

## **President's Message**

**John Schnittgrund**

The COVID era made it difficult to meet and get things done in a timely manner. Now that we have returned to a somewhat normal world there is finally, something to talk about.

For 2 years we have been trying to put together a meeting with FPPA for our new hire members. We get questions about cost of living raises, widow benefits, health insurance, SRA accounts, etc. and sometimes answers are hard to get. Since the New Hire pension is controlled entirely by the FPPA we thought that a meeting with them might be helpful in getting those answers.

Now that meetings are allowed and people can be allowed in the same room together, we are happy to announce that there will be a meeting with FPPA on May 3, 2022. The meeting will be held at the District 2 community room at 10:30 AM. New Hire retirees can attend and have any questions answered by FPPA staff. We are going to ask that you sign up for the meeting so we can plan appropriately for the number of retirees attending. This will be an informational meeting so a better understanding of the New Hire pension can be given to those retirees who have questions. The more you understand the working of the system the easier it is to navigate the system.

Thanks to Mike Martinez for putting together the words of wisdom gathered from retirees for the active close to retirement officers. When asked to respond the retirees really shared some good advice for those thinking about retirement. We encourage any retiree who might have some sage advice to share it with us. We know what it is to have each other's back and giving good advice is all part of that support mechanism. We are beginning to get back into the social scene.

The March luncheon was held in Parker and it was well attended.



Getting back to being with friends and partners is always enjoyable. We have other events planned for later in the year and we hope to see you at some of them.

We are almost sold out for Singing in the Rain at the Johnstown Dinner Theatre. This is a matinee performance with lunch included. There are still seats left and it should be a fun event.

We are planning another reunion in Laughlin in October. This is always a good time and a chance to visit with retirees from the Las Vegas and Arizona areas. I would encourage you to attend and say Hi to officers we don't see but once a year. There is plenty to do and extending in Vegas can add to your experience.

We will still have the picnic and Christmas Party and additional luncheons and dinners so stayed tuned. We are looking forward to seeing most of you at one event or the other. Until then, stay safe and healthy and if there is anything we can help you with let us know.