

PMEA Retired Member Network eNEWS: February 14, 2016

by Paul K. Fox, PMEA Retired Members Coordinator

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Happy Valentine's Day and 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! !

Just for laughs... and retirees. "As I get older, I realize..."

- I talk to myself because sometimes I need expert advice.
- Sometimes I roll my eyes out loud.
- When I was a child, I thought naptime was punishment. Now it's like a mini-vacation.
- My people skills are fine. It's my tolerance of idiots that needs work.
- Even duct tape can't fix stupid, but it can muffle the sound.

Have you completed the survey?

PMEA state officials and office staff would like to know how you feel about the annual **PMEA Summer Conference**. In addition, one of my goals as your Retired Member Coordinator is to build "engagement" and involvement of our music teacher retirees, with the hopes of better serving YOUR needs! What sessions or social events would you like PMEA to offer? What can we do better?

The opportunities for grandkid-friendly family-fun entertainment at **Seven Springs** are amazing! What would you think about coming to the conference, perhaps participating in a couple rehearsals of a community band, choir, or string ensemble, attending a short **retired members meeting** and/or a workshop session or two, and then the rest of the time... exploring the Alpine Slide, biking, bowling, fishing, fitness training, golf, hiking, hydro-biking, miniature golf, paddleboats, paintball, scenic chairlifts, Segway tours, spa treatments, sports, summer tubing, sun bathing, trail rides/horseback riding, water games, etc.



We know retirees do not need an excuse to "get out of town!" So, what is your definition of fun... just hanging out at the pool with a piña colada or two? Here's a chance to take a break, stretch your legs, network with your colleagues, and relax at Seven Springs!

Please click on the following link and take a few minutes to complete the **online survey**: <https://pmea.wufoo.com/forms/pmea-summer-conference-survey/>. If you wish to really "give us a piece of your mind," you and your comments can remain completely anonymous... just omit your name and e-mail address on the form. Thank you so much!

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The clock is ticking... Should we plan a D.C. or NYC tour?

If twenty or more family members are interested in a side trip to **Washington D.C.** (four hours away) or **New York City** (six) after the Summer Conference, we need to hear from you soon! Separate from the above survey, ASAP please drop me a line at paulkfox.usc@gmail.com so that planning/arrangements/tickets can be ordered. Here are the two options for leaving on Wednesday, July 13, 2016 and enjoying a "getaway" of two-nights/three-days, bus transportation, lodging, two dinners (up to \$25/each), fees/taxes paid based on double occupancy:

- **Washington D.C.** Marriott Springhill Suite 2 free breakfasts plus 2 dinners, night monument tour, Arlington, Smithsonian or shopping, *Phantom of Opera* performance @ Kennedy Center, National Archives, and National Zoo = ~\$700-750/person
- **New York City** Marriott Courtyard on 5th Avenue next to Bryant Park, 2 dinners, free time for shopping or sightseeing, one musical *On Your Feet*, *The Book of Mormon*, *Jersey Boys*, or *Something Rotten* = ~\$750-805/person

Maybe we should consider this for a future conference? At any rate, please let us know your thoughts! **The deadline for expressing your interest in a trip is March 1, 2016.**

Retired Members volunteer to help at PMEA booth!

Retirees to the rescue! Thank you, thank you, thank you! See the tentative schedule below. There are still openings (two people per time slot) to sign-up for an hour at the PMEA Info Booth for the **Spring Conference** in Hershey, PA March 31-April 2, 2016!

Thursday 10:45	Adrienne Kelly & Jane Wall
Thursday 12:15	Bill Pendziwiatr
Thursday 1:45	Bill Powers
Thursday 3:15	Susan Dieffenbach
Thursday 4:45	Susan Dieffenbach
Friday 9:45	Diane Maclay
Friday 11:15	Adrienne Kelly
Friday 2:15	Paul Fox
Friday 3:45	Paul Fox



Other official business and announcements: paulkfox.usc@gmail.com.

- **Please RSVP by March 15, 2016 for the PMEA Retired Member Breakfast.**
- Check out "our" collaborative article reprint posted on Edutopia:
<http://www.edutopia.org/discussion/advice-music-teacher-retirees-soon-be-retirees>.
- As always, updates are posted at <http://www.pmea.net/retired-members/>.

Happy trails, retirees! PKF

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