



"To Serve — Not To Be Served"

Affiliated with NRTA and AARP

Nebraska Association of Retired School Personnel



NEWSLETTER



Summer 2021

www.narsp.org

Published Twice Yearly



Dacia Beyke



Clarissa Ross

NARSP Scholarship Recipients Named

The recipients of the 2021-2022 NARSP Active Educator Scholarship are: **Dacia Beyke** who is a 7-12 Family and Consumer Science teacher in the Ponca Public Schools and **Clarissa Ross** who is an Early Childhood Special Education teacher within the Falls City Public Schools at North Elementary. Ms. Beyke is pursuing a Master of Science Degree in K-12 School Counseling from Wayne State College. Ms. Ross is pursuing an Education Specialist Degree in School Psychology from Emporia State (KS) University.

The scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each are awarded annually to an active educator working toward an advanced degree or endorsement in a related field of education. By offering the scholarships to active educators in the field, NARSP members have an opportunity to "maintain

professional contacts and to develop new ones" with the district, schools, and educators in and around the communities of the local units.

The NARSP Executive Board received seven quality semi-finalist applications from five units this year for review. There were a total of eighteen applications received by the units.

Dacia Beyke has been an educator for 2.5 years. She is assistant Sophomore Class Sponsor, assistant prom sponsor, and is Vice-President of the Ponca Education Association. She was involved in a FCS Fundraiser for Dixon County Drug Day.

In her application Dacia stated, "As my teaching experience has progressed, I find myself wanting to help students to an even greater extent. While I enjoy teaching my content, I want to expand my

knowledge and ability to assist students in social and emotional development, as well as, academic achievement so that they may become successful and functioning members of society. I would like to work with more than the students who just take my classes. Earning my masters degree in school counseling would allow me to expand my relationships and assistance that I can provide to students."

One of Dacia's references indicated, "I always want to be able to share about the first time I met Dacia Beyke. I will never forget the confidence of Dacia in her interview for our FCS teaching job. Her reply to a question that was asked of her will remain with me for a long time. We asked her why we should take a chance on her being that she was not even a certified

(Continued on page 3)

The Annual Meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 29 in Lincoln!



...a little bit of This 'n' That from Bob...

Robert L. (Bob) Bussmann

Executive Director of the Nebraska Association of Retired School Personnel

When I assumed the position of NARSP Executive Director in the Fall of 2012 many thoughts, questions, and ideas were swirling about me. One was, do I continue using the same format for my column "Bulletin from Bob" that I had used for the previous four years as NARSP President. I decided to make a change in title and begin each column with a word (sometimes more than one) and its definition that would focus on some aspect of our membership and association. Now nine years later, I am faced with how to bring closure for this final column.

And the focus for this column is on the word...

re-cap – state again as a summary; recapitulate

Thus, it started in the Spring of 2013 with...

...**transition** – movement, passage, or change from one position, state, stage, subject, concept, etc. to another

...**membership** – the state of being a member; the body of members

...**community** – an interacting population of varying kinds of individuals in a common location; a group of people with common interests; a body of persons or nations having a history of social, economic, or political interest or policies in common; likeness; fellowship [within community you will also find the word **unity**]

...**workshop** – a seminar emphasizing free discussion, exchange of ideas, and practical methods and given mainly for adults --and-- ...**convention** – the summoning or convening of an assembly; an assembly of persons met for a common purpose

...**service** – the occupations or function of serving; the work or action performed by one that serves (help, benefit); contribution to the welfare of others

...**change** – 1. to make or become different; modify, transform 2. to give a different position, course, or direction 3. to replace with another syn: alter, modify, vary

...**attend** – to be present at participation – one that participates --and-- ...**participate** – to take part or have a share in something (as an activity) usu. in common with others --and-- ...**convention** – an assembly of persons met for a common purpose (teacher's convention)

...**celebrate** – to observe in some special way; to praise or make known publicly; to observe a special day or event with festivities (State of Nebraska's 150th)

...**commitment** – an agreement or pledge to do something

in the future

...**convention** – an assembly of persons met for a common purpose (teacher's convention)

...**welcome** – used to express a greeting to a guest or a newcomer upon their arrival --and-- ...**thank you** – kindly or grateful thoughts; an expression of gratitude

...**reflection** – consideration of some subject matter, idea, or purpose

...**spring** – 1. a. at the (meteorological) season between winter and summer comprising in the northern hemisphere usu. the months of March, April and May or as reckoned astronomically extending from the March equinox to the June solstice b: a time or season of growth or development 2. the act or an instance of leaping up or forward

...**something** – some undermined or unspecified thing; some definite but not specified thing; person or thing of consequence --and-- ...**you** – the one or ones spoken to ("There is Something for YOU!")

...**decision** – 1. the act or result of deciding esp. by giving judgment 2. promptness and firmness in deciding (DETERMINATION)

...**challenging** – an exception taken to something --and--

...**dangerous** – exposing to or involving a danger (leap year, COVID 19, virtual learning, ZOOM, shelter at home, wash your hands, protests, and the list could go on and on)

...**retirement** – an act of retiring; the state of being retired; esp. withdrawal from one's position or occupation

The **re-cap** is completed! This position has presented many challenges and opportunities. It has been enjoyable and my pleasure to serve NARSP for the past thirteen plus years. December 31 is approaching and it will bring down the curtain on these past years as well as 2021. The singing of "Auld Lang Syne" comes to mind. The phrase 'auld lang syne' roughly translates as 'for old times' sake', and the song is all about preserving old friendships and looking back over the events of the year (and many past years).

...a "little bit more" – The NARSP Annual Board of Directors' Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 29 in Lincoln.

...There are a number of positions needing to be filled. Additional information can be found later in this Newsletter about these positions. If you would have questions, need

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from previous page)

additional info, or have the willingness to “SERVE” please contact Wauneta Peterson, NARSP President, or myself. The quote from Dr. Andrus of “To Serve - Not To Be Served” comes to mind at this time.

...Thanks to June Bowers for her willingness to assume the remainder of the term for Vice-President!

...Thanks to Cathy Morgan, Hastings, for serving as Community Service Chair ProTem again this year in collecting volunteer hours from the Units and compiling the report!

...CONGRATS! are extended to Dacia Beyke and Clarissa Ross for being named the recipients of the 2021-2022 NARSP Active Educator Scholarships!

...At the end of July you should have received a letter in the

mail from NPERS with information the annual COLA adjustment to your benefits. If you haven't received your letter or would have questions, contact NPERS.

...Jan Barnason, Hastings, and I will be participating in the virtual NRTA Advocacy Conference on October 19-22

In conclusion... “In our daily meeting with one another we must realize that it is only in the sharing of one's self with others that we renew ourself. Only in the meeting of minds—thine and mine—do we meet and release the divine in each of us. Only as we say ‘Here am I’ to a call for service, do we help the doing of God's will and really move forward our own self-renewal, and our self-realization and fulfillment.” —Dr. Ethel Percy Andrus, Founder of NRTA, 1947

NRTA Staff

Al Campos, Director NRTA

Shelisa Ashford, DC Office

Mary Beth Dixon, Advisor

Adam Goldberg, Senior Legislative Representative

(Continued from page 1)

teacher yet and only a student teacher. Without being arrogant, she confidently stated that she was the best choice for the job because she was a hard worker and she knew that she would be able to engage students in learning even though she was young. She has exceeded our expectations for her in her short time at our school, and she is one of the engaging teachers we have at our secondary school because she is not afraid to try new ideas and research-based methods in her classroom.”

A colleague shared the following about Dacia, “When Dacia was hired three years ago, it immediately became apparent of her vast knowledge in the area of FCS and Health. She has completely revamped our programs with innovative ideas and hands-on learning experiences that were not offered in the past. Her ability to relate to my students while working in the general education room is impressive. Her adept method of teaching techniques for students of various abilities is exceptional. She relates well to students in both junior high and high school.”

The Wayne Area Unit submitted Dacia's

semi-finalist application.

Clarissa Ross has been an educator for fifteen years, which has included predominately Pre-School Early Childhood teaching experiences in Des Moines, IA; Hiawatha, KS; Horton, KS; and Falls City.

In her application Clarissa noted, “I am the first Early Childhood Special Education teacher hired by Falls City public Schools. In this position I helped to create a working relationship between Early Development Network staff and the Preschool teacher at north School so that students being served feel more comfortable attending public school and teachers are more prepared for the students entering their classrooms. I have also brought more awareness to the importance of using evidence based practices in early intervention programming.”

“As I think about my objective for pursuing this degree in School Psychology, only one answer comes to mind, to ensure that every child has access to a quality education. That is a very simple statement but making it a reality is extremely complex. In order to support teachers in providing quality education, I have had to learn about child development, basic human needs,

mental health supports, collaboration and consultation strategies, testing practices, reading and interpreting data, and effective strategies to the use while researching activities and teaching methods to offer teacher to support student needs.”

A reference stated, “Ms. Ross is a professional teacher that is always looking to continue to learn and grow. She prepares lessons that stimulate student interest. Ms. Ross is a valuable asset to me professionally as she sees the big picture and is willing to embrace school initiatives, help move other staff members forward, and speak positively about change that she feels will impact our students positively.”

A colleague noted the following about Clarissa, “On a personal note, I have watched Clarissa juggle a very demanding schedule this year of being a classroom teacher, college student, and full-time mother. Only someone with a passion for education and children would have been able to accomplish what she has this year.”

The Southeast Nebraska Area Unit submitted Clarissa's semi-finalist application.

Kell's Kolumn

Information provided by:

Kell Smalley

AMBA District Manager - KS, W. MO, & NE

As we inch toward the end of 2020 we will expect Plan F, G, N premiums with Medicare supplement carriers to rise at a higher rate than years past. Please see the information below to view your options.

Medigap Plan F no longer offered after January 1, 2020 to individuals turning 65.

If you already have a Medigap Plan F or are considering getting a Medigap Plan F, you should be aware of the new law that went into affect on April 16, 2015.

There are several provisions in the law, but section 401 of the new law is one that you should understand. Essentially, the federal government is no longer allowing newly eligible beneficiaries to obtain a Medigap policy that covers the Part B (Medical) deductible (\$185/year in 2019).

So Plan F will no longer be available starting January 1, 2020.

The Good News...

If you have Plan F already, you can keep it and will not be forced to move to another plan since this only affects newly eligible Medicare beneficiaries.

The Bad News...

The Plan F premium rates will be increasing at a higher rate than the other Plans that are not impacted.

Why is this?

Each plan is individually rated based on the costs (e.g. claims processed) for that particular plan. So, after 2020, when Plan



F is no longer accepting new applicants, the pool of Plan F members will begin to age more so than other plans, which will drive higher proportionate claims cost and thus drive up the premiums for Plan F.

So what should you do?

We recommend the Medigap Plan G, which has lower premium rates than Plan F and

provides all the same coverage, except for the \$203 Part B deductible.

Plan G is a great option that could save \$20-\$100+ per month when compared to Plan F, with the only additional exposure being \$198/year in Part B deductible.

Act Now...

If you are healthy, it is important that you act now since you will have to go through medical underwriting in order to switch your Medicare Supplement Plan. If you wait until a later point, you risk potential health issues that could prevent you from changing your Supplement plan.

Note- You do not have to wait until the open enrollment period to switch from a Plan F to Plan G

Email or call District Manager Kell Smalley for a faster response.

Phone: 913-912-2157

Email: kell.smalley@amba.info

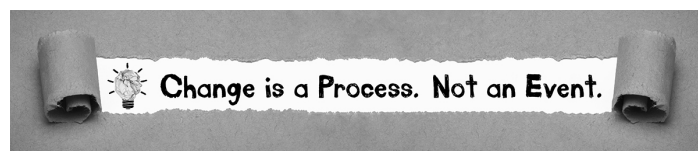
CORRECTIONS

With apologies for the following incorrect listing and misspellings that appeared in the Spring Issue of the NARSP Newsletter on page 12 – Deceased Members.

--Fremont Unit - Janet Blomendahl was listed as passing; it should have been Janet Bloemker passed

--Fremont Unit – Marian Kline (corrected spelling)

--NARSP State – Frank Henry Dupuis, Lincoln (corrected spelling)



Kell C. Smalley
District Manager
Cell: 913.912.2157
800.258.7041 Ext. 144
kell.smalley@amba.info



Bowers Appointed NARSP VP

June Bowers, Falls City, was recently appointed by the NARSP Executive Board to fill the Vice-President vacancy. The remainder of the term will be for 2021-2022.

June began her teaching career at Waverly Jr-Sr High School teaching vocal music for 17 years. She then taught for LPS at Pound Jr. HS and Lincoln Southeast HS for 17 years. Upon retirement, June moved to Falls City where she is a substitute teacher.

June's community service includes serving the SE Nebraska Area Unit as treasurer, directs the Methodist Church Choir, is a member of the District 56 School Board and the Richardson County Historical Society Board. As a member of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, an organization supporting women educators in 17 countries, she serves as second vice president on the administrative board. June was awarded the NARSP Educational Service Award in 2019.

NARSP Executive Board

Robert Bussmann, Executive Director

Wauneta Peterson, President

June Bowers, Vice President

Billie Carole Bussmann, Secretary

Nancy Johnson, Treasurer

Additional officer information located
on the NARSP Website:

www.narsp.org

Officer Elections

Officer positions up for election at the Board of Directors' Meeting this coming fall are Secretary and Treasurer. Both positions are for a two-year term (2021-2023).

Secretary – The Secretary shall attend all meetings called by the President. In addition, the Secretary shall: keep the minutes of all meetings of the Association; keep a record of all motions; have available for reference at all meetings, a copy of past minutes, Constitution and Bylaws of the Association and a list of officers and chairpersons; submit a copy of the minutes of each meeting to the President as well as for publication in the respective issues of the NARSP Newsletter; and maintain permanent, dated copies of the Constitution and Bylaws.

At the present there are no nominees for this position...if you would be interested in serving or have a name to nominate please contact Bob Bussmann or Wauneta Peterson.

Treasurer – The Treasurer shall deposit all funds in the name of the Association. In addition, the Treasurer shall: be bonded; receive and keep a record of all money paid into the Association; issue a receipt, if requested, to each unit treasurer for any monies paid into the State Treasury; assist units in their efforts to recruit new members, retain current members, and review past member (including AMBA/state only members; collect dues and membership lists from the units; receives dues from AMBA/state only members; maintain as accurate up-to-date membership list; keep on file a list of the banks in which the monies are kept and provide a copy to the President and the Executive Director; prepare monthly financial reports and present them to the President and the Executive Director for approval; request that all bills submitted for payment be accompanied by a receipt; keep on file all vouchers for five (5) years; provide a financial report for publication in the NARSP Newsletter; and keep a yearly record of all members and

provide a copy to the President, Executive Director, Newsletter Printing/Mailing Company, and AMBA.

The present Treasurer, Nancy Johnson from Omaha, has agreed to run for another two-year term.



Ann Meinzer, Southeast Nebraska Area Unit member, was named the 2020 recipient of the NARSP "Big Apple Award."

NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL

Executive Board Meeting Minutes, March 29, 2021

Conference Call

The Nebraska Association of Retired School Personnel Executive Board meeting was held via a conference call on March 20, 2021. Members present were Bob Bussmann, Executive Director; Wauneta Peterson, President; Billie Bussmann, Secretary; and Nancy Johnson, Treasurer.

Wauneta Peterson called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

The minutes of the July 29, 2020 Executive Board Meeting were approved as printed.

The treasurer's report was accepted for financial review with March asset balance of \$62,865.67 with a checkbook balance of \$12,516.88.

Thus far, NARSP Membership totals 962. Unit membership includes 429 paid members, NARSP State 475 members and 58 (85 plus) honorary lifetime members.

There were no additional agenda items.

The Executive Director's Report included the mileage reimbursement rate for 2020 as \$.14 per mile.

Bob reported we have a new ten-year contract with AMBA. Their endorsement stipend will be placed in a new line item title due to a non-disclosure clause as stipulated in the agreement.

Jeanie Coffey, Kell, and Bob reviewed the AMBA membership, goals and checking on email addresses of members. It was noted that in the past we have been unable to use members emails as members prefer for them to remain confidential. We have an excellent relationship with AMBA. The NARSP website has been set up for memberships to be renewed via the website. This will be so helpful for our state organization and for Nancy our treasurer.

Bob indicated there was Travels through Mayflower line that wished to advertise in the newsletter. We do not have advertising within the newsletter unless it is an endorsed benefit.

The NARSP Spring Newsletter was discussed regarding extra

copies. Bob checked and 21 copies were returned because they had handwritten addresses and there was no postage attached. The bulk rate could not be used. We have been mailing handwritten addressed newsletters under the permit and this is not available. The address has to be a printed with related codes.

There remains a Vice-President vacancy under unfinished business.

Under new business Billie Bussmann has indicated she is stepping down as secretary after 13 years and Nancy Johnson has agreed to continue as treasurer for another two-year term. There will need to be a nominee for secretary. No nomination committee was created. NARSP needs individuals to be Executive Director, Vice-President and Secretary.

Bob presented the responsibilities of the executive director. These were reviewed and discussed. There was a suggestion to see if someone would take the position of NARSP Newsletter editor.

There was preliminary discussion of the 2021 Annual Board of Directors' Meeting. Perhaps we could meet at the Children's Zoo in Lincoln and see the Teachers' Cascade Fountain with lunch. We could also meet at another location in Lincoln. Options will be checked out within the city for this half-day event.

The next Executive Board meeting will be in June.

The meeting adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

Respectfully

submitted,

Billie Carole
Bussmann, NARSP
Secretary



NARSP Membership Information

Membership with NARSP gives you representation in the community and legislature, fellowship with other retired school personnel, and access to many member benefits.

All retired teachers, administrators, school personnel and support staff are invited to join our organization as active members.

Associate membership is available to a spouse of an active member; to any individual who is interested in and subscribes to the purposes of NARSP; and to active school personnel within three years of retirement.

Yearly dues are \$15.00 for both active and associate members. The membership year is from September 1 to August 31.

There are a number of options available for payment of your dues. Unit members will continue to pay your annual NARSP through your local treasurer. There are three options that can be found on the NARSP website www.narsp.org -- download and complete the membership form and mail your check to the address noted below; by credit card for your annual membership; and by credit card with automatic annual renewal at your original date of joining.

If you would have further questions about your membership, please feel free to contact Nancy Johnson, NARSP Treasurer and Membership Chair at 12777 "A" Street, Omaha, NE 68144 (E-mail – nancy.johnson5@cox.net)



...from NRTA in the Know

Retail Drug Prices Continue to Rise Faster than Inflation

In 2020, retail prices for 260 widely used brand name prescription drugs increased more than twice as fast as general inflation, rising 2.9% compared to an inflation rate of 1.3%, according to a new report from

AARP's Public Policy Institute (PPI).

The average annual cost for one brand name medication used on a regular basis was over \$6,600, more than \$1,500 higher than in 2015. For the typical older American taking 4-5 prescription drugs per month, the annual cost of therapy would have been more than \$31,000 last year, more than the nearly \$30,000 average annual income for Medicare beneficiaries.

"It's inexcusable that even during a pandemic and financial crisis, brand name drug companies continued to increase their prices so much faster than the prices of other goods and services," said Debra Whitman, Executive Vice President and Chief Public Policy Officer at AARP. "No one should be forced to choose between paying their bills and paying for the medicine they need to stay healthy. Our leaders need to take action now to lower drug prices."

Although 2020 had the slowest average annual price increase since at least 2006, it was still more than twice the rate of inflation and followed several years with considerably higher average annual price increases. AARP analyzed how these price trends accumulated over time and found that the average annual cost of drug therapy for one brand name drug used regularly would have been almost \$3,700 lower in 2020 if retail price changes had been limited to inflation between 2006 and 2020. These cost increases have had significant impact on medications used to treat common chronic conditions.

Between 2015 and 2020, the retail prices of several widely used prescription drugs used to treat diabetes increased, such as Victoza, which increased from \$7,936 per year in 2015 to \$11,300 in 2020, and Trulicity, which increased from \$6,567 to \$9,323 over the same time period.

- Medications for asthma and COPD also continued climbing in costs, such as Spiriva Handihaler, which increased from \$3,886 per year in 2015 to \$5,289 per year in 2020, and Symbicort, which increased from \$3,391 to \$4,282 over the same time period.

Drug price increases also play a major role in Medicare Part D spending. A second AARP PPI analysis found that, between 2015 and 2019, Medicare Part D spent nearly \$40 billion more on 50 top brand name drugs that was solely attributable to drug price increases that exceeded inflation. Medicare Part D spending for the top 50 drugs would have totaled \$250.8 billion over the study period—instead of \$289.1 billion—if price changes had been limited to the rate of general inflation.

"On average, nearly 90% of the top 50 brand name drugs had annual price increases that exceeded the corresponding rate of inflation from 2015 through 2019," said Leigh Purvis, Director Health Care Costs and Access, AARP Public Policy Institute, and co-author of the reports. "It's unfair that drug prices keep rising, even for medications that have been on the market for decades. Americans can't afford to keep paying the highest drug prices in the world."

AARP has been at the forefront of calling on national and state lawmakers to take action to lower prescription drug prices and is pushing for support on a number of federal policy solutions, including:

- Price Negotiation: Allow Medicare to negotiate the prices of prescription drugs for its beneficiaries and allow other insurers to have access to the Medicare-negotiated prices.
- Inflation Based Rebates: Require drug manufacturers to pay a penalty when their prices for prescription drugs covered by Medicare Parts B and D increase faster than inflation.
- Out-of-Pocket Cap: Create a hard out-of-pocket spending cap for Medicare Part D enrollees.

"Remember the Spotlight"

Do you have a centenarian in your local Unit that is a member of NARSP or a member that will be reaching that milestone in the very near future? Plan to submit an article about that individual along with their picture to Robert Bussmann for inclusion in a future issue of the NARSP Newsletter so the "Spotlight on a 100-Year-Old Member" can be turned on!

**The news articles for
the Spring Issue of the
NARSP Newsletter are
due by Friday,
February 11, 2022.**

the Search continues for...

Nebraska Association of Retired School Personnel NARSP Executive Director Major Responsibilities

Leadership

- Assumes a supporting role in working with all elected offices and committees of the Association.
- Provides input to the Executive Board in formulating and implementing board policies. Serves as a member of the Executive Board.
- Provides direction in working with outside agencies (i.e. NRTA, AARP Nebraska, AMBA, etc.)
- Provides leadership to the Executive Board in arranging for and scheduling of Board and committee meetings.
- Provides leadership in arranging format, site and date for the Association's Annual Board of Directors' Meeting and any special events.
- Works with the Executive Board of the Association in developing training workshops and resources for local units.

Administration

- Coordinates with NARSP Treasurer the investment of NARSP funds and the annual audit of those funds.
- Operates with conformity of current NARSP Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules.
- Serves as the liaison to AMBA and coordinates with the AMBA web administrator to keep the NARSP website up to date.
- Serves as the liaison to NRTA and AARP Nebraska.
- Serves as the liaison to ASRTE (Association of State and Retired Teachers Executives).
- Be present at all meetings of the Executive Board.
- Assist in expanding membership.
- Monitors legislation in other states that may be relevant to Nebraska retirees.

Legislative Affairs

- Works with the Legislative Chairperson and/or the Coalition (NARSP, NSEA Retired, NSEA, AARP Nebraska, etc.) in preparing and implementing the annual Association's legislative priorities.
- Lobbies Legislature as required (letters, Legislative Hearings, personal contact).
- Provides information to the Legislative Chairperson (and/or Unit Presidents and Unit Legislative contacts) on all legislative matters affecting retired school employees.

Public Relations

- Available to all local units and outside organizations/agencies as a spokesperson for the Association.
- Works to publicize the programs, activities and projects of the Association.
- Serves as the editor of the NARSP Newsletter published twice yearly.

Budget and Fiscal Matters

- Provides assistance and guidance to the Executive Board in developing the annual budget commensurate with goals and programs of the Association.
- Adheres to the annual budget and Association programs.
- Monitors with NARSP Treasurer adherence in travel, hotel, and meal expenses.

Technology Applications

- Is knowledgeable of, and competent in, computer applications necessary to run the day-to-day operations of the Association and its computer system.
- Procures the necessary office equipment to provide for the effective and efficient operations of the Association.

Other Responsibilities

- Communication of pertinent information, programs, and dates/deadlines from NRTA to the local Unit Presidents and Executive Board members.
- Facilitate the NARSP Active Educators Scholarship Program with the local Units.
- Represent the Association at NRTA Conferences and Workshops (i.e. Advocacy Conference, Executive Directors and State Presidents Leadership Conference, etc. – hotel, meals, and travel expenses typically paid by AARP/NRTA)
- Represent the Association at the Biennial “AMBA Roundup” (hotel, meals, and travel expenses typically paid by AMBA)
- The Executive Director will be a member of ASRTE and attend all national ASRTE meetings when possible at his or her own expense NARSP will pay the membership fee for the Executive Director to belong to ASRTE.
- Participate when possible in conference calls, Zoom Meetings, webinars, etc. offered by NRTA, AARP Nebraska, and AMBA.

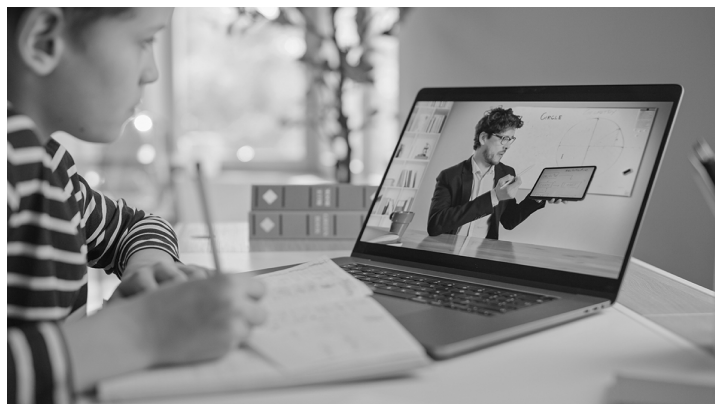
As noted in the NARSP Bylaws, the Executive Director is a voluntary position appointed by the Executive Board and shall serve at the pleasure of the board.

[*] If another individual would assume the responsibilities as the editor of the NARSP Newsletter, the Executive Director would then serve as an advisor to the editor.

Contact Bob Bussmann or Wauneta Peterson for additional info, interest, or suggesting potential candidates.

NARSP Newsletter Editor

The NARSP Newsletter is published at least twice yearly (usually a Spring Issue and Summer Issue). Copycat Printing in Grand Island, NE does the printing and mailing of the newsletter. Jeri Lorenz is the contact at Copycat for NARSP and does the layout of the newsletter. The local Units submit their Reports and related pictures following the NARSP Newsletter Guidelines directly to Jeri. This would also include an article for the “Spotlight” when a Unit member celebrates their 100th birthday. The office holder would submit secretary’s minutes and treasurer’s reports to Jeri. Columns from the executive director and/or the president would be submitted either to Jeri or the editor. The editor would be responsible for submitting to Jeri any information/articles from AMBA, NRTA, and AARP; any feature articles; pictures; carry-over items from the previous issue (i.e. NARSP Officers, NRTA Staff, Facebook, AMBA, etc.); and any specific graphics you may wish to include. Jeri also will select graphics where needed to fill space when doing the layout. When the layout of the newsletter is completed a proof copy would be sent to the editor for review and any needed edits. Any needed edits would be communicated back to Jeri. The entire process for publishing an issue could range from four to six weeks. If you have questions or need additional information contact Bob Bussmann.



...from NRTA in the Know

Goldberg Joins NRTA to Support Retired Educator Advocacy

Adam Goldberg has joined NRTA as a senior legislative representative.

Adam is highly experienced on legislative and regulatory issues, and will be a tremendous asset for Retired Educator Associations (REAs).

Prior to joining NRTA in June of 2021, Adam spent more than 16 years in AARP's Government Affairs department helping AARP's offices in every state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands on their state and local level advocacy. The issues he's covered include consumer rights, financial security, transportation, housing, elections and voting rights, energy, telecommunications, and caregiving.

"Adam brings a wealth of experience to NRTA," said Al Campos, NRTA Director. "He is well-positioned to guide REA leaders to craft and deploy advocacy campaigns that get results. We know that pensions and healthcare remain priority issues for retired educators, and we stand ready with Adam to help protect those earned benefits."

Prior to joining AARP, Adam worked for Consumers Union, the independent, non-profit publisher of Consumer Reports, where he lobbied the federal government on consumer issues. He has also worked as a legislative assistant to a member of Congress covering a variety of legislative and regulatory issues, as well as for a federally funded non-profit corporation, and a member of the Maryland House of Delegates. Adam is a graduate of Miami University, with a B.A. in political science and sociology. He also holds a J.D. from the Syracuse University College of Law.

Adam can be reached at 202.434.3917 and agoldberg@aarp.org.



"Fall Back!"
Daylight Savings Time
ends on
Sunday, November 7

"LIKE" NARSP on Facebook

Have you joined Facebook yet? If not, you are missing out. Recently you could have seen the following items that were posted:

- Who, What, When, Where for local area meetings
- Posts that are informative for retired individuals
- Stories that bring back memories
 - Pictures
- and much more

Do you need help getting on?

You can ask questions from wanda.samson@gmail.com or jkletke@q.com if you write one of us. Don't be afraid of facebook. If you don't want to connect with anyone else, don't "friend" them or "like" a group...except NARSP, of course!

www.facebook.com/NRTA.NE

Find us on 

Do you have questions regarding your pension benefits?
Do you need additional information or need to schedule an appointment about your pension benefits?
Have you changed your address? Contact NPERS:

Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems

1526 K Street, Suite 400

P.O. Box 94816

Lincoln, NE 68509-4816

Phone 402-471-2053

Toll Free 800-245-5712

npers.ne.gov



Unicameral Update

The first session of the 107th Nebraska Legislature concluded in late May. This was a 90-day session. There were a total of 684 new Legislative Bills introduced by the Senators.

Of interest to our membership was LB 64 introduced by Senator Brett Lindstrom, Omaha. Earlier in the session the Revenue Committee heard testimony on the bill and eventually advanced the bill to the Legislature for debate. The bill would reduce taxation of Social Security income in Nebraska over several years with the intention of eliminating it entirely. LB 64 passed on a vote of 41-0 and was signed into law by Governor Pete Ricketts.

LB 64 sets the exemption on such income, to the extent that it is included in federal adjusted gross income, at 5 percent in the year 2021. The exemption will increase to 20 percent in 2022 and then rise 10 percent per year until reaching 50 percent in tax year 2025. The bill states legislative intent to continue incremental reduction of the tax – reaching 100 percent exemption in tax year 2030 – but passage of new legislation will be required to complete the process.

The Unicameral will return in mid-September for a special session tackling the issue of redistricting legislative, congressional and other governing districts throughout the state.



BENEFITS STILL FIT?

TIME TO EXPAND YOUR COVERAGE.

As your life changes, consider some of these benefits and discounts from **NARSP & AMBA**:

- Dental & Vision Insurance
- Long-Term Care
- Home Health Care
- MASA (Air and Ground Ambulance Plan)
- Cancer, Heart & Stroke Policy
- Accident Policy
- Medicare Supplement Policy
- Easy Issue Life Policy
- Tax Deferred Annuity
- Hearing Benefits
- Discounts on Travel, Dining & more

Learn more: **1-877-556-4582**

myambabenefits.info/narsp

NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL



NARSP Annual Board of Directors' Meeting

The Annual Board of Directors' Meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 29, 2021, 11:30 a.m. CDT at Sheridan Lutheran Church, South 70th Street & Old Cheney Road, in Lincoln, Nebraska.

- A box lunch will be provided each attendee
 - Each Unit is allotted two representatives (President & Vice-President; Co-Presidents; President & another Unit Officer/Committee Chair/or/Member)
 - Estimated Meeting Conclusion, 3:00 p.m.
 - More information and registration will be sent to the Unit Presidents in August
- Tentative meeting agenda items of consideration will

include:

- Memorial Service for Departed Members
- Presentations and Reports
- Selection of members (from the Board) for the 2022 NARSP Nominating Committee
- Election of NARSP Secretary and Treasurer for 2021-2023 (Installation of the same)
- Approval of the proposed 2021-2022 NARSP Budget
- Awards

There is the potential of additional items being added to the agenda between the printing of the Newsletter and holding the annual meeting date.

Have you joined us on Facebook yet?

If not, you are missing out. On this page you will find postings such as:

- Local area meetings (contact wanda.samson@gmail.com with information for your unit)
- Posts that are informative for retired individuals
 - Humorous posts
 - and much more

Do you need help getting on? Contact wanda.samson@gmail.com to get help.

www.facebook.com/NRTA.NE

Find us on 

REMINDER

It would be appreciated if local Units and individuals would regularly notify Nancy Johnson, NARSP Treasurer, of the name(s) of NARSP members who have changed addresses or passed away. This will help with keeping an updated membership/ mailing list as well as a listing of the necrology for the 2020-21 Memorial Service Program. **If you have not already done so, names of members who have passed since the last memorial service need to be submitted to Nancy by Tuesday, August 31 to be included in the memorial program.**

Nancy Johnson
NARSP Treasurer
12777 "A" Street
Omaha, NE 68144
or Nancy.Johnson5@cox.net

NARSP



Find us on 

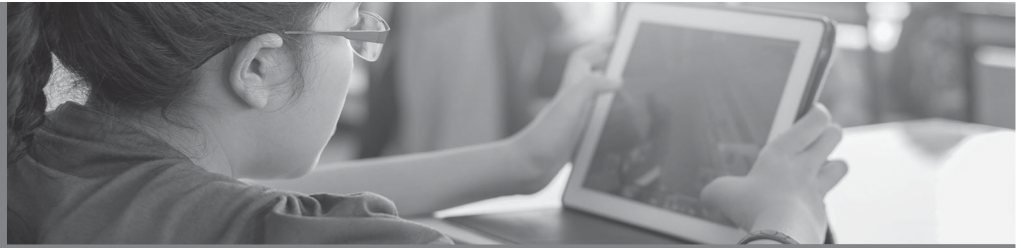
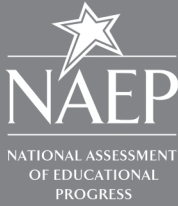
Remember to LIKE us on
www.facebook.com/NRTA.NE



ASSOCIATION MEMBER
BENEFITS ADVISORS

800.258.7041

<http://myambabenefits.info/narsp>



2022

Short-Term Job Opportunity

With the National Assessment of Educational Progress

What is NAEP?

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), often called The Nation's Report Card, is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what students in public and private schools in the United States know and are able to do in various subjects. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education, NAEP has been conducted since 1969 and is often considered the "gold standard" in large-scale assessments.

Required qualifications

- U.S. citizen
- High school diploma or GED
- Available for required online and in-person training
- Available to work during school hours, when work is available, between January 24 and March 11, 2022
- Willing to complete background check requirements, including an FBI fingerprint check
- Access to broadband internet connection and personal, private email account
- Valid driver's license, not currently under suspension, and regular access to an insured, reliable vehicle to travel to and from assigned schools
- Able to lift and carry up to 20 pounds, with or without reasonable accommodation

Tell me more about this opportunity!

NAEP is conducted between the last week in January and the first week in March every other (even) year, employing thousands of staff. NAEP has short-term opportunities at various positions to work on this important study of U.S. education. Job assignments begin in late 2021 and last until March 2022.

The data collection window may be extended due to weather or other delays.

Responsibilities include

- Administering assessment sessions in schools with tablets; and
- Ensuring quality control by following NAEP procedures.

Westat offers

- Paid training;
- Paid time and mileage reimbursement for local driving from home to schools and back; and
- Weekly paychecks (with direct deposit).

How do I find out more about this opportunity?

Visit <http://www.WorkNAEP.com> and provide your name and email. You will be contacted via email when the application is available with instructions on how to apply.

Candidates should

- Enjoy working in schools
- Be detail-oriented
- Be able to work in a team environment
- Have good communication skills and be comfortable working with technology

Prior education or research experience is a plus. Ideal for retired educators.



Monitoring your health status, wearing appropriate Personal Protective Equipment while in schools, and following all safety protocols is mandatory for field staff. Obtaining a COVID-19 vaccination is strongly recommended and may be required in some locations.

Westat: EOE, including disability/veterans

For more information about Westat, visit www.westat.com

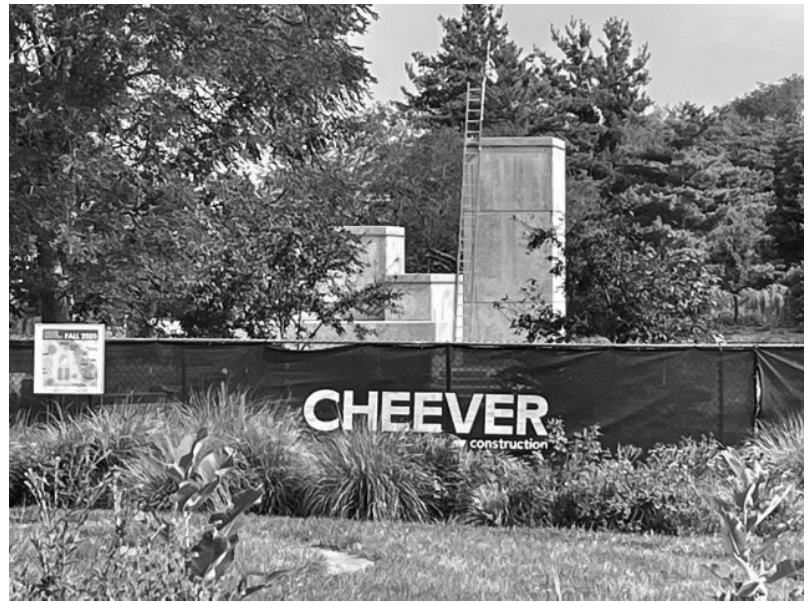
Cascade Fountain Update

A screened fence surrounds the area of the Cascade Fountain and the refurbishing project continues behind that screen.

For the Cascade Honor Roll more than 350 educators will be included in the inaugural class.

Throughout 2020, mainly due to the pandemic's impact on the supply chain, the cost of both materials and labor associated with the renovation of the Cascade Fountain increased. While the project was able to raise funding to fill the gap, the timeline for the project had to be adjusted. It is anticipated that construction will last eight months.

A celebration and dedication of the restored Cascade Fountain and its beautiful surroundings will be in the spring of 2022.



"A Look Back In Time"

TELLING TALES Out of School is a collection of articles describing highlights of teaching experiences of retired teachers of Nebraska. This book was a bicentennial book for the "Pride in America Project" of the National Retired Teachers Association (NRTA) in 1976. The Nebraska State Retired Teachers Association (NSRTA) decided to publish a book of 164 articles out of the 294 submitted. There was room for only 164. Fifty-two towns were represented in the book. The Nebraska book represents the combined efforts of many individuals. One of the 164 articles is included for "A Look Back In Time"...



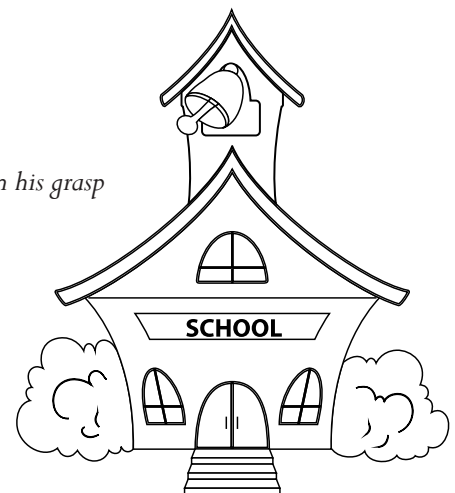
"FLASHBACKS"

Evadena Peterson, York

What a chain of memories came flooding into my mind the day I was compiling a list of items needed to restore a rural schoolhouse. There came at random memories of:

- gingham-clad girls and tousle-haired lads in overalls trudging down the dusty road to school*
- neat rows of graduated desks*
- the open water pail with its community dipper*
- the long row of assorted lunch buckets on the shelf beside it*
- the array of outer wraps hung on hooks, accompanied by the clutter of overshoes on the floor below*
- the welcomed heat exuding from the big stove in the middle of the room*
- chubby hands of first graders carefully tracing with kernels of corn their names chalked on their desks*
- the excitement of the long awaited school program and box supper*
- the near panic caused by unexpected storms*
- the intimidation of younger children by the school bully*
- the adoration of the teacher by the younger folk*
- the loving care tendered them by the older students*
- the dandelion chains made at recess time in the first days of spring*
- the rousing games of baseball played by all ages in the fall*
- the fox and goose ring trampled in the snow by eager feet*
- the grassy mound over the storm cellar near the schoolhouse*
- the commotion caused by an errant wasp or bee during school hours*
- the hysterical flight of the girls when pursued by a classmate with a wriggling snake in his grasp*
- the frenzied preparation for the county spelling contest*

These are but a few of the scenes that flashed cross my memory screen. Ah, nostalgia!



NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL

Executive Board Meeting Minutes, July 12, 2021

The Green Gateau Restaurant - Lincoln, NE

The Nebraska Association of Retired School Personnel Executive Board meeting was held at The Green Gateau Restaurant in Lincoln, NE July 12, 2021. Members present were Bob Bussmann, Executive Director; Wauneta Peterson, President; Billie Bussmann, Secretary; and Nancy Johnson, Treasurer.

Wauneta Peterson called the meeting to order at 12:40 p.m.

The minutes of the March 29, 2021 Executive Board Meeting were approved as printed.

The treasurer's report indicated a June checkbook balance of \$12,927.45. The checkbook balance and other monies as of June 1, 2021 are \$61,055.41.

NARSP Membership totals 980. Unit membership includes paid members 475 and honorary lifetime members 55 for a total of 530. With membership renewal online through the NARSP website has made it very convenient for membership payment of dues.

There were no additional agenda items added.

In Bob's Executive Director Report he has been contacted to cancel membership. This now must go through AMBA to check on credit card payments, Bob is working with Jeannie Coffey to accomplish the cancellations.

There will be an information sheet in the upcoming newsletter about the NAEP testing and looking for retired educators to help in administering the test.

Bob completed the REA State Profile Survey. The annual survey helps NRTA to gather information about our organization and operation. The NRTA Advocacy Conference usually held every two years in Washington DC will be via Zoom October 19 to 22 with two days from 11 to 5. The other two days have been set to schedule Zoom meetings with the congressional delegation from our state. Jan Barnason will also participate.

There has been no information about the AMBA Roundup that is usually held in the fall.

Postage, if approved, will increase to 58 cents on August 29.

It is time to send articles for the summer NARSP Newsletter to Jeri in Grand Island. The newsletter will be mailed sometime in August.

AMBA is scheduled to email dental and vision information to new retirees.

Under unfinished business several names were mentioned for the offices of Vice-President, Secretary, Newsletter Editor and Executive Director. Bob will contact these individuals. It is imperative for people to step up and fill these positions for the organization to maintain its presence in Nebraska.

The Educational Service Award was discussed and there will be a presentation at the NARSP State Board of Directors Meeting this fall.

New business began with the selection of the NARSP

Scholarships for 2021-2022. There were seven semi-finalist applications from five units. Each board member had previously ranked the scholarship applications. Wauneta moved moved and Nancy seconded the scholarship recipients will be Clarissa Ross from the Southeast Nebraska Unit and Dacia Beyke from the Wayne Unit. Motion passed.

Bob presented the proposed 2021-2022 NARSP Budget. Discussion followed. The budget will be presented to the Board of Directors for approval.

Bob presented some ideas for the annual meeting. It was hoped we might be able to meet at the Lincoln Children's Zoo and visit the Cascade Fountain. Other suggestions were Valentinos on South 70th or Sheridan Lutheran Church where LARSP has its meetings. Bob will look into those locations.

Several dates were suggested toward the end of September and the first part of October. The Preference was September 28 or 29. Bob will check and see where and what date will work for the meeting. The time would be 11:30 a.m.

Several suggestions for food at the meeting were suggested. Because of COVID the decision was to have a boxed lunch from Hy-Vee with bottled water and coffee. The cost will be covered by NARSP.

The meeting will consist of a memorial service; minutes and treasurer's reports; presentations by AMBA and AARP; reports of membership, community service, nominations for secretary and treasurer; executive director; selection of a nominating committee; election of officers; presentation of the proposed budget; and awards of scholarship, NARSP Awards, membership traveling awards and installation of officers.

The next Executive Board Meeting will be early September if needed via conference call.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Billie Carole Bussmann, NARSP Secretary





UNIT REPORTS



~ FREMONT AREA ~

The Fremont Area Association of Retired School Personnel has continued to stay busy this year. Our January meeting was cancelled for safety and health reasons. We were happy to get some what back on track for our March and May meetings. Our Covid rules applied at these two meetings. This was alright as we were



Scholarship winners were presented to the FAARSP membership during their July meeting. On the left and right-Wanda Samson and Sharon Carlson are scholarship committee members. Katelyn Johnson center left and Shannon Engel center right hold their scholarship certificates. Both completed their studies at Fremont High School.

At the May meeting, Shonda Shirley took over the reins as coordinator of CHAD (combined health agencies drive). She will oversee the donation process of the membership. Last year \$16,720.10 was raised for CHAD charities. We have built the mountain high for this year but we are up for the challenge in our 9th year. Shonda passed out the new drug prescription cards that members can use to save money on their medications.

Our Board voted to continue our drive thru collections for the LifeHouse/Loe Income donations for the needy. We will continue our regular donations on our meeting months and the op-

posite months we will hold a drive thru. These will be for specific items needed by the Low Income. We have been able to collect around 300 pounds of needed items each time.

Linda Betkie was elected and joined the Board this year as Communication Director. She has been doing a fabulous job for us. We also want to thank Mary Jane Thulin and Kathy Cahill for all their leadership and service given FAARSP as past presidents and past communication directors. Job well done ladies.



Jo Mitteis, center receives her Outstanding Service Award from committee chair Rhoda Holstine. Nancy Morris on the right looks on during the presentation. Committee member, Rosanne Placek was absent. Jo also received a 50.00 check as part of the award.

posite months we will hold a drive thru. These will be for specific items needed by the Low Income. We have been able to collect around 300 pounds of needed items each time.

Sadness has come to FAARSP three times so far this year. Alma Totusek, Vlasta Kavan and Ruby Hartmann all passed away leaving us after many years of service to area children, community and our association.

Veterans in care centers will again be receiving their Christmas bags full of goodies and other useful items. They will also receive their valentine goodies in February. The Christmas bags are all packed and ready to go. We can hardly wait to visit with and make the deliveries in person this year. The flood in 2019 and Covid in 2020-2021 have slowed us down but not stopped us. Members continue to collect used stamps that are sent to Stamps for the Wounded. These stamps are used for therapy and hobbies for the veterans.

After communication with our host church we were so happy to be able to have our July meeting with a luncheon being served. WOW, the start of something normal for us. This was our awards meeting for our scholarship winners and outstanding service award winner. Shannon Engel and Katelyn Johnson of Fremont High School were our scholarship winners. Jo Mitteis was awarded our outstanding service award. Rhoda Holstine Rosanne Placek and Nancy Morris made up the service award selection committee.

Received word from our volunteer hours coordinators Mary Saggau and Rosie Vogt that a total of 2,414 hours were turned in for a value of \$68,895.56. Each hour was valued at \$28.54.



Norma Register on the right, chair of the Holiday Meals Drive, makes Wanda Samson smile as she presents her with five \$100.00 bills to help this program for the needy. FAARSP will be helping 13 families this year.



Some of the membership of FAARSP posed for a group picture after their July meeting. With the floods of 2019 and the Covid of 2020-2021 the group had not been able to get any kind of group picture until now.

Sandra Hansen won split the pot, Andy Bongiovanni won the free lunch and Jane Hall won the free membership. Wendy Brenner, presented the craft item she created for the "Bridge" holiday fund raiser from FAARSP.

Jo Mitteis requested to leave her position as publicity coordinator after 23 years. Beth Radtke has accepted the challenge of taking over this position. We thank Jo for all she did and thank Beth for stepping up. Norma Register, holiday meals coordinator, presented Wanda Samson, financial director, with five \$100.00 bills for FAARSP community donation. Every little donation added up this year. The associations contribution will provide 13 meals this year.

FAARSP accepted the challenge and request for help in the process of a major project in coordination with the DAV Joseph Bales Chapter #18. This is a compilation of the 65 plus year history of the DAV(Disabled American Veterans). A committee has been working on this since January. Four members have been able to keep the continuity of the project intact which was difficult at first with all the long working meetings. The committee members still working are Linda Betkie, Laree Skelton, Sandra Hansen and Ruth Register. Linda Betkie, our computer whiz, says it best when she said this work is just a small thing compared to the sacrifices our men and women veterans have made for us.

Our next meeting will be September 8th. Our host church is still on some restrictions on serving luncheons so the membership voted to brown bag their lunch for that meeting. We will wear our red, white and blue for Patriots day. School supplies will be brought for our donation item.

As I have said before, it is time to roll up our sleeves to continue old projects and begin new ones. Thank you FAARSP members from the new ones to the veteran ones. You all play an important part in our strength and success. We love you all

Submitted by Ruth Register, President-FAARSP

~ HASTINGS AREA ~

HARSP was affected by the pandemic as was everyone else. We were however able to continue with our altruism project of providing supplies for the Hastings Middle School Pantry throughout the year.

Starting in January, HARSP members were able to meet once again thanks to the ESU#9. We met in their conference room with safety measures in place. Our January program was presented by Drew Harris, Director of ESU#9. He spoke to us about how schools were handling issues with the COVID pandemic. In March Dr. Jerry Wallace, President of Central Community College, and two of his staff members informed us about some of the programs at CCC. At our May meeting Randy Dill told us about his work at Duncan Aviation in Lincoln. Randy is the son of HARSP member Donna Dill.



*Sue Miller, Treasurer and
Jeanie Wood, Secretary*

Ruth Schmer, Ruth Nelson, and Glenda Kress.

Donna Dill was recognized and thanked for serving as HARSP treasurer for 13 years.

Plans are currently being made for our Annual New Retirees Luncheon to be held on July 26.

The May meeting also saw the installation of two new officers: Sue Miller, Treasurer and Jeanie Wood, Secretary.

A memorial service led by Sue Miller honored members who had passed away in the past two years. Those members were June Bentz, Dixie Tripe, Elaine Lam-ski, Rita Jaworski, Jim Nemetz,



*Donna Dill, HARSP treasurer
for 13 years.*

~ LINCOLN AREA ~

The Lincoln branch of NARSP is excitedly looking forward to restarting meetings in September and planning a "Happy New Year" gathering then.

The following officers will continue to serve in their original capacities: Pam Ford and Jan Stamper - co-presidents and Bob and Billie Bussmann as secretary and treasurer. Gretchen Terpsma will continue as vice-president and program chairperson.

Even though we were unable to meet, \$1000 scholarships were awarded to: Aya Bono and Dean Wiegert 2020, and Mynah Anderson and Olivia Nelson for 2021. They will be recognized at our September meeting.

Philanthropic donations of \$300 were made to the following organizations in March: Cedars, Child Advocacy, Friendship Home, I've Got a Name, Lighthouse, and Willie's Underwear Project.

Volunteer hours will also be recognized at our September meeting. Our mayor, Leirion Gaylor Baird, will be our guest speaker as well as honoring our group's accomplishments.

In September Golden Apple awards will be presented to Judy Strand and Barb Hetcko for their help on the scholarship committee this past year.

The quilting interest group of LARSP made and donated a "Library Book Shelf" themed quilt/wallhanging as a money raiser. Raffle tickets have been sold for several months, and the drawing will be held at our November meeting.

The custodial staff at Sheridan Lutheran will also be recognized as Friends of LARSP for their help at our meetings. They are: Mark Vollmer, Jeremy Vannier, Phil Hobbs, and Haifa Hameed.

We are planning to honor Gretchen Terpsma for the Community Service Recognition in October.

We plan to honor our Past Presidents in November and in December have a necrology/memorial service for those members that had passed in 2020 and 2021.

Hopefully, we will be caught up with all events by the end of the year that were postponed due to the pandemic. And, hopefully, we won't have to endure something of that magnitude again!

~ OMAHA AREA ~

It is hard to believe, but our last OARSEA general meeting was on February 27th, 2020. We have missed getting together and plan to do so in August, 2021. Our Board is planning our activities for the year.

Linda Hammer, Secretary of OARSEA

~ SCOTTSBLUFF AREA ~

The Scottsbluff Area Retired School Personnel has been on hold since March of 2020. Many of our members have been affected by the pandemic. Since we are all continuing to age and our group has lost many members, we are uncertain what the future holds. We are planning a meeting in September to determine if interest remains and if there are members to fill leadership positions left empty with the death of Kent and Karon Harvey, Leone Carlson, and Alice Reuter. They were all faithful members and have left a big gap. Other members are facing health challenges that will keep them from attending.

A big thanks to Executive Director Bob Bussmann and others who have served faithfully over the years. We will look forward to meeting in person at the Annual Meeting of the NARSP Board of Directors this fall.

Twila Griffiths, SARSP President

~ SOUTHEAST NE AREA ~

Greetings from Southeast Nebraska! It is great to be able to share that we have held a couple of meetings this year. Like many others, due to the Pandemic, we needed to cancel meetings. Our organization met in April and May this year. We decided to skip the luncheons and just have a dessert meeting.

In April our members met at the First United Methodist Church in Falls City. Vice-President Jan Thompson led the meeting. Due to health issues, President Ann Meinzer could not

complete her term as President. She has been a dedicated and active member of our group. Her commitment was recognized when she received the NARSP Big Apple Award. A donation was made to our local food pantry. Our members commended the extra effort put forth by all our teachers during this very challenging year.

Our May meeting was also held at the First United Methodist Church. It was noted that our organization received recognition for having volunteered over 2400 hours of community service. The scholarship committee worked very hard reviewing applicants for our teacher scholarship. It was reported that Reyana Tgetmeier, who attends Pawnee City Public Schools, is this year's recipient of the \$750 award. Reyana, who comes from a long line of teachers, will be attending Colorado Christian University in Lakewood, Colorado. She will be pursuing a degree in English Secondary Education. According to Reyana, "Everyone deserves

to tell their story, and as a teacher, I hope to help my students learn how to share theirs." Reyana was unable to attend the meeting and was presented her award by scholarship committee members Sharon Bogle and Trudy Fankhauser.

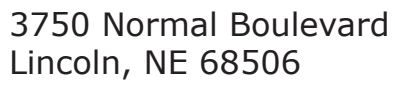


Reyana Tgetmeier being presented with the SNARSP Scholarship by Sharon Bogle and Trudy Fankhauser.

Also at our May meeting, a new slate of officers was presented and voted upon. They are as follows: President: June Bowers, Vice-President: Jan Thompson, Secretary: Deb Harris, Treasurer: Glenda Nelson. We are all excited to meet again in September and will work towards inviting newly retired teachers to join this fun group!

Submitted by Deb Harris, Secretary, SNARSP





PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
GRAND ISLAND, NE
PERMIT NO. 28

EDUCATION

