

PMEA Retired Member Network eNEWS: June 21, 2016

by Paul K. Fox, PMEA Retired Members Coordinator

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Welcome to another **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 your support and staying involved in PMEA and our profession!

There is still time to sign-up for Seven Springs!

By now, you should have received the revised schedule (6/21/16) of sessions for the **PMEA Summer Conference - July (11), 12-13, 2016**. If somehow you missed the "PMEA Mid-June Update" from State Executive Director Abi Young, go online to <http://www.pmea.net/2015-pmea-summer-conference/>.



Here are a few reminders or changes from previously posted conference information:

1. Rooms are still available at a special conference rate of \$124/night plus tax. Reservations can be made by calling 800-452-2223 or 814-352-7777 ext. 7009, but be sure to mention "PMEA" to receive the group rate.
2. The group rate will be honored until the room block is filled.
3. Registration fee for the conference is a mere \$35 for **retired members**, and includes all sessions, breaks, and meals during the events. Sign-up using the link at <http://www.pmea.net/2015-pmea-summer-conference/>.
4. The optional (but just-for-fun!) **golf outing** has been rescheduled for Tuesday, July 12, but please let Abi know you are interested by emailing abiyoung@pmea.net.
5. The string clinician is Joe Brennan.
6. ACDA-PA choral reading and choral conducting sessions plus a Dalcroze-inspired "workshop of games" will be led by Caron Daley.
7. Seven Springs All-Day Activity bands (ages 7+) and bracelets (ages 3-6) are available for \$36 and \$16 respectively. The registration form and information for retired member attendees, guests, and grandchild-friendly "fun-activities" are posted at <https://www.pmea.net/registration/event/9806/>.

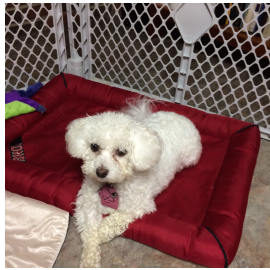
My session, "**Surviving & Reveling in Retirement**," is on July 13 at 10 a.m. **Please come!**

For retired members and soon-to-be-retirees alike, this informal and collaborative session is about transitioning the passage from full-time work to "living the dream" - enjoying a happy, healthy, and meaningful retirement. We will review research of and strategies to face this momentous life-style shift and changing perspectives and expectations. Retired members will be encouraged to share experiences, anecdotes about the retirement journey, alternative pursuits, secrets to successfully fulfilling "bucket lists," and reshaping fresh new goals leading to creative ways to self-reinvent and thrive.

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Bow wow and meow! We are still looking for pet photos!



Are you sure you want me to fill up an entire issue/article with my own doggie pictures of Gracie and Brewster? For an upcoming issue of *PMEA News*, we would like to describe the benefits of pet ownership, and feature several photos of retired members and their... dogs, cats, fish, iguanas, guinea pigs, frogs, horses,



hamsters, turtles, etc. **Since the last eNEWS, not one of you responded!!** Please e-mail photos to paulkfox.usc@gmail.com and include the name of you and your pet. It would help if you could send these no later than in a couple weeks... Hey, it's time to show off your "best friends" in retirement!

From the retired but always watchful Rich Victor (PLAN Network)...

Sign this petition to voice your displeasure with an amendment to the proposed Department of Defense budget for 2017 (H.R. 5293) that would severely restrict funding for military band performances:

This amendment states that "none of the funds made available by this Act may be used for performances by a military musical unit (as defined in section 974 of title 10, United States Code) described in paragraph (2)(B) or (3) of subsection (a) of such section." This would limit band performances so that they could not participate in: patriotic parades or concerts (including July 4th), official receptions and banquets, concerts for troops in war zones, state funerals, even the national anthem at almost any event. If these events were contracted to civilian musicians the cost would be significantly higher.

If you feel we should **continue military bands' funding**, make your views heard at <https://www.change.org/p/u-s-senate-continue-military-bands-funding>.

Dr. Seuss on Retirement?

I just received in the mail the book *You're Only Old Once! A Book for Obsolete Children* by Dr. Seuss. In celebration of author **Theodor Seuss Geisel's 82nd** birthday, the book was published on March 2, 1986. On the jacket: "Anyone who has ever submitted to a battery of medical tests will empathize with Dr. Seuss's Everyman in this wry book." Also: "Is this a children's book? Well... not immediately. You buy a copy for your child now and you give it to him on his 70th birthday." Go get it, read it first, then and hand it over to the next music retiree from your area! **Happy trails, retirees!** PKF

