



The Rearguard

TUCSON-SOUTHERN ARIZONA
CHAPTER 103

Retired Public Employees Association
of California

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April 2019

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In my opinion, this past winter in the Tucson area has not been a good one--too cold, too much rain (and snow) but mostly too many cloudy days. But now, it's getting warmer and everything is blooming (sorry allergy sufferers)--this is why many of us live in Southern Arizona.

Our speaker for the January Membership Meeting was Lyle Cantrell. Mr. Cantrell is a seasoned tax preparer and his timely presentation on the new tax law and how we could best navigate it was very informative to the group.

The program for the April 17 Membership Meeting is a little lighter topic. Neil Stitzer, Trail Coordinator for the Pima County Parks and Recreation Department, will talk to us about senior hiking and appropriate trails in the Tucson area. So, for those of you who are outdoors folks this should be most informative. Thanks to Board member Jim McGovern for suggesting this topic. And, if anyone has any other future program ideas, please let us know.

Stephen Pustelnik had agreed to take over the duties of Newsletter Editor but was forced to resign that duty due to health issues. I will get the newsletter out for the time being. Thanks for trying, Stephen.

On a happier note, Mark Kinsey has agreed to serve on our Board of Directors. Mark has been a member of RPEA since 2005 and has recently transferred his membership to our chapter after he and his wife Kathy moved to Sierra Vista. On a personal note, Mark and my brother Bob worked together in the Santa Rosa Parole Office (and yes, Bob is also a member of RPEA). Thanks for volunteering, Mark, and welcome to Chapter 103, one of the most active small, out-of-state chapters.

The next Membership Meeting is April 17, 2019 at Mimi's Café at the Tucson Mall (NE corner of Oracle Rd and Wetmore) at 11:30 am. Door prize winners will receive one of five \$10 lunch reimbursements in addition to our regular door prize. We look forward to seeing you there.

Ken Burns, President
Tucson-Southern Arizona Chapter 103

APRIL 17 PROGRAM

Neil Stitzer

Trail Coordinator, Pima County Parks

Your Board is always trying to develop programs of interest to the most members. We know that senior and health issues are of interest to all of us and many of our programs are along that vein.

However, we also know that people like variety so we try to include programs that are a little lighter in nature. Our speaker this month will discuss such a topic.

Neil Stitzer is the Trail Coordinator for the Pima County Parks and Recreation Department. His duties there include planning, mapping, designing and construction for trail development in Pima County.

His prior work experience includes similar duties with Marana Parks and Recreation, the National Park Service, Chiricahua National Monument and Coronado National Monument.

We are pleased to have someone with Neil's experience talk to us and share with us which local trails are best suited for seniors.

NO REMINDER POST CARDS

Remember, we are no longer mailing post card reminders of Membership Meetings. We stopped sending reminders as a cost savings measure. So, make sure you note the date of the April 17 Membership Meeting and, in fact, note all the 2019 meetings as listed on the last page of this newsletter on your annual calendar.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Chapter 103 bank balance as of April 8, 2019 was \$3,227.82.

SHRED OLD NEWSLETTERS

If you don't save your old Chapter 103 newsletters (and who does except me), your Board asks that you shred them after you're done reading them (and, noting the next Membership Meeting dates).

We put the Board member's telephone numbers and email addresses in there to make it easy for you to contact any one of us. However, if that information were to get into the hands of any wishing to scam us, we've just made it easier for them.

Thanks for shredding.

Ken Burns

CHAPTER MEMBER EMAIL LIST

We have a list of email addresses of those members who have provided them to us. We use this to remind folks of upcoming Membership Meetings and other important Chapter and RPEA information.

Recently we sent out information concerning a California Supreme Court decision dealing with the "California Rule". If you received that email, you're on the list. If you didn't and want to have your name and email address added to the list, please send me an email at kenburns1@cox.net or call me at 520-393-1855.

Ken Burns

WHO WON WHAT

At the January Membership Meeting the following prizes were awarded:

The five \$10 lunch reimbursements were won by Jim Kennedy, Barbara Barton, Hector Robles, Bob Rubio and Joe Barton.

The \$25 Gift Card for El Charro Restaurant was won by Armando Valdos.

\$10 lunch reimbursements were given to first-time attendees DeAnn and Armando Valdos, Nancy Davis and Mark Kinsey.

The Attendance Drawing for \$46 was won by Mark Kinsey.

NEW MEMBER

We welcome the following new member to our Chapter:

DeAnn Valdos who retired from the San Diego Unified School District.

The membership of Chapter 103 now totals 82.

SCAM ALERT

I suspect some of you are tired of listening to me talk about scams and ways to avoid them but, I am so disappointed when I read about folks, usually seniors, getting ripped off and losing their money.

In the April 2019 issue of the AARP Bulletin (the newspaper, not the magazine), there is an excellent article on scams and how to avoid them. They mention and I repeat here (again), if you get a phone call and don't recognize the number, DON'T ANSWER. If it's a legitimate call, they will leave a message (my wife and I do this all the time---and it works).

Ken Burns

2019-2020 CHAPTER 103 BOARD

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Chapter 103 Website: calrpeachapter103.com

HELP WANTED

Your Chapter is still in need of someone to fill the Secretary position. The skills required are minimal, just basic computer and word processing knowledge is all that's necessary. The minutes format is already established. We meet eight times a year and preparation time after each meeting is about two hours. Here's an opportunity to remain active in your community (your RPEA Chapter) and keep your mind sharp. Please call me at 520-393-1855.

Ken Burns

CHAPTER 103

2019 QUARTERLY LUNCHEON MEETINGS

Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of January, April, July and October

Take a minute and mark your calendar for all meetings this year:

April 17, 2019

July 17, 2019

October 16, 2019

We meet at 11:30 AM at Mimi's Café at Tucson Mall (Oracle Rd and Wetmore). Please join your fellow CalPERS retirees for conversation, lunch and interesting program speakers, plus chances to win door prizes plus a cash prize!