



**RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
Chico Chapter 77**

JANUARY 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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Chapter Website: www.rpeachapter77.com

**MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT
THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2026
11:15 AM**

NOTE: The meeting was changed to the 2nd Thursday since the first Thursday is New Year’s Day.

**NASH’S RESTAURANT
1717 ESPLANADE, CHICO**

LUNCH COST: \$20 (Plated Lunch)

NOTE: The menu was not confirmed with Nash’s before the newsletter was printed, so it will be the “Chef’s surprise!” Please let Betsy know if you prefer a vegetarian entree when you make your reservation and inform her if you have any dietary restrictions.

RSVP: Betsy Kruger (530-345-7563) or Email her at betsybikes@sbcglobal.net

Reservation Deadline: Sunday, January 4

SPEAKER:



**Senior Chaplain Ed Hall
Butte County Sheriff’s Office**

TOPIC:

The Core Principle of “Presence”

Chaplain Hall defines his role with a single word: “presence.” His philosophy is centered on being with people during a profound crisis, rather than attempting to provide verbal consolation.

This will be our first meeting in 2026, and we hope you will join us. This will be an interesting program you won’t want to miss! We encourage you to invite a prospective member to join you!



NEW BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED

If you are interested in serving on the Board, we welcome you to sit in on a Zoom Board meeting to check it out. The Board meets on the last Wednesday of the month (with a few exceptions) at 9:00 AM. Members are welcome to attend our Zoom Board meetings to listen to the agenda items discussed and to give input. Please contact Al Raitt (aeraitt@msn.com) for the Zoom link if you’re interested in Zooming with the Board. We hope one or two members will step up to the plate and join us on the Board!

**2025-26 RPEA CHAPTER 77
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Norm Stump (President)	893-0767
Betsy Kruger (Vice President)	345-7563
Barbara Evans (Secretary)	342-4783
Joan Palmer (Treasurer)	343-7405
Sharon Salcido (Webmaster/Newsletter)	893-0181
Al Raitt (Health Benefits Chair)	893-0435
Mike Cassetta (Membership Chair)	892-0912
Judy Winter (Sunshine Chair)	518-6492
Faye Johnson (Member at Large)	345-9927



2025 RPEA CHAPTER 77 HOLIDAY PARTY

Chapter 77 and the Board sponsored the annual holiday party on December 4, 2025, at Nash's Restaurant (held in the "Breakfast Room"). It was a complimentary luncheon with a menu of lasagna and a vegetarian option of creamy pesto pasta with cherry tomatoes and mushrooms served with a green salad. The room looked festive with a Christmas tree, and there were delicious cookies and candy brought by Barbara Evans and Judy Winter to satisfy the "sweet tooth." David Vallelunga, a local pastor and multi-instrumentalist, entertained our group with festive holiday music using the accordion and foot drums to lift our spirits. He was accompanied by his lovely wife, Christine, who played a musical instrument and sang Christmas carols. Pastor Dave has a digital accordion that sounds like a band with bass, drums, saxes, and great clarinet sounds. The amazing holiday music added to the festive atmosphere during lunch! Lovely poinsettias acquired by Betsy Kruger decorated the tables and were given away in drawings following the luncheon. There were also several door prizes, including three bags of gifts created and donated by Julia King. Over 40 Chapter 77 members and guests enjoyed this holiday party! There is a collage of photos below that shows the happy faces of attendees enjoying the fun camaraderie!

