



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 24, Issue 6



NOV/DEC 2019

Presidents Message - Roxanne Woodward

Lunch is **\$5.00** to members and **\$10.00** to guests for all Chapter lunches except

Spring Luncheon and Christmas Luncheon

Members in good standing 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, contact **Nadie Savage** at newnadia2019@gmail.com or call **(916) 495-2742** by Friday before each meeting.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

RPEA CHAP. 004

MEETINGS

Sacramento, Yolo Areas
Second Wednesday
of each month.

Wed. Nov. 13, 2019

Board Meeting, 10:00 a.m.
Casa Gardens Restaurant
2760 Sutterville Rd.

Wed. Dec. 11, 2019

Christmas Luncheon
Cattlemen's Restaurant
Roseville
See Flyer on Page 3

Wed. Jan. 8, 2020

Board Meeting, 10:00 a.m.
Casa Gardens Restaurant
2760 Sutterville Rd.

Wed. Feb.12, 2020

General Meeting, 10:00 a.m.
Casa Gardens Restaurant
2760 Sutterville Rd.
Election of Officers

Greetings,

With the arrival of fall, Halloween is right around the corner, and we will be turning our clocks back soon. Our next group adventure is set for San Francisco to see one of the last performances of the musical Beach Blanket Babylon.

Thank you to those that attended our October General Meeting. Our organization is strong and continuing to work hard at protecting our retirement benefits. I want to give a special thanks to the following people for joining us for lunch last month, in spite of power outages that many of us had to deal with: our new Area Director Ken Brown and his outreach team, AMBIA District Manager Kenneth Goforth, Northern California District Manager, and one of his associates Ramona Boscow. We had a great turn out and completed many tasks on the agenda. We initiated the nomination process, approved our new fiscal year budget, and had program speakers in from the CalPERS Long Term Care (LTC) team.

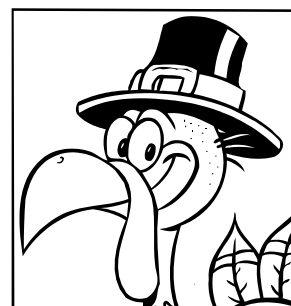
Gatherings like these help us to realize the importance of protecting our

retirement, in light of the ever-increasing cost of LTC. Currently, there are only four (4) underwriters for LTC insurance in California, including our own AMBIA. As the class action lawsuit is in mediation, our speakers were unable to address any specifics. However, Harvey Robinson pressed forward on our behalf on several fronts, and provided us with the latest information available. The mediation is continuing with a trial set for April 2020 if an agreement is not reached. We are all hopeful as we watch closely and anxiously await the results.

As many of you know, nominations are open for our upcoming election including the positions of: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer (or Secretary/Treasurer), Directors at Large, and Delegate(s) for General Assembly. Please note these positions are for a two-year term with installation in February 2020. For more details, see page 2 and our Chapter elections consent form within this newsletter. Thank you Marie for heading up this effort and for all that you do for our Chapter. This is OUR chapter, and I hope you take pride in nominating or casting a vote for your desired candidate. I'm glad to actively participate in the advancement of our Chapter's goals, and be surrounded with such a wonderful group of people, while working together for such a worthy cause. I am announcing my intention to run for a second term in my present capacity, and want to thank you all individually for your contributions to this organization. We are stronger together.

Once again, our annual Holiday luncheon is scheduled for December 11, 2019 at Cattlemen's – Roseville. We're looking forward to having you and your families join us! I've also opened this event to our neighboring Roseville Chapter, as well. It's time to put more faces to names, and share the joy in our collective accomplishments.

To me there is always so much for us to feel grateful, thankful, and blessed. Wishing you happy trails and a Happy Thanksgiving!



RANDOM THOUGHTS FROM THE PAST PRESIDENT

There's a chill in the air and the leaves are beginning to show off their lovely fall colors...guess it's beginning to seem a bit like winter...brrrr. Or at least autumn. It's time for the hustle and bustle that accompanies this time of year, but please don't forget to keep time in your busy schedule to attend our Chapter 004 meetings. We have had some very interesting speakers, thanks to our Program Director Diane Buffington. Last month for instance, we had Gray Scott and Crystal Esparza from CalPERS talk with us about the Long-Term Care plan offered by CalPERS. This was a very interesting and informative discussion and was enjoyed by our members as noted by the Q&A that followed their presentation.

In December, we will have our annual Christmas luncheon, this time at the Cattlemen's Restaurant in Roseville. Some reservations have been received to date, but we are looking forward to having a good attendance, as this is an event that is enjoyed by all who attend. Our President, Roxanne, is planning to invite our "boots on the ground" representatives of AMBIA to attend and they will be available to answer any questions about benefits being provided to our members by that agency. In addition, it is a very good luncheon. Hope see you there. Last month's newsletter contained the flyer for this luncheon, **and in case you missed sending your reservation in, another copy can be made available to you by contacting your editor or our Special Events Director, Sheryl Zazzi, (contact information for both on the back of this newsletter).**

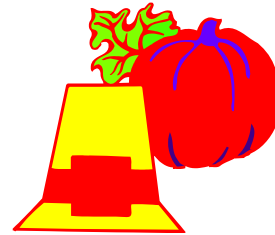
This issue contains a consent form for our upcoming Chapter elections. I encourage all to consider running for an office in our Chapter and becoming more involved in the operations of the Chapter and the organization. As retired public employees, we must remain vigilant and pro-active in the protection of our pensions and promised benefits. RPEA is one way to do this, and becoming an officer is easy. These jobs are not onerous, attendance at meetings is usually interesting and informative...a win-win for you, plus you get your low-cost delicious lunch from the kitchen at the Casa Gardens Restaurant. I look forward to receiving your consent form so I can add your name to the ballots for the election to be held in February.

**PROTECT YOURSELF FROM SCAMMERS**

It seems this is the season for the scammers to really hit us with robo-calls and other attempts to get to our finances. Be aware that Social Security, the IRS and other government agencies will NOT attempt to reach you by phone. Don't trust your caller ID: Scammers can make it look as if the Social Security Administration is calling and even use the agency's real number.

Don't give out personal information. Never give out your Social Security number, your Medi-care number, your bank information or other personal details to an unknown caller. If you already did, visit IdentityTheft.gov/SSA to find out what steps you can take to protect your credit and your identity. Don't trust the caller just because they may know some of your personal information: It's most likely a scam if the person on the other end asks to confirm your information. Talk about the experience: Those who've been targeted should alert friends and neighbors about the call to spread information and report the scam to the FTC at FTC.gov/complaint.

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**NON-PERISHABLE FOODS, YOUR USED GREETING CARDS AND/OR PULL TABS FROM ALUMINUM CANS**

Please bring non-perishable food to donate to the Sacramento Food Bank when you come to any meeting or member luncheon. Just one can a meeting can make a big difference to a local family. We have successfully donated to the Food Bank every year.

And did you know we can make a difference with items we usually toss away?

Don't toss your used greeting cards! Bring only the fronts of the cards to the Chapter meeting for me to get them to St. Jude's Ranch for Children. The Ranch teaches their participants to recycle used greeting cards into a new product to sell in their gift shop. The program assists young people in learning business skills while raising funds for a charity. We recently had word from one of our members, Janice Williams, that the Ranch will not accept Hallmark, American Greeting or Disney card fronts due to copyright issues.

Rather than toss those aluminum tabs from soda cans and other products that use them, bring the tabs to the meeting and I will get them to McDonald House, which collects them as a fund-raiser for their programs.

Thank you for your generosity.

SACRAMENTO CHAPTER 4 BIENNIAL ELECTION

Election of Chapter Officers, Directors at Large and Delegates to RPEA's General Assembly will be held at the February 12, 2020 Chapter meeting at Casa Gardens Restaurant, 2760 Sutterville Road, Sacramento. Only Chapter members in attendance will be eligible to vote.

The four elected Officers, the six elected Directors at Large receiving the highest number of votes, the Past President and six appointed Standing Committee Chairs will constitute the Chapter's new Board of Directors. The Board carries out the policies and business of the Chapter and its newly elected officers shall be installed and assume their duties at the February meeting.

The President and candidates receiving the highest number of Delegate votes become the Chapter's Delegates to RPEA's General Assembly. They must attend all General Assembly meetings and will also vote on the Business of General Assembly when in session. It is Chapter 4's policy to take the next two candidates with the highest number of votes to General Assembly as Alternate Delegates at Chapter expense.

If you are interested in being a candidate for any Chapter Officer position or a Director at Large and/or a Delegate to General Assembly, be sure to so indicate by a (X) on the following Consent Form. Your completed Consent Form must be received by the deadline noted.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the February 12th meeting.

Note: California State Retirees has recently changed its Governing Rules. They now state that to remain a Member in Good Standing a member may not be "simultaneously holding a CSR office and an office within a competing organization". According to Tim Behrens, President of CSR, RPEA is a competing organization. If any of our members hold an office in CSR and wish to run for a position within our Chapter, they may need to resign their position in CSR if they do not want to jeopardize their standing in CSR. Those who have benefits such as vision or dental insurance that they obtained as a member of CSR could lose those benefits if they are deemed a member not in good standing.

~~~~~ CONSENT FORM

I am consenting to run for the following Chapter 4 office(s). This form must be submitted to the chair of the nominating committee prior to the close of Chapter nominations.

President _____

Director at Large _____

Vice President _____

Treasurer _____

Delegate to General Assembly _____

Secretary _____

I will serve if elected to the office(s) above.

PRINT NAME: _____

SIGN NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

Send your consent form to Nominating Committee Chair: Marie Reed, 6796 Pocket Road, Sacramento, CA 95831 by January 8, 2020 to expedite preparation of ballots for the February elections.

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LUNCHEON POLICY

Chapter 004 holds its meetings at Casa Garden Restaurant on the second Wednesday of each month. General membership meetings are held during even numbered months, while Board meetings are held during odd numbered months. Our contract with Casa Garden requires a minimum of 50 lunches be purchased for general membership meetings and 17 lunches for Board meetings. Because the total number of Board members, Directors at Large and Committee Chairs is less than 17, we urge

interested members to attend the Board meeting as well as the general membership meeting. The nominal cost to members is \$5 and \$10 for guests per meeting.

Reservations for attendance at meetings with choice of meal must be given to the Reservation Chairperson no later than the Friday before the meeting.



www.rpea.com

Retired Public Employees' Assn. Chapter 004
P O Box 188235
Sacramento, CA 95818-8235

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JOIN US AT A MEETING

NEED TRANSPORTATION?

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

I COULD HAVE BEEN AN E-MAIL!

Save your Chapter mailing costs and receive me in color!
Contact marie.reed@comcast.net

2018-20 CHAPTER 004

OFFICERS

President Roxanne Woodward rwoodward55@comcast.net	(916) 388-0230
Vice President Randall Cheek rcheek1947@att.net	(916) 541-8988
Past President Marie Reed marie.reed@comcast.net	(916) 428-2090
Secretary Marie Reed marie.reed@comcast.net	(916) 428-2090
Treasurer Bobbi Smith smithbcat@hotmail.com	(916) 852-8736
Area VII Director Ken Brown moosenmarno@comcast.net	(530) 647-2168
Asst. Area VII Director C.T. Weber ctwebervoters@att.net	(916) 320-9186

NOTICE!!

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

RPEA Headquarters

300 T Street

Sacramento, CA 95811-6912

or (916) 441-7732

2018-20 Chapter 004

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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Legislation Randall Cheek rcheek1947@att.net	(916) 541-8988
Membership Pat Fuller pfuller1946@yahoo.com	(916) 688-1248
Program Director Diane Buffington diane-buffington@att.net	(916) 452-9097
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Sunshine Lucy Gutierrez	(916) 213-8719