



## PMEA Retired Member Network eNEWS: May 6, 2021

by Paul K. Fox, PMEA Retired Members Coordinator

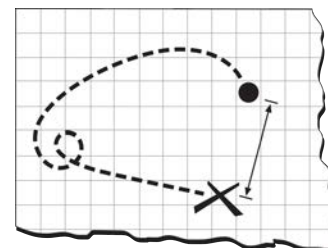
Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Retired Members

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Welcome to this *special edition* of **eNEWS** — the **PMEA Retired Member Network** — an informal alliance and forum for interconnecting retired **and retiring** music educators, sharing their ideas, stories, successes, news, and views.

This sample copy is for **active music teachers**, even those who say they do not plan to retire in the foreseeable future. It hopes to serve as a “sneak preview” of the numerous resources PMEA offers to its soon-to-retire membership and anyone experiencing a transition through one of the “retirement stages” mentioned in the Spring 2021 article of *PMEA News* (quoting *AgeWave*):

1. **Imagination** [6-15 years before retirement]
2. **Anticipation** [1-6 years before retirement]
3. **Liberation** [first year of retirement]
4. **Reorientation** or **Re-Engagement** [1-15 years after retirement]
5. **Reconciliation** [ages late 70s and early 80s]



A roadmap for future post-employment planning

Please do not contact the PMEA staff with the complaint, “Why did you send me this?” or “Did you think I was leaving the profession?” No one is suggesting you should retire! Post-pandemic, we all need our most motivated, gifted, and experienced teachers to get us through the re-emergence of “in person” music education in the Commonwealth.

However, try to enjoy this complimentary digital edition so that when you are indeed ready to consider making post-employment plans (1 month to 15 years from now), you'll know where to go for “advice from experts” and more help!

Thanks for staying involved in PMEA and music education!!

T-Minus? Years and Counting	To-Do
10-15	1. Peruse the entire Retired Member focus area on the PMEA website at least once: <a href="https://www.pmea.net/retired-members/">https://www.pmea.net/retired-members/</a> .
7-10	2. Download and read selections from the <i>Ultimate Retiree Resource Guide</i> from the above PMEA Retired Member focus area.
5-7	3. View the special video for PMEA members, the “How-to-Retire Guide” at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LluJ_0ctC4o">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LluJ_0ctC4o</a>
5-7	4. Read cover-to-cover several of the retirement books listed in #1-3 above.
3-5	5. Start intercepting monthly releases of <i>Retired Member Network eNEWS</i> .
2-5	6. Attend a “Retirement 101” spring/summer conference session or view past PMEA workshop materials including “Design Your Ideal Retirement” by Dave Hughes and “Retirement Planning – It’s Not About the Money” by Paul Fox. (See #1 above.)
2-4	7. Family Meeting: Sit down with your spouse or other family members and map out the essential “who, what, when, where, and how” of your retirement goals.
1-3	8. Make an appointment with an estate planner, elder attorney, and financial advisor.
1-2	9. PSERS members: Attend “Foundations for Your Future” programs, request a retirement estimate (form PSRS-151), and schedule your “Exit Counseling Session.”
1	10. Update your PMEA and NAFME profile, including providing a new email address (your old school email will become inactive)

### Countdown to retirement: Where are you on this chart?

From the Spring 2021 *PMEA News* article, “What Retirement Stage Are You In?”

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### The usual collection of “bad jokes” to share with your family or students

Thanks to compiler Amber Guetebier at *Red Tricycle*: <https://redtri.com/best-jokes-for-kids/>

**What do you call an ant who fights crime?**

**A vigilantly.**

**What is fast, loud, and crunchy?**

**A rocket chip!**

**Why did the teddy bear say no to dessert?**

**Because she was stuffed!**

**What has ears but cannot hear?**

**A cornfield!**

**What did the left eye say**

**to the right eye?**

**Between us something smells!**

**Why did the student eat**

**his homework?**

**Because the teacher told him it was a piece of cake!**

**What is brown, hairy, and wears sunglasses?**

**A coconut on vacation!**

**When does a joke become**

**a “dad” joke?**

**When the punchline is a parent.**

**What do you call a droid that takes the long way around?**

**R2 detour.**

**What kind of tree fits in your hand?**

**A palm tree!**

**What do you call a duck that gets all A's?**

**A wise quacker.**

**What is a witch's favorite subject in school?**

**Spelling.**

**Why was 6 afraid of 7?**

**Because 7, 8, 9.**

**How does a vampire start a letter?**

**Tomb it may concern...**

**Where would you find an elephant?**

**The same place you lost her!**

**What is worse than raining cats and dogs?**

**Hailing taxis!**

**How do you talk to a giant?**

**Use big words!**

**What did one volcano say to the other?**

**I lava you!**



**What's worse than finding**

**a worm in your apple?**

**Finding half a worm!**

**Why did the dinosaur cross**

**the road?**

**Because the chicken was**

**not born yet.**

**How do you make an**

**octopus laugh?**

**With ten-tickles.**

**What musical instrument is**

**found in the bathroom?**

**A tuba toothpaste.**

**What do you call a dog magician?**

**A labracadabrador.**

**Why couldn't the pony sing a lullaby?**

**She was a little horse.**

**What do you call a fake noodle?**

**An impasta.**

**What do you call a funny mountain?**

**Hill-arious.**

**Where do pencils go on vacation?**

**Pencil-vania.**

**What dinosaur had the best vocabulary?**

**The thesaurus.**

**Why was the broom running late?**

**Because it over-swept.**

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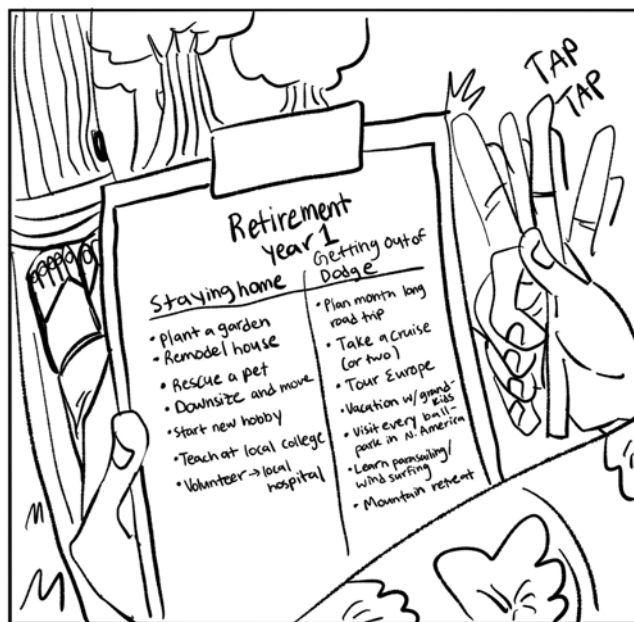
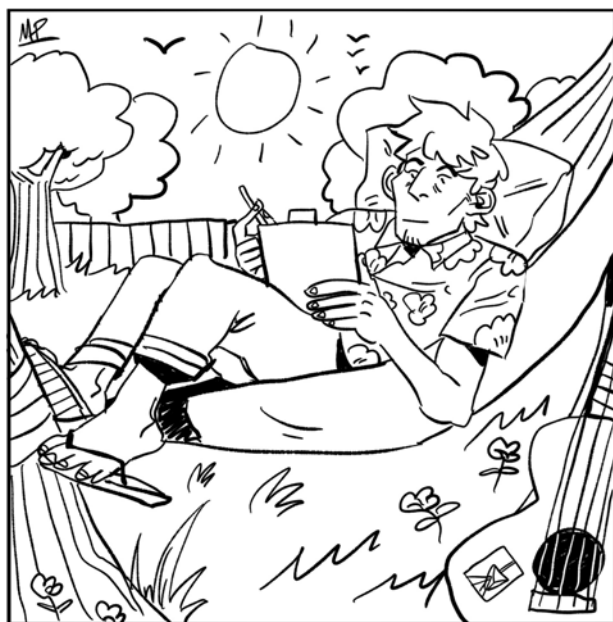




## Cartoon-of-the-month

"Crossing the Rubicon" to post-employment "bliss" and self-reinvention

"Post-Employment Planning" by Manjiri Palayekar, Class of 2021, Upper St. Clair High School



## Reclaiming, retaining, or "recharging" opportunities for self-expression

Yes, it's time to "dust off your chops" or "toot your horn!" My New Year's Resolution for 2021 was to practice every day on my major instrument - the viola. Status? As of May 1st, I have achieved a "daily dose" of 25-50 minutes. (It's day #91 & no misses!) Despite a touch of arthritis and stiffness in my left fingers, I'm now accomplishing things I never thought were possible... supposedly past my (ahem?) "prime!"

Revisiting your creative roots

Sing	Play an instrument	Do theater
Community chorus	Community band or orchestra	Acting
Church choir	Pit orchestra	Dancing
Solo vocalist	Solo or chamber music groups	Scenery/make-up
Folk, rock, jazz groups	Folk, rock, jazz groups	Stage tech

"How-to-Retire" PMEA conference session

© 2019 Paul K. Fox

Retirement 101  
Author Stories and Strategies

**Why did you go into music education?** Well, it's time to rebuild your skills... and more importantly, find some quality time to give back to yourself in *the joy of making music*. Take lessons. Join a community band, choir, orchestra, or jazz group (soon to reopen?). Search the PA catalog of amateur music groups here: <https://www.pmea.net/retired-members/>.

What have you always wanted to **play, sing, compose, record, conduct, or create**? Have you published your own "Mr. Holland's Opus" or method book? *What are you waiting for?*

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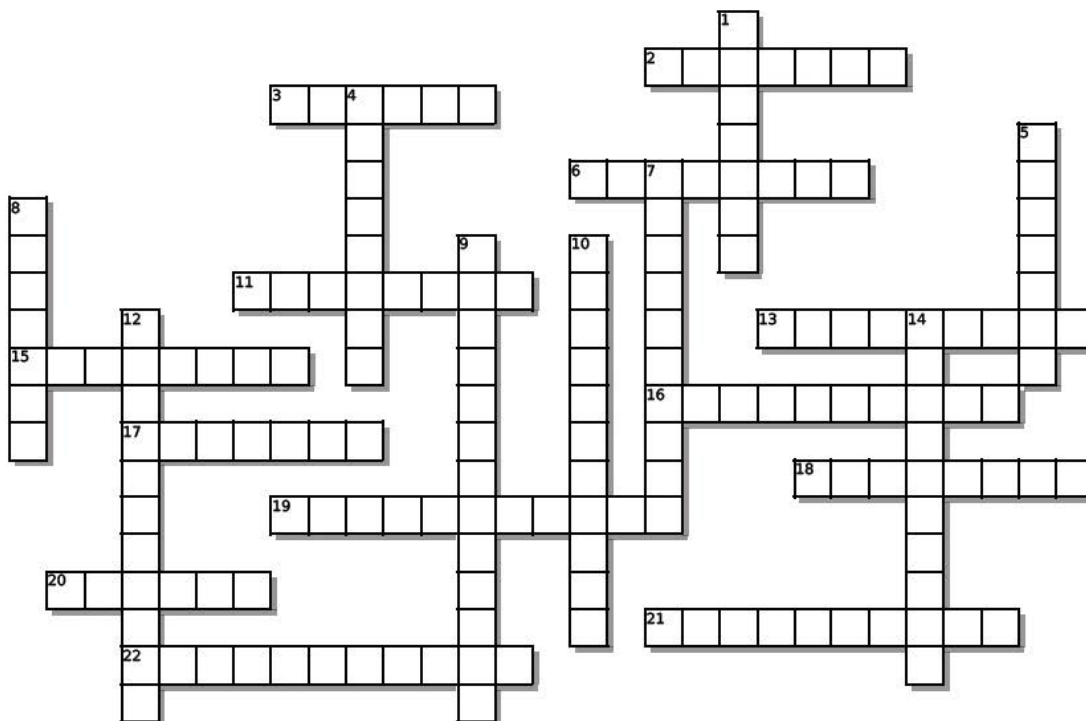






## Unique Hobbies

Retirees, what do you do in your spare time?



### ACROSS

- 2 the art of shaping living trees
- 3 a living art form of growing a miniature tree in a pot
- 6 a boxer or fighter
- 11 a cutter, polisher, or engraver of precious stones usually not diamonds
- 13 creating or representing art by carving, casting, or other shaping techniques
- 15 a combination of acrobatics, yoga, and thai massage
- 16 a maker of clocks or watches
- 17 creation of a model representing a scene with three-dimensional figures
- 18 paddling in a low-to-the-water, canoe-like boat in which the paddler sits facing forward, legs in front, using a double-bladed paddle
- 19 recreational and competitive adventure sport of flying lightweight, free-flying, foot-launched glider aircraft with no rigid primary structure, with the pilot sitting in a harness suspended below a fabric wing
- 20 a Japanese peaceful martial art (or 'Budo') incorporating a series of twisting, throwing and joint lock techniques, combining the martial arts of Judo and Jujitsu
- 21 exploring of caves
- 22 students or collectors of coins, and those who study money and other payment media used to resolve debts and the exchange of goods

### DOWN

- 1 the practice of dressing up as a character from a movie, book, or video game, especially one from the Japanese genres of manga and anime
- 4 fishing for catfish with your bare hands
- 5 a live-action role-playing game where the participants physically act out their characters' actions
- 7 an outdoor recreational activity, in which participants use a GPS receiver or mobile device and other navigational techniques to hide and seek containers at specific locations marked by coordinates all over the world
- 8 the Japanese art of creating art through paper folding
- 9 one who studies the behavior, physiology, and conservation of birds and bird habitats
- 10 love of funerals, cemeteries, and rituals of death
- 12 the activity or skill of making things from wood
- 14 a collector of stamps and other postal matter as a hobby or an investment

Reprinted from the April 8, 2021 eNEWS

We are looking for what "floats your boat!"

What are your own favorite hobbies?

Send to [paulkfox.usc@gmail.com](mailto:paulkfox.usc@gmail.com).

Answers on page 12

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### Still available... PMEA Renew 2021

**The best discount is reserved for Retired Members!**  
**\$15 grants you on-demand access to the sessions!**

The 2021 Annual Conference went "virtual!" Workshops were recorded and are available for the next sixty days for PMEA members to view at their convenience!

Check out the full conference program here:

<https://view.publitas.com/pmea/2021-pmea-virtual-annual-conference-program-rombav4edy34/page/1>.

You can also relive PMEA state history-in-the-making - CRESCENDO - the first-ever student (grades 8-12) online conference - and view the specialty sessions, college readiness and career seminars, and two keynote addresses: David Wish (Modern Band/Little Kids Rock) and CharRonDon (Hip-Hop/Rap).



 <b>Classroom Music</b> <b>Essential Orff Schulwerk for Children with Autism</b> <small>Thursday, April 15, 2021   8:00 AM - 9:00 AM</small>	 <b>Choral</b> <b>From Page to Stage: Creating/Building Concert Programs that...</b> <small>Thursday, April 15, 2021   8:00 AM - 9:00 AM</small>	 <b>Instrumental Strings</b> <b>How Visualization Can Help to Improve a String Player's Accuracy and...</b> <small>Thursday, April 15, 2021   8:00 AM - 9:00 AM</small>	 <b>Instrumental Band</b> <b>Instrument Repair Triage: DIY or Shop</b> <small>Thursday, April 15, 2021   8:00 AM - 9:00 AM</small>	 <b>Choral</b> <b>Vocal Triage: 10 Tools to Immediately Transform the Sound of Your Choir</b> <small>Thursday, April 15, 2021   8:00 AM - 9:00 AM</small>	 <b>Higher Education and Research</b> <b>PMEA Invited Researcher: Listening to Adolescent Voices in...</b> <small>Thursday, April 15, 2021   8:00 PM - 9:30 PM</small>	 <b>PMEA Special Event</b> <b>Keynote Presentation</b> <small>Thursday, April 15, 2021   7:45 PM - 8:30 PM</small>	 <b>Choral</b> <b>Choral Connections: Prioritizing People &amp; Process</b> <small>Friday, April 16, 2021   8:00 AM - 9:00 AM</small>
 <b>Curriculum Development and Assessment</b> <b>Curriculum Review Cycles for K-12 Music: What to Anticipate; Ho...</b> <small>Friday, April 16, 2021   8:00 AM - 9:00 AM</small>	 <b>Technology</b> <b>From a Distance: Learning Music From Anywhere</b> <small>Friday, April 16, 2021   8:00 AM - 9:00 AM</small>	 <b>Collegiate</b> <b>How to be an Effective Music Educator and Maintain a Personal Lif...</b> <small>Friday, April 16, 2021   8:00 AM - 9:00 AM</small>	 <b>Instrumental Music</b> <b>Improving Student Recruitment and Retention During Cov</b> <small>Friday, April 16, 2021   8:00 AM - 9:00 AM</small>	 <b>Classroom Music</b> <b>Essential Orff Schulwerk for Children with Autism</b> <small>Friday, April 16, 2021   8:00 AM - 9:00 AM</small>	 <b>Choral</b> <b>From Page to Stage: Creating/Building Concert Programs that...</b> <small>Friday, April 16, 2021   8:00 AM - 9:00 AM</small>	 <b>Instrumental Strings</b> <b>How Visualization Can Help to Improve a String Player's Accuracy and...</b> <small>Friday, April 16, 2021   8:00 AM - 9:00 AM</small>	 <b>Instrumental Band</b> <b>Instrument Repair Triage: DIY or Shop</b> <small>Friday, April 16, 2021   8:00 AM - 9:00 AM</small>

### Our tradition of "breaking bread" together at the annual conference

Besides all of discounts for membership and registration fees and access to resources, one thing that our retirees look forward to every year is the **annual breakfast meeting** on the Friday morning of the spring conference. (Abi was "buying!") COVID-19 may have deprived us from "catching up" in 2020, but *not* this year! We "met" virtually on April 17 at 9 a.m. (brought-our-own-snack) and *everyone looked marvelous!*

Pat Bove

Nora Burridge

David Cree

Michelle Fella Przbylowski

Paul Fox

Adrianne Kelly

Chuck Neidhardt

Natalie Ozeas

Rich Pantaleo

Sharon Potter

William Powers

Joanne Rutkowski

Jeff Twiford

Richard Victor

Jane Wall

Let's plan to return to the "in-person thing" on April 8, 2022 in the Poconos!

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## This month's "Fox Finds" – Zooming as a way of life

One thing "we've" learned from the pandemic is how to use virtual conferencing apps, whether it's from teaching a graduate class virtually, directing online sectionals of a community band or choir, or instructing your private music students remotely (albeit with great frustration due to poor sound quality, latency, and the inability to play together as an ensemble). However, one of the best kept secrets is that Zoom offers 100% free access to

their platform (as long as you don't go over 20 minutes for groups larger than two). So, that means you can "go solo" and record yourself presenting a lesson or how-to video for as many minutes as you want, and you'll never need to pay their annual subscription.

It doesn't take a Ph.D. in technology to use this tool to create instructional guides for a variety of lessons, method classes, hobbies, or even how to program the remote control. One feature of virtual conferencing programs is "share my screen." Zoom will record your presentation ("screen-capture") on your computer including any slides you display and allow you to upload the video to your YouTube channel (which is also free unless you want to remove the ads and pay a monthly fee). This suggests a lot of potential uses if you decide to share your "secrets," pet-peeves, or know-how in a variety of pursuits:

- Instrumental or vocal coaching
- Music education methods
- Advice to beginning teachers
- Conducting and score reading
- Music history
- Music theory and composition
- Improvisation
- Music technology
- Career counseling
- Employment interviews
- Interviewing famous musicians
- Cooking
- Sewing
- World languages
- Arts and crafts
- Favorite authors
- Favorite composers
- Favorite conductors
- Gaming
- Physical training
- Yoga
- Jogging
- Golf tips
- Tennis tips
- Other sports
- Gardening or landscaping
- Home repairs or improvements
- Pet ownership
- Other hobbies
- Favorite vacation spots or travel
- How-to demonstrations on anything
- Exploring entertainment venues



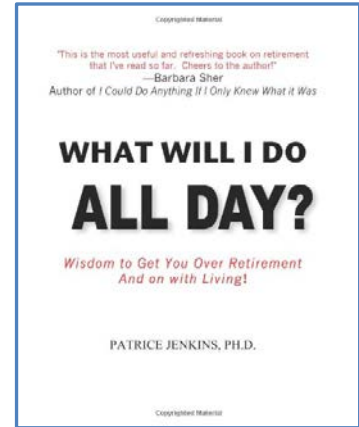




## Book-of-the-month: *What Will I Do All Day?*

by Patrice Jenkins <https://www.patricejenkins.com/book-course.html>

We've reviewed a large number of books in the PMEA Retired Member Network eNEWS over the past six+ years. Compared to most of them, this is probably the shortest one in the collection, both in the number of pages and its dimensions - no more than 132 pages and five inches tall! But don't let the smallness of the book fool you. It's packed with great insight and self-reflection that's comes directly to the point. You'll won't find any charts, formulas, or long forms throughout, although there are a few follow-up questions and exercises at the end of each chapter. Patrice is a great storyteller, and she spins numerous anecdotes into the fabric of her how-to-retire curriculum.



"This book will help you change the way you think about retirement. I will not talk about finances, how to make money in retirement, or where to find the best vacation spots. This book is about retirement's deeper issues - the issues a simple financial strategy or getaway vacation won't solve. What is rarely discussed is how you *feel* about retirement. If it seems that retirement is just a long lonely road to the end, I'd like to shed some light on those core feelings and unspoken fears and help you change it to something more positive. We'll go below the surface to reveal what's really behind the question, "What will I do all day?"

— Quote from the Introduction

## The Contents:

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| 1. What Will I Do All Day?                       | 13. Who Am I Without A Job Title?           | 28. A Place to Go                          |
| 2. Life Essentials                               | 14. Structure Is Freedom                    | 29. Discover What's Missing                |
| 3. Know Yourself                                 | 15. Securing Your Parachute                 | 30. Retirement and Relationships           |
| 4. How Will I Know for Sure It's Time to Retire? | 16. Creating Purpose Versus Finding Passion | 31. His, Hers, And Ours                    |
| 5. Retirement Is a Process                       | 17. Leave Room Between the Logs             | 32. What Are Your "Somedays?"              |
| 6. Should Some People Never Retire?              | 18. Leisure Planning                        | 33. Just Say, "Yes"                        |
| 7. Retirement Is Not the Final Score             | 19. Awaken Your Curiosity                   | 34. Past Behavior Predicts Future Behavior |
| 8. The Next Stop, Not the Last Stop              | 20. Always Work                             | 35. It's Never Too Late                    |
| 9. Are You Hiding Out or Holding Out?            | 21. Future Goals and Accomplishments        | 36. On and Off Days                        |
| 10. What Is Your Retirement Confidence Level?    | 22. Use Your Gifts                          | 37. Molehills into Mountains               |
| 11. The Retirement Letter                        | 23. Overly Committed                        | 38. Second Chapter                         |
| 12. Two-Year Increments                          | 24. Deeply Involved                         | 39. If Nothing Changes, Nothing Changes    |
|  | 25. The Joy of Volunteering                 | 40. Takeaways                              |
|  | 26. Pretend to Work                         |  |
|  | 27. Always Have A Business Card             |  |

I love her subtitle: "Wisdom to Get You Over Retirement and on with Living!" Exactly! Although, the transition for some may be bumpy! (That's why we share these resources!)

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## **The realities of home purchasing and the current market**

As of the date of this writing, we seem to be in a real estate "seller's market." We hear of "bidding wars," super-low mortgage rates, and houses being sold without even being placed on the market. However, the advantage is one-sided - most people must buy or rent something else even when they quickly close the deal on their current residence. On my street in Upper St. Clair, there is a "tale of two homes for sale" with apparent contrasting results thus far. Next-door neighbors, both involve young parents with kids putting their two-story houses on the market. Homeowner #1 was promoted, is being transferred to Harrisburg, and his company is taking full responsibility for making all the arrangements in packing the family's possessions and paying for moving expenses. Homeowner #2 plans to move into the "grandma's house" while awaiting the completion of her new construction. Good news/bad news: #1 sold their house is less than a week receiving \$20K more than they were asking. But, some of their gain was reduced by having to pay more for the new purchase in Harrisburg. Anticipating a "seller's market" and perceived shortage in local inventory, #2 may have priced his property a little high, and although he has seen steady traffic looking it over, he has already dropped the "ask" by \$20K with plans to withdraw it from the market in June if they don't receive an offer.

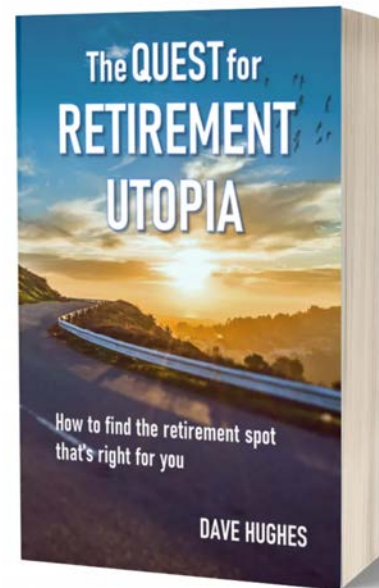
Both homeowners have had to deal with staging, preparing (and repeated tidying/cleaning), scheduling open houses (getting the children out-of-the-way), making minor repairs to the "old" residence while fixing up the "new" place for the move-in, securing loans, timing the closings and transfers of ownership (even finding a place to live temporarily), moving or storing possessions through the transition, etc.

### **"Is Downsizing the Right Choice for You?"**

by Dave Hughes

<https://retirefabulously.com/decide-whether-downsizing-right-choice/>

For those of you who follow these eNEWS, *yours truly* is a huge fan of Dave Hughes, one of the "retirement gurus" we often feature in eNEWS. Recently he wrote an article about the pros and cons of moving to a smaller home... an analysis that (pardon the play on words) may hit closer to "home" for many of us.



Dave Hughes' latest book as well as his website dive into the issues of retiree re-location...

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### PROS

You will gain access to the equity in your house.  
You may lower your monthly costs.  
You will have less to maintain.  
Downsizing will force you to reduce your possessions.  
You can move to a home that's better suited for aging in place.  
You can move to an area where services are conveniently located.

### CONS

Moving is costly.  
Moving is a hassle.  
Your house might require a lot of repairs and upgrades before you can sell it.  
Your monthly expenses may increase.  
Your new house could have problems of its own.  
If you are married, you and your spouse may have less room for personal space.  
You may be emotionally attached to your house.



Dave Hughes

This useful online tool is shared to help you compare costs of moving, mortgages, and the benefits of cashing in your home equity: <https://squaredaway.bc.edu/calculators/move-or-stay-put>

I heartily recommend Dave Hughes' latest paperback release: *The Quest for Retirement Utopia*. More information: <https://retirefabulously.com/the-quest-for-retirement-utopia/>. The book was reviewed in eNEWS in March 2020. (See this PMEA eNEWS article index: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bGkx4rqDE2m3JunmMailp2pThkSTWS1xWoiKI3\\_qWA/](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bGkx4rqDE2m3JunmMailp2pThkSTWS1xWoiKI3_qWA/)).

### In plain sight... a "treasure trove" of retirement prep

You don't have to be retired to take advantage of these benefits: <https://www.pmea.net/retired-members/>

Repeated throughout this e-publication: **Go to the PMEA Retired Members' webpage!**

Regardless of which "retirement stage" you are currently in, these tools are for you!

*The Ultimate Retiree Resource Guide/Bibliography* provides access to online links, websites, and book recommendations for tips on managing retirement and self-realization of the three basic needs that work fulfilled which are also essential to post-employment: purpose, community, and structure.

*How-To-Retire Video* is available to PMEA active members who are within their last one to five years of full-time employment to help plan everything for the "big day!"

*The Retiree Resource Registry (R<sup>3</sup>)* is a comprehensive "who's-who" directory of past leaders in PA music programs, archiving a record of their present and past job assignments, history of career achievements and awards, current professional music and music education activities, and special talents and interest. The R<sup>3</sup> shares this vast wealth of retiree experiences and expertise to offer membership free access to a list of very capable and willing informal consultants and advisers for help in any area.



### Retiree Resources:





























- Ultimate Retiree Resource Guide
- Prepping for Post-Employment
- The How-To-Retire Guide Webinar
- PMEA In Retirement – What's in it for me?
- PMEA and Retired Membership
- How to Use the R3
- Design Your Ideal Retirement
- Retirement Planning – It's Not About the Money
- Retired Member Network eNEWS
  - Retired Member Network eNEWS (04.01.21)
  - Retired Member Network eNEWS (03.04.21)
  - Retired Member Network eNEWS (02.02.21)
  - Retired Member Network eNEWS (01.07.21)
  - Retired Member Network eNEWS (12.03.20)
  - Retired Member Network eNEWS archive
  - Retired Member Network eNEWS Book Index
- Retirement – Now What PMEA News – Fall 2013
- Surviving Retirement PMEA News Winter 2015
- Advice from the Retirees PMEA News Spring 2015

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## Choosing Safer Activities

		Unvaccinated People	Your Activity	Fully Vaccinated People
			Outdoor	
Safest			Walk, run, or bike outdoors with members of your household	
			Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated family and friends	
			Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people	
Less Safe			Dine at an outdoor restaurant with friends from multiple households	
Least Safe			Attend a crowded, outdoor event, like a live performance, parade, or sports event	
			Indoor	
Less Safe			Visit a barber or hair salon	
			Go to an uncrowded, indoor shopping center or museum	
			Ride public transport with limited occupancy	
			Attend a small, indoor gathering of fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people from multiple households	
Least Safe			Go to an indoor movie theater	
			Attend a full-capacity worship service	
			Sing in an indoor chorus	
			Eat at an indoor restaurant or bar	
			Participate in an indoor, high intensity exercise class	

### Get a COVID-19 vaccine



**Prevention measures not needed**

**Take prevention measures**

Fully vaccinated people: wear a mask  
Unvaccinated people: wear a mask, stay 6 feet apart, and wash your hands.

- Safety levels assume the recommended prevention measures are followed, both by the individual and the venue (if applicable).
- CDC cannot provide the specific risk level for every activity in every community. It is important to consider your own personal situation and the risk to you, your family, and your community before venturing out.

Even the CDC knows how essential it is to...

Sing in an indoor chorus



## Trolling the Internet... Retiring music teachers in the news

- <https://www.wcvb.com/article/back-to-school-beloved-music-teacher-was-not-ready-to-retire-but-covid-19-forced-her-into-having-to-choose-an-early-retirement/35257275>
- <https://whyy.org/articles/these-retiring-teachers-wont-get-a-final-goodbye-so-were-telling-their-stories/>
- <https://www.stamfordadvocate.com/news/article/Sioux-City-music-teacher-retiring-after-30-years-16111439.php>



## Articles from A to Z

Posted at paulfox.blog

What became my #1 hobby when I retired? Writing! Creating blog posts for my website.

At the risk for being accused of self-promotion (or even worse - self-aggrandizement), I would ask you visit to my WordPress site. Your traffic will improve my "statistics..." much appreciated! If you have desire to help others and have the skills to be a closet "wordsmith," consider setting up a website to produce regularly distributed blogposts. Retired members have lots to share... mentoring with recommendations for music, media, and methods, insight and proactive measures to pedagogical or organizational issues (before they become real problems), solutions to teaching/learning challenges, etc.

My own areas of interest include the following, each with its own section or menu:

- **Care** <https://paulfox.blog/care/> or <https://paulfox.blog/category/care/>
- **Creativity** <https://paulfox.blog/creativity-in-education/> or <https://paulfox.blog/category/creativity-and-education/>
- **Ethics** <https://paulfox.blog/category/ethics/>
- **Fox's Firesides** (for music students and parents) <https://paulfox.blog/foxs-firesides/>
- **Retirees** <https://paulfox.blog/for-retirees/>
- **Training/Jobs** <https://paulfox.blog/becoming-a-music-educator/>



Numerous articles on retirement transitioning and other topics may be relevant to PMEA retirees... and may serve as the starting point for new submissions to *PMEA News*. Have you seen these? (How about sending me something and becoming a "guest author?")

- **Will You Still Need Me When I Retire?** <https://paulfox.blog/2020/03/15/will-you-still-need-me-when-i-retire/>
- **One Happy But Solitary Retiree** <https://paulfox.blog/2020/04/16/one-happily-solitary-retiree/>
- **Sleep and Retirement** <https://paulfox.blog/2020/06/25/sleep-and-retirement/>
- **In Defense of Dogs** <https://paulfox.blog/2020/10/16/in-defense-of-dogs/>
- **Giving Thanks** <https://paulfox.blog/2020/11/26/giving-thanks/>
- **COVID-19 vs. New Year's Resolutions** <https://paulfox.blog/2020/12/29/covid-19-vs-new-years-resolutions/>
- **Shun Away from Shams, Scams, & Spam** <https://paulfox.blog/2021/01/30/shun-away-from-shams-scams-and-spam/>

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## PMEA Retired Member Network eNEWS: May 6, 2021

by Paul K. Fox, PMEA Retired Members Coordinator

Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Retired Members

Page 12 of 12

### Heard through the "vintage" grapevine...

To the tune of "What's the buzz, tell me what's a-happening..." from *Jesus Christ Superstar*



Good boy,  
Brooks!  
Clem Rolin's  
adorable dog!



O Richard Bundy

You can take the director out of the  
"blue band," but you can't take the  
"blue band" out of the director.



Missing those Southwest  
Orchestra concerts, and  
conductor Mark Jelinek



Dennis Emert still has his hand in it,  
serving as All-Eastern Coordinator

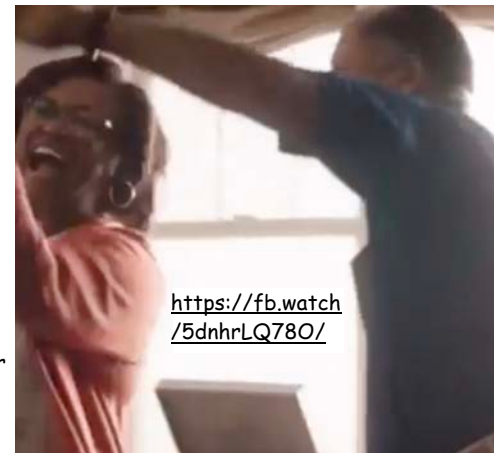
### EASTERN DIVISION



*We All Belong!*  
Proven Practices & Perspectives  
for Today's Music Educator

for the 2021 NafME Honors Band,  
Orchestra, Chorus, and Jazz groups!

Have you  
seen  
Adrianne  
Davis Kelly's  
latest  
commercial...  
showing off  
her moves for  
Lutheran  
Senior Life?

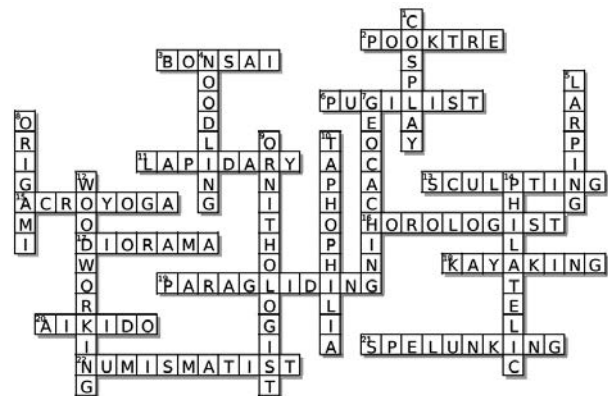


<https://fb.watch/5dnhrLQ78O/>



Looking good: James Bennett with wife  
Terry. He wants to get back to his  
Community Band South when things open  
up again for in-person rehearsals!

PMEA  
membership  
renewal time  
is next month!  
Retired \$68  
PCMEA \$44  
Full Active  
\$142



Answers to Hobbies puzzle from page 4

Stay safe, healthy, and engaged!

Happy Trails, retirees! PKF

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