

2024

September



SAREA HIGHLIGHTS

## 🍁 SAREA Latest News 🍁

We held our annual August Board Meeting on Wednesday, August 14th, to plan for the 2024-2025 year. It is always fun to get together with our friends and hear about their families, travels and upcoming plans over lunch. We enjoyed an array of salads, a fruit platter, veggie tray with dip, chips, cookies and a delicious chocolate dessert, all thanks to Costco! We heard about the goals for each committee and discussed any changes, especially in membership. Discussions ranged from venues and speakers for our General Meetings to venues and entertainment for our luncheons. In addition, we floated ideas on how to keep the cost down for our members. Mini grant applications, due the first of November, were discussed; as well as Newsletter and Journal dates for articles to be submitted.

As you know, socializing and laughter are so important to us as we age. Keeping this in mind, we decided to have a couple of events a year, no meeting, just plain fun! Everyone can bring guests and if someone joins SAREA, they will receive a \$20 Starbucks gift card. Some of our ideas included a BINGO Day, complete with prizes, chili feed, board game day, card games and BUNCO. Refreshments will be served. If you have any other great ideas, please share them with us!

**Our next General Meeting will be on Wednesday, October 16th, at 11:00. We will meet in the Talbott Center at Northeast Washington: ESD101, on South Regal.** Our new WSSRA Executive Director Peter Diedrick, will speak to us about the executive director transition and the future of WSSRA. Emmitt Mills will inform us about the legislature, our legislative goals for 2025 and what the Select Committee on Pension Policy is working on. This will be a fabulous opportunity for your voice to be heard, to ask your questions and share your concerns. For these reasons, I encourage you to attend in person, if you can

***(ZOOM will also be available. (Information next page)***

**Time: Oct 16, 2024 10:00 AM**

Topic: #25 (SAREA) Spokane Area Retired Educators Association

Time: Oct 16, 2024 10:00 AM

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87827084273?pwd=XJLi2fhICow3SPwb2EfHIYryDdIZHY.1>

Dial by your location

• +1 253 215 8782

Passcode: 015354

Meeting ID: 878 2708 4273

**Please mark your calendars for our beautiful Holiday Luncheon, on Wednesday, December 11th, at 11:30. More information will be included in the next Newsletter.**

**Upcoming Election**



We encourage our members to be informed on candidates and issues in the upcoming election. We urge everyone to make their decisions and please vote. You may also refer to the latest journal of the Washington State School Retirees' Association for additional legislative information.

*Submitted by Patricia Anderson*

---

**Mini-Grant Program**

A letter describing Mini Grant Application Information was sent from ESD 101 to all public school Principals in Lincoln, Spokane and Stevens Counties. Applications of \$250 or less for any active school personnel to use on non-budget programs will be considered. Applications must be submitted on or before the 1st Friday in November. Our total budget this year is \$8000.

*Submitted by by Jan McFarland Chair Mini-Grant Chair of committee*

# HOW TO INCREASE MEMBERSHIP

## Everything is better when you bring a friend!

To keep our association growing, we all must actively encourage our friends, our colleagues and our former co-workers to consider joining SAREA. Any educator retired or active, certificated or classified school district employees in Washington (members of TRS, PERS, or SERS retirement systems) are welcome to join WSSRA/SAREA.

## HERE ARE SOME TALKING POINTS YOU MAY USE ABOUT WHY TO JOIN:

### If you are talking with a friend who has not retired:

- Protect your future
- Ensure that your voice is heard
- Stay connected with former colleagues
- Retirement information and resources
- Stay informed about grants and supports that are offered
- Member-only benefits through AMBA
  - Discounts on computers and electronics
  - Household items
  - Avis and Budgets discounts
  - Cruise and vacation benefits
  - Entertainment and dining
  - And more

### If you are talking with a friend who has retired:

- Legislative advocacy – supporting and advocating for state legislation benefiting all school retirees
- Community – local unit meetings and social events, volunteering, regional and state-level committees, legislative activities and annual convention
- Supporting current and future educators (student teachers, education interns and high school seniors).
- Member-only benefits through AMBA
  - Dental and vision plans
  - Long term care insurance
  - All the benefits listed above and more



**As educators for life, SAREA takes an active role by:**

- paying it forward to our **community**: last year SAREA gave seventeen \$1000 grants to various community organizations.
- paying it forward to our **former peers**: SAREA gives mini grants to current educators to use in their classrooms.
- paying it forward to our **future educators**: SAREA gives scholarships annually to high school seniors who are going into education. SAREA also gives scholarships to current college students who are student teaching.

**Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.**  
– Helen Keller

*Submitted by Dale & Kris Stopperan*

**BINGO WAS OUR 1ST JUST FOR FUN DAY!!**

**As you know, socializing and laughter are so important to us as we age. Keeping this in mind, we decided to have a couple of events a year, no meeting, just plain fun!**

*Kathy Beal on the left recorded the numbers being called out by Char Schelling The group of Bingo players pictured below.*

*Hope you can join us on our next “FUN DAY”*





**(April 1, 2023 - August 30, 2024)**

Please remember our members who have passed away. It is impossible to measure the number of lives they impacted. They will be deeply missed.

*Keith Allred  
Fay Alm  
John N Bourchard  
Mary Brandt  
Gerald Buckenberger  
Marilyn Clemons  
Robert Conrad  
Richard Cotes  
David Danielson  
Joan Daugherty  
Myra Ecklund  
Tom Flugel  
Karla Freeman  
Carmen Hagman*

*Betty Heidenson  
M Susan Herdrich  
Reese Hinthorne  
Ada I Honda  
Joyce Johnson  
Dolores Koch  
Marjorie Kramer  
Allen Lacombe  
Barbara L Larue  
Donald Lee  
Arla Lewis  
Ray Liberg  
Robert Liepold  
Delores Lorenz*

*Mabel Lynch  
Joyce Marshall  
Jack Mathews  
Danny Merrill  
Donald Munson  
Donald Nepean  
Mabel Lynch  
Joyce Marshall  
Jack Mathews  
Danny Merrill  
Donald Munson  
Donald Nepean  
Lynn Norby  
Rob Norris*

*James Olson  
Dianne M Patterson  
Keith Reilly  
Edward Rooney  
Vernon Scott  
Jacque Selle  
Jeannine Sigler  
Dolores Smith  
Garold Steed  
A Jacqueline Summers  
Zada Terzenbach  
Albert Toutant  
Anita Tschirgi  
Tracy Walters  
Judith Zappone*

### **SAREA New Members**

As educators for life, SAREA encourages continued interest in education and our communities as we promote the general welfare of retired educators.

We are excited to welcome the following new members to SAREA. It is our hope that they will discover the same bonds of friendship that we have found.

*Mandy Ash  
Vickie Allert  
Robert Bohlen  
Larry Brown  
Karen Carbon  
Susan Dellwo  
Susan Delong  
Beverly Dial  
Stephan Edgar*

*Kenneth Gairson  
Katy Hedrick  
Martin Johnson  
Debbie Kinnie  
Kevin Kuban  
Wayne Leonard  
Jody Lund  
Robert McCaslin*

*Barbara McFadden  
Kimberli Mewes  
Michael Nelms  
Judy Payne  
Toni Peters  
Debra Schu  
Colleen Smallwood  
Rebecca Washington  
Debra Webster  
Rhonda Widmer*

**WELCOME. !**

**Spokane Area Retired  
Educators Association  
P.O. Box 823  
Spokane, Washington 99210**



**Contacts:**

**SAREA PO Box 823  
Spokane, WA 99210**

**Brad Beal, President  
509-466-3561**

**SAREA Website:  
[spokaneretirededucators.org](http://spokaneretirededucators.org)**

**Other Contacts**

**WSSRA Office 1-360-413-5496**

**WSSRA PO Box 5127  
Lacey, WA 98509**

**WSSRA Website:  
[WSSRA.org](http://WSSRA.org)**

