



## Tuesday, December 12, 2023- Called to Order @ 10:00 AM

**ATTENDANCE: P=present, A=absent**

**BOARD:** Anna Cicero-P, Ken Freed-P, Maria Leyva-P, Steve Linder-P, Julie Horwin-A, Luci Messing-P, Danny Barlow-A, Peter Coston-P, Cynthia Couture-P, Janice Dwosh-P, Jeanne Erickson-P, Cynthia Hale-P, Marilyn Freed-P, Norma Jimenez-P, Deb Larned-P, Sharin Manes-P, Barbara Matteson-P, Gary Mehok-P, Lizzie Menefee-P, Marshall Militano-A, Nancy Putman-P, Nancy Riley-P, Michele Smith-P, Susie Sommer-P

**CHAPTER CHAIRS:** Suzan Austin-P, Janie Hydrick-P, Sally Rosen-A, Ellen Shamah-P

**OTHER LEADERS & GUESTS:** Aurora Aber-A, Shirley Boswell-P, Cecilia Garcia-P, Bart James-A, Jan Nichols-A, Carmen Peters-P, Steve Ramos-P, Judy Robbins-A, Linda Somo-P, Sandra Warns-P, Ellie Perez-Pawloski-P

Call to Order - Anna Cicero, President

Land Acknowledgement - Racial and Social Justice - Janice shared a video with ASU Land Acknowledgement. Maria had difficulty with audio and video was shared later.

Welcome: Guests, Celebrations: Linda was highlighted in a political flier. AEA VP, Angela Filpot will join us later.

**Approval of Agenda** - with flexibility. Moved by Ken. Seconded by Steve L. Motion passed.

**Approval of December Minutes (with revisions)** - Moved by Ken. Seconded by Marilyn F., Motion passed.

**Financial Report** - Steve L./Treasurer presented, and reported ready for audit. Steve highlighted office expenses line items and may need more information for the audit. New audit firm is asking for \$2,000 and the budget is \$1,300. Suggestion to get another bid. Anna and Cynthia H will work on getting another bid.

**Approval of Financial Report** - Moved by Ken. Seconded by Gary. Motion passed.

**Membership**- Nancy reported that Shirley is contacting members who have not paid their dues since September 1 for this year. Shirley reported that six people has passed away. Nancy reported that the Spirit of Membership is available to be submitted by Anna before April. Michele shared that members have reacted positively to a recent ad in the AEA Advocate.

**Political Action**- Luci. Reminded everyone of Legislature Opening Day on January 8. We should wear Purple shirts and be ready for the press conference in the morning. Luci will coordinate with LD captains. We should also be aware of AEA-endorsed candidates when communicating with politicians.

### OFFICER REPORTS:

**President- Anna:** \*Refer to Appendix and written report

**\*Guest Speaker\* AEA Vice President: Angela Philpot** Greeted us and thanked everyone for the work that we do while active members are working.

**Vice President- Ken:** \*Refer to Appendix and written report

**Secretary- Maria:** \*Refer to Appendix and written report

**AEA Director- Luci:** There was an emergency Board Meeting within the past week. She cannot report on what was discussed.

**NEA Director/Past President- Julie:** Absent. No report. Barbara reported for NEA Retired PAC and donations from Arizona are down.

**AEA Liaison- Ellie Perez-Pawloski:** AEA has endorsed candidates in CD races. Vouchers, anti-LGBTQ+, and book bans are bad.

### New Business Items/Motions:

Article III - Proposed language revisions. Ken led the third discussion with the board regarding representation at Delegate Assembly and on the AEA Board. There was a thoughtful

discussion, but due to time constraints, a motion was made to table the discussion until January by Barbara, seconded by Susie S. Motion passed.

### **COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS:**

**Racial & Social Justice- RSJ Update-** Janice was selected to present nationally. There will be a Movie Meet-Up for the new movie, The Color Purple.

**Communications:** Maria reported that the website is being updated and revised to say up-to-date.

**Website/Instagram-** Maria requested more pictures to share online. Website was updated to revise names, guests, and meeting locations.

**Facebook-** Steve R requested for more people to SHARE posts.

**ZOOM Link Support-** Susie S/Sandy W reported that all is well.

**MailChimp/Survey Monkey-** Julie H - Absent. No report.

**The Conduit Newsletter-** Jan, Bart - Absent. No report. Winter issue is in the mail.

**Strategic Planning-** Anna reported all is well and comments were brief due to time.

### **SPECIAL COMMITTEES/AD HOC:**

**ASRS-** Steve R reported there was an 8.2% increase in investment and the contribution rate may decrease in 2024.

**M.O.R.E.-** Cindy C/Lizzie M reported that preparations are being made for the event.

**Fundraising-** Marilyn F reported that the quilt for this year will be gorgeous.

**Annual Meeting-** Norma reported that parking is very convenient for our Annual Meeting and cost is currently being negotiated to possibly be included in price.

**Annual Award-** Nancy P reported the deadline to nominate is March 12.

**Elections-** Steve L reported 2 officer positions and 6-At Large positions are up for a vote.

**Documents-** Anna (temp. chair) No update due to time.

**Budget-** Steve L will get information ready for the audit. Budget meeting will be Jan. 30th at the AEA Retired office. Requested for all committees to submit their requests before then.

**Audit-** Carmen is waiting for the documents for the audit.

**Birthday Cards/ZOOM-** Sandy W. No report due to time.

**CHAPTER CHAIR -** Susie Sommer

**Phoenix\*-** Suzan Austin-Gary Mehok

**West Valley\*-** Marshall

**East Valley\*-** Janie Hydrick catered a meeting for Kyrene which was a donation.

**Scottsdale/PV\*-** Nancy R

**Greater Tucson\*-** Peter C

**Kyrene\*-** Ellen S

**Southern/Sierra Vista\*-** Sally R

**Interstate Report\*-** Danny

**Marana/Northwest Tucson\*-** Deb L

**Prescott Area\*-** Julia Watson

\*Refer to Appendix for Written Reports

### **ALLIANCES AND COALITION UPDATES**

**ARSC-** Linda, Steve R, Anna, Luci. No report due to time.

**AARA- AZ Alliance for Retired Americans-** Linda, Julie. No report due to time.

**Kinnaman Raffle-** Ken. \$30 each way. Winner was Nancy R.

**AIN-** Ken. No report due to time.

**Closure and Adjournment @ 1:17 PM.**

## **APPENDIX WITH REPORTS**

# President's Report – DECEMBER 12, 2023 by Anna Cicero AEA-Retired Executive Board Meeting

Thank you for Reading since today, we have limited time.

## Local Doings!

- **AEA Task Force-Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>**- – attended 3 working meeting, input given to the Legislative Agenda and Platform. The new format is clear and informative and connects information for the reader in one document.
- **ARSC** - Preparation and progress made on the Pre-Session Legislative Update coming up on Dec. 21 at 4-5PM by Daniella Smith. Agenda will include an update from ASRS, discuss the upcoming 2024 Leg. Session and important information about the 2024 General Election. Registration Link for this update was sent to our complete membership on Dec. 4. I encourage you to register. Thank you Peter Costen for a job well done with MailChimp. **Join us on Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup> 4:30-5:30 PM!**
- **AARA**- As a Sustaining member on this alliance board with President Linda Somo, I attended meetings and forwarded to AEA-R board all pertinent information about WEP-GPO, other social security issues and more. I want to thank the Chapter Chairs who shared this information with their chapter members.
- **Tax Forms filed-990-EZ-Invoices paid.** – Clarification emails with Treasurer Steve Linder, to verify payment to Henry & Horne/Bakertilly.
- **Interest Form**- Sent out the interest form to the board to be considered to attend the NEA Leadership Summit on March 1-3, 2024 in Chicago. Budget will consider the cost for about 5-6 board members who identify ways in which AEA-Retired association will benefit from their learning based on the NEA Leadership Framework /Competency areas. Email invitation to fill out the google doc interest form sent Dec. 1. Deadline is Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> by 5PM.

## NEA/NEA Retired Doings!

- **Zooms and Committees:** I am pleased to participate with President Anita Gibson's Monthly ZOOM meetings. I will continue to share short highlights through this reporting as well as her personal President's Report. A new **GOVERNANCE Committee** was created and I find the planning a learning experience with all the history and information shared by "seasoned" NEA Retired Leadership.
- **American Education Week**- Nov. 13-17- Delivered appreciation boxes with treats to 3 of my local schools. I posted our materials and gratitude cards. I alerted the Building reps. And principal.
- **NEA Holiday Auction!** I got my jewelry! Good news, the NEA PAC made \$10, 140.00 to be used to elect candidates that are friends of public education and public education retirees . These contributions are all voluntary but, I want to thank Julie Horwin, Barb and others for donating items and bidding on the items. The next virtual Auction will take place in late May and through June finishing after the day of the NEA Retired Annual Meeting.

## AEA-R Vice President's Report for December 2023

### Submitted by Ken Freed

I shall be brief; Since our last Board Meeting, I:

- \*conferenced with members about ongoing issues,
- \*attended a Tucson chapter meeting,
- \*emailed, texted, met, or spoke with members,
- \*chatted with actives and retired members at social events,
- \*attended a Wednesday AEA Zoom meeting,
- \*attended the Advocacy Training,
- \*attended an AEA-R Board Meeting.

That is all.

See you Tuesday

# SECRETARY'S REPORT – DECEMBER 2023

Submitted by Maria Leyva

Since our last Board meeting in November, I have done the following:

- Updated the website webpages for the Phoenix Chapter, Glendale/Westside Chapter, and Paradise Valley/Scottsdale
- Facilitated and attended a ZOOM with Peter and Anna.
- Attended the December 6 – AEA Retired Advocacy Training
- Attended the Glendale / Westside Chapter meeting

**December 2023**  
**Prepared by Shirley Boswell**

**Membership Report**  
**November 30, 2023**

## 2087 members

84 emeritus members (ninety + years old)

1452 members use payroll

Other pay methods:

264 credit cards

339 checks

33 EFT

Total 636

49 new members (3 **current**)

6 NEA Life Members (Pre-Retired)

## Deceased members with a canceled membership after AEA Retired Annual Meeting May 2023

Allen Lessig

John Thrasher

Cecilia Tracy

Terrance Fay

Robert Joe

Louis Coppola

Joane Cobos

Rosario Dickerson

Larry Trimble

Sid Stelpstra

Joanne Burch

Marcia Jones

Carolyn Lefever

Delores Oster

Patricia Shontz

James Strang

Alys Casperson

Peggy Hamrick

Joyce Mc Donald

# CHAPTER REPORTS – DECEMBER 2023

## Glendale/NW Valley Chapter Reports for September & November 2023

by Marshall Militano

The Glendale/NW Valley Chapter has good membership turnout. So much that we have decided to move to a new location beginning in January 2024 to accommodate new growth at Dillons on 59th Ave just north of the 101. We kicked off our Fall meetings with Dr Laura Metcalfe Maricopa County Superintendent of Schools candidate as our speaker in September sharing what that position entails and why she is running. Then in November we were pleased to hear from the Maricopa County Recorder, Stephen Richer. He explained the processes of our elections and how well they are protected. The AEA Retired Glendale/NW Valley Chapter wishes everyone a safe and blessed Holiday Season.



## AEA-Retired East Valley Chapter by Dr. Janie Hydrick

AEA-Retired East Valley Chapter welcomes any retired AEA member to join us for great camaraderie and yummy food and drinks at Mi Amigo's Fresh Mexican, 1264 South Gilbert Avenue, Mesa. All meetings focus on friendships, old and new, updates on AEA-R and ASRS benefits and changes, AEA Benefits, and political

candidates, and ballot initiatives. Join us at 11:30 on January 16, March 5, and May 14. See you then!

[Hydrick@aol.com](mailto:Hydrick@aol.com)

### **Kyrene EA Retired and Active Chapter by Dr. Janie Hydrick**

**Kyrene EA Retired and Active Chapter** welcomes all retired AEA members and Kyrene active to join us for a great Happy Hour at The Hub Grill and Bar, 14205 South 50<sup>th</sup> Street, Phoenix. Kyrene Board members often join us in our revelry and good times! sometimes we have a special guest or two. Happy Hour at 4:40pm December 1 and January 26, with more scheduled in the spring. [Hydrick@aol.com](mailto:Hydrick@aol.com)

### **Scottsdale/PV by Nancy Riley**

The Scottsdale/PV chapter met on Monday, Nov. 20. Our guest was Conor O'Callahan (arranged before AEA endorsed another candidate for CD1). 12 were in attendance. (Bart James was going through the Panama Canal, so couldn't be there.) We do not meet in December.

### **Phoenix Chapter by Suzan Austin & Gary Mehok**

Report: The last meeting of the Phoenix Chapter was held on Nov. 20. Senate Minority Leader Lela Alston was the guest speaker. There were 11 members present. The next meeting is on Jan. 15 and AEA-Retired President Anna Cicero will be the guest speaker.

### **AEA-Retired Tucson Chapter by Peter Coston**

October 17, 2023 at the Southern Region Office

The Tucson chapter met both on Zoom and in person and had approximately 18 people in attendance. We had two speakers who arrived at the beginning of the meeting, so we delayed our business meeting until after their presentations.

Julie Kaiserman, from the Pima County Attorney's Office, attended via zoom and Sgt. Kimberly Frie, from the Tucson Police Department, attended in person. They both shared their experiences dealing with fraud and scams that target the elderly. Sgt. Frie left many brochures for us to read and share. Very worthwhile.

We then had our business meeting that included reports from the AEA-Retired Board, the AEA Executive Board, the PCIC and the AZ Legislative Report. We were reminded that the Advocacy Training is December 6<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 to noon, at the Headquarters Building. All are invited.

Our next meeting is changed to Tuesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> so as to not conflict with Thanksgiving. It will be at the TEA office and Frank, Kathy and Theresa have volunteered to bring snacks.