



The Camellia
Retired Public Employees' Association
Area VII -Sacramento, California
Chapter 004 Newsletter

We are active and retired California public employees working together to maintain and improve the quality of the lives of our members by protecting and improving our earned retirement, medical and other benefits.

Volume 23, Issue 1



Jan/Feb. 2018

RAMBLINGS FROM YOUR PRESIDENT—Marie Reed

Wow!!! Another year has come and gone, where does the time go?

A lot to report from the past couple of months. First, members of our Chapter, plus other invited guests enjoyed a fun trip to San Francisco to enjoy "Beach Blanket Babylon". We got caught up in an accident-caused traffic jam, but that didn't dampen our spirits. It was a great, fun trip – THANK YOU Sheryl Zazzi for planning this event, and so sorry to Chapter members who chose not to attend...you missed a fine time.

Then, the following week, we enjoyed each other's company once more at our annual Christmas luncheon. Although the venue may have seemed quite a distance, it was easy access from the freeway and the food and service were outstanding. Sorry again those of you who didn't join in. Another fine time was had in the spirit of the season. Again, thanks to Sheryl Zazzi for a great event. (As an

aside, Margaret Brown, CalPERS Board candidate attended our Christmas luncheon and has also joined RPEA as an Associate member. Election results from the CalPERS run-off election showed that Margaret Brown was the successful candidate.)



We have an active chairperson seeking interesting speakers for our meetings. Plan to attend each General Meeting to enjoy the company of your fellow members and to hear an interesting speaker.

Chapter elections are scheduled to occur in February. Our Nominating Committee is still seeking members to assume chapter offices. Nominations will be taken from the floor at that meeting. Please be sure to attend the meeting when the election will be held. You need to have a say in who will lead the Chapter in the next term. You could plan to run for an office yourself. WE NEED YOU!



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NON-PERISHABLE FOODS, YOUR USED GREETING CARDS AND/OR PULL TABS FROM ALUMINUM CANS

Please bring non-perishable food to donate to the Sacramento Food Bank when you come to any meeting or member Luncheon. Just one can a meeting can make a big difference to a local family. We have successfully donated to the Food Bank every year.

And did you know we can make a difference with items we usually toss away?

Don't toss your used greeting cards! Bring them to the Chapter meeting and I will get them to St. Jude's Ranch for Children. The Ranch teaches their participants to recycle used greeting cards into a new product to sell in their gift shop. The program assists young people in learning business skills while raising funds for a charity.

Rather than toss those aluminum tabs from soda cans and other products that use them, bring the tabs to the meeting and I will get them to McDonald House, who collects them as a fund-raiser for their programs.

Thank you for your generosity.

Lunch is \$5.00 to members and \$10.00 to guests for all Chapter lunches except **Spring Luncheon and Christmas Luncheon**

Members in good standing may attend all meetings. Please reserve your spot. Failure to make a reservation may result in no lunch available and failure to cancel a reservation will result in a \$10.00 charge.

To reserve or cancel, contact **Nadie Savage** at savagelouise1948@gmail.com or call (916) 495-2742 by Thursday before each meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

RPEA CHAP. 004 MEETINGS

Sacramento, Yolo Areas
Second Wednesday
of each month

Wednesday Jan. 10, 2018

Board Meeting, 10:00 a.m.
Casa Gardens Restaurant
2760 Sutterville Rd.

Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2018

General Meeting, 10:00 a.m.
ELECTION OF OFFICERS
Casa Gardens Restaurant
2760 Sutterville Rd.

Wednesday, Mar. 14, 2018

Board Meeting, 10:00 a.m.
Casa Gardens Restaurant
2760 Sutterville Rd.



Ben Smith and Lynn Morales



Ted and Lee Thatcher



J.J. Jelincic



Pat Fuller, Lucy Gutierrez, Marie Leonard



Phillip Woodward and Merle Cale



Harvey Robinson, Gail and Randy Cheek



Margaret Brown, Tanya Rakestraw and a friend (name unknown)



Sheryl Zazzi



Roxanne Woodward showing our new member gift.



Marie Reed and Tanya Rakestraw



Johnnie Young-Craig and Dianne Buffington

Some snapshots of members at our 2017 Christmas Luncheon

Here's a column which may be of interest to those of us interested in traveling. Please continue to read below:

Editor

Solo Travel Savings Tips

Solo traveling is a growing trend among baby boomers and retirees. Nearly 1-in-4 who travel today, go it alone according to a recent Visa Global Intentions Study. But one of the biggest drawbacks among solo travelers is the single supplemental fee – which is an extra fee charged to single travelers who stay in a double occupancy room alone.

To help you avoid this extra charge, more and more travel companies and cruise lines are making adjustments to accommodate the growing solo-traveler market. Here are several to check into.

Singles Travel

There are a variety of travel companies today that specialize in vacations for solo travelers, including Singles Travel International (SinglesTravelIntl.com) and Singles Travel Getaways (SinglesTravelGetaways.com). Both companies offer tours, cruises and adventures in the U.S. and overseas, and will match you with a roommate to avoid the single supplement, or won't charge you if a match can't be arranged.

General Tour Operators

Some big operators in this category that have lots of solo travelers include Intrepid Travel (IntrepidTravel.com), which handles more than 100,000 travelers each year, sending them to more than 100 countries. And G Adventures (Gadventures.com), which has more than 700 tours around the globe, and offers a variety of travel styles. Both of these companies can pair you with a roommate, and some tours offer your own room option for an additional fee.

And for higher-end luxury travel check out Abercrombie & Kent (AbercrombieKent.com), which offers a 50 percent single supplement discount on their select small group solo travel trips and cruises, and Tauck (Tauck.com), which has no single supplement on their European river cruises.

50-Plus Travel

If you're interested in trips designed for adults 50 and older consider ElderTreks (ElderTreks.com), Road Scholar (RoadScholar.org) and Overseas Adventure Travel (OATtravel.com).

ElderTreks specializes in exotic adventures worldwide, and will match single travelers with roommates on most of its trips, and doesn't charge if a match can't be arranged.

Road Scholar specializes in worldwide learning adventures, and has designated trips that offer the same price for solo travelers as for those traveling in pairs.

And Overseas Adventure Travel, which operates in Asia, Africa, Europe, South America, the Middle East, Cuba, Australia and New Zealand, has free single supplements on all its land tours and either free or low-cost single supplements on its small-ship adventures.

Cruise Lines

If cruising is your thing, there are a number of cruise lines that have some ships with single-occupancy cabins, including Norwegian Cruise Line (NCL.com), Royal Caribbean (RoyalCaribbean.com) and Vantage Deluxe World Travel's river ships (VantageTravel.com).

Or, consider booking a cruise at SinglesCruise.com, which uses a variety of different cruise lines for their single customers. They provide roommate matching.

Solo Women

For solo women travelers, there are a host of tour companies and clubs, like GutsyWomenTravel.com, WomenTraveling.com, SerenDipityTraveler.com, TheWomensTravelGroup.com and Womens-Travel-Club.com that will either match you up with a roommate, or reduce their single supplement fee.

Travel Partner

If you'd rather find a suitable travel partner before you book your next trip, there are a number of free websites that can help you here too. See Travbuddy.com and TravelersMeeting.com. Or, to find a cruise buddy try CruiseMates.com, which has a message board where users can post roommate requests.

For more information on solo travel, check out SoloTravelerWorld.com, which offers solo travel tips, destinations and stories, and also publishes a monthly list of solo travel deals.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.

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CalPERS Runoff Election

It was recently announced that Margaret Brown, the RPEA endorsed candidate for Seat B on the CalPERS Board of Administration, won this election.

Congratulations, Margaret. We look forward to a great working relationship with you.





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**2016-18 CHAPTER 004
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