

Terry's Table Talk

Once again, it seems we are having a surge in Missouri with COVID. I am asking you to please stay safe during this period of time. If you have not gotten the vaccine, please do so now. They are saying that the Delta variant is easily transmissible like chicken pox. If and when they call for a booster, please make sure you get the booster.

In other news, your delegates spent almost a week at the virtual NEA Conventions: both NEA-Retired and NEA. This was not a typical year for your retired delegates. The first two days at the NEA-Retired convention were spent electing new officers, amending the bylaws, and passing several business items. From June 30 through July 3, we attended the NEA convention virtually. These were long and frequently tedious days for your delegates.



Each day began with a Missouri NEA caucus meeting before going to the day's virtual session. We elected new members to the Executive Committee. There were 62 new business items and while there were fewer than traditionally, it took much longer to discuss and pass/defeat electronically.

Once again our MNEA retirees have come through in donating to our NEA-Retired and NEA PAC funds. We all appreciate your willingness to donate year after year.

This not being an election year, MNEA came in second place among all fifty states in the amount raised per delegate. The retirees raised \$9,080.60 through the PACtivist Funds and an additional \$2,852 through the two auctions (the NEA-Retired and NEA auctions). The total amount we received from our retirees was \$12,012.00.

Your MNEA-Retired delegates truly appreciate your generous donations to the NEA Fund. Your support is key in our efforts to elect legislators who will support actions to protect public education and protect our retirement benefits. PAC monies are badly needed for the important midterm election in 2022.

A special debt of gratitude to Jackie Settlage who continues to make extremely generous contributions every year - more than anyone else.

Focus Points...

- 60 % of Olympic medals won by US athletes were won by women. Congratulations!
- While we retirees have been sure to get vaccinated, the Delta variant of COVID is now being felt by those under the age of 40. Our kids and grandkids (when possible) need to get those shots in their arms.
- To all those teachers returning to the classroom this fall, thank you, and we know that you will be masking up.

Annual Fall Luncheon

We are planning to gather in St. Louis on **Friday**, **Nov.** 19, at **Spazio Westport**. There will be a silent auction. We will have a remembrance of past MNEA presidents Greg Jung and Pat O'Brien. Save the date and watch your email for more information.

Read more at <u>www.mnea.org/event/mnea-retired-fall-</u>luncheon-2021.





CHEER Grants

Let your local presidents know that CHEER grants are available for our colleagues in the classroom. Maybe a teacher needs help arranging a field trip or funds to set up a classroom library. Applications are available on the MNEA website and need to be submitted by Feb. 1. Last year, seven grants were awarded.





Contribute to CHEER!

Lend a hand to our colleagues working in the classroom and virtually by making a contribution to help fund future grants. www.mnea.org/CHEER.



Retirement PSRS/PEERS Watch

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 www.mnea.org/PSRS.





MNEA-Retired Annual Fall Luncheon

Friday, November 19th, 2021





Spazio Westport in the Spazio Grand Ballroom

Comfort Inn St. Louis – Westport 12031 Lackland Rd Maryland Heights, MO 63146

- Registration and silent auction to benefit the CHEER Fund begins at 11am, lunch at 11:30am.
- ➤ Raffle tickets for the quilt will be on sale! The drawing is the following weekend at the RA.
- > Special door prizes will be given away!

On the buffet:

Classic Caesar Salad, Sicilian Style Beef Spedini, Lemon Herb Chicken Breast, Chef's Vegetable Medley, Oven Brown Parmesan Potatoes, B.L.T Rigatoni, Dinner Rolls with Whipped Butter, Sea Salt Caramel Bande dessert, water, sweet tea

Cost: \$30.00 per person

Register Online at:

<u>www.mnea.org/event/mnea-retired-fall-luncheon-2021</u>

OR

Please return completed form to:

MNEA-Retired, Attn: Olivia Compton, 1810 E Elm St., Jefferson City, MO 65101

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