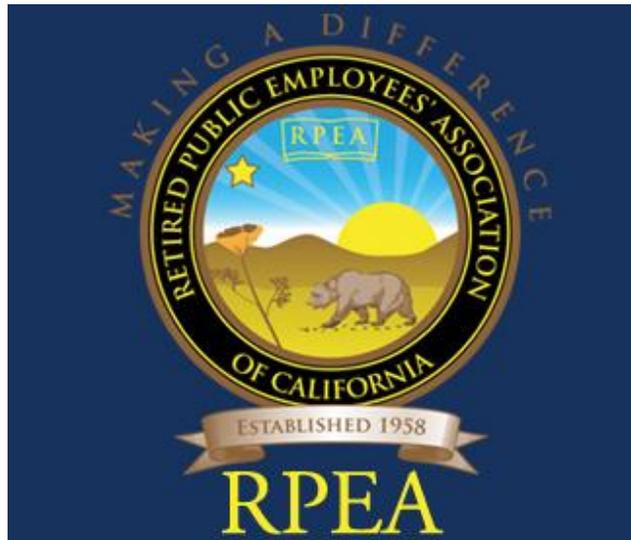


RPEA Chapter 096

October 2017

RETIREWIRE



RPEA Chapter 096 Meeting
Friday October 13, 2017 @ 1 pm
Jewish Community Center
5520 Wyoming Blvd. NE ABQ, NM

Meeting Presentation: City of ABQ/'Keep ABQ Beautiful'
(Please arrive on time as a courtesy to our guest speakers.)

Your participation is always welcome and encouraged. We hope to see you at our October 2017 chapter meeting!

If you would like to contribute to the RETIREWIRE please contact your newsletter editor, Evelyn McGarry, at mcgarrye2004@yahoo.com

Your RPEA Chapter 096 Board Members: Larry Sullivan: President, Lou Silva: V-P, Evelyn McGarry: Secretary & Newsletter Editor, Lucy Lopez: Treasurer, Sharon Bruce: Programs

News from Larry Sullivan, Your RPEA Area IX Director

RPEA Board of Directors Meeting – September 2017

I attended the RPEA Board of Directors Meeting in Orange, California, September 24-26, 2017 at the Hilton Doubletree. The hotel will be the site of the RPEA 2018 General Assembly. The hotel is two blocks from Interstate 5. I can see Laguna Hills from the hotel. I was once stationed in Laguna Beach helping fire victims in the area. The hotel has an atrium with a lagoon. At least one GA event is scheduled in the atrium.

The hotel is right across the street from the University of California at Irvine Medical Center. I was on the side of the hotel facing the hospital. I only remember two sirens waking me up. The hotel pool was closed for maintenance but is a nice facility with a hot tub.

I used the exercise room. It has three treadmills and one stair master. "The WiFi sucks" was what someone said while the RPEA Board got a walk-through from Hilton staff. The Wi-Fi in the lobby is complimentary.

The Wi-Fi in the room is different but free and a director mentioned that his carrier, AT&T, wouldn't let him logon due to the unsecured network. I don't have a laptop and I've never owned a cell phone so I don't have a dog in this fight. The hotel representative said she'd try to have the issues cleared up by the GA.

I attended two different elementary schools in Orange County, California so I was able to share many memories with locals while there. The Orange County landmark where my mother and youngest step-daughter worked, KONA Lanes in Costa Mesa, is gone after more than a ½ century.

I had never been in John Wayne Airport so the flight and arrangements were new to me. I flew into and out of Lindberg Field in San Diego and LAX hundreds of times. We, GA Attendees, are to use the Super Shuttle from the airport to the hotel. There are three guys working the blue van, Super Shuttle, at SNA, the airline acronym. You have to go out the terminal building and the Super Shuttle is behind the car rentals. They are going to be very busy at the beginning and the end of the GA.

Margaret Brown, candidate for CalPERS Board, was at the meeting stumping for last minute votes. JJ Jelencic, current CalPERS Board Member, was our guest. RPEA had a reception for the soon-to- retire friend of our group and retirees in general.

The highlight of my trip was being stranded in the airport with JJ Jelencic on our way out-of-town. I got to buy him an iced tea while I had a Cobb Salad, iced tea and Wilma, the waitress who has worked at SNA for 32 years, reminisced with me about Orange County and its changes over the decades. She, an Orange County native, noted that she is retiring to Holland where her grandfather is from because she cannot afford to stay in California when she retires.

The RPEA Board Meeting approved the changes to several chapter bylaws. Included in this package was a request by Chapter 103. PLAZA VIEJO NO ES CORREGIR, AHORA.

I was sworn in as Area Director for another term. A motion to get pre-approval for large membership recruitment expenditures was made by me and voted down. So, conduct your chapter membership raising activities early in the year and get those requests for reimbursement to headquarters. It's first come, first served! There is a limited pot of money.

AMTRAK comes into Anaheim about 2 ½ miles from the hotel so AMTRAK might be a way to attend the GA without flying into John Wayne Airport. Ron Lind, current CalPERS Board Member, was our guest speaker. He introduced himself as the closest thing to a friend on the CalPERS Board that JJ Jelencic has. JJ was in the audience for the joke.

AMBA has a news sales manager and he told our board he wanted to increase our membership to 50,000! AMBIA, in California, has increased the pay of their sales force in California. The old cost-of-living in the Golden State has struck again. Jeannie Coffee, the AMBIA VP for Association Relations, seemed to imply that she'd make sure the money was spent to get us some new members in Northern New Mexico.

2018 General Assembly will be held at the Double Tree by Hilton, 100 The City Drive South, Anaheim Orange, California. 92868-3204

Area Workshops were a topic of the Area Directors meeting before the RPEA BOD Meeting. The template for an area workshop is a one-day affair with as many meaningful speakers and workshops as possible. Workshop agendas for past Area Workshops were included with the latest Area Director's Handbook. I will distribute some of this information when I am in your chapter meeting. Even an Area III Workshop Evaluation form is included. Thanks to Area III Director, Bob Van Etten!

You're Retired, So Now What?

- Adult Education: Oasis – ABQ, Fall 2017 registration now open!
- Continuing Education: OLLI @ UNM, Fall 2017 registration now open!
- ABQ International Balloon Fiesta, October 7-15, 2017
- Rio Grande Arts & Crafts Festival, October 6-8 & 13-15, 2017
- ABQ Little Theatre: “The Adams Family”, October 6-29, 2017
- Popejoy Hall: “An American in Paris”, October 17-22, 2017

LARRY'S CORNER

Evelyn McGarry is woman of the year! Evelyn has assumed the duties of our newsletter editor and I am forever grateful. She has arranged a great speaker for our October, 2017 meeting. She also continues as our chapter secretary. Thank you, Evelyn.

I just returned from the RPEA Board of Directors Meeting at the Hilton Doubletree in Orange, Ca. The hotel will be the site of the RPEA 2018 GA. It is a couple of miles from the Santa Ana, CA. airport aka John Wayne and a couple of miles from Anaheim, California's AMTRAK station. It is right next to I-5. It's a big hotel and our GA will be well accommodated. RPEA members that drive to the GA will get special parking rates.

One wing of the hotel is across the street from UCI Medical Center, so you might want to take a pair of earplugs. Speaking of noise, John Wayne Airport is surrounded by a community noise abatement ordinance. The plane takes off and cruises at housetop level until it gets over the ocean and then it takes off!

Our chapter can send two of us to the GA without having to use chapter funds. Anyone interested in going to the GA from our Area IX Chapters should give me a call.

I hope you voted in the recent CalPERS election. CalPERS says voting is down 18% from the last time. JJ Jelencic, outgoing CalPERS Board Member, was the guest of your board of directors. Ron Lind, CalPERS Board Member, was the guest speaker. He said that he was the closest thing to a friend that JJ had on the CalPERS Board.

AMBIA has gotten RPEA more than 3,000 new members since they became our corporate partners. Their new sales force director told the RPEA Board that he hopes to get our membership up to 50,000. Music to my ears. Our membership is around 23,000.

AMBA will be developing Northern New Mexico. Our membership in Los Alamos is ½ what it once was and we hope to reverse that trend.

Membership recruitment expenses are reimbursable to the chapters by headquarters but the fund is limited. The RPEA Board voted down a proposal to get pre-approval for chapter recruitment expenses so spend money on recruitment early in the year so your chapter will be reimbursed.

Paul Tamboury, Bob Van Etten, Ellen Knapp, Dennis Cassella, and Larry Sullivan were installed as Area Directors for another term. See you at the chapter meeting on Friday, October 13, 2017!

Next RPEA Chapter 096 Meeting:
January 12, 2018 @ 1 pm at JCC-ABQ