



# THE CONDUIT

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## AEA-Retired Board members, Chapter Chairs, and members gather to plan for coming year.



**Standing L to R:** M. Smith, S. Sommer, G. Mehok, T. Roach, E. Shamah, C. Wittig, A. Myers, C. Michels, S. Ramos, L. Messing, L. Somo, R. Johan, N. Putman  
**Seated L to R:** C. Couture, L. Wittig, A. Cicero, K. Hinsey, N. Jimenez, M. Pickens



## AEA-Retired Calendar



- October 9—AEA-Retired Board Meeting, Phoenix AEA HQ
- October 13—AEA Day of Action
- October 31—Last Day to mail ballots
- November 3—AEA Day of Action
- November 6—Election Day
- November 13—AEA-Retired Board Meeting, Phoenix AEA HQ
- December 3—Advocacy Training, Tucson, AEA Southern Region Office
- December 5—Advocacy Training, Phoenix, AEA HQ

The AEA-Retired officers and Board of Directors, Chapter Chairs, Committee Chairs, and other members kicked off the new school year with a two-day Board meeting and Committee Day on September 25 & 26, that set the agenda for activities for the upcoming year. Fifty members participated in the meetings over the two days.

Major emphasis will be on increasing member involvement; safeguarding our public pension system, Social Security, Medicare & Medicaid; and promoting quality public education for all of Arizona's students.

Following the entire group's participation in the Board Meeting in the morning of the 25th, the afternoon consisted of smaller break-out committee meetings for Audit, Fundraising, Chapter Development, Constitution & Bylaws, Annual Meeting, M.O.R.E. Committee, and Intergenerational Mentoring. A wide variety of activities were planned for member participation and involvement.

Two critically important committees were

the focus of the day-long meeting on the 26th: Membership and Political Action. Since membership is the lifeblood of the Association, much attention was given to plans for recruiting and expanding membership, while meeting the needs of members.

Because this is a vitally important election year, the afternoon was dedicated to political action. Plans were developed for two **Days of Action, October 13th & November 3rd**, in conjunction with AEA. AEA-Retired members are encouraged to join in activities that are planned throughout the state to help elect pro-public education candidates and get out the vote. Watch for more information on these events.

**Additionally, two Advocacy Training days are planned for December 3rd at the AEA Southern Region office in Tucson, and December 5th in Phoenix at the AEA HQ. Lobby Days are tentatively scheduled for January 23, and February 13th.**

Mark your calendar and plan on attending these important events.

## ASRS UPDATE BY STEVE RAMOS



### November promises change for AEA retirees and some good news for ASRS Health Care members

When this issue of the Conduit hits your mailbox, many AEA Retired members, who spent countless hours in volunteer efforts supporting the RedforEd movement, will be focused on the upcoming election. They will be looking for political candidates who are willing to step forward and take the InvestInEd pledge to support a dedicated source of funding that will return a billion dollars in tax cuts that have strangled our public schools.

Education retirees know the role funding plays in hiring and keeping the most qualified educators in safe and sound, resource-rich facilities. That funding also allows the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) to play a vital role in attracting and retaining the best education employees in Arizona schools. Please use your vote in November to elect candidates that will further that goal.

Our ASRS fund has now reached \$40 billion and remains the most valuable employee benefit offered to educators in traditional Arizona public schools. Keeping that benefit safe and secure has been the most important job of AEA-Retired, since our members worked to add constitutional protections to our pension benefits in 1998. However, the pension reform movement continues to be of great concern to AEA-Retired.

This year the legislature placed on the ballot, Proposition 125, which if approved by voters in November, will modify benefits in the financially struggling Corrections Officers Pension Plan and the now-closed Elected Officials defined benefit pension plan. Added to Prop. 124, which passed in 2016, this will mark the second time the legislature has asked the voters to make specific exceptions to our constitutional protections. Although AEA-Retired may not like the precedent that is being set by these exceptions being added to the constitution, it may be necessary for the solvency of this pension fund, and the proposition has received both employee union and bipartisan legislative support.

However, this is a trend that needs to stop. Your

support of AEA-Retired, in defense of our pension system, is critical. I can assure our members that ASRS remains one of the best public pension systems in the nation, and that board approved adjustments have the plan currently 70.5% funded, and more importantly, on a long term path to return to 100% funded status.

### Health Care enrollment & changes scheduled for month of November

The 2019 ASRS Healthcare open enrollment begins in November. By now you should have received multiple communications from ASRS about significant changes to the ASRS health care plans. ASRS efforts this year focused primarily on the Senior Supplement (SS) plan design for Medicare retirees, with the intent to offer a more competitive supplement plan premium to ASRS retirees.

ASRS staff also worked with AEA-Retired leaders and other retiree association groups as part of the Health Insurance Advisory Committee (HIAC) to get valuable feedback on health plan changes, and the much anticipated Retrospective Rate Agreement (RAA) fund disbursement. I will leave the details and dollar amounts to your ASRS health care packet, but in brief, Medicare eligible retirees will see significant rate reductions after both the RAA fund benefit and the appropriate Health Care Premium Benefit are subtracted.

ASRS staff also applied smaller reductions to all pre-65 non-Medicare plans. To be fair, the RRA reduction is applied proportionately to the specific plans that contributed to the RRA fund in past years, with the new PPO plan replacing the old Senior Supplement plan. These are welcome but temporary rate reductions, designed to last for at least three years. After that time, rates could be expected to go back up, unless the ASRS continues to receive new funds from the RRA Agreement with United Healthcare in the near future.

**Watch for your Health Care information packet in the mail this month.**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY JULIE HORWIN



# *Let's all become accomplices!*

"I have enough friends. What I need are accomplices." This is a quote from my dear friend Dante, who has been in the trenches fighting for social justice and equity for 30 years. I'm actually motivated by this quote every morning. It's written on my bathroom mirror in red lipstick (of course it's red...) and it spurs me on to build, support and identify new AEA-Retired accomplices. Because there is no question that in these turbulent times we need more and more accomplices to join us in safeguarding our pensions, our Medicare, our Social Security, and the public school students and school employees of today.

The challenges we are facing are very real, and in many cases very dangerous, if not curtailed or eradicated. And this is precisely why after reading Dante's quote I begin my day with a cup of coffee in one hand and my phone in another as I begin dialing. Calling lapsed AEA members and encouraging them to rejoin their local school association. Dialing you and many other AEA-Retired colleagues to join me in making phone calls on behalf of one of our strongest accomplices, Congresswoman Kyrsten Sinema, to support her race for the U.S. Senate. And calling to schedule meetings with various business, nonprofit and organizational leaders to recruit them to become accomplices in our fight to maintain a dignified, respectful retirement without fear of reforms that could jeopardize what we've worked so hard to deservingly have.

We also need accomplices as devoted as you and I to safeguard our public schools and oppose their sale to charter chains. Some charter owners are making millions of dollars to the detriment of (and on the backs of) today's and tomorrow's public school students and teachers.

I think we can all agree that there's something very different about this moment in time. There's so much on our plates to be concerned about – not one or two items, but many and all culminating at the same time. From the RedForEd movement to the removal of the InvestInEd ballot initiative...from Prop. 305 to the election of a new Superintendent of Instruction...from Congress threatening Medicare and Social Security to elected Arizona officials threatening our pensions...and more!

Ralph Waldo Emerson said it best: "Only when it's dark enough can you see the stars." Fortunately, most of us are seeing the stars and there is great strength and power in that, as we've already seen. So many of us have participated in rallies; marched with RedForEd educators, stood out in front of our neighborhood schools...and challenged politicians who disregard the hard work and commitment of our teachers who are squeaking by on a salary that I consider to be "criminal" for one of the most important professions in our nation. We also canvassed and made phone calls around the clock and then drove to the AEA office to validate signatures. We are indeed a force.

I know that many of us are tired. I know I am. The challenges are coming at us faster than a runaway train. Sometimes it seems impossible to catch our breath. But we can't give up now. We can sleep later. For now, we must fuel ourselves with the successes of our past and the successes we can and must be a part of before November 6<sup>th</sup>. So, before you consider taking a wonderful afternoon nap, I ask you to join me and many, many of your colleagues in continuing to make phone calls for candidates who share our values around education and pensions...knock on doors and explain why **voting NO on Prop 305** is vital for Arizona's youth...help to Get Out the Vote (GOTV). **AEA-Retired have always been the stars that shine in the dark and now we must shine brighter than ever before.** Our retirement years, our active teachers' future and those of today's students depend on it.

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*To our newest AEA-Retired members (accomplices), welcome aboard! You are invited to join a chapter near where you worked, or near where you live – or both! Our chapter chairs are some of the most sociable, inviting, passionate-for-education leaders I know. They work to bring to their chapter meetings outstanding speakers on lifestyle, politics, current education, and topics that are relevant to retired educators. Don't miss out on the opportunity to meet with your colleagues at a chapter meeting near you. I would also like you to be my guest at any of our monthly (except June, July, August) meetings of our AEA-Retired Executive Board. You will be welcomed to share in the discussion and our lunches. Just RSVP by contacting me or your chapter chair so that we have enough lunches and materials for you. Please come! To find a list and more information, please visit our website at [www.azedretired.com](http://www.azedretired.com).*



## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

*By Luci Messing*



### Everyone needs to vote! But much more is needed to effect real change.

You may have already received your ballot for the 2018 General Elec-

tion. Ballots are scheduled to be mailed out on October 10<sup>th</sup>. This year's ballot is long; therefore it's extremely important that you fill out your entire ballot. Once you have done that, you need to mail it back immediately! If you don't, you will continue to get those annoying phone calls until your ballot is received. So, **VOTE** and **RE-TURN** your ballot as soon as possible, but no later than October 31. Then what?

Now that you have voted, you need to contact 10 of your friends and family members to commit to vote. That is what is needed to elect pro public education candidates in November. After you get these commitments you can still do more. Engage in some of the many activities available to insure that we are successful in November.

We have a golden opportunity this year to change the control of the Arizona State Senate. We can change that control to pro public education candidates. If you dedicate just one day, one hour, one activity on behalf of the targeted races, we will succeed. These are the specific races where we are focusing our efforts.

- In Maricopa County, [LD17 – Steve Weichert](#), and [LD28 Christine Marsh](#) (Former Teacher of the year)
- In Flagstaff, [LD6 – Wade Carlisle](#)
- In Pima County, [LD11- Ralph Atchue](#).

What can you do to elect the best candidates? You decide. Choose from any one of these activities. You can canvass or drive, make phone calls, put up signs, host a house party, attend debates, participate in rallies, and more. Contact any campaign or the AEA and ask what you can do.

AEA active and AEA-Retired members are working in partnership with community members to focus on the following priorities:

- Work for and elect pro public education candidates. (David Garcia for Governor)
- Defeat Prop 305 (Voucher Expansion). Email [info@teamsosarizona.com](mailto:info@teamsosarizona.com). **VOTE NO!**
- Pass Prop 127 (Clean Energy for Healthy Living). **VOTE YES!**

We all need to participate in at least one or more activities before November. **Volunteer to participate in the October 13th and November 3rd AEA Days of Action.** We must not miss this opportunity to effect real change. **LET'S DO THIS!!**

## Intergenerational Mentoring Program begins second year

The Intergenerational Mentoring program will continue to support potential teachers by working with the ASU Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College in the Teach Arizona, Tempe Cohort in the Tempe Elementary School District.

Two distinct mentor trainings are planned. The first one is scheduled for October 27th and will focus on "Developing the Mentor/Protégé Relationship" and on "Cultural Sensitivity." The second one, scheduled for October 29th will focus on "Professional Teaching Standards" and "Modeling Professional Discussions about the Teaching Practice."

On September 24th, Rae Ann Rumery, Co-Chair of the Mentoring Program, introduced the "Professional Teaching Standards," and the "Professional Learning Plan" to the potential 21 teacher candidates that are currently enrolled in the Tempe Cohort. On October 1st, she conducted her training on "Modeling Professional Conversations."

The mentoring team is looking forward to another great year of offering their many years of experience and expertise in support of budding teachers. This school year will include three returning mentors who will continue to mentor their last year's proteges during their first year of teaching. In addition, these mentors will also mentor brand new teaching candidates.

If you are interested in participating in this great program in the future and helping to build tomorrow's teachers, contact AEA-Retired President Julie Horwin at [julie.horwin@gmail.com](mailto:julie.horwin@gmail.com) or call her at 602-320-3093.

# AEA-Retired well represented at NEA Retired Annual Meeting and NEA Representative Assembly

Through electronic balloting held in March & April, AEA-Retired members elected **Julie Horwin, Barbara Matteson and Ken Freed** to represent them as delegates to the NEA Retired Annual Meeting and NEA Representative Assembly held in Minneapolis this past summer.

## The following report was submitted by Barbara Matteson.

At the NEA Retired Annual Meeting, I was asked to be in charge of the NEA Fund Fundraiser. The NEA Fund for Children and Public Education, which is the non-partisan political action arm of the NEA, is dedicated to electing friends of public education at the national level. All contributions are strictly voluntary. The main source of collecting voluntary contributions was a fun and exciting Silent Auction. Our members donated many great items, and we were able to raise \$35,000 to contribute to the NEA Fund.

As part of the fundraising effort, NEA Retired had a booth in the Exhibit Area before the Representative Assembly began, and then throughout the RA in the display area outside the RA meeting. At this booth we conducted a Quilt Giveaway where members got a chance to win the quilt and also contribute to the NEA Fund.



The winning raffle ticket for the NEA Retired quilt is drawn at the RA by NEA Vice President Becky Pringle.

Retirees volunteered to be in the booth to promote membership and inform active members about our organization. This year we were promoting "Join Now and Save". The lifetime dues will increase in September of 2019 and we were encouraging members to join as a Pre-retiree and lock in their membership at this year's price. It was amazing how many active members do not know about us or what we do. We were able to raise another \$15,000 for the NEA Fund with our Quilt Giveaway and



Representing all NEA Retired members, Julie Horwin greets the 8000 NEA delegates from the stage of the NEA RA during opening ceremonies of the RA on July 3rd.

educate many members about the benefits of joining NEA Retired.

The RA began with a very inspiring speech by David Hogg, a survivor of the Parkland School Shooting. He inspired us all to work for change, especially by working in the upcoming election. His final statement brought us to our feet. He said, "There is nothing more powerful than a pissed off teacher!"

As part of the opening exercises, a representative from each membership group spoke for a few minutes. And the speaker that represented the Retired Group was none other than our own **Julie Horwin**. She did a fabulous job, and made the Arizona delegation proud!

Arizona, West Virginia and Oklahoma, were the center of attention because of the RedforED campaign activities. The color red was everywhere, every day. It was so great to be in a group of 8000 plus people that were all on the same page. "Support Public Education and get out and Vote" was the message, with Arizona leading the way.

There were many inspirational speakers, lots of new business items, good music, more fun NEA Fund fundraising, and important informational discussions on budget implications after the Supreme Court Janus decision which struck down mandatory agency fees for unions representing some government employees. NEA expects to lose some members due to the Janus decision.

I thank AEA-Retired for allowing me to represent you at the NEA Representative Assembly.

## AZ Alliance endorses Kyrsten Sinema for open U.S. Senate seat

The Arizona Alliance for Retired Americans is a labor-based organization for retired union members. When you pay your dues to AEA-Retired, you become a member of the Alliance also.

This fall, AEA-Retired members were present when Congresswoman Kyrsten Sinema received the endorsement of the Arizona Alliance. She also received the recommendation from the NEA Fund, the political action arm of the



AEA-Retired members pictured above L to R: Laurie Bingenheimer, Judy Simons, Julie Horwin, Kyrsten Sinema, Rae Ann Rumery, Gary Mehok

NEA. After the photo, AEA-Retired members made phone calls to our fellow retired members in the Alliance to remind them to vote for Kyrsten. Kyrsten has worked diligently to protect the dignified and safe retirement years for Arizona seniors. Just as the U.S. and AZ Veterans have endorsed Kyrsten, we showed our appreciation for what she has done for so many of us with our endorsement and our phone calls.

The Alliance welcomes all volunteers who want to help in this important campaign. Phone calls are made daily from the AFL-CIO office at 3117 N. 16th St., Phoenix. AEA-Retired members are encouraged to participate. If you would like to volunteer, you just need to show up. For more specific information, contact Tory Roberg, Alliance Executive Director, at [toryroberg@gmail.com](mailto:toryroberg@gmail.com).

## *Easy ways to protect yourself from cyber attacks*

AEA-Retired has done several articles on protecting your money and making sure your identity is not stolen. As soon as one scam is exposed, another is born. The depth and intensity of the scams have created serious breaches at some major corporations such as: Orbitz, Panera, Saks Fifth Avenue, Lord & Taylor, UnderArmour, My Fitness Pal, Facebook, and Wells Fargo to mention a few. Some of us have suffered the inconvenience of having to close a credit card because of fraudulent activities.

“Seniors are prime targets because they are more likely to have money and better credit,” according to Blue London, a former cybercriminal who is now working with law enforcement. What can you do to protect yourself from cybercriminals? According to an in-depth story in AARP, there are three ways to help.

- One, freeze your credit with all three credit reporting agencies: Transunion, Experian, Equifax. Detailed guide to the process can be Googled.
- The second way is to always monitor your accounts. Register online and check daily. Ask the bank to put a fraud alert on your smart phone.
- A third way is to register your passwords in an online vault. Or you could choose to keep passwords in a book designed just for passwords.
- **Changing passwords** every two or three months is essential too. Don't use the same password for everything. Simplicity is fine. Connecting it to something easy to remember is a good way to do it too. Title of a song perhaps? Strong passwords use at least 12 characters.

On devices using internet, keep security updates current. Having the **latest security software** is the best defense against viruses and malware. Everything that connects to the internet needs protection: laptops, tablets, phones, smart things in the house.

When shopping online, always look for the **http://** a measure the site uses to help ensure a secure, safe transaction. Backup all valuable papers, photos, documents by making **digital copies**. Lockdown your login using security keys and codes. One financial institution in Arizona is making it easier for customers to set up a **double authentication process** where a password and another level of identity such as a question is used.

Even though we really don't have any privacy, we can slow the pace of someone or something trying to get access to finances and private information for fraudulent purposes.



## Mobilize, Organize, Recruit, and Engage continues for 3rd year

AEA-Retired's MORE Program (Mobilize, Organize, Recruit, & Engage) was started through an NEA grant three years ago for the purpose of identifying and engaging NEA Retired members who retired from other states but now live, and vote, in Arizona. With more than 1800 members living in Maricopa and Pima Counties, it became apparent that these members could be a positive force for supporting quality public education and senior issues in Arizona.

Many of these members have participated in social and political events sponsored by AEA-Retired in the past three years, reinforcing and expanding our efforts. This year the

MORE Team has planned to update contact information for these colleagues and encourage them to vote for AEA's recommended candidates, to vote NO on Prop 305, and to get involved in political action activities to help elect friends of public education.






To further expand the relationship between this group of retirees and AEA-Retirees, the MORE Team has planned two Social/Educational Mixers in February. The dates are set for February 20th in Tucson, and February 21st in Phoenix. Along with fun activities and socializing, the program will include very important information about Arizona's tax system and how tax loopholes and corporate tax reductions have adversely affected funding for education.

All members are invited, so mark your calendar and plan to attend one of these important events. Watch for more information in future issues of *The Conduit*.



Retirees support InvestInEd at the Capitol.

## 2018 General Election

				
<b>Oct. 9</b>	<b>Oct. 10</b>	<b>Oct. 26</b>	<b>Oct. 31</b>	<b>Nov. 6</b>
<b>Voter registration deadline</b>	<b>Early voting begins</b>	<b>Deadline to request an early ballot</b>	<b>Last day to mail in ballot</b>	<b>Election Day</b>



Retirees prepare to canvass with candidate Ralph Atchue in Tucson.

## Newsletter editor needed for *Conduit*. Apply now!

Are you a frustrated journalist? Do you love to write? Would you like to make a difference for your friends and colleagues by helping to keep them informed? Are you computer literate? If you can answer "Yes" to these questions, then your skills are desperately needed.

This is the last year that Linda Somo will help to edit the AEA-Retired print newsletter *The Conduit*, and we are seeking one (or more) retired members who will work with Jan Nichols to continue to produce this valuable communicate.

If you would like to assist with this important task, contact Linda Somo at [Lsomo@cox.net](mailto:Lsomo@cox.net) or call 480-293-4291. You don't have to have experience, since training will be provided. You will be given the opportunity to work with Linda and Jan for the rest of this year (three more issues to be produced), and then be prepared to begin your duties next year.

Don't wait! Apply now and experience the exhilarating feeling of seeing your own writing in print while providing an invaluable service to your colleagues.



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345 E. Palm Lane  
Phoenix, AZ 85004  
602-574-1473

[azedretired.com](http://azedretired.com)  
[aea.retired@arizonaea.org](mailto:aea.retired@arizonaea.org)

Julie Horwin	President
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Linda Somo & Jan Nichols

## ***AEA-Retired Chapter News***

Chapters are an attempt to bring AEA-Retired closer to members. All AEA-Retired members are eligible to join a chapter where they worked or currently live. **Meetings usually include: an information program on topics such as health care, legislative updates, retirement options, and all aspects of the educational system; a business meeting; lunch or dinner; and that very important time for socializing with friends and colleagues.** Anyone interested in forming a new chapter should contact Chapter Coordinators **Susan Sommer**, [ssommer114@aol.com](mailto:ssommer114@aol.com) or **Suzan Austin** at (480) 947-2089 [suzanaustin@cox.net](mailto:suzanaustin@cox.net).

**Glendale/West Valley Chapter:** All are welcome to join us for a bite to eat and great conversation with updated information. The meeting dates have been set for the West Valley Chapter. The chapter will meet Oct.4, Dec.6, Feb. 7 and April 4 during school year 2018-19. All meetings are held at Biscuits Café, 19420 N. 59<sup>th</sup> Ave., Glendale, AZ, 85308 at 10:00a.m. For more information, call, text or email **Susie Sommer** at 623-628-1935 or [ssommer114@aol.com](mailto:ssommer114@aol.com)

**Mesa / East Valley Chapter:** Our chapter meets on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor of the MPS building at 63 East Main Street, Mesa. Meet and greet begins at 10:45 with luncheon at 11:00. Join us for conversation with colleagues, important information, yummy food, and fun raffles. The Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> meeting had a speaker from the Arizona Advocacy Network, Joel Edman, who shared information on the 5 ballot measures. There were 38 in attendance. Meetings are scheduled for Nov. 14, Jan. 9, 2019, March 6, and May 8. Contact **Janie Hydrick** at [Hydrick@aol.com](mailto:Hydrick@aol.com) or (480) 963-1848 for more information.

**Greater Tucson Area Chapter:** Much of the summer was spent collecting signatures for propositions and attempting to phone members who had not yet shared their email addresses. The first 2 meetings of the year the chapter focused on the upcoming election and included a presentation by the League of Women Voters on the ballot issues. The **Next meeting is October 16**, at the TEA office. We continue to ask our members to get involved in working for our endorsed candidates. For more information, contact **Marion Pickens**, Chair, at 520-296-5908 or [marionpeterpickens@gmail.com](mailto:marionpeterpickens@gmail.com)

**Phoenix Chapter:** The Phoenix chapter will meet at Beatitudes at 1610 W. Glendale, on the third Tuesday of alternate months in Elaine's Dining Room. The next meeting is **Nov. 20 at 10:30**. At the last meeting, in Sept., our guest was the President of the retired community college faculty members who discussed the formation of a coalition to work towards proper education funding. The chapter agreed to support Pro-education candidates and work to defeat Prop 305 and to pass Prop 127. The schedule for 2018-2019 is Nov. 20, Jan.15, March 19, & May 21. We meet at 10:30 am and usually finish at 12:30 pm. Lunch is served and the cost is \$10.00 per person. For more information, contact Chapter Chair **Michele Smith** at 602-463-1624 or [mms7997@msn.com](mailto:mms7997@msn.com).

**Yavapai Chapter:** The Yavapai chapter's **next meeting will be Thursday Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>**, followed by Nov. 15, Jan. 10, Feb. 14, Mar. 14, Apr. 11 and May 16. The first meeting of the year was Sept. 13 at which Vice-Chair Pondish disseminated information in opposition to Prop 305. The chapter also reviewed the LD-1 candidates meeting, the organizing meeting for Unite for Ed, and the visit to YEI. We also discussed meetings and guest speakers for the coming year. Steve Ramos, Julie Horwin and a representative from NEA Member Benefits are being invited to speak. A joint venture with Prescott "We Value Our Teachers Foundation" is a possibility. Contact Chairperson **Rob Johan** at [johanica31@gmail.com](mailto:johanica31@gmail.com) or 630-430-8902 for information about future meetings.

**Scottsdale/Paradise Valley Chapter:** The Scottsdale/Paradise Valley AEA-R Chapter meets at Denny's Restaurant on Mayo Blvd. and Scottsdale Rd. at 11:00 a.m. This year's meeting dates are Oct. 15, Jan. 21, Feb. 18, and Apr. 15, 2019. At the first meeting of the year, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>, the guest speaker was Stephanie Parra, AEA lobbyist. There were 4 new members added to the group. For more information contact **Nancy Riley**, 480-596-1144, [rileyfam@cox.net](mailto:rileyfam@cox.net), or **Ann Myers** 480-510-8098, [azann@mac.com](mailto:azann@mac.com)

**Southeast Arizona Chapter:** The chapter met on Aug. 30 at La Casita Restaurant in Sierra Vista. A dozen members caught up on summer activities, the status of the propositions and candidates who are friends to education. The **next meeting is yet to be determined**. Contact **Sally Rosen** at 520-459-0430 or [azcatsally@aol.com](mailto:azcatsally@aol.com) for more information.

**Flagstaff Chapter:** If you live in the Flagstaff area, you can't afford to miss out on our AEA-Retired chapter meetings, held on the first Tuesday of each month, 10 AM to noon, in the basement room of Flagstaff Federated Church. We work to stay informed and support Arizona's retirees, educators and students through service projects, political action, and constant monitoring of retirement issues at the state and national levels. We hope you will join us and lend your expertise to our efforts to support our profession and the people we serve. For more information and to RSVP, contact **Tricia Roach** at [trrteach6@mac.com](mailto:trrteach6@mac.com) or call 928-525-1997.

**Kyrene Chapter:** The first meeting was on October 2 with candidates in attendance. For information about future meetings or to join the group, contact Chapter Chair **Ellen Shamah** at [eshamah@cox.net](mailto:eshamah@cox.net)