



RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION Chico Chapter 077

December 2022 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 retired public employees.*

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Chapter Website: www.rpeachapter77.com



CHRISTMAS PARTY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2022

11:15 A.M.

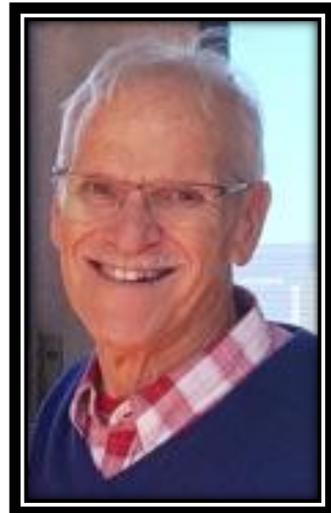
Manzanita Place (Chico Elks Lodge)

1705 Manzanita Avenue, Chico

**FUN – FELLOWSHIP – FOOD
MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT**



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERSHIP CHAIR!



Mike Cassetta

The annual Christmas party is sponsored by Chapter 077 and the Board of Directors, and there is no charge. Although members aren't charged for lunch, voluntary donations are appreciated to help offset costs. There will be a delicious plated lunch served, and you can invite your spouse, "significant other," or a prospective member to join you for this fun holiday party. **Reservations are required** for the Christmas party so that the Elks will know how much food to prepare. Please call Judy Winter (530-518-6492) or Betsy Kruger (530-345-7563) to confirm your attendance, and also let them know if you will be bringing a guest. You may also RSVP by emailing Betsy (betsybikes@sbcglobal.net). You can bring a lunch home to your spouse or a family member if they are unable to attend, but you must make advance arrangements. The entertainment hasn't been confirmed yet, but there will be some kind of music to get everyone in the Christmas spirit. This is a wonderful opportunity to visit with our members in a festive setting. Plan to attend this fun event, and wear your holiday attire!

Mike was unanimously approved as Membership Chair when he attended his first virtual Zoom Board meeting on October 26 as a new Board member. Al Raitt has been serving as Interim Membership Chair since November 2019 (in addition to Health Benefits Chair), and he passed the baton to Mike at this meeting. What started out as a "temporary" assignment for Al evolved into a 3-year job! A big thanks to Al for wearing two hats and doing a great job in both leadership roles! Congratulations to Mike on his new leadership role as Membership Chair!



LEGISLATIVE REPORT – By Mary Kowta

Greetings Readers! It is the Sunday after Election Day, and we have given the TV a rest; instead, our ears have enjoyed the sound of small bird chirps and the cheerful voices of friends and family. The Red Wave did not materialize; and so far, the two parties have not filed complaints. Let's hope we will be spared rancorous post-election enmity!

On the California ballot, the propositions with negative publicity were turned down by the voters. That does not mean that we have seen the last of the gambling initiatives. For example, the tribal leaders and the Big Gambling promoters may well work together to find ways to redraw their plans for mutual benefit. It is reported (Cal Matters online) that Big Tobacco is ready to sue California over the failure of the flavored tobacco proposition, and AG Rob Bonta is ready to fight that. He is a busy guy, currently suing 16 or more chemical companies over the use of PFAS in ways that harm consumers. These chemicals are in everything from fire retardants to non-stick fry pans!

Legislative News

On December 5 the legislative body will convene to elect new leaders as the 2023-24 session prepares to begin. The decision has been made for Assembly member Robert Rivas to replace Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon in June 2023. The newly elected members of the Legislature will be sworn in. The Governor plans to meet with leaders to discuss gas prices and the oil companies' big profits in this time of record-breaking inflation.

Other news

The LA Unified School District has officially welcomed back phonics as the best means of getting early learners reading. There will be a statewide effort to train teachers and reintroduce the "science of reading".

Sadly, some reports indicate that homelessness is growing among the older citizens. One article mentioned that the State of Montana and the Mountain West are seeing this as a new problem. The Influx of remote workers with high salaries has hit the real estate markets. Smaller homes are snatched up and remodeled to suit the newcomers. This can leave an older fixed income non-worker in a bad situation.

CalPERS has had recent publicity about underestimating the losses to the Fund and about those "high fliers" whose pensions are bigger than the IRS allows.

Sending Thanksgiving Greetings and looking forward to seeing many of you December 1 Holiday Party!

Mary

2022-23 RPEA CHAPTER 077 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 Editor)	893-0181
Al Raitt (Health Benefits Chair)	893-0435
Mary Kowta (Legislative Chair)	342-6759
Mike Cassetta (Membership Chair)	892-0912
Lawrie Salvestrin (Sunshine Chair)	519-5223
Judy Winter (Member at Large)	518-6492



SUNSHINE COMMITTEE REMINDER

If you know of anyone who could use a *Hello, Thinking of You, Get Well, or Sympathy* card, please email Lawrie Salvestrin (Sunshine Chair) lsalvest@gmail.com so that she can spread a little sunshine their way.