# **Day of Caring**

Each year hundreds of retired educators around the state return to classrooms to help teachers and students in a variety of ways. Their services include creating bulletin boards, photocopying worksheets, collating assignments, stapling documents, reading to students, painting walls and playgrounds, organizing library books, preparing laptops for student use, donating filled backpacks and cash gifts, and more!









# **Volunteer**



### Contact

MEA-Retired Liaison
7 Hatch Drive, Suite 220
PO Box 310, Caribou, ME 04736
207-888-3856 / 800-281-3191, Ext. 2400
mearetired.org — or — maineea.org

# RETIREMENT

# Take the next step

Join Maine Education Association Retired



Stay informed!

Protect your pension, COLA, and insurance benefits!

Join
your County Affiliate
MEA-Retired
MEA
NEA-Retired

## Your voice counts!



## **Purpose**

The purpose of the Maine Education Association Retired (MEA-Retired) shall be to promote the economic, professional, and social welfare of the retired educators of Maine, to support measures that help to achieve these aims, to participate in the promotion of community relations and education activities, and to provide opportunities for service.

# Membership

Welcome to MEA-Retired! You are invited to join thousands of retired educators and educational support personnel (teachers, educational techs, bus drivers, custodians, secretaries, cooks) who retire from a public, private, or post-secondary institution. Participants are eligible for active membership upon payment of dues to MEA-Retired, MEA, and the NEA-Retired.

An educator retired from out of state who is a member of NEA-Retired and a member of their state active association may join MEA-Retired as an active member upon direct payment of dues. If a member selects NEA-Retired lifetime membership, he or she must maintain membership in MEA and MEA-Retired to be a unified member.

Educators and educational support professionals whose retirement benefits issue from a pension fund other than MainePERS may join MEA-Retired upon payment of dues. Spouses of members who do not meet the criteria of full membership may join the MEA-Retired as an Associate member without joining MEA and NEA-Retired. Retirees are encouraged to join county affiliates and Higher Ed affiliates. Unified membership consists of joining MEA, MEA-Retired, and NEA-Retired.

### **Benefits**

#### MEA-Retired offers . . .

- Bi-monthly publication, *The Clarion*
- Legislative advocacy on retirement issues
- Representation on MainePERS Board of Directors
- Dental insurance plan
- Community volunteer opportunities
- Discounts on optical and hearing aid services
- Leadership Awards recognition of affiliate leaders
- Annual meeting and convention in May
- · Organized legislative action teams
- Liaisons with NEA-Retired, MEA, NRTA, AARP, HEAR

#### **NEA-Retired offers...**

- FREE \$1,000 life insurance policy to all members
- Monthly publication, NEA Today.
- Congressional representation on retirement issues
- Social Security Offset representation
- Conferences and leadership training opportunities
- Voices and votes in the NEA-Retired Annual Meeting and NEA Representative Assembly
- Discounts on car rentals
- Low-cost insurance—life, auto, home, health
- Long-term care insurance—assisted living, nursing home, in-home care
- Money market and CD accounts
- NEA's "Click & Save" programs for discounts

#### MEA offers . . .

- MEA's monthly publication, Maine Educator
- Voices and votes in the MEA Representative Assembly
- Representation on MEA Board of Directors
- Representation on MEA Benefits Trust
- Auto, homeowners, umbrella insurance discounts
- Discounts—see www.maineea.org for complete list

### County Affiliate offers . . .

- Opportunities to socialize with friends, colleagues
- Regularly planned membership events/programs
- Timely information on health, COLA, pension
- County and state leadership opportunities
- Necrology program to recognize deceased members
- Fundraising, raffles, socialization, fun!

### Governance

MEA-Retired is governed by a <u>Board of Directors</u> that is comprised of elected and appointed officers, chairpersons of standing committees, presidents and vice presidents of affiliates and Higher Ed. Also serving on the Board are MEA Board of Directors member, trustee of MainePERS, trustee of MEA Benefits Trust, AARP liaison, historian, parliamentarian, convention coordinator, and MEA-Retired delegates to the MEA Representative Assembly. *The Clarion* editor and web administrator are ex-officio members.

An Executive Committee is comprised of elected and appointed officers, chairpersons of statewide standing committees, the MEA Board of Directors member, the MEA-Retired trustee of MainePERS and MEA Benefits Trust, the AARP liaison, the historian, the parliamentarian, the convention coordinator, the Facebook administrator, *The Clarion* editor, and web administrator are ex-officio members.

# **Opportunities**

- Socializing with retired and active colleagues
- Performing community service
- Volunteering in classrooms and communities
- Learning new laws affecting COLA, insurance
- Fund-raising for scholarships and school projects
- Filling backpacks for students
- Planting flowers and shrubs around schools
- · Reading to students
- Rocking babies at local hospitals
- Tutoring in schools, libraries, and community centers
- Serving in local agencies and organizations
- Running as a candidate for legislative office
- Sponsoring a child in Special Olympics
- Giving free music lessons to schoolchildren
- · Coaching a youth sports team
- · Serving as an officer in affiliates or MEA-Retired
- Sewing/knitting/crocheting blankets for local facilities
- Participating in activities—dancing, walking,
- Driving seniors to appointments