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bassbros@msn.com

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gknowles2@comcast.net

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303-779-4588
scolman166@aol.com

Marge Bozarth
Treasurer
303-985-0210

Lou Ann Elliott
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303-423-5558
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Deadline for the September JCEA-R Connection Is August 15th.
If you have suggestions or information to be included in the September 2017 issue, please contact Lorraine Bowen.

President’s Message

Summer is a delightful season. The summer sunshine fills us excitement and an enhanced enjoyment of life. Many of us travel and spend time with family and friends. I hope that you take advantage of the activities planned by our Social Committee to add to your summer fun.

Summer is also the time of year the Executive Committee begins to plan for the coming school year. New officers were elected at the Annual Meeting in April: Lorraine Bowen, President; Gail Knowles, Vice-President; Karen Colman, Secretary and Marge Bozarth, Treasurer. We are talking about how we are going to continue to provide a quality program for our JCEA-R members. One problem we face is that we are a little short on volunteers.

Our most urgent need is a volunteer to be the Communications Chair. Char Green has resigned and thus far no one has stepped up to take her place. We need someone who would be willing to help publish The Connection. If you have ideas about how we can meet the challenge of keeping our members informed or are interested in becoming our new editor, please contact one of the Executive Committee Members. Our June publication is late coming out due to our desperate need for an editor.

Throughout the summer there will opportunities to get involved in supporting pro-education candidates for state and national offices. There will also be a Jeffco School Board election this fall. If you want more information about what is happening politically, be sure to contact Karen Colman, our Political Action/Legislative Chair, and keep up the CEA updates. Look for email updates and Facebook posts throughout the summer about ways to get involved.

Whatever you do this summer, be safe, be happy and enjoy all that comes your way.

Lorraine Bowen, JCEA-R President
Well Spring has finally "Sprung", school is finished for this year, and we are all beginning a summer filled with activities! I hope this finds all of you well and having fun. We have had a very disappointing year this year as far as membership is concerned. We only have 52 renewals on Annual memberships, (we budgeted for 60), We have 3 new Life members, but have set our budget to welcome 15 new Life members. As of today, our total membership stands at 510. The result of lower membership is a tight pinch on our budget. So, if you know any former members who have not renewed, or any new retirees, please talk to them about renewing their membership or joining JCEA-R. We need everyone's help to keep our organization viable. Also, if you or anyone you know has or is moving or changing their email, PLEASE make sure they or you, have given me their change of contact information. I thank you one and all for you continued help with membership. Most likely the next time you hear from me will be the membership drive sometime in August. So, until then, enjoy your summer, be careful, and try to find just one person to join JCEA-R! Thanks, hugs, & good member scouting!

Legislative/Political Update
By Karen Colman, Legislative/Political Chair

It's been another busy year in the Legislature this year. Three PERA bills HB114, SB113, SB158 luckily were defeated. Two bills were signed by the Governor. HB 1176 to let rural school districts allow employees to work 180 days instead of 110 to help with teacher shortages. HB 1003 to study why there are teacher shortages. Two other important bills were defeated. HB 1178 would have allowed unlicensed teachers to fill rural school district vacancies. The House Education Committee voted down Senate Bill 61. This would have rewarded charter schools with more taxpayer funds without accountability and transparency that neighborhood public schools abide by everyday. There was a compromise House bill 1375 that was passed as a compromise with some guaranteed money to Charters, but with more accountability measures. This could be challenged in court if it becomes law. Colorado lawmakers managed to keep the state's school funding shortfall from growing this year. Colorado public schools will see an average of $242 per student next year. The bill to help schools test for lead also passed.

Delegate Assembly was attended by 8 JCEA-R members. We passed a number of new business items, passed a couple of amendments, and re-elected Ami Pritchard as NEA Director. During the retired meeting Jeff Marshall was elected to the CEA Board Retired and the alternate is Beverly Green. Julie Friedemann is taking over for Carole Wright on the PERA Board. It was announced that half dues were approved for retired ESP.

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. Thanks, and if you have any questions send me an email at karenlcolman@gmail.com
JCEA News

Congratulations are in order. JCEA and Jeffco Schools came to an agreement this spring that included a return to steps and levels plus a COLA of 2%. JCEA-R recognizes the hundreds of volunteer hours it took to get to that contract. We commend the hard-work of the JCEA Bargaining Team.

We also want to congratulate John Ford who was re-elected as JCEA President and all the newly elected Action Chairs. The Jefferson County Education Association will continue to be an exceptional organization with their leadership.

JCEA’s Summer Engagement Work Begins June 20th! As JCEA prepares to keep a pro-public education Board of Ed. in Jeffco this November, it will be conducting home visits with JCEA members throughout June and July. This work is critical to engaging educators in Election '17. We know that when we WALK, KNOCK, and TALK to voters in Jeffco, we WIN. Spend ONE DAY visiting JCEA members and talking about the schools Jeffco students deserve. Lorraine Bowen, JCEA-R President, will be walking on June 27th and July 20th. Come join her. You can sign up by calling 303-232-6405.

If you are interested in helping with New Teacher Induction August 7th, let the JCEA Office know at 303-232-6405, and let Marge West, our contact person, know at 303-984-7004.

Jeffco Schools Update

Jeffco has a new superintendent. Dr. Glass was approved May 16th. He comes to Jeffco from Eagle County. The School Board unanimously voted in favor because they see Dr. Glass as the individual that will bring our Jeffco community together to ensure all students thrive. We have invited him to be a guest speaker at our Fall Meeting. We look forward to introducing him to our members. Check out JPS-TV: The Official YouTube Channel of Jeffco Public Schools In Colorado to learn more about Dr. Glass and what is happening in Jeffco Public Schools.

School Board Election’17

Susan Harmon, Ron Mitchell and Brad Rupert filed to run for re-election to the Jefferson County School Board. Learn more about the candidates’ backgrounds at:

www.SusanForJeffcoKids.com

www.RonForJeffcoKids.com

www.BradForJeffcoKids.com
JCEA-Retired has a Facebook account! You can log onto our new page, read posts and post some of your own. People have been asking when we are going to do this, and the time is now. We will post reminders for events, educational news, information about politics that affect educators and public schools. We will have a link to our website. On our website, you can access The Connection, join our association and much more. If you have any ideas or suggestions, contact Lorraine Bowen at bassbros@msn.com.

The Read Across America Committee worked with thirteen Jeffco Schools to help celebrate Dr. Seuss’s birthday and the joys of reading. We supplied readers, donated books to school libraries and sent the Cat in the Hat to visit various schools. It was a great success. Many thanks to all who participated.

We hope to again work with the Jefferson County Libraries to spread the word about the importance of reading next fall during their RAISE A READER event. This event provides fun activities for young children and information for caregivers about how to make reading at home a meaningful and delightful experience. It also helps to connect families to community services. Please let me know if you are interested working a table on Saturdays in September (Sunday, September 10th at Stanley Lake) at various locations. Call Lorraine at 303-456-0660 or at bassbros@msn.com. We need to let the coordinator know which libraries we will cover by July 7th.

To get involved in READ ACROSS AMERICA 2018, contact Susan Niles at rgsniles@comcast.net or Lorraine Bowen at bassbros@msn.com. We are always looking for people who are wanting to be readers, or a Cat and/or help with community outreach. We would love to have you to be part of the fun.

"You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read with a child." Dr. Seuss

If you would like to receive the color edition of the JCEA-R Connection via e-mail, please send your email address, or any other changes, to bassbros@msn.com. It's in color, can be ENLARGED for easier reading. You can print the calendar and it saves us $1.20 per issue per person. We'll continue to mail to those who prefer a printed version for the time being.
Get Involved in Our Community

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. We especially need a reading specialist at the Family Literacy Bldg., Ohio Ave. and Sheridan, for a 50-ish woman who has never learned to read. She has worked with a retired elementary teacher, but has not made progress. We suspect a reading disability. The commitment would be for 2 hrs. once a week. If you are interested in helping this woman or working with refugees learning English, please call Ann Mezo, volunteer coordinator, at 720-233-7924, anytime.

Dates to add to your JCEA-R Calendar!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 27-28</td>
<td>NEA-R Annual Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 30-July 5</td>
<td>NEA Representative Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 11 (RSVP BY JULY 1)</td>
<td>Denver Botanic Gardens <em>Calder Monumental</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>August 1 (RSVP By July 18)</td>
<td><em>Tour of the Mount Morrison CCC Camp</em></td>
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<td>August 7</td>
<td>New Teacher Induction</td>
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<td>September Fall Meeting (date to be announced)</td>
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<td>Sept 30 -Oct 9</td>
<td>Shades of Ireland 10-day trip</td>
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<td>October 1</td>
<td>Durango-Silverton Railroad trip</td>
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<td>October 8—17</td>
<td>Discover Scotland Trip</td>
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<td>March 2, 2018</td>
<td>Read Across America</td>
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Social Committee News

*Calder Monumental Unites Art and Garden Lovers*

Participate of one of Denver Botanic Gardens outstanding exhibits the “Calder Monumental”. The Garden’s natural surroundings give a powerful setting for Alexander Calder’s vast works of stabiles and standing mobiles. A July morning stroll through the joyful, dynamic, and airy exhibit takes place on Tuesday, July 11, 2017 at 9:30. Meet outside the gate for your tickets and instructions. (Full details will be emailed to attendees after the deadline for RSVPs.)

Discuss your impressions and reflections with friends and members following the self-guided tour at one of the Garden’s two restaurants, Hive Garden Bistro or Off Shoots Café. (Reservations will not be taken for lunch.)
Please send your $10.00 (non-refundable) reservation to: Gail Knowles, 7770 Perry Place, Westminster, CO 80030 by **July 1, 2017**. The $10.00 will cover your admission cost of $9.50 if you are a non-member with small change left over. If a member you will be given back your check at the gate. Let Gail know if you are a member and how many passes you are allowed. It will help with all admissions if members are willing to share their passes.

We may be able to get enough members to cover admission for attendees. This will depend on the number of attendees and the number of members attending. We will call members and juggle passes and try to get everyone in at little or no cost.

Tour of the Mount Morrison CCC Camp

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was created in the 1930s, under Franklin D. Roosevelt, in order to produce jobs and protect the forests and lands around the United States. How would you like to learn and see Colorado’s contribution to that effort?

Did you know that the Mount Morrison CCC Camp opened in 1935 to house the men who built Red Rocks Amphitheatre and projects in nearby Mountain Parks? The camp is one of the few surviving camps in the nation and is open by appointment only. It is at 300 Union Avenue, Morrison, CO

On **Tuesday, August 1, 2017**, we have arranged a tour of the camp that includes the Recreation Hall, its museum, the Mess Hall and the grounds and exteriors of the other buildings. Our ranger guide will include history of Red Rocks Park, the CCC Program and other Colorado CCC projects in his presentation.

To reserve a place on the tour, send a $10 check to Marilyn Mallander 4012 Meade St. Denver, CO 80211 by **July 18th**. Your $10 check will be returned to you the day of the tour. If you are unable to attend, you need to find a replacement or forfeit your $10. **Please include an email address on your check so detailed directions and meeting place can be sent to you.**

For information contact Marilyn Mallander [mmalland@comcast.net](mailto:mmalland@comcast.net) or 303-477-6327

**There will be no reminders sent out for summer activities, so mark your calendars!**

**Information will be on our Facebook site- JCEA-Retired.**
DURANGO & SILVERTON WINE TRAIN

In the last Connection, we mentioned the wine-tasting trip on the Durango & Silverton Train that runs in the fall. The more we’ve learned, the more difficult it seems to plan this as a group trip, given the expense and the number of choices of train cars presented on the website. So below is the information and if the trip sounds like something you’d enjoy, it may spur you to make your own reservation.

The wine tasting begins almost as soon as you board the train, with vintners from Colorado wineries explaining their various choices as the train follows the Animas River to Cascade Canyon Wye. There everyone disembarks for a sumptuous buffet accompanied by live music and, of course, more wine. There is an opportunity to visit with the vintners, hike up the tracks a short way to a footbridge across the river, or just soak up the scenery. About 2:30 the train returns to Durango.

Trips are offered on Sat., Sept. 3 or Sat., Oct. 1 at 10 am from the Durango Depot. Costs range from $109 to $169 per person depending on the type of car you chose. To book online, go to durangotrain.com, click the “book now” button, select your date and click on “search all;” the wine train options will be at the bottom of the page. If you have questions, you may call (970) 247-2733 or, toll free: (888) 872-4607.

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
Shades of Ireland: http://gateway.gocollette.com/link/765377

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

Communications Chair
Communications Committee Member
The Connection Editor
Webmaster
Facebook Coordinator

Pre-Retirement Co-Chair

Treasurer Mentee

Membership Committee Member/Mentee
Contact your leadership team to volunteer.

Important websites: coloradoea.org jcea.coloradoea.org nea.org lilysblackboard.org govotecolorado.com securepera.org copera.org