



**RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
Chico Chapter 077**

OCTOBER 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

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

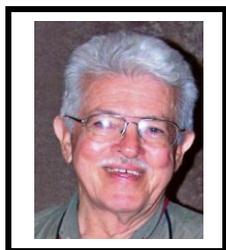
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2022 - 11:15 A. M.
Manzanita Place (Chico Elks Lodge)
1705 Manzanita Avenue, Chico
(Lunch Cost: \$18)

SPEAKERS:

Abe Baily
RPEA Secretary/Treasurer
Area II Director
Chapter 077 Member

and

Sharon Salcido
Chapter 077 Newsletter Editor
and Webmaster



TOPIC:

“Report on RPEA General Assembly 2022”

Abe Baily and Sharon Salcido are attending the RPEA General Assembly September 26-29 at the Hilton Sacramento Arden West. Abe is attending as RPEA Secretary/Treasurer and Area II Director, and Sharon is attending as Delegate of Chapter 077. RPEA typically has a GA every two years; however, as a result of COVID, the last GA was held in 2018. A delegate acts as the governing body of our Association, and the delegates are the representatives of our chapters who have the authority to make changes to our Bylaws. Two resolutions are going to be presented at GA, and officers will be elected. Abe and Sharon will share highlights of GA with our membership at the October 6 meeting.

SEPTEMBER 1 MEETING RECAP

It was exciting that we were finally able to resume our in-person membership luncheon meetings again on September 1. The Board was pleased that we had 31 members and guests plus our two speakers. It was a nice turnout considering that this was the first in-person membership luncheon meeting in a couple of years because of the pandemic. We had two excellent speakers (Jim Hanlon and John Shepherd from the CUSD) who spoke on the “Safe Schools Program with the Chico Unified School District.” Manzanita Place (Chico Elks Lodge) served a delicious lunch, and we enjoyed camaraderie with the attendees. We hope to have an even larger turnout at our October 6 meeting!



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.

2022 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 and Membership Chair)	893-0435
Mary Kowta (Legislative Chair)	342-6759
Lawrie Salvestrin (Sunshine Chair)	519-5223
Judy Winter (Member at Large)	345-6778

LEGISLATIVE REPORT – By Mary Kowta

NOVEMBER 8 ELECTION DAY.....is Coming

Yes, it is almost here! Only about seven more weeks of politicking! As of 9/16 we still have seven propositions on the ballot, plus sales tax measure for Chico. Watch for your mail-in ballot and other election materials. Feel free to trash most of the proposition hype cluttering your mailbox. This is a time to appreciate local journalism. Generally, you may see pro and con articles on the propositions in the newspapers. You may not agree with the editors' comments, but they do state their reasons in a coherent way; and when they make their decisions, they are well aware of the amounts of money poured into proposition efforts by special interests. The watch words are: Follow the Money! You can also research this yourself online on Ballotopedia.

Incidentally, Governor Newsom signed a budget bill which allots \$25 Million to UC Berkeley's journalism program. Hmmm! I hope they will research ways to get young people to put down their phones and read the papers! (I was visiting a patient at UCSF Hospital; and when I stopped at the lobby store to buy a newspaper, I was told that they were out and the clerk said, "Oh, don't you have a phone?")

CLIMATE ACTION IN SACRAMENTO

The Governor has had success in getting a number of significant bills that address the climate signed into law. These measures ensure that the State becomes carbon-neutral by 2045, produces 90% of its electricity from clean sources by 2035, and fast-tracks carbon-capture projects. There are questions among some in the scientific community about feasibility of some projects. These bills follow the directive that only electric vehicles be sold after 2035. It is a big undertaking! The Governor is quoted: "We're not interested in doubling down on stupid. We're not interested in investing in the industries that have created the problems that we are trying to mitigate. The future happens here first. **We are America's coming attraction**". (*SF Chronicle* 9/18/22)

It is hard not to like Governor Newsom's enthusiasm for this progress. We do! We also wish that he address some of that energy and spirit to certain other problems such as lack of safe water for Central Valley towns, equity in education, and dire health issues from bad air in the Imperial Valley. These problems, and wildfire devastation, demand immediate attention.

Social Media Action

Assembly Bill 2273 was signed by the Governor on 9/15/22. It prevents the social media companies from using children's personal information. The law goes into effect 7/1/24. This bill is weaker than AB2408 which was killed by the industry lobbyists. Yet, it is the most effective move that any state has made to protect children using the internet, according to the bill's sponsors (*SacBee* 9/18/22)

Suggested reading: capitolweekly.net

Current issue has the **Public Policy Institute of California** Survey of Californians top concerns (economy, inflation, jobs), and several other timely articles.

Looking forward to seeing you at our October 6 luncheon! Sharon and Abe will report on the RPEA General Assembly in Sacramento. Don't miss it!

STATUS OF FUTURE IN-PERSON MEETINGS

The Board will meet on October 12 to assess the status of future in-person meetings. We need to guarantee a minimum of 40 attendees at each luncheon meeting and need to cover any shortage out of our treasury. We may need to consider a different meeting location. The Board would like to involve the membership in making a decision about the future direction of Chapter 077. Please contact a Board member (list included in newsletter) to express your feelings!