



The  
JCEA-R

# Connection

The Official Publication of the Jefferson County Education Association—Retired

Published Quarterly: September, December, March, June

## New dates for your Calendar !

### March 16

St Patrick's Day at Clancy's

### March 26 (deadline March 20)

"Phantom of the Music Hall"  
Heritage Square Music Hall

### April 1

Pre-Retirement Seminar

### April 4 (deadline March 28)

Table Mountain Inn plus  
Foothills Art Center

### April 14

### Spring JCEA-R Meeting

### April 28 (deadline April 10)

Miners Alley Playhouse plus  
Woody's Pizza

### May 9 (deadline May 1)

Cussler Rare Car Museum

### June 7 (deadline May 5)

"Music Man"  
Boulder Dinner Theater

### July 15

Frontier Days Train Excursion

## JCEA-R Officers

**Donna Johnson** - President

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## President's Message

Our spring membership meeting will be held on **Friday, April 14**, at the **Trade Unions Hall**, 7510 West Mississippi Avenue. We will meet from **9:30 to 11:30 am** and brunch will be served. This location is just east of the southeast corner of Mississippi and Wadsworth.

Congratulations to the following JCEA-R members who were elected delegates to the 2006 CEA Delegate Assembly: *Raoul Bates, Marge Bozarth, Dale Gatz, Charlotte Green, Donna Johnson, Gail Knowles, Dick Lansford, Andrea Luethge, Esther Noriega, John Noriega, Shirley Sternola and Barb Thielemann.* *Dick Lansford* will also be a delegate to the NEA Representative Assembly in Florida this summer.

JCEA-R has reached the 350 membership mark--in fact, we are at 356 members according to CEA's January 1 membership report. Thank you, *Lou Ann Elliott*, Membership Chairperson, for your diligence and hard work in this area.

PERA continues to be in the headlines and on the TV newscasts. There is a strong possibility that a ballot initiative that would put all new public employees in a defined contribution plan and make it easier to cut benefits to remaining PERA members who have not yet retired will be proposed for this November. Another component could be changing the composition of the PERA Board of Trustees from elected members to appointed members. Who sits on the PERA Board of Trustees has a great impact on us as retirees. If enough valid signatures are gained in circulating petitions for such an initiative, it could be on the ballot. *Meredith Williams*, Executive Director of PERA, advises us to be careful what we sign outside our neighborhood grocery stores in the upcoming months and to communicate with our elected state legislators about the importance of our PERA retirement to us and our families.

See you on April 14th!!!

Donna Johnson

President

Beginning September 1, *Joan Holden* will be taking a new assignment at CEA as coordinator of CEA's Bargaining Program and will no longer be serving as NECU Director or as staff liaison to CEA-Retired Advisory Council. Joan will still be at CEA and working around the state, and says this isn't "goodbye" but only "let's try something new." We thank her for all her work and wish her luck with this new challenge.

— **Notes from your Membership Chairman** —

We are at an all time high with 362 members! Please keep finding those who have slipped through all of our communications and either have not renewed this year or just haven't joined since retiring. We'll soon be recruiting new members from the "retiring this year ranks"! We all need to work on bringing in new members, and I do appreciate everyone's efforts.

One more reminder - the time is running out for you to join Lifetime NEA and save \$100. The NEA portion of dues will double this summer. If you are an annual member, you can begin "up-grading" to Life status by sending me a check, made out to JCEA-R, for \$85.00. This will make you a Life member of NEA, saving you \$100. Then, later this summer, when memberships are renewed, you will only owe Life for CEA & JCEA-R, which you can complete over the next two years if you wish.

Be sure you explain this dues increase to any new members you recruit. New members should pay \$125 for the first year in order to protect themselves from the dues increase. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 303-423-5558 or [pinkroses3@comcast.net](mailto:pinkroses3@comcast.net). Thanks for all of your help!

Hugs,  
*Lou Ann Elliott*



— **Colorado Fund for Children and Public Education** —

Some retired CEA members contribute to The Colorado Fund for Children and Public Education every year. Many do not contribute. This year is an election year with a possibility of a ballot issue about PERA. I hope everyone can find a few dollars to elect friends of public education as requested on the green flyer that was enclosed with your CEA ballot. With PERA in a political crisis it is even more important to contribute to **The Fund**. If you lost the green flyer just send your check to CEA made out to CEA. Put **The Fund** on the me line. Thank you all for your continued support of the election of friends of education.

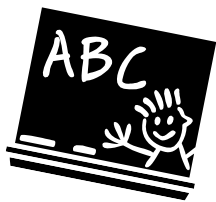
*Gail Knowles*  
PAC Representative



**Read Across America, 2006**

This year's **Read Across America** is **Thursday, March 2, 2006**. On the birth date of Theodore "Dr. Seuss" Geisel, volunteers and friends from JCEA-R and other service organizations read to students in over 22 Jefferson County elementary schools. Commitment for Read Across America is minimal—most readings last approximately one hour. This means a lot to students and your help is appreciated.

If you are an interested volunteer for **next** year, or if you have questions, please contact *Snow Lopez*, [snowful@netscape.com](mailto:snowful@netscape.com) or 303-238-3434. Please include your e-mail address and phone number. Participants do not have to be members of JCEA-R, so feel free to invite a friend who may not be aware of this opportunity to share your love of reading with children.



— **JCEA Members Help Louisiana Schools** —

A group of JCEA members and Kathy McMahon are going to **Abbeville, Louisiana** during spring break, **March 18-26**, to help out in the Vermilion Parish Schools. Abbeville is in southwest Louisiana, a couple hours west of New Orleans. They were hit hard by Hurricane Rita. They feel strongly that all the resources and volunteers have gone to New Orleans and they feel forgotten.

Three of their schools are re-opening the week of February 27<sup>th</sup>. The district has borrowed \$8.5 million to re-open these schools and they are worried they will not be compensated for this by FEMA.

We are also fundraising for the Abbeville teachers. The Jefferson Foundation has graciously allowed us to use their 501(c)(3) status. So, all donations are tax deductible. Anyone interested in making a donation should make the check payable to **The Jefferson Foundation**. In the memorandum line write: **Louisiana Teachers Project**. You should deliver these checks to JCEA and we will deposit them with the Foundation. You will get a tax receipt. The money you donate will go towards books and supplies for the teachers and students of Abbeville. For more information, call *Kathy McMahon* at JCEA.

— **Wild Bird Center** —

A big thanks to *Jeanne Duffy* who made arrangements for the **Wild Bird Center program** and WAC at Abruski's. Unfortunately, through no fault on Jeanne's part, the presenter at the Wild Bird Center became ill and didn't make any alternative arrangements for the presentation of the program so those of us who planned to go ended up having an early WAC at Abruski's. Jeanne did a quick yeoman's job notifying those who'd planned to be at the program but the lesson learned from this is that **it's VERY IMPORTANT that you leave your name and phone number when you R.S.V.P. and leave a message so those in charge of each program can contact you if anything changes.**

-**Discover Downunder** -

On Thursday, January 19, a very hardy group of members and guests braved the cold, snow and icy roads to spend the afternoon at Sydney Station Restaurant. They enjoyed a presentation by JCEA-R member *Pamela Kniss* of Discover Downunder Travel. Those attending were treated to a beautiful slide presentation and heard about a variety of travel options available for trips to New Zealand and Australia, a part of the world celebrating summer while we shivered in Colorado. Afterward, many stayed for dinner at the restaurant, choosing from meals typically Australian. If you were unable to attend and you have questions or would like more information about travel Downunder, contact Pamela at 303-300-0148.



**Out and About with  
JCEA-R**

Since the last issue of the Connections, the following members and guests attended JCEA-R events like the Holiday Luncheon at Mount Vernon Country Club, Discover Downunder Travel and ThAC at Sydney Station, Abruski's, and Hammond's Candy Factory: *Lavonne Angus, Sally and Ed Augden, Mary Ellen Bernhardt, Marge Bozarth, Dottie Brenner, Cheryl Busch, Carolyn Campbell, Joan Campbell, Ralph Cundiff, Jeanne Duffy and Phil Trettenero, Mae Davis, Lou Ann Elliott, Cherylene Evans, Betty Flaten, Bev Green, Charlotte Green, Bonnie Hayes, Diana Ives, Cal Johnson, Donna Johnson, Elaine Johnson, Linda Jurgemeyer, Phyllis Keith and her guest, Donna Kelley, Gail Knowles, Dick Lansford, Mary Ann and Dennis Larson, Jerry and Phyllis Lemons, Snow Lopez, Marilyn Mallander, Carol Messerly, Alice Muffly, Diane Mulvany, John Nelson, Adrean Pepper, LeAnn Pierson, Pamela Pegram, Janet Seston, Kathy Shofner, Shirley Sternola, Dee Talasek, Judy Turner, Merl Volk, and Peggy Waller.*

## Pre-Retirement Seminar

The Spring **Pre-Retirement Seminar** for all active JCEA members who are planning to retire in the next few years will be held at the Trade Unions Hall, 7510 West Mississippi Avenue on **Saturday, April 1, 2006** from 8:00 a.m. -12:00 noon. This is the second of two seminars we hold each year. The committee could use help with registration on Saturday, April 1, 2006. Contact *Gail Knowles* 303-428-0190 or [gknowles2@earthlink.net](mailto:gknowles2@earthlink.net)



## St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Please join us for our annual **St. Patrick's Day** celebration at **Clancy's**, 38th and Kipling, on **Thursday, March 16th** from 4:00 p.m. — ?? We'll enjoy green beer and goodies in the company of other retirees—this is one of our most popular annual events and you'll want to be a part of it!

**R**emember to contact possible new members and/or retirees to attend our activities. They deserve to join us for all the fun! And getting together whenever we want is one of the benefits of retirement!

JCEA-R and its affiliates does not assume responsibility for any liability to anyone participating in NEA-R, CEA-R or JCEA-R activities.



## JCEA-R/CARE Activities



**Boulder Dinner Theater:** 'The King and I' \$37.00 Wednesday, March 8  
5:30 p.m. Early Show **Deadline passed – REMINDER ONLY**

**Heritage Square Music Hall:** 'Phantom of the Music Hall' Sunday, March 26  
Noon brunch/show \$30.30 **Deadline: Monday, March 20**

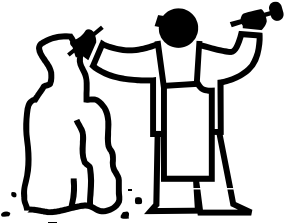
**Boulder Dinner Theater:** 'Music Man' Wednesday, June 7  
5:30 p.m. Early Bird \$37.00 **Deadline: Fri, May 5**

For CARE activities, send checks made payable to CARE to:  
CARE, 1235 W 124<sup>th</sup> Ave, Suite #101, Westminster, CO 80234 Attn: *Pat Baker*

**Deadline for the June JCEA-R Connection is May 15.**  
If you have suggestions or information to be included in the next issue, please contact the editor:

**Charlotte Green** 720-320-1721 or 970-378-7622 [char@unidial.com](mailto:char@unidial.com)

— Nuevo Arte of Santos —



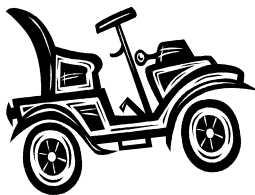
**Lunch at Table Mountain Inn**  
*Nuevo Arte of Santos*  
at Foothills Art Center  
April 4th, 11:30 a.m.

**April 4th**, we are gathering at the wonderful **Table Mountain Inn** for lunch at 11:30 a.m. and visiting **Foothills Art Center** to see the *Nuevo Arte of Santos* exhibit.

Jenny Cook has invited thirty of the country's best *santeros* (Spanish term for those artists who are woodcarvers of the saints) to each display a selection of their *santos* (the saints) and other sculptures. The works range from traditional Hispanic painted woodcarvings to cutting edge *santos* constructed from found objects. Call *Bonnie Hayes* (303-231-9981) by March 28th to make your lunch reservation.

Cussler Rare Car Museum

**Cussler Rare Car Museum**  
14959 W 69<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Arvada, CO 80007  
**Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m.**



**The Cussler Museum** showcases "best selling" author Clive Cussler's obsession with rare cars. Here's your chance to see a 1938 baby-blue Bugatti, 1955 Rolls Royce Silver Dawn and a lavender 1936 Avions Voisin. Admission is \$6.00

Join JCEA-R friends at the museum at 11:00 a.m. A map can be downloaded at [www.cusslermuseum.com](http://www.cusslermuseum.com)

We will follow the museum with lunch at **Malone's Clubhouse Grill**, 14455 W 64<sup>th</sup> Ave, (64<sup>th</sup> and Indiana) in Arvada.

R.S.V.P. to *Marilyn Mallander* by May 1<sup>st</sup> at [mmalland@comcast.net](mailto:mmalland@comcast.net) or 303-477-6327.



'Private Eyes'

**Miners Alley Playhouse**  
**Dinner at Woody's Pizza**  
April 28th, 5:30 p.m.

Join your fellow retirees for a fun evening of pizza and laughter **Friday, April 28th**. We will start with dinner at **Woody's Wood Fired Pizza** in downtown

Golden at 5:30 p.m. and then attend the 7:30 p.m. performance of '*Private Eyes*' in the **Miners Alley Playhouse**. This intimate theater is located upstairs over Foss Drugs. Theater tickets will cost \$18 and dinner is on your tab.

R.S.V.P. to *Bonnie Hayes* with your check by April 10, 3450 Estes St., Wheat Ridge, CO 80033, 303-231-9981.



Cheyenne  
Frontier Days  
Train Excursion

**Cheyenne Frontier Days Train Excursion**  
from Union Station  
**Saturday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m**

If you are interested in an all-day adventure to Cheyenne on the third Saturday of July, please contact *Bonnie Hegge* at [behegge@msn.com](mailto:behegge@msn.com) or 303-420-1101 to get your name on an advance list. Information comes out mid-April. Payment in full is needed in May before reservations open to the general public. The event has been sold out for the past thirteen years.

The cost last year was \$225.00. This included round-trip reserved seating on the train, a continental breakfast, catered barbecue lunch, reserved seats at the rodeo, bus shuttle to and from the fairgrounds and a light dinner on the return trip.



# The JCEA-R Connection

Jefferson County Education Association  
1050 Wadsworth Boulevard  
Lakewood, CO 80214

## JCEA-R OFFICERS:

Donna Johnson, *President*  
Lou Ann Elliott, *Vice-President*  
Marion Zietz, *Secretary*  
Marge Bozarth, *Treasurer*

## JCEA-R CONNECTION STAFF:

Charlotte Green, *Editor*  
Dexter Meyer, *Consultant*

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Spring 2006

**We're on the Web!**  
**[www.jcea-cea.org](http://www.jcea-cea.org)**



**Don't miss the Spring Membership Meeting.**  
**Friday, April 14, 2006**

**Trade Unions Hall**  
**7510 West Mississippi Avenue**

**9:30 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.**  
**Brunch will be served.**