



The JCEA-R Connection

The Official Publication of the Jefferson County Education Association—Retired

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Membership Hits 387!!

As of Valentine's Day, our membership is 387! Wow, we are doing very well! I'd still like to see us over 400, and I don't think that number is out of reach. I'm asking everyone to check with their friends and associates to be sure they have either joined or renewed their membership. With everyone's help, we should be able to reach our goal of 400 before the new retirees hit the "market" this spring!

Included in your copy of *The Connection* this time is an insert of new additions and changes for your **JCEA-R Directory**. These are people who did not get their renewals in on time, or have had changes in their information since the printing of the Directory. You can just remove the insert sheet and put it in your Directory. If you do not have a Directory, and want one, send me \$2.00 and I will send you one.

With the coming of spring, we are getting ready for our spring membership drive. We will be trying to recruit new members at the Spring Pre-Retirement Seminar and at the reception for new retirees. Hopefully, we will be very successful. If you have questions about yours or someone's membership, or need a membership form for someone, please let me know and hopefully I can help you out.

Until later - let's keep GROWING!

Hugs,

Lou Ann Elliott
Vice President and Membership Chair



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Spring 2007

February 27
JCEA mailing for pre-retirement

March 2
Read Across America

March 15
St Patrick's Day at Clancy's

March 20
JCEA mailing help

April 11 (deadline **March 2**)
"Ragtime"
Boulder Dinner Theater

New dates for your Calendar !

April 13
Spring JCEA-R Meeting

April 13
Pre-Retirement set up

April 14
Pre-Retirement Seminar

April 18 (deadline **April 13**)
DJ's Berkeley Café

April 23-27
"VIVA! Sampler Classes

April 26-28
CEA Delegate Assembly

May 1 and 2
AARP 55-alive class

May 5 (deadline **April 28**)
History of LoDo Tour

December 5
Holiday Luncheon
Mt Vernon Country Club



President's Message

The spring meeting will be held on Friday, **April 13th**, at the Trade Unions Hall located at 7510 West Mississippi Avenue (the southeast corner of Wadsworth and Mississippi). Brunch and socializing will begin at 9:30 a.m.

At this meeting, elections for the JCEA-R executive committee and the JCEA-R representative to JCEA PAC will be held. If you are interested in running for one of these offices, contact **Marge West**, Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, at 303-984-7004.

We are looking for ten able bodies to help JCEA with a mailing for the annual Jefferson County Good News Breakfast. This project will take place on **Tuesday, March 20th**, at 9:00 a.m. at the JCEA office and should only take a couple of hours. If you would be willing to volunteer, please contact me at drjohnson34@earthlink.net or 303-985-3142 or call **Dexter Meyer** at the JCEA office, 303-232-6405. JCEA is very good about providing our organization with office space and other amenities and this is one way JCEA-R can repay them.

Like many of you who are participants or beneficiaries of the Jefferson County Public School District Supplemental Retirement Plan, I received a letter late in January giving me the opportunity to take a one-time lump-sum payment of my plan benefits. The letter came as somewhat of a surprise and left several unanswered questions. It soon became obvious that many of you also had questions and concerns so I contacted **Lorie Gillis**, Chief Financial Officer of JCPS, and set up a meeting. Dale Gatz, Cherylene Evans and I met with Lorie and **Lisa Eacker**, Director of Benefits, on Friday, February 9th, and posed questions and concerns. Both Lorie and Lisa were open to our presentation and appreciated us bringing the issues forth. They made it very clear that this is fully expected to be a one-time offer and not something that will be provided again in the future and is completely voluntary. If you choose the lump-sum payment, your monthly payments will continue each month until June 1st, 2007. Also, if you elect the rollover, you can choose a TSA (403b) plan that you already have in place and add to it. In addition, **participants will have until March 15th, 2007, to return their forms—they must be postmarked by that date.** If you have further questions, feel free to contact **Dale Gatz** at 303-355-3165; **Cherylene Evans** at 303-972-1569 or me at 303-985-3142.

See you on April 13th!!
Donna Johnson
President

University of Denver VIVA! Classes

VIVA!, a member-led program of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at University College at the University of Denver is expanding their current program to the west metro area and mountain communities. Beginning in September 2007, three 8-week terms per year will be offered at the Jefferson Unitarian Church, 14350 West 32nd Avenue (near 32nd & I-70).

Established in 1996, VIVA! provides educational opportunities for older learners who seek intellectual stimulation and enjoy gaining knowledge in the company of their peers. "VIVA! classes offer wonderful opportunities for intellectual development and socializing," states Vonnie Wheeler, Executive Director. "Current classes include subjects such as global warming, the arts, memoir writing, Broadway musicals, international politics and history."

A **VIVA! Sampler** will be held the **week of April 23rd, 2007** at the Jefferson Unitarian Church with one class held each day on a different subject. For further information about VIVA!, go to www.universitycollege.edu/viva or contact Karen Thorne at (303) 717-4299 at thornetk@comcast.net.

Support Education License Plate

The Jefferson Foundation is promoting a broader awareness for public education and raising program funds by capitalizing on a novelty item – vanity license plates. Vanity plates have been a popular way to individualize a vehicle and support worthy causes.

"The idea was conceived two years ago as a way to promote public education by the Colorado School Foundations Association (CSFA)," said Mona Sandoval, chair of the CSFA and Executive Director of The Jefferson Foundation. "Our Association worked through the political process, and the bill to create the plate was signed into law in June."

The "Support Education" plate can only be purchased with the certificate provided through the website: www.supportcoloradoschools.org. The total cost of the plate is \$45. \$20 of the purchase price is donated to the designated education foundation via the website. The certificate is taken to the driver's local DMV office and after paying the administrative fee of \$25 directly to the DMV, the driver receives their plate.

A TV awareness campaign, called "Who's Driving Public Education?" began airing in January. The :30 second spot features CBS4's sportscaster and Jefferson Foundation supporter, **Reggie Rivers**.

"This is a great opportunity for us to promote our public schools, as well as provide funds for Jefferson Foundation programs," said Sandoval.

For more information contact **Anton Delgado** at 303-982-2212 or www.jeffersonfoundation.org

**May 15 is the deadline for the
June JCEA-R Connection.**

If you have suggestions or information to be included in the next issue, please contact:

Charlotte Green
720-320-1721 or 970-378-7622
char@unidial.com

Political Action Committee

The legislature has been back in session since January 10th, 2007. I have not had a chance to get to the Capitol yet, but those who have say the atmosphere is much friendlier. I encourage you to visit the Capitol and your legislator this session if you can. If you are unable to visit the Capitol, I encourage you to contact your legislators. Let them know how you feel about educational issues and other issues important to you.

I would encourage you to participate in the democratic process in April. I invite all of you who will be in the area, to attend the spring meeting. We will be electing officers. The more attendees we have the better. It would be nice to have the officers elected by a large number of the members.

See you there.
Gail Knowles
JCEA PAC



Spring Pre-Retirement Seminar

The Spring Pre-Retirement Seminar will be held on **Saturday, April 14th, 2007**. It will be held at the Trades Union Hall. There are several ways you can help the committee. The most important thing we need is a speaker for the "Are You Ready to Retire" segment. Can you do it? Do you know of someone who can?

Another way you can help is to come by the Trades Union Hall about 2:00 p.m. on **April 13th** to help get the room ready for the seminar. You can also stop by the Trades Union Hall about 8:00 a.m., Saturday, April 14th to help with registration and set out the food.

If you get this *Connection* in time, come to the JCEA office on **Tuesday, February 27th** about 9:00 a.m. to stuff pony envelopes to get the flyers in the mail.

If you can help, please call Gail Knowles, pre-retirement seminar chair at 303-428-0190.



Holiday Luncheon

Our holiday luncheon on December 6th was, once again, one of the most well attended functions of the year. The weather was crisp and cold, guests were dressed in their party finest, the halls were decked with all the lights and greenery befitting the season, the view of our snow covered Colorado mountains against the sunny blue sky was spectacular, and the buffet was a never ending feast of delicious salads, entrees and desserts. The elves drew names for door prizes and picked **Margene Stroup** and **Joan Campbell** for our winners. After the outstanding meal, everyone had the opportunity to stay and visit with old friends in the lovely setting.

To those unable to attend, we missed you and we hope to have you join us next year. Put **December 5th, 2007** on your calendar now!

On Friday, February 16th, JCEA-R members and guests gathered at **Il Vicino's** to enjoy pizzas and salads and then enjoyed the Buntport Theater's production of Tennessee Williams' *Cat On A Hot Tin Roof*. Regional theater is excellent here and everyone agreed the show was very well done!

JCEA-R Out and About

As you read this issue of *The Connection*, JCEA-R members and guests are seeing ***Crazy for You*** at the Boulder Dinner Theater, enjoying Denver Restaurant Week at **Zengo** downtown, and reading Dr. Seuss books for **Read Across America 2007**.

Those enjoying earlier events and great company include: Lavonne Angus, Sally Augden, Mary Ellen Bernhardt, Rose Ann Blaschke, Marge Bozarth, Joyce Brown, Carolyn Campbell, Joan Campbell, Ralph Cundiff, Mae Davies, Jeanne Duffy and Phil Tretten-ero, Lou Ann Elliott, Cherylene Evans, Mary Forester, Patricia Goward, Carol Hathaway and Ken Funk, Bonnie and Rod Hayes, Bonnie Hegge, Jim Hodges, Donna Johnson, Elaine Johnson, Linda Jurgemeyer, Ruth Ann Karenko, Margaret Kaschak, Sandra Knight, Elaine Kolstad, Lenore Krinsky, Mary Ann and Dennis Larsen, Caleen Lapietra, Gene Layman, Marie Lindvall, Marilyn Mallander, Carolyn Messerly, Alice Muffly, Diane Mulvany, Barbara Nelson, Adrean Pepper, Lindy Reed, Kathy Shafner, Shirley Sternola, Margene Stroup, Dee Talasek, Judy Turner, Merl Volk, and Jacqueline Yutzy.

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AARP 55-ALIVE

Tuesday, May 1st, and Wednesday, May 2nd, 9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Bring a sack lunch for the short lunch break. You must attend **both** days to receive your certificate. Class held at Uni-Serve Office, 1235 W 124th Ave, Suite #101, in the Roche Building. Please send check for \$10.00 **made to AARP** with your registration to **Pat Baker**, CARE, 1235 W 124th Ave, Suite #101, Westminster, CO, 80234



The story of three people living in a racially divided America: **Coalhouse Walker**, a Harlem musician; **Mother**, the matriarch of a WASP family in New Rochelle, NY; and **Tateh**, a Latvian Jewish immigrant. Appearances by Houdini, Evelyn Nesbit, Booker T. Washington, J. P. Morgan, Henry Ford, Stanford White, Harry K. Thaw, Admiral Peary, Matthew Henson and Emma Goldman are woven throughout this historical production.

Boulder Dinner Theater:
5:30 p.m. Early Bird

'Ragtime'
\$38.00

Wednesday, April 11
Deadline: Fri, March 2

Send checks made payable to CARE to:
CARE, Attn: **Pat Baker**, 1235 W 124th Ave, Suite #101, Westminster, CO 80234

St. Patrick's Day Celebration



Our annual St. Patrick's Day get-together will be on **Thursday, March 15th**, at **Clancy's Irish Pub**. Members and guests are invited to join us from **4:00 p.m. on** for hors d'oeuvres and liquid refreshments as we celebrate the "*Wearing of the Green*". Let **Adrean Pepper** know if you plan to join us by calling 303-779-1027 or e-mailing her at aeppper@wans.net.

Breakfast at DJ's Berkeley Cafe

JCEA-R members and their guests are invited to join us for breakfast at **DJ's Berkeley Café** on **Wednesday, April 18th at 9:00 a.m.** The restaurant is located at 3838 Tennyson Street, just a block north of the old Elitch Gardens site. After breakfast, those interested may wish to stroll along Tennyson Street, enjoying the great boutiques and one-of-a-kind shops.

To make your reservation for breakfast, call **Jeanne Duffy** at 303-231-9598. Please leave your name, the number in your party, and your phone number. The deadline for your reservation is Friday, April 13th, unlucky for you if you miss it!

If you have not traveled into this area of northwest Denver lately, you will be amazed at all the changes which have taken place. The quaint little restaurant we have chosen has been mentioned in many area publications for its exceptional menu. Historic old buildings along the street have been transformed into countless antique stores, art galleries and unique gift shops. We invite you to explore these local treasures with us and enjoy a delicious breakfast including omelettes, crepes, egg dishes, and wonderful coffees!

LoDo History Tour And Brunch

Enjoy discovering the **history of LoDo**, one of Denver's most historic districts, in the cool and comfortable early hours of the weekend. Our two-hour long tour will highlight the fascinating story of the LoDo District. Our guide from the Colorado Historical Society will share local history as well as the history of the revitalization the LoDo area is undergoing. The tour features **Union Station, Larimer Square, the Oxford Hotel, and Coors Field**.

This event, for members and their guests, is scheduled for **Saturday, May 5th**. The cost of the tour is only \$7.50 per person. We will begin our tour at **9:00 a.m. SHARP**, leaving from Union Station at 17th and Wynkoop. Following the tour, any of those who are interested will have brunch at **McCormick's in the Oxford Hotel**. You can join us for brunch whether or not you take the tour.

To make your reservation for the walking tour, send a check for \$7.50 made payable to **Jeanne Duffy**, 10160 W. 33 Ave., Wheat Ridge, Colorado 80033. Please be sure to include your phone number with your check. Your non-refundable check is due no later than April 28th.

If you plan to attend brunch only, call **Jeanne Duffy** at 303-231-9598 with your brunch reservation. Along with your reservation, please leave your name and a phone number.

We encourage you to carpool or to use RTD. If you choose to use RTD, a group of us will meet at **8:00 a.m.** at the **Old Town Arvada Park-and-Ride** near 52nd and Wadsworth. We will take the #52 bus to 17th and Larimer and walk 2 blocks to Union Station for our tour. We will return from 17th and Lawrence, near the Chase Bank. Please let Jeanne know if you're planning to meet us there!

Remember 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!



The JCEA-R Connection

Jefferson County Education Association
1050 Wadsworth Boulevard
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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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Don't miss the **Spring Membership Meeting.**
Friday, April 13, 2007

Trade Unions Hall
7510 West Mississippi Avenue

9:30 a.m.
Brunch will be served.

We're in **COLOR**
on the Web!
www.jcea-cea.org