



MONTCO-RETIRED NEWSLINE

From The President's Pen
by Carl Rieffanaugh, MontCo PSEA-R

Welcome new retirees!

This is an annual event that occurs every autumn: *Welcome to retirement!*

By now you've probably realized you no longer have to ask "do you have any late afternoon or evening appointments?" By now you've probably realized that getting up does not require getting dressed. By now you've probably realized that you no longer gulp your morning coffee while preparing for the day. *Welcome to retirement!*

But wait; it gets even better. Wait until the first snowfall and you look out the window with a smile and enjoy the quiet because you know that the day will not be made up. Wait until you go on vacation (in October or January or February) and realize that all you are really doing is going away, enjoying a cruise, or visiting some place you've always wanted to see. Wait until you try to make a lunch date and realize your calendar is already full because you're busier now than ever before. And wait until you realize that "there is always tomorrow" does have a way of sneaking up on you. *Welcome to retirement!*

However; the best part is when you realize that you are more relaxed than you have ever been; that every day is a Saturday. *Yes; you are retired!*

A word of caution ... don't feel intimidated or worried if any of the above doesn't describe you. I remember the day I came home from a morning jog and informed my wife that I was retired. She laughingly reminded me that I had retired a year before – it took me that long to settle. My wife and fellow retired teacher, however, was retired the day she left the building in June.

MontCo-Retired offers activities throughout the year. I usually send out an email blast with information and a registration form the month before. If you wish to receive these notices, be sure to register your email address at PSEA.ORG. It only takes a few clicks and a short moment to type in your email address before, voilà, you are registered to receive information. Also, the MontCo-Retired executive board usually meets at the MER office the second Tuesday of each school year month at 10:00 am. All are welcome to attend.

Again, welcome new retirees! And to those who are actively retired, welcome back!

Be healthy & stay active,

Carl

Election of MER-Retired delegates to the PSEA Houses of Delegates

If you are a retired EA member (ESP has its own separate category) who wishes to have your name placed on the ballot to represent Mideastern Region Retired as a Bucks County Retired or Montgomery County Retired delegate to the PSEA Houses of Delegates, please forward your name and county of school district from which you retired to Carol Cohen either by email at carolco328@gmail.com or USPS at 158 Josephine Ave, West Conshohocken, PA 19428 **to arrive BEFORE October 5, 2022**. Please note that only email or USPS requests will be accepted – no phone calls. Those elected will serve for two school years beginning with the December 2022 PSEA HOD. Again, since ESP members have their own separate system within PSEA, only retired EA members are eligible to run for these positions.

As in the past, we will elect one delegate to represent each retired county and a third delegate to represent the retired region at large. The person who receives the most votes from each county will be declared a county delegate and the next person, regardless of county affiliation, will be declared an at-large region delegate. With the understanding that each county will be represented by at least one delegate, all other names on the ballot will serve as alternates in order of votes received.

However, please note that MER-Retired has forwarded a request for a fourth delegate (based on increased membership). If awarded, the two people who receive the most votes from each county will be declared elected. Alternates, again in order of votes received, will be assigned according to county, and should the list of same-county alternates be exhausted, an alternate may be assigned from the other county.

The election will take place at the MER-Retired luncheon and general membership meeting on Wednesday, October 19, 2022. (**Look for the Luncheon Registration Form on page 5 of this Newsletter**). Note that no nominations will be accepted from the floor.

PACE UPDATE - Sue Hanna, PACE Liaison

The November Election is only two months away and the stakes could not be higher. Your Donation to PACE will help protect your pension and support public education!

Every election is important, but the election of a governor for Pennsylvania this November is of utmost importance to education and educators. PSEA is recommending Josh Shapiro for Governor. He is certainly pro-public education. The choice for governor is clear. Josh Shapiro believes in letting teachers teach and students learn rather than focusing on standardized testing. He will work to protect our pensions. Doug Mastriano, Shapiro's opponent, on the other hand, believes that our schools are over-staffed and that larger class sizes are acceptable. Mastriano has voted for tuition vouchers and for using public education funds for charter and private schools. There is an interesting comparison of both candidates—Shapiro and Mastriano—in the July issue of *Voice*, pp 8 and 9. Check it out if you haven't already done so. And donate to PACE at psea.org/PACE.

**Congratulations
to
Our Susan K. Castle Scholarship Winners for 2022**

Carol Cohen and Diana Kernop, Co-Chairs, Susan K. Castle Memorial
Scholarship Committee

It is with great pleasure that we announce the Susan K. Castle Scholarship winners for 2022. The following prospective educators are: Rebecca Bergluno, Nya Cherry, Alyssa Galban, Rachel Jimenez, Bria Morgan, Emily Schwenk, and DeAsia Speaks.

De Asia Speaks is a graduate of Spring Ford High School. She will be a junior at Penn State this fall studying Early Childhood and Elementary Education. When finished, DeAsia will have earned her Masters in Special Education, as well. Active in Penn State life she is a member of Student PSEA, Council on Diversity and Inclusion, the Academic Integrity Committee, and Kappa Delta Pi.

Emily Schwenk will be a junior at Gwynedd Mercy this fall. She is working toward a dual certification in Early Childhood and Special Education. She is part of Gwynedd's Choir, the Best Buddies Program, Campus Ministry, the Education Out Reach Program, and is active in Girl Scouting. She graduated from North Penn High School.

Bria Morgan graduated from Cheltenham High School and is attending LaSalle University. Bria will be a senior as she completes her studies in Secondary Math and Computer Science. Bria enjoyed cheerleading in high school and has gone on to work at summer camps in this area. She also works full time at CVS.

Rachel Jimenez is a graduate of North Penn High School. She will be a senior at Penn State this fall studying in the areas of Early Childhood and Special Education. Rachel is a member of Student PSEA and is very involved with the organization participating in Professional Development and group bonding events, as well as serving as Involvement Chairperson and Secretary. Thon was a favorite activity. She works as a Tutor Doctor on Campus.

Alyssa Galban will be a junior at Penn State this year studying Elementary and Special Education with a minor in deafness and hearing studies. She is a graduate of Upper Merion High School. She has worked at the Kumon School, Lifetime Fitness in the Kid's Academy, and in summer camps. At Penn State, she has been involved in THON, Tri-State, and is a member of the College of Education Council.

Nya Cherry graduated from Methacton High School. She will be a junior this fall at Penn State studying Secondary Biology Education and Biology in the Eberly College of Science. Studies will be completed with a Masters in Educational Leadership. Active in many areas, Nya is a Girl Scout Gold which is equivalent to an Eagle Scout. She received the 2020 Methacton High School Community Service

Award. Nya is a member of Student PSEA. She is a Lion Ambassador, Homecoming Captain and Social Media Chair for Sunny State Buddies, and involved with Project Paws.

Rebecca Bergluno will be a junior at Millersville University studying Early Childhood Education with a minor in Integrative STEM Education Methods. Rebecca is also a member of the Honors College. She graduated from Springfield Township High School. At Millersville, she is a member Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education and is the Treasurer. She is also a member of ECHO – Early Childhood Organization participating in many of their activities to include Read Across America.

In addition to the scholarship they receive, we offer each recipient a membership to Student PSEA.

Reading through all of the applications we see dynamic young people who value education and hope to be a part of it in their future. We are excited for each of these prospective educators and hope to see them at our PSEA Retired Montgomery County Luncheon in the Spring.

A Grateful Thank You

The Susan K. Castle Scholarship Fund wishes to thank the many people who shared in making the scholarships possible through their generosity this year. Money was raised at our annual luncheon as attendees sent a check to the committee. Additionally, we had a silent raffle and three lucky winners took home prizes. Lastly, as always, people gave us cash or put money in the piggy banks on the tables. In all, we raised \$ 277.85 . Thank you again for your support and kind generosity.

Carol Cohen and Diana Kernop

Susan K. Castle Memorial Scholarship Committee

Announcing Our New and Improved WebPage!! Thank you Webmaster Detwiler!

In case you haven't seen it yet, Montgomery County PSEA-Retired has its own new website at www.montcopsearetired.org. Check it out for links to information about a variety of PSEA-NEA resources for retired educators. It has information on how to join that you can share with newly retiring teachers that you know. It's a good place to check for reminders of all the benefits of membership. You will find a calendar of upcoming events and photos of past events, current and past issues of our newsletter, and application materials for our scholarship program for college students. Our website editor, Richard Detwiler (retired Jenkintown High School Spanish teacher, rgdetwiler@gmail.com) welcomes all ideas and suggestions for how we can make our website better and more useful for you.

Save These Dates: Watch for email updates with registration information.

Thursday, September 29: MontCo Recorder of Deeds, Jeanne Sorg, at PSEA, Montgomeryville, 10:00AM. (Recorder Sorg will overview the types of documents recorded in the Deeds office and explain how to search their database for current and historical deeds on your property)

Tuesday, October 18; Virtual Medicare Workshop

Wednesday, November 2: Virtual HOP Workshop

Mideastern Region Retired Fall Luncheon & General Membership Meeting

Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022

Times: 11:00 - Registration; 12:00 - Lunch Served

Location: William Penn Inn, 1017 DeKalb Pike, Ambler, PA 19002

Menu: Choice of Chicken Marsala; Maryland Crabcakes; Vegan Rigatoni Bolognese

Make checks payable to: MONTCO PSEA-Retired for \$10/person (guests welcomed).

Print and mail the registration form (below) with your check to arrive on or before Monday, October 8, 2022, to:

**Eleanor Boehner
461 Centennial Street
Schwenksville, PA 19473**

Registration Form

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Check one (Meal Choice): ___Chicken; ___Crabcakes; ___Vegan

Guest Name(s) and Meal Choice (add to above lines; be certain to indicate by name who gets which entree!):

_____ I enclose an additional contribution of \$_____ for the Scholarship Fund.

_____ I can't attend but am enclosing a contribution of _____\$ for the Scholarship Fund.