



The Camellia
Retired Public Employees' Association
Area VII -Sacramento, California
Chapter 004 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.

Volume 28, Issue 3



May/June 2023

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE - Roxanne Woodward

Hello All -

As we roll into the summer months, our calendar continues to fill with meetings, and events. We are actively planning an underground tour in Old Sacramento (followed by lunch) in the next month or so. Stay tuned for the details and a flier. In addition, we'll be having our card bingo in the park in August (see flier within).

I've had the opportunity to travel and visit family over these past few months which is always enjoyable, including travel to SoCAL, Florida, and Georgia. I also recently returned from exploring the central coast wine country, joining Chapter 038's luncheon cruise on Morro Bay. It was a delightful event and fun road trip with Marie Reed. She was my tour guide and she knows the area well, having been born in Atascadero.

CalPERS News: CalPERS has not yet announced its health care premiums for 2024. The Pension & Health Benefits Committee will review preliminary 2024 health premiums in June 2023 and approve final premiums in July 2023. Open enrollment dates this year are from September 18, 2023 through October 13, 2023. Any changes made during this open enrollment period will take effect on January 1, 2024.

Long Term Care (LTC) – Class Action Lawsuit, Second Settlement: On March 10, 2023 CalPERS and attorneys representing plaintiffs announced that a judge had granted preliminary approval to a new, second settlement of the class action lawsuit involving the CalPERS LTC program, known as *Wedding, et al. v. CalPERS*.

A notice packet was mailed by CalPERS in early April and explained the terms of the New Settlement, your options under the New Settlement, and how the New Settlement would impact your Long-Term Care coverage. It is important to



understand that the proposed New Settlement is not yet final. Therefore, you should continue paying premiums and making other decisions regarding your CalPERS Long-Term Care policy as if there was no settlement at all.



June 6, 2023 is the deadline to:

- complete the claim form;
- complete a Lapse Claim Form;
- Exclude yourself from the Settlement;
- Submit a written objection to the Settlement.

July 26, 2023 at 11:00 a.m is the Final Fairness Hearing. More information is available at <https://www.calpersltclass-action.com/>

Membership: Our membership numbers at the end of April are 993 and our committee members continue to reach out. Several chapter volunteers will be participating in an event in mid-June at the El Dorado County Fairgrounds, along with Area Director VII, Ken Brown. If you might be interested in volunteering for this event, which is being held over a 3-day period with 2-hour time slots, please let me or contact Ken Brown directly. As always, reach out, share our newsletter, and invite prospective members to our meetings. A pdf version of the application is also available from RPEA's website at: <http://www.rpea.com>

RPEA Board of Director's Meeting: RPEA's Board of Directors will meet June 12-13 in Irvine, CA. I have not yet seen the agenda but plan to join the meeting via Zoom. If you are interested in log in information and/or the agenda, please let me or another Chapter Board Member know.

For those in the area, I am looking forward to seeing you at Vince's on June 14th for our regularly scheduled general membership meeting - see flier within.

###

At left: Roxanne, Meg Gleeson and Marie Reed aboard the vessel "Chablis" on Morro Bay on May 17, 2023. What a fun cruise, we enjoyed it immensely. Thank you to Meg for the invitation to join with your members in this event.

RANDOM THOUGHTS FROM THE PAST PRESIDENT

DID YOU KNOW?

The minutes of Chapter 004 from the beginning of the Chapter are a part of the Chapter's permanent records and are in the possession of the current secretary. I was browsing through them the other day and found the original Charter. Did you know Chapter 004 was chartered on February 19, 1957? That is prior to the effective date of our Association's most recent Charter.

Meanwhile, I'd like to start a new column in our newsletter with tidbits from prior years minutes, I'll call this "Remember When". Please let me know if you find this interesting so I can know whether to continue perusing these old documents.

"REMEMBER WHEN"

1954

In the early years, our organization was known as "Retired Government Employees Association of California" and was formed in February 1954 at a meeting held in the State Professional Building in Sacramento. About 200 ex-employees attended this meeting and a temporary organization was set up with a President and a Board of Directors.

The purpose of this organization as set out in our constitution and By-laws was to promote the welfare of all Retired State and local government employees who were receiving allowance from the State Employee's Retirement Board.

At the time of organization, we had no political aims in view, but rather had in mind assistance in making retirement a pleasant and happy period of life.

During the first year of organization, it became increasingly evident that the economic problems of those on retirement were very urgent and relief must be obtained, for many were living below a reasonable level.

Those who had gone on retirement when salaries were very low could not live on the allowances which were granted by the formula. So, it became evident that our organization must take the lead in improving this situation."

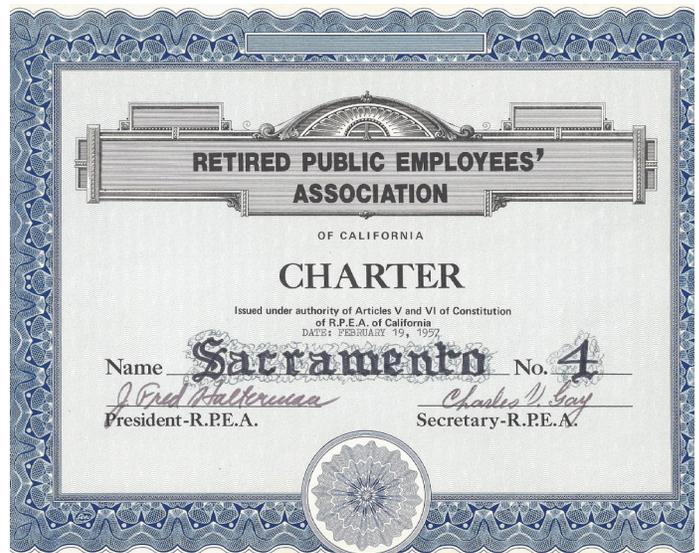
In the fall of 1954, our legislative committee met several times with a committee from the CSEA and an agreement was reached which was an understanding that the CSEA would introduce favorable legislation in the 1955 session to increase the basic allowances for the retired employees.

The bill, AB570 was signed by the Governor and gave increases to those who had retired prior to October 1, 1953.

Another accomplishment of our organization during the 1955 session of the legislature was the passage of AB 580 which provided for deductions for health insurance from the retirement checks. This made it possible for the first time for the retired employee to secure group health insurance. Some 1000 retired employees are now covered by this plan.....
more next issue

Meanwhile, back at the ranch as the saying goes, I was recently able to attend an outing with our Chapter President as guests of Chapter 38, Central Coast in San Luis Obispo. Roxanne had been contacted by Meg Gleeson, President of that Chapter who invited Roxanne and a "plus one" to join her chapter members on a cruise on Morro Bay. Since that is near my original home, we traveled to Paso Robles and met with members of my extended family for some dining and enjoying each other's company. I hadn't seen my cousins in several years, so it was a very delightful experience for me. Both Roxanne and I had a fantastic time with sightseeing and antiquing through the many shops in the small towns we visited. While in Morro Bay we were able to meet up with our association's Vice-President for a short visit. All in all, a great week for the two of us from Sacramento.

###



OUR SUMMER CARD BINGO IS BACK

RPEA, Chapter 004



Please join us in the park for bingo fun, camaraderie, and door prizes.

WHEN: Wednesday, August 9, 2023
(RSVP by August 2, 2023)

WHERE: Oki Park
2715 Wisseman Drive, Sacramento, CA 95826
Oki Park is located in the College Greens/Glenbrook Neighborhood
Directions via south Watt Avenue; turn right onto Folsom Blvd. then turn right onto Wisseman Drive; continue on Wisseman Drive through a couple of stop signs to the park.

TIME:	09:30 – 10:00 a.m.	Check In
	10:00	Card Bingo
	11:30 – 12 Noon	Box Lunch (Hannibal's) & Raffle

COST: Free for Members and \$10.00 for Guests - Bring a Prospective Member!

Receive an extra raffle ticket by bringing in your pull tabs, used greeting card fronts and/or a non-perishable food item(s) for our giving back programs.

Please RSVP no later than August 2, 2023. Indicate your box lunch items and get your reservation and payment to our Reservations Chairperson: Sheryl Zazzi, 1709 Lakewood Drive, West Sacramento, CA 95691; text (916) 607-8282, email to redhartzaz@gmail.com. Make check payable to RPEA, Chapter 004. Payment must be received prior to the event.

PLEASE SPECIFY NUMBER OF PEOPLE FOR THIS RSVP _____ NAME(S) AND CONTACT INFO _____

Email Address _____ Telephone _____

BOX LUNCH SELECTIONS: Mark appropriate item(s) below
Box lunch will include either a sandwich (with lettuce, tomato, and pickle), fruit salad, potato chips, and a chocolate chip cookie, or selected salad, fresh roll and butter, cookie, and dressing packet. Mayonnaise and mustard packets will be provided. No substitutions please. RPEA will provide bottled water. If you would like something to drink other than water, please bring it.

	#		#
<i>Sandwich Filling choices</i>		<i>Salad</i>	
<i>Turkey</i>		<i>Chicken Caesar</i>	
<i>Ham</i>		<i>Asian Chicken Salad</i>	
<i>Roast Beef</i>		<i>Chef Salad</i>	
<i>Vegetarian</i>		<i>Cashew Chicken Salad</i>	

Failure to RSVP timely will result in no box lunch being available.

RPEA CHAPTER 004
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
JUNE 14, 2023 VINCE’S RESTAURANT

840 Harbor Blvd.
West Sacramento, CA 95691 Phone (916) 371-6395
Vinceswestsac.com

Note: The meeting time is 11:00 a.m. as that is when the restaurant opens. Please arrive promptly so that you may get checked in.

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT THIS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING.

MENU CHOICES:

- *Veal Parmagiana**
- *Special Steak Sandwich**
- *Italian Chicken Sandwich**
- *Baked Lasagna**

Lunch Includes *Salad *Hot Bread and Butter *Coffee or Iced Tea (Gluten free pasta and vegetarian pasta available upon request)

Reservation Required

Members Cost is: \$0.00 - and Prospective Members \$15.00

Please RSVP to our Reservation Chairperson, Sheryl Zazzi no later than June 9, 2023 and provide your menu selection. You may reach Sheryl via email at redhartzaz@gmail.com, text at (916) 607-8282. Her mailing address is: Sheryl Zazzi, 1709 Lakewood Drive, West Sacramento, CA 95691-4043. Make checks payable to RPEA, Chapter 004.

###

Election of Officers
A Reminder

At our October meeting, we will be conducting our biannual election of officers and this note is a notice of that. Please think about joining our Chapter’s governing board and help us encourage membership in our organization. All elected positions will be contained on our ballots, unless there are no challengers for any position. Currently up for election are the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer (or Secretary/Treasurer should no candidate opt for either position), Directors at Large, and Delegates to General Assembly in 2024. It is currently expected that GA will be held in San Diego. Our chapter’s delegates will be sent to this assembly

by our Headquarters and travel, lodging, and meal expenses will be provided. Our alternate delegate(s) will attend and travel, lodging and meal expense will be reimbursed by our Chapter. This meeting is expected to be in the late summer/early fall, 2024. See the Chapter Secretary for Nomination Form.

###

JOIN US AT A MEETING
NEED TRANSPORTATION?

CALL ONE OF OUR OFFICERS TO SEE IF RIDE SHARING MIGHT BE ARRANGED.

***Renaissance Society?**

The Renaissance Society of Sacramento provides opportunities for participatory lifelong learning and community engagement for older adults. Our learning opportunities include about 170 seminars and other programs on a wide variety of subjects proposed and presented by our members.

We also are involved with Sac State in many ways, such as providing scholarships or volunteering for many Sac State departments. We also host social events and local trips for our members throughout the year. Visit our website to learn everything about us at csus.edu/rensoc. You can also find us on facebook.com/rensocietysac

***On Campus & Online!** We offer seminars on a wide variety of subjects on Fridays on the Sac State campus. We're also online, using Zoom to deliver seminars Mondays through Thursdays to anywhere in the world. Many programs are also recorded for viewing at your convenience.

***Spring Ends – Summer Starts!** Our Spring programs ended May 12 but our Summer Series, "Celebrating Diversity," starts June 9. On consecutive Fridays, from June 9 to July 28 we will be offering a free series of programs with exciting speakers from 10am to 11am on the Sac State Campus. Each program is followed by a brown bag lunch and then a tour of a hidden gem on the Sac State campus or nearby site. Topics include, Native Americans, History of Juneteenth, Military Veterans and much more. The entire program is free and open to the public-no membership is required to attend. Watch our website for registration information. Try a free summer session to check out RS programs offerings!

***Fall Program Registration.** Online program registration for the full academic year 2023-24 will open in August. The Fall catalog will be published August 7 and you can start signing up for programs on August 14. Once you join, you can sign up for as many classes as you would like. The first day of classes will be September 5.

***Memberships:** Fall memberships for the full year (through Spring 2024) at \$100 will open on June 1. Please go to our website to join now or for more information at <https://tinyurl.com/newmember-sRS>. You can find a paper form on the website if you don't want to use a credit card.

Check out the most recent Catalog: The most recent catalog is on the Renaissance website at <https://tinyurl.com/Catalog4Sp>. There are nearly 170 different programs each semester! Check the offerings out in the old Spring or new Fall catalog to see the types of programs that match your interests.

Renaissance Café YouTube Channel: Along with some 60 Second Program Video "Sneak Peaks" from previous sessions where you can meet some of the leaders and hear what they offer in their own words there are also some one-time presentations at the **Renaissance Café YouTube Channel** at <https://tinyurl.com/60secondVideos>.

Orientation & Open House: An Orientation and Open House is held each Fall and Spring on the Sac State campus. This is an excellent overview of "all things Renaissance." You can watch a recording from the Spring 2023 Orientation on our website here: <https://tinyurl.com/RSorient23>. The Fall 2023 Orientation & Open House will be August 18

Questions or comments please contact **Renaissance Society Office** at renaissa@csus.edu or (916) 758-5133.

Contributed by Dr. C. Wisely

UPCOMING MEETINGS

RPEA CHAPTER 004
Sacramento, Yolo Areas
Second Wednesday
of each month.

June 14, 2023

General Meeting - 11:00 a.m.
Vince's Restaurant
840 Harbor Blvd., West Sacramento

July 12, 2023

Board Meeting - 10:00 a.m.
Aviator Restaurant
6151 Freeport Blvd. Sacramento

August 9, 2023

General Meeting - 10:00 a.m.
CARD BINGO IN THE PARK
Oki Park

Flier on page 3

Please RSVP if you plan to attend
any of these meetings
Members meals are free to attendees-
except for Spring Luncheon
and Holiday Luncheon

NOW THAT IN-PERSON MEETINGS HAVE **RESUMED**

Lunch is **FREE** to members in attendance at Chapter meetings and **\$10.00** for guests for all Chapter meetings except

Spring Luncheon and

Holiday Luncheon

Members may attend all meetings.

Please reserve your spot.

Failure to make a reservation may result in no lunch available and failure to appear and not cancel a reservation will result in a \$10.00 charge.

To reserve or cancel a reservation contact **Sheryl Zazzi** at

redhataz@gmail.com or text (916) 607-8282 by the Wednesday before each meeting.

NOTICE!!!

If you discard or recycle our newsletter in the trash, please shred it as there are email addresses and telephone numbers listed in it. Our directors are volunteers and we don't want unnecessary solicitations coming our way because of publication of those numbers.

SPRING LUNCHEON - 2023



Margaret Brown and Cecile Nunley, guests



Marie Reed, John Diggs and Roxanne Woodward. John was our speaker at this event.



*Randall and Gail Cheek
Randy is our Vice President*



Roxanne Woodward, Randall Cheek and Ken Brown, Area VII Director



C.T. and Tatiana Weber with one of the beautiful arrangements offered as door prizes.



Harry Gayle, Director at Large



Members John Eng and Linda Lee



Members Mary Crump and ?



Members Roberta Doyle, Darlene Eredia and Tatiana Weber sharing conversation.



Members Bruce Kennedy and Suzan Moody

SOME MUSICAL HUMOR...

'Never look at the trombones, it only encourages them.'
Richard Strauss

'After silence, that which comes nearest to expressing the inexpressible is music.'
Aldous Huxley

'The drummer drives. Everybody else rides!'
Panama Francis

'Some days you get up and put the horn to your chops and it sounds pretty good and you win.
Some days you try and nothing works and the horn wins.
This goes on and on and then you die and the horn wins.'
Dizzy Gillespie on playing the trumpet

'Jazz is the only music in which the same note can be played night after night but differently each time.'
Ornette Coleman

'We never play anything the same way once.'
Shelly Manne's definition of jazz musicians

'Someone who knows how to play the accordion and doesn't.'
Al Cohn's definition of a gentleman

'To be a musician is a curse. To NOT be one is even worse.'
Jack Daney

'I would rather play Chiquita Banana and have my swimming pool than play Bach and starve.'
Xavier Cugat

'Flint must be an extremely wealthy town: I see that each of you bought two or three seats.'
Victor Borge, playing to a half-filled house in Flint, Michigan,

'Critics can't even make music by rubbing their back legs together.'
Mel Brooks

'Wagner's music is better than it sounds.'
Mark Twain

'Berlioz says nothing in his music, but he says it magnificently.'
James Gibbons Huneker

'God tells me how the music should sound, but you stand in the way.'
Arturo Toscanini to a trumpet player.

'Already too loud!'
Bruno Walter at his first rehearsal with an American

*A Bit of Humor to
Brighten
Your Day!*

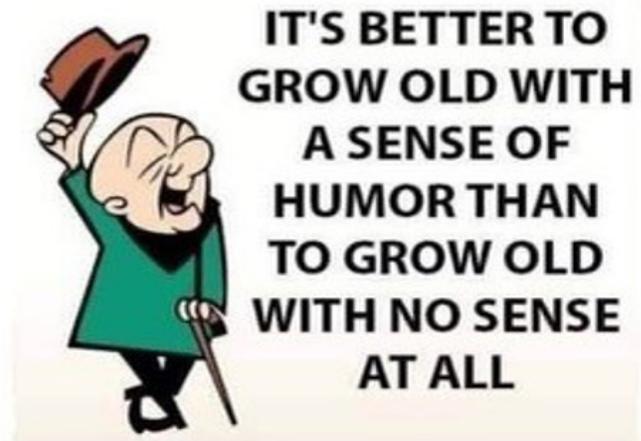
orchestra, on seeing the players reach for their instruments.

'When she started to play, Steinway himself came down personally and rubbed his name off the piano.'
Bob Hope, on comedienne Phyllis Diller

'In opera, there is always too much singing.'
Claude Debussy

'I think popular music in this country is one of the few things in the twentieth century that has made giant strides in reverse.'
Bing Crosby

'The bottom line of any country is what did we contribute to the world? We contributed Louis Armstrong.'
Tony Bennett



The distance it takes for me to forget a number between 1 and 10





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NOTICE!!

If you have moved or changed your address for delivery of this newsletter, please notify:

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2021-23 Chapter 004
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