

PMEA Retired Member Network eNEWS: January 7, 2015

by Paul K. Fox, PMEA Retired Members Coordinator

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Welcome to the latest **eNEWS** - the **PMEA Retired Member Network...** an informal alliance and forum for interconnecting retired music educators and sharing their ideas, stories, successes, news, and views via this e-mail address. Thanks for staying involved in PMEA and our profession!

Hey, this is a new record... the need for two **eNEWS** in a single week!

Retirees' News Flash! Calling on PMEA Volunteers!

"Ask not what PMEA can do for you, but what you can do for PMEA..."

Here's your chance to sign-up to help at the **PMEA Spring Conference**

in Hershey, PA March 31-April 2, 2016! State Executive Director

Abigail Young is seeking Presiding Chairs to introduce each speaker,

welcome everybody, manage the distribution of handouts, and make

sure the clinician has everything he/she needs for the one-hour session. For a tentative schedule of events, go to <http://www.pmea.net/news/conference-presiders-needed/> or click on this link: [Tentative Annual Conference Schedule](#). Please complete the online [Presider Form](#) by **Monday, January 18**.



Besides new "gold stars" in the middle of your forehead, I can almost guarantee that you will earn a **special ribbon** to add to your badge for serving as a **conference presider!**

In addition, Abi has "put out the word" that we also need assistance at the registration desk, and NEW to this year, she and I would LOVE having **retired members** join PMEA officers and council representatives in "manning" the **PMEA booth**. If you would have an hour to spare over the session times on Thursday, March 31 (10:45 a.m., 12:15 p.m., 1:45, 3:15, 4:45) or Friday, April 1 (9:45 a.m., 11:15, 2:15 p.m., 3:45), could you let me know? Please e-mail me at paulkfox.usc@gmail.com. Thanks for coming to our aid!

It's time for the annual Retired Member breakfast meeting!

We promise no long-winded speeches... only a few introductions and prize give-aways! Here's our chance to come together, "catch up," and network with each other. The best part? The breakfast is FREE and "on PMEA!" Please mark your calendar and plan on stopping in Friday, April 1 at 7:00 a.m. in the exquisite Hershey Lodge Forebay Lounge.



Please RSVP by March 15, 2016: paulkfox.usc@gmail.com.

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Boo! Not Another Set of New Year's Resolutions!

How many of your New Year's Resolutions have you broken or forgotten (or did you even make any new plans or a mission for 2016)? I am sure by now you are totally bored with or uninterested in any new ideas about annual goal-setting. Okay, I got it! However, before you give it up, take a peek at the blog of author, composer, educator Anna Brake, who prescribes a simple, refreshing outlook on **making your life more musical**:



1. Buy music every payday.
2. Go to concerts.
3. Read about music.
4. Meditate with music.
5. Play music.

Her recommended reading list is excellent, including her own book *Music Trends of the 21st Century: Technology Influencing Culture*. (She seems to be a bit of a kindred spirit to me!) I encourage you to read her entire article posted on December 27, 2015 at <http://www.annabrake.com/digital-age-muses/a-musical-new-year>.

We look forward to hearing from you!

I admit it is hard to "brag a little" or share your new job assignments, music gigs, travel plans, personal/professional accomplishments, or other recent "fun stuff" since retirement! But, PMEA members often ask, "What ever happened to..." and I am sure they would love hearing "anything newsy" about YOU! Take a second to **send an update!** Remember to use my professional Gmail account (not the school district e-mail we use to send **eNEWS** to avoid spam-blockers). Always use this account: paulkfox.usc@gmail.com.



Also, don't forget to check out the PMEA retired members website (<http://www.pmea.net/retired-members/>) for new information such as revised **Community Band/Orchestra/Choir listings** and the PMEA Retiree Resource Registry. Also, new retiree articles are posted on my WordPress site: <https://paulkfoxusc.wordpress.com/category/retirement-resources/>.

Happy trails, retirees!

PKF

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