



October 2014 RPSG Meeting Minutes

President Hap Butler and Secretary Shelly Butler were elected by acclamation to a new two-year term in office.

Our Guest was Eddie Ballesteros from the Department of Motor Vehicles. He is one of four Senior Driver Ombudsman position for the State of California. An ombudsman or public advocate is charged with representing the interests of the public by investigating and addressing complaints of administration abuses or violation of rights . He can assist as a "go-between" to ensure senior drivers are treated fairly, with dignity and respect. Changes occur in vision, flexibility, strength and other physical characteristics as we age. This may affect our ability to drive safely. Older drivers have always been concerned that their driver's license could be revoked without a valid cause. If you have a disease like Parkinson's it only adds to your fear. Eddie assured the group that DMV has provisions in place to make sure this does not happen. There are instances that a physician, relative or law enforcement officer may send a report to DMV that states due to a health condition, negligent or reckless driving habits your ability to drive safely is questioned. DMV may do one or more of the following: DMV may request medical information from you. If it is clear you do not present a driving risk DMV's investigation will end with no further action taken. A "regular" reexamination may be conducted. This may be in person or on the telephone. You may be required to present medical information or submit to a law, vision, and driving test, if appropriate. Conduct a priority reexamination. If you were served with a priority reexamination, you must contact DMV within five days. If you do not contact Driver Safety, your driving privilege will be suspended. You are required to submit to a law, vision and driving test and present medical information. Take an immediate suspension or revocation of your driving privilege if your mental condition presents an immediate threat to public safety. There are several decisions DMV can make after a Reexamination that may include no action, medical probation that includes compliance with a medical regimen, restriction to driving under specific conditions and circumstances. Also suspension for an indefinite period of time or revocation. A report released in February 2014 states that fewer traffic collisions are being had by drivers 70 years and older.

Our Christmas luncheon will be held on Tuesday December 2, 2014 from 11:00 to 1:00 p.m. at Maidu Park. The cost for each lunch is \$15.00. We have Hannibal's Catering again with the same wonderful menu from last year. We will be accepting payment at our November meeting for the lunch.

Shelly Butler
Secretary RPSG