



## RPEA Southcentral Chapter Membership Meeting Agenda

March 8, 2016

(Facilitated by Scott Chapman & Kris Warren)

### Approval of the agenda

### Approval of the February minutes (attached)

### Announcements

- **Thanks to those who made this meeting possible**
- **Lunch Feedback Card**  
If you had lunch today, please tell us how it was by filling out the card.
- **Teleconferencing Capabilities**  
Is now available to all SC members. Please call in at 11:40 for announcements to begin at 11:45. The teleconference number is 888-636-3807 / access code 9742514.
- **Member Attendance**  
Please be reminded that only RPEA members may attend a membership meeting. An eligible individual who is considering joining RPEA may attend as a guest if sponsored by an RPEA member.
- **Board Vacancies**  
There continues to be vacant seats on the SC Chapter Board. Please consider volunteering your skill and talents and join us as RPEA continues to fight to secure your retiree rights and benefits. Interested parties may contact Fran Rabago at [franrabago@gci.net](mailto:franrabago@gci.net) or any current board member.
- **RPEA Lawsuit**  
The legal complaint and an explanation of why it was filed is located on our website at [rpea.apea-aft.org](http://rpea.apea-aft.org). Please contact Sharon Hoffbeck at [sharonhoffbeck@gmail.com](mailto:sharonhoffbeck@gmail.com) with any questions you may have.

### Meet the Anchorage Assembly Candidates



The assembly election is on April 5. We have invited all 13 candidates to join us for lunch. Those able to attend are seated with our members and will have an opportunity to explain their reasons for running and why they deserve your vote. Some have also brought materials they wish to make available to you. There will be a question and answer session, time permitting.

**Remember:** Private conversations during a presentation make it hard for others to hear.

**Retired Public Employees of Alaska  
Southcentral Chapter  
February 9, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at about 11:40 by Scott Chapman filling in for Fran Rabago who is still baking in the Florida sun. We had unusually low attendance today with only about 50 retirees joining us for tasty lasagna, salad and molten chocolate cake.

The minutes were approved following a motion to do so by Kris Warren and seconded by Bob Madigan.

Thanks to the volunteers who helped facilitate the meeting. Shirley Iverson, Jeanne Ostnes and Marie Beatty staffed the check in desk. Mel Monson and Kris Warren collected the lunch tickets.

Door prizes consisted of the gigantic cinnamon roll, two heart shaped boxes of chocolates and a lovely bouquet of roses.

Bill Mans introduced today's speaker, Jan Watson. Jan is the coordinator for AARP's Income Tax Assistance Program.

Jan began her presentation by describing the work AARP does to help Alaskans prepare and file their IRS tax returns. Last year, 3000 returns were prepared and filed by AARP volunteers in Anchorage and twice that many statewide. There is no charge for this service and all are welcome provided your return is not terribly complicated. Volunteer tax preparers are carefully vetted by AARP and are extensively trained to insure integrity of the process and to protect the privacy and identity of those for whom the returns are prepared. The average cost to prepare the returns filed by AARP would otherwise average about \$350 so if one does the math, that equates to over \$2 million in savings for Alaskans who participate in the program. Jan indicated that volunteer preparers are always in short supply and urged anybody interested in joining the program to see her after the meeting.

Jan then moved into a discussion of the wide variety of scams that are currently targeting the populace, and especially the senior segment. Rather than list the scams she addressed, the handout she provided is attached to the minutes.

The meeting adjourned at approximately noon.

Kris Warren

## **SCAMS TO AVOID**

Source: AARP Bulletin – Jan.-Feb. 2016

**Tip:** Get Caller ID installed on your telephone and don't answer if you don't recognize the number. NEVER give personal information if you are not certain who they are.

How they find you. Scammers buy phone numbers from companies that sell data and from companies that ask you to answer survey questions.

**Tech Support Scam:**

'They' have detected a problem with your computer. One of the biggest scams around. Hang up and DO NOT give any information or follow their directions for fixing the 'problem'.

**Silent Call:**

No one answers your 'hello' -- This is a robo-call that is building a list of people to target for theft. Follow Caller ID tip.

**IRS Imposter:**

IRS will NEVER call you or send an email. Only by letter and there is a phone number to call that can be used to verify.

Local IRS number is – 1-800-908-4490 or [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)

**Cancer or Other Charity Rip-offs:**

Cancer Fund of America, Cancer Support Services, Children's Cancer Fund of America, and The Breast Cancer Society were charged with fraud by the Federal Trade Commission. Don't give cash through door-to-door or give credit card information to callers. Check out the organization first.

**Chip Cards:**

Credit card impersonators are sending emails asking for personal information before issuing you a card. Legitimate credit card companies will not send you an email asking for information. Call number on back of your card.

**Faith Based Dating:**

Research the person and look for address on Google Maps. If 'no results found', be wary. Especially if asking for money or information.

**Medical Identity Theft:**

Stolen credit card used to pay medical charges, you are liable. If for food, clothing, furniture, big screen TV, etc, you are not liable for fraudulent purchases. Be wary of free health checks at shopping malls, fitness clubs and retirement homes 'rolling labs'.

**Gift Vouchers:**

Beware of free gift cards from McDonald's, Subway or others by clicking on a 'link' to activate it. Could install malware. NEVER click on a link in an unsolicited email or give out personal information.

**Free Credit Card Scores:**

Banks, credit unions or companies appear legitimate but have changed one letter or number in name and phone number that you don't notice.

**Grandchild Been Arrested:**

One of the biggest scams. Just go to Wal-Mart and buy card, then call this number to give numbers on card so the fine or bail can be paid.

**Personal Email Fraud:**

Someone you know has lost all money and cards and needs to money to get home. Can go out to everyone in your email list. Again, one letter in the name or phone number is changed to make it look legitimate.