The JCEA-R Connection

The Official Publication of the Jefferson County Education Association—Retired

President’s Message

Whoo hoo! A new school year! JCEA-Retired is ready to advocate to strengthen and safeguard our retirement benefits, support public education and educators, and work to elect pro-public-school officials. We are ready to re-elect Brad Rupert, Susan Harmon, and Ron Mitchell to the School Board. We are ready to get to know Jeffco’s new superintendent, Dr. John Glass. We are ready to hold our elected officials to their promise to support PERA.

Our first step to electing a pro-public-school board and getting to know Dr. Glass will begin at the Fall Meeting at the JCEA office on September 26th at 9 o’clock. Dr. Glass, Susan Harmon and Ron Mitchell will be our special guests. It will be a great opportunity to hear about their goals and visions for the school district.

In February, we will have a Legislative Update, including reports from PERA and CEA. You are encouraged to sign up for updates from CEA, SecurePERA and Colorado PERA. Our retirement program is certain to be a target in the 2018 Legislative Session. At our Annual Meeting in the spring, we will report on important issues facing public education.

One last thing - JCEA-R is ready to stay connected with friends. The Social Committee continues to organize events. Be sure to join in the fun. Staying connected with our members is important. The Connection is a vital component in this effort. (We still need an editor.) We will also continue to send out electronic information once a month to make sure everyone has the up-to-date news.

I am excited for this new year in the life of JCEA-R. Hope you are as well. ☀️ Lorraine Bowen, JCEA-R President
We are now at the end of the 2016-2017 membership year and our membership is at 511! Thanks everyone for your diligence in talking to people about continuing their membership in JCEA-R. I was just thinking about the numbers when I took over this "job"-we were trying to get our membership above 100! We have made wonderful growth! I have not yet received any membership renewal information or mailing data/materials from CEA, so I cannot tell you when to start looking for your materials in your mailbox. I will get things out to you as quickly as I can when I receive them. PLEASE, if you are a renewing/Annual member, please return your check (MADE OUT TO JCEA-R) as quickly as possible. Look for the deadline date in the mailing, so that I can get the new Directories ready for our Fall Meeting. Please use the envelope that will be pre-addressed and included in your statement. Once again, I triple thank all of you who are Life Members!!!!! It makes my job and yours so much easier and efficient! Just be sure that if you have changed your address, phone number, or email, be sure to let me know! I want our Directory to be as correct and up to date as possible. If you have questions or concerns, please email me at; pinkroses3@live.com or phone me at 303-423-5558. Thank you all, and I hope to see you at our Fall Meeting.

**NEWS** by Gail Knowles, CEA-R

CEA Delegate Assembly will be held on April 27 and 28, 2018. Please consider being a delegate. Keep current with what is happening at CEA. Meet up with former colleagues. Experience Delegate Assembly in its shortened form. Nominations and voting information will be mailed out this fall. Please note and follow all deadlines. Nominate yourself if you might be interested. It would be great if CEA-R had a full contingent of delegates.

**Maximize Your NEA-R Benefits**

- Educators employment liability coverage per policy requirements
- Legal Support Services and member discounts on legal services
- Financial planning and asset management, mortgage services, identity theft protection, credit cards, auto buying and leasing
- Liability Insurance when substitute teaching without a contract
- Exclusive health coverage, including Medicare supplement plans
- Credit Cards with low annual percentage rates, no annual fee
- Affordable Life, Travel, Auto, Accident and Homeowners Insurance
- High-yield retirement investments including CD, Money Market Accounts, and annuities
- Low Interest Credit and the NEA Home Financing Program
- Affordable Long-Term Care Insurance
- Discounts on Magazines and Car Rentals

For a complete list of NEA Member Benefits, see [www.neamb.com](http://www.neamb.com)
Legislative/Political Update

By Lorraine Bowen, President and Karen Colman, Legislative/Political Chair

Do you know our Association’s 2016-18 Strategic Plan? It focuses on three goals and their objectives:

- CEA will advocate for the strong community-based public schools our students deserve by developing partnerships and working in coalitions to address barriers to student success;
- CEA will elevate the value of education professions by promoting educator voice, quality learning and working conditions, and civic engagement on issues that impact public education; and
- CEA will develop and implement strategies that increase public school funding.

Please refer to the CEA website for great up-to-date information. Here you can read about COpilot, an innovative, flexible online learning platform for teachers and educational support professionals. You can get legislative and political updates from our Government Relations team via text. Text CEA to 64336 to begin receiving the updates. Thanks, and if you have any questions send me an email at karenlcolman@gmail.com.

JCEA News

JCEA Makes Continuing Recommendation for 2017 BoE Election

“Our members know that School board elections matter so that integrity and quality is maintained in both the classroom and the district, as well as the profession,” said Dale Munholland, Pomona High School teacher and chair of the Community Advocacy Action Team.

A bi-partisan team of JCEA members spent time reviewing the last two years of actions taken by the Jeffco School Board. In that time, Brad Rupert, Ron Mitchell, and Susan Harmon have consistently demonstrated a deep commitment to furthering public education in Jefferson County. Further, this team is confident that they will continue to be diligent in reviewing all pertinent data and making informed and fair decisions on behalf of the students, parents, and employees of Jefferson County Public Schools. They have individually and collectively acted with Transparency, Accountability, and Respect. As a result, JCEA recommends that the school board candidates best suited to leading Jeffco Schools are Brad Rupert, Ron Mitchell, and Susan Harmon.

JCEA-R members are invited to participate in WALK AND TALK activities to ensure we have a positive school board. There will be mega walks and regional walks in September and October. If you want to volunteer, contact Karen Colman scolman166@aol.com, Lorraine Bowen bassbros@msn.com or Nate Golich at ngolich@coloradoea.org. There will also be phone banks on 10/28 and 11/4. Details will be announced. At our Fall Meeting on Sept. 26th, you will be able to sign up to volunteer as well. Please join former School Board members for a reception at the home of Jill Fellman on September 8th from 5:30 to 8 p.m. For more information or to RSVP, contact TeamJeffco2017@gmail.com or call Jill at 303-431-8264.
New Teacher Induction

Many thanks to Marge West for once again making calls and getting volunteers for New Teacher Induction. Dale Gatz, Betty Flaten, Marti Pilcher, Janet Johnson, Karen Colman, Mary-Lynn Goberis, Jean Shelton, Stacy Priola, and Lorraine Bowen were at Arvada West High School on August 7th. They helped the JCEA staff welcome over 500 new educators. Thanks to all!

Colorado PERA @ColoradoPERA


Get Involved in Our Community

Mental Health First Aid Class

Golden Rotary and Jefferson Center for Mental Health are co-sponsoring a free class for adults who work with youth. It is a very helpful and informative class presented by Jefferson Center for Mental Health and sponsored by Golden Rotary. Golden Rotary will pay for breakfast, lunch and all materials. All are welcome, but seating is limited to 30 for this class. Those interested can register online with JCMH. Register at [www.jcmh.org/mhfa](http://www.jcmh.org/mhfa)

Jeffco Family Literacy, an agency of Jeffco Schools, needs volunteers to work with adults learning to read and adult refugees learning English. We have several sites in Arvada, Wheat Ridge and Lakewood. If you are interested in helping, please call Ann Mezo, volunteer coordinator, at 720-233-7924, anytime.

Important websites: coloradoea.org jcea.coloradoea.org nea.org lilysblackboard.org govotecolorado.com securepera.org copera.org
Great Education Colorado Luncheon
Honoring Sam and Nancy Gary

Thursday, October 5 | 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
The Cable Center at the University of Denver

Register at https://greateducation.salsalabs.org/2017luncheon

Care and Concern

Mary Ann Castens has moved to an assisted living facility. She would enjoy receiving cards and letters. Her new address is: 2195 E. Egbert St. Apt. 152, Brighton, CO 80601.

Beth Kramer, age 65, passed away on December 17, 2016. Beth died from ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis). She was diagnosed about 18 months before she died, so it came on very fast. She taught in Jefferson County School District for 30 years, with her last ten years in the International Baccalaureate program at Lakewood HS. She was an outstanding teacher, skilled in teaching biology and evolution. She inspired her students as evidenced by from many touching notes her students sent to her family. By Mike Kramer

Social Committee News

The current Social Committee includes: Jeanne Duffy, 2luckyducks@comcast.net; Betty Flaten, bflatten@rimail.net; Bonnie Hayes, BKHayes@aol.com; Gail Knowles,gknowles2@comcast.net; Marilyn Mallander, mmal-land@comcast.net; and Lindy Reed, mkhreed@comcast.net. We are always looking for new members and new ideas.
Friends, Food, and Holiday Fun
Submitted by Jeanne Duffy

We are already planning our holiday party at Mt Vernon Country Club because before you know it December will be here. When the frost rolls around, you’ll find yourself wishing for an effortless celebration to get you in the mood for the holidays, yet early enough that it won’t interfere with your own festivities and preparations.

You can expect an expanded holiday buffet this year, including some exceptional seasonal indulgences on the dessert table. If you like sweet treats you’ll be especially delighted because Santa looks the other way if you take one of every delicious confection.

We invite all our members, with a special invitation to all new members and their guests, to our holiday buffet on Wednesday, December 6 at 12:30 PM in the main dining room of Mount Vernon Country Club. As always, after lunch we invite you to spend the afternoon relaxing and visiting with friends while you enjoy the beautiful holiday setting and experience the incredible mountain views.

The cost of the buffet is **$25.00 per person**. The price includes homemade breads and soups, a cold salad bar, a variety of holiday entrees and desserts, coffee or tea, tax and tip. You pay for any other beverages ordered. Checks should be made payable to Jeanne Duffy and sent to her at 10160 W. 33rd Ave., Wheat Ridge, Colorado 80033, no later than Wednesday, November 29. Your check is your reservation and is NOT refundable.

We're reminding you early so you can reserve the date now before your December calendar fills up. Then don’t forget to get your check in before the deadline. With the cutoff date for checks close to Thanksgiving, we don’t want you to get all tied up with your turkey and forget to send in your check. Yes, we will try to provide an email reminder but you know how busy you get around the holidays. We don’t want the deadline to slip by you. Just know you will regret it if you miss the fun and you will have no one to blame but yourself, because we've reminded you in plenty of time.

Mount Vernon's weekday dress code in the dining room is business casual. Please, no jeans. This is your chance to dress for the holidays.

| When sending in reservations, please send separate checks for each event. |
| Also, be sure to include your phone number in case we need to contact you for any changes. |

**Travel to earn for the Excellence Scholarship Fund**

For more information on either or both trips to Ireland or Scotland give Carma or Davina a call. **Carma Hilliard & Davina Plate Certified Travel Agents**
Group Travel Specialists 970-593-8754 970-381-3413

**Discover Scotland:** [http://gateway.gocollette.com/link/782532](http://gateway.gocollette.com/link/782532)
**Shades of Ireland:** [http://gateway.gocollette.com/link/765377](http://gateway.gocollette.com/link/765377)
Tour of the Mount Morrison CCC Camp

Many thanks to Marilyn Mallander for organizing this trip to the CCC Camp on August 1. It was very informative. Everyone learned a lot about Red Rocks and the lives of young men in the CCC.

Boulder Dinner Theater Stage

Support the Arts. Support Live Theater.

Join JCEA-R and C.A.R.E. at BDT Stage at noon on Sunday, November 19, 2017 when they perform the classic play “Annie”. The deadline for tickets is October 19, 2017. Send your check for $40 made out to C.A.R.E. to Pat Baker, 1040 Kearney St. Denver, CO 80220. For questions contact Pat at 303-322-2176 or triciabake@gmail.com.
BDTStage has been known to change things up, so join us for the noon show on November 19, 2017 for a fun afternoon. By Gail Knowles

JCEA-R and its affiliates does not assume responsibility or any liability to anyone participating in NEA-R, CEA-R, or JCEA-R activities.

Dates to add to your JCEA-R Calendar!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 26</td>
<td>Fall Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 30 -Oct 9</td>
<td>Shades of Ireland 10-day trip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 8—17</td>
<td>Discover Scotland Trip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 19</td>
<td>BDT Stage “Annie” (RSVP by Oct 19)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 6</td>
<td>Mt. Vernon Holiday Luncheon (RSVP by Nov 29)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 27, 2018</td>
<td>Legislative Update Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2, 2018</td>
<td>Read Across America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 17</td>
<td>Annual Meeting/Delegate Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 27 &amp; 28</td>
<td>Delegate Assembly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HELP WANTED:

I would be willing to give 2 hours of my time to:

___ Help with set up before the Fall Meeting.
___ Help with set up for the Legislative meeting.
___ Help with set up before the Annual Meeting in the spring.
___ Help with the Pre-Retirement Seminar.
___ Help with Read Across America.
___ Help with the JCEA Excellence Scholarship Award.
___ Help with the Social Committee.

Contact Lorraine Bowen at bassbros@msn.com or 303-456-0660

We desperately need a Communications Chair/The Connection Editor

Other opportunities to be involved to ensure JCEA-R thrives:

Pre-Retirement Co-Chair
Treasurer Mentee
Membership Committee Member/Mentee