



RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA NEWSLETTER

Chapter 044 Area 5 Volume XXV Issue I

January - February 2026

NEXT MEETING: Noon – 2:00 p.m., Feb. 11, 2026 @ The Golden Corral in Ontario, CA

THANKS Alice, Violeta, Shirley, & Steven

Please join me in extending our thanks, gratitude, and appreciation to our outgoing officers for their nearly 15 years of leadership and tireless service to Chapter 044 and the RPEA. I hope they will continue to attend the membership meetings, lend their expertise, wisdom and chapter history.

President Alice Alexandre, thank you for leading Chapter 44, gaveling in our meetings, keeping us on time, on topic and keeping our chapter meetings flowing. We appreciate your steady guidance, and vision that has strengthened our organization.

Secretary Violeta Comia, Vi, your welcoming hospitality, your attention to detail and your commitment to the chapter and RPEA made everyone feel at home. You kept us organized and connected. I hope you will stay engaged, especially in greeting our members and guests.

Treasurer Shirley Wofford, what a yeoman's effort you have provided to chapter 044 and the RPEA. Thank you for your many years of dedicated service and self-sacrifice. Your careful stewardship of our resources has ensured stability and trust for the chapter. We will miss your leadership, but will appreciate your guidance at our chapter meetings going forward.

Past President Steven A. Lacey, who also serves as Area Five (5) Director. Steve is the first person I spoke with from chapter 44, when he called to invite me to my first Chapter 44 meeting. I have appreciated Steven's counsel, institutional knowledge, and your membership outreach. I look forward to your continued participation as Area Five Director and Membership/Publicity Committee Chairperson. Kudos to this wonderful outgoing Board! See you at the chapter meetings!

OUR SPEAKER THIS MONTH

Mr. David Patterson will be our speaker for the Noon, February 11, 2026, Chapter 044 meeting. Bring your tax questions and leave with money in your pocket!

David Patterson is a Tax Counselor and District Coordinator for the AARP Foundation's Tax-Aide program, preparing and e-filing federal and state tax returns for senior citizens and moderate to low-income filers. His territory is the southwest portion of San Bernardino County with locations in Chino, Montclair, Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga, and Upland.

Mr. Patterson had a 40-year IT career that began when he joined the Navy as a Data Processing Technician. After the Navy, he went to college, got his first programming job, and ultimately retired after 21 years with a large trash company as the IT Director. Along with volunteering with AARP, he is also the Treasurer of the Friends of the Ontario City Library. You may also spot him and his friends around the area on their bicycles.

MEET YOUR NEW CHAPTER 044 BOARD

Arnold San Miguel, President, served thirty-four years at the Southern California Association of Governments in long range transportation planning and government and public affairs departments.

Phillip Anderson, Vice President retired from the Calif. Youth Authority as a high school academic teacher and has served thirty years as Treasurer with the Orange County Fuchsia Society.

Leslie Phillips, Treasurer recently retired from the City of Montclair and her experience will serve us well as she fills in Shirley Wofford's shoes.

Steven A. Lacey, retired from the Inland Empire Utilities Association. Want to know something about moving water in the Inland Empire ask Steven. He is also the RPEA Area 5 Director.

LOOKING AHEAD

I am sure we will continue to be the diligent in keeping our attention on CalPERS in order to protect earned benefits, expand outreach to retired public employees, and strengthen partnerships that keep our voices heard.

OPPORTUNITY ABOUND!

Take advantage of your RPEA membership to stay engaged, bring ideas, and volunteer where you can – let me know if you are interested in serving on a committee, chairing a committee or spearheading an idea via an Ad Hoc committee.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

I listened to the CalPERS Board and Committee meetings in November 17-19, 2025. Let me know if you would like to receive my notes.

Marcie Frost, CEO, CalPERS New Year’s report notes that CalPERS had an estimated funded status of 84% as of Dec. 31, 2025, up from 71% at the end of fiscal year 2021-22. “Funded Status” is an estimate of the funds CalPERS have on hand to meet our current and future obligations.

The new year brings a new pharmacy benefits manager for the 587,000 CalPERS members enrolled in Basic and Medicare HMO\PPO plans.

TREASURER’S REPORT

The Treasurer’s Report for Dec. 1 – 31, 2025 reports a checking account balance of \$5,985.83.

MONTHLY BOARD & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The CalPERS Board and Committees will meet in Sacramento, January 20-21, 2026. Board meetings are open to the public and broadcast live via webcast during open sessions. Here’s the link: www.calpers.ca.gov/about/board/board-meetings.

IN MEMORIAM

Those we hold most dear never truly leave us- they live on in the kindness they showed, the comfort they shared and the love they brought into our lives -Isabel Norton

CHAPTER 044 OFFICERS & CONTACTS:

President Arnold San Miguel (213) 453 - 6594
V. Pres. Phillip Anderson (909) 552 - 4191
Secretary (vacant)
Treasurer Leslie Phillips (909) 706 - 2397
Past Pres. Alice Alexandre (909) 662 - 7937

CHAPTER 044 COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

[Vacant = Opportunity! Excitement! Fun!]
Hospitality (vacant)
Legislative (vacant)
Membership Steven A. Lacey (909) 210 - 2022
Publicity Steven A. Lacey (909) 210 - 2022
Program (vacant)
Telephone Tree (vacant)
Sunshine Alice Alexandre (909) 622 - 7937
Newsletter Editor: (vacant)

RPEA Area V Director:

Steven A. Lacey (909) 210 – 2022
RPEA Headquarters 1 (800) 443 - 7732
Address Change? Please notify RPEA Hqtrs.

ASSOCIATION MEMBER BENEFITS

ADVISORS (AMBA) 1 (877) 556 – 4582

CHAPTER 044 MEETINGS IN 2026

2nd Wednesdays of Even Months Noon – 2PM
Golden Corral 1640 E. 4th St., #A, Ontario, CA

Luncheon attendees please wait until after the meeting is called to order, before dining. 😊

Lunch-Fee-Schedule Chapter 044 meetings:

Member of Chapter #044 free
RPEA Member (not #044 member)..... \$4.00
Non-Member of RPEA \$14.00
Prospective RPEA Member(Max 2 times) \$4.00
Chapter Guest..... Free

Meeting Dates and Guest Presenters in 2026

February 11th -David Patterson, Tax Counselor
April 8th -Invited Congresswoman Torres
June 10th – Elena Yusa, RPEA Mem. Dir.
August 12th – (TBA)
October 14th – (TBA)
December 9th – (TBA)
Have a speaker suggestion? Let the Board know.