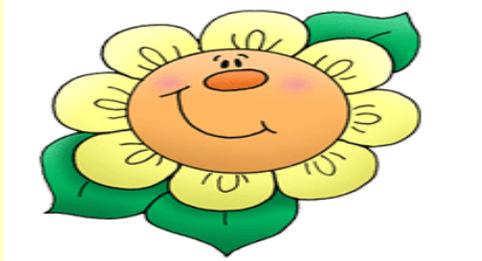




SAN BERNARDINO CONNECT

Retired Public Employees' Association Chapter 33 – Area VI

May - June 2018
Volume 8 – Issue 2



YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR JUNE LUNCHEON!

When? Tuesday, June 12, 2018 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Where? Fellowship Hall of the First Presbyterian Church
1900 North “D” St., San Bernardino

Important! Reservations are required by Tuesday, June 5.

Phone June at 909-583-1082, Gloria at 909-810-8735 or Linda at 951-784-1060. Or email lindaandwes@aol.com. Be sure to give us the name (with correct spelling) and phone number for each person who will attend. Remember! Our catering order must be accurate, so RSVP before the June 5 deadline! Don't delay! And if later on you find you can't attend, let us know as soon as possible so we can adjust the catering order.

Menu: BBQ Chicken, Baked Beans, Kernel Corn, Potato Salad, Cornbread, Fruit Cobbler

Lunch Prices:

Member, member's spouse, or a caregiver (if needed): \$4 per person

Non-member: First time free; second time \$4; thereafter \$8

(By the third time, we hope you'll have joined RPEA.)

Program: “Search and Rescue”

Our guest speaker will be Dr. James (Jim) Evans who is a family medical doctor in Colton and is affiliated with multiple hospitals in the area, including Loma Linda University Medical Center and Arrowhead Medical Center where he is Regional Director. Dr. Evans received his medical degree from the University of California San Diego School of Medicine and has been in practice for more than 20 years. He serves on this area's Search and Rescue Team and will include information related to Alzheimers/dementia lost victims.

EYEGASSES WANTED! One of our annual service projects is to collect used eyeglasses which will be donated for distribution in third-world countries through an established non-profit organization. Ask family and friends to help. Bring eyeglasses to the June luncheon and give the gift of better sight.



You are welcome to bring a guest—someone who might be interested in joining RPEA. Membership information will be available at the Welcome Table. As always, there will be door prizes and friendly conversation!



*We're happy to welcome
new members!*

- JEFF BREITEN Redlands
- TONYA BRONSON San Bernardino
- RHONDA CARTER Rialto
- ARTHUR GREGORY Redlands
- ERLINDA OCHOA Fontana
- BONNIE MATTIE San Bernardino
- ERLINDA RUIZ San Bernardino
- LINDA SCHMIDT Redlands
- NORMA SHELTON San Bernardino
- ROGER SHERWOOD Crestline
- DEXTER SIMS Alabama
- LAWRENCE YEE Redlands
- SAMUEL ZAVALA Lake Arrowhead

RPEA GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2018

The biannual General Assembly will be held in Southern California this year. Scheduled for September 9 through 12 at the Doubletree Hilton in the city of Orange, chapter delegates from California, Arizona and New Mexico will meet to conduct the business of RPEA. Resolutions will be voted on, workshops will be conducted, and state officers will be elected. Our chapter delegate will be **ALAN DYER** who currently serves as our Legislative Chairman. RPEA members are welcome to attend, and volunteers are needed to help out. If you're interested, contact Area Director Wes Stonebreaker for more information.

WOW! We had **96** attendees at our March luncheon! That's a record attendance for our chapter!!!!!!!!!! The more the merrier!

We now have a **Magazine and Book Exchange** at luncheons. Bring some. Take some. It's a great way to enjoy FREE reading!



In Memory. . . .

- JOY BOWEN Bishop
- ROBERT HARRINGTON Covina
- DELLA HIGLEY Utah
- RITA KENT San Bernardino
- ROBERT POND Novato
- MERCEDES RIEUX San Bernardino
- ELISEO RODRIGUEZ Highland
- SELINA SMITH Banning
- NEAL SMITHHAMMER Redlands
- GEORGE SPELLMAN San Bernardino
- NANCY TOWELL San Bernardino



CHAPTER 33 BOARD MEMBERS' CONTACT INFORMATION

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Marjorie Callaghan, Past President	909-754-1155

AREA VI DIRECTOR

Wes Stonebreaker 951-784-1060 lindaandwes@aol.com



CALIFORNIA PENSION REFORM UPDATES

SENATE BILL 1149

Introduced by Senator Steve Glazer (D-Orinda), Senate Bill 1149 would allow state new-hires to choose a pension plan other than the CalPERS' defined benefit plan—for example a 401(k) defined contribution plan. A CalPEERS defined benefit plan is based on a vested right to receive a guaranteed pension upon retirement--which provides greater security. Glazer is looking at the choice from a different perspective. Since it takes five years of government employment to become eligible for the vested pension, he and supporters of Senate Bill 1149 believe that younger workers who don't plan to have a long-term career in public service would see an advantage in choosing the 401(k). They could make the initial investment immediately and then take their retirement accounts with them when they leave for jobs in the private sector. The bill has recently been amended and seems narrower. It would create a new optional defined contribution plan for new state employees who first begin employment in a miscellaneous or industrial classification on or after January 1, 2020 and who were not members of any public retirement system prior to that date. It would require state employees who are subject to the bill's provisions, within 30 days of beginning employment, to choose either to contribute to the defined contribution plan or to become a member of PERS. The bill would require that if an employee fails to make this decision within the timeframe, he/she would automatically be placed in PERS. RPEA opposes Senate Bill 1149. {Aaron Read, our lobbyist, told the State RPEA Board on May 1 that this bill is "dead."}

WINEGARDEN PLAN

Going further than Senate Bill 1149, Wayne Winegarden of the Pacific Research Institute has proposed that newly-hired state employees be given only one option: the defined contribution plan. Also, California would institute a "hard freeze" across all defined-benefit programs so that "no public employee would be able to accrue any more benefits in the defined-benefit program." That means an employee who already has a defined benefit plan would have a choice: to either remain in it or take a lump-sum payment equal to its value. One of Winegarden's supporters, Jeremy Bulow, a Stanford Business School economics professor, sees three benefits: 1) They'll have "greater flexibility in negotiating how compensation will be distributed between current salary, pensions, medical benefits, and other compensation," 2) their investment choices would widen, and 3) employers would have less incentive to outsource public employee jobs "to private firms that can hire equally qualified workers at lower cost by offering a more attractive mix of compensation." Considering the uncertainty of investment returns, which contributes to pension instability, opposition is strong! In fact, opponents of the proposal believe that many current public employees would remain with CalPERS [defined benefits].

Sources: Kerry Jackson. "Glazer Bill Would Begin to Move State Away from Pension Disaster." FOX & HOUNDS. March 20, 2018; Aaron Read. LEGISLATIVE BILL SUMMARY REPORT. April 2018.

NOTE: No word yet on the decisions currently being appealed in the California Supreme Court--ones that might impact the "California Rule."

**Retired Public Employees'
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CHAPTER 33 LUNCHEON MEETINGS

SAVE THESE 2018 DATES!

Tuesday, June 12
Tuesday, September 11
Tuesday, December 11

**Always follow your
heart, but
remember to bring
your brain along.**

Cool Funny Quotes.com

Membership applications are available at luncheons, online at rpea.com, or by phoning June Copple (Membership Chair) at 909-583-1082 to have an application mailed to you.

I'M SO OLD

That I've actually dialed a rotary phone before, while listening to an 8 track, next to a black & white TV with aluminum foil on top of its rabbit ear antennas!



We are California public employees working together to maintain and improve the quality of our members' lives by protecting and improving our retirement and medical benefits. RPEA members include retirees, beneficiaries, currently-employed public employees, friends, family members, and others who share our goals. Everyone is welcome!