~ PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE ~

Eleanor Roosevelt once said, “The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.”

I think this is a perfect quote for the start of a new school year. Families, their students, and teachers begin the new school year with many hopes and aspirations. Together they work to make their dreams come true. I also think this quote is apropos to the goals of JCEA. The future of quality public schools and the prosperity of those who educate our youth are fundamental objectives of the Association. As members of JCEA-Retired, we play an important role in supporting JCEA to achieve these dreams. Thank you to all of you who have volunteered in a variety of ways and those who will in the coming months. We are Jeffco Strong!

JCEA-Retired offers many opportunities to stay informed, remain active in the Association and to enjoy social events with other retirees. Our Fall Meeting will be held at the JCEA Office on October 1, 2015. In February, we will have a Legislative Update, including reports from PERA and CEA. At our Annual Meeting in the spring we will report on important issues facing public education. We will continue to send out electronic information about opportunities to support JCEA throughout the year. Social Committee has a slew of activities coming up. Many of these dates are listed on the calendar at the back of this issue. I hope you will join us and take advantage of your membership.

Lorraine Bowen  
JCEA-R President

Pre-Retirement Seminar

Saturday, November 14th, JCEA-R will host another of their famous Pre-Retirement Seminars. Attendees are there to get information from financial planning, estate planning and wills, PERA and NEA benefits. Some of our speakers have been with us for 10-12 years! It’s great information for a cheap $10 price. It’s really a needed service to our retiring members.

If you would be interested in assisting with this seminar, please contact Diana Bliss, at dbliss30@comcast.net

Signing off for another year—  
Diana Bliss, Pre-Retirement Chair
End of summer already???? End of another membership year?????? NO!!!!!!!! Time just goes by way too fast for me! Nevertheless, I'm trying to keep up! I just received membership materials from CEA. Late again, so for those of you who are Annual members, your turn-around time will be short.

Please have your dues check, and any changes in your contact information to me no later than Friday, September 11, 2015. It takes time to get the Directory put together and printed before our Annual Membership meeting, which is Thursday, October 1, 2015. Our unified dues stay the same as they were last year but are going up in 2017. If any of you Annual members want to take advantage of this year to up-grade to Life, now is your chance. You can up-grade to a Life Membership for $575, and never have to worry about dues increases again.

New directories will be handed out at our Fall Membership meeting. Be sure I have all of your correct information. And, if you don't already receive The Connection via email, please send me your correct email address stating that you will be willing to receive our newsletter via email. Because so many of you have agreed to do that, we don't need to charge for our directories anymore! Yes!!! We save enough money on printing costs, that we can give a directory to each of our members.

We have many new retirees who have joined our group, and it seems like I receive calls almost every day from someone who wants to join! One big "Welcome" to all of our new retirees and new members! We hope you will join in many of our activities! Welcome to our new year, and I look forward to seeing many of you at our Fall Membership meeting at 9:00 on Thursday, October 1, 2015 at the JCEA office, 1447 Nelson St. Lakewood. If you have questions about your membership, please email me at pinkroses3@live.com I look forward to seeing you on October 1!!!!

If you know other educator retirees, invite them to join us. With our 519 members, we are the largest CEA-Retired group. We want to stay that way and keep growing!

Lou Ann Elliott
JCEA-R Vice-President and Membership Chair

READ ACROSS AMERICA
March 2, 2016

Our Read Across America committee is gearing up for the March 2, 2016 NEA celebration.

We invited schools throughout Jeffco Schools to contact us to help celebrate Dr. Seuss and the joy of reading. We can arrange to send volunteer readers to schools and/or set up a visit from the Cat in the Hat. Each school we visit gets a book donated to the school library.

Please contact Lorraine Bowen at bassbros@msn.com or Susan Niles at rgsniles@q.com if you are interested in helping with this fun event.
Scholarship Travel Opportunities 2016

A few years back, JCEA-R joined NCREA, CARE, and WCSPERA to plan cruises for our retirees, their friends and families. The agents give part of their stipend to us for our various Scholarship Programs, over $2,000!! So far trips have been to Fall Colors, Panama Canal, China, Costa Rica, and France. Now is time to reserve a cabin for the 2016 Cruises.

March 2-16, 2016 is a 14 night cruise to New Zealand and Australia. Fly to Auckland, NZ, stop in seven harbors and cruise on to Melbourne, Australia, and Sydney before flying home. Now is the time to reserve your cabin. Final balance is due 12/18/15.

September 17-24, 2016 is a 7-day cruise from Vancouver, British Columbia, along the Pacific coastline with stops at four ports before arriving in Los Angeles, California. Final balance is due 7/4/16. Cabins are going quickly so reserve yours now.

If you would like further information or brochures, contact Carma Hilliard 970-593-8754 or Davina Plate 970-381-3413 or email Charlotte Green.

If you would like to join those receiving the color JCEA-R Connection via e-mail, please send your email address, or any changes, to green4char@gmail.com

It’s in color, and you can ENLARGE it for easier reading. We’ll continue to mail to those who prefer the printed version.

Some PERA facts you may not know. Feel free to share —

PERA serves 529,140 Colorado citizens with 1 in 10 Coloradans being a PERA member. We believe that PERA is Colorado’s best investment and provides a foundation for Colorado’s future because:

• PERA has $44.2 Billion in net assets for PERA’s division trust funds.
• PERA invests $586 million in Colorado.
• PERA’s funding sources since 1986 have been 60% investment income, 18% member income and 19% employer contributions.
• PERA’s investment return for 2014 was 5.7%, over 5 years averaged 9.9% and over 30 years averaged 9.4%.
• PERA distributed $3.9 billion to retirees in 2014 with an average monthly benefit of $3,112 which was spent in Colorado.
• PERA retiree distributions result in $5.2 billion in total economic output and add $2.52 billion to the total value of goods and service. They add $267 million in tax revenue which supports schools, roads and services across the state.
• PERA retiree distributions help sustain 29,357 jobs in the state.
• 460 teachers are retained each year solely due to the defined-benefit plan of PERA. This results in a $5.3 million cost savings generated by the retention effect of the defined-benefit pension.
Out and About with JCEA-R

JCEA-R Members (and friends) enjoyed their summers with family and friends eating, taking CPR classes, exploring the DU Carillon Bells, eating, and more. We hope to see you at our upcoming events!!

Sally and Ed Augden, Raoul and Marjie Bates, Lorraine Bowen, Dottie Brenner and husband Gene, Cheryl Busch, Ralph Cundiff, Kathy Danhour, Jeanne Duffy and Phil Trettenero, Lou Ann and Fred Elliott, Brenda and Robin Ennis, Charlotte Green, Bonnie Hayes, Bill and Nora Jones, Margaret Kaschak, Kristine Kraft, Dick Lansford, MaryAnn and Dennis Larsen, Gene Layman, Camille Lipe, Getta Makelky, Catherine Maxwell, Valerie Montano, Charles and Corine Murphy, Bunnie Nelson, Mary and Mel Patee, Lindy Reed, Jim and Marilyn Prichard, Shirley and Tony Sternola, Judy Turner and Bob Zachman.

Some of our adventures included:

**Breakfast at Mimi’s**

JCEA-R members and some spouses had a delicious breakfast at Mimi’s Café with additional spice added by much discussion about the school board recall campaign.

**July 23 - Celebrate We Did**

Summer is always nature’s way of saying, "Let’s celebrate!" and celebrate we did at our summer celebration at Mt Vernon July 23rd.

Thank you to all who contributed to the worthy charity, our group also raised over $450 for the Arvada Food Bank.

Care and Concern

Linda Jurgenmeyer, whose love of teaching touched and shaped many hundreds of lives over a 40-year teaching career, passed away on July 13, 2015. Linda retired from Shaffer Elementary.

Donations in her name may be sent to the Alzheimer’s Association, P.O. Box 96011, Washington D. C. 20090-6011.

Activities Committee

The Activities Committee plans our variety of events. We would love to have new members either permanently or bring us a few new ideas or requests. A fresh idea or information about a fun event is always appreciated. We usually meet twice each quarter, generally on a Monday at 10:30 am over brunch, to plan activities in advance of the Connection publication.

We hope we have peaked your interest and you may want to drop in on a meeting now and then, share breakfast and your ideas for an activity or join us permanently. If so, let any committee member know you’d like to come and we’ll let you know when and where we meet next. We’d love your help.

The current committee includes: Jeanne Duffy, 2luckyducks@comcast.net; Betty Flaten, bflaten@rimail.net; Bonnie Hayes, BKHayes@aol.com; Gail Knowles, gknowles2@comcast.net; Marilyn Mallander, mmall-land@comcast.net; and Lindy Reed, mkhreed@comcast.net
PROTECT YOURSELF FROM IDENTITY THEFT

Ask anyone who has been a victim of identity theft and they will tell you it is a nightmare to resolve. Better by far to prevent it. But how?

On Wednesday, September 16, Cary Johnson from the Jeffco D.A.’s Office, will share some valuable tips on keeping our identities as private as possible. He is a very engaging speaker with lots of experience working to prevent identity theft and fraud. He will speak for about 45 minutes or so with plenty of time for questions.

We’ll meet at 10 am in the JCEA Office, 1447 Nelson St. Following Cary’s presentation, those interested will adjourn a few blocks east for lunch at Dino’s Italian Restaurant, an old haunt for some and still going strong.

To make sure Cary’s visit is worthwhile, please RSVP with a $10 check to Jeanne Duffy, 10160 W. 33rd Ave., Wheat Ridge, 80033. Also indicate whether you plan to come to lunch at Dino’s. This deposit will be returned to you when you come to the event. Friday, Sept. 11 is RSVP deadline.

WIN OR LOSE POST ELECTION WAC

Gather with fellow retired teachers to debrief the November 3rd school board, etc. election at the Arvada School House Kitchen and Libations, 5660 Olde Wadsworth Boulevard, Arvada from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov 4, 2015.

The restaurant is built inside the original Arvada Schoolhouse and customers are taken back to their own school days as they view the décor and memorabilia of a bygone era. Though whiskies are the specialty of the house both wine and beer is served and there is an extensive snack menu.

Reservations must be made by November 1, 2015 by contacting Betty Flaten at: 303-423-9435/bflaten@rimail.net

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.

GHOST STORIES AT THE GRANT-HUMPHREYS MANSION

Join us for ghost stories at The Grant-Humphreys Mansion, located at 770 Pennsylvania St. Denver on Monday, Oct 19th from 5pm to 9pm. Tom “Dr. Colorado” Noel will team up with actors, from Colorado Homegrown Tales, to offer spine-tingling ghost stories. As you move through the rooms of the house, you will also hear the history of this stately structure and its former owners.

The cost is $70.00 per person and includes a Halloween desert buffet. Register directly through History Colorado by calling 303-866-2394. Parking is limited at the mansion, so plan to park on the street or in a lot.

For questions, contact Marilyn Mallander at mmalland@comcast.net or 303-477-6327. Contact Marilyn, once you register, so she has an idea of who is coming from JCEA-R.
We are willing to bet you're not thinking about the holidays in this warm weather, but when December rolls around, you'll find yourself wishing for an effortless celebration to get you in the mood. The trouble is if you wait for information about our holiday event until the next newsletter, it may be published too late for you to mail in your check. So here's everything you need to know now in this issue. Reserve the date, December 2nd on your calendar now, before it fills up. Then get your check in the mail no later than Wednesday, November 25th.

We invite all our members, with a special invitation to our new members and their guests, to our holiday luncheon on **Wednesday, December 2 at 12:30 PM** in the main dining room of Mount Vernon Country Club. After lunch we invite you to spend the afternoon relaxing and visiting with friends while you enjoy the season, the holiday setting and the incredible mountain views.

Once again this year, we anticipate many surprises, but we will leave those plans wrapped tightly under our tree at the North Pole. Just know you will regret if you miss the fun and you can't blame anyone but yourself, because we 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.

The $20.00 per person buffet includes homemade breads and soups, a cold salad bar, hot entrees, 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 25. Your check is your reservation and is NOT refundable.

With Thanksgiving so late this year, we don't want you to get all tied up with your turkey and forget to send it in. Yes, we do provide an email reminder but you know how busy you get around that time. Remember, your check is due the day before Thanksgiving.

To reach Mount Vernon, take I-70 west to the Genesee Park Exit #254. Turn right at the stop sign and follow the road up the hill to Mount Vernon. We encourage you to carpool if you can. If you have any questions, contact Jeanne Duffy at 303-231-9598.

One more reminder. We will again ask your help with a monetary contribution to the Arvada Food Bank at this luncheon. Contributions are never a condition to attend but we appreciate whatever you are able to do. Make checks payable to "The Arvada Food Bank". If you so wish, you can designate "Feed the Future Backpack Program" in the memo line.

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**JCEA Excellence Fund**

Please consider making a donation to the **Christa McAuliffe Scholarship Fund** in honor of a family member, friend or colleague. To learn more about making a tax deductible contribution go to [http://jcea.coloradoea.org/teaching-and-learning/grants-and-awards/excellence-fund](http://jcea.coloradoea.org/teaching-and-learning/grants-and-awards/excellence-fund). Our students thank you.
**JCEA-R members will join CARE (Central Adams Retired Educators) Sept 13th to see Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story.** It’s the true story of Buddy’s rise to fame in 1957 to his tragic death less than two years later. The show features over 20 of Buddy’s greatest hits—the incredible legacy of the young man with glasses, whose musical career spanned an all-too-brief period during the Golden Days of Rock & Roll.

Now we are looking forward to joining CARE for:  
**The Addams Family**  
BDT Stage w/ CARE  
**(deadline Oct 10)**

Send checks **payable to CARE** to: Pat Baker, 1040 Kearney, Denver, CO 80220.  
You can reach Pat at 303-322-2176 or triciabake@gmail.com

The weird and wonderful family comes to devilishly delightful life in The Addams Family. Wednesday Addams, the ultimate princess of darkness, has grown up and fallen in love with a sweet, smart young man from a respectable family. A man her parents have never met. If that weren’t upsetting enough, she confides in her father and begs him not to tell her mother. Now, Gomez Addams must do something he’s never done before—keep a secret from his beloved wife, Morticia. Everything will change for the whole family on the fateful night they host a dinner for Wednesday’s "normal" boyfriend and his parents.

Come meet the family. We’ll leave the lights off for you.
JCEA-R Officers:
Lorraine Bowen, President
Lou Ann Elliott, Vice-President
Charlotte Green, Secretary
Marge Bozarth, Treasurer

JCEA-R Connection Staff:
Charlotte Green, Editor

Check us out —
jcea.coloradoea.org/jcea-r

JCEA-R Fall Meeting
Thursday October 1, 2015

9:00  Sign-in/Refreshments
9:20  Meeting

JCEA Office
1447 Nelson
Lakewood, CO

We hope to see you there!!

coloradoea.org
lilyblackboard.org
jcea.coloradoea.org/jcea-r
securepera.org
copeera.org
nea.org