



RPEANews

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

JUNE 2021



PRESIDENT'S Message

I hope the newsletter finds you well, and that you received your Covid vaccinations. As far as I know, we did not lose any members to Covid, so I commend you on your cautious behavior during the past year. If you do know of someone, please let me know.

By now, all RPEA members should have received information for upcoming member-at-large election. Chapter 64 is supporting Margaret Brown. She is an asset to our cause, and I urge you to throw your support behind her. We all hope for a prosperous, secure retirement, and Margaret is in your corner.

Speaking of which, have you received your COLA increase in May's check? If you have not, please contact me.

Our regional chapters are always looking for volunteers to fill vacancies on our chapter boards. Here at Chapter 64, I need a Vice President. Maybe you'd like to step up and help out? It's a rewarding role and you will enjoy meeting people again. Drop me a line at danheredia58@yahoo.com.



Dan Heredia
Chapter President

Regional Board Meeting Renews Old Friendships, Addresses Issues Facing RPEA

On April 6, 2021, eight board members representing local chapters of the RPEA met face-to-face for the first time since the pandemic began. The meeting was exceptionally productive and enabled leadership to get up-to-speed on the issues and challenges facing our association.



Regional chapter board members (L-R): Sylvia Groh-Treasurer Ch. 64; Dan Heredia-President Ch 64; Ray Palacios-Member; Margaret Brown-CalPERS Board member; Estella Merkowsky-Assistant Area Director VIII; Jorge Merkowsky-Member Ch 46; Elena Yuasa-Asst Area Director VIII; (Seated) Kathleen Collins-Area Director VIII (Not shown) Nelly van Lommel - Area Director VI

**Saturday
June 12, 2021
10:30 a.m.
Cost: FREE!!!!**
(Fee is being waived to encourage our members to get social again!!)
**THE CHICKEN COOP
414 Old Newport Blvd.
Newport Beach**

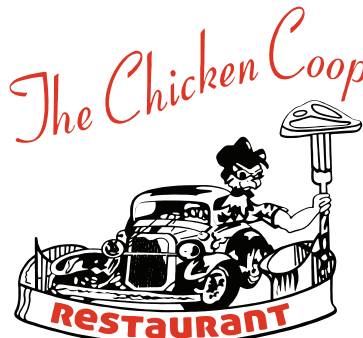
Membership Brunch Meetings to Resume June 12!

Great news everyone! Chapter 64 will be hosting our first membership brunch meeting since March 2020 on Saturday June 12, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. at the Chicken Coop in Newport Beach.

There is a lot to discuss and even more to learn. We are also seeking volunteers to fill open board positions.

As a gesture to celebrate life returning to normal, our chapter will waive the \$5.00 luncheon fee for our June get together. We will still practice social distancing and if you feel more comfortable wearing a mask while attending, then please do so.

The food at the Chicken Coop is delicious, and we can't wait to see you again. Happy summer!



NEWPORT BEACH, CA

Reservations are required. Please RSVP to Pat Jones at (949) 548-8987 by June 10, 2021. Clearly state your name and number in your party.

During the meeting, CalPERS board member Margaret Brown briefed attendees on legislative affairs in Sacramento. Rest assured, she and fellow CalPERS board member Jason Perez have been working diligently to protect your pension and benefits—despite the fact that everything has been virtual over the past 14 months.

One continuing area of concern is AB 386. This bill would allow CalPERS to loan trust fund money without disclosing the borrower's ownership, loan terms or, any collateral pledged. RPEA Board Vice President Al Darby wrote an excellent article on this in the March/April RPEA newsletter. Stay informed, and let your voice be heard.

(Editors note: Margaret Brown is running for reelection, and is being endorsed by Chapter 64. She needs additional signatures to qualify. Please return your ballot.)



CHAPTER 064 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Board:
Dan Heredia, President
(951) 403-4885

Vice President
VACANT

Sylvia Groh, Treasurer
(714) 894-3032

Secretary
VACANT

Mary Ellen Bowman,
Membership
(949) 424-4104

Pat Jones, Newsletter
(949) 548-8987

Area VIII Director:
Kathleen Collins
(562) 884-8891

Financial Problems Can Be Sign of Dementia

A new study found that financial problems can be an early sign of dementia. Some older adults had such problems years before being diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or a related condition.

Dementia causes changes to the brain that can interfere with daily life. These includes the ability to manage bills and other finances. Researchers looked at when these problems begin.

The team examined medical and credit information from about 80,000 adults. The people were 65 and older, lived alone, and received healthcare through Medicare. The research team recorded late bill payments and drops in credit scores.

People who developed dementia were more likely to have had late bill payments. This began six years before being diagnosed.

They were also more likely to have their credit scores drop below 620 (called "subprime"). This started two and a half years before getting their diagnosis.

"Our study is the first to provide large-scale quantitative evidence of the medical adage that the first place to look for dementia is in the checkbook," says Dr. Lauren Nicholas of Johns Hopkins University. "Earlier screening and detection, combined with financial education, are important to protect the financial well-being of the patient and their families."

SOURCE: NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH (NIH)



On-Site RPEA General Assembly pushed back to 2022



Our General Assembly, originally scheduled for 2021 in Sacramento, was cancelled due to Covid.

However, it will be held in Sacramento on September 26-29, 2022. We will be in need of volunteers so mark your calendar and contact me at danheredia58@yahoo.com. if you would like to attend.

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

Details & Other News INSIDE

- Regional Boards Meet
Face-to-Face in April
- Brunch Meetings to Resume
June 12th!

Retired Public Employees Association of California
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