
July 2023

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1. NEA-Retired met in Orlando. NEA-R held their annual meeting in Orlando last week with over 300 delegates. They re-committed their efforts to repeal GPO/WEP, protect Social Security and Medicare, and advocate for fair cost-of-living increases in all Federal pensions. NEA-R also continue to be an active and visible part of NEA to ensure the best education for all children. To experience one of the most inspirational speeches given at this year's Representative Assembly by a 14-year-old student, visit:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IYNnKB_pFVI

2. Many Thanks to Sarah Borgman. NEA-R gave a heartfelt thank you and farewell to Sarah Borgman for the last 6 years of leadership as President of NEA-R. Sarah has expanded communication for all members, increased our visibility and involvement in the NEA, established needed training across the country, and built strong coalitions. FEA-R extends our most sincere appreciation to all that Sarah has done that has had a positive impact on the lives of FEA-R members.

3. Welcome Anita Gibson. Anita will be the incoming President for NEA-R. She is no stranger to the needs of retirees including our FEA-R members. She has years of experience in NEA/NEA-R. She has spearheaded the CORAL (Coalition of Retired and Active Leaders) grant program which enabled FEA-R to reach out to our ESP members. FEA-R looks forward to her leadership and ability to get things done. Welcome, Anita.

4. Vacancy on the NEA Board of Directors for a Retired Representative. Because Anita Gibson will assume the Presidency of NEA-R this fall, this will create a vacancy on the NEA Board of Directors for a retired representative. This is a one-year term to complete Anita's time on that Board. If you are interested in being considered to be appointed to this position, send your name, phone number, email address and membership number to Sarah Borgman at whadyapple@frontier.com. The deadline to apply is July 26, with a virtual interview to follow on August 2. For additional information visit: www.nea.org/retired

5. Update on the Repeal of GPO/WEP (Government Pension Offset/Windfall Elimination Provision):

- House Resolution 82, which would repeal GPO/WEP needs 290 co-sponsors to get to the floor of the House. It currently has 287. Please continue to contact
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your representative and urge him/her to co-sponsor HR 82. If your Representative has already co-sponsored this bill, let him/her know that you appreciate the support.

- Representative Richard Neal (D-MA) has introduced HR 4260 which would provide meaningful financial relief to WEP retirees and fixes the WEP for future retirees. NEA supports this bill. It currently has 94 so-sponsors.
- NEA has developed an excellent video that you can share with your friends and relatives in urging them to support the repeal of GPO/WEP. To view and share, visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W5Z9UizThhQ>
- In our fight to protect our pensions, Social Security and Medicare, NEA Retired members have given over 1.3 million dollars to the Fund for Children and Public Education this year. The work NEA does is vital to our FEA and FEA-R members. Consider giving to the NEA Fund for Children and Public Education at <https://www.neavotes.org>

6. Shout-Out to Karen Rose. Karen Rose, former Vice President of FEA, was featured in a larger than life campaign showcasing the work of our FEA-R/NEA-R members at this year's NEA-R's Annual Meeting. Alongside her photo was her quote, "The FEA experience and the related NEA educational sessions I often attended taught me valuable leadership skills and the ability to advocate for students and schools." If you would like a picture of this "screenshot", along with full quote, send us a request at retiredFEA@gmail.com

7. The DoDDS Reunion--It's Not Too Late. The DoDDS reunion will be taking place July 12-16, 2023, in Omaha, Nebraska. Hundreds of your retired colleagues from around the world have already registered for this event. It is a great time to catch-up on what's been happening with your fellow educators and to make new friends. There will be special informational updates on the American Overseas Schools Historical Society, your Federal Health Insurance Benefits in retirement, and what's going on in the World of DoDEA. Registration is \$120 at the door. For more information on how to register and to see who else is attending, visit: <https://www.mydoddsreunion.com/>
