



# RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA NEWSLETTER

**Chapter # 106, San Benito County Area III Volume 2 Issue 1**  
**January / February 2018**

## **Greetings**

*Margie Riopel*

*Happy New Year. Wishing you all the best as this year begins. It is a time count our blessings, remain positive and enjoy the adventures ahead of us.*

*As we approach the new year, I hope our members will reach out to all retirees about joining RPEA. Our newsletter is sent out to keep our local chapter members involved.*

*The RPEA Magazine you receive bimonthly as members, provides valuable information of what is happening with retirees in around the state. It is important to read both.*

*At our last meeting on December 7, 2017, we held our election. On behalf of all the officers, I extend our appreciation for your support and being elected for another term.*

*I would also like to extend my appreciation to Cindy Silva for her service as Membership Chair last term. In the upcoming year, Kim Hawk has volunteered to take the Membership Chair position. I also would like to thank Mandy Rose for her service as Legislative Chair and Elsie Marshall as Health Benefit Chair. It is my intent to request that they extend their terms for another year. Appointments will be made official at the next meeting.*

*Our next Chapter Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday February 1, 2018. You are all invited to attend. The agenda for this meeting is being sent out with this newsletter. We hope that you will join us as we set our goals for the new year.*

**Save the date. Make plans to attend and bring a guest to our Chapter Board Meeting on Thursday February 1, 2018 at 11:30 am at Valley Pizzeria, 551 McCray Street in Hollister.**

## **Treasurer Report**

*Catherine Shaw*

*At our Dec 7 meeting, we collected a total of \$246 for Casa of San Benito for their 12 Days of Giving Fundraiser. With the subsequent match by other donors, it was essentially a \$492 donation. Thank you to all who participated.*

*Lots of fun was had with our investment opportunities – candy, coffee card, wine, homemade fudge, nuts – thank you to all who donated the goodies.*

*Our first financial annual report was filed on time. There were a couple of glitches but overall the process was reasonably painless. As of fiscal year-end October 31, 2017 our chapter had the following income: State Dues \$518.54, State Start-up Funds \$500, Donations \$90 and Investment Opportunity \$21. And no reportable expenses.*

*On a personal note, I wanted to thank all of our newly elected officers for taking on the 2018 tasks for another year. Welcome to Kim Hawk for taking on membership.*

*Checking Account Balance as of Jan 21, 2018 is \$1,284.46.*

## **Membership Committee Report** *Kim Hawk*

*Our December 2017 Roster has risen to 52 members. Thank you to those who have been spreading the word about our chapter. We encourage you to attend meetings. Invite friends, either Retirees or active employees to join us and participate. If you want to have a voice about your pension and benefits, we are stronger together. Come to the next meeting on **February 1, 2018**. We hope you will join us for a meeting.*

*For those of you whom have not become a member yet, Join. What are you waiting for? For more information about becoming a member, contact Kim Hawk, Membership Committee Chair at 831-630-3352 (cell) or 831-637-8662 (home) or check out the RPEA website at [www.rpea.com](http://www.rpea.com). Annual membership is \$60.00.*

## Legislative Report

Mandy Rose



Happy New Year to All!

Two big events for us to consider this month:

First, Governor Brown, in shaping up his legacy it is believed, is replacing the Attorney General, in the scheduled Supreme Court case we've discussed here before. Three cases are being consolidated before the Supreme Court, in what is being advertised as a show down on the "California Rule." And Second, Appellate Court Judges have ruled in three county consolidation of anti-spiking case that pensions can be cut but only under tight limits if there are no new offsetting benefits. Previously, in the Marin County case, the Appellate Court ruled that public employees are entitled to a "reasonable" pension not the pension offered at the time of hire; and another Appellate Court had ruled on 'airtime' (purchasing credits of unworked time towards your cumulative years worked total) cannot be used in the pension calculation.

If you recall, the "California Rule" is a legal precedent in California public benefit law that states that any reduction in a benefit must have a corresponding or equivalent benefit addition.

*"Brown said last week he has a "hunch" the courts will modify the "California rule," so "when the next recession comes around the governors will have the option of considering pension cutbacks for the first time. There's already been several lower court opinions through the court of appeals (noted above) where judges, both liberal and conservative, have taken a position that employees are entitled to a reasonable pension but not entitled to any remuneration they can imagine."*



However, while we watch all this unfold, remember these decisions affect active and future employees only, NOT retirees, (yet.)

## General Membership Meetings:

General Membership Meetings are held quarterly in the months of March, June, September and December, on the first Thursday of the Month at 11:30 am at Valley Pizzeria, 551 McCray Street in Hollister.

## Chapter Board Meetings:

The Chapter Board of Directors and Committee Chairs meet during the months of January, March, May, July, September and November. Those meetings will be scheduled on the same date, time and location as the General Meetings. Members welcomed.

## Chapter Board of Directors

President: Margie Riopel [mmriopel@aol.com](mailto:mmriopel@aol.com)  
(831)801-8306

Vice President: Elsie Marshall [elsie.marshall@yahoo.com](mailto:elsie.marshall@yahoo.com)  
(831)801-6995

Secretary: Denise Thome [thomehome32@yahoo.com](mailto:thomehome32@yahoo.com)  
(831)801-4757

Treasurer: Catherine Shaw [catshaws@sbcglobal.net](mailto:catshaws@sbcglobal.net)  
(408)804-2404

## Chapter Committee Chairs

Membership Committee Chair: Kim Hawk  
[kim\\_hawk@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kim_hawk@sbcglobal.net), (831) 637-8662

Legislative Committee Chair: Mandy Rose  
[normandyannrose@gmail.com](mailto:normandyannrose@gmail.com), (831)801-1254

Health Benefit Committee Chair: Elsie Marshall  
[Elsie.marshall@yahoo.com](mailto:Elsie.marshall@yahoo.com), (831) 801-6995

Newsletter Editor : Margie Riopel.....January 23,2018