



**RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
Chico Chapter 77**

APRIL 2026 NEWSLETTER

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 our earned retirement, medical, and other benefits. RPEA represents the rank and file of retired public employees.

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RPEA Chapter 77 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 6415, Chico, CA 95927-6415

Chapter Website: www.rpeachapter77.com

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

**THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2026 – 11:15 AM
NASH'S RESTAURANT
1717 ESPLANADE, CHICO**

LUNCH COST: \$20 (Plated Lunch)

MENU: Chicken Stir Fry

VEGETARIAN OPTION: Veggie Stir Fry

(Nash's substituted Pastrami sandwiches for Chicken Stir Fry last month, so we will get Stir Fry in April.)

NOTE: Entrees accompanied by a beverage

RSVP: Betsy Kruger (530-345-7563) or

Email her: betsybikes@sbcglobal.net

Reservation Deadline: Sunday, March 29

NOTE: Please inform Betsy of your entrée choice when you make your reservation and any dietary restrictions.

SPEAKER:



**Charles "Charley" Turner
MPA Graduate Coordinator Professor
Political Science and Criminal Justice
California State University, Chico**

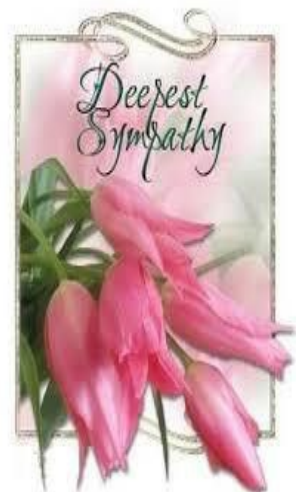
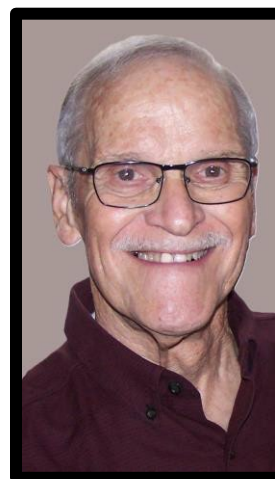
TOPIC:

"One Day, Two Elections: Exploring the June 2026 Election in District 1"

Charley Turner will discuss the upcoming midterm election, with a focus on our local congressional district, which will feature both an election to serve the remainder of the late Rep. Doug LaMalfa's current term and a primary for the term that will begin in 2027.

This will be a very interesting program, so plan to attend and listen to this very educational presentation about the upcoming California elections!

**In Loving Memory of
Michael "Mike" Cassetta**



We were saddened by the passing of Mike Cassetta on February 22. He was committed to public service and devoted 35 years of his life as the Glenn County Health Services Director. Mike was a dedicated Chapter 77 Board member and served as Membership Chair. He was always cheerful and a joy to be around! We send heartfelt sympathy to his wife, Roseanna, and his sons Craig and Mark. Mike's memorial service was held on March 14 at Faith Lutheran Church.

AREA 2 DIRECTOR REPORT JOHN FRANK

I had the opportunity to participate in the Stakeholders meeting with CalPERS staff and members of the CalPERS Board. Ms. Marcie L. Frost, Executive Officer/Public Retirement System, provided an overview of the accomplishments that were achieved last year. She stated we have 2.4 million retired members in the system and that our investments for 2025 earned 11.6%, the best we have earned in the past few years. Ms. Frost then stated that we had 47 billion invested in climate solutions in 2023, and in 2025 CalPERS increased the investment to 57.7 billion with a goal to increase our investments to 100 billion in climate solutions by 2030. Subsequently, that goal created a great deal of anxiety for me, being that most if not all the climate solutions are private equity investments. With private equity Investments, banks will not loan or invest due to the risk associated with that industry. If Bank of America, Wells Fargo, and US Bank are unwilling to invest, I question our involvement. This is something that I hope our audit or investigation will shed some light on.

I will keep you informed regarding funds. I thought members may want to know how CalPERS is spending their money. Chief Investment Officer Stephen W. Gilmore's total pay is \$2,272,874; Daniel J. Bienvenue, Deputy Investment Officer, California Teachers' Retirement System, \$1,566,471; Marcie L. Frost, Executive Officer/Public Employees' Retirement System, \$1,561,539; Arnold V. Phillips, Managing Investment Director, Public Employees' Retirement System, \$1,557,236; Scott Chan, Chief Investment Officer, California State Teachers' Retirement System, \$1,464,919; and Daniel Booth, Deputy Officer, California State Teachers' Retirement System, \$1,358,484. Are they worth that salary when we are still underfunded? These are some of the questions that I will be reviewing this fiscal year.

MY WORK PLAN FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR

I promised Chapters 39 and 102 that we will have our Chapter meeting available on Zoom for members who are unable to attend our meetings in person due to health or are housebound, but they still want to participate. It is my intent to have Zoom available for use by our June meeting.

John



AGING AND DISABILITY SHOWCASE

SPONSORED BY
PASSAGES
AREA AGENCY ON AGING
DISABILITY ACTION CENTER

THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2026
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
CHICO ELKS LODGE
1705 Manzanita Avenue, Chico

Resources for older adults and
persons with disabilities

- 70+ local agencies
- Free food
- Giveaways
- Free personal shredding truck
(1 bin per person)

Website: passagescenter.org/adrc



Thank you to Adrianna Cardenas,
Member Services Associate at RPEA
Headquarters, for printing and mailing
our Chapter 77 newsletters! We
appreciate RPEA HQ providing this
excellent service to the chapters!