

RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

ORANGE COUNTY

May,
June,
July, 2019

RPEA CHAPTER 040

ESTABLISHED JULY 31, 1972



The Prez Sez

Since our last edition, a lot has taken place, some good and some not so good. First, the not so good. At our March general meeting we experienced extremely low attendance, only 19 of you were in attendance. I cannot stress too much how important your attendance is to the success and viability of our chapter. It's a cliché but true, "there is strength in numbers."

On the good side, let me mention the incredible job your Chapter Board of Directors are doing. Vice president and Assistant Area Director Estela Merkosky is always ready to step up and make Chapter 040 a distinguished chapter. Newsletter editor Viola Sadler recently received a well-deserved award for her outstanding work with our newsletter. Secretary Mercedes Smith always does an excellent job with the chapter minutes, and Treasurer John Jago's reports are timely and on target. Sunshine chair Evelyn Hicks always presents something inspirational for our meetings. Membership chair Bill Todd keeps our numbers accurate. Members Bea and Ken North, Daisy Vuksanovich, Jerry and Jerri O'Keefe are always supportive. You all deserve recognition for all that you do for our chapter. Thank you.

CalPERS Benefit Education event will be at the Hilton Orange County, 3050 Bristol Street, Costa Mesa, August 9 & 10, 2019.

The 8th Annual Golden Future 50+ Expo Orange County Edition is scheduled for Saturday, November 2, 10 AM to 2:30 PM at Angel Stadium Anaheim. Chapter 40 will have a booth. Volunteers for Chapter 040's booth are needed. Please contact Vice President Estela Merkosky if you are available. Attendance and parking ARE free.

Sergeant Perez will be our guest speaker for our June 12th General meeting. All Chapter members and public agency members are invited to attend. A short Q&A will follow the presentation. Lunch is on us.

Ivory Webb, President



Jason Perez, a sergeant for the Corona Police Department and president of his police officer association is the newly elected member of the CalPERS Board of Administration.

He represents the active public agency members. Public agency members include members employed by cities, counties, and special districts. Sergeant Perez has been a CalPERS member for more than 18 years, and this will be his first term on the Board.

This is the right time to meet and greet Jason Perez as well as having the opportunity to ask questions to update us on CalPERS. Join us.

HomeTown Buffet, 1008 E 17th St, Santa Ana, CA at 11:00 am. on JUNE 12, 2019.



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, March 13, 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. Membership Chair Bill Todd led the members in pledging allegiance to the flag of the United States of America. Inspiration and Sunshine Chair Evelyn Hicks was unable to attend. Area VIII Director Kathleen Collins was present.

Minutes: The minutes of the general meeting of December 12, 2018, and the board meeting of January 9, 2019, were read by Secretary Mercedes Smith. Estela Pena Merkosky moved to accept the general minutes as read. MSP. Viola Sadler moved to accept the board minutes as read. MSP.

Guest Speaker: Viola Sadler introduced Lorenzo Rios, RPEA Director of Public Relations. He is new to the board and is a member of the Long Beach chapter. He is the editor of the newsletter which is sent out by headquarters. He wants to know what he can do to promote chapters and show a positive image. He would like to spotlight a different chapter in each issue of the newsletter and show how chapters can help their communities.



Treasurer's Report: Treasurer John Jago reported that as of February 28, 2019, the ending balance in the checking account was \$6,944.84

with a total of \$17,190.41 in all accounts. There were 548 paid members. Mercedes Smith moved to accept report as presented. MSP. A copy of the report is attached.

Membership: Bill Todd concurred that the actual paid membership number is 548.

Old Business: Members were again asked if they had any ideas for speakers for upcoming general meetings. There were no suggestions at this time. AD Kathleen Collins reminded us that the updated policies, especially regarding each chapter's use of funds, would be forthcoming.

New Business: AD Collins mentioned that no more donations are needed for the building fund and in May retirees will receive a 2 percent COLA. She also provided copies of an e-mail which she sent out recently with information from the first RPEA Headquarters meeting of 2019. Included was confirmation that Margaret Brown is now Assistant Director for Area VIII, Director of Membership Bill Wallace has taken a leave of absence and has been replaced by David Soares, the headquarters building is being painted, and the current newsletter highlights Area VIII.

The next board meeting will be Wednesday, April 10, 2019, at 11:00 am at the HomeTown Buffet in Santa Ana. The next general meeting will be Wednesday, June 12, 2019, at the HomeTown Buffet in Santa Ana.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 pm.

Mercedes Smith, Secretary



Social Security Warns Public About Scam

The Social Security Advisory Board has reported scam phone calls displaying the board's phone number on caller ID. The callers are reportedly attempting to obtain personal information, including Social Security numbers. If you receive this type of call, you should not engage with the caller or provide personal information or money.

If you receive a suspicious call, you may report that information online at <https://oig.ssa.gov/report> or by calling (800) 269-0271, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Eastern Time. You can also report these scams to the Federal Trade Commission through a new site specific to Social Security scams: <https://identitytheft.gov/ssa>.

GUEST SPEAKERS WANTED

- Do you know of some good speakers to invite to present at our general meetings?
- If you know someone who is knowledgeable on subjects that would be of interest to our members, we would greatly appreciate hearing from you.
- Please contact any of our Board members.



**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
RPEA CHAPTER 040—April 10, 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 Vice-President Estela Merkosky at 11:55 am. President Ivory Webb was unable to attend. Present were: Estela Merkosky, John Jago, Viola & Chuck Sadler, Frank & Evelyn Hicks, Daisy Vuksanovich, Bea North, Mercedes Smith, and Jerry & Jeri O'Keefe.

The pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Jerry O'Keefe.

Inspiration Chair Evelyn Hicks read humorous quotes from various church bulletins.

Minutes: Secretary Mercedes Smith read the minutes of the March 13, 2019, general meeting. Under New Business it should read that the current newsletter highlights "Chapter 1" instead of "Area VIII". Evelyn Hicks moved to accept the minutes as corrected. MSP.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer John Jago reported that as of March 31, 2019, the balance in the chapter checking account was \$6,435.13 with a total balance in all accounts of \$16,690.20. The annual postage permit renewal was \$235.00 and printing and postage for the newsletter was \$559.03. There were 548 paid members. Evelyn Hicks moved to accept the report as presented. MSP. A copy is attached.

Membership: Chair Bill Todd was unable to attend. Viola Sadler will research sending out letters to prospective members. Rewarding current members for bringing in new members was discussed with possibly paying for current members' annual dues. It was agreed that Bill Todd should be part of any discussion regarding recruitment. Perhaps Chapter 040 could pay for a newspaper ad or possibly e-mail meeting

information to the paper. John Jago volunteered to call a few current members and invite them to attend the next general meeting. He will report on his findings at the June meeting. There were 19 attendees at the March 13, 2019 general meeting.

Old Business: Sgt. Jason Perez is the speaker for the June general meeting. He is a CalPERS board member and works for Corona Police Department. Estela Merkosky will contact AD Collins for a list of speakers. If anyone knows of an RPEA member who was a victim of the recent wildfires, let RPEA know and they will pay the membership for that person.

New Business: On June 2 and 3, 2019, Vice President Estela Merkosky will attend the quarterly RPEA directors' meeting in Sacramento in place of AD Collins who is unable to attend. On August 9 and 10, 2019, there is a CalPERS meeting in Costa Mesa at the Hilton on Bristol. On November 2, 2019, The Golden Future 50 Senior Expo will be held and Estela will contact AD Collins to let her know that Chapter 040 is willing to assist her with the RPEA booth.

We will try having a "greeter" at meetings who will give members an opportunity ticket and have them fill out a name tag as they enter the restaurant. Bea North volunteered to try this at the June meeting. At the December 2019 meeting Chapter 040 would like to present a certificate of appreciation to the manager of the HomeTown Buffet.

The next general meeting is Wednesday, June 12, 2019, at HomeTown Buffet in Santa Ana. The next board meeting is Wednesday, July 10, 2019, at the HomeTown Buffet in Santa Ana.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm.

Mercedes Smith, Secretary



MORE CALPERS NEWS

CalPERS is conducting one election this fall for the retired member representative seat on the CalPERS Board of Administration. Ballots will be mailed August 30 and votes must be received by September 30. Only retired CalPERS members will be able to vote online, by phone, or by mail.

The candidates for the retired member position are **Joseph (JJ) Jelincic** and **Henry Jones (incumbent)**.

A public random drawing will determine the order of the names on the ballot. The drawing will be held on June 4 at 9:00 a.m. at CalPERS Headquarters, Lincoln Plaza North, 400 Q Street, Room 1160, Sacramento, CA.

Information on the upcoming board election and resources for members and candidates are at:

<https://www.calpers.ca.gov/page/about/board/board-elections>



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Don't forget to
check out the
RPEA website
www.rpea.com



CALENDAR

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

June 12, 2019: Chapter General

July 10, 2019: Chapter Board

Sept 11, 2019: Chapter General

Oct 9, 2019: Chapter Board

Dec 11, 2019: Chapter General

August 9-10, 2019: CalPERS Benefit Education, Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa, 3050 Bristol Street, Costa Mesa, CA

November 2, 2019: The 8th Annual Golden Future 50+ Expo Orange County Edition, 10 AM to 2:30 PM, Angel Stadium Anaheim. Chapter 40 will have a booth.

September 20-24, 2020: General Assembly will be held in Sacramento at the Arden Fair Hilton.

ELECTRONIC MAIL @@

You can receive this Chapter newsletters via email by giving your email address to the newsletter editor at vrsadler@aol.com. Be certain to put Viola's email address in your contact list.

You may also stay with the printed version sent by regular mail.

ALSO, don't forget to update your email address and any other changes with RPEA headquarters at tanya@rpea.com or phone 800-443-7732. Thank you

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