



# RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION CHAPTER 35

April, May June

Spring 2023

## CHAPTER 35 MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17th

*(Note change to 3rd Wednesday)*

12:00 NOON

Vallejo Moose Lodge  
337 Nebraska Street, Vallejo

### AGENDA:

12:00 - 12:45 Buffet Luncheon  
12:45 Guest Speaker Michelle Saccoccio  
Solano County Social Services Supervisor  
Topic: Senior Scam Awareness  
130 to 2:00 Chapter Business Meeting

Buffet includes Sliders, salads  
Desserts, tea and coffee

New caterer. Help available for those in  
need at serving line

Cost to members \$10.00, Guests \$18.00

Please RSVP to:  
Rachel 510 501-2104  
no later than **May 10th**

*Join us for lunch and bring a friend*



## CHAPTER OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS 2023

### Officers:

President & Assistant Area 1 Director:  
Rachel Maldonado Aziminia 510 501-2104  
Vice-President OPEN  
Jr. Past President: Dorothy Hayes 707 648-3212  
Secretary: Sylvia Amen 707 319-8794  
Treasurer: Pat McCarthy 707 643-1157  
Asst. Treasurer: OPEN

### Directors:

Finance: OPEN  
Communications: Mary Cecchini 707 644-0321  
Health & Welfare: OPEN  
Membership: Marlies Lenigk 707 642-7985  
Legislative: OPEN  
Newsletter Editor: Lotte Sather 707 374-1384

**Area 1 Director** Susan Tamboury 707 623-7996

## SUNSHINE—HEALTH AND WELLNESS

We need of a member to handle sending cards to our members who are ill or have lost family members or to member's families in the event of loss. If you can volunteer to fill this position, please contact President Rachel.

If you know of a member who needs a card, please contact President Rachel, so a card can be sent from Chapter 35.

## NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

If you would like to receive your Chapter 35 newsletters by email, please send an email, including your name, to Editor Lotte at [rgransather@aol.com](mailto:rgransather@aol.com).

## MINUTES

### RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION – CHAPTER 35

The quarterly meeting of Chapter 035 of the Retired Public Employees' Association was held on **February 8, 2023**, at the Vallejo Moose Lodge.

The meeting was called to order by President Elect Rachel Maldonado Aziminia at 12:21 p.m. Twenty-two members and guests were present. All Officers and Directors were present except for our Legislative Director Robert Sather, who recently passed away.

Our President Elect led the Pledge of Allegiance and then welcomed RPEA President Rosemary Knox, RPEA Office Manager Corey Saeteurn, RPEA IT Technician Alyssa Rios, and new members Odessa Pinnoch and Greg Marro along with his guest, Rosalynn Hannon.

RPEA President Rosemary Knox installed the Chapter Officers for the next two years as follows: President, Rachel Maldonado Aziminia; Secretary, Sylvia Amen; Treasurer, Patricia McCarthy; Membership Director, Marlies Lenigk; and Communications Director, Mary Cecchini.

While we enjoyed our dessert, President Rachel Maldonado Aziminia wished a Happy Birthday to Mary Cecchini, who recently turned 90 years old.

Our guest speakers, Corey Saeteurn and Alyssa Rios gave a presentation on how to use our iPhone and Android Smartphones. They spoke about how to keep our personal information safe and how to use some of the many tools that our Smartphones have to offer. They gave one-on-one assistance to many of the members on how to perform different functions on their specific phone.

President Rachel Maldonado Aziminia reported that she had met with the new Administrator of the Moose Lodge, Dennis Bartlett, to make arrangements for our Chapter meetings. Long time Moose Lodge member, Mary Cecchini, attended the meeting with her.

At General Assembly last year Rachel attended the RPEA By-Laws Committee Meeting. They recommended that our Chapter By-Laws be kept up-to-date. She set up a committee and met with committee member Sylvia Amen to go over our By-Laws and make recommendations for changes. It has been 6 years since any changes had been made. The committee is attempting to simplify the By-Laws and give the chapter more flexibility using the guidelines set by RPEA. After our chapter Board has discussed the changes, a copy will be emailed to the members. She hopes to have hard copies of the proposed Revised By-Laws to hand out at our August meeting.

The minutes of the November 9, 2022, Quarterly Meeting were approved as posted in the Newsletter.

Treasurer Patricia McCarthy reported that our beginning balance for this past quarter was \$25,962.83. We had income of \$1,451.60 and expenses of \$1,219.65, leaving an ending balance as of January 31, 2023, of \$26,194.78.

Membership Director Marlies Lenigk reported that we currently have 504 members.

Communications Director Mary Cecchini had nothing to report. She had tried to get an article in the Vallejo paper with no luck. A notice did appear in the Rio Vista paper.

Old Business: None  
New Business: None

The next Quarterly Meeting will be on **May 10, 2023**. (*Note change of date to May 17 page 1 of this newsletter.*)

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Lunch raffle winners: Rachel Maldonado Aziminia, Carolyn Boyden, Patricia McCarthy, and Mary Cecchini.

SYLVIA AMEN, Secretary



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is my first message as President of the Solano/Napa Chapter 35. So I thought that I would give a brief introduction. After 29.5 years and with the offer of a golden handshake, I retired from Chabot College in 2009. When I retired, I was the coordinator/counselor of the EOPS/CARE/CalWORKs programs. I enjoyed my work, but the golden handshake influenced my decision to retire. In addition, I thought that it was time for a younger generation to be given the opportunity to start a career as a counselor. But I still can't believe that I have been retired 13 years!

COVID-19 has definitely changed how we come together as members of organizations, but I hope you will consider attending the next quarterly meeting on May 17. Our speaker is Michelle Saccoccio, Solano County Social Services Supervisor. Her presentation is on senior scam prevention and education.

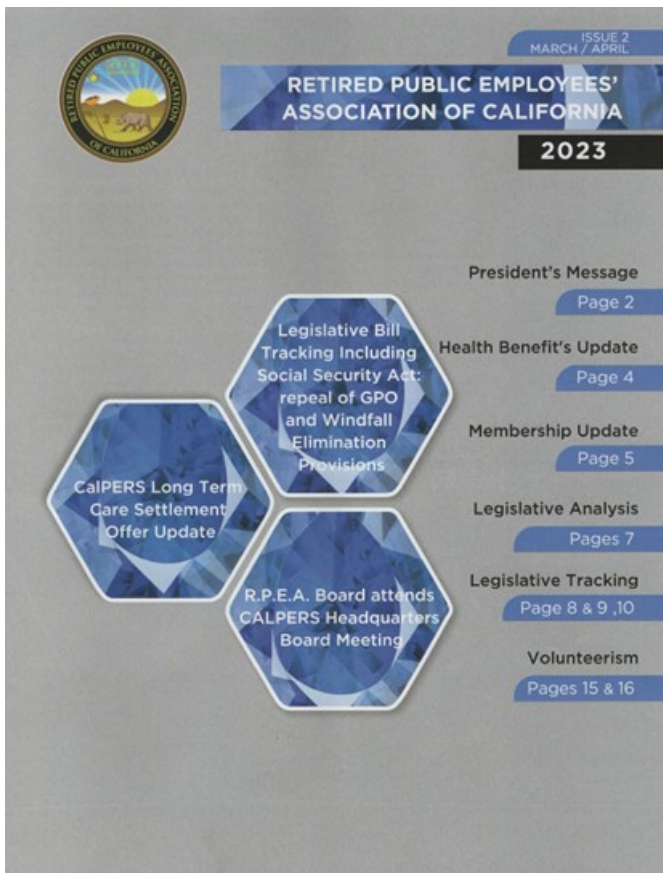
In this newsletter, Loran Vetter, RPEA Community Involvement Chair, writes about volunteering. I hope you will read her article and let her know of your volunteer hours. I believe that many of you volunteer without any fanfare because as former public employees that is what we do.

Our chapter board is looking for three additional members to serve on the board: Vice President, Legislation Director and Health and Wellness Director. We hope you will consider volunteering for one of these positions. If you are, please contact me at my email address listed below.

Lastly, if you have any ideas that you would like to share or have any questions about the RPEA, please contact me at [rmaziminia@aol.com](mailto:rmaziminia@aol.com). I and the board welcome feedback and suggestions from our members.

Hope to see you on May 17!

Rachel Maldonado Aziminia  
President, Solano Chapter 3



## RPEA BI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION

The RPEA publication, pictured to the left, should have been in your mailbox a few weeks ago. It is full of information about the status of CalPERS, our Legislative lobbyists, and action by our RPEA Board. You should read it and be informed.

If you have questions, you can go to headquarters website at [WWW.RPEA.COM](http://WWW.RPEA.COM), send email to [RPEAHQ@RPEA.COM](mailto:RPEAHQ@RPEA.COM) or Call 800 443-7732

There is also information on insurances and benefits available though AMBIA, who are working with RPEA. They can be reached at 877-556-4582

### REMINDER:

If you move or cancel that P.O. Box, please contact RPEA headquarters to change your address. RPEA needs to be notified, so you continue to receive important information, publications, and newsletters.



**The ABC's of Volunteering  
(also known as 'WIFM' – what's in it for me)**

**Loran Vetter**

**Chair, ad hoc Chapter Community Involvement Committee**

I would like to start with Erma Bombeck's quote about volunteers: ***"Volunteers are the only human beings on the face of the earth who reflect this nation's compassion, unselfish caring, patience, and just plain loving one another."***

When you read that statement, it makes you feel all warm and fuzzy inside. As a Volunteer, you are doing great things for your community and ultimately for yourself. Your community profits and you are proud of your part in making that happen. That is as it should be, but that is not the only reason to volunteer in your community. Your hours have a value.

RPEA is a private non-profit organization. As such, all of your board members, area directors, and officers (both local and Executive) are volunteers. Those volunteer efforts are what keep RPEA alive and vital. It is true we receive membership dues, but without our volunteering members, RPEA would not survive. We need RPEA to secure our pensions and benefits for ourselves and those who follow us. RPEA has always led the way in fighting to protect our pensions. Unfortunately, it is an uphill battle. For over 30 years, we have been portrayed by conservative media, conservative think tank authors and legislators as a drain on the State of California. They portray Public Employment Retirees as lazy people who did not earn their Pensions. They have been successful in minimizing our contributions to this great state. They see our pension funds as a source of income and a way to balance a budget that they do not control.

With our volunteer efforts, we can start planting the seeds to change public opinion. We earned our retirement and we continue to make contributions to the State via volunteering. We need to educate the public to see what a bonus we are to the well-being and the comfort of their daily lives.

P.S. The Community Participation form is on the website under Volunteering at RPEA.com.

(Editor's Note: If you do not have a computer, you can use the form below and mail it to headquarters at the address on the bottom of the form.)



## RPEA-CA Gives Back

Volunteer organizations include (but not limited to): Hospitals, Law Enforcement, Churches, Unpaid Caregiving, Community Services, Meals on Wheels, Elks, etc.

Name of Volunteer: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

Area: \_\_\_\_\_

State Residing: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Organization Volunteered:

Hours Donated:      Frequency:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Annually
- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Annually
- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Annually
- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Annually

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Rev. 10/18/21

Please send your completed forms to RPEA Headquarters, 300 T Street, Sacramento, CA 95811.