



The  
JCEA-R

# Connection

The Official Publication of the Jefferson County Education Association—Retired

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**June 19:**

*Brooklyns* THAC

**June 26:**

*The Stanleytones*

**July 10, 17, 24, 31, Aug 7:**

*KOOL* Concerts

**July 16:**

*Who's on First?*  
Heritage Square

**July 17:**

Yoga "Teaser"

**August 27:**

*Rockies* Baseball

**August:**

Bowling League starts

**September 24:**

*Chicago*  
Boulder Dinner Theater

Watch the next issue of  
*The JCEA-R Connection*  
for future events!

## NEW OFFICERS ELECTED AT SPRING MEETING

Elected by acclamation, the new JCEA-R Executive Committee consists of President **Donna Johnson**, Vice President **Lou Ann Elliott**, Secretary **Marion Zietz**, and Treasurer **Marge Bozarth**.

President **Betty Flaten** received gifts from JCEA-R to recognize the end of her two terms in office.

Education Co-Chair **Marge West** announced that the committee's next activity would be helping with JCEA's New Teacher Induction in August.

**Kathy McMahon**, JCEA, reviewed legislative bill HB1137 on *Tax Credits for Contribution for Education*. She also discussed the current climate that has prevailed at the Capitol this year.

Political Action Co-Chair **Larry Shaw** assured members that JCEA-R had done some sound bridge-building especially with Jeffco legislators. **Dee Talasek**, also PAC Co-Chair, thanked all volunteers involved in this year's political action.

**Dick Lansford**, who sits on the PERA Board, reported on three PERA bills: SB98 on *PERA Benefit Provisions*, SB101 on *PERA Employer Contributions*, and on SB250 on *Denver Public Schools in PERA*.

Social Chairs **Bonnie Hayes** and **Adrean Pepper** put out sign up sheets for new social activities. See details on pages 6-7.

President Flaten commented on Delegate Assembly outcomes: the CEA-PR contribution being raised to \$12.00, the Education Fund's contribution being raised to \$24.00, and that elected alternates will sit in for absent Board members on the CEA Board.

Joining JCEA-R members for a catered lunch were Executive Director of JCEA **Jim Hodges**, JCEA Staff member, **Kathy McMahan** and CEA-R Board member **Diane Alpern**.

## *From President Flaten*

It has been my privilege to serve as JCEA-R president for the past four years. It has been a challenging and exciting time for me. I thank the members for their work and participation in making our retired local a model and leader organization in Colorado. New officers will be in place on June 1, 2003 and I ask you to give them your support and help so we may continue to strengthen our position within NEA-R/CEA-R.

There are specific people I wish to thank as I leave office. Without their dedication and hard work my job would have been difficult.

Communication is the most important link in the success of a group and regular publication of *The Connection* by editors **Sue Fisher** and **Dee Talasek** with assistance from JCEA staff person, **Dexter Meyer**, has kept members informed about the happenings of the association and the activities of our many members. **Snow Lopez** has managed the Telephone Tree and **Lindy Reed** the E-Mail Tree so we all know the latest on events. **Cherrie Wilkie** and **Sondra Broers** mail the *Insight* to retired members each month.

Committees, the life blood of the membership have involved members in a variety of activities:

- **Elaine Johnson**, Membership Chairperson, has put in long hours to make certain our membership increases at a steady rate each year, insuring that we are recognized by CEA for our growth.
- **Larry Shaw** and **Dee Talasek**, Political Action Co-Chairs, worked diligently and tirelessly to build volunteer bases for our “friend of education” candidates, organized fundraisers, monitored the legislature and conducted Legislative Day.
- **Marge West** and **Sharon Ruby** have increased both school and member

participation in *Read Across America*, helped find volunteers for young writer events and headed the New Teacher Induction volunteers for JCEA-R.

- **Bonnie Hayes**, **Adrean Pepper**, and **Lindy Reed**, Social Chairs, have joined me in not only enjoying a monthly sojourn to a favorite coffee place, but in planning and carrying out a myriad of social activities that bring the members together for fun and entertainment.
- The support and continual help from the executive committee: Vice Presidents, **Lindy Reed** (1999 – 2001) and **Donna Johnson** (2001 – 2003); Secretaries, **Elaine Johnson** (1999 – 2001) and **Shirley Sternola** (2001 – 2003); and Treasurer, **Marge Bozarth** have all been monumental.
- I also thank **Kathy Bridges-McMahon** for her help as our JCEA staff advisor to JCEA-R.

To the membership, again thank you for your commitment and faith in our organization and participation in the many phases of our educational, political, and social activities.

On a personal note I thank the members for the lovely spring flowers and adorable cat sweater you presented to me at the April annual meeting. The flowers are gone, but the sweater will be worn many times as a reminder of four wonderful years in my retired life.

Now, I’m going to wish the best to Donna and her Board, get a cup of coffee and start on those books that have been waiting, waiting, waiting...

*Betty Flaten*  
President 1999 – 2003

## DELEGATES ELECT OFFICERS AND VOTE ON CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES AT CEA DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

Candidate winners at **Colorado's Delegate Assembly** were predictable since most ran unopposed; however, surprises came with the passage of a couple of new business items after intense debate.

CEA and CEA-R Delegates elected **Ron Brady** as CEA President, **Jane Goff** as Vice President, and **Barb Clementi** as NEA Director. CEA-R elected **Bob Barzdukas** to the CEA Retired seat on the Children's Fund, replacing JCEA-R member **Marge Bozarth** who was term limited.

Two New Business items passed after lengthy debates on the floor. These two New Business items appear below as they were amended and passed:

### CEA Support for Collective Bargaining

*It shall be the policy of CEA to designate staff to support the goals of the State Bargaining and Organizing Council and the regional bargaining programs. Therefore, CEA shall designate a staff member who cannot be assigned to other duties outside of bargaining coordinator. Furthermore, CEA shall assign additional professional staff members to support regional bargaining councils and other locals who bargain or meet and confer.*

*The CEA Board of Directors, with input from the chairs of the regional bargaining councils, will have the authority to redirect some of the responsibilities of the bargaining coordinator in the event that the CEA Executive Committee identifies an emergency situation that requires the coordinator to perform other duties.*

Those delegates arguing against the above item stated that it was not the job of the delegates to micromanage staff.

### Safe Learning Environments

*In future reports regarding safe learning environments, CEA will address concerns for all students, including gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youths.*

Some Delegates wanted the above statement to end at "for all students", but arguments to retain the latter part centered on encouraging teachers to become less homophobic where safe environments are at risk.

## THIRTEEN PARTICIPATE IN PBS' "WILD, WILD AUCTION"

JCEA-R members volunteered for the 8:00 p.m. to midnight shift to help sell auction items to benefit Public Broadcasting and quality programming on **Channel 6**.

Most of the volunteers were involved in setting up backdrops for items to be auctioned.

Volunteers included: Jerry Garland, Becky Munoz, Roberta Roth, Shermita West, Judy English, Donna Johnson, Jean Gehrke, Barb Thielemann, Dee Talasek, Sandy Strong and her husband Tom, Joan Turner, Carol Friend, and Betty Flaten who organized the activity.

## A FEW EAT AT ZANG'S BEFORE TAKING IN OCEAN JOURNEY

JCEA-R members gathered at **Zang's** to lunch before experiencing **Ocean Journey**. The social committee had arranged for coupons which let the group in at reduced rates.

As they started through the **Colorado River Journey**, members were greeted by the ecstatic acrobatics of the water otters; and on the **Indonesian River Journey**, the Sumatran tiger paced menacingly close to the glass separating them from viewers.

The group going on the journeys included: Marilyn Mallander, Bonnie Hayes, Gail Knowles, Raoul Bates and his wife Marji, Joan Campbell, Dee Talasek, Jennie Duffy and her husband.

## GROUP SOCIALIZES AT CHESHIRE CAT BREW PUB

A few enjoyed appetizers and a few ordered early dinners at the **Cheshire Cat's Brew Pub** on Thursday, March 13. Others enjoyed a drink and visiting with one another.

Attending the THAC were: Ralph Cundiff, Mary Ann Larson and her husband Dennis, Jeannie Duffy, Ann Williams, Carolyn Messerly, Sally Augden, John Noriega, John Young, Dee Talasek, Bonnie Hayes, Lindy Reed, Betty Flaten and Gail Knowles.

## CAPITOL CONNECTIONS MADE BY MEMBERS

JCEA-R members Jeannie Duffy, Sally Augden, John Noriega, Betty Flaten, Larry Shaw, Judy English, Cal Johnston and Dee Talasek met at CEA at 8:30 a.m. for a briefing before going to the Capitol to make individual legislative contacts.

CEA Government Relations staff member **Ryan Wulff** reviewed education bills slated for the day or the next few days which would be suitable topics for lobbying.

After a morning of meeting with legislators, and sitting in on some committees, the group adjourned to the Cherokee Restaurant. Their guests for lunch included honored guests **Senator Keller** and **Representative Cheri Jahn**. Also joining the PAC group were Jim Hodges, Executive Director of JCEA; Dale Gatz, JCEA President; Kathy McMahan, JCEA staff person in charge of Government Relations; and members Lindy Reed and Dick Lansford.

## JCEA-R MEMBERS JOIN ANTI-REDISTRICTING RALLY

On Sunday, May 4, several JCEA-R members participated in a Capitol rally to oppose the GOP tactic of reorganizing Congressional Districts. Democratic legislators of both state houses voiced their displeasure since the Congressional District map had just been redrawn last year.

Complaints at the rally included the facts that this new bill had no citizen input, it blatantly favored the GOP in upcoming elections, and that justice and fair play had not been served by its introduction with only three days left in the session.

**Senate Minority Leader Joan Fitzgerald** said she could not see how the grass-root voters were overlooked as the legislature moves more and more toward “one candidate, one party.”

**Congresswoman Diana DeGette** spoke of the

move as a blatant “power grab” which disenfranchises the voters in the three counties making up CD 7.

**Congressman Mark Udall** called on the Governor to veto such a bill if it reaches his desk.

Legislators joining the rally-goers included **Senators Keller, Windels, Gordan, Grossman, Hanna, Phillips, Hagedorn and Tupa, and Representatives Jahn, Romanoff, and Veiga.**

JCEA-R members participating in the May rally included: John and Esther Noriega, Carolyn Messerly, Judy English, Marion Zietz and her husband Dick, Cal Johnston, Dee Talasek and Carol Friend. Alongside the JCEA-R members were CEA-R member Pat Smart and JCEA member JoAnn Johnston.

## BONNARD EXHIBIT AT THE DENVER ART MUSEUM ATTENDED BY MEMBERS

**Pierre Bonnard**, not as well-known as other Impressionists of the period, had a great impact on the art of his time and after.

Pierre Bonnard was a dabbler in experimenting with different media. The Exhibit included samples of his experiments with posters, screens, oils, graphite sketches, music illustrations, black and white photography, glazed ceramics, porcelain plateware and sculpting.

The diversity of media that Bonnard attempted added interest to his development as a progressing artist.

Though one of the least recognized painters of the early twentieth century, Bonnard visited often with the very famous Monet. One of Bonnard’s early posters, in which he reversed the mode of the day by using color as an anchor and lines to express emotions, inspired Toulouse Lautrec. Matisse declared that Bonnard was “the greatest among us.”

Before viewing the Denver Art Museum Exhibit on Bonnard, JCEA-R members lunched at the nearby Cherokee Restaurant. Members participating in this activity were: Marilyn Mallander, Joan Campbell, Ann Williams, Adrian Pepper, Raoul Bates, Dee Talasek, Betty Flaten, Roberta Roth, and Gail Knowles.

## SUMMER JCEA-R SOCIAL EVENTS

### ► BROOKLYN'S THAC

JCEA-R members, spouses, significant others, and friends will meet at the newest **Brooklyn's**, 5445 Old Wadsworth on **June 19th**, from 4:00—6:00 p.m. Beverages, munchies and designated driver are the responsibility of the individual attendees. Questions: contact **Betty** at **303-423-9435** or [bflaten@jeffco.k12.co.us](mailto:bflaten@jeffco.k12.co.us)

(Brooklyn's is west of Wadsworth Bypass at the intersection of 55th Avenue and Old Wadsworth. The Olde Town Theaters are just northeast of Brooklyn's.)

### ► KOOL 105 CONCERTS

Join us for a picnic and summer concert. KOOL 105 FM sponsors a series of free concerts in Confluence Park by Ocean Journey and across the river from REI. We wanted to see the *Kool Kats* or the *Fab Four*; however, the dates for which group is playing which date is not yet available. The concerts are **free**. Those attending are encouraged to take a picnic. The series is each Thursday, **July 10, 17, 24, etc for 5 weeks**.

Listen to **KOOL 105 FM** for details or contact **Jeannie Duffy** at **303-231-9598** if interested.

### ► ROCKIES BASEBALL

Join other retired teachers and help cheer the Rockies against the San Francisco Giants Thursday, **August 27th** at 7:05 p.m. Tickets are **\$20.00** each and money secures your seat! Contact **Adrean Pepper** for information at **303-779-1027** or [apepper@wans.net](mailto:apepper@wans.net)

### ► THE STANLEYTONES

Come see the Bluegrass group, **The Stanleytones** on **June 26th**, 7:00 p.m. at Lakewood City Commons Civic Center (in front of theater).

The area opens at 6:00 so bring a picnic dinner and a chair. The concert costs **\$5.00**. We will stake out an area for the group so the group can sit together. **RSVP Bonnie** at **303-231-9981** or [bkhaves@aol.com](mailto:bkhaves@aol.com) by the 25th.

### ► YOGA "TEASER"

Come see what all the "buzz" is about. Join us for an introductory class and experience this ancient practice which creates strength, flexibility and peace of mind, on Thursday, **July 17th**, 10:00-11:30, Kriya Yoga Center, 4024 Tennyson Street, Denver. Optional lunch afterwards in the 32<sup>nd</sup>/Lowell area.

Send **\$10.00 check** (made to Kriya Yoga Center) to **Marilyn Mallander, 4012 Meade Street, Denver 80211**. Questions: call **Marilyn 303-477-6327**.

### ► BOWLING

Like to bowl and mingle with other retired and veteran teachers? The Jeffco Teacher's bowling league meets **Mondays** at 4:00 p.m. beginning in **August** with a sign-up and official bowling beginning after Labor Day. Teams and individuals are welcome.

No experience necessary. For information, contact **Tom Sweet** at **303-421-4026**.

**ALL NEW!**

Our new Vice-President **Lou Ann Elliott** has a new email address and a new physical address:

**Lou Ann Elliott**

**P.O. Box 225**

**Lyons, CO 80540**

**303-747-2307**

**mauveroses @earthlink.net**

*The Connection* has a new format and a new editor. If you have suggestions or information to be included in the next issue, please contact

**Charlotte Green**

**720-977-8052**

**char@unidial.com**

**WANTED!**

*The Connection* is looking for a reporter! If you like to write and have an interest, please contact one of the Officers or Charlotte Green.

**THE JCEA-R CONNECTION  
STAFF APOLOGIZES  
FOR AN OVERSIGHT**

*The Connection* staff apologizes to **Raoul Bates** and **John Noriega** for having omitted their names from the JCEA-R member list of those in attendance at the Anti-Tampering with Amendment 23 Rally. We never want to overlook giving credit to activists!

Volume 4 Issue 4

7

Summer 2003

**CARE & JCEA-R SOCIAL EVENTS**

**Heritage Square:** *Who's on First?* Wednesday, July 16  
5:30 p.m. \$25.50 Deadline: Monday, June 23

**Boulder's Dinner Theatre:** *Chicago* Wednesday, Sept 24  
5:30 p.m. early show \$31.75 Deadline: Tuesday, Aug 12

**ORDER NOW!!** Tickets are going rapidly and you don't want to miss out.

For CARE activities, fill out form and return to **Pat Baker, CARE, 10190 Bannock St., Suite #222, Northglenn, CO 80260**. Make checks payable to **CARE**. **If you sign up for an activity, payment is expected unless you cancel prior to the deadline.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Event \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_ Cost \_\_\_\_\_

Event \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_ Cost \_\_\_\_\_

Total Cost: \_\_\_\_\_



# The JCEA-R Connection

Jefferson County Education Association  
1050 Wadsworth Boulevard  
Lakewood, CO 80215

### JCEA-R OFFICERS:

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

### JCEA-R CONNECTION STAFF:

Charlotte Green, *Editor*  
Dee Talasek, *Reporter*  
Dexter Meyer, *Consultant*

Volume 4 Issue 4

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

8

Summer 2003

 **THANK YOU, SUE FISCHER,**   
**EDITOR EXTRAORDINAIRE**

JCEA-R has been fortunate to have **Sue Fischer** as editor of the *JCEA-R Connection* for the last 6 ½ years. Sue and her husband Rick have decided to retire in a new home they're having built west of Tucson. We will miss you!!

## CONGRATULATIONS TO JCEA-R MEMBER JOHN NORIEGA

**John Noriega** won the *Lions' Award* at CEA Delegate Assembly. It is a much-coveted award recognizing individuals who have made outstanding contributions as advocates for employees and public education. John was honored along with other award recipients by the 522 teachers and retired teachers in attendance at the 77<sup>th</sup> annual Colorado Delegate Assembly.