



RPEA
Pamela Tull
POB 30177
Mesa, AZ 85275

OCT 24 2022



To: RPEA HQ
ATTN: TEENA
300 "T" STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95811

THE MISSION OF RPEA

We are retired
California public-service
[government] employees
working together to maintain
and improve the quality of the lives
of our members by
protecting and improving retirement and
healthcare benefits.

95811 80212 0060

OCTOBER—DECEMBER
2022

RPEA
AREA IX
ARIZONA, NEW MEXICO, NEVADA

RPEA
CHAPTER 101
Valley of the Sun
CENTRAL East-West ARIZONA
(METRO PHOENIX & NORTH)
Chapter 101 PRESIDENT - Pamela Tull
Phone Number: (602) 625.0362
Always leave a Message!

Covid-19 took over 1 Million people worldwide.
2.5 Million people left the Ukraine in 2022

Has your address or phone number changed since you joined RPEA? . . . Have you recently moved? CALL RPEA HQ AT PHONE No. BELOW & LEAVE A MESSAGE WITH YOUR NEW CONTACT INFORMATION.

RPEA Membership Dues are a bargain; reasonable and affordable at \$60.00 a year, which is \$ 5.00 a month.

RENEW Annual Cash Payment Dues to RPEA HQ:

RPEA Headquarters
300 "T" STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95811
1-800-443-7732



**RPEA
CHAPTER
101**

N E W S

Valley of the Sun ~ Arizona

This is our 4th Chapter 101 Newsletter for this calendar year 2022! *My apologies if I skipped a newsletter issue for 2021 in my attempt to fulfill the newsletters for the 2021 year.* Anyway, **FINALLY!** one of the biggest, most informative and stimulating events for RPEA members to take part in survived the Covid-19 Pandemic. . . This will be my report of the RPEA Biennial GA (General Assembly) (since its cancellation in 2020). GA was held at the Sacramento Hilton-Arden West hotel and it was a truly enlightening and enriching GA experience. Sixty-two RPEA Delegate members were present to conduct RPEA business, our 9 AREA Directors met, we elected the next two-year's RPEA State Association Board of Directors, we voted down the two Resolutions brought before the Delegates. Social events included a few die-hards dancing the night away after the Banquet Dinner, a Delegates Reception, a Candidates Reception, Breakfast & Lunch Buffets, and Boxed Lunches sent home after adjournment. We had legislative status updates by our Lobbyists Aaron Read and Mr. Pat Moran, the Sacramento Mayor Eric Guerra spoke, and the VFW Post #8358 Honor Guard under Captain Michael Wong, Presented the Colors and led the reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag which solemnized the occasion, all this under the guidance of our long-time GA Parliamentarian Ms. Dollie McPartlin.

The Honorable John Garamendi, United States Congressman since 1974 was our Keynote Speaker; AMBA (Association Member Benefits Assn.) Regional Vice President Jack Danielson attended and led a workshop; (CRS) - Californians for Retirement Security representative Steve Maviglio, sat on the GA Legislative Panel (California State Senator Dave Cortese, supporter of the newly signed law SB1148 that increases the CalPERS member death benefit from \$500 to \$2,000, signed 9/26/2022) was invited but he was unable to attend.

All Chapter members' involvement and participation will keep the RPEA State Association Board of Directors informed of retirement issues that need attention.

Chapter 101 members able to assist in a Chapter 101 leadership position, contact Chapter 101 President Pamela Tull at: (602) 625.0362 ~

Always leave a Message!

Pamela Tull, 2021-22 President
RPEA Local Chapter 101 - valley of the Sun

RPEA MEMBERS

STAY INFORMED! & REMAIN VIGILANT!



AMBA (Association Member Benefits Assn.)

(AMBA), our Member Benefits group, offers Members-Only benefits to RPEA Members . . . call the AMBA Regional Vice President Jack Danielson at (530) 864.3793 for details.

It seems that AMBA is the favored name of our RPEA CA Benefits group. They offer additional retirement benefits and recreational discounts for RPEA Members-ONLY (in California and USA States) for healthcare voids left when California public-service workers retire. RPEA members qualify for these members-only benefits, and insurance programs, as well as leisure and recreational discounts that follow:

- ▶ Dental & Vision Plan
- ▶ Long-Term Care and
Home Health Care Insurance
- ▶ Medical Air Services Association (MASA)
- ▶ Cancer, Heart, Stroke, Accident and Disability Insurances
- ▶ Medicare Solutions
- ▶ Final Expenses:
- ▶ Whole Life & Guaranteed Acceptance Life Insurance
- ▶ Annuity
- ▶ Start Hearing, Inc. (*for hearing assistance*)
- ▶ Hospital Stay Coverage
- ▶ Discounts on Travel,
Dining
& more . . .

- ▶ AMBA offers Advisors (for ARIZONA, So. NEVADA, and NEW MEXICO residents who are members of RPEA)

CALL AMBA: 1.877.556.4582 M-F (CENTRAL TIME ZONE)

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

Margaret Mead

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2022
Vol. 15
No. 4**

AMBA

YOUR
ASSOCIATION MEMBER BENEFITS ASSOCIATION
FOR RPEA MEMBERS-ONLY

Additional Insurance Coverage to consider
from RPEACA & AMBA

- o Medicare Solutions
- o Medical Air Services Association (MASA)
- o Cancer, Heart & Stroke Insurance
- o Accident & Disability Insurance
- o Final Expenses
- o Whole Life
- o Guaranteed Acceptance Life Insurance
- o Annuity
- o Start Hearing, Inc.
- o Hospital Stay Coverage
- o Long Term Care Insurance
- o Home Health Care Insurance
- o Dental & Vision Plans
- o Discounts on Travel, Dining & more

LEARN more: 1-877.556.4582 M/F Central Time

► myambabenefits.info/rpeaca

Lovin' Life After 50 EXPO

November 2nd • 8am - 12pm

Mesa Convention Center

201 N. Center Street, Mesa, AZ 85201

Cheers to 90 Years

2022 January 1st marked CalPERS' 90th Birthday. Originally known as the State Employees' Retirement System (SERS), CalPERS began operating in 1932 with 14,000 members.

By 1946, that number had more than tripled and today stands at 2 Million members.

In fiscal year 2021, CalPERS paid out more than \$27 Billion in pension benefits and \$10 Billion in healthcare benefits.

The size of the sound investments of CalPERS means CalPERS will be here for a long time to come.

Excerpted from CalPERS

RPEA Assailants

John Arnold - of Enron (Investments) . . .
wants to destroy Defined Benefit

Tim Draper - (split California into 9 states)

David Creap - active in Legislature

CalPERS BoA "Retiree Seat" RUNOFF Election

Ballots for CalPERS "Runoff Election" between Yvonne Walker and RPEA's Randy Cheek should arrive in the mail on November 4th; they must be returned by December 5th to be counted.



VOTE RANDY CHEEK -► Experience we can trust.



WE HAVE UNEXPECTEDLY LOST ONE OF OUR RPEA STATE ASSOCIATION BOARD KEY OFFICERS AS GA-2022 WAS JUST STARTING. IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT TED ROSE WILL SURELY BE MISSED. WE SEND HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES TO HIS WIFE NORMA ROSE AND FAMILY.

GOOD NEWS - Social Security Increase

Social Security (SS) benefits and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments for approximately 70 million Americans will increase 8.7% in 2023, Social Security announced today (10.13.2022).

For more information, please visit:

www.ssa.gov/news/press/releases/2022/#10-2022-2

ADDITIONAL INFO

about

Congressman John Garamendi

Congressman John Garamendi was elected to the State Legislature in 1974. He seeks to address the fundamental issues that face all Americans: job creation, fixing a broken economy, access to affordable healthcare, protecting Social Security and Medicare, and cleaning up Wall Street. He and his wife Patti served in the Peace Corps in Ethiopia before returning to the US and settling down on their family ranch in Walnut Grove where they raise Angus cattle and grow pears in their Delta orchard.

Other GA Discussions

CRS Representative Steve Maviglio GA-2022 Legislative Panel member spoke about the WEP/GPO [/] "the Brady Bill"

Al Darby comments: The Marin County situation could have taken away our existing pensions if the ruling would have been different from what it turned out to be - - in the California Rule decision, our (promised) retirements cannot be taken away.

There was discussion about CalPERS newly hired CIO from Canada

There was discussion about the "secret loans"/secret lending bill by CalPERS (private equity loans) that RPEA took up and was in opposition to these loans by CalPERS . . . AB 2473

You Only Have 7 weeks to make a Medicare Plan Change!
October 15th – December 7th

MEDICARE PLANS for NEXT YEAR (2023)

Mark your calendar for these Medicare Advantage Plan dates - - you're only able to change Medicare plans during certain times of the year. . .keep track of the dates below so you don't miss out:

October 1: You can preview 2023 Medicare plans.

October 15 ~ December 7: Your first & last day to sign up for changes to your Medicare plan.

January 1: Your Medicare plan cycle begins.

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GREETINGS MEMBERS Since September is our Chapter Officer Nominations Meeting, we have passed the date for nominations and did not convene a meeting due to the lack of a quorum of 15 members (per Chapter Bylaws). The Chapter 101 Executive Board members will remain as they were, ready to support the Chapter. If we have 15 Chapter 101 members at the November 12th meeting, (our Chapter Election Month) and nominations from the floor are made for Chapter Officerships, we can then take a vote.

Member involvement and participation will keep the RPEA State Association Board of Directors and our Chapter members informed of retirement issues that need attention.

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THE CalPERS BoA Election is in a RUNOFF !

The CalPERS BoA Election is now a "Runoff" Election for the Retiree Member Representative seat that Henry Jones resigned from. It is the CalPERS Board seat that represents us retirees. The candidates are:

Randall Cheek, California State Lottery

Yvonne Walker, Department of Justice

→ **YOUR Runoff BALLOT will be mailed to you soon !**

**"The RPEA Endorsement of
Candidate Randall Cheek still holds."**

AMBA

(Association Member Benefits Association)

In case you didn't know and are searching for a new LTC plan, AMBA (Association Member Benefits Assn.) our Benefits group (AMBA), for RPEA Members-only, has a Long Term Care program offering.

If any RPEA Local Chapter 101 member (that's YOU!...who's name is on this newsletter mailing label) is interested, they meet the membership requirement and is eligible to seek additional information for AMBA benefits.

Call the AMBA Regional Vice President Jack Danielson at (530) 864.3793 for LTC details.



RPEA General Assembly 2022

2 Resolutions: Non-Emergency Resolution !

Objective addition to Bylaws Article II ~ Failed

RESOLUTION 1

Headquarters Cost Recovery for Chapter Dissolution to Bylaws Article XVI, Section 3(B) ~ Failed

RPEA HQ Staff:

Mr. Corey Saeteurn, Office Manager

Ms. Spencer Neumann, Accounts Payable Clerk

Ms. Alyssa Rios, Information Systems Technician

Ms. Teena Stone, Member Services Secretary

1-800-443-7732

101 President:::(602) 625.0362 – *Always Leave A Message!*

~ CHAPTER MEETINGS ~

Our RPEA Chapter 101-Valley of the Sun, Executive Board meets on the **2nd Saturday** each month.

We hope to see you at 11:30am at the Gecko Grill on the **2nd Saturday of each month** in SCOTTSDALE), your smiley face will shine through your CDC's safety protection face mask (if you should so choose to continue this safety step at the Chapter 101 Executive Board meetings).

The Gecko Grill is located on the south side of McDowell Road @ the intersection of 77th street, (7707 East McDowell Road, Scottsdale 85257). Their wait staff will serve you any of their delicious *Authentic Mexican meals on the menu.*

OUR CHAPTER BOARD REPORTS MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS & NEW MEMBERS For July thru September 2022

REMINDER:

Your Chapter Executive Board has discovered that a mailinghouse services to complete our Chapter Newsletter mailing is not as economically prudent as expected. The Chapter Board has decided to continue the newsletter member mailing preparation as has previously been done, using postage stamps.

#THANKYOU Chapter 101 Members for renewing your yearly membership dues and a hearty "WELCOME" to our NEW Chapter members who joined Chapter 101 in the 2022 year from July thru September, as follows:

JULY:

Patsy Fint—Goodyear, AZ

Vivian Joslin—Peoria, AZ

Darita, Miller—Peoria, AZ

AUGUST:

Deane Calhoun—Sun City West, AZ

Clifford Haight—Tolleson, AZ

Robert Lee—Dewey, AZ

Thelma, Moslander—Sarasota, FL

William Risen—Yarnell, AZ

Joseph Sousa—Wickenburg, AZ

more →

OUR CHAPTER 101 BOARD REPORTS
MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS & NEW MEMBERS
For July thru September 2022--cont'd.

SEPTEMBER:

Laura Cordova—Rimrock, AZ
Starr Davis—Pine, AZ
Shirley Glickman—Surprise, AZ
Jeanne Hladek—Surprise, AZ
Peter Hladek—Surprise, AZ
Diane Morris—San Tan Valley, AZ
Millard Newcombe—Poteau, OK
Barry Reisman—Phoenix, AS
Ronald Swalley—Queen Creek, AZ
Maria Wylie—Surprise, AZ

GENERATION Y = GEN G

Sharing is the answer to some of today's biggest questions: How will we meet the needs of the world's enormous population? How do we reduce our impact on the planet and cope with the destruction already inflicted? How can we each be healthy, enjoy life, and create thriving communities?

Now that a shareable world has a serious foothold, all that is needed is a willing population to scale it up. There is a strong argument that Gen Y is the generation that can bring it to fruition.

Roughly 100 million strong in the United States, Gen Y grew up on the Internet and brings its values and practices, including sharing, into the real world. Last year, *TrendWatching.com* called them Gen G (for "generous") and said they are accelerating a cultural shift where giving is already the new taking. They may not reach their full sharing potential until later in life, but there are promising indicators that they are already having a telling impact: 61% of 13- to 25-year olds feel personally responsible for making a difference in the world.

"Sharing Our World" in *Natural Awakenings* magazine
by Neal Gorenflo & Jeremy Adam Smith

THE MISSION OF RPEA

We are retired California public-service
[government] employees
working together to maintain and improve the
quality of the lives of our members by protecting
and improving retirement and healthcare benefits.

from:

Eric Thompson

RPEA Chapter 43, Woodland, CA

I've been a member of RPEA for around 30 years as I joined 10 years before I retired.

I joined because I felt there was a lack of information on issues we'd soon be facing in retirement . . . It is important to try to keep abreast of things that are of concern to you and using reliable information sources. For retirement and CalPERS issues, RPEA is a good one.



**RPEA Chapter 101 BOARD WILL
MEET ON November 12th
at the Gecko Grill-Scottsdale
7707 E. McDowell Road [at 77th]
(East of Scottsdale Road)
at 11:30am
ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED**

STAY INFORMED! ♦ REMAIN VIGILANT!

"ATTEND MEETINGS AND STAY INFORMED"