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# Retired Public Employees Council Chapter 28 – University of Washington

*Mary Marbles, President*

**(206) 295-6231 – [mmarbles46@icloud.com](mailto:mmarbles46@icloud.com)**

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	<b>Tuesday, April 19, 2022</b>
<b>Meeting Time:</b>	<b>11:00 AM – 1:00 PM</b>
<b>Meeting Location:</b>	<b>Claim Jumper</b>
<b>Meeting Address:</b>	<b>5901 S 180<sup>th</sup> St Tukwila, WA 98188</b>

Happy Spring, Everyone!

I am pleased to announce that on April 19, we will hold our first in-person meeting since February 2020! As our previous meeting location went out of business, we will gather at the **Claim Jumper** located on the corner of Southcenter Mall Pkwy and S 180<sup>th</sup> St. There is plenty of convenient on-site parking. To celebrate our reunion, **Chapter 28 will pay up to \$20 for your meal.** You can check out the menu at <https://www.claimjumper.com/menus/>.

I would like to thank those who attended our virtual meetings over the last two years. They kept our chapter running while we waited to return to in-person meetings.

**Are you interested in attending the RPEC Convention in Wenatchee?** It will take place September 27 through September 29. Chapter 28 may send up to 20 delegates, and we'd love for you to join us. We will pay your registration fee and lodging. We will reimburse you for meals and mileage. If you are interested in serving as a delegate, please attend our April 19 meeting.

RPEC has hired Laurie Weidner as its new Executive Director. We are excited about the leadership and experience that she brings to RPEC. Please join me in welcoming her aboard.

I hope to see as many of you as possible at our **April 19** chapter meeting. Please join us for free food, fellowship, and to learn about RPEC's work.

Mary Marbles, President  
Chapter 28, Retired Public Employees Council of Washington

### **APRIL 19 AGENDA**

- 2022 Convention Planning
- Chapter Meetings in the Summer
- Officer Reports
- Legislative News & Highlights

### **CHAPTER 28 OFFICERS**

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Alma-jean Marion, Vice President	(206) 721-3088	<a href="mailto:alma-jean@comcast.net">alma-jean@comcast.net</a>
Kathleen Craig, Secretary	(206) 714-8574	<a href="mailto:kathleencraig_824@msn.com">kathleencraig_824@msn.com</a>
John Hampton, Treasurer	(206) 218-2485	<a href="mailto:farzight@gmail.com">farzight@gmail.com</a>
George Armour, Board Member At-Large	(206) 434-0918	<a href="mailto:armour_george@yahoo.com">armour_george@yahoo.com</a>
Benester Fields, Trustee	(206) 722-6755	<a href="mailto:bfields@uw.edu">bfields@uw.edu</a>
Juanita Taylor, Trustee	(253) 236-4047	<a href="mailto:missroxy5@yahoo.com">missroxy5@yahoo.com</a>
Neoma Ramsey, Trustee	(253) 854-0107	<a href="mailto:sweetne2004@hotmail.com">sweetne2004@hotmail.com</a>

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

### **In service to you**

Warm greetings to each of you! My name is Laurie Weidner, and I am deeply honored to serve as your new Executive Director. I officially joined the RPEC team on March 24. It's been both an exciting and busy first week. I appreciate the warm welcome I have received from chapter and committee leaders. Your kind gestures reaffirm the special culture we have at RPEC. I look forward to serving the organization and working in partnership with you to safeguard pensions and benefits for all RPEC members. My contact information is: [laurie.weidner@rpecwa.org](mailto:laurie.weidner@rpecwa.org) and (360) 352-8262, ext. 101.

### **One-time Plan 1 COLA**

Through the extraordinary advocacy work of our members statewide, SB 5676 (one-time 3% Plan 1 cost of living adjustment) unanimously passed both houses of the Legislature and was signed by Governor Inslee in March. RPEC Plan 1 retirees will receive the COLA at the end of July. This is the largest one-time COLA Plan 1 retirees have received since the state revoked the ongoing Plan 1 COLA in 2011. The spring newsletter will contain a roundup of other key legislation benefiting all RPEC members.

### **Donate to RPEC PAC**

With the legislative session now behind us, RPEC's Political Action Committee (PAC) is ramping up for the state mid-term elections. All House seats and 26 of the 49 Senate seats will be up for election. RPEC aims to ensure pro-retiree candidates not only succeed in the August primaries but also win the November general election. Although the candidate filing deadline is May 20, committee members and staff are already refining the candidate questionnaire and the interview process that will lead to PAC endorsements. If you have not yet donated to the PAC, this is the ideal time to consider contributing. The best time to endorse candidates and donate to their campaigns is early in the campaign cycle leading into the primary elections. Your contribution, of any amount, can be automatically deducted monthly from your pension. Look for more details in a letter coming to you this month. One-time contributions by check, addressed to RPEC PAC, are always welcome. The contribution form is available at [RPEC PAC Deduction Form - Retired Public Employees Council of WA \(rpecwa.org\)](#) or by contacting the Council Office at (360) 352-8262.

Beyond donating to the PAC, there are many other ways you can become involved in advancing pro-retiree state candidates. Once the RPEC PAC issues its state candidate endorsement slate, the Council and your chapter will offer suggestions of the many ways that you can help these candidates win their primary elections.

Together, we can help elect candidates who will work to protect pensions, benefits, and retirement security.

### **Register today for Convention**

Join us as we all come together again! Our 2022 Convention will be in-person and is scheduled for September 28-29 in beautiful Wenatchee, with committee meetings on the afternoon of the 27<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in attending as a delegate for your chapter, please contact your chapter officers or attend the next chapter meeting to let them know. The convention call has been sent to your chapters with all pertinent information, as well as

posted on the RPEC website at <https://rpecwa.org/convention/>. RPEC is a member-driven organization, and this is where it all begins. The convention sets the course for RPEC's directions and legislative priorities.

**Chapter elections**

Have you considered serving in a leadership role within your chapter? Chapters are recruiting members now for chapter elections. In most cases, elections will take place this month at chapter meetings. For more information, contact your chapter president. The Council will provide Leadership Training on June 13-14 via Zoom. Details will be available soon. The training is open to all members but is specially geared toward chapter leaders and those interested in serving in a leadership role within their chapter in the future. Registration will open April 15.

**Important Dates**

Visit the RPEC website at [www.rpecwa.org](http://www.rpecwa.org) for a full calendar of Council and chapter events and meetings.

- April 6:** Monthly Legislative Update (virtual)
- April 21:** Political Action Committee meeting (virtual)
- April 26:** Membership Committee meeting (virtual)
- May 4:** Executive Board meeting (virtual)
- June 13-14:** Leadership Training (virtual)
- June 21:** Chapter 28 meeting
- July 1:** Deadline for Convention Delegate Registration
- August 13:** Resolution/amendment submittal deadline for Convention
- August 16:** Chapter 28 meeting
- August 24:** Executive Board meeting (virtual)
- Sept 27-29:** RPEC Convention (in-person, Wenatchee)
- October 18:** Chapter 28 meeting
- November 14:** Executive Board meeting (virtual)

Best,

Laurie

**RPEC STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION**

Toll Free: **1-800-562-6097** – Direct: **360-352-8262**

Executive Director	Laurie Weidner	<a href="mailto:laurie.weidner@rpecwa.org">laurie.weidner@rpecwa.org</a>	ext. 101
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Administrative Assistant	Kelly Houck	<a href="mailto:kelly.houck@rpecwa.org">kelly.houck@rpecwa.org</a>	ext. 100
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Membership Coordinator	Emmett Mills	<a href="mailto:emmett.mills@rpecwa.org">emmett.mills@rpecwa.org</a>	ext. 103

**[www.rpecwa.org](http://www.rpecwa.org)**

## RPEC CHAPTER 28 VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 15, 2022  
Meeting conducted by Zoom

### Roll call of those present:

Mary Marbles	Juanita Taylor
Alma-jean Marion	Menia Traxler
John Hampton	Bill Ziegler (Guest, RPEC VP)
Neomi Ramsey	Judith Frey (Guest)
Benester Fields	Clair Olivers (Guest, RPEC Treasurer)
Aurelia Turner	

Chapter President Mary Marbles has requested Chapter Trustee Benester Fields to record minutes for today's meeting due to sudden tragedy in Chapter Secretary Kathy Craig's family.

Call to recite pledge of allegiance by all members attending meeting.

### Chapter Reports:

#### **Bill Ziegler, RPEC of Washington Vice- President**

- Bill shared with members an oral and video presentation on his recent vacation in Paris France that was 3-years in the planning.
- Bill traveled with 5 family and friends living in an Air B-N-B while in Paris located in close proximity to the U.S. Embassy.
- Because of the flat topography in Paris, walking to many tourist attractions was possible.
- Bill and guests visited and toured many attractions including the Arc de Triomphe, the Eiffel Tower, the Louvre Museum, and the Norte-Dame, which is currently being restored to its 1840 original after being nearly destroyed by fire a few years ago.
- The Seine River located in the middle of Paris has a tremendous amount of daily boat traffic.
- Because of Covid, masks are required everywhere in the city.
- Bill shared that much of Europe is not disability friendly due to the age of the buildings.
- All in all, it was a marvelous trip and well worth the wait.

#### **Mary Marbles, Chapter 28 President**

- Motion to receive and accept minutes from previous meeting as written, motion carried.
- Mary has encouraged members to become more actively involved, informing us that Chapter 28 information is available on the RPEC website.
- One of our chapter members 105yr old **Katherine Hodges** has passed away since our last meeting.
- New Executive Director Laurie Weidner will join RPEC on March 21, 2022.

#### **John Hampton, Treasurer Chapter 28**

- 2021 End of year October 1 – December 31, 2021.  
\$20,055.97 total  
\$1,031.28 Income  
\$108.94 gift card RPEC raffle  
\$20,978 checking account balance  
\$27,809 total assets

- As of January 31, 2022, we have 478 dues paying members.
- Moved and second to accept Treasurer report.

**Remarks from Alma-jean Marion, Vice President Chapter 28, District 9 Representative**

- Alma-jean has met with 3 Senators on zoom calls seeking commitments on our legislation agenda.
- COLA bill needs to be permanent.
- Healthcare and welfare, prescription drugs.
- Website maintains calendar and events.
- UW Political Action Committee.
- Smaller RPEC chapters are receiving assistance with funds.
- Currently, RPEC District 9 Round Table is not meeting regularly.
- Alma-jean is encouraging standing members to reach out to new and existing members through interviews.

**New Business:**

President Mary Marbles is requesting funds to attend the CBTU conference being held in California. The theme of the conference "Power of the Past, Force for the Future".

More documented information and discussion with membership will follow.

**Meeting adjourned by President Mary Marbles at 12:30 PM. Moved and second, motion carried.**

Respectfully recorded and submitted by Benester Fields, Trustee, covering for Chapter 28 Secretary Kathy Craig.

## IN 1932

- Amelia Earhart completed the first non-stop solo flight across the Atlantic Ocean by a woman.
- The Winter Olympics were held in Lake Placid, New York.
- The radio program *Buck Rogers in the 25<sup>th</sup> Century* made its debut.
- Franklin Delano Roosevelt won a landslide presidential election victory.
- And most importantly **Aurelia Washington was born!** Happy 90<sup>th</sup> birthday to Aurelia, a longtime RPEC Chapter 28 member!

### MORE CHAPTER 28 BIRTHDAYS

#### April

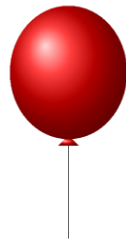
Leo Ball  
Warren Bean  
Marion Brockman  
Zheng Chen  
Marie Doman  
Clarine Dunn  
Marina Ferguson  
Jean Forster  
Margaret Frest  
Trudy Geissler  
Katherine Gordon  
Alice Gronski  
Katherine Guiberteaux  
Nancy Healy  
Heechun Huh  
Marie Hurlbut  
Shirley Jacobs  
Joan Mc Daniel  
Janet Miller  
Elizabeth Mulligan  
Nedra Pautler  
Janet Pearson  
Candace Plog  
Michael Purdy



Loretta Radnich  
Thomas Riley  
Patricia Simmons  
Celeste Stubbs

#### May

Amelia Baluca  
Sonia Camero  
Soraya Clemans  
Gary Cole  
Jane Debrock  
Marilyn Dominguez-  
Aquino  
Antonio Fontanilla  
Lawrence Gales  
Betty Garvida  
John Gofman  
Stanley Goldstein  
Nancy Kloster  
Sally Little  
Barbara Mercer  
Ingrid Pearson  
Louis Rivas  
Gloria Smith  
Juanita Taylor  
Maryrose Trubiroha



Gene Washington  
Anita Whitney  
Doris Wilkinson  
Francis Zellner

#### June

Roberta Aldrich  
Robert Chase  
Mabel Cross  
Barbara Gregory  
Ruth Handewith  
Ruth Henderson  
Kristian Kofoed  
Marian Lindell  
Mary Lovell  
Elaine Martinez  
Jackie Mc Kenney  
Judith Murphy  
William O'Brien  
Debra Palmquist  
Marilyn Pangilinan  
Robert Rhodes  
Joyce Rowland  
Helen Sardarov  
Ardis Steggall



### LEST WE NEVER FORGET

Commemorating the 54<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a Day of Remembrance was observed on April 4<sup>th</sup>. Presented by the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration Committee (MLKCC).