



**RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
Chico Chapter 77**

MARCH 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.

Sharon Salcido, Editor – 530-893-0181 – sharonsalcidofromchico@gmail.com

Matters concerning your address should be directed to Barbara Evans – barbevans37@aol.com – 530-864-0523

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

Chapter Website: www.rpeachapter77.com

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

**THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2026 – 11:15 AM
NASH'S RESTAURANT
1717 ESPLANADE, CHICO**

LUNCH COST: \$20 (Plated Lunch)

MENU: Chicken Stir Fry

VEGETARIAN OPTION: Veggie Stir Fry

NOTE: Entrees accompanied by a beverage

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

Reservation Deadline: Sunday, March 1

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

PROGRAM:

Butte County Behavioral Health
Mobile Crisis Response Team

PRESENTERS:

Hope Kilby, LMFT
Emergency & Forensic Clinician Supervisor
Butte County Crisis Services

Reidun Waddell, LCSW
Program Manager
Butte County Crisis Services

The Mobile Crisis Response Team is available 24/7 to provide immediate mental health support. No matter where you are in Butte County, they will come to you. Trained professionals will assess your situation, provide crisis

intervention and dispatch their Mobile Crisis Response Team if needed. They provide on-the-spot support for individuals facing mental health crises, substance use concerns, or situations requiring immediate intervention. Their trained professionals respond to calls for help in homes, workplaces, public spaces, or wherever assistance is needed, ensuring safety, stability, and access to resources for those in need. Hope Kilby and Reidun Waddell will speak about the Mobile Crisis Response Team, and it will be an interesting program!

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

April 2

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

May 7

**Representative from Court Appointed
Special Advocates (CASA)**

June 4

Indoor Picnic (complimentary)

Please put these dates on your calendar and plan to attend these membership luncheon meetings! More details about the programs will be included in future newsletters.



WELCOME!

**Joseph Dudan of Paradise
and
Sandra Korjenek of Magalia**

**Joseph and Sandra are our two
newest Chapter 77 members!**

*We look forward to Joseph and Sandra
attending our membership luncheon
meetings and welcoming them in person!*

HEALTH BENEFITS REPORT

By Al Raitt

(Presented at Board and Membership Meetings)

Al Raitt reported that CalPERS adopted reference-based pricing that included quality services, reasonable pricing, and provider accountability. He also noted that the Federal Government was using AI to deny claims and will try to apply it to Federal programs such as Medicare Advantage. Six states were targeted with the end goal being to privatize programs. There was general discussion about prescriptions being received by members under the old and new providers.



*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!*

AREA 2 DIRECTOR END-OF-THE-YEAR REPORT By John Frank

I assumed the position of Area 2 Director in March of 2025. It has certainly been a challenge, and I am still learning my position. I had some big shoes to fill being that both former Directors came from Chapter 77. Therefore, I would like to share some of the accomplishments we experienced this past year.

First, I made a commitment to attend every Chapter Meeting and provide important information on what our State Associations are working on to support and protect retired members of the Association benefits. It was also my intent to take back and share member concerns and wants with REPA BOARD MEMBERS.

Second, it was my personal mission to revitalize Oroville Chapter 39, that had been closed for the past 5 years. This closure was partly due to the Paradise fire that destroyed 24,000 homes and displaced a good number of our membership; and then came the COVID pandemic that kept members from participating. I am happy to inform all members of Chapter 77 that Chapter 39 held their first Chapter meeting on September 16, 2025, and we have been meeting monthly since. The Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary have all resumed their positions and I have become President until I can recruit a replacement. We meet on the third Tuesday of the month at Feather Falls Casino in Oroville, and you are all welcome to join us.

Finally, we have supported an audit or investigation into the investment strategy of the CalPERS practices regarding private equity investments. Members have individually donated to this cause, and our Area 2 Chapters have donated \$13,500 to the cause. The first preliminary report should be available on March 18, 2026, for our review. I look forward to sharing it with all members soon!

John