



RPEA NEWS AND VIEWS

Retired Public Employees' Association of California
Chapter 048 Hemet – San Jacinto, Area VI

April 2022
Volume 10, Issue 1



We are California public employees who are working together to maintain and improve the quality of our members' lives by protecting and improving our retirement and medical benefits. RPEA members include retirees and their beneficiaries, those public employees who are currently employed, family, friends, and others who share our goals.

We welcome everyone!

INSIDE HIGHLIGHTS

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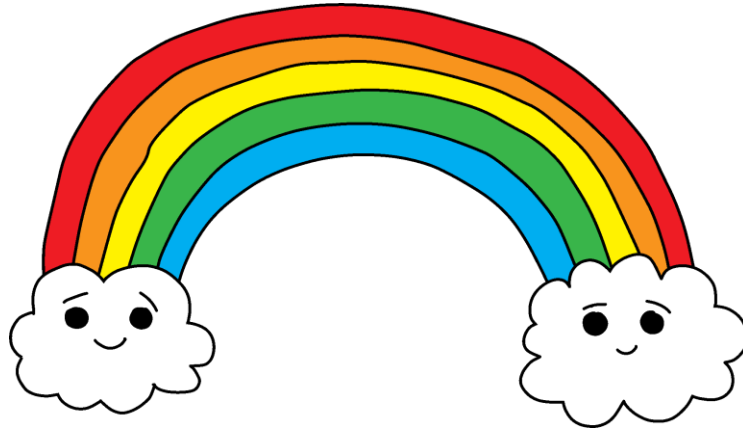
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After looking at the results of a phone poll of Chapter 48 members, it's apparent that people aren't quite ready to resume luncheon meetings. When given a choice, September seems to be the preference for most of us. Hopefully, by that time the El Patron banquet room will again be available to large groups like ours. You will receive a chapter newsletter with details prior to the next meeting. Won't it be great to be together again! **We're looking forward to a "rainbow" after the clouds clear away.**

You can be confident that RPEA at the State level has continued to monitor proposed legislation and to provide input on CalPERS policies that would affect our membership. Chapter 48 members should be receiving the quarterly State Newsletter as usual to keep up-to-date. If you have had a change of address, be sure to contact Headquarters so you don't miss mailings. Phone toll free at 1-800-443-7732.

**STAY STRONG, BECAUSE THINGS WILL GET BETTER.
IT MAY BE STORMY NOW, BUT IT CAN'T RAIN FOREVER!**



CalPERS Response to China Investment Questions

“China investments by CalPERS have been in the news lately and it is suggested that this is somehow supporting Chinese military objectives and this is not in the best interest of the U.S. The truth is that CalPERS investments in China have actually been declining in recent years and now stand at 1% of its stock portfolio. These claims in certain news outlets that CalPERS is contributing to Chinese theft of U.S. intellectual property are probably largely inaccurate. U.S. companies with factories in China are more likely to be inadvertently giving up more intellectual property than CalPERS ever could through its stock holding in China. Most pension funds around the country are invested in China along with CalPERS.”

calpers.ca.gov

CalPERS Reports Market Value of \$477.59 Billion

This report reflects market value as of market close on March 24, 2022. The earlier December 2021 report indicated that with the strong investment earnings and CalPERS’ funded status, a measure of the percentage of funds available to pay all benefits owed now and in the future grew to 80%, up from just 68% in 2016.

calpers.ca.gov

Are You A Wartime Veteran or the Surviving Spouse?

“Aid and Attendance” or “Housebound” are VA pension benefits that often go unused; as a cash payout, the money is available for however you choose to use it. Those eligible often use it to cover the cost of home care services, i.e. daily help needed to stay at home instead of moving into an assisted living facility or a nursing home. The VA can help you determine if you qualify. A veteran must have an honorable discharge and have served at least 90 days of active duty, with at least one of those days falling during a wartime period. There are income limits set by Congress. In addition, an applicant must meet at least one of the following physical requirements: 1} you need someone to help you perform daily activities, such as dressing, bathing, eating and grooming, 2} you spend most of the day in bed due to illness, 3} you have limited eyesight, 4} you are a patient in a nursing home due to loss of mental or physical abilities because of a disability.”

For details, go to va.gov/pension/aid-attendance-housebound

A Quick Reminder about Group Insurance and Discounts

When you join RPEA, you become eligible for discounts on a wide variety of insurance—vision, dental, accident, American Hearing Benefits (AHB), travel, medical emergency air services (MASA), and much more. In addition, there are RPEA discounts for computers, florists, rental cars, tours, hotels and resorts. For details and more information, phone the RPEA toll-free number 1-800-443-7732. You may contact AMBA at 1-866-619-6463 or AMBAbenefits.info/rpeaca.





In Remembrance.....

Howard Clark	San Jacinto
Yvonne Cockrell	Perris
Alfred Crewe	Hemet
Daisy Del Rosario	Temecula
Anne Gonzalez	Perris
Robert Hall	Sun City
Helen Hollingsworth	South Carolina
Arthur Householder	Temecula
Chuck Kreul	Perris
Marcia Laycock	Hemet
James McGuire	Murrieta
Robert Newhard	Murrieta
Barbara Pritchett	Menifee
Steven Swaim	Hemet
Thomas Sweeney	Lake Elsinore
Essie West	Hemet

*Life is sweeter for
having you as a
friend!*



Welcome New Members!

Sharon Andrews	Temecula
Bruce Blanc	Menifee
David Bottom	Anza
Linda Brown	Thousand Palms
Shannon Cistulli	Palm Desert
Anita Coakley	Nuevo
Velma Coombs	Rancho Mirage
Clinton Coon	Temecula
Maggie Dent	Temecula
David Fawver	Temecula
Robert Ford	Palm Desert
William George	Murrieta
Jo Heidman	Temecula
Lorayne Hinman	Texas
Louise Ike	Menifee
Tori Jackson	San Jacinto
Terry Kvitky	Temecula
Carlos Lara	Temecula
Theresa Metoyer	San Jacinto
Judith Neff	Menifee
Richard Pecoraro	Hemet
Terri Rudolph	Nuevo
Helen Spickerman	Murrieta

CHAPTER 048 LEADERSHIP

Sonny Gillespie, President	951-492-0787	Robert McMahan, Membership	951-256-6757
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Linda Stonebreaker, Sec. - Treas.	951-784-1060	Carole Gillespie, Sunshine	951-492-0787
Sharon Kreul, Hospitality	951-657-9588	Lucy Murray, Recruitment Secretary	951-282-5820
Position Vacant, Luncheon Sec.		Linda Stonebreaker, Newsletter Editor	951-784-1060
	Dennis Kaczor, Past President	951-454-7241	
	Nelly Van Lommel, Area VI Director	909-519-7390	



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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

In a March 2, 2022 letter sent to Governor Gavin Newsom from CalPERS Board President Theresa Taylor on behalf of the Board, she indicated strong support for the citizens and country of Ukraine. Addressing CalPERS’ investments in Russia is a top priority for the investment team. She stated: “We have no holdings in Russian government debt....As of March 2, we own approximately \$420 million of public stocks and \$345 million in liquid real estate assets. Our investments in Russia represent about 0.17% of CalPERS’ total investment portfolio.” She indicated CalPERS has taken the following actions:

- CalPERS has ceased all transactions in Russian publicly traded equity and has stopped the flow of any new investments into the country.
- CalPERS is actively assessing its real estate investments and determining a path forward.
- CalPERS is reviewing all its investments in emerging markets, including Russia, due to the impacts the crisis has had on all financial markets.
- CalPERS is following all regulatory requirements promulgated by U.S. Office of Foreign Assets Control and the sanctions that are in place.

She affirms that CalPERS “is doing everything in our power and fiduciary duty to protect our members’ assets, support the Ukrainian people and join California’s response to this assault on democracy.” Source: www.calpers.ca.gov/page/newsroom/for-the-record/2022/calpers-responds-to-governor-gavin-newsom