YOU’VE RETIRED, NOW WHAT’S NEXT
by Marcia Waienta

Lucky you, you’ve retired and now on to bigger and better things. I’m sure you have a bucket list of things to do but there is one more chore before you can just relax and enjoy all this well-deserved fun.

Have you taken care of your estate and done your estate planning? Do you have a Durable General Power of Attorney, a Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care, a Last Will and Testament, Family Living Trust, Advance Directives?

Do you even know what they are and if you need them? Have you thought about Aunt Pearl’s opal ring, the cottage on the lake, the antique car rusting in the barn, the savings you have accumulated? What happens when you are unable to make some of those decisions?

Meet Attorney Dale Swanson of Keene & Macdonald, P.C. in Portsmouth, NH. Dale specializes in Family and Elder Law. He has been wonderful in helping my husband and me, do our estate planning. He will help you understand what your next steps should be and answer your questions. Don’t miss this important, informative meeting. Then go out and start on that bucket list!

President’s Message
by Sandra Amlaw, NHREA President

Our future depends on the commitment all our members make to our organization. At this time only a handful of hardworking, committed volunteers are managing the work of NHREA. We currently have 11 members on the executive Board with two vacant seats, seven committee chairs, and nineteen units run by various officers. These dedicated individuals spent their careers educating and training future generations. Now they work to protect the benefits of all members of the New Hampshire Retirement System. Our organization has over 4000 members. It is now time for our newer retirees to become involved in protecting their benefits and creating a stronger organization.

On a more upbeat note, I thoroughly enjoy my visits to the local units to keep our members updated on happenings throughout the state. Since the last newsletter, I attended meetings in Nashua, Strafford County, Colebrook, and Salem. I am looking forward to attending the Lakes Region in the fall.

If you would like me to visit your unit, please let me know.

NRTA (National Retired Educators Associations), our parent organization, sponsored a training session in May. Candy Bailey and I attended and participated in two follow-up webinars. The focus was on strengthening our association and recruiting new members. We will be attending the 2nd session in September.

At our next executive board meeting and our next general membership meeting, we will be concentrating on restructuring our “mission” and “vision” to better reflect the direction of our organization as we move forward. NHREA continues to work with the New Hampshire Retirement Security Coalition. The coalition was instrumental in encouraging the sponsorship of HB1449. This bill would have meant a 13th check for retirees. This check (See President’s... on pg. 4)
Many of us may know Marc Boyd as an AARP Fraud Fighter (guest speaker, October NHREA State Luncheon in 2014) as well as many local unit presentations) with a wealth of ideas to protect us all from predatory practices. Now Marc has assumed an important new role, having been selected for the honor of President of AARP New Hampshire, a volunteer position. Marc enjoyed 37 years in education in New Hampshire schools. A few highlights include his selection in 2004 as NH Elementary School Principal of the Year; and at the national level, as a Distinguished Elementary School Principal. In the last 6 years, Marc represented the NH Association of School Principals on the NH Department of Education’s Home Education Advisory Council. Marc’s alter ego truly speaks to his passion for caring and connecting with people...he is seen all over the state as “Jolly Old St. Nick” at schools, restaurants and events during the holiday season. As a fellow educator I am proud and delighted to welcome Marc to his new position.

Connecting to AARP New Hampshire

As always, remember to visit www.aarp.org/nh for updates on events, discounts, and for other opportunities. Here are two that might be of interest:

1) AARP is giving a free workshop We Need to Talk, September 15th in Manchester (http://aarp.cvent.com/DrivingManchester2016). This is a program offered to family members who are planning sensitive conversations with their loved ones regarding safe driving. Charlie Zoeller will be the facilitator for this program. We Need to Talk is based on information created jointly by The Hartford Ins. Co. and MIT’s Age Lab.

2) Discover your Real Possibilities and find out if turning your hobby into a business could be part of your “what’s next” in life! This free interactive, two-hour workshop will be conducted at three different locations (Lee, Amherst, and Concord) in late September and October. Please go to http://aarp.cvent.com/Hobby2016 (*insert town name between Hobby & 2016) for more information about this opportunity.

TAKE A STAND Campaign

This fall, New Hampshire political activities will again be in full swing! AARP will be actively involved in helping citizens become better informed on important issues. The Take A Stand Campaign will continue to work with volunteers to raise the issue of updating Social Security for the 21st century. According to the Social Security trustees, the trust funds’ reserves will be depleted by 2034. Without any change, Social Security revenue (primarily payroll taxes) still will be enough to pay 79 percent of benefits beyond 2034, with future reductions likely. We as voters should be looking for the Presidential candidate (as well as congressional candidates) who have the courage to take the lead on Social Security reform and avoid waiting for this funding crisis to develop. The public has the right to know what each candidate’s plans might entail. Starting in mid-September and through October, AARP will be organizing community tours to make our voices heard on the importance of creating a dialogue on this issue (50.4% of NH Social Security beneficiaries rely on Social Security).
ANNUAL FALL MEETING
CHASE HOUSE AT MILL FALLS
312 Daniel Webster Highway, Rte. 3, Meredith, NH 03253
Thursday, October 13, 2016

PLEASE NOTE THE DATE AND PLACE ON YOUR CALENDAR AND PLAN TO ATTEND.
YOUR VOICE IS IMPORTANT!

9:30 to 10:00 a.m. - Registration / coffee, tea and assorted breakfast pastries

10:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. - BUSINESS MEETING
President Sandra Amiaw, presiding

11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - PROGRAM
Guest Speaker
Attorney Dale Swanson

12:30 p.m. - BUFFET LUNCHEON
Cost: $29.50 per person*
See reservation form below.
Reservation deadline, October 1, 2016.

*If a member is not staying for lunch, there will be a $5 registration fee to cover the cost of materials, coffee, and pastries.
(Cancellations must be sent to Connie George, 603-774-1092 or ca_george@aol.com, by October 4, 2016)

RESERVATION FORM
Reservations must be received by Saturday, October 1, 2016.

Please complete the form and return it with your check, payable to NHREA, to Connie George, 1042 Montalona Rd., Dunbarton, NH 03046.

$ _______________ to cover ___________ reservations.
Food: Buffet, no choices needed.

Name(s) ____________________________
Address ____________________________
Telephone __________________________
E-mail Address ______________________

Deadline for Spring 2017 Issue
All news and articles for the Spring Newsletter need to be sent to

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PO Box 452, Intervale, NH 03845-0452
mmchambo@gmail.com

Candy Bailey
candy3499@aol.com

Sandra Amiaw
39 Gowing Road, Hudson, NH 03057
sandy_amiaw@yahoo.com

Please send articles and Unit News by March 1, 2017.
Summary of the Spring General Meeting, 2016
Edited by Maureen Chamberlain

The 2016 Spring General Meeting was held at SERESC in Bedford, NH. Coffee and pastries were provided while registration was in progress. The business meeting began at 10:00 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Pauline Desautels. Sandy Amlow, President NHREA welcomed all in attendance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Secretary, Linda Fanny reviewed the meeting minutes. They were accepted. Marcia Walenta gave a detailed Treasurer’s report and budget for next year 2017. Money is brought in mainly through dues, which is slow moving. The largest expense is the Newsletter. Discussion followed as to a solution. The report was accepted.

Peter Desautels and Norma Gray, the Membership Committee, reported that as of March 1, 2016 we have a total of 4,681 members, 392 members who retired in 2016. Requests to pay dues were mailed twice to 2014 retirees with little response. There are 300+ 2015 retirees, over 200 retirees from 2014, and 200+ retirees from 2013 who have yet to submit dues monies. If you are one of these retirees, please mail your check to Norma Gray. Phone calls to those members may be used as a reminder. You are always welcome to become actively involved in your local organization.

The Legislative Committee updated information on HB-1449FN that will eventually pay members of the NH Retirement System a 13th check. Members were asked to call our Representatives asking for their support of the bill. Calls are more effective than a written note or text.

The Newsletter is going smoothly thanks to the appointment of an additional editor. Candy Bailey and Maureen Chamberlain are now co-editors of the Newsletter. The newsletter is costly to print and mail. We would save money if retirees choose the option to receive the newsletter online.

With Margaret Pyszka at the helm the Scholarship Committee has contacted many large and small town newspapers and colleges with information about our scholarships. Interviews and the reading of essays are being conducted for this year’s awards.

Old Business:

The web page: www.nh-reå.org needs to be larger and more prominent on the front page.

Volunteerism: please report community service hours to Sandy by June 1, 2017.

New Business:

Meeting places and entertainment, authors, singers, musicians, speakers are needed for future meetings.

Emily Leach was the best part of the Spring meeting. She was well informed and spoke with confidence, humor and expressed some horror as she advised us about fraud and privacy. She answered questions with direct answers and kept us silently listening to her presentation. Thanks to Marcia Walenta for sharing her accomplished daughter with us and to Emily for her willingness to share her timely expertise.

President’s... (Continued from page 1) would not have been compounded in your retirement benefits. I submitted written testimony and attended the work sessions. The bill was tabled but could be worked on in the next session. If that is the case, we will be asking members to attend in their "Red Shirts."

In this election year, I know I don’t have to remind people how important your voice is. On Nov. 8th we will be electing a new president. I encourage everyone, regardless of political party, to exercise your right to vote.
A Special Thank You to TWO Incredible Volunteers

Our organization has been very fortunate to have two dedicated volunteers who have served in different capacities within NHREA.

Roland Stoodley, a retired educator from Charlestown, served as the Executive Director of NHREA from 2008 until 2016. He attended NRTA legislative and leadership meetings discussing the future of Social Security and Medicare with New Hampshire's Congressional delegation. He also attended ASERT meetings with Executive Directors from other Retired Educator groups. Dr. Stoodley has recently relocated to Florida where he plans to stay involved with the retired educators in Florida.

Marcia Walenta, a retired educator from Rye, served as treasurer from 2010 until 2016. Marcia went above and beyond the duties as treasurer. She investigated the rates at numerous banks to find the best rates for our organization. She was instrumental in locating various venues throughout the state for our semi-annual membership meetings and also booked local entertainment for these meetings. Marcia will continue to serve in the latter two capacities.

Thank you, Roland and Marcia, from all the members of NHREA.

2016 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Two college students who want to become teachers have been selected to receive the NHREA scholarships for the present year. Both young ladies are well on their way to reaching their goals. Both attend New Hampshire colleges, one at the University of New Hampshire and one at Plymouth State University. Congratulations to you!

Hannah Housnell

Hannah's ultimate goal is to become a college professor of English. She plans to seek a job as a high school English teacher and then go back to school in order to qualify for higher education. She has been very active at Plymouth State as Treasurer of Poets and Writers, consultant at the PSU writing center, and planner for last year's Sherlock Holmes mystery dinner. Her teacher recommendation said that she is bright, hard-working, and inquisitive.

Hannah's essay was refreshingly honest. She reported that as early as middle school she had decided to become an English teacher.

Abigail Thompson

Abby's goal is to teach in an elementary school, perhaps in a special education class. It is her dream to work in inner-city schools in low socioeconomic areas. She has been an active member of the Alpha Xi Delta philanthropic sorority. As a member of this sorority she has volunteered for multiple causes, including their national philanthropy, Autism Speaks. She is in her fifth year at UNH where she will graduate with both a Bachelor's and Master's degree.

Abby is self-funded, paying her own way through college. Her mother helped financially when she could. Her mother died in the spring of 2015 after a five-year battle with cancer. Abby was granted independent student status.

NHREA/AARP... (Continued from page 2)

Security for 50% or more of their income). The location for these “tours” will be Keene, the Seacoast area, Manchester, Concord, Nashua and Plymouth. Please join us in helping to raise awareness of this important issue and make your voice heard.
NEWS FROM THE UNITS

Edited by Maureen Chamberlain

Cheshire County (CCREA)
by Jim Hurley, Publicity Chair

The Cheshire County Retired Educators Association (CCREA) enjoyed a wonderful 2015-2016 year. The organization, formed fifty years ago celebrated the anniversary with members enjoying Filet Mignon and Chicken Marsala in October. All attendees received bookmarks designed, printed, decorated and colored by CCREA members Martha LaFleur and Tim Dunn. Some of the dignitaries making presentations at this special event included Andrew Card (President of Franklin Pierce College), Molly Kelly (New Hampshire District 10 Senator), Dr. Melinda Treadwell (Vice President of Keene State College) and Sandra Amlaw (NHREA President).

The CCREA has organized five meetings for the 2016-2017 year. The first gathering will be a brunch on September 13th where members will learn about the Keene State College and Marlborough School Partnership program. October 11th, members will enjoy a luncheon at Nick’s Restaurant and be entertained by the Loon Preservation Society. The December “holiday” luncheon will include entertainment by the local Bell Choir and members will collect mittens & hats for school children as well as money for the community kitchen. On April 11th members will enjoy a lasagna luncheon and learn about a health program, the Service Link Program and the Langdon Place retirement community. The final luncheon will be held on May 9th where members will enjoy baked stuffed chicken and be entertained by the Monadnock Conservancy Organization.

All NHREA members are welcome to attend any CCREA luncheons by calling Ken Whitaker at 603-827-3702 by the Thursday prior to the luncheon date. For further information regarding CCREA activities please call President Carol Hines at 603-357-9470.

Manchester Area Retired Educators Association (MAREA)
by Marcie Connare

MAREA held its spring luncheon on May 4 at the Executive Court Club in Manchester. There were 93 members and guests at the event. Our speaker was John Clayton who, as usual, gave an interesting talk on the title of his new book, The 101 Things to Know About if You Are Living In New Hampshire. The audience was asked to give him their own ideas of the 101 things and he elaborated on the suggestions. Mr. Clayton’s talk was so enjoyable that members would have happily stayed longer to listen but unfortunately time constraints necessitated his ending the discussion.

Door prizes went to Judy Comeau, who received a gift certificate to the Yard restaurant and John Day who received a copy of Mr. Clayton’s book. Our fall meeting will be on October 5 at the Executive Court Club.

Salem Retired Educators (SREA)
by Nadine Morrison

Salem’s summer meeting and luncheon was held at the Blackwater Grill on Wednesday, July 13, 2016 at 11:00 AM. Sandy Amlaw, president of NH Retired Educators Association was the guest speaker. Sandy attended the NRTA volunteer training in Chicago in May organized by the retired teachers unit of the AARP. Attendees shared problems common to retirement groups including recruiting and retaining members, encouraging current members to take executive officer positions and using effective communication skills. Teleconferences were held over the summer. Emphasis has been placed on answering the question - What are younger retirees looking for in a group?

Southwestern Retired Educators Association (SWREA)
By Libby Collins

The Southwestern Retired Educators Association enjoyed two spring meetings. On April 12th a wonderful luncheon was served at the Union Congregational Church in Peterborough. Our guest speaker was Dan Weeks who is running for Executive Council. He shared with us the extraordinary story of how he has grown into a life of public service since he was a young man. It was an uplifting conversation! Our June 7th meeting was held at Sunflowers Restaurant in Jaffrey. Our speaker was Janet Archer. She is a retired educator and author of An Invitation To Pause (musings from a mindfulness teacher). She shared her journey into becoming an author.

Stratford County Retired Educators Association (SCREA)
by Penny Bodwell

On March 11 the SCREA lost its dear president Mary Lane. At age 86, Mary was an active lady who was respected by all. A dedicated teacher, she taught in both Rochester and Durham. She loved to travel especially to Greece, gathering information for her family genealogy. Mary was active in Friendship Force, UNH Alumni, the Dover High School class of 1947, and The Red Rubies Red Hat Society. She had served as the president of SCREA for several years. She will be missed by all who knew her.

We are pleased to announce that the recipient of the SCREA Scholarship this year is Mark David Levesque of Nute High School who plans to attend Siena College in New York in the fall.

(See News...Units on pg. 8)
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Do observe the NHREA policy restricting this list for personal use only. To protect individuals listed, no information on this list should be given to anyone outside the association except as voted on by the membership.

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News... Units (Continued from page 6)

On September 8 our guests will be Patrick Dorow and some members of the cast of *Cabaret* from the Star Theater in Kittery, Maine. Patrick is a piano player, singer, dancer, director and producer. He started in theater productions while still in high school at Portsmouth High. Attendees will be treated to a glimpse of *Cabaret* before the full production takes place September 23 through October 9. This meeting will be held at Spring Hill in South Berwick, Maine at 10:00.

The programs and locations for the October 13 and November 10 meetings are in the planning process.

**Sullivan County Retired Educators (SCREA)**

*By Anne Rouillard*

On May 10, 2016 the Sullivan County Retired Educators met at the Sugar Valley Technical Center in Claremont. Thirty-three members and guests attended the luncheon/meeting. President Paul Magoon announced that the office of president is available. He strongly encouraged members to give serious thought to finding his replacement. Joella Merchant is our new vice president. Anne Rouillard and Beverly Richmon will continue to serve as secretary and treasurer respectively.

Our guest speaker, Carol Stockwell presented an overview of the trip to China which she and her husband Dave took a few years ago. Both Carol and Dave taught in the Claremont school system before retiring. Carol as a fifth grade teacher and Dave as a high school physics teacher. The Stockwells learned many interesting facts regarding the Chinese people and their country during their trip. Carol's love for travelling began when she was a child growing up on a farm in the Dakotas. Her family took yearly trips, visiting many parts of the United States. Later, after her marriage to Dave, a military career officer, travelling from base to base further instilled in her an interest in visiting and exploring the world. Carol says that she has five more trips on her bucket list and hopes to accomplish them in the next few years. We hope she will return and present more interesting programs to us.

*FEED THE NEED*

We can help our fellow citizens of New Hampshire. At each of our general membership meetings we will be collecting money to donate to a local food pantry. Although it is sometimes hidden, there is a real need for support for many of our students and their families. Thank you retired teachers for your generosity to those who may be facing difficult times.