
~~~~ **RETIREWIRE** ~~~~

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🍂 **Happy Fall 2019** 🍂

**RPEA Chapter 096 General Meeting  
Friday October 11, 2019 @ NOON  
Le Peep 2125 Louisiana Blvd. NE ABQ, NM 87110**



**Meeting Guest Speaker:  
Lorenzo Rios, RPEA Director of Public Relations**

🎂 *Happy Fall Birthdays* 🎂: *Donald Baker, Delmar Bergen, Paul Gilon, Martha Hoyt, Helen Leeds, Irvin Lindemuth, Jacob Nielson, Lance Peterson, Floyd Roberts, Humberto Sanchez, Carol Torguson*

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).

**Retired Public Employees' Association (RPEA)  
Chapter 096 General Meeting Minutes  
July 12, 2019**

Present: Larry Sullivan, Martha Hoyt, Lucy Lopez, Evelyn McGarry, Kathy Sullivan, Louis Silva, Lily Silva

- RPEA (Sac) office closed for employees to attend Tanya's funeral; Lou made a motion to donate \$200 from our chapter to building fund on behalf of Tanya; motion passed
- Los Volcanes Senior Center requested \$200 donation for their fiesta in October; Lucy made a motion to donate \$200 to the center; motion passed; chapter members are invited to attend the fiesta
- Lorenzo Rios, RPEA Director of PR, will be the October general meeting guest speaker
- Lunch fee collection: \$30; no drawing
- Lucy informed us she is on the ABQ senior advisory board
- Lucy attended her first RPEA board meeting in June 2019
- Chapter membership is down to 98 members (due to death of chapter members)
- Larry nominated to 4 year term as Area Director IX by each chapter; annual transportation budget is \$5000 (flights, hotels)
- Current chapter bank account balance is \$3043.90
- The next chapter 096 general meeting will on October 11, 2019 @ noon at Le Peep on Louisiana Blvd in ABQ

Respectfully submitted by Evelyn McGarry

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

- **Cumbres & Toltec Railroad thru 10/20/19**
- **ABQ Int'l Balloon Fiesta: 10/5/19-10/13/19**

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)

# APD VIN Etching Event

Have you etched your Vehicle Identification Number onto your car? Etching your VIN on your vehicle is one of the best ways to help avoid car theft. The Albuquerque Police Department is hosting a VIN etching event on November 9, 2019. The event is free to the public and at AAA New Mexico Albuquerque East Branch (10501 Montgomery Blvd, NE) @ 10 am to 2 pm.

## Did You Know?

According to a new survey commissioned by AT&T, 95% of Americans age 60 and older have experienced a scam online and 92% have experienced some sort of phishing attempt.

### **To stay safe online, follow these simple guidelines:**

1. Always think, "This could happen to me."
2. Be aware that people are not always who they say they are online.
3. Think before you click on a link or open an attachment.
4. Create complex passwords unique to each site.
5. Check personal accounts regularly.

## LARRY'S CORNER

Our chapter 096 meeting will be at Le Peep in the back on Friday, October 11, 2019. Chapter 096 Board of Directors will meet at 11 AM. Chapter meeting and lunch orders BEGIN at noon.

Our speaker will be RPEA Director of Public Relations, Lorenzo Rios.

Everyone is expected to pay \$5 toward your meal. Our chapter will pick up the rest, tax and gratuity. Lorenzo's meal is on us. The address is 2125 Louisiana NE across from ABQ Uptown. Only Chapter Board members attended the July meeting of 096. I am shopping for a device to call local members of our chapter and remind them of the coming October chapter meeting.

Our chapter board of directors gave me the authorization to buy one of those infernal machines years ago but I have resisted until now. Non-attendance in July has spurred me to action. Most of the phones listed on the internet that do mass callings are less than \$100 so it is not a burden on our chapter treasury. See you at the meeting!

### **Area IX Director's Report**

I attended the RPEA Board of Directors meeting September 9-10, 2019 in Sacramento, California. Lucy Lopez, Assistant IX Director, attended also.

We did a closed session the first day. You can read the minutes of our board's meeting on our website. On the second day, President Al Darby presents a non-secret version of what we did in the executive session.

The board revised the employee handbook. RPEA Office Manager Tanya Rakestraw's untimely death revealed the necessity to protect RPEA and our employees more effectively. RPEA is a good employer in my opinion.

Also discussed in executive session was the property. Our headquarters is a former residence at the corner of Tomato Alley and T Street. We have a brick wall between RPEA and the vacant lot that our group also owns.

RPEA and the firm we hired to develop the property are working on the future of this lot. Our group has invested two thousand dollars so far and it was well worth the money.

The lot can be developed with five residential units and provide only one parking space. Sacramento is trying to severely limit auto access to their downtown.

We continue to broadcast our RPEA Board meetings. You can get them online and virtually attend. Please see the RPEA website.

This Board of Directors meeting was unusual in that we broke early and many of us went to a candidate forum for the CalPERS Board election at CalPERS headquarters. The debate can be seen on the CalPERS website. I am in row four in the audience.

RPEA President, Al Darby, took me to the forum and then to headquarters. I got to see each RPEA employee in their normal work environment. Al then took me to the Sacramento airport to catch my plane back to the Sunport.

Lucy will attend the RPEA Board of Directors Meeting in Sacramento on January 27-28, 2020 in Sacramento without me. I haven't had a vacation in five years. I'll be snow skiing at Ski Bueno (Santa Fe).

I will attend the RPEA Board of Directors meeting on April 27-28, 2020 in Orange County, California without Lucy. I am Area IX Director until September, 2023. I am trying to train my replacement.

If there is someone in RPEA Area IX that wants to be Area Director or Assistant Area Director, please see me! The qualifications are that you love RPEA and you can be a travel warrior.

Lucy Lopez, Assistant Area IX Director, and I make a great team. She has family in Sacramento, California and actually likes going there. I have met Caroline's lovely sister, Lucy's other daughter, who lives in Sacramento.

I have Southern California roots. I have lived in Orange and Los Angeles Counties and had an office in the Kearney Mesa area of San Diego for seven years.

My mother's favorite place on earth in the summer was the Salton Sea in Riverside and Imperial Counties. That's a true story but also a Southern California joke.

Kathy has only attended one General Assembly, the LA GA five years ago. Kathy grew up in Santa Monica, California. Next year's GA will be in Sacramento September 20-24, 2020.

I hope everyone voted in the recent CalPERS Board of Directors election and voted for JJ Jelencic.

I will attend an RPEA Board Meeting via telephone on September 27, 2019.

Kathy and I were in Prescott, Arizona on September 17, 2019 to attend a chapter 098 meeting regarding possible dissolution of that chapter. The membership present voted for a resolution of dissolution.

After returning to New Mexico, I notified headquarters of the vote and requested the membership of chapter 098 be contacted and allowed to transfer their membership to another existing RPEA chapter.

If an RPEA member of a defunct chapter does not specify a chapter, headquarters assigns them one. The Chapter 098 treasurer will complete the annual report required by RPEA and forward all chapter funds to headquarters.

When I mentioned being a road warrior for RPEA, I drove about 850 miles in 48 hours for the Prescott, Arizona chapter meeting less than a week after I returned home from Sacramento. Please volunteer to take mine or Lucy's RPEA job!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Larry Sullivan

**TO THE MEMBERS OF ALL THE CHAPTERS OF  
RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION**

**On behalf of the family of Tanya Rakestraw, from the  
bottom of our heart,  
THANK YOU.**

**Your kindness, thoughtfulness, prayers, cards, letters,  
monetary gifts, love, and beautiful expressions you  
displayed at her Homegoing were really amazing and  
very much appreciated.**

**She shared with us many times how she felt about you  
all as her extended family. How beautiful it is to know  
you felt the same about her. Of course, our memories of  
her will live on forever, but it is wonderful to know so  
many of you will remember her also.**

***“WE WILL ALWAYS BE GRATEFUL TO YOU ALL FOR  
YOUR THOUGHTFULNESS”***

**Sincerely,  
THE FAMILY OF TANYA LAVERNE RAKESTRAW**

**In Memoriam**

~ Julie De Laricheliere~  
~ David Heimbach~  
~ Sylvia Charmatz~  
~ Willard Witteman ~

**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:**

**January 10, 2020 at NOON @ Le Peep on Louisiana Blvd in ABQ**