



RPEANews

Retired Public Employees Association of California
Chapter 064 ■ Newport Beach, California

DECEMBER 2019



PRESIDENT'S Message

The holidays are here to close out 2019 and to bring in 2020.

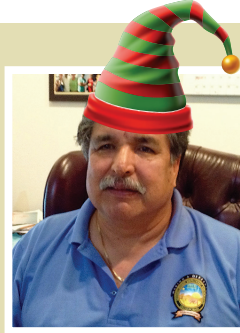
Our holiday Membership Meeting is right around the corner, and our very own Jeff Sumners (Chapter Secretary and Newsletter Editor) is going to present a dance repertoire and show us how to "dance like a star" to bring in the New Year. Music will be provided by Newport Beach local band, The Z Bops. Bring your dancing shoes and shake a leg.

And, according to our Chapter by laws it's that time again to vote on new Chapter Board Members: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Positions are for two years. If you are interested in adding your name for any position, contact me by email at: danheredia58@yahoo.com.

I would like to introduce Chapter member Mary Ellen Bowman, who volunteered to be our Membership Committee Director. She will be helping to recruit new Chapter members and helping current members with any Association business. I will also be introducing our new AMBIA Managers Jason Koch and Daniel Sanchez. AMBIA is RPEA's Member Benefits & Insurance Agency who helps RPEA recruit new members Statewide.

On a sad note, I am very sorry to report that Area 1 Director, Paul Tamboury, passed away recently. Area 1 encompasses wine country and areas north. All of us at RPEA 64, wish to express our deep sympathy to his wife Susan and all of Paul's family.

So, let's make the goal for 2020 to be active, healthy and let's save our State and Country by voting to be prosperous and not Socialist.



Dan Heredia
Chapter
President



Enjoy Holiday Fun at our Membership Brunch Meeting December 14

Please join us at the December Meeting. Besides our brunch, we will have a guest speaker from Ambia, live entertainment performed by the "Z-Bops," and dance lessons from our Secretary Jeff Sumners. See you here!



Saturday
December 14, 2019
10:30 a.m.
Cost: Only \$5

THE CHICKEN COOP
414 Old Newport Blvd.
Newport Beach

Reservations are required.
Please RSVP to Pat Jones at
(949) 548-8987 by
December 6, 2019. Clearly
state your name and number
in your party.

The Orange County Register editorial derides hard-working pension recipients

On November 8, 2019, The *Orange County Register* published an article on its editorial pages entitled: *California's 100k club grows as tax hikes mount*.

The article is, unfortunately, another negative hit piece on retired public employees collecting well-deserved pensions (negotiated in good faith with employers) that were earned through decades of service.

The paper's editorial board contends that it is because of these lucrative pensions that cities are forced to propose tax increases to cover their pension obligations. The article further states that according to the State Auditor's Office, nearly half of all cities in California may be facing a "high risk" of fiscal problems in the future due to pension liabilities. This analysis was based on a city's ability to cover their pension liabilities when compared to revenue. The Auditor's Office determined that "high risk" cities were those who's pension contributions were greater than 10% of their total revenue for fiscal year 2024-2025.

According to "Transparent California," nearly 80,000 retired public employees are collecting pensions in excess of \$100,000 in 2018. The state of California made \$51.7 billion in pension payouts that same year.

The article concludes with a call for further pension reform and suggests that a measure could be placed on the November 2020 ballot to call for more state wide taxes to cover over-promised pension benefits.

With articles like these, it's now more important than ever for members of RPEA educate the public and protect current and future retiree benefits—including our earned and well-deserved pensions.

The story can be accessed at: <https://www.ocregister.com/2019/11/08/californias-100k-club-grows-as-tax-hikes-mount/>



CHAPTER 064 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Membership
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Area VIII Director:

Kathleen Collins
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SCIENCE FILE

Unique case of disease resistance reveals possible Alzheimer's treatment

Defying the odds, an individual at high risk for early-onset Alzheimer's disease remained dementia-free for many years beyond what was anticipated. A study funded in part by the National Institute on Aging (NIA), part of the National Institutes of Health, led researchers to suggest that a gene variant may be the key, perhaps providing a new direction toward developing a treatment.

The research focused on the case of a woman who carried a gene mutation known to cause early-onset Alzheimer's. However, she did not develop signs of the disease until her 70s, nearly three decades after her expected age of onset. The researchers suspect that she may have been protected because, in addition to the gene mutation causing early-onset Alzheimer's in her family, she also had two copies of the APOE3 Christchurch (APOE3ch) gene variant. That variant may protect against Alzheimer's by reducing the ability of APOE to bind with certain sugars, which produces the enzymes that destroy the brain.

Researchers looked at genetic data from a Colombian family with more than 6,000 living members. Family members who carry a rare gene mutation called Presenilin 1 (PSEN1) E280A, have a 99.9% risk of developing early-onset Alzheimer's disease. While the woman had two copies of the APOE3ch gene variant, no other affected family member carried two copies of this variant.

The research suggests that a drug or gene therapy that could reduce APOE and HSPG binding has the potential to be a new way to treat or prevent Alzheimer's disease.

SOURCE: NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH (NIH)

CIGARETTE SMOKING AMONG U.S. ADULTS HITS ALL-TIME LOW

Cigarette smoking among U.S. adults has reached an all-time low of 13.7% in 2018 — a decline of approximately two-thirds in the more than 50 years since the first Surgeon General's report warned of the health consequences of smoking.

Yet, nearly 1 in 7 U.S. adults smoke cigarettes. Many use other tobacco products.



<<FirstName>> <<LastName>>
<<Street>>
<<City>>, <<State>> <<ZipCode>>

Details & Other News INSIDE

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