



**RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
Chico Chapter 077**

JANUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER

Mission Statement:

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 earned retirement, medical, and other benefits. RPEA represents the rank and file retired public employees.

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MEETING UPDATE

There will be no Chapter 077 membership meeting on January 6. In-person membership meetings are discontinued until further notice out of an abundance of caution and concern for all chapter members regarding their health and safety.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT – By Mary Kowta

Governor Newsom recently published a book about dyslexia, based on his own struggles with the condition. Commenters found the book to be thoughtful and inspiring.

The Governor is suggesting that the lawmakers consider ways to reduce “ghost” guns and other such lethal weapons by enacting legislation tailored after the Texas anti-abortion laws. It is his idea, and so far no one has come out as a supporter in the State Legislature.

The question of how the state’s surplus funds will be allocated in the budget is a main issue for the weeks ahead.

The State will continue to work for the health and safety of Californians with mandates to prevent the rapid spread of COVID-19 Omicron and Delta variants by urging vaccinations, boosters and testing, by spacing and masks in public places and workplaces, as well as testing.

We all need to be mindful of the appropriate precautions, even though we have our boosters. Our “grab and go” lunch was a delightful occasion which brought us together a bit in a safe way. Thanks to all who participated!!

Mary

MESSAGE FROM ROGER KLAVES

Area II Director (Email written November 29, 2021)

Just when we thought it might be safe to go back into the water, here comes a little something called Omicron floating by in our little punchbowl. Hopefully this Covid variant won't pose a problem restarting chapter meetings where you are; but so far, we just don't know. Paradise continues to rebuild although there isn't anywhere suitable to hold meetings. There have been some suggestions but none offering a place for a luncheon. The Town of Paradise shows 1106 homes rebuilt as of November 10. A friend of mine says he got a bill for \$95K for the cost to clean up his 2/3 acre lot in Magalia. The bill has been submitted to his insurance. We see where JJ Jelincic, Margaret Brown and Tiffany Emon-Moran are forming a "Watchdog" committee which will keep track of CalPERS happenings. Emon-Moran is a retired police fraud investigator. They will track PERS investments and try to make sure that PERS operations are transparent. PERS investment portfolio now totals about 494 Billion dollars. A fired Chino police officer will fight to keep his pension after being fired because of a sex crime. PERS says he's ineligible for a pension due to being fired because of the alleged crime. There's more to it, but that's the jist of an administrative law judge's ruling. PERS has set a new return of 6.8% on investments, down from 7.0%. They will also move towards private equity investments and less treasuries, stocks, and securities that don't pay much interest. Five retirees were recently hired through a third party agency to work in 3 or 4 south state cities. They were assured they were in compliance with the old 960-hour rule.

Wrong....They must pay back to PERS over \$400K. (11/17/21 *Bee*). Hope your Thanksgiving was good, and have a Blessed Christmas season!

Roger

RPEA CHAPTER 077 HOLIDAY BOXED LUNCH EVENT A BIG SUCCESS!

Our Chapter 077 Board made arrangements with the Chico Elks Lodge for a holiday boxed lunch event on December 15, and it was a big success! Our members had the option of a “drive-thru” and taking their boxed lunch home with them, or they could come inside the Elks and enjoy their lunch inside the bar area that was reserved for our group. The boxed lunch contained a turkey sandwich on a croissant, macaroni salad, a pickle, cranberry sauce, and a bag of chips. The Board members delivered the lunches to cars pulling up in front of the Elks and taking their lunches home, and about half of our members felt safer eating their lunches at home during these challenging times. It was wonderful having many members opting to eat indoors and socialize. The Elks’ bar area had a festive touch with the lovely decorated Christmas tree, and Christmas music added to the holiday ambiance. Everyone got a “goodie bag” in addition to their lunch, and it contained lots of treats including candy, cookies, a mandarin orange, trail mix, and candy cane. There were several prizes given to lucky participants who fell into certain categories (i.e. “First arrival,” First red car and green car to arrive, and other fun categories). The weather cooperated with our luncheon; and even though there was a light rain, the downpour of rain and wind didn’t begin until our luncheon ended. We appreciate everyone who participated in this fun holiday luncheon by “Grab ‘n go” or “Dine-in,” and we hope that this special event helped enhance your holiday season! Hopefully, we’ll be able to resume in-person membership meetings sometime early in 2022!



RPEA Chapter 077 Holiday Boxed Lunch Event
December 15, 2021