



**Sagebrush 99
The Newsletter of
Las Vegas Valley, Nevada
Retired Public Employees Association of California
Announces:**

**Due to the risks to our members associated with the
Coronavirus and the uncertainty of when a meeting place for
groups can occur in Nevada, we will be having a Zoom
Membership Meeting on Thursday, September 17, 2020 at
11:00 AM.**

Our Host Speaker: William Wallace, RPEA Membership Chair

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84504882330>

Meeting ID: 845 0488 2330

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,84504882330# US (San Jose)

12532158782,,84504882330# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 845 0488 2330

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84504882330>

When you click "join meeting" the host will let you in. Instructions will appear for audio and video. Try it on laptop, desk computer, Iphone or android.

President's Message
By Marlene Baker

Hi Everyone! Our July meeting by zoom was a disappointment in attendance but Kelly stepped up to the plate and agreed to co-president with me. We discussed many reasons why members don't participate in meetings and most reasons are understandable. Your dues are important to RPEA and we appreciate your support. Without this support we would be unable to keep our pensions and benefits stable and consistent. We would not be able to have an effect on future legislation and in letting our California elected officials know how important the issues are to us. Should our chapter fall to the wayside because of circumstances such as lack of participation in leadership, lack of interest, an aging population, far travel distances, and other reasons, members will be reassigned to another chapter and receive newsletters and other information from that chapter as well as the wonderful communications from headquarters. Do not stop your membership in RPEA. The organization as a whole is very important for all of us to be heard on issues affecting our retirement or future retirement. The September meeting will again be by Zoom and instructions appear above. Please try to attend if you can because this meeting will decide the future of our chapter. We need a vote by those in attendance.

I have been fortunate to serve as a member, Secretary and President as well as newsletter editor for several years and have made some wonderful friendships along the way. I plan to move out of state in the near future and continue my membership in RPEA. Thank you for

taking the time over the years of reading our newsletters and being a part of the chapter.

SURVEY

After the July meeting, Kelly Chulick developed a short survey and sent it to members who have email addresses on our membership roster. The results, after an initial mailing and a follow up mailing are as follows:

Although our chapter has 215 members, 132 have email addresses. Of those 132 addresses, 21 people responded to the survey. All results are based on 21 responses.

1. Do you as a current member of RPEA Sagebrush 99 chapter wish to participate in this chapter in any future meetings or activities?

Yes – 14 (66.7%)

No – 7 (33.3%)

2. How would you like to participate in future meetings of the RPEA Sagebrush 99 Chapter?

In person (at a set location) – 3 (14.3%)

By Zoom or Google Meet) – 8 (38.1%)

By USPS mail information) – 4 (19%)

I do not wish to receive any – 1 (4%)

N/A – 5 (23.8%)

3. If you selected using internet online meeting platforms, would you consider having a short training class on how to set up your computer or phone to use these platforms?

Yes – 10 (47.6%)

No – 2 (9.5%)

N/A – 9 (42.9%)

4. What time of the day would you prefer to have any meetings of the RPEA Sagebrush 99 chapter, whether being conducted at a location or online?

Morning (8-12) – 7 (33.3%)

Afternoon (1-5) – 3 (14.3%)

Evening (6-8 pm) – 2 (9.5%)
N/A –9 (42.9%)

5. What day of the week would you prefer to have any meetings of the RPEA Sagebrush 99 Chapter, whether being conducted at a location or online? (select no more than 2)

Monday – 1 (4.8%)
Tuesday – 3 (14.3%)
Wednesday – 4 (19%)
Thursday – 7 (33.3%)
Friday – 0 (0%)
Saturday – 1 (4.8%)
N/A – 10 (47.6%)

In addition to the other questions, members were asked for ideas, comments and concerns and the following are excerpts:

“Moving out of area” (2 responses).

“I have participated in the last 2 Zoom meetings. Training sessions work by making people comfortable about the use of internet meetings...Remove the fear factor of failure trying to log on...The downside...is that people seem to not respect the speaker and interject their feelings....The interruptions are very counterproductive to an organized meeting...I hope the new direction the chapter takes is a success.” (1 response)

“I would have liked to attend meetings but have been very ill...Also I do not live in Las Vegas and have a 2.5 hour drive (one way). I was very active when our chapter was in Lake Havasu...I think what RPEA does is very important and that we should each be as active as possible...but I also know that you are dealing with retired folks who have other things to do. Many of them do not pay attention to what is happening in California and probably think that everything is fine there. But they’re still trying to take our PERS funds...Perhaps a fully cognizant newsletter would be good. Not one that chastises people for not attending meetings. I wish I could offer better solutions. I just hope the chapter stays active and I will do

what I can to help.” (1 response)

“Traveling 2 and a half hours one way to attend meetings is no longer fiscally and healthily feasible. Keeping aware of what is going on by email or snail mail is my only option. I commend the folks trying to keep this chapter alive and realize that all organizations are suffering the same symptoms...” (1 response)

“Sorry about missing the meeting, but we both have been buried with Med-Dent-Vision appointments lately...Not sure about future appointments but would like to keep up with the mailers and emails.” (1 response).

“I’m not much of an internet person and living in LHC. The best way for me is to be introduced to Zoom...Thank you for making the effort to keep the chapter active.” (1 response)

“Sorry, I only travel to Vegas when it cannot be prevented. I do want to be informed about what is going on but do not want to use my phone to Zoom. I feel the mail or computer newsletter, where I could respond if needed works best for me.” (1 response)

“Have good connections using Zoom or Google meeting platforms. In person meetings probably not practical due to the distance needed to be traveled by many members. Briefing as to what the newest issues are to our pensions at every meeting.” (1 response)

“I simply forgot to tune in to the meeting. I will tell Alexa to remind me the next time that you schedule a meeting. So sorry I missed the last meetings.” (1 response)

“I prefer getting information on printed paper or electronically so I can weed out unwanted information. I’m not inclined to participate in scheduled activities.” (1 response).

“I live...too far to travel for a meeting. At

some point I am considering moving to Las Vegas and at that time would attend the meetings.” (1 response)

“Present meetings with more interesting speakers and some type of involvement with the community by our members might improve attendance.” (1 response)

“I have another commitment on the Thursday we normally meet so I can only do a zoom meeting the morning of that day.” (1 response)

“I have left Nevada with no plans to return. I will seek local chapter of rpea after relocating. Thanks.” (1 response)

“I’m very new to Las Vegas so haven’t had a chance to participate.” (1 response)

“We have tried everything, how about a prayer????” (1 response)

“Online meetings right now are the way to go.” (1 response)

“Lunch meetings during weekdays as before.” (1 response)

“Keep up the good work.” (1 response)

N/A (1 response).

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Please notify RPEA headquarters of any changes to address or status**

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.

TREASURER’S REPORT

The balance in our Chapter 99 Bank Account on July 31, 2020 was \$3,524.25. Dues deposit for June was \$168.15 and for July was \$247.75. Expenses for July mailing and newsletter was \$208.55.

**WHO’S WHO SAGEBRUSH
CHAPTER 99
Co-President, Secretary and
Newsletter Editor: Marlene Baker,**