



Terry's Table Talk

During the coronavirus pandemic, it seems we, as Americans, have lost our ability to communicate in a courteous manner when we disagree with one another. The world is a complicated place with news emanating from so many sources--the internet, TV, magazines, foreign news, etc.

There are myriad ways of looking at many of the issues we face today: the different view of politics, what should be taught in our schools, the belief in whether there is climate change, voting rights, and so many other complicated issues. We live in a world where we are bombarded by different views and disinformation that make it hard to determine what is the truth. We need to sift through a variety of information - information that is not just one-sided - before we take a stance on our beliefs.



We may disagree with one another on many of these issues, but we do not need to demean ourselves by being rude and vulgar. We live in a complex world with many issues that need to be addressed. If we expect to make the changes that benefit everyone in the United States, we need to discuss these issues with graciousness and good manners. Screaming, getting in people's faces, shoving, or threatening will not help in coming to an agreement in schools and at the local, state, and national levels of government.

Remember: "To be kind is more important than to be right. Many times, what people need is not a brilliant mind that speaks but a special heart that listens."

F. Scott Fitzgerald

Focus Points . . .

- ❖ According to Forbes 400 list of the wealthiest Americans, the members' collective fortune rose a massive 40% over the last year from \$3.2 trillion to \$4.5 trillion. The top 20 on the list are worth a stunning \$1.8 trillion. **What hasn't increased** much was the Forbes **400 members' generosity**.
- ❖ The **middle class** was brought about by the Federal Government giving W.W.II veterans monies through the **GI Bill**.
- ❖ At the end of June, **140,00 American children** had lost a parent or caregiver because of the coronavirus.

Gatherings have begun again!

Regional meetings and activities have begun again. Most groups have gathered for their traditional Not Back to School picnics or luncheons. Some have met for their regional fall luncheon meetings. It's good to see our friends in person.



Greater Kansas City NEA Retired members met in Blue Springs. Guests included Phil Murray, MNEA President, Rebeka McIntosh, MNEA Vice President, and MNEA-Retired President Terry Reger.

Metro St. Louis NEA-Retired recently gathered for a luncheon meeting at Lorenzo's on the Hill. They were able to meet Scott Sifton, Democratic candidate for United States Senate.

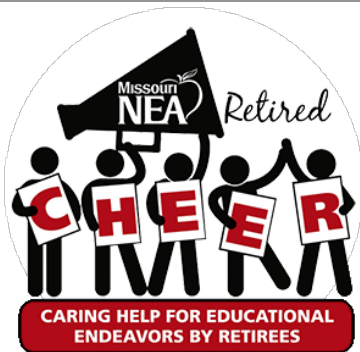


Annual Fall Luncheon



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 www.mnea.org/event/mnea-retired-fall-luncheon-2021.



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.



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www.mnea.org/retired

Retired from our position, but not our profession!



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Focus is published three times a year and distributed to MNEA-Retired and pre-retired members.

MNEA-Retired Annual Fall Luncheon

Friday, November 19th, 2021



Registration deadline is Tuesday, November 9th, 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.

Meal choices

Chicken Spedini

Rolled and stuffed chicken with fresh basil, roma tomatoes and Italian cheeses with lemon bianco, Ceasar salad, rolls, tea or coffee and fresh green beans with roasted tomatoes and roasted garlic potatoes and dessert

or

Beef Scallopini

Beef cutlets with lemon, mushrooms, capers and white wine sauce, Ceasar salad, rolls, tea or coffee and fresh green beans with roasted tomatoes and roasted garlic potatoes and dessert

or

Gluten free and vegetarian meals determined by the chef

Cost: \$30.00 per person

Register Online at:

www.mnea.org/event/mnea-retired-fall-luncheon-2021

OR

Please return completed form to:

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

Name: _____

Address: _____ City & State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Meal choice (circle one): Chicken Spedini Beef Scallopini Gluten Free Option Vegetarian Option

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Payment method:

- ☐ Enclosed Check
- ☐ Credit Card: *Register online at the link above.*

Due to COVID-19 safety precautions all attendees -- MNEA staff, delegates, non-voting delegates, and vendors -- will be required to:

1. Wear a mask.
2. Practice social distancing as much as possible within our contracted space.
3. Complete an online safety survey that will be emailed to all registered attendees each of the three (3) days prior to the event.
4. Prior to being admitted to the delegate floor, all attendees must show proof of vaccination or present documentation of a negative COVID test taken within 72 hours of the event.

☐ I understand

and will adhere to the 4 required safety precautions outlined above or I will not be admitted or allowed on the delegate floor.

☐ I understand

that Missouri NEA leaders are monitoring the COVID-19 virus closely, and I will be notified if the event needs to be held virtually if it is unsafe to meet in person.

Signature _____ Date: _____

Please return completed form to:

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