



# OH 63 NEWS!

*Retired Public Employees' Association of California  
Chapter 063 – Indio Southern California Area VI*

## MEET THE CHIEF!

We are pleased to have Chief of Police Mike Washburn as our May luncheon guest speaker. A 31-year veteran of law enforcement, he became Indio's 19<sup>th</sup> Chief of Police in 2016 after a distinguished career with the Seattle Police Department where he had promoted through the ranks, was assigned to their Investigations Bureau, commanded the Violent Crimes Section and then served as Interim Assistant Chief (2013-2015). He served a six-month fellowship with the Dept. of Justice at FBI Headquarters in Washington, D.C. as the Safe Streets Executive Fellow. Along with Chief Washburn, Assistant Chief Brian Tully will speak about their K-9 program, with Police Service Dog Mikey and his handler, Officer Rene Mendez, joining them for a demonstration.



Mike Washburn  
Indio Chief of Police



## YOU'RE INVITED!

### RPEA MAY LUNCHEON MEETING

**When?** Noon to 2:00 p.m.

**Friday, May 18, 2018**

**Where?** Heritage Palms Clubhouse

**44291 Heritage Palms Drive South, Indio**

**(Just tell the gate attendant you're attending the luncheon.)**

**Reservations are required by Friday, May 11.** When you RSVP, please give the name (with correct spelling) and phone number for each attendee. Phone Carl Thibeault at (760) 459-3174 or email [thibeaultfc@earthlink.net](mailto:thibeaultfc@earthlink.net).

What's on the agenda? A delicious lunch (compliments of RPEA), friendly conversation, an interesting program, updates on legislation, and drawings for door prizes. It's an opportunity to stay informed, meet new people and enjoy a pleasant time.

**KNOW SOMEONE ELSE WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN JOINING RPEA?  
PLEASE SHARE THIS INVITATION.**



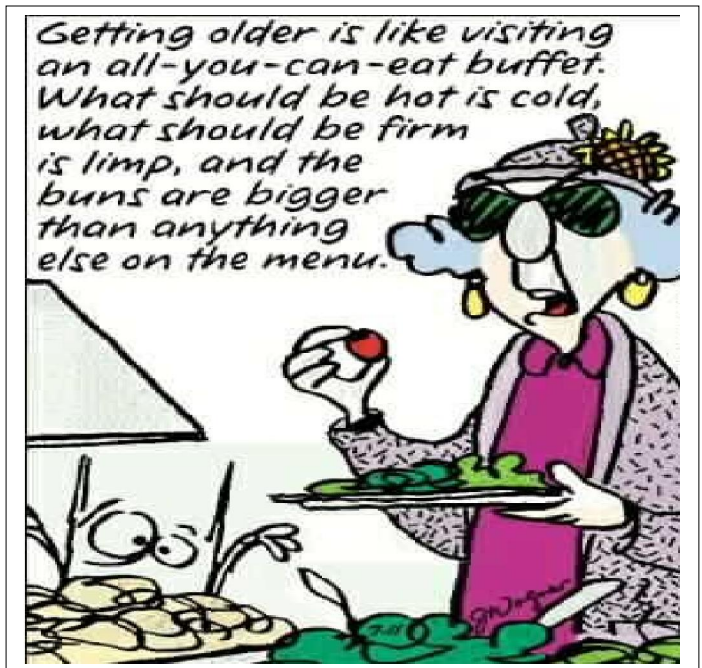
## WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST CHAPTER 063 MEMBERS!

Claudio Beltran Cathedral City  
Anastasia Dilberakis Bermuda Dunes  
Adam Elders Indio  
Olga Flores El Centro

### RPEA GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2018

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, chapter 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 will be sending a delegate to represent us.

RPEA members are welcome to attend, and volunteers are needed to help out. If you're interested, contact Wes Stonebreaker for more information.



**Wes Stonebreaker**, RPEA Area Director, administers the oath of office to Chapter 063's new Treasurer **Richard Davis** and new Vice President **Wendy Allaire**. We are indeed fortunate to have them share their talent and enthusiasm as officers!

### CHAPTER 063 CONTACT INFORMATION

**PRESIDENT** Carl Thiebault (760) 459-3174  
**VICE PRESIDENT** Wendy Allaire (760) 347-3663  
**SECRETARY** Margo Thibault (760) 459-3174  
**TREASURER** Richard Davis (760) 347-8253  
**EDITOR** Linda Stonebreaker (951) 784-1060  
**AREA DIRECTOR** Wes Stonebreaker (951) 784-1060  
or lindaandwes@aol.com

Thanks, **Dan Deviny**, for providing the photo!

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, beneficiaries, currently-employed public employees, friends, family members, and others who share our goals. We welcome everyone!



## 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.

### WINEGARDEN PLAN

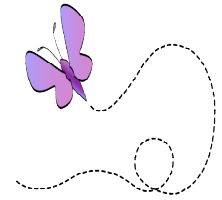
Going further than Senate Bill 1149, Wayne Winegarden of the Pacific Research Institute has proposed that newly-hired state employees be given only one option: the defined contribution plan. Also, California would institute a "hard freeze" across all defined-benefit programs so that "no public employee 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, 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 Reed. 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  
RPEA Chapter 063 – Indio  
301 West Santa Catalina Rd.  
Palm Springs, CA 92262



#### REMINDERS

Please put RPEA luncheons on your 2018 calendar. Dates will be confirmed prior to meetings:

May 18

September 21

November 16

Membership applications are available at luncheons or online at [rpea.com](http://rpea.com). To have an information packet mailed to you or someone else, phone Wes at 951-784-1060; or email him at [lindaandwes@aol.com](mailto:lindaandwes@aol.com).

You may be someone who cannot attend luncheon meetings; but by joining RPEA, you will stay informed and support our efforts on your behalf. The more members we have, the greater our influence.

I don't mean to brag, but I put together a puzzle in 1 day and the box said 2-4 years.



Life is like

*riding a bicycle*

TO KEEP YOUR  
**BALANCE**

*You must keep*

*Moving*

#### SCAM ALERT!

#### COMPUTER TECHNICAL SUPPORT?

**NO!**

Some scammers call and claim to be computer techs associated with well-known companies like Microsoft or Apple. Other scammers send computer pop-up messages that warn about computer problems. They say they've detected viruses or other malware on your computer. They claim to be "tech support" and will ask you to give them remote access to your computer. Eventually, they'll diagnose a non-existent problem and ask you to pay for unnecessary – or even harmful – services.

If you get an unexpected pop-up, phone call, spam email or other urgent message about problems with your computer, **stop! Don't click on any links, don't give away control of your computer and don't send any money!**