



## RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION Chico Chapter 077

### JUNE 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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### **PICNIC LUNCHEON**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 2022 – 11:30 AM  
MANZANITA PLACE (CHICO ELKS LODGE)**

**GREAT NEWS!** The Board is happy to share the good news that an indoor picnic has been planned for our Chapter 077 members and guests, and it is a complimentary event sponsored by Chapter 077. The picnic lunch will include hamburgers, a couple of salads, chips, and all of the trimmings including something sweet for dessert. We will have our usual meeting room in addition to the adjacent patio so that we can spread out safely and socially distance. We hope that all of you will decide to join us for an in-person picnic so you can enjoy the camaraderie of the attendees; but if you are still reluctant to attend in-person events, you have the option of picking up a “To go” lunch for you and a guest. You can come inside the lobby to pick up your lunch, and a Board member will go to the kitchen to pick up your boxed lunch. If you have difficulty walking, you can pull up to the front of the Elks, and your lunch will be delivered to you by a Board member. The “To go” lunches need to be picked up between 11:00-11:30, and the in-person picnic will begin inside at 11:30. You can feel free to wear a mask, but masks are not mandatory.

It is important to RSVP by Friday, May 27, so that we can give the Elks an accurate head count. You can respond by calling Mary Kowta (530-342-6759), Sharon Salcido (530-893-0181) or emailing Sharon ([sharonsalcidofromchico@gmail.com](mailto:sharonsalcidofromchico@gmail.com)). You need to confirm if you’re bringing any guests and also indicate if you’re eating at the Elks or picking up a lunch to take home. As a reminder, we don’t have membership meetings in July and August, so this will be our “Last Hurrah” until our September 1 meeting. We’re anxious to see your smiling faces again--either masked or unmasked!

### **MESSAGE FROM ROGER KLAVES**

Assistant Area II Director (Written April 27, 2022)

Howdy displaced Paradise 074 Lunch-bunchers and others in Area II! Please note that letters have been sent to chapter presidents and board members that it's resolution time for our General Assembly in September. If anyone has a resolution idea that should be addressed, now is the time to formulate it. The format for resolutions is found in the RPEA policy File. Let me know if you need help!

RPEA's Randall Cheek has been endorsed by RPEA for the Retired Seat on the CalPERS Board. Randy is in need of signatures so as to qualify for the election. I can send out an email with signature forms. When making a copy of the form, note that you need to indicate how many forms you need; otherwise you'll get a bunch.

CalPERS is selling off its investment property at 301 Capitol Mall in Sacramento. Getting something built there just never worked out for PERS. They're going to lose a bundle from this endeavor.

PERS is considering a rule change whereby retirees would be able to work for only two years after retirement at a previous similar job with a maximum 2-year extension after that

The Long Term Care class settlement will not be going forward because 30 percent of the settlement class has opted out of the long term program. The final hearing set for June 8 is off calendar. A case management hearing is set for May 9, 2022.

Addressees are requested to forward this stuff to members of their chapters. Thank you!

*Roger*

**LEGISLATIVE REPORT – By Mary Kowta**

It is budget time again.....BIG BUCKS!

This is the “May Revise” of the January State budget. On May13 Governor Newsom presented his Proposed Budget. After extensive legislative negotiations, the final budget will go into effect on July 1. Readers, by the time you receive this newsletter, you may already be as informed as you want to be about the State’s record-breaking \$300 Billion budget and the astounding \$97.5 Billion surplus.

These figures put California in a fiscal class by itself. Where did all this money come from? Taxes and capital gains, mostly from the 1 or 2% wealthiest citizens and perhaps a small portion from taxes paid by folks who watch their household budgets, welcome their pension warrants, and “save” for that sweltering day when their AC goes out! The years of surplus may not be forever, and the Governor and his team are aware that the future may present a different scenario.

Meanwhile, our legislators are maneuvering and conferring as they promote their pet projects as well as major funding for the State’s greatest needs. .An item pertaining to education is the Gann Limit which limits appropriations and may need to be revised. I am not sure if this comes into play now or only in the future.

The Republicans, relatively few in number in the Legislative body, are capable watchdogs, an important role when there are large sums of \$ around. Their call for tax relief and aid for the affordability crisis in the State affecting low income residents both deserve attention and action.

The Governor has proposed \$18.1 Billion in gas tax refunds, and aid for rent, healthcare, and utility bills. While it has seemed that he was at odds with his legislative leaders about the gas tax and other measures to combat inflation, he

assured the audience and the journalists present for his Friday press conference that they are sharing ideas and coming close to unity on the issues. (That press conference is available on YouTube; very interesting and wide-ranging).

**A few interesting items:**

Toni Atkins, Democrat Senate leader, has proposed a\$10 Billion fund to help low and moderate income Californians buy homes. A revolving fund would provide interest-free loans for 30% of the purchase price.

The Governor wants to provide bonuses to hospital nurses and staff in nursing homes and possibly other essential workers, in recognition of their employment during COVID.

The Governor clarified his efforts for universal health coverage in the State, not to be confused with single-payer.

He also mentioned his proposal for the Salton Sea area and Lithium mining, emphasizing providing health care and job training in the area. Insulin funding: eventual manufacture in California.

Efforts to attract new business to California as a State that upholds the rights of women and LGBTQ residents.

**Other News:**

A post by Yves Smith, naked capitalism, (5/11/22).This reviews the CalPERS long term care situation. A policy holder, Lawrence Grossman, has written about his experience and shared with *Kaiser Health News* and *The New York Times*. Others may be interviewed for an extensive article in *New York Times*.

**RPEA CHAPTER 077:**

Members, we look forward to our June 2 event. Hoping to see you there!

*Mary*