



**RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION  
Chico Chapter 077**

**December 2023 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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**HOLIDAY PARTY**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023  
11:15 A.M.**

**DOUBLE TREE BY HILTON  
685 Manzanita Court, Chico**

(Formerly Holiday Inn across from Denny's)  
Mangrove Avenue/Cohasset Road offramp off Hwy. 99

**FUN – FELLOWSHIP – FOOD  
MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT**

The annual Holiday 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.

**MENU:** Balsamic Glazed Pork Tenderloin with Roasted Potatoes; includes coffee, hot or iced tea, and a delicious DoubleTree cookie

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

**Reservation Deadline: Sunday, December 3**

**NOTE:** Please let Betsy know if you have any dietary restrictions when you make your reservation. Vegetarian requests will be accommodated.



**David Vallelunga**

The holiday entertainment will be provided by David Vallelunga who is a local pastor and multi-instrumentalist who has played for many groups and gatherings since coming to Chico in 2009. He will feature holiday music for accordion and foot drums. Your spirits will be raised a bit, for sure! 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!



## LEGISLATIVE REPORT – By Mary Kowta

The State Legislature passed Senate Bill 1383 in 2016....old news that is just starting to affect us! The basic plan is to separate food waste from trash that goes into the landfill. In 2022 greenhouse gas emissions in California went up rather than down. Food waste in the landfill is one of the reasons. While visiting family in San Francisco and Davis, I caught on that a change was in the works (Eeek! Mom, no chicken bones in that can!!!) I wondered about the new rules that did not seem to apply in Chico! I tried to call Waste Management, but couldn't speak to a real person; they thought I wanted another can, or to report a missed pick-up. Then I read in the E-R that Recology was introducing the new system in Oroville, so I hope that soon Waste Management customers in Chico will be notified so that we can get with the program. Chico State has an excellent waste and recycling program!

The State lawmakers are currently reviewing a number of items that will get attention when they reconvene on January 3. The problem of retail theft, smash-and-grabs, and robbery, for example, will be studied, and many others.

Governor Newsom, as you may have noticed, has been very busy packing and unpacking his suitcase. There was a brief visit to Israel; then off to China to talk about climate change. There is no doubt that China must curtail its carbon dioxide emissions (30%) compared to U.S. (13.5%), and it would seem that dialogue on such matters should be helpful. (E-R, 10/23/23). He is, however, also focused on California issues, including the budget, which has not so far rebounded in a meaningful way with the influx of late taxes. His critics point to a recent poll that shows that 49 % of registered voters disapprove

of this recent activity outside of the State. Voters, however, are very receptive to his Proposition 1, a \$6.4 billion mental health bond which will be on the March 24 ballot. (Sac Bee, 11/8/23)

## CalPERS News

At the recent Board meeting CalPERS announced that it wants to make the portfolio net zero emissions by 2050. It also presented a new set of labor principles for invested companies and a new sustainability plan. This may lay the groundwork for the notion of divestment. CalPERS is feeling the pressure! The unions want to see divestment from private equity. Climate activists see that CalPERS' move toward divestment of fossil fuels is too slow. The Board rejects Senate Bill 252 which will be up for vote in the Assembly in January. The Board announced a \$100 Billion pledge toward sustainability and climate-related plans. (Sac Bee 11/15/23)

The *CSU ERFSA Reporter* (November 2023) has a pro/con article on divestment [www.csuerfsa.org](http://www.csuerfsa.org). The issue also has an interesting note regarding the CalPERS Board awarding CEO Marcie Frost a \$200,000 bonus and almost 5% raise, "undaunted by unstable management and handling of the data breach...."

## FYI

CalPERS Fund: \$463 Billion - 72% funded

Great Debate...Newsom vs DeSantis...  
Nov 30...Fox

*Happy Holidays to all!*

*Mary*