



## **Sagebrush 99**

### **The Newsletter of Las Vegas Valley, Nevada Retired Public Employees Association of California**

#### **Announces:**

**Membership Meeting and Luncheon  
Thursday, May 16, 2019  
11:30 AM to 2:00 PM  
Los Prados Golf Community and Country Club  
5150 Los Prados Circle  
Las Vegas, NV 89130**

**Our Speaker: Harriet H. Roland, Esq.**

**RSVP to Marlene Baker (702) 269-1304  
or [mbaker7400@aol.com](mailto:mbaker7400@aol.com) by -5/10/18  
Board meeting at 10:30 a.m.**

#### **President's Message By Marlene Baker**

Hi Everyone! I'm back from the land down under and look forward to our next meeting on Thursday, May 16, 2019. Lunch is provided at a cost to our member guests of \$5. The difference in actual cost is paid by the chapter. Please RSVP to me by May 10<sup>th</sup> and leave a message if I am not home when you call. We will be ordering off the menu this month.

Our lunch speaker is Harriet H. Roland, Esq. Her areas of practice include Elder Law and Estate Planning.

As most of you already know, the RPEA Board endorsed JJ Jelincic for the Retiree Seat on the CalPERS Board. He needs 500 signatures of any CalPERS retirees by May 10, 2019 to meet the deadline for signature submission. Other retiree associations will be helping with this effort, but we need to get as many signatures for JJ as possible. JJ

has been an asset on our behalf over the years and has even been a speaker at our chapter in the past. Please contact RPEA on their website.

We had slightly better attendance at our last meeting. I would appreciate any ideas and input from you on possible speakers at future meetings or if you have something interesting to speak on at a future meeting. We need to be informed and proactive about issues facing our pensions, Social Security and Medicare entitlements.

With the loss of two of our Board members, we need more people on the Board. If you are interested in being an active part of the chapter, please let me know. It doesn't take much time, only a few hours every few months, as we usually have a short meeting prior to our lunch meeting and we only meet a few times a year. Fall 2020 is the next RPEA General Assembly and we will want representation there. Last year only one person from our chapter was able to attend and it was a very informative event. We hope to be able to have at least one more member there in 2020.

#### **UPCOMING MEETING DATES**

We will be discussing upcoming meeting dates at our board meeting May 16 and welcome suggestions for alternative dates and locations. Many places require a minimum number of lunches. Our next meeting will be sometime in September.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The balance in our Chapter 99 Bank Account on December 31, 2018 was \$1,547.45, on January 31, 2019 was

\$1,542.33, on February 28, 2019 was \$1,747.68, and on March 31, 2019 was \$1,911.43. Expenses for the January luncheon were \$214.17, mailings were \$209.38 and a service fee of \$14.00 was charged monthly. Our only source of income was a portion of dues sent by RPEA. This included \$211.85 for December, \$223.25 for January, \$221.35 for February and \$175.75 for March.

#### **PRESIDENT'S BUDGET PLAN**

The Committee to Preserve and Protect Social Security sent an alert about the President's Budget and its effect on retirees as follows:

“No one serious about protecting Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid would propose a budget so harmful to older Americans that includes: **Slashing \$845 billion from Medicare** over 10 years; **gutting Medicaid** with a proposed \$1.5 trillion in cuts over 10 years, which undermines seniors' access to long-term care services; **cutting Social Security by \$47 billion** over 10 years; **cutting block grant funding for vital Meals on Wheels programs**, which deliver 2 million hot meals to seniors each year; and **eliminating programs that help lower-income adults get community service jobs and help seniors with heating costs.**” Please let your Senators and Representatives know how you feel.

#### **SCAMMERS**

In a recent AARP newsletter, they reported on ways scammers get your personal information, including phone numbers, addresses, etc. When you send in warranty information and list your household income, or enter contests, or fill out survey questionnaires, or rate hotels and restaurants, or disclose your location on facebook, some of this information can be sold to other

companies or accessed for other purposes. Information in obituaries are targets for scammers and mail thrown away without being shredded can be accessed. Marketing firms pay a lot of money to acquire information from other sources. In addition, public records can be accessed in various cities, counties, and states for use in mailing or telephone solicitations. Be careful when disclosing any information to others.

## **WHAT IS RPEA**

RPEA is a non-profit association of retirees and active employees who are members of the California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS). Our mission is important:

- RPEA represents all public employees - classified schools, public agencies, and state.
- RPEA is liaison between retirees and CalPERS.
- RPEA is a mutual protective association for all beneficiaries of CalPERS.
- RPEA fights to maintain our current pension and health care benefits and improve these benefits every year.
- RPEA has local chapters in your area - attend meetings to stay informed and hear interesting speakers.

RPEA protects the interests of retirees at the state level to ensure your retirement remains secure. We retain a professional lobbyist who represents our interests before the Governor, Legislators and CalPERS Board. We also have access to a federal lobbyist who keeps us informed on federal retiree issues.

RPEA continues an active and ongoing relationship with CalPERS by serving on their Advisory Committee concerning CalPERS plans and proposals. We also monitor every CalPERS committee and frequently testify at these meetings on behalf of our members.

While we encourage participation in one of our many chapters, most of our members participate by reading RPEA's bi-monthly newsletter, giving us feedback on their needs, and enrolling in one or more of our "members only" insurance programs.

At \$5.00 per month, RPEA is a bargain hard to resist. We need you and you need us — to support our fight to protect our pensions and benefits.

## **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 retirement, medical and other benefits.

## **WHO'S WHO SAGEBRUSH CHAPTER 99**

**President, Secretary and Newsletter Editor: Marlene Baker, Home: (702) 269-1304; Cell: (702) 845-3465**  
[mbaker7400@aol.com](mailto:mbaker7400@aol.com)

**Treasurer: Joe Beck, Home: (702) 562-6907; [dixielasvegas@yahoo.com](mailto:dixielasvegas@yahoo.com)**

**Director: Ross Parker, Home: (702) 579-7249; Cell: (530) 908-3473**  
[roglo3@cox.net](mailto:roglo3@cox.net)

**RPEA Headquarters:**

**300 T Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-6912  
(916) 441-7732 or (800) 443-7732  
Fax: (916) 441-7413;  
rpeahq@rpea.com  
Please notify RPEA headquarters of  
any changes to address or status**

### **RIDES**

There are many members in the area who might like to carpool to our meetings. Please let us know if you need a ride or if you can offer transportation. Call Marlene at (702) 269-1304.

### **DUES RENEWALS**

If you don't have automatic payment of your dues, please renew your dues. RPEA has been very active in informing the public and the legislative community about issues affecting our pensions and benefits.

If you discard our newsletter in the trash, please shred it as there are email addresses and telephone numbers listed in it. Our directors are volunteers and we don't want unnecessary solicitations coming our way because of publication of those numbers.