



RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

## Santa Clara County Chapter 031 Newsletter

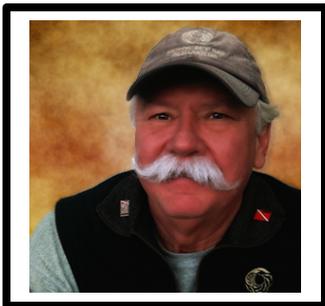
Volume 53 #07  
August 2018

*An Association of CalPERS Annuitants committed to the goal of helping all public employees maintain their physical and economic health during retirement*

**NEXT MEETING – August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at  
HARRY'S HOFBRAU, 390 Saratoga Avenue  
at Stevens Creek Blvd.**

**No-host Lunch at 11:30 - Meeting at 12:30**

### **MARV TUTTLE CANINE COMPANIONS FOR INDEPENDENCE/" DAY OF DISCOVERY" at MONTEREY AQUARIUM**



**M**arv Tuttle is the Participant Coordinator for Day of Discovery Scuba For Special Needs Kids at the Monterey Bay Aquarium—he

is an experienced scuba diver. Marv Tuttle will speak about a scuba program called "Day of Discovery", where disabled children experience the fun of being underwater. What makes Marv so interesting is that he is a Vietnam War veteran who served in the Army and was hospitalized for paraplegia. It was there that he was introduced to Canine Companions for Independence, a company that provides service dogs to disabled persons.

As a paraplegic for 17 years, Marv has great insight on what being disabled means. Marv will speak about his service at the Monterey Bay Aquarium and the children with whom he works. Also, he will

share with us his contribution to Canine Companions for Independence. This presentation will be not only inspirational but educational as well! Please come early to secure a place to hear this remarkable person.

---

**IN MEMORIAM:** Our deepest sympathy to the families and loved ones of Joseph Alcala, Nancy Alcala, Vina Blaze, R. Donald Chapman, Daniel Filice, Lily Hays, Gladys Salzman, John Sutro, Bonnie Virtue, and Phoebe Wojnowski.

*They will truly be missed.*

---

### **A VERY WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!**

**F**ollowing are the names of new members – Nilda Bastidas, David Chow, Jullia Calvo, Jill Dangerfield, Diane Foreman, Nha Huynh, Marie Ko, Debra Liserre, Corazon Margate, Maureen Matthews, Virginia Montelongo, Thanh Ngo, Don Olson, Yuhing Peng, Irma Puentes, Sharon Renshaw, Diana Reyes, Shane Wittig, Paul Sigler, and Suzanne Sigler.

***Welcome Everyone!***



## SANTA CLARA COUNTY INFORMATION DESK

**T**hank you to the following members who staffed the Information Desk in July: Lupe Aguilar, Linda Baum, Lupe Castaneda, Mary Chaboya, Gloria Courtney, Sue Farr, Lidia Gonzalez, Bob Hagele, Tom Heim, Vi Hill, Laura Levin, Sherrill Martinez, Kathy Miller, Alan Miramon, Mary Mitchell, Gerri Nedley, Thu Nguyen, John Avery Palmer, Carolyn Walsh, and Cathy Weisbrich.

---

### THE HISTORY CORNER

Marianne Damon, Historian, RPEA Chapter 031

### MEET OUR VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR: MARY MITCHELL



**O**ur annual picnic is a day to socialize and enjoy good food, but we also take the opportunity to honor a person who has contributed time, effort and talent to

our organization. This year we were pleased to present the Volunteer of the Year award to Mary Mitchell. Mary is a board member and regularly attends both board and general meetings. As our newsletter editor, she employs her talents with photography and with computer knowledge to produce an informative and attractive product, both in print and online. She has served as a General Assembly delegate at the last two sessions. She was one of our monthly speakers, giving a talk and slideshow presentation on how to take good photographs. This was one of our more memorable talks, as her tips were very user

friendly and her personal photographs were awe-inspiring.

Mary was born in Japan, and learned English at the age of ten when she started attending American school. Luckily, Japanese schools were more rigorous in mathematics and she found herself far ahead of her classmates. This gave her time and breathing room to concentrate on learning English. That first year she showed up for class on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July to find only one other boy, a Japanese boy, on the playground. No one had thought to tell them about this holiday, and that it meant no school! As a young teen she moved with her parents to Guam, where her father was stationed for three years. She found the base to be a kid's paradise, but stated it was hard on the adults. When she was 16 her family moved to San Jose, and her father was stationed at Hunters Point.

Mary's work history began when she was almost eighteen and worked at Frontier Village while going to San Jose State part time. She eventually started working at a small private company. There were no benefits, but she was allowed to attend classes at San Jose State. When she was almost twenty-five, a friend told her that the County offered benefits and that they were giving tests. She interviewed with San Jose Municipal Court and obtained a job as a clerk. She then became a courtroom clerk and was given assignments all over the court as needed. She started learning computers and found she had a love for the work and was good at organizing. That skill landed her in complex civil cases. Judges started relying on her to organize cases for them because of her computer skills. At a certain point, she realized she would need more income for retirement, so she decided to become a supervisor. As a supervisor, she

Continued to Page 3

Continued from Page 2

joined CEMA and was elected the representative for her work group, a position she served for nine years. As a CEMA rep, she met other supervisors from various other County agencies and departments. She liked the role of supervisor, considering it similar to being a teacher, to train people and help them advance in their skills and careers. Of her various assignments, she found Juvenile and Family Court the hardest because of their emotional stressors. After thirty-five years, the last nine in traffic court, Mary retired. On her last day, a Friday, when usually people quickly leave the office, she was surrounded by all of her coworkers who had stayed to congratulate her and walk her out for the final time. The first day of her retirement happened to be Halloween. When I asked her what she dressed up as, she replied, “A retired person!”

Mary has always had an interest in photography, ever since having her first Brownie camera at age seven. However, it wasn't until retirement that her talents really blossomed. She worked with a professional photographer and helped by designing wedding albums, business cards and promotional materials. She watched and learned from him, and joined a group of photographers who meet and share techniques and critique each other's works. She has taken several photography group trips. Her artistic nature shows in how she takes photos and enhances them via computer techniques, creating unique works of art. She also enjoys going to matinee movies, taking day trips, being companion to her little doggie Ginger, and traveling regularly to Placerville to visit her father.

How did Mary become involved in RPEA? She ran into Cal Markey, a former court reporter, after her retirement. He told her about the meetings at Harry's Hoffbrau,

they sounded interesting, and so she came. She enjoys the food selections! Then Cal suggested that he could use some help with the newsletter. She had published a small newsletter at work, and since she likes computer challenges, she volunteered to help out. But suddenly she found herself “in the driver's seat” and graciously offered to become the newsletter editor. She has made it into what she envisioned: a newsletter of interest, with pertinent information, to our members. We are very grateful for all of Mary's contributions to our Chapter and are very pleased to honor her as our Volunteer of the Year!

Keep your pets safe during emergencies  
Bring your pet with you & pack these essentials  
Courtesy of PETSMAST



#### IDENTIFICATION

- pet tags
- vet contact info
- current pet photo



#### HEALTH

- pet medications
- first-aid items
- vaccine & medical records



#### FOOD

- 1-week supply of food
- bottled water & portable bowls
- manual can opener
- list of feeding routine & behavioral needs



#### TRANSPORT

- carrier or crate
- blanket
- collar with tag
- non-retractable leash
- sturdy harness

Hello everyone! I cannot believe how fast the year is going. I hope that you are not affected by the horrible heat and fire. My heart goes out to those people that are. I hope that you are enjoying the Newsletter. Since it is your Newsletter, please let me know if you have idea for an article that you would like to see include in it. Have a wonderful rest of the summer. It is a pleasure to have you as fellow members of RPEA.

Mary Mitchell, Editor

**RPEA SANTA CLARA COUNTY CHAPTER 031**  
**P.O. Box 111865**  
**Campbell, CA 95011-1865**

**NONPROFIT ORG.**  
**U.S.POSTAGE PAID**  
**SAN JOSE, CA.**  
**PERMIT NO.2065**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**DATED MATERIAL**

This RPEA Chapter 031 Newsletter is published ten times a year. Views expressed are those of the writers and not necessarily those of RPEA or Chapter 031. Send address changes to RPEA, 300 T St., Sacramento, CA. 95814-6912, phone 800-443-7732, fax 916-441-7413.

**RPEA CHAPTER 31 OFFICERS**

<b>President:</b>	<b>Kathy Miller,</b>	<b>408-887-7151, kmiller1955@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Rex Recchio,</b>	<b>408-265-8571. rpeachapter31@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Board Secretary:</b>	<b>Constance Cravalho,</b>	<b>408-225-8768, Board.secretaryrpea@yahoo.com</b>
<b>General Meeting Secretary:</b>	<b>vacant</b>	
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Sue Farr,</b>	<b>650-444-4262, rpeachapter31@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Sgt.-at-Arms:</b>	<b>Brian Geer,</b>	<b>408-720-1672, rpeachapter31@yahoo.com</b>

**DIRECTORS / COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

<b>Program:</b>	<b>Jo Pugsley,</b>	<b>408-879-0661, rpeachapter31@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Legislation:</b>	<b>Rosemary Knox,</b>	<b>408-926-6664, rknox@sbcglobal.net</b>
<b>Benefits &amp; Ins.:</b>	<b>Rex Recchio,</b>	<b>408-265-8571, rpeachapter31@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Sunshine:</b>	<b>Mary Chaboya,</b>	<b>408-971-9918, rpeachapter31@yahoo.com,</b>
<b>Historian:</b>	<b>Marianne Damon,</b>	<b>rpeachapter31@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Hospitality:</b>	<b>Connie Jimenez,</b>	<b>408-251-7638, rpeachapter31@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Information Desk:</b>	<b>Vacant</b>	
<b>Membership:</b>	<b>Vacant</b>	
<b>Newsletter Editors:</b>	<b>Mary Mitchell</b>	<b>408-734-9144, jeanniemit@comcast.net;</b>
<b>Associate Editor:</b>	<b>Marianne Damon,</b>	<b>rpeachapter31@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Webmaster:</b>	<b>Constance Cravalho,</b>	<b>408-225-8768, rpeachapter31@yahoo.com</b>

**Website: <http://www.orgsites.com/ca/rpeachapter31>**

**Email: [rpeachapter31@yahoo.com](mailto:rpeachapter31@yahoo.com)**