

# RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

February,  
March and  
April, 2020

## ORANGE COUNTY

RPEA CHAPTER 040

ESTABLISHED JULY 31, 1972



### OUR NEXT MEETING

WED, March 11, 2019 @ 11 AM



#### Daniel A. Sánchez

District Manager – Southern California of the Association Member Benefits and Insurance Agency will address:

- AMBIA (Association Members Benefits and Insurance Agency)
- MASA (medical Air Services Association)

### The Prez Sez

It is with great sadness to report the passing of our longtime chapter 40 member, Frank Hicks. Frank made his transition on January 29, 2020. A dedicated member of our chapter and devoted husband of our chapter inspirational chair Evelyn Hicks. He will be sorely missed by all.

Let me thank all of you who make the effort to attend our general meetings. Your support, participation and input help sustain our hard-earned retirement benefits. My personal thanks to chapter members Estela Merkosky, Mercedes Smith, John Jago, Viola Sadler, Evelyn Hicks, Bill Todd, Bea and Ken North and Jerry and Jerri O'Keefe. You all deserve special recognition for the work that you do for our chapter, again, thank you all.

Your Board met on January 8, 2020, 11:00 AM at the Hometown buffet. A review of chapter business and activities shows chapter 40 had a very successful year in 2019. Our membership maintained a steady 540+ give or take. We provided guest speakers on issues of importance to our members. Chapter membership recruiting efforts continue with new and innovative strategies.

It is now time for election of Chapter officers and the positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary are open. Anyone interested please contact the committee chair Estela Merkosky.

RPEA Board of Directors will meet April 27-28 at the Doubletree Hotel Anaheim/Orange County, 100 The City Drive, Orange, CA 92868. A great opportunity for our chapter members to attend.

The General Assembly (GA) for 2020 will be held in Sacramento, CA. The dates for the General Assembly are September 20 through 24, 2020. Anyone interested in attending this year's GA may contact any Board member for more details.

Our next General Meeting scheduled for March 11, 2020, will have Danny Sanchez, the AMBIA district manager, as our guest speaker. There will be a short Q&A following his presentation. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend. You may bring a new member or a guest. Lunch is on us.

*Ivory Webb*, Chapter President.

### *In Memoriam*

**Frank Philip Hicks -**  
Dec 9, 1927~Jan 29, 2020.

"You fought a hard fight.  
You tried your best.  
But your time has come  
For you to rest."  
—written by Evelyn Hicks

**RPEA Mission: 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 retirement and medical benefits.**

## MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING RPEA Chapter 040, December 11, 2019

Members enjoyed lunch beginning at 11:00 am before the meeting began, at the HomeTown Buffet in Santa Ana, compliments of Chapter 040.

The regular quarterly meeting of RPEA Chapter 040 was called to order by President Ivory Webb at 12:05 pm. Treasurer John Jago led the members in pledging allegiance to the flag of the United States of America. Inspiration and Sunshine Chair Evelyn Hicks read a poem entitled "Love is Always with You".

In attendance were Kelli Morris (featured speaker), Area VIII Director Kathleen Collins and her husband Phil, AMBIA representatives Daniel Sanchez and Jason Koch, and new member Karen Hight. A total of 32 attended this meeting.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the board meeting of October 9, 2019, were read by Secretary Mercedes Smith. Ken North moved to accept the minutes as read. MSP.

**Treasurer's Report:** John Jago gave the treasurer's report. Viola Sadler moved to accept the report as presented. MSP. Since the last general meeting, John called about 30 more members to remind them of this meeting, but not one of them attended.

**Membership:** Chair Bill Todd reported the number of members is 553. Bea North placed an ad in the December 4, 2019, edition of the Orange County *Register* inviting all RPEA members to attend this meeting. There were no attendees at the meeting in response to the ad.

**Guest Speaker:** Viola Sadler introduced Kelli Morris who is the Director of the Council on Aging – Southern California's Senior Protection Program and Financial Abuse Specialist Team. Her organization is 77% government funded and serves over 290,000 seniors. She provided handouts that explain common scams as well as various programs available to the over 400,000

older adults in Orange County. Financial abuse of seniors is very prevalent as seniors tend to be lonely and trusting. It is under-reported as family members are involved in the majority of cases. She emphasized that it should be reported.



A certificate of appreciation was presented to Ms. Morris by President Ivory Webb and Vice-President Estela Merkosky.

**Old Business:** Quite a few items were collected for the Friends Outside program and will be delivered to a St. Vincent de Paul Society location by John and Pauline Jago.

During lunch recorded Christmas music was played and after the business portion of the meeting, member Lorne Merkosky entertained us with his guitar and a sing-a-long of Christmas songs. Drawings were then held for many items, including gift cards, flannel throws, mixed nuts, popcorn, watches, slipper sox, and poinsettias. Each member and guest received at least 2 gifts. A big thank you goes to the committee and to those who did all the shopping.

The next board meeting will be Wednesday, January 8, 2020, and the next general meeting will be March 11, 2020 at 11:00 am at the HomeTown Buffet in Santa Ana. The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 pm.

*Mercedes Smith*, Secretary



**Protect Yourself from  
Social Security Scams**

Scammers are pretending to be government employees. Scammers will try to scare you and trick you into giving them your personal information and money. They may threaten you or your family and may demand immediate payment to avoid arrest or other legal action.

**DON'T BE FOOLED! IF YOU RECEIVE A SUSPICIOUS CALL:**

1. Hang up!
2. DO NOT give them money or personal information!
3. Report the scam at [OIG.SSA.GOV!](https://www.oig.ssa.gov)

## MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING RPEA CHAPTER 040, January 8, 2019

Members enjoyed lunch beginning at 11:00 am before the meeting at HomeTown Buffet in Santa Ana, compliments of Chapter 040.

The board meeting of RPEA Chapter 040 was called to order by President Ivory Webb at 12:00 pm. Present were: Ivory Webb, John & Pauline Jago, Lorne & Estela Merkosky, Daisy Vuksanovich, and Mercedes Smith.

The pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Ivory Webb.

Inspiration Chair Evelyn Hicks was unable to attend. Prayers were offered for Viola Sadler, Frank Hicks, and Bea North who are battling health issues.

**Minutes:** Secretary Mercedes Smith read the minutes of the December 11, 2019, general meeting. Daisy Vuksanovich moved to accept the minutes as read. MSP.

**Treasurer's Report:** John Jago gave the treasurer's report. There were 551 paid members. Estela Merkosky moved to accept the report as presented. MSP. A copy is attached. John will call about 30 more members to remind them of the March general meeting.

**Old Business:** The items collected for the Friends Outside program at the December 2019 meeting were delivered to a St. Vincent de Paul location by John and Pauline Jago. Area Director Kathleen Collins advised Vice-President Estela Merkosky that the Golden Future 50+ Senior Expo was well attended.

Secretary Mercedes Smith moved that Bea North submit ads to the Orange County Register for the general meetings of March 11, 2020, and

June 10, 2020. MSP. As Bea was unable to attend this meeting, Mercedes will let her know.

**New Business:** The board continues to look for speakers for the 2020 general meetings. Viola Sadler advised via e-mail (as she was unable to attend this meeting) that an AMBIA representative will speak at the March 11, 2020, general meeting. The board recommends that Kelli Morris, the speaker from the December 11, 2019, general meeting, be asked to speak again at another meeting.

On April 27-28, 2020, the RPEA Board of Directors will be meeting in Orange County. More information will follow.

General Assembly will be in Sacramento from September 20 to 24, 2020. Delegates and alternates are needed. More information will be provided by Headquarters.

The terms of the current Chapter 040 board members expire in December 2020. Members are asked to provide nominations for new board members as a slate should be presented at the September 2020 general meeting. The Election will be in December.

The next general meeting is Wednesday, March 11, 2020, at HomeTown Buffet in Santa Ana. The next board meeting is Wednesday, April 8, 2020, at the HomeTown Buffet in Santa Ana.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm.

*Mercedes Smith*, Secretary

## HUMOR

A little boy visits his farmer grandpa and watches him milk the cows. The next day one of the cows runs away and grandpa is really upset about it.

"Don't worry, Grandpa," says the boy helpfully, "she can't have gone very far with an empty tank."





**RPEA ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER 040**  
**P.O. BOX 304**  
**ANAHEIM, CA 92815**

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Go to [www.rpea.com](http://www.rpea.com)



**Chapter general and board meetings** start with lunch at HomeTown Buffet, 1008 E 17th St, Santa Ana at 11:00 am.

**General Meetings**

June 10, 2020  
September 9, 2020  
December 9, 2020

**Board Meetings**

April 8, 2020  
July 8, 2020  
October 14, 2020

**April 27-28, 2020:** RPEA Board of Directors Meeting, Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, 100 The City Drive, Orange, CA 92868.

**September 20-24, 2020:** RPEA General Assembly 2020, Hilton Arden West Hotel, 2200 Harvard St, Sacramento, CA 95815. This is the biennial meeting of the Association where business is conducted and attendees have an opportunity to meet members from other chapters.

**ELECTRONIC  
NEWSLETTER**

Contact your newsletter editor at [vrsadler@aol.com](mailto:vrsadler@aol.com) to get the newsletter electronically. Be certain to put Viola's email address in your contact list.

**ALSO**, don't forget to update your email address and any other changes with RPEA headquarters at [teenastone@rpea.com](mailto:teenastone@rpea.com) or phone 800-443-7732. Thank you.

Have you checked the RPEA website lately? Try it: [rpea.com](http://rpea.com).

**CHAPTER OFFICERS:**

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**Secretary: Mercedes Smith**

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**Treasurer: John Jago**

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Evelyn Hicks, 714-542-4313

**At-Large Board Members:**

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**Lorne Merkosky**, 714-345-9523

**Past President: Jerry O'Keefe**

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**Past President:**

**Daisy Vuksanovich**, 714-535-8991

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