



RPEA Holiday Party Dec. 4

Chapter 15 - Riverside Invites you to play **S-I-N-G-O**
at our Luncheon Meeting & Party

WHEN: Thursday, Dec. 4

TIME: 11:30am to 1:30pm

**WHERE: Janet Goeske Community Center
5257 Sierra St., Riverside (Room D)**

MEAL is \$10
for Members & Guests
First time guests are
FREE

Special S-I-N-G-O Vocalist: Dianne Chavarria



Dianne has been entertaining all over Southern California for nearly 30 years. She will lead our chapter in our first ever Holiday SINGO!

Singo is played like Bingo, except the cards have names of holiday songs in the squares. The song is played and **everyone sings along**. If players find the song on their card, they mark the square with a chip. When you have filled in the required pattern, i.e. regular BINGO, 4 corners, etc., Yell OUT

"SINGO" and win a prize. **No charge or cost to play!**

RSVP REQUIRED

RSVP TODAY or by Friday Nov. 21

RSVP To: Julia Murray

Email: juliaRPEA.C15@gmail.com

Text: 951-285-2801

The Power of Volunteering

Dear Chapter 15 Members,

It's easy to fall into routines ... the same morning coffee, the same walk, the same TV shows in the evening. Routines bring comfort and order, especially after busy working years. But sometimes, they can quietly narrow our world.

Breaking out of old patterns, even in small ways, can do wonders for the body and mind. Trying something new helps the brain stay sharp, boosts mood, and often leads to new friendships and opportunities. It's amazing how much energy we can feel just by changing things up a little.

One of the best ways to refresh your routine is through volunteering. Giving your time and talents helps others, but it also enriches your own life in ways that may surprise you. Studies show that volunteers tend to feel happier, healthier, and more connected. Many report a renewed sense of purpose, something that feels especially meaningful in retirement.

You don't need to look far for opportunities:

At your neighborhood school you can read with a student, share career stories, or help in the library. Kids light up when retirees take an interest in them!

At your place of worship – Help with events, community programs, or outreach to those in need.

At a local food bank you can pack groceries, sort donations, or assist with deliveries.

Here at RPEA you might volunteer at a chapter meeting, serve on a committee, or help with advocacy and outreach to protect the benefits we've all earned.

Volunteering keeps us active, connected, and engaged. It reminds us that our skills and experience still make a real difference. It's a chance to meet new people, learn new things, and bring joy not only to others but to ourselves.

As the weather turns colder over the next few months, pull out your warm sweaters and thick socks, and challenge yourself to try something new. Step outside your comfort zone, lend a hand where it's needed, and rediscover the joy and satisfaction that comes from giving back.

Because breaking out of routine doesn't just fill your days, it fills your heart.

With Appreciation,



Margaret Brown
Chapter 15 President



Here are phone numbers for the volunteer-friendly organizations in Riverside.

- Meals on Wheels Riverside — 951-683-7151
- Feeding America Inland Empire (Riverside Warehouse) — Volunteer line: 951-396-0009
- Museum of Riverside / Heritage House
951-826-5273
- Moreno Valley Unified School District
Seniors Volunteer: (951) 571-7500



In Loving Memory of Helen Joan Lair

Helen Joan Wimmer was born on June 13, 1934, in Riverside, California, and was the eldest of four children, three brothers and a younger sister. A lifelong resident of Riverside, Helen proudly called the city home for all of her 91 years. She loved supporting local businesses and vendors, and at one point, five generations of her family lived in Riverside.

After graduating from high school, Helen began her career with Hunter Douglas. On December 23, 1953, she married the love of her life, Ralph L. Lair, and together they shared 62 wonderful years. Helen was a devoted wife and the proud mother of Joyce, Bruce, and Craig. She cherished her family and enjoyed sewing, cross-stitching, camping, and cheering on her sons at their desert enduro motorcycle races.

Helen truly embraced life. Whether volunteering with 4-H (the Kearney Klippers), camping with family and friends, or cruising with Ralph and their neighbors, she found joy in every day and every adventure.

She spent 17 years working for the County of Riverside Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), where she rose to the position of Supervisor of the Clerical Unit. A little-known fact – Helen hired and trained Chapter 15's own Dorothy Stutz, helping to shape the careers of many who followed. Helen always supported RPEA Chapter 15 as the Sunshine Chair and by inviting former co-workers to join.

A funeral service will be held on December 5, 2025, at Acheson & Graham Garden of Prayer Mortuary, 7944 Magnolia Avenue, Riverside, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. A committal service will follow at Riverside National Cemetery, 22495 Van Buren Boulevard, Riverside, from 12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

In loving memory of our
cherished members who have passed on,
their contributions and spirit
continue to inspire us...

Gerald Ethier
Chester, VT

Nancy Forster
Riverside, CA

Robert Pollock
Rapid City, SD

Margarita Powell
Riverside, CA

Javier Sanchez
Riverside, CA

Rey Vitchayanonda
Riverside, CA

Holiday Menu

Thursday, December 4th

Beef Tri Tip Teriyaki

Scallop Potatoes, Green

Beans, Salad, Bread/Butter,

Pecan and Apple Pies

Water, Coffee, and Tea

MEMBERSHIP REPORT as of November 2025

Total Members: 523 Active: 471
Beneficiary: 38 State Associates: 10
Affiliates: 4 Chapter Associates: 0

Annie James, Membership Chair

Welcome New Members

Debbie Pitts, Jurupa Valley

Gail Riley, Riverside

Nancy Whiting, Riverside

RPEA's MISSION

We are active and retired California Public Employees, who are members of the California Public Retirement System (CalPERS). We work together to maintain and improve the quality of the lives of our members by protecting and improving retirement, medical and other benefits.

HEADQUARTERS: 300 T Street
Sacramento, CA 95811

PHONE: (916) 441-7732

Website: www.rpea.com

Email: rpea@rpea.com

Chapter 15 Leadership

RPEA CHAPTER	15 LEADERSHIP	FOR 2025
PRESIDENT	Margaret Brown	949-616-6150
VICE PRESIDENT	Kathy Johnson-Sanders	951-902-9628
SECRETARY	Annie James	951-992-8508
TREASURER	Joseph Gonzalez	951-536-4614
LEGISLATION	Recruiting -	
SUNSHINE	New RECRUITMENT	
COMMUNICATIONS	Recruiting -	
HISTORIAN	Kathy Johnson-Sanders	951-902-9628
BOOK EXCHANGE	Dorothy Stutz	909-872-0350
HEALTH BENEFITS	Norma Carter	951-238-5018
NEWSLETTER	Recruiting -	
LUNCHEON	Julia Murray	951-285-2801
HOSPITALITY	Joyce Edey	909-856-4301
MEMBERSHIP	Annie James	951-992-8508
GOESKE PANTRY	Norma Carter	909-238-5018
PAST PRESIDENT	Wes Stonebreaker	951-784-1060
AREA 6 DIRECTOR	Nelly Van Lommel	909-519-7390