



THE RETIRED CONNECTION

Retired Public Employees Association
Chapter 34 -Redding, CA 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.

February 2018



CHAPTER OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	DON CURTIS	335-7041
VICE PRESIDENT	PEGGIE LINVILLE	242-1356
SECRETARY	VONNIE PFEFFEN	384-1089
TREASURER	MARY COLBERT	549-3254
NEWSLETTER EDITORS		
GEO. OTTERBECK		243-5543
CLAUDIA PAYNE		245-0381
HEALTH/BENEFITS	VACANT	
LEGISLATIVE CHAIR	ERNEST SANDOVAL	365-5678
SUNSHINE CHAIR	SANDRA KELSAY	221-8218
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR	IONE GARBUTT	241-5469
GREETER	KATHERINE MARSHALL	

PRESIDENTS CORNER

I have a few things to mention. First, you may have missed the article in the last newsletter (the one on green paper) regarding the California Rule. I think it is important to know what it means in the future for working employees. Most likely the State Supreme Court will be considering this issue also since the Governor is involved. Also, the State Legislature may get involved by considering legislation as well.

Later this year the RPEA General Assembly will be considering issues of concern to the membership. It is not too early to think about if we have any items to submit for consideration. In the next few months think about what we might want the Delegates to consider. One item that we know will come up is that they will be electing a new Area 2 Director.

Last, we are considering taking a tour of the California Veteran's Home in Redding. Stay tuned for further details from Vice President Peggie.

Don Curtis, President

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EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

As we start another New Year, many people make resolutions and many do not. I try not to; I just remember and continue doing the practices I have for years. Always try to be happy and think only good things about people. For me, this works. Oh, yes, always do the best I can!

Have you given much thought to who is eligible to be a member of the Retired Public Employees Association (RPEA) and where they live? There are many districts,

schools, universities, etc. who are members. In reviewing my file, there are 28 organizations on a list obtained several years ago from our Area Director, and there may be more added by now. Also, individuals do not need to live in Redding. We do have members who live all over the United States, and all receive our monthly newsletter and also the bimonthly magazine from the RPEA. Hopefully this keeps everyone informed on the local as well as state-wide news. We must ask people to join, or give me or one of the Board Members a name and we will contact them. Why not invite them to lunch so they can look us over? Remember, their first lunch at a meeting as a member is free. We only have 8 luncheon meetings we pay for since June (our BBQ) and December (Christmas) are free, and we don't meet in July and August. Hopefully you had the best of the holidays, and here's to next year and more new members. We do have three new members this month. We must keep growing; by working together to ask people to join, that is the way to start!

I was going to mention several news stories that have grabbed my attention this last week, but between the need to plug the need for all of you to talk to friends and associates about joining RPEA and the bulk of these articles (both long and/or numerous), it would overwhelm the space on this newsletter. For those that use their computers, I suggest/recommend you email stephen@marketplacecommunications.com and request to be placed on his RPEA Media newsletter. You'll find lots of articles that express concerns of the public, some alerting you to areas of concern. A teaser follows:

When it comes to California's underfunded pension system and to its root cause – the excess power of public-employee unions – we've gotten used to the same old story every year. The pension funds go deeper into debt, public services are cut and taxes are raised to make up for past shortfalls. Reformers stand on their soap boxes and warn about the troubling fiscal fundamentals, but the pension funds and union-allied politicians treat these folks like Cassandras.

This has been going on for 19 years, since the time the California Public Employees' Retirement System helped push through a 50-percent retroactive pension increase for the California Highway Patrol.

Do you feel any love here? I don't.

George Otterbeck



RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES ASSOC.
CHAPTER 34
4180 Meander Drive
Redding, CA. 96001

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Our next meeting will be on February 6th at Shasta Senior Nutrition Center located at 100 Mercy Oaks Dr., Redding, CA 96003 (East 1.13 mile of the intersection of Churn Creek. and College Dr.) **Mary McNamara, Advocate for Passages Caregiver Resource Center** will present information on the necessity of caregivers, the required background to look for, caregiver training and support groups that are available. She will also respond to any questions. Join with us as we explore this timely subject and feel free to bring friends.

Coming in March: "Fall Prevention and Falling Positions" presented by Melanie Blohm, PTA at Vibra Outpatient

Founded in 1958, RPEA is an association focused on protecting retirement benefits for all public employees (retired and currently employed) and their beneficiaries. With over 20,000 members and 87 active chapters, RPEA is supported by membership dues and is the only statewide association representing all PERS members.

