

# ~~~~ RETIREWIRE ~~~~

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☀️ Happy Summer 2019 ☀️



**RPEA Chapter 096 Meeting Friday July 12, 2019 @ Noon  
at Le Peep restaurant 2125 Louisiana Blvd. NE ABQ, NM**

**Meeting Presentation: No Presentation (suggestions?)  
(Please arrive on time as a courtesy to our guest speaker.)**

Note to Southern New Mexico members: if you would like to meet with your chapter board members for a lunch group meeting in the Las Cruces area please contact Larry Sullivan at [houseofspirit@earthlink](mailto:houseofspirit@earthlink).

🎂 *Happy Summer Birthdays 🎂: Linda Boylan, Barbara Desilets, Richard Dick, Esther Duran, Ruth Johnson, Rebecca Mayeaux, William Norton, Connie Roberts, Mary Schlegel, Lily Silva, Louis Silva, Kathy Sullivan, Larry Sullivan, Guadalupe Tellez and Andy Wilson!*

*Retired Public Employees' Association (RPEA)  
Chapter 096 General Meeting Minutes  
April 11, 2019*

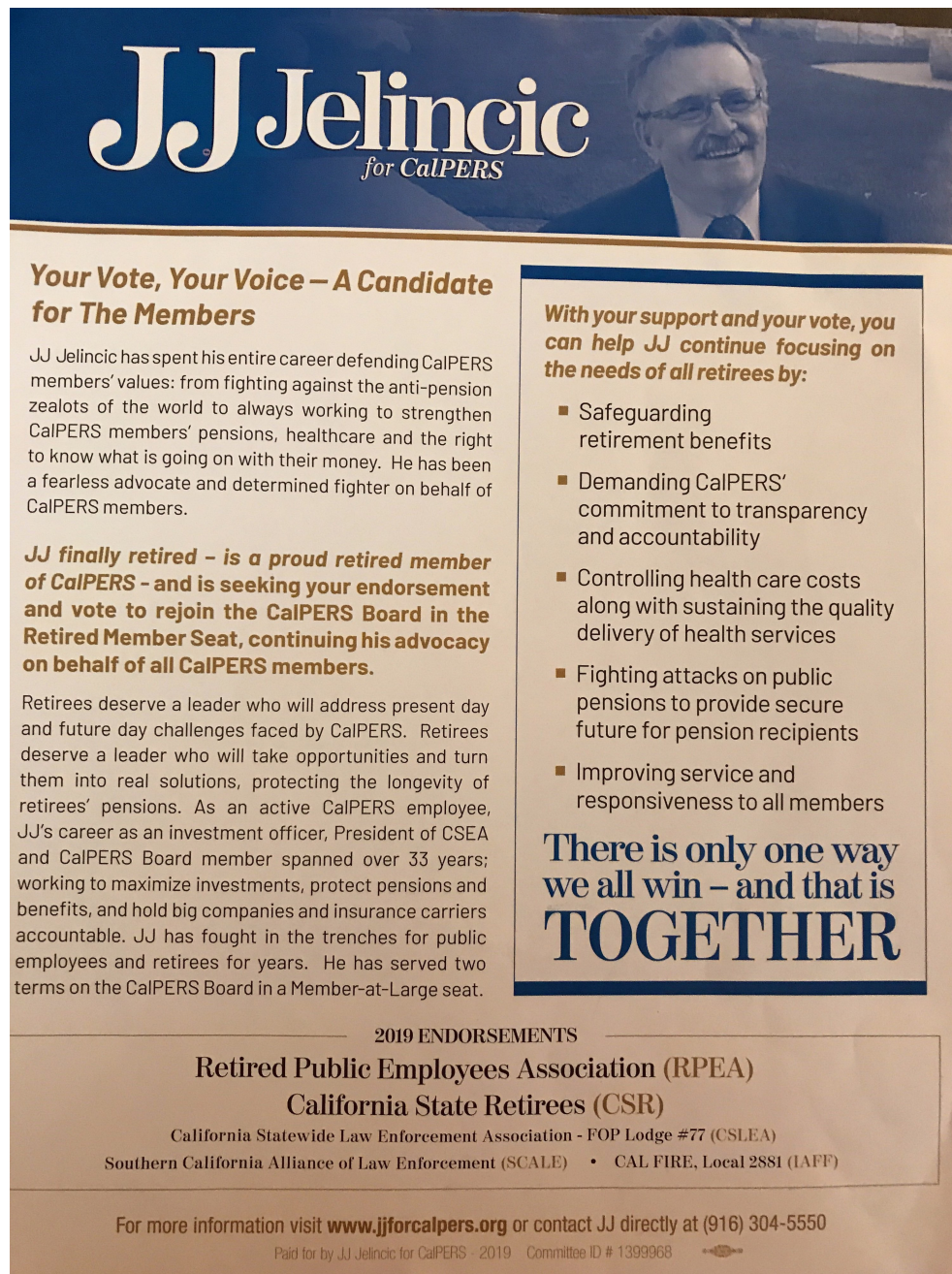
*Present: Larry Sullivan, Martha Hoyt, Lucy Lopez, Evelyn McGarry, Kathy Sullivan, Richard Dick, Edyth Wilson, Andy Wilson, Louis Silva, Lily Silva, Helen Fuller, Margaret Brown (RPEA/CalPERS)*

- Lucy Lopez was sworn in as official Area IX Assistant Director by Larry.*
- Margaret Brown (RPEA representative & CalPERS board member) attended our meeting; Margaret stated she is a grandmother, talked about her family, worked in school construction and is a leukemia survivor; she discussed her RPEA/CalPERS experience (conservative & frugal with tax payer money, wants to grow & protect funds, make smart investments, be responsible & honest & to tell the truth and will speak up).*
- Larry stated about 17% RPEA members leave CA; Texas chapters to be established.*
- Larry stated health care cost a big problem in California (more expensive in northern CA then in southern CA); CalPERS needs to address this issue; Margaret stated issue is being researched; CalPERS negotiates with health insurance companies for best rates, PPO/ HMO; Margaret stated health care fund managed by board is separate from pension fund.*
- Discussion about CalPERS long term care plans.*
- Discussion about sending a chapter member to next General Assembly in addition to Larry & Lucy; chapter will pay for additional member; Lucy stated Ruth Johnson may be interested in attending the meeting.*
- Kathy Sullivan won \$5 drawing; total lunch fee collection: \$48.*
- Current chapter bank account balance is \$3033.87.*
- The next chapter 096 general meeting will be on July 12, 2019 at noon at La Peep.*

*Respectfully submitted by Evelyn McGarry*

## **You're Retired, So Now What?**

- RPEA sponsored Mexican Riviera cruise, October 26, 2019 - November 2, 2019; please contact Ellie Knapp at 661-607-2072.**



**JJ Jelincic**  
*for CalPERS*

**Your Vote, Your Voice – A Candidate for The Members**

JJ Jelincic has spent his entire career defending CalPERS members' values: from fighting against the anti-pension zealots of the world to always working to strengthen CalPERS members' pensions, healthcare and the right to know what is going on with their money. He has been a fearless advocate and determined fighter on behalf of CalPERS members.

**JJ finally retired – is a proud retired member of CalPERS – and is seeking your endorsement and vote to rejoin the CalPERS Board in the Retired Member Seat, continuing his advocacy on behalf of all CalPERS members.**

Retirees deserve a leader who will address present day and future day challenges faced by CalPERS. Retirees deserve a leader who will take opportunities and turn them into real solutions, protecting the longevity of retirees' pensions. As an active CalPERS employee, JJ's career as an investment officer, President of CSEA and CalPERS Board member spanned over 33 years; working to maximize investments, protect pensions and benefits, and hold big companies and insurance carriers accountable. JJ has fought in the trenches for public employees and retirees for years. He has served two terms on the CalPERS Board in a Member-at-Large seat.

**With your support and your vote, you can help JJ continue focusing on the needs of all retirees by:**

- Safeguarding retirement benefits
- Demanding CalPERS' commitment to transparency and accountability
- Controlling health care costs along with sustaining the quality delivery of health services
- Fighting attacks on public pensions to provide secure future for pension recipients
- Improving service and responsiveness to all members

**There is only one way we all win – and that is TOGETHER**

**2019 ENDORSEMENTS**

**Retired Public Employees Association (RPEA)**  
**California State Retirees (CSR)**

California Statewide Law Enforcement Association - FOP Lodge #77 (CSLEA)  
Southern California Alliance of Law Enforcement (SCALE) • CAL FIRE, Local 2881 (IAFF)

For more information visit [www.jjforcalpers.org](http://www.jjforcalpers.org) or contact JJ directly at (916) 304-5550

Paid for by JJ Jelincic for CalPERS - 2019 Committee ID # 1399968

### Area Director's Report

I attended the RPEA Board of Directors meeting June 3-4, 2019 in Sacramento, California. Our organization is doing well financially. We are having our building repainted after many years and having new signage added.

The Third Street side of the building has had to be re-painted numerous times due to graffiti. The painting contractor will be using anti-graffiti paint.

We are putting a carport over our parking area and having solar panels put on the roof of the carport. As a fiduciary, I know we can only be as green or as politically pure as financially reasonable.

RPEA owns our building and the empty lot next door. The lot is in the historic downtown Sacramento district and is zoned for a five unit residential building.

If our group was to develop the property, we could rent the units out to students working on a degree in public administration. That would produce revenue for our group from rents and produce future public employees. That could insure RPEA's future.

JJ Jelencic received nominating petitions from Area IX and thanked us. This upcoming CalPERS Board of Administration race is about investment policy. RPEA wants retirees to have a major say in investment policy at CalPERS.

The CalPERS election will start near the end of the summer. Please consider using your chapter newsletter to promote JJ's candidacy if you have an issue being published before then.

JJ will join Margaret Brown and Jason Perez on the CalPERS Board fighting to get investment decisions made transparently by CalPERS employees rather than private companies that operate without public knowledge and draw huge fees regardless of how CalPERS investments perform. The CalPERS fund lost \$4 billion dollars when we divested from tobacco. Most of you and most Californians do not want us to make money selling cancer sticks but in a world where most things are for sale, we have to weigh the costs and benefits for my current pension check and the future checks of those who are working in CalPERS agencies right now.

There will be no increase this year in the CalPERS death benefit, currently at \$2,000. There will be no rural health care subsidy this year either.

Sanchez vs. CalPERS is the Long Term Care lawsuit. The suit will be heard in Los Angeles court this summer. Harvey Robinson, RPEA Director of Health Benefits, is the former administrator for the Long Term Care Program.

He notes that in the beginning of the program, long term care program documents did say that there would be no premium increases which makes CalPERS liable but for how much? And to whom?

Lucy Lopez attended her first RPEA Board Meeting as Area IX Assistant Area Director. She networked quite effectively and has arranged for Lorenzo Rios, RPEA Director of Public Relations, to speak at the October, 2019 meeting of Chapter 096. I also met Lucy's daughter that lives in Sacramento.

Kathy and I were in Prescott, Arizona on May 21, 2019 to attend a chapter 098 meeting regarding possible dissolution of that chapter. RPEA President, Al Darby, and Vice President, Rosemary Knox, were also in attendance.

None of the Verde Valley RPEA members attended the 5/21/19 meeting in Prescott and that was disappointing. The recent mailing of 45K membership applications by headquarters should provide each RPEA chapter with new members.

Kathy and I will be at 098 for their fall holiday meeting. If Prescott/Northern Arizona chapter does not have new blood come for that meeting then a resolution of dissolution will probably be passed at that time asking the RPEA Board of Directors to dissolve the chapter.

Area IX Chapters are invited to join in a telephonic membership committee meeting on June 19, 2019. Please contact headquarters if your chapter would like to be involved.

The RPEA Board has acknowledged that if a member from Area IX has information helping our group's membership drive then travel funds can be made available that don't come from chapter funds or the Area Director's travel budget. I think most of what we can offer can be transmitted verbally and won't require travel to Sacramento.



I have been nominated for another term as Area Director by Chapters 098 and 103. I'm humbled.

Respectfully Submitted,

Larry Sullivan



### **Did You Know?**

- Scientists captured the first image of a black hole (M87).
- July 20, 2019 is the 50th anniversary of the Moon landing.

### **In Memoriam**

~ Carl Cuntz Jr ~

~ Evelyn Davis ~

~ Tanya Rakestraw ~ RPEA Office Manager

**Your participation is always welcome and encouraged. If you would like to contribute to the RETIREWIRE newsletter please contact your newsletter editor, Evelyn McGarry, at [mcgarrye2004@yahoo.com](mailto:mcgarrye2004@yahoo.com)**

*[Please contact me if you no longer want to receive your newsletter in paper format and receive it in an email.]*

Your RPEA Chapter 096 Board Members:

Larry Sullivan: President, Lou Silva: V-P, Evelyn McGarry: Secretary & Newsletter Editor, Lucy Lopez: Treasurer

Next RPEA Chapter 096 Meeting:

**October 11, 2019 @ Noon at 'La Peep'**