



# RPEA NEWS AND VIEWS

Retired Public Employees' Association of California  
Chapter 048 Hemet – San Jacinto, Area VI

May - June 2018  
Volume 6, Issue 2



*We are California public employees who are 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 and their beneficiaries, public employees who are currently employed, and others who share our goals.*

*We welcome everyone!*

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*We're looking forward to seeing you!  
You're invited to the RPEA June Luncheon.*

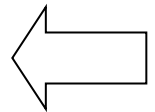
**When?** Wednesday, June 13, 2018 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Where?**

**NOTE NEW LOCATION!**

**EL PATRON RESTAURANT, 2524 E. Florida Ave., Hemet  
(where The Anchor Restaurant used to be)**

**DON'T FORGET TO RSVP BY FRIDAY, JUNE 6.**



Phone Carol at 951-306-0336, Sharon at 951-654-8965 or Linda at 951-784-1060. Or email Linda at lindaandwes@aol.com. Give the name (with correct spelling) and phone number for each attendee.

**Lunch Price:**

RPEA Member: \$7 Spouse of member: \$7

Non-member: First time - FREE; after the first time - \$12

**What's planned?** Chapter food drive, a delicious lunch, friendly conversation, an interesting program, legislation updates, and door prizes.

**Please participate in our Chapter Food Drive.** Bring along non-perishable canned and packaged foods to be donated to VALLEY COMMUNITY PANTRY, a local food bank. They especially need soups, canned fruits and peanut butter. And how about tuna, pork & beans, refried beans, vegetables, mac & cheese, and individual packets of oat-meal! **Help fill up the collection barrel and spread some "sunshine"!**



**Program:** Our guest speaker will be Brittney Elizabeth Stoneburg, from the Western Science Center, a natural history museum in Southern California. Learn all about the fascinating prehistoric life that used to roam the Inland Empire! During the excavation of Diamond Valley Lake, thousands of fossils were found. She'll bring the past to life!





*Welcome to Our New Members!*

- |                                      |                                 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>JOHNNY ANDERSON Hemet</b>         | <b>LINDA MUSTAFFA Hemet</b>     |
| <b>BARBARA CARROLL Winchester</b>    | <b>JEFFREY NORTON Hawaii</b>    |
| <b>CHRISTAL CHESWICK San Jacinto</b> | <b>KATHERINE PARKS Murrieta</b> |
| <b>MARY DANIELS San Jacinto</b>      | <b>LEIGH RATLIFF Hemet</b>      |
| <b>JOANNE DILLINGHAM Murrieta</b>    | <b>JACK SCHUITT Sun City</b>    |
| <b>JAMES DUNCAN Hemet</b>            | <b>SAMUEL SHOEMAKER Banning</b> |
| <b>IRENE GABRIEL Hemet</b>           | <b>GRACE VANBUSKIRK Hemet</b>   |
| <b>JOHN GEURTS Murrieta</b>          | <b>MARY WAGSTAFF Sun City</b>   |
| <b>ROGER JOHNSON Lake Elsinore</b>   | <b>CLARITA WILLIAMS Hemet</b>   |
| <b>MARI LEE Menifee</b>              | <b>NANCY WOOD Murrieta</b>      |
| <b>MARTHA LUNA Sun City</b>          |                                 |

**RPEA GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2018  
CHAPTER 63 DELEGATE CAROL BELL**

The biannual General Assembly will be held in Southern California this year. Scheduled for September 9 through September 12 at the Doubletree Hilton in the city of Orange, delegates from California, Arizona and New Mexico chapters 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 **Carol Bell** who currently serves as Attendance Secretary.

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.



**BIGGER AND BETTER!**

The new El Patron Restaurant luncheon venue is lovely—now more “upscale” and modern! Since Chapter 48 continues to grow, we need more space. That’s why we’ve reserved half of El Patron’s Banquet Room for our June luncheon. We’ll have plenty of “elbow room.” No stairs to navigate. A quieter place so it’s easier to hear the speaker.

Come try out our “new digs”!

*In Remembrance*

- KATHLEEN CORNUTE Menifee**  
**JANICE GADEN Torrance**  
**MARTIN MITCHELL Murrieta**  
**NORMA WALLS Perris**

**CHAPTER 048 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

- |                                                                        |              |                            |              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| Sonny Gillespie, President                                             | 951-492-0787 | Robert McMahan, Membership | 951-256-6757 |
| Emily Wong, V.P. - Legislation                                         | 951-244-1787 | Julia Lary, Communications | 951-926-2104 |
| Linda Stonebreaker, Sec. - Treas.                                      | 951-784-1060 | Carole Gillespie, Sunshine | 951-492-0787 |
| Carol Bell, Attendance Secretary                                       | 951-306-0336 | Sharon Kreul, Hospitality  | 951-657-9588 |
| Sharon Maltzberger, Luncheons                                          | 951-654-8965 | Lucy Murray, Recruitment   | 951-282-5820 |
| Linda Stonebreaker, Newsletter Editor                                  |              | 951-784-1060               |              |
| Dennis Kaczor, Immediate Past President                                |              | 951-454-7241               |              |
| Wes Stonebreaker, Area Director VI 951-784-1060 or 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 CalPERS 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'  
Association, Chapter 048  
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San Jacinto, CA 92583**



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**SAVE THESE 2018 LUNCHEON DATES!**

**June 13 -- Chapter Food Drive**

**September 19 – CHANGED DATE!**

**December 12 – Holiday Luncheon**

**Feel free to bring a guest—someone who might be interested in joining RPEA.**

Life is like a roller coaster.  
It has its ups and  
downs. But it's your choice  
to scream or enjoy  
the ride.



"Before you criticize someone,  
walk a mile in their shoes. That  
way, you'll be a mile away and  
you'll have their shoes."

*America will never be destroyed  
from the outside. If we falter and  
lose our freedoms, it will be because  
we destroyed ourselves.  
Abraham Lincoln*