

NSEA-Retired Annual Report

Roger Rea, Omaha, President

Membership continues to grow

NSEA-Retired membership continues to be the fastest-growing membership in the NSEA family. As of February 2009, we have added 238 new members to our ranks. Our membership now stands at 4,282. When that is added to the 1,176 pre-retired subscribers, our total membership now stands at 5,458. NSEA-Retired is the only state-wide retired organization that guarantees continuation of NSEA services for retired educators and access to NEA member benefits. For more information about pre-retired or retired life membership, contact Maureen Nickels at:

maureen.nickels@nsea.org

Retirement information seminars offered by NSEA-Retired

NSEA-Retired offers an excellent pre-retirement seminar for active local associations throughout the state. The seminar has been presented more than 120 times in the last five years to more than 4,000 members. For more information, or to arrange a seminar for your local, contact your NSEA District president, local association president, your NSEA-Retired district director, or NSEA-Retired President Roger Rea at:

rrea68154@yahoo.com

Medicare information seminars provide needed guidance

For several years, NSEA-Retired has conducted seminars on the basics of Medicare, as well as information on **NSEA-Retired BlueSenior Classic**, the Medicare supplement that is endorsed by NSEA-Retired and underwritten by Blue Cross of Nebraska. In 2008 more than 180 NSEA-Retired members attended one of five information seminars held around the state to get information about making the transition to Medicare as well as how to use the Medicare web site to select an appropriate Medicare Part D provider for prescription medication. More information on making the transition to Medicare can be found on the NSEA-Retired Web site at:

www.nsea.org/members/retired

Mentoring project provides help for first-year teachers

NSEA-Retired has a nationally-recognized Intergenerational Mentoring Project to provide assistance to first-year teachers in making the transition from full-time student to full-time teacher. Now in its sixth year, this program pairs first-year teachers with retired educators across the state. First-year teachers say that the experience of a retired educator enhances their confidence to do an outstanding job in the classroom. Retired educators say that the experience re-invigorates their minds and helps them keep their connection with the classroom. NSEA-Retired is looking for retirees who are willing to participate as mentors. Contact either your NSEA-Retired District director or the SEAN leadership to get more information. To request a mentor application brochure, contact Maureen Nickels at:

maureen.nickels@nsea.org

NSEA-Retired awards four scholarships to SEAN members

Four \$750 scholarships are awarded by NSEA-Retired to members of the Student Education Association of Nebraska (SEAN) each year. Applications for these scholarships are available to students during their student teaching semester in every teacher training institution in the state. Contact your campus SEAN leadership for more information and for application forms.

Keeping our members informed

NSEA-Retired uses both print and electronic media to inform our members of important events and activities of the association. The *Advocate*, the newsletter for NSEA-Retired, as well as *The Corner*, the column that appears in each issue of the *NSEA Voice*, have both won national awards for excellence. These two publications are edited by Tom Black. You may suggest story ideas to Tom at:

wpc6296@cableone.net

Check out the NSEA-Retired web page at **www.nsea.org/members/retired**. The Web site is updated frequently and keeps our members informed about issues of importance. Registration for NSEA-Retired activities is conducted through the website. Contact John Jensen, who maintains the content of the web page, at:

jensen.omaha@gmail.com

NSEA-Retired Lobby Day the most successful ever

Fifty NSEA-Retired members and guests came to the Unicameral in February to share information with state senators on teacher pay and the need to provide state income tax relief for pension incomes in Nebraska. A luncheon at the Governor's mansion capped the event.

Mini Conferences attract retired educators

Two "mini conferences" were held this year for NSEA-Retired members. The Kearney Country Club was the site of the fall conference, and Boys Town was the site of the spring conference and annual meeting. The agenda for the conferences included keynote speakers, a business meeting, and break-out sectionals on various topics of interest to retired educators.

NSEA-Retired elections

NSEA-Retired elected a new district director from Metro District, elected 15 delegates to NSEA Delegate Assembly, and elected five delegates to NEA Representative Assembly this spring. NSEA-Retired is in the process of realigning its district boundaries to conform to the new NSEA district borders.