



AEA RETIRED  
Protecting Our Future

# THE CONDUIT

Volume 39, Issue 1

[www.azedretired.com](http://www.azedretired.com)

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**June**  
 4—AEA Retired Virtual Retreat begins. Continue each Tuesday  
 13-15—AEA Lead and Grow Summit.  
 30—NEA Retired Annual Meeting in Philadelphia begins

**July**  
 3-7—NEA Representative Assembly in Philadelphia

**September**  
 10—AEA Retired Executive Board meeting 10am  
 11—Committee Day

Check the last page for updates of your Chapter meetings.

## Another Successful AEA Retired Annual Meeting in the books!



A pile of notes and thank you cards sit by my computer ready to be sent to an army of leaders, members, colleagues and staff for their contribution to a very successful, exciting and action packed 2024 AEA Retired Annual Meeting and AEA Delegate Assembly. Approximately 80 officers and delegates gathered at an amazing new location, the Renaissance Phoenix Downtown Hotel, on May 10-11 to do the business of your associations.

“All Hands on Deck...the Fight is Real!” was the theme of the Annual Meeting. Anna Cicero, President, opened the meeting challenging all participants to ride imaginary oceanic waves. She entertained the audience by asking them to picture navigating rough waves using analogies like life preservers, anchors and portholes as comparable to the work of AEA Retired. In this election year, choppy waves are best handled when “all hands are on deck.”



A beautiful Land Acknowledgement, presented by Maria Leyva, whose ancestors were Yaqui, honored the Arizona/Sonoran Yaqui tribes creating a poignant moment.

Steve Ramos did an excellent job providing us with information about the Arizona State Retirement System and relevant resources. Steve was followed by Daniella Smith, ARSC and Isela Blanc, AEA Government Relations. Each helped enrich our knowledge of the current state of the state and understand the need to take on the fight against various threats. Members were asked to continue to be vigilant by engaging and contacting state legislators. School Board officers, Marcie Hutchinson, Julie Cieniawski and Tony Pantera were thanked by retired educators, for giving us ideas of how we can provide needed support for their efforts.



Just before the delicious plated lunch, we honored one of our own with the prestigious Les Reynolds Distinguished Senior Service Award.

Nancy Putman, left, was an easy selection. Her loyalty to the association and constant message to build union through membership is well known.



Congratulations to the newly elected officers! Delegates listened to the candidate speeches and elected Luci Messing, right, as Vice President and the following leaders to six Representative At-Large positions: Peter Coston, Linda Somo, Marilyn Freed, Marilyn Calhoun, Ken Freed and Sharon Manes. Congratulations to all, welcome to 3-year terms of leadership.

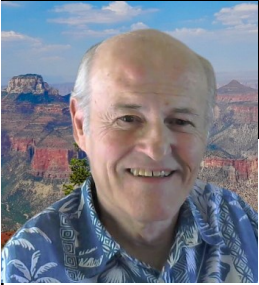


Then came the highlights of the two days! Lizzie Menefee, board member, introduced Secretary of State Adrian Fontes (left). We learned that Lizzie and the Honorable Fontes had been friends since high school in the Nogales area, making his message more personal and captured the delegates' attention. Fontes' talk powerfully encouraged all of us to be engaged, be informed and most importantly, focus on facts not disinformation.

[Continued on page 3](#)

# ASRS UPDATE BY STEVE RAMOS

## ASRS, Arizona's Defined Benefit Pension A Good Reason To Be An Arizona Educator



Arizona continues to face a shortage of educators: educators who drive the buses, educators who clean the buildings and open the gates; educators who answer the phones, track attendance and serve the meals; and educators who provide critical counseling and social services. Educators may play different roles, but all have face-to-face interactions with students and provide all of the important support services necessary for the “educator in front of the classroom” to do their job.

The Arizona Legislature and Governor Hobbs are currently haggling over which school employees will get a salary increase and which will not. Certainly, if Arizona wants to attract more applicants to public school jobs, it starts with paying them a living wage. But, let's also remind those thinking about a public education career, that taking a job with an Arizona public school means getting the opportunity to form a partnership with their employer to make required contributions to a traditional pension plan, without the risks from the ups and downs of the stock market.

Since 1971, the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) has provided all Arizona public school educators and their employers, a Defined Benefit Pension Plan, a Long Term Disability Plan, and a Health Care Benefit to use in retirement. Even with as little as five years of service in a public school, an educator can qualify for a small lifetime retirement benefit.

Over the years, many large private employers, and some state governments, traded traditional pensions for less costly, shared risk, 401k-style defined contribution plans. While popular financial services companies did well, market downturns left many retirees short of the funds they needed for a secure retirement. Today, some states and private employers are moving back to traditional pensions. ASRS never left. Instead, they now offer pension members optional, low cost 403(b) and 457 plans, but only as supplements to the ASRS defined benefit pension plan.

Being an Arizona public educator may not be for everyone. But for those who answer the call, it can be a rewarding choice that pays benefits for life.

Check the ASRS website for updates! [www.AZASRS.gov](http://www.AZASRS.gov)





# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## BY ANNA CICERO

### It's All About themes, well...if relevant!

I have always been intrigued by event themes. They attract my attention. In some cases, before I read more about the content of the event, I try to reflect on the meaning of themes the authors intend to convey. I think about what drives us to a message and more importantly, how it is relevant to the work we do. Let's revisit some past themes. Be assured this reflection will be beneficial as I work on composing and meaningfully drafting a message for the executive board about the next year and the AEA Retired theme. I am a "big picture" person. In the last 3 years as your President, I have made my best attempt at implementing and believing in the following themes from both our state organization, AEA, and AEA Retired local, combined to do the business of the association. My participation in AEA President's Council keeps me in the know and validates my understanding of what these themes conveyed. This type of collaboration will continue in our quest to build union and strongly support priorities.



- **Strong Union, Schools, Community**- we can't do it alone, one builds on the other, we are stronger together
- **Unbreakable Solidarity-Paving the Way...**we stand on the shoulders of great past and present leadership, pioneers and "stars" and work together with trust and solidarity on our common goals
- **All Hands on Deck, the Fight is Real!- Your Fight is My Fight is Our Fight!**- there are no isolated "fights," we work in tandem with co-conspirators with positivity, creativity and drive for the needs of educators, students, pension and all that impact our senior needs.

Luckily, for the most part, AEA Retired did the work well. If elements of disagreement came up, we remained solution-focused and applied our policies in a democratic way. AEA Retired is proud to share the many accomplishments in this June Issue of *The Conduit*.

Now, once again, our AEA Retired board will begin to prioritize for 2024-2025. A Summer Virtual Retreat will introduce a new theme, reflect on the past year, evaluate goals and strategies. Once we evaluate the results, we will "monitor and adjust"... a skill well learned. Through the coming year, we will redesign, market and message all things in alignment with our goals and strategic plan. We will remain conscientious that a PLAN is not productive until it is put into ACTION. To put a PLAN into action requires "all hands on deck" working with "unbreakable solidarity," resulting in "strong union, school, community."

**I love themes!**

[Continued from page one](#)



### First Lady Dr. Jill Biden and NEA President Becky Pringle!

What can I say? The names say it all! Excitement and anticipation of the visit by these dignitaries heightened when we were asked to place our belongings in a plastic zip lock bag. Security increased, but did not take away from the enjoyment of being in the same room with our First Lady, a teacher, and our NEA President, also a teacher. The guests of honor to AEA Delegate Assembly entered the floor to a long standing ovation. Members remained on their feet for much of President Pringle's speech.

Dr. Biden talked about continuing the positive strides in education made during the last four years. Their strong, kind messages made us feel very special. AEA cheered President Pringle and the First Lady.

**Elections matter! Elections have consequences!  
We want it all!**



# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE BY LUCI MESSING

## Hoping for *Sine Die* 2024. . .or not.



The Legislature has been meeting only once a week for over a month. It is due to the lack of committees that are meeting and the fact that there is very little legislation to work on. And now the House is on break until June 4th. Unfortunately, budget negotiations are moving very, very slowly. Governor Hobbs and the Republican majority are far apart in areas to be funded, cut, or downsized.

Since there is a **\$1.7 billion deficit**, there will be budget cuts to a number of sensitive areas. Our job is to protect funding for public schools. We would not have this deficit except for the Ducey tax break for the wealthy and the ESA voucher program that has run amok. The tax break in the form of a 2.5% flat tax has resulted in a loss of much needed revenue. ESA vouchers are costing taxpayers almost a billion dollars this year. This is three times the cost of what was initially predicted.

The number of students utilizing vouchers has dramatically risen from approximately 12,000 to a staggering 72,000. A large majority of vouchers go to students who live in affluent neighborhoods and never attended public schools in the first place. We are basically subsidizing the wealthy to send their kids to private or parochial schools.

The legislative majority has been busy doing one thing. They have passed a number of concurrent resolutions that will go straight to the voters and bypass the governor. Some of these resolutions are previous bills that the governor vetoed. So, the Republicans decided to do an end run around the governor and refer them directly to the voters. The number of resolutions will result in a very lengthy ballot. We need to become fully informed regarding these referrals in order to best cast our vote.

Here are the measures that **will be** on the ballot this November:

- Impose new hurdles to put initiatives on the ballot by requiring signatures to be collected from all 30 legislative districts.
  - Allow property owners to get a tax break when cities or counties do not abate nuisances such as homeless camps.
  - Limit the governor's emergency declarations to no more than 30 days unless extended by the Legislature.
  - Constitutionally mandate each political party gets to put a candidate on the general election ballot (this would override a ranked choice voting initiative).
  - Require the State to pay a \$250,000 death benefit to the families of first responders killed in the line of duty.
- Require mandatory life sentences for those convicted of child sex trafficking.

These are measures the legislature is **currently** considering for the ballot:

- Make changes to voting laws including eliminating forms of early voting.
- Enact new border security measures making it a crime for someone not in this country legally to enter the US at any point other than a port of entry.

**Possible citizen initiatives** due July 3rd to get on the ballot include:

- Increase the minimum wage by \$1 an hour in 2025 and 2026 and eliminate current law that allows a lower wage for tipped employees.
- Institute a new method of listing the names of candidates on the ballot and end the practice linked to which party's gubernatorial candidate won in the county.
- Constitutionally guarantee a woman's right to an abortion, with no restrictions up to fetal viability and allowances for the procedure after that date.
- Set up a system of ranked choice voting where all candidates run against each other in the primary, with the top picks advancing to the general regardless of party affiliation.

Governor Hobbs has vetoed 58 bills to date. More than likely she will veto a few more as long as the Legislature is still in session. This is the time that we will see strike-all amendments and zombie bills resurface. It's important to not take our eye off the ball, even though there seems to be little happening. However, what *is* happening could be disastrous.

On a personal note, I informed the AEA-Retired Executive Council in September that I would be stepping down as the political action coordinator. However, I won't be going far as I transition into my new role as the AEA-Retired Vice President. I am incredibly grateful to those members who attended our advocacy trainings, sent emails, made phone calls, and wrote postcards. But the highlight of our collective action was the many successful lobby days at the Capitol. It was great to meet with the legislators, have them join us at lunch, and be introduced from the gallery.

I have one last ask of the membership. Please do whatever you can to elect our recommended candidates in November and re-elect President Joe Biden.

Thank you for all your past support. The journey continues.

*"Democracy is the government of the people, by the people and for the people". Abraham Lincoln*

# Membership

by Nancy Putman, Shirley Boswell, Michele Smith

## *In memory of those who touched so many.*

These valued AEA Retired members passed away this year. We are grateful for their continued membership and support in AEA Retired. We extend our sincerest condolences to their families and friends.

Allen Lessig	Delores Oster	Connie Wittig
John Thrasher	Patricia Shontz	Marion Pickens
Cecilia Tracy	James Strang	Theresa McIntyre
Terrance Fay	Alys Casperson	Doreen Pool
Robert Joe	Peggy Hamrick	Dominic Barone
Louis Coppola	Joyce McDonald	Marilyn Ong
Joanne Cobos	Ann Aycock	Eleanor Bouly
Rosario Dickerson	Charlene Barry	Mary McLoughlin
Larry Trimble	Debra Bertolet	Shirley Williams
Sid Stelpstra	Beverly Winterbolter	Sue Farrar
Joanne Burch	Alice Peltier	Stanley Jones
Marcia Jones	Vincent Randall	Vicki Sheley
Carolyn Lefever	Barbara McShea	John Shown



AEA Retired members are a powerful part of AEA! We continue to lend our time, talents and experience to become a stronger union. We had a record year in membership, signing up 77 new members with a total of 2,052 AEA Retired members. We helped 19 AEA active locals with their New Hire Action Events. AEA Retired board members work with 33 targeted AEA locals assisting them with their New Hire Events as well as their end of the year events. Gift cards were provided for them. The membership committee mailed 400 AEA Retired Recruitment letters to those AEA members who just retired in May 2023, and a follow up to those retirees with phone calls, texts and emails to join AEA Retired. A \$10 incentive is offered to AEA Retired members who recruit new members. New members who pay by ASRS deduction receive a rebate of \$70 for their first year of membership.

- ❖ Sympathy cards are sent to the families of deceased AEA Retired members.
- ❖ The membership committee sent a member to attend the NEA Retired Conference on membership in Chicago this year. The membership chair serves on the NEA Retired Membership committee.
- ❖ AEA Retired held three Retirement Seminars for several AEA locals.
- ❖ At the 2024 Delegate Assembly, we signed up five new AEA Retired members and seven NEA Life members.
- ❖ AEA Retired applied for the 2024 NEA Retired Spirit Award. The winner will be announced at the NEA Retired Annual Meeting this summer.
- ❖ To qualify for AEA Retired membership a person should be at least 45 years old and have worked in education for 5 years. You can join online at the AEA Retired website, [www.azedretired.com](http://www.azedretired.com)

# Arizona Alliance Keeps Busy Protecting Seniors

By Linda Somo, President  
Arizona Alliance for Retired Americans

Ahead of the 2024 presidential election, the senior vote matters—especially in Arizona. The Arizona Alliance for Retired Americans, AARA, acknowledges that the Biden Administration’s investments in Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security are evidence of the support for seniors.

Alliance members have directly benefited from Biden’s Medicare expansions and caps on prescription drugs. One of my Alliance colleagues was previously paying upwards of \$7000 per year out-of-pocket on prescription drugs. But implementation of cost control efforts through the Inflation Reduction Act, (IRA), like the \$35 monthly cap on insulin, has brought prices down.

One of our biggest causes of inflation, especially for seniors, is the cost of prescription drugs. Bringing those prices down has been a godsend for senior citizens.

Moreover, the IRA finally gave Medicare the ability to negotiate with pharmaceutical companies to competitively adjust pricing for commonly-used, high-cost drugs. Many other countries already use centralized price negotiations, national formularies, and comparative and cost-effectiveness research for determining price ceilings to ensure lower drug costs. We have been trying for over 20 years to get the ability for Medicare to negotiate such prices, but they were previously blocked from doing so. The first 10 drugs that Medicare is negotiating prices on were chosen last fall, and they include treatments for heart disease, chronic kidney disease, and blood clots.

Arizona is home to more than 1.1 million seniors covered by Medicare Part D. The Department of Health and Human Services says the IRA’s planned \$2,000 cap on Medicare recipients’ out-of-pocket costs for prescription drugs, set to take effect in 2025, could save nearly 390,000 Arizona seniors over \$380 per year. My friend will save over \$5000 per year, because of this cap.

Additionally, because of the IRA, subsidies to lower Affordable Care Act health insurance premiums for families—initially implemented under Biden’s 2021 American Rescue Plan—have been extended through 2025.

There’s still work to be done in protecting Social Security and Medicare for future generations, especially since a second Trump term might reverse progress for such programs. Trump has openly stated that “there’s room for cutting” funding for Social Security and Medicare, along with “eliminating” the Affordable Care Act.

Just because seniors are currently getting Social Security, that doesn’t mean we don’t care about upcoming generations. We have children, grandkids, maybe even great-grandkids. We want this same type of security to be there for them, and we don’t want them to have to work harder or longer for it.

Seniors understand the importance of Social Security,





## Racial and Social Justice Committee

By Janice Dwosh

It has been a long year, and the fight is getting even more challenging. Our rights are being attacked daily in Arizona and throughout the country. It's overwhelming, as retirees, to deal with these enormous issues. What can AEA Retired members do to fight this battle?

NEA, AEA, and AEA Retired members comprise the largest labor union in the country fighting at the federal, state and local level. We need to work together as a collaborative group to fight off these challenges. Following NEA on their website [nea.org](http://nea.org) is the first step. Electing AEA Retired delegates to the NEA RA to vote for policies and new business items to address those issues is critical. Donating to the NEA Fund for Children and Public Education is another step. The NEA and AEA recommend candidates for federal and state offices. Check those out and consider voting based on their suggestions. NEA provides great information on racial and social justice in the *NEA Today* magazine, with lots of resources for follow-up. In addition, the NEA Retired has many committees, such as Racial and Social Justice. I am the representative for Arizona and co-chair of this committee. I am a member of the NEA Women's Issues Committee.

At the state level, the Arizona Education Association provides ways to get involved with racial and social justice. You can volunteer to be on committees with other AEA members, active educators and retirees. There are three AEA Retired members on the AEA RSJ Cadre and each year new members are needed. There are other AEA committees and task forces needing your support and advocacy. Donate to the AEA Fund for Public Education. This fund supports candidates and issues affecting Arizona families. Become a delegate to next year's AEA Delegate Assembly and attend the AEA Retired Annual meeting, where policies and new business items are debated. Finally, join us when we meet at the State Capitol to lobby legislators. We need all voices to be heard and your stories and experiences told. They are critical in the fight against injustices!

AEA Retired Executive board meets monthly. As chair of the racial and social justice committee, I would love you to attend as a guest and give your input. We also have chapter meetings, in person and virtually, throughout the state. Check out the list on *The Conduit* of chapter contacts. The RSJ book group is another way to virtually participate. Attending local school board meetings or assisting your former local association can be another way to have input and make change. Your voices and help are always needed! Vote in all elections and make an impact with candidates willing to support our goals. Each of you is needed to participate in the union and support public education and racial and social justice. You can make a difference!

Contact me at [jdwosh27@gmail.com](mailto:jdwosh27@gmail.com) with your input.

Stay engaged!



## Book Corner

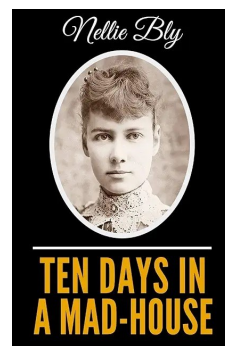
By Ann Myers

Book Corner usually features books from our Racial/Social Justice Book Group. This edition will veer away into a personal story, but one that heavily depends on books.

A few months ago, my sister passed along a book she had enjoyed: *The Woman They Could Not Silence* by Kate Moore, a fascinating biography of Elizabeth Packard who threatened the ego of her domineering husband with her intelligence and religious ideas. The year was 1860, when it was fairly easy to get rid of a problem wife by committing her to an insane asylum. The inconvenient Mrs. Packard was forced to leave her six young children for the Illinois State Hospital. Conditions were horrific; indignities included, ice cold baths, spoiled food and beatings. The matrons were uncaring and abusive. It took many years, but finally, Elizabeth Packard was released. She became an advocate for the insane and those wrongly incarcerated.

I had more than a curious interest in 19th century insanity. The 1880 census showed that my great grandmother, Eliza, had been labeled insane and living in her home with her husband and five children. The 1890 census was destroyed in a fire, but Eliza pops up again in 1900 as an inmate in the Toledo (Ohio) Insane Asylum, and in 1905 her obituary appears in the newspaper.

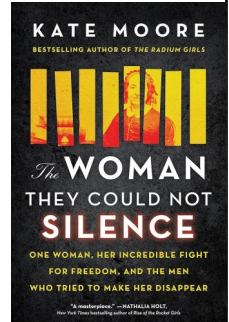
Could Eliza have lived under the same miserable conditions as Elizabeth Packard? Was Illinois State Hospital an outlier of terrible treatment? I turned to Nellie Bly, the late 19th century journalist who put herself into her own reporting. In 1893, she, too, wondered about the conditions of the women imprisoned in insane asylums. She wasn't sure what it meant to be "crazy" but she made a stab at it by refusing to sleep, acting confused, and pretending to be from Cuba. It didn't take long before she was admitted to The New York Mental



Health Hospital in New York City. Living conditions were even worse than in Illinois. A meal sometimes was a piece of toasted bread and rancid butter. She observed patients being assaulted by the matrons and many women who appeared to be quite normal but were not allowed to be discharged. Her account is well written and absorbing one hundred thirty-one years later. Find a free Kindle copy of her book *Ten Days in a Mad-House* by Nellie Bly on Amazon.

It's highly likely that my Eliza lived under the same brutality as other diagnosed and committed insane women. And that became my next quest. Was she diagnosed? Did she have medical records? Did any records survive?

Thanks to the internet, I found that while the Toledo Hospital had closed in the early 1970s, the records were archived in the Ohio History Connection in Columbus. HIPAA laws secure patient privacy, but as a relative I was



[Continues on page 7](#)

## Interstate/Flagstaff/Northern Arizona Chapter

Chinle EA and AEA Retired Interstate Chapter collaborated in the **Adopt-A-Local project**. "Dine' Bi Keyah" is Navajo Country. Danny Barlow, Chapter Chair, Sharon Deswood, President, MaryAnn Goodluck, member and Susan Yazzie, retired member were among a great group of educators who met to support AEA and AEA Retired common goals and priorities. Chinle Jr. High reached Majority Status and we hope to learn their strategies to continue to build union.



[Continued from page 5](#) "AZ Alliance"

Medicare & Medicaid, but we need to talk to the younger generations to convince them. We need to educate them that these programs will still be there for them, but they must join us in protecting and improving them for all future generations.

Social Security, Medicare, & Medicaid enable seniors to live independently as contributing members of the economy and society. We need to support politicians who protect those vital programs and stop those who threaten them.

[Continued from page 6](#) "Book Corner"

able to get copies of whatever records still existed. A few weeks after my request, I received a packet of papers summarizing Eliza's final few decades. In 1879, at age 33, she had her first "attack" (no other explanation) and diagnosed with "Mania." She was in the Erie County Infirmary for a little over a month and discharged as "unimproved". Nine years later, in 1888, she was admitted to the Toledo State Hospital for the Insane where she remained for 17 years until she died in 1905. Cause of death was exhaustion. Small wonder.

Eliza's children were affected. For example, my grandfather spent his life as a sailor on the Great Lakes until he retired and married at 55. My mother was his only child. The only time he mentioned his mother was to say "My mother was mean to me."

Had Eliza been living in 2024, she might have been diagnosed with postpartum depression or maybe bipolar disorder. She would receive medication that would allow her to stay with her family. She might have handed down stories to her children's children. Hopefully, she would be known for more than insanity.

Rest in peace, Eliza.

Want to know more about the Racial/Social Justice Book Group? Contact Ann Myers [azann@mac.com](mailto:azann@mac.com) or 480-510-8098

## Kyrene Chapter

Janie Hydrick (left) and Ellen Shamah (below) adopted their local, Kyrene Education Association, years ago and have enjoyed a years-long relationship of support for KEA. On Thursday, May 2, they treated the final 2023-24 KEA Rep Council to a catered Mexican dinner from Taqueria Mi Casita. President Delia Lyding used an electronic Spin-the-Wheel to award \$100 in gift cards that their AEA Retired "adoptive grandparents" contributed from Starbucks,



Sonic, and In-N-Out Burger. Council discussions centered around meet-and-confer tentative changes, and building membership this summer and fall to surpass their majority status. The same issues we retirees discussed in the last century! Janie and Ellen will continue to have monthly Happy Hours in the 2024-25 school year with KEA and KEA-R.



A harmless hilarity and a buoyant cheerfulness are not infrequent concomitants of genius, and we are never more deceived than when we mistake gravity for greatness, solemnity for science and pomposity for erudition.

*Charles Caleb Colton*

**Send your email address to**

**[julie.horwin@gmail.com](mailto:julie.horwin@gmail.com)**

**Win \$100**



**If we already have your e-mail address, you are entered in the \$100**

**Good luck!**



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## *AEA Retired Chapter News*

Chapters bring AEA Retired together. Most chapters will meet in person, some chapters may choose to add a Zoom meeting now and then. Each chapter governs itself in order to meet the needs of its members. Meetings usually include information programs and time for socializing with friends and colleagues. This is a great way to keep in touch with the latest issues in our communities. Anyone interested in forming a new chapter should contact Chapter Coordinator **Susan Sommer**, (623) 628-1935, [ssommer114@aol.com](mailto:ssommer114@aol.com).

All AEA Retired members are eligible to join a chapter where they worked or currently live.

When Chapters meet via Zoom, connection is a simple process. All you need to do is click the link you receive from your Chapter Chair via e-mail. We welcome your attendance and participation.

**Glendale/West Valley Chapter:** This year our meetings are being held in person at 11 am at Dillon's KCBBQ-Arrowhead, 20585 N 59th Ave, Glendale, AZ 85308 We enjoy food and good conversation. Meetings dates will be announced later. For more information call, text or email **Marshall Militano** at 602-882-3260 or [mmilitano1@gmail.com](mailto:mmilitano1@gmail.com).

**Greater Tucson Area Chapter:** We are meeting the third Tuesday of the month, August through May. Meetings begin at 10am at the Southern AEA office, 6873 N. Oracle Rd., Tucson, AZ, 85704. Please e-mail Chapter Chair **Peter Coston** at [pcoston1@cox.net](mailto:pcoston1@cox.net) for Zoom meeting links.

**Kyrene Chapter:** The Hub Grill and Bar, 14205 South 50<sup>th</sup> Street, Phoenix, keeps active and retired educators connected and having fun. Food and drinks keep our camaraderie fueled. Dates will be announced later. Wherever you worked or work as an educator, we welcome you. Contact **Janie Hydrick** at [hydrick@aol.com](mailto:hydrick@aol.com).

**Mesa/East Valley Chapter:** We meet for luncheon at Mi Amigos Restaurant, 1264 South Gilbert Road, Mesa. Join us at 11:00am on dates to be announced. Wherever you worked or work as an educator, we welcome you. Contact **Janie Hydrick** at [hydrick@aol.com](mailto:hydrick@aol.com)

**Phoenix Chapter:** Meeting location, dates and time will be announced later. Contact **Suzan Austin** at [suzanaustin@cox.net](mailto:suzanaustin@cox.net) or **Gary Mehok** at [lojo40@cox.net](mailto:lojo40@cox.net) for more information.

**Scottsdale/Paradise Valley Chapter:** All meetings will be held on the **third Monday** of each month from 11:00 to 1, September through April (excluding December). If you're not on our mailing list, please contact **Nancy Riley** at 480-600-8559 or [rilevfam@cox.net](mailto:rilevfam@cox.net).

**Southeast Arizona Chapter:** The Southeast Arizona AEA Retired Chapter is located in Cochise County and is comprised of districts in Sierra Vista, Tombstone, Huachuca City, Naco, Palominas, Elgin, and Ft. Huachuca, and retirees from other states who have moved to Cochise County. Please contact Sally if you would like to be added to the email contact list, our only method of communication. Contact Chapter Chair **Sally Rosén** at 520-249-0233, [azcatsally@aol.com](mailto:azcatsally@aol.com) for details.

**Interstate/Flagstaff/Northern Arizona/Reservation Chapter (INFARC).** Meetings will be held on the third Thursday of the month at 2pm (MST). Meetings will be held on Zoom. Please contact Daniel Barlow at [dsjbarlow@yahoo.com](mailto:dsjbarlow@yahoo.com). A link will be sent to you to connect to the meetings.

For more about AEA Retired, visit the website at [www.azedretired.com](http://www.azedretired.com).