

# NEWS & VIEWS

## CHAPTER 044



VOLUMN XVIII, ISSUE III – MAY-JUNE, 2019

### GUEST SPEAKER—HENRY JONES, PRESIDENT *CalPERS BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION*

Mr. Jones is the elected representative of retired CalPERS members, serving his third term which will conclude on January 15, 2020. He is a candidate for re-election to a new term, to begin January 16, 2020.



He served as vice-president of the *Board* for three years, prior to being elected as its president in January, 2019. He has stated that serving as President of the *CalPERS Board* today is a high honor and one that he takes seriously. He pledges to do all he can to protect member benefits.

Mr. Jones began his career decades ago as a janitor in the *Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)*. Through hard work and advanced education he became the chief

**See JONES .....Cont. on P-2**

**Past-President's Report** Hi everyone—Now that the *CA Supreme Court* has rendered its verdict in the pension case regarding, “air time”, we must turn our attention to case #S247095—*Alameda County Sheriff's Association, et al vs. the Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association, et al*. As far as we know, a date for hearing oral arguments by the Court has not yet been announced.



The court rendered its decision in the, “air time”, case by holding that the amendment to CA PEPPRA, 2013. abolishing the ability of some public employees to purchase, “air-time”, was lawful, because it was merely a pension-perk given by the

**CalPERS Fund Market Value, 03/19/19, 358.37 Billion; 05/08/19, 360.42 Billion**

**See PAST-PRESIDENT..... Cont. on P-4**

## President's Report –Shirley Wofford



Hello friends—Our trial, incentive plan to increase attendance at the chapter meetings is already at the half-way point for 2019.

At the February 13, 2019 meeting, twelve members earned the automatic credit for a complimentary meal at the next meeting on April 10, 2019. Eight of them were subsequently present to use that credit. Four other members earned a credit at the April 10, meeting to be used for a complimentary meal if they attend the upcoming meeting on June 12, 2019--Mr. Henry Jones of CalPERS will be our guest-speaker.

We had the pleasure of meeting two new members of Chapter 044 at the April 10, meeting—Rebecca Esqueda and James Scott, who each introduced themselves as retirees of the *CA Department of Corrections*. The new *RPEA Director of Public Relations* Lorenzo Rios was also a first-time visitor to our chapter (he will be the guest-speaker at our meeting on October 09, 2019). Welcome to all of you! Please come again!

Every CalPERS retiree eligible to receive a COLA, was scheduled to receive it, effective May 01, 2019. I was able to see the increase to my own monthly benefit in mid-April by logging in to *my | CalPERS*. If you have not yet set up your own account with CalPERS, online, I recommend such. It is easy.

As you CalPERS retirees know, there is an upcoming election for the retired-member representative. CalPERS mailed out the pertinent information, notifying you that, in September, 2019, you will receive a ballot for your vote. I will be voting my ballot. I hope you will respond with your vote too.

The so-called pension reformers are still active—they are not going to be satisfied until they succeed in getting our benefits reduced. We must not let that happen.

**STAY INFORMED! REMAIN VIGILANT!**

**JONES .....Cont. from P-1**  
financial officer of the *Los Angeles Unified School District*--the second largest in the nation. He oversaw LAUSD's \$7 billion annual budget. He also headed the Annuity Reserve Fund Board, overseeing the pension fund for 7,000 teachers and administrators. He retired from the *LAUSD* in 1998.

In addition to his duties as president of the Board, Mr. Jones serves as Chair of the *CalPERS Board Governance Committee* and is a member of the *Finance & Administration, Investment, and Pension & Health Benefits Committees*.

Mr. Jones has been meeting with and listening to *CalPERS* members throughout the state. He says the topic of greatest concern is whether *CalPERS* benefits are safe. He states that he wants to assure the members that their benefits are safe, and the *Board* is taking strong measures to ensure they stay that way.

He says that the key to long-term retirement security lies in our investment strategies. The *Board's* top priority is to earn the best risk-adjusted investment returns possible to pay benefits for current and future retirees. He further states that the *Board* is striving to hit a seven percent rate of return each year and committed to using every available tool to reach that goal.

At our meeting on June 12, 2019, Mr. Jones will talk about these issues and also about the Board's new chief investment officer Ben Meng who has proposed a plan for exploring a new private equity strategy. All attendees will receive a hand-out written by Henry Jones entitled, Your Benefits Are Safe.

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### Mexican Riviera Cruise



If you are interested in joining other RPEA members on this cruise, Oct. 26-Nov. 02, (see March/April, RPEA newsletter, pg. 12) you can add your name to the list by contacting Area V Director Ellie Knapp ASAP at 661-607-2072.

## CHAPTER 044 OFFICERS

<b>Pres./Treas.</b>	Shirley Wofford	(909)986-3160
<b>Vice-Pres.</b>	Alice Alexandre	(909)622-7937
<b>Secretary</b>	Violeta Comia	(909)636-3134
<b>Past-Pres.</b>	Robert L. Seigler	(951)769-4901

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

<b>Hospitality</b>	Martha Borunda-Newman--	(909)971-3635
<b>Legislation</b>	Robert L. Seigler	
<b>Membership</b>	Richard Kurtz	(951)675-6208
<b>Program</b>	Sandie Seigler	(951)769-4901
<b>Publicity/Sunshine</b>	Alice Alexandre	

## Newsletter Editor

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## RPEA Director, Area V

Ellie Knapp - (661)607-2072  
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## RPEA Assist. Director, Area V

Robert "Bob" Seigler - (951)769-4901

## RPEA HEADQUARTERS - 1-800-443-7732

**Change of Address:** Please be sure to notify RPEA Headquarters of such change

## TREASURER'S REPORT--Chapter

044's funding balance

on April 30, 2019, is **\$13,025.32**



## IN MEMORIAM

Charles Hunniford	Rancho Cucamonga
Ervin Ramos	Alta Loma
Frank Visovsky	Claremont



Those we hold most dear never truly  
leave us--they live on in the kind-  
nesses they showed, the comfort  
they shared and the love they  
brought into our lives.

--Isabel Norton



## A WARM WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS OF CHAPTER 044

Ignacio Padilla	Upland
Sheila Granflor	Rancho Cucamonga
Annette Taylor	Chino
James Vandever	Rancho Cucamonga

## Chapter 044 Meetings

2nd Wed. of Even Months - 12 noon

## GOLDEN CORRAL

1640 E. 4<sup>th</sup> St. #A, Ontario

Lunch-Fee Schedule for June 12, 2019:

Member of Chapter #044	\$4.00
Member of Chapter #044 who - attended April 10, 2019, meet- ing and paid a fee of \$4.00	Free
RPEA Member	\$4.00
Non-member of RPEA	\$8.00
Prospective Member (maximum two times)	\$4.00
Chapter Guest	Free

*It would be appreciated if all luncheon attendees  
wait after registration and after the meeting  
has been called to order, before going to the  
dining room.*



A new member of Chapter 044 will receive a free  
meal at their first meeting attended.

## Meeting Dates and Guest Speakers -

June 12, 2019 (Henry Jones, President, *CalPERS-BOA*, Retired-member Representative)

August 14, 2019 (Tressa Thompson, DMV, *Senior Driver Ombudsman*)

October 09, 2019 (Lorenzo Rios, *RPEA Director of Public Relations*)

December 11, 2019 (Holiday Meeting/Party--  
complimentary meal for all attendees; election  
of officers; gifts; community service project)

**April 10 2019, Chapter meeting** - Eighteen attendees  
were present to hear David Allen, *Inland Valley Daily  
Bulletin*, Columnist, talk about his 32-year career in  
the newspaper business and his recent 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Anniversary at the *Daily Bulletin*. He read excerpts  
from his latest book, "On Track", a collection of his  
columns for years 2001-2005. He had copies, for sale,  
of the three books he has authored. (He sold seven.)



L. to R: Richard Cole; Alice Alexandre; Marth Borunda-Newman;  
David Allen; Jo Carey; Rebecca Esqueda

# NEWS & VIEWS

## POMONA VALLEY 044

S. Wofford  
5640 Palo Verde St.  
Montclair, CA 91763



### PAST-PRESIDENT.....Cont. from P-1

Legislature and not a vested right as part of the core pension which is protected by the, "California Rule". The Court, otherwise, chose not to address the, "California Rule".

There is apprehension on all sides, in view of the upcoming case regarding certain spiking issues that were also abolished by an amendment to PEPPRA. The question is: Will the CA Supreme Court again hold the, "California Rule", sacrosanct, or not?

The City Manager of the City of Montclair wrote in a recent weekly report that, regardless of any future outcome from the Supreme Court regarding pensions, benefit changes must first come from the State Legislature modifying state statutes--not by the actions of the individual public employers.

I hope to see you at the meeting at *Golden Corral* on June 12, 2019.

--Bob Seigler

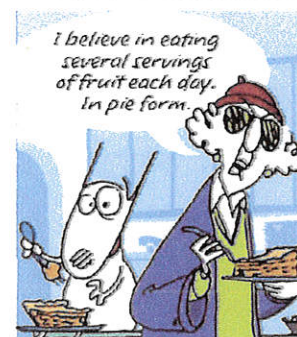
### RPEA CHAPTER 044 MEETING

Wed, June 12, 2019, 12 noon

**GOLDEN CORRAL**  
1640 E. 4<sup>TH</sup> St. #A  
Ontario, CA  
(909)395-0500



If you need a ride to a Chapter meeting and you do not have family/friend support for help with arranging transportation, call the Chapter President at least two days in advance.



at our meetings.

Chapter 044 and other members of RPEA, family members, friends, and anyone else who supports RPEA are all welcome

