social Services

Linda White (Alternate) - 1 STOP

**Technical Unit**

Denise Hamon - Social Services

**Court Unit**

Vacant

**Clerical/Office Unit**

Alicia Phillips - Social Services

Stephanie Smith (Alternate) -

1 STOP

**Maintenance/Service Unit**

George Boyd - Building & Grounds

John Houston (Alternate)-

Building & Grounds

**CCEA Board**

**President**

Glen Sturtevant - Water

**Vice President**

Walter Sweeney - Parks

**Secretary**

Mahinalani Baker - Finance

**Treasurer**

Jesse Cain - Water

**Director**

Alan Campbell - Water

**Director**

Frank Garofalo - Water

**LETTER TO LEGISLATIVE LEADERS**

BY SYCEA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GARY STUCKY

*(Continued from page 2)*

outcome for the citizens of this once great State. Likewise, business as usual spending will lead us further toward disaster, the likes of which none of us have witnessed. The road out of this budget deficit mess can only be found through objective thinking, honest evaluation and sincere good-faith compromise. Be mindful of who you were elected to serve and not just who financed

your campaigns. Remember that your own opinions count as do those that lobby you daily, but at the end of the day the decisions you make should be based upon the balanced interests of all concerned, including those who are unable to make their voice heard.

I respectfully request that you stop wasting our precious resources and valuable time, address the serious problems before

you and adopt a fiscally responsible budget that will meet the needs of the people and will serve to reestablish our State's credibility and the prospect of a promising future.

*We encourage you to write to the Governor and Legislators and ask them to quickly reach a fair and equitable decision on the State budget. You can find their names, titles and addresses on our website. [sycea.org](http://sycea.org)*



Representing Public  
Employees in City of  
Colusa, Sutter and Yuba Counties

718 Bridge Street, Suite A  
Yuba City, CA 95991

Phone: 530 674-0185

Fax: 530 674-0477

Email: Local1@sycea.org

*sycea.org*

## TICKETS

DISCOVERY KINGDOM \$27

SUNSPASH \$18

UNIVERSAL STUDIOS \$57

*Please call the office before you come in so we can flex our lunch to meet your schedule.*

## DISCOUNTS

Gilroy Gardens, Great America, Knott's Berry Farm, Legoland, Medieval Times, Monterey Bay Aquarium, Ripley's Believe It or Not, San Diego Zoo, Fisherman's Wharf, Sea World, Magic Mountain and Winchester Mystery House. Please see

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**SCEA Site Rep/Membership Meeting** — *Thurs @ noon* July 9  
*Held at the Mental Health Department (Valley Oak Conference Room) - Membership attends from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.*

**YCEA Site Rep Meeting** — *Tues @ noon* July 14  
*Held at the S/YCEA Association Office - Site Reps attend*

**SCEA Board of Directors' Meeting** — *Mon @ noon* July 20  
*Held at the S/YCEA Association Office—Board members attend*

**Local #1 Board Meeting** — *Tues @ 7:30 pm.* July 21  
*Held at Local #1 Martinez Union Hall - Local #1 Board members attend*

**YCEA Board of Directors' Meeting** — *Wed @ noon* July 22  
*Held at the S/YCEA Association Office—Board members attend*

## WEBSITE FEATURES REVIEW

*(Continued from page 2)*

information more quickly on the website before we are physically able to get a bulletin out in the workplace.

In the upper right-hand corner of the homepage, there is a large picture of our meeting room. This picture will change from time to time or we may add an album that will flip through a series of pictures. On this picture there are arrows pointing to several links where you can view Local #1 History, Your Rights, Negotiations information (updated more frequently during contract negotiations), a Comment Form for your convenience, and an article of

common interest that will be updated monthly.

In the middle of the homepage below the large picture, the News Update will be posted along with links to previous issues. If you click on the red words "Newsletter Archives", it will forward you to previous year's issues all the way back to 2005.

In the bottom left-hand corner of the homepage you will see the roller coast picture and the words "Amusement Parks and Travel". To go to the "Park Deals" page, simple click the roller coaster picture (be aware that there is sound on this page) or the red words and you will be forwarded to the page with the ticket and discount

information. You can print out many of the discounts from your computer at home. On the homepage click "Community Events" to view various things to do in our community including upcoming events posted. An example is the Summer Stroll – Luau on Friday June 26th, 5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. on Plumas Street in downtown Yuba City.

In the gray bar at the very bottom of the homepage are links to other pages such as SCEA Site Reps, YCEA Site Reps, Appeals (Guidelines), Discounts (merchant discounts for members) and Hot Links (links to other websites such as CalPERS).

When you get a moment at

home, explore your website and you may find some useful tools such as the Bylaws, which are posted on the "Boards" page. Do you know what your rights are if you are called into a meeting with your supervisor? Do you know what your rights are regarding your personnel files? These questions can be answered on the "Your Rights" page. There are also guidelines on how to file a written rebuttal on a proposed disciplinary matter or evaluation.

*Your union is here to assist you. We hope this website will be beneficial. We recently did a website survey and will implement some of your suggestions. Please feel free to contact us with more ideas in the future.*