Terry’s Table Talk

When I ran for MNEA-Retired president, my slogan was “Membership and Membership Involvement is power.” If we wish to meet the challenges facing us as retirees, we need your support for our MNEA-Retired organization.

Join your regional group and attend its events and activities, come to our MNEA-Retired Capitol Action Days, attend our luncheon in St. Louis on November 22, help support our active teachers, join our volunteer activities, and attend our Annual Meeting.

We need to be vigilant of what is occurring in our state legislature, our Congress, and our country. It is essential to be registered to vote because our vote is so important. Many governors have attempted to reduce the number of people voting through questionable tactics as voter roll purges, Gerrymandering, strict ID laws, and lessening the number of polling places.

Environmental protection, consumer protection, sensible gun restrictions, worker’s rights, monies for public schools, excessive student loans, increasing charter schools, elimination of the Affordable Care Act, increasing Medicare costs, and attacks on our pension systems are just a few of the issues that we face in the election of 2020. **Make sure you are registered to vote and then please do vote!**

Caring Help for Education Endeavors by Retirees

*Janet Leachman, CHEER chair*

In the fall of 2013 MNEA-Retired received a surprise gift in the mail, a check for $100 from NEA-Retired member, Mary Parten. Mary, a lovely 90-year-old lady, wrote that
she wanted to "do something to help our association." Her gift was the jumpstart for a brand new MNEA-Retired charitable effort, CHEER, which stands for Caring Help for Education Endeavors by Retirees. As retirees, we understand the financial sacrifice made by active educators, so we established this opportunity for active members to apply for grants of up to $250. Once the initial details had been worked out, our retired members responded generously.

Within two years we were able to approve our first grants: one to a first-year kindergarten teacher for classroom supplies, another to replace an educator’s materials lost in a fire, and a third to supplement the expense of a science field trip. To date, MNEA-Retired has been able to fund 52 grants. As the plan has grown, contributions from retired members and applications from active members continue to increase. Both single and ongoing tax-exempt contributions are welcome!

Our (Greater Kansas City) member, Janet Leachman, currently serves as our association's "Cheer Leader" (aka, committee chair). Her committee spans the state and includes: Bev Vogt, Joan Storey, Rhonda Moore, JoWanda Bozeman, Jan McClenahan, Lisa Sundblad, Terry Touhey, Vicki Stoll, Libby Harrison, and Nancy Strain.

The MNEA-Retired link on the MNEA web page will take you to the pages of contribution and application opportunities. You may make contributions, both individual and ongoing, in honor of or in memory of someone and know that the CHEER fund will assist our public education students!

Handmade quilt donated by Julia Todd to benefit CHEER.

Contribute to CHEER
Lend a hand to our colleagues working in the classroom by making a contribution to help fund future grants.

Click here to set up a recurring or one-time donation >>

PSRS Meeting Report
Missouri NEA Legislative Director Otto Fajen represents MNEA and MNEA-Retired members at the meetings of the PSRS/PEERS Board. Read the report of the latest meeting at https://www.mnea.org/Missouri/PSRSMeetingMinutes.aspx
Focus Points . . .

- Metro St. Louis NEA-Retired gathered for the annual Not Back to School picnic. Rep. Paula Brown filled members in about capital actions and two candidates running for re-election spoke to the members.

- Mid-MO members celebrated the generosity of John and Jackie Settlage to the NEA Fund for Children and Public Education at their Not Back to School gathering.

- At the Greater Kansas City picnic, there was just one ant to be found, but lots of hungry folks. We had a fun BINGO card with interesting facts about those in attendance. It was a great ice breaker for new retirees.
The Jefferson County group enjoyed their gathering at the Villa Antonio Winery – especially the wonderful Italian desserts.

At the East Central Not Back to School gathering, we were glad to welcome Frank Rogan back after two surgeries.

The St. Charles chapter had a wine raffle to benefit CHEER as well as collecting school supplies for distribution to local schools. MNEA President Phil Murray was our guest. Earlier in the day, we attended breakfast with the St. Genevieve group. Rebeka McIntosh was also in attendance.

It was a wonderful beginning to the program year. Coming in November: the MNEA-Retired luncheon in St Louis. Watch the MNEA-Retired Facebook page for upcoming regional group plans.
MNEA-Retired
Annual Fall Luncheon
Friday, November 22, 2019
Registration deadline is Friday, November 15, 2019
Registration and auction to benefit CHEER Fund starts at 11:00 a.m. and lunch at noon

Spazzio’s Westport
12031 Lackland Road, Maryland Heights, MO 63146

Keynote Speaker
Phillip Murray
President, Missouri National Education Association

Traditional Italian Lunch Buffet
Garden Salad, Chicken Tuscani, Fresh Green Beans with Pan Burst Tomatoes, Garden Tortellini Carbonara, Three Herb Rosemary Potatoes, Assorted Gourmet Desserts and Iced Tea

Cost: $30.00 per person

Name: ____________________________________________

Address: ___________________________________________ City & State: ___________ Zip: __________

Phone: __________________________ Email: __________________________

List special dietary needs: __________________________________________

☐ Enclosed Check: __________

☐ Credit Card: Call Tracy Flaherty at 314-584-1305 or go online at the link below.

Register online at www.mnea.org/retiredlunch.

Please return completed form to:

MNEA Retired, Attn: Tracy Flaherty, 1810 East Elm Street, Jefferson City, MO 65101
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