#### RETIRED EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION OF VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING



Tuesday, October 4, 2022 – 11:30 a.m. Hosted by Roberta Griego Bella Vista Clubhouse 1724 Tanager St. Ventura, CA 93003

#### CALL TO ORDER – Roberta Griego, 1st Vice President

Reddy Pakala, Roberta Griego, Kenneth Cozzens, Will Hoag, Paul Callaway, Nancy Settle, Butch Britt, Colleen Bruns, Anne Dana, Art Goulet, Colleen House, Tom McEachern, Jacquie Richardson, Cindy Schneider, Kelly Shirk, Maryellen Benedetto

#### MINUTES

• Approval of Minutes from August 2, 2022 Board Meeting - Attachment 1

#### FINANCIAL REPORT – Butch Britt

• Financial Report - Receive and File – Attachment 2

#### DECEMBER LUNCHEON STATUS - Anne Dana

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** (Committee Chairs may report via e-mail and need not be present)

Retirement Board/Legislation - (Art) Associate Members - (Maryellen) Benefits - (Kelly) Communications - (Will) Audit Committee - (Ken) CRCEA - (Will/Jacquie)

Newsletter - (Dee) Nominations/Elections - (Nancy) Program/Social - (Anne/Tom) Scholarship - (Tom) Membership Report/Courtesy - (Nancy)

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- 1. Discuss and Approve Update on the notice to discontinue mailing of newsletter
- 2. Discuss and Approve Hosting the 2025 CRCEA Conference with Santa Barbara County
- 3. Discuss and Approve Speakers for future luncheon meetings

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. Discuss and Approve Options to assist with workload increase for Will, Dee, and Butch
- 2. Discuss and Approve Finalize No Shows letter for review and approval Attachment 3
- Waive Election Process for Board of Directors Nominees and Declare Nominees Elected. Nominees: Paul Callaway, Anne Dana, Tom McEachern, Reddy Pakala, Jacquie Richardson, Cindy Schneider, Kelly Shirk (Term January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2024)

#### ADJOURN NEXT BOARD MEETING – Tuesday, December 13, 2022, 11:30 a.m. hosted by Reddy Pakala

#### ATTACHMENT #1

#### **RETIRED EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION OF VENTURA COUNTY (REAVC)**

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting for August 2, 2022 Members of the Board met at Director Cozzen's Residence

#### • Call to Order and Roll Call

Past President Nancy Settle called the meeting to order at 11:49 a.m.

#### Present

Board Members: Maryellen Benedetto, Butch Britt, Colleen Bruns, Paul Callaway, Kenneth Cozzens, Anne Dana, Art Goulet, Roberta Griego, Will Hoag, Tom McEachern, Jacquie Richardson, Cindy Schneider, and Nancy Settle.

#### <u>Absent</u>

Colleen House, Reddy Pakala, and Kelly Shirk.

#### • Minutes – Attachment 1

June 14, 2022 Minutes for a Regular Meeting – Cindy Schneider moved and seconded approval of the minutes. There were 4 abstentions due to absences, and 7 Yeas. (Vote was administered prior to the arrival of Art Goulet.)

#### • Financial Reports – Attachment 2

Butch Britt advised that the Financial Report was pretty standard and recommended that the Board receive and file the Report. Butch Britt asked if there were any questions.

Past-President Settle asked Butch Britt about the bottom-line running negative and what he anticipated the ending balance for the fiscal year would be. Butch indicated that he has accounted for the fluctuations during the year and that he expects the year end budget balance to be pretty close to zero. Last year the ending balance was quite a bit better than usual because of Covid impacts. Nancy commended Britt on his budgeting practices.

Roberta Griego moved and Anne Dana seconded that the Financial Report be received and filed. Motion passed unanimously.

#### • September Luncheon Status

Anne Dana indicated that she did not have an opportunity to tally luncheon reservations prior to the Board Meeting. Dee Emami stated that the current count was 26. Board Members present announced whether they would attend and bring guests. It was mentioned that the venue would be Sterling Hills. Will Hoag noted that 9 additional reservations came via U.S. mail. Dee reported that the revised expected luncheon attendance would be 56.

Anne mentioned that Roberta and Ken would each bring a speaker to the September luncheon. Roberta's speaker will be from NAMI and Ken's will be his son, who provides assistance to first responders through an organization called Four Generations Foundation. Tom McEachern will also obtain a speaker for a future luncheon.

Anne relayed that the menu will remain the same, unless anyone would like to suggest changes. Jacquie Richardson asked about the cost of the prime rib station and whether it was an inseparable part of the menu bundle. Anne responded that the prime rib was one of the options and she could investigate whether omitting it would make a difference.

Anne said that costs of various options from a cost standpoint were not provided. However, she heard a discussion about the menu for a wedding, which did provide cost-saving options. As an example, the customer was able to downgrade the champagne to pay \$1.50 to \$2.50 per plate less. Board Members agreed that prime rib might be a perk that some members equated to a good reason to attend the luncheon!

Anne said she would check into other menu options. She said that plate settings at tables in lieu of the current buffet setup would definitely be more expensive.

Butch Britt indicated that it is a good idea not to have speakers at the Christmas luncheon, but the speaker could be obtained for next year.

Anne asked whether the Board would like to continue having raffle gifts at luncheons. Anne asked Butch about the larger gift cards that she had bought and about budget impacts. Butch indicated that most of the gift baskets and larger gift cards should be saved for the Holiday Luncheon. He indicated he would go along with what the Board would like to do as long as the gifts continue to fall within the budget.

Jacquie Richardson loves to make and provide baskets as gifts. Anne and the Board expressed appreciation for her efforts. Butch said he is saving up his gifts for the Holiday Luncheon. Colleen Bruns reminded the Board that the gift cards do not expire and can easily be saved for future luncheons. Butch indicated that See's Candy gift cards were also an option for luncheons.

Anne asked whether the Board had decided not to provide barrels for Food Share at future luncheons. Ken confirmed that we would not be doing so. He explained that often REAVC members were donating expired items which required additional sorting by volunteers, and the volume donated versus the man-power to sort it all out was insufficient to benefit recipients of Food Share.

Ken said that monetary donations are preferred because food can be bought in cases and distributed with less sorting. Roberta asked if monetary donations could be submitted and taken to Food Share. The Board discussed whether a financial donation box for Food Share should be set up.

Art Goulet stated that setting up a Food Share donation box could adversely impact scholarship donations. Tom mentioned that the REAVC website has an option to make scholarship donations and a Food Share donation option could also be included. Butch

indicated that the scholarship donation option had been used twice in five years. A box for Food Share donations will not be provided online or at luncheons at this time.

Butch clarified that REAVC is not a 501 3c corporation so we must take care not to create tax issues by processing donations for Food Share. Since such donations are not deductible for REAVC, they should be given directly to Food Share. Nancy Settle asked the Board about providing a basket at luncheons for scholarship donations and it was decided to do so. Cindy Schneider agreed that the reminder for scholarships is a good idea and that Food Share is something that people would probably think about anyway.

Anne told the Board that in the past she had not provided a final cancellation date for luncheon attendance. Because of this, she felt that perhaps members did not realize that the importance of notifying REAVC timely, or at all, if they subsequently decided not to attend. A date will be provided for future luncheons in hope of minimizing last-minute cancellations and no shows.

Anne described that she had around a hundred luggage tags with County logos that Roberta donated to REAVC. Anne suggested that these tags could be attached to gift baskets in the future. Otherwise, they could be handed out at a future luncheon. They could also be handed out at the conference. It was decided that the tags would be attached to gifts at luncheons.

Roberta asked if the Board intended to retain its logo or to change it to match the logo recently chosen by the County of Ventura. The Board agreed that they intended to keep the current logo as is for now.

Jacquie suggested distributing extra raffle tickets to luncheon attendees who donate \$10 or more toward scholarships. Some Board Members voiced that this is a good idea.

#### Committee Reports

Retirement Board/Legislation-Art shared that the legislature came back yesterday (August 1, 2022) and they will adjourn on the 31<sup>st</sup>. It is critical to push items through since the end of a two-year legislative session is nearing. All items must be completed because there will be no carryovers. The proposed but inactive bill regarding pensionable items must be activated prior to the 31st, or it will die.

Art reported that it is not a surprise that last month was not good investment-wise for the retirement system. Preliminary numbers went down about 6.3%. None of the retirement systems have done well this year.

VCERA is experiencing delayed responses and difficulty in receiving approval from County Human Resources to address 2% COLA salary adjustments for its staff. VCERA is seeking advice from a consultant. Board Member Long advised that VCERA return with alternatives. Rather than salary adjustments, another possibility is to increase the County's contribution to employees' 401K accounts. Art suggested that it is probably both easier to administer and less costly to process the COLA.

Nancy asked Art for clarification about what AB 826 entails. Outside Counsel, VCERA General Counsel, and VCERA Administrator all say that flexible credit allowances are not

pensionable. AB 826 is intended to make a correction. Flexible credit allowances are basically an in-kind benefit and not pensionable according to the Alameda decision. Health Insurance opt out fees complicate the issue. The problem could be resolved by elimination of opt out fees, but the County has chosen not to do so, probably because of the amount of money involved. A lot of employees, especially those at the lower end of the salary schedule, will be negatively impacted if the bill does not pass. The bill is currently inactivated due to action by Senator Limon. It is unlikely that it will be reactivated at this point.

Associate Members-Maryellen Benedetto expressed that she currently had no update, but the Board should decide what is to be done about associate members. Discussion ensued about providing contact information for resources to spouse survivors of deceased members. Local caregivers, Long-Term Care Ombudsman, Area Agency on Aging, Behavioral Heath, Gold Coast Transit, and Lions Club were mentioned as possibilities that could be posted on the website and in the newsletter. Maryellen suggested those with information should provide it to Dee to compile. She gave her contact information to Board Members to assist with the endeavor.

Benefits-Board Member Kelly Shirk was not present. Roberta Griego said emails from Benefits indicate that there are no meetings, at this point.

Communications-Will Hoag said that voice mail was not working for about two weeks. Will reset the system. Eight to ten messages were from members who do not want to change from hardcopy to email newsletters left messages. Will believes that there will be more notifications from concerned people begin to read their newsletters more carefully and find the notification about converting to email only delivery.

The Board discussed how members could express a need to continue receiving hardcopy newsletters. Those without computer access could continue to receive the hardcopy. Anne said we should check in with Reddy, but he had indicated that if someone asks to continue receiving hardcopies that is sufficient justification to do so. Nancy said we should postpone for clarification of Reddy's direction.

Audit Committee-Ken indicated that all is going well.

Meeting temporarily adjourned at 12:21 pm and reconvened at 1:21 pm.

CRCEA-This item was deferred by Nancy because the committee was unable to meet. More information may be provided by Will and Jacquie in the future.

Newsletter- Dee Emami indicated that the deadline is August 15<sup>th</sup> and Butch had already submitted his Papa B article. Most other articles were not yet received. Nancy requested that the REAVC Calendar be placed in the upcoming newsletter or posted online. Nancy requested that an article about service on the Board should be included in the newsletter.

Nomination/Elections-Nancy informed the Board that a sleight of officers is required for the next membership luncheon on September 6, 2022. There is currently a full Board.

Program/Social-Covered in prior items. Nothing else to report until the Business item discussion. Nancy mentioned that a "How to Fall" speaker was requested as a future topic.

Scholarship-Tom had nothing further to report except that there are thank you letters to forward to Dee for inclusion in the newsletter.

Membership Report/Courtesy-Nancy reported that Patty Dowdy was promoted and she will no longer conduct the Benefits workshops. Unfortunately, the County no longer intends to provide the workshops. This is the loss of a way for REAVC to connect with employees.

Nancy said the REAVC letterhead must be updated prior to a membership drive mail out.

#### Old Business

#### 1. Discuss and Approve-Update on the notice to discontinue mailing of newsletter

Anne said that Reddy thought if someone asked for hardcopy newsletters that is enough to justify continuing their hardcopy delivery. Anne brought attention to cost for printing a minimum amount of newsletters and possible related price-breaks. Neither Butch nor Dee had this information. Nancy motioned that people who request a hardcopy may receive one, and that a request is all that is needed to do so. Cindy seconded the motion.

Discussion commenced. Will indicated that about 10 people have asked to continue to receive a hardcopy newsletter. Butch said a total of about 800 are receiving a hardcopy newsletter. Over 2000 members receive newsletters by email. Butch informed the Board that newsletters are now barcoded so that REAVC will be notified if they are undeliverable. Butch also shared that people think that REAVC is notified when they change their email. Nancy said maybe something should be placed in the newsletter about the need to notify REAVC when members change their email address. Butch let the Board know that email updates are difficult due to the poor handwriting of members. After discussion concluded, the motion carried with 9 in favor, 2 nays, and 1 abstention.

#### 2. Discuss and Approve - Hosting the 2025 CRCEA Conference with Santa Barbara County

Will said he had no additional news other than Santa Barbara wants to hold off on planning until after the next conference. CRCEA approval is required for joint conferences. Roberta questioned the need for two CRCEA conferences per year. The committee also wanted to check rates and provide more information at the REAVC Board Meeting held after the October CRCEA conference. Nancy contacted Crown Plaza, the prior Ventura conference venue, and is awaiting an estimate. The Board discussed various locations such as the Marriott in Buellton, that could be shared with Santa Barbara. Anne asked who makes the decision about venues. Nancy responded that CRCEA does.

Art informed the Board that jointly shared conferences make sense, especially for small entities such as Imperial County. Imperial splits responsibilities with San Diego

so that they can participate in providing a conference. Otherwise, Imperial could not afford to provide a conference.

Nancy said that the previous conference cost about \$19,000. Butch said Crown Plaza was pretty tight as a venue. Nancy said CRCEA wanted REAVC to return money. Butch said that REAVC kept the seed money, but returned the delegate money which was between \$2,500 and \$3,000. CRCEA also restricted decisionmaking. They would not allow REAVC to raise the cost of dinner to cover expenses.

#### 3. Discuss and Approve-Speakers for Future Meetings

Tom will go to Senior Concerns in Thousand Oaks to secure a speaker for a future meeting. Anne confirmed that there will be music and gifts in lieu of a speaker at the December Luncheon. Tom will request speakers for 2023.

#### **New Business**

#### 1. Discuss and Approve – Inviting REAVC members to REAVC Board Meetings

Anne said she spoke with Reddy and that the Board might consider determining the number of people, such as up to five to attend. It should also not be the same people every time. Anne said, however, I don't know if we even want to have five extra people attend. Jacquie said that if five more people are added to the conversation it could impact business. Nancy responded that guests are usually observers who do not say anything. Ken mentioned that since we are having meetings at Board Members' homes, adding five people might not be easily done. REAVC would need to pay for five additional lunches, as well. Nancy said she believed the thought was that interest in serving on the Board might be cultivated by inviting members to attend Board Meetings. Nancy said we could advertise that up to two people could attend and we could create a waiting list, if needed. Dee asked if additional agendas would need to be provided. Cindy suggested we should allow members to attend if they ask to do so. However, a policy to invite members does not seem necessary. Colleen Bruns checked the bylaws to see if there was a provision that required allowing member attendance at Board Meetings. There was none. Roberta said it is not a good idea to have members attend while REAVC is meeting at the homes of Board Members. Butch agreed and said that having members attend should wait until we return to meeting at restaurants or hotels. Nancy said when REAVC discontinues meeting homes, opportunities to attend Board Meetings could be advertised in the newsletter and announced at general membership meetings. Cindy suggested that someone could poll the audience at membership meetings for the names of employees that members supervised previously who had leadership qualities. The Board could also announce that members interested in serving on the Board should contact a Board member for more information.

# 2. Discuss and Approve – No shows draft letter for review and approval – Attachment 3

Paul made a motion to approve the attached courtesy letter and Colleen seconded prior to further discussion. The letter was approved with suggestions to add

information about how to cancel, clarification of the final cancelation date, and the email and telephone number of who to contact, a suggestion to italicize key points, and other minor verbiage revisions. Anne said that as of January, the letter would go out to those who did not RSVP appropriately in September and/or December. However, members would not yet be charged for additional luncheon costs. The amended letter passed unanimously.

#### 3. Discuss and Approve – REAVC digital records – Will Hoag

Will said he would like to defer discussion of digital records until the next Board Meeting.

#### • Adjournment

Nancy thanked the Cozzens for hosting the meeting and adjourned at 2:19 p.m.

#### • Next Board Meeting

The next REAVC Board meeting will be hosted by Board Member Griego at 11:30 a.m. on October 4, 2022, in Ventura at the Clubhouse on Tanager.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee Emami REAVC Executive Assistant

Reviewed and approved by,

Reddy Pakala REAVC President

## ATTACHMENT #2

## **RETIRED EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION OF VENTURA COUNTY**



**Financial Report** 

### Board Meeting – October 4, 2022

## NOTE: Financial Data as of September 30, 2022

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

ltem No.	Page No.	Description
1	1	TOC/comments/recommendations
2	2	Net Worth, See's candy summary and CD summary report
3	3	Cash Flow – 2022 - YTD
4	4	Budget VS Actual – 2022 - YTD
5	5	Checking Account – Transaction Register 7/25/2022 – 9/30/2022
6	6	Money Mkt Account – Transaction Register 7/25/2022 – 9/30/2022

#### **Comments/ recommendations:**

1. Receive and file financial report. Notes: None

Account	9/28/2022 Balance		
ASSETS			
Cash and Bank Accounts			
12 MO CERTIFICATE S09	0.00		
12 MO CERTIFICATE S10	0.00		
60 MO CERTIFICATE - S0008	10,618,48		
Checking Account ID 90	5,768.60		
Money Market Checking ID 14	84,528.46		
Primary Share ID 01	32.55		
Cash Box - Change	212.00		
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	101,160.09		
Other Assets			
See's Candy Gift Cards	4,598.00		
See's Candy Sales - 999	0.00		
TOTAL Other Assets	4,598.00		
TOTAL ASSETS	105,758.09		
LIABILITIES	0.00		
OVERALL TOTAL	105,758.09		

See's Candy GIFT CARDS Summary Report ESTIMATED							
Status	No. Sold	Value Sold	No. On- hand	Book Value			
Year-end 2021	184	\$3,488	112	\$2,807 <sup>1</sup>			
Year to Date 2022	117	\$2457	195	\$4,598			

1. Adjusted book value to comply with IRS tax return.

2. Purchased 100 gift cards 2/29/22

3. Purchased 100 gift cards 9/27/22

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		ounts – Summary Repo	
Account No.	Term (months)	Interest Rate (%)	Maturity Date
S0008	60	2.325	2/11/2025

Page 1

REAVC October 4, 2022 Financial Report - Page 2

### Cash Flow 1/1/2022 through 9/30/2022

Category	1/1/2022- 9/30/2022
INFLOWS	
Dividend and interest Income - 102	308.52
Luncheon Sales - 110	3,410.00
Membership Dues -101	49,986.00
Miscellaneous Income - 103	.0,000.00
Scholarship donations	3,677.73
TOTAL Miscellaneous Income - 103	3,677.73
TOTAL INFLOWS	57,382.25
DUTFLOWS	
Assoc. Dues to Other Orgs 209	1,660.85
Board of Director's Meetings- 203	495.32
Conference and Seminars - 207	1,844.25
General Membership Luncheons - 206	15,796.36
Misc. Expense - 214	177.79
Newsletter - 202	11,078.87
Office Supplies - 208	603.95
Professional Services - 201	000.00
Admin	7,764.52
Bookkeeping	2,800.00
web Site	700.00
TOTAL Professional Services - 201	11,264.52
Scholarships - 211	15,000.00
Taxes and Insurance - 213	1,546.00
Telephone Internet - 215	817.35
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	60,285.26
VERALL TOTAL	-2,903.01
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Page 1

# REAVC - BOARD MEETING - OCTOBER 4, 2022

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

	Budget V	/S Actual		
Data as of		Percent time:	75%	
Income	2022 <sup>کو</sup> مې Budget (Rev 1)	Actual Inc. / Exp.	% Act vs Budget	Notes
				Budget appv'd by Board 2/1/22 Rev 1 appv'd by Board 5/9/22
101-Membership Dues	\$65,800.00	\$49,986.00	76%	
102-Dividend and Interest Income	\$1,500.00	\$308.52	21%	
110- Luncheon Sales	\$6,000.00	\$3,410.00	57%	Interest inc. low
103-Miscellaneous Income	\$2,000.00	\$3,677.73		Calculation and
Total Income	\$75,300.00	\$57,382.25	184% 76%	Scholarship donations
Transfer from reserves (if required)	\$8,900.00	\$0.00	70%	Devid included
Total Funds Available	\$84,200.00	\$57,382.25	68%	Rev 1 included
201-Professional Services 202-Newsletter/ Printing	\$16,800.00	\$11,264.52	67%	
202-Newsletter/ Printing	\$18,000.00	\$11,078.87	62%	
203-Board of Director's Meetings	\$2,300.00	\$495.32	22%	
206-General Membership Luncheons	\$24,000.00	\$15,796.36	66%	
207-Conference & Seminars	\$2,000.00	\$1,844.25	0004	Reimb. For 2021 conf. attendees
208-Office Supplies 209-Association Dues - CRCEA	\$1,000.00	\$603.95	-	Includes PO Box Rental 1 yr, and 1 y Zoom rental
211-Scholarships	\$1,650.00	\$1,660.85	101%	
212-Mileage	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00		Rev 1 included
213-Taxes and Insurance	\$250.00	\$0.00	0%	
214-Miscellaneous	\$1,550.00 \$150.00	\$1,546.00	100%	
215-Telephone/Internet	\$150.00	\$177.79	44704	Past President recognition
217-Contingency	\$800.00	\$817.35 \$0.00	117% o 0%	So Daddy bill included
Total Expenditures	\$84,200.00	\$60,285.26	72%	
Net - (Income minus expenditures - year to date)	\$0.00		В	udget anticipates transfer from

## Checking Account ID 90

## Checking Account ID 90 9/28/2022

P	ad	e	1
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Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Category	Amount	С	Balance
7/27/2022 7/27/2022 8/2/2022 8/5/2022 8/5/2022 8/5/2022 8/5/2022 8/11/2022 8/23/2022 8/23/2022 9/3/2022 9/8/2022 9/8/2022 9/8/2022 9/27/2022 9/27/2022 9/28/2022	DEP 7/24 1966 1967 DEP DEP 1968 DEP EFT EFT EFT 1969 DEP EFT EFT EFT DEP 1970 1971 TXFR	Various Checks ATT Dee Emami W. B. Britt, Inc. Various Checks Cash Ken Cozzens VCERA Various ATT Godaddy.Com Go Daddy Dee Emami Various Han'ei, Inc Han'ei, Inc Han'ei, Inc Cash Luncheon And See's Anne Dana Anne Dana See's Candy	Luncheon Che Telephone Admin Services 2 Mos Bkkping Luncheon sales Luncheon sales Reimburseme Check Received luncheon chec Telephone Site Hosting Website Hosting Admin Service Luncheon che Postage News Printing Newsl cash deposit Reimburseme Reimburseme Purchase 100	Luncheon S Telephone I Professional	100.00 -47.96 -1,000.00 -700.00 240.00 70.00 -100.00 5,576.00 313.00 -47.96 -395.64 -41.34 -1,000.00 6,236.00 -635.21 -1,622.63 420.00 -4,994.71 -500.00 -2,125.00	)   RRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRR	6,124.05 6,076.09 5,076.09 4,376.09 4,616.09 4,686.09 4,586.09 10,162.09 10,475.09 10,427.13 10,031.49 9,990.15 8,990.15 15,226.15 14,590.94 12,968.31 13,388.31 8,393.60 7,893.60 5,768.60

Money Market Checking ID 14

Money Market Checking ID 14 9/27/2022

 Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Category	Amount	С	Balance
8/1/2022 9/1/2022	DEP DEP	Dividend Deposit Apy Dividend Deposit Apy	%% APY Earn %% APY Earn	Dividend an Dividend an	14.35 35.88		84,492.58 84,528.46

Page 1

#### ATTACHMENT #3

#### Courtesy Letter To "NO SHOWS" at Regular REAVC Luncheons held in Camarillo

Fellow REAVC Members,

This letter is being sent to only those REAVC members who have made reservations for one or more of the last four general membership luncheons but did not attend and did not cancel their reservation, or cancelled with short notice. This has become an issue for REAVC because of the unnecessary expense it causes to the general membership.

The caterer requires an accurate account of proposed attendees 10 days prior to the luncheon in order to ensure there is sufficient food and service for all attendees. Once the number of proposed attendees is submitted, REAVC is required to pay the **full** price for that many meals, no matter how many are actually served. In addition to the unnecessary expense, members who fail to cancel their reservation have caused some members to be deprived of the opportunity to attend the luncheon. There have been times when we could not approve requests for reservations because of the capacity limit at the venue. However, some of these requests could have been approved if prior reservations had been cancelled in a timely manner.

We ask you to consider a reservation as a commitment and to honor that commitment.

This correspondence serves to advise you that any member who makes a reservation for himself/herself and/or guest(s) and fails to cancel prior to the to the required cancellation date, as specified on the luncheon flier for the specific event, will be responsible for and sent an invoice for the full cost of the meal(s), minus any amount submitted with his/her reservation request. Currently, each meal costs REAVC about \$35 per person.

This policy goes into effect next calendar year 2023 commencing with the March 2023 luncheon. Habitual disregard of this policy may cause you to lose your privilege to make a reservation and attend future REAVC luncheons.

We understand emergencies such as illness, transportation challenges, pandemic issues, and needing to take care of a family member will occur occasionally. If an emergency should occur, let us know as soon as possible by calling Anne Dana at (805) 320-6408. We will waive additional charges and ensure you are able to continue to make reservations.

General membership luncheons are one of the most appreciated benefits of being an REAVC member. The luncheons are intended to be events to catch up with friends, make new friends, and enjoy some great food and entertainment. We hope in the future that members are more diligent about making reservations and canceling, if need be, prior to the time specified in the luncheon flyer.

We hope to see you at our next luncheon!

Thank you for your cooperation,

**REAVC Board**