

# RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

February,  
March  
and April,  
2019

## ORANGE COUNTY

**RPEA CHAPTER 040**

**ESTABLISHED JULY 31, 1972**



### The Prez Sez

Hello chapter 40 members,  
I trust all is well and you have weathered the many storms that we have experienced so far this year. Jeez it's been wet!

As we begin 2019 let me first express my sincere appreciation for the fine work your board has done and continues to do on your behalf. I encourage YOU to get involved and be a part of the important work of our chapter and the State Board in protecting public employee retirement.

The first Board meeting of the of 2019 was held January 9, 11:00 am at the HomeTown Buffet, Santa Ana. The board outlined plans to continue to provide informative and interesting guest speakers on topics of Interest to our membership. A review of our chapter as we begin 2019 shows our membership at 547 and our financial health is sound.

We had an exceptionally successful December general meeting with shared gifts for all in attendance. Chapter members made a donation of gifts to the Saint Vincent de Paul charities for needy children.

And we welcome Margaret Brown who RPEA elected to the Board of CalPERS. as a new Assistant Area Director for Area VIII.

**I look forward to seeing you at the General Meeting on March 13, 11:00 am at the HomeTown Buffet Santa Ana, and bring a guest and or prospective member.**

**Lunch is on us.**

Ivory Webb, President

### Notes from the RPEA Board meeting February 11-13, 2019

Margaret Brown has now been confirmed as an Assistant Area Director for Area VIII.

Area VIII lost Mary Helvie as our Assistant Area Director due to a health scare. It is a great loss and Mary is irreplaceable! We still need someone from the San Diego Area. If you know someone who would be a good assistant area director please let me know.

Director of Legislation Randy Cheek is looking for a new classified school employee member to fill the duties Mary resigned from as well. If you have someone in mind please let Tanya or Randy know.

The Director of Membership Bill Wallace requested a leave of absence due to health reasons. The President of RPEA appointed David Soares and the board confirmed him. David Soares can be reached at [davidsoares@pacbell.net](mailto:davidsoares@pacbell.net) or phone at 831-419-4415.

RPEA may have a cruise to Mexico on Princess Cruises. If you are interested, it is the October 26, 2019 Mexican Rivera Cruise. It leaves from San Pedro to Mazatlan, Cabo San Lucas, Puerto Vallarta and then back to San Pedro. RPEA is working with the Travel Agent now. More information will be forth coming.

Dues for RPEA members impacted by the recent fires will be waived for a year.

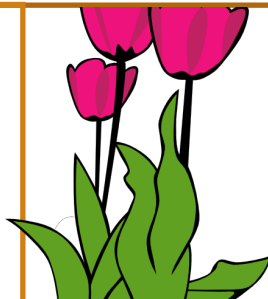
Next Board meeting will be held in Sacramento on May 20 and May 21st. General Assembly will be held in Sacramento at the Arden Fair Hilton on September 20th-24th 2020.

Also, please look at page 13 in the recent newsletter as it hi-lights our Area.

Kathleen Collins  
RPEA Area Director VIII

### Welcome Our New Members

Gloria Banks - Placentia  
Erlinda Compton - Orange  
Angelo Morgan - Santa Ana  
William O'Brien - Anaheim  
Hedwig Voigt - Irvine  
Johnny Zuniga - Santa Ana



**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 12, 2018

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 11:55 am. 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 which she wrote in 1971 titled *Music*. In attendance were CalPERS board member Margaret Brown (featured speaker), Area VIII Director Kathleen Collins, and new member Carolyn Ikei.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the general meeting of September 19, 2018, and the minutes of the board meeting of October 10, 2018, were read by Secretary Mercedes Smith. Viola Sadler moved to accept the general meeting minutes. MSP. Evelyn Hicks moved to accept the board meeting minutes. MSP. Area Director Collins advised that in the September 19, 2018, minutes the correct name of the new RPEA Director of Membership is Bill Wallace.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer John Jago reported the balance of our account. There were 542 paid members. According to AD Collins, per RPEA by-laws, all funds should be in a money market account and not invested. She will provide a copy of the updated by-laws as soon as they are available. This will be discussed at the next board meeting. Mercedes Smith moved to accept the report as read. MSP.

**Membership:** Chair Bill Todd reported that the most current number of members is 549 which includes a new associate member.

**Guest Speaker:** Viola Sadler introduced CalPERS board member Margaret Brown who stated that our pensions are safe and that CalPERS is about investments, not politics. Current and new employees can possibly have less retirement due to changes in CalPERS rules. And many have been affected by health care changes. Fiona Ma is the new CA State Treasurer. Jason Perez, a Corona Police Department Sergeant and police association president, is the newest member of the CalPERS board. The new board members (7 out of 13) believe the money is for the benefit of all members and are questioning how money is spent. This is good for transparency, accountability, and returns.

**New Business:** President Webb advised that as an organization we cannot donate to disaster victims (such as the California fire victims). However, individuals can donate.

The slate of officers for the 2019 & 2020 board of RPEA Chapter 040 are: Ivory Webb, President; Estela Pena Merkosky, Vice-President; John Jago, Treasurer; and Mercedes Smith, Secretary. Viola Sadler moved that this slate be accepted by acclamation. MSP. AD Collins installed the new officers.



**Old Business:** Quite a few items were collected for the Friends Outside program. John Jago volunteered to take them to a St. Vincent de Paul location in his area as Jerry O'Keefe was unable to attend this meeting.

After the business portion of the meeting, drawings were held for many items, including gift cards, boxed cookies and candies, slipper sox, and poinsettias. Each member received at least 4 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 9, 2019, at 11:00 am at the HomeTown Buffet in Santa Ana. The next general meeting will be Wednesday, March 13, 2019, at the HomeTown Buffet in Santa Ana.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.

Mercedes Smith, Secretary

### HUMOR



I went to see my doctor again.

He told me, "You have hypochondria."

I said, "Oh no, that as well?"

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING  
RPEA CHAPTER 040—January 9, 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, Viola & Chuck Sadler, Daisy Vuksanovich, Ken & Bea North, Mercedes Smith, Jerry & Jeri O'Keefe.

The pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by John Jago. Inspiration Chair Evelyn Hicks was unable to attend. Viola Sadler spoke for all the board in telling the O'Keefes that it was good to see them after an extended absence.

**Minutes:** Secretary Mercedes Smith read the minutes of the December 12, 2018, general meeting. Viola Sadler moved to accept the minutes as read. MSP.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer John Jago reported the balance of the chapter accounts and that there were 547 paid members. Jerry O'Keefe moved to accept the report as presented. MSP. A copy is attached.

**Membership:** Bill Todd was unable to attend. There was discussion about how to notify prospective members on the list sent to chapter by RPEA Headquarters. It needs to be determined if AMBIA is contacting them or if chapter should send a letter to each person. It

was agreed that Bill Todd should be part of further discussions.

**Old Business:** The items collected at the December 2018 meeting for the Friends Outside program were delivered to a St. Vincent DePaul location by John and Pauline Jago. The Huntington Beach church was very happy to receive the items.

**New Business:** The board continues to look for different speakers for the 2019 general meetings. Viola Sadler will try to contact Jason Perez, the newest CalPERS board member, for the June meeting, and Ivory Webb will contact AMBIA to see if they could provide a speaker for the March meeting.

A review of 2018 showed that it was a busy year with General Assembly, Anaheim Faire, great guest speakers and continuing to find ways to recruit new members. In 2019 recruitment and having more members attend meetings are still priorities, as well as finding interesting guest speakers.

The next general meeting is Wednesday, March 13, 2019, at HomeTown Buffet in Santa Ana. The next board meeting is Wednesday, April 10, 2019, at the HomeTown Buffet in Santa Ana.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.

Mercedes Smith, Secretary



*Margaret Brown (center) accepts certificate of appreciation from our chapter board. L-R: Ivory Webb, president; Bea North, member-at-large; Estela Merkosky, Vice President; Mercedes Smith, Secretary; John Jago, Treasurer; Brown; Viola Sadler, Newsletter Editor; Kathleen Collins, Area VIII Director; Evelyn Hicks, Sunshine and Inspiration; Bill Todd, Membership Chair.*





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

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

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### CALENDAR

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

**March 13, 2019:** Chapter General meeting  
**April 10, 2019:** Chapter 040 Board meeting  
**June 12, 2019:** Chapter General meeting  
**July 10, 2019:** Chapter Board meeting  
**September 11, 2019:** Chapter General meeting  
**October 9, 2019:** Chapter Board meeting  
**December 11, 2019:** Chapter General meeting

### ELECTRONIC MAIL @@

You can receive the Chapter newsletters via email by giving your email address to the newsletter editor at [vrsadler@aol.com](mailto:vrsadler@aol.com). You can also stay with the printed version sent by regular mail. 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 [tanya@rpea.com](mailto:tanya@rpea.com) or phone 800-443-7732. Thank you

### CHAPTER OFFICERS:

**President: Ivory Webb**

714-289-1217; [yleeweb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:yleeweb@sbcglobal.net)

**Vice President: Estela Merkosky**

714-345-9523; [epena915@yahoo.com](mailto:epena915@yahoo.com)

**Secretary: Mercedes Smith**

661-273-4634; [moreheadsmith@yahoo.com](mailto:moreheadsmith@yahoo.com)

**Treasurer: John Jago**

714-965-2947; [golf\\_flowers@yahoo.com](mailto:golf_flowers@yahoo.com)

### COMMITTEES:

**Membership: Bill Todd**

714-335-2509; [wmtod@msn.com](mailto:wmtod@msn.com)

**Inspiration and Sunshine: Evelyn Hicks**

714-542-4313

### At-Large Board Members: Bea & Ken North

714-991-4698

**Past President: Jerry O'Keefe**

714-998-9590; [irishfree1916@aol.com](mailto:irishfree1916@aol.com)

**Past President: Daisy Vuksanovich**

714-535-8991

**Newsletter Editor: Viola Sadler**

714-828-7497; [vrsadler@aol.com](mailto:vrsadler@aol.com)

**Area VIII Director: Kathleen Collins**

562-884-8891;

[kcespresso@hotmail.com](mailto:kcespresso@hotmail.com)

**Assistant Area Director:**

**Estela Merkosky**

714-345-9523; [epena915@yahoo.com](mailto:epena915@yahoo.com)