

Announcing the Re-Launch of the Retiree Resource Registry!

PMEA Retired Member Network eNEWS

Fall/Winter Issue – November 17, 2023

Pennsylvania Music Educators Association

"Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success."

– Edward Everett Hale

"There is no "I" in TEAM, but there is in "WIN!"

– Michael Jordan

"It takes collaboration across a community to develop better skills for better lives."

– Jose Angel Gurria

FEATURES

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EDITOR'S NOTE

We want to hear from you!

Retirees, those soon-to-retire, collegiates, and active members: Do you have any "hints or hacks" to share with our colleagues? Please contribute YOUR articles, notices, or suggestions!

Send us your news, views, stories, and even *funnies* for the next edition of this publication.

Next deadline for eNEWS:

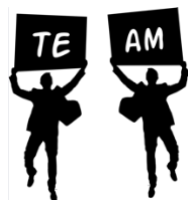
Spring/Summer 2024 issue

January 31, 2023

Keep "connected" with PMEA!

Message from Your Retired Member Coordinator It's Time to Roll Up Our Sleeves!

by Paul K. Fox



"We're in this together, and we're in this for the long haul!"

This positive affirmation could have been overheard in almost any setting and from any "caring" audience, celebrating & renewing the commitment of its members' "combined might" of enthusiasm, expertise, and energy that only a TEAM can foster "for the good of the order!" TOGETHER we have the POWER!

Our strength lies in our unity of purpose and sharing our vision and resources.

We all may be facing one of the most challenging times in our profession – declining enrollments, longer work hours, teacher shortages, shifting academic priorities and landscapes... The post-pandemic "gap" and other problems may require a little retooling and/or rebuilding of our programs. And, through it all, are you feeling a bit stressed, overwhelmed, overworked, or underappreciated?

Well, that is THE WHY for seeking *active engagement* and participation in your professional association – PMEA. "WE" can serve as your proverbial safety net!

Annual disclaimer – for those who say, "I'm not retired yet!"

Before you complain to Abi or other members on the PMEA state staff or EXCOM, "Why are they sending me this publication," – let me remind you! It's intentional! Even though **The PMEA Retired Member Network eNEWS** is *about* retirees, *for* retirees, those *soon-to-retire*, and *any* advanced career planners, it is also geared for *anyone* who hopes to *make it to retirement* at some point in their life. Semi-annually, we reach out to PMEA colleagues in all stages of their careers: collegiates, first year or rookie teachers, recently transfers to the profession or those assigned to new positions, veteran educators who have a lot to share with their fellow music educators... in short, ALL OF YOU! This is YOUR forum to collaborate, share experiences, recharge, renew, re-energize, and re-purpose.

One helpful resource – PMEA Retiree Resource Registry (R3).

There is one message ESPECIALLY for PMEA retired members *and* people seeking help from advisors or mentors.

The Retiree Resource Registry (R3) has been renovated and updated!

(see next page)



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<https://www.pmea.net/retired-members/> and

<https://www.pmea.net/council-for-ttrr/>

412-596-7937

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It's Time to Roll Up Our Sleeves... *continued*

So... **calling on all retirees.** Please take a moment and **SIGN-UP and RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP ON THE R3.**

Thanks to large part of the efforts of PMEA Director of Public and Government Affairs Mark Despotakis, R3 has a new face look. Here was his "relaunch of R3" message in the October 2023 *PMEA Digital News*:

We are excited to be re-launching the PMEA Retired Resource Registry! The new version of the R3 will make it easier for retired members to keep information current in the registry and it will be easier for PMEA members to search the directory to find assistance.

PMEA values the vast wealth of experience and contributions of our retired members. The R3 celebrates the unique gifts and professional achievements of our retired members while offering service to PMEA members needing assistance in a variety of areas.

If you are retired and would like to offer your assistance to other PMEA members, please follow these simple directions to update your R3 profile:

<https://www.pmea.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/How-To-R3.pdf>

*If you are a PMEA member and would like to search the R3 directory, you can do that **here** on the PMEA website (login required.)*

How does this process work? I will give you a "real live" example.

Say a PMEA member like Suellen Englehard needs some music coaching help. This is from a recently received email sent to me by the Sto-Rox JSJS teacher:

coaching help. This is from a recently received

I am looking for people to volunteer to run sectional practice with my middle school students. Their class meets every day at 8:58-9:39. These kids have very little experience and I need some "experts" to work with them in small groups. We don't have a beginning band class for middle school and some of these kids have never played before. They could come 1-2 times a week during that time to work with them. I would love to have a trumpet, low brass, clarinet, and flute sectionals. They are the groups that need help the most.

She left me her contact emails: sengelhard@srsd.k12.pa.us and suellentrischler@yahoo.com.

Once all our retirees complete their profiles following the "How to R3" instructions above, PMEA will be able to share a list of qualified and interested candidates for Suellen to contact. Under the "Focus Area" menu on the PMEA website, a search could be narrowed by selecting the teaching areas, levels, PMEA District or city, and types of volunteer jobs retirees have indicated their interest.

Numerous other scenarios could be imagined. In the past, repertoire or music lesson advice, potential guest conductors, festival chaperones, audition screeners, presenters for regional workshops, etc. have been "found" on the R3.

Until ALL RETIREES have re-registered and revised their profile data, the Retired Member Coordinator will serve to help connect people/requests for assistance using the *old registry list*. Just send an email to paulkfox.usc@gmail.com.

If you would like to schedule a formal (and trained) PMEA Mentor, visit the PMEA Mentor Program website:

<https://www.pmea.net/mentor-program/>

R3 Teaching Areas: Band, Choral, Composition, General Music, Guitar, History, Instrumental, Jazz, Keyboard/Piano, Marching Band, Modern Band, Music Theory, Orchestra, Research, Show Choir, Special Education, Teacher Education, Technology, Voice

R3 Volunteer Jobs: Advocacy, Assessments, Auditions, Booster Groups, Chaperoning at Festivals, Coaching, Community Ensembles, Core Arts Standards, Curriculum/Writing, Festival Preparation, Fundraising, Guest Conducting, Higher Education, Hosting, Leadership Training, Music Performance Assessments, PCMEA & Teacher Training, Professional Development, Research

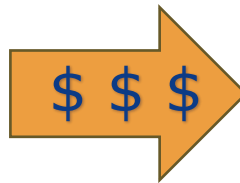
Help Is Just a Click Away –

You Can Count on Your Retired Members in R3 & the PMEA Mentoring Program!

Send a Collegiate to the Conference – PMEA Members Helping PCMEA Members!

<https://www.pmea.net/pmea-annual-in-service-conference/>

THINK BACK! Do you remember when... you were a college student trying to meet all your educational and living expenses, budgeting the costs of housing, meals, car, clothing, books, music, lessons, testing, an occasional social or dating, etc. Now our future music educators have significant drains on their wallets for annual clearances, mileage to field experiences, professional dues, paying off school loans, and even the fees associated with attending the annual PMEA conference. **HOW CAN WE HELP?** Let's make it a little easier for them and sponsor one or more to go in April!



Click on the following link to make a tax-deductible "gift" to help send a PA college music education major to the PMEA Annual Conference in Erie:

<https://portal.pmea.net/i4a/forms/index.cfm?id=12&pageid=3294>

PCMEA members: Watch for future PMEA Digital News and other emails to enter your name into the pool of those who will be randomly selected for a complimentary PMEA registration!

2024 Annual Conference – "Making Waves" – Engaging, Sharing & Networking!

<https://www.pmea.net/pmea-annual-in-service-conference/>

You are cordially invited to attend the PMEA Annual Conference, April 17-19, 2024. This year, we are venturing up to our Northwest Corner to the Erie Bayfront Convention Center. We will feature innovative ideas, performances, speakers, and sessions that are sure to bring *new tides* to your classroom. Make plans to join us as we let the *music of the water* surround us and bring us together to experience **"Making Waves"** in music education through the conference experience.



Keep an eye out for the next issue of *PMEA News* with a comprehensive conference schedule. A sneak peak of these planned sessions is provided on the following three pages (tentative schedule/as of November 13, 2023).

For conference registration, hotels, and more information, please visit the PMEA website (link above).



2024 Annual Conference – “Making Waves” – Proposed Sessions (*Sneak Peek!*)

11.13.23 Revision – The complete schedule will be posted once finalized at <https://www.pmea.net/pmea-annual-in-service-conference/>

Advancing the Profession/Career Development/Leadership/Teacher Resources

- THU Noon – Cross-Training in Classical and Musical Theatre Singing Techniques – See-yin (Oliver) Lo
- THU 1:30 pm – Unbalanced Director: Approaches for Self-Care and Building Longevity within Music Education – Jessica Vaughan-Marra
- THU 4:30 pm – Healthy Playing for the Lifelong Musician – Aileen Razez
- THU 4:30 pm – The Pillars of Music: Building True Community & Belonging – Missy Strong
- FRI 8:30 am – Building Internal Musicianship for Better Teaching – Nathan Buonviri
- FRI 8:30 am – Encourage a Sense of Belonging: Mentoring Student Teachers – Anne Stuart
- FRI 10:00 am – Empowering Identities from the Ground Up – JoAnn Wieszczyk
- FRI 10:00 am – What Music Educators Need to Know About Music Therapy – Kathleen Melago and panelists
- FRI 11:30 am – Music Educators: Shepherding Tomorrow’s Leaders to Artistry – Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser

Advocacy/PDE Update/Boosters

- THU 9:00 am – Opening Session/Update on PA Department of Education – David Deitz
- THU 4:30 pm – Exploring the PA Dashboard (National Arts Education Data Project) – David Deitz
- FRI 10:00 am – Many Hands Make Light Work: Cultivating and Sustaining a Healthy Music Booster Program – Christopher Marra
- FRI 1:00 pm – Religion, Resolve & Ransom: Dimensions of Justice in Major Choral Works by Black Women Composers – Khyle Wooten

Band/Jazz/Instrumental

- THU 10:30 am – What Can I Do TOMORROW to Improve My Ensemble? – Peter Boonshaft
- THU Noon – Start Them Young: Jazz Ensemble for the First- and Second-Year Instrumentalists – Jim Henigin
- THU 1:30 pm – Five S.M.A.R.T. Ideas to Retain This Year’s Beginners – Marcia Neel
- THU 1:30 pm – Marching Arts Roundtable – Mark Despotakis
- THU 3:00 pm – Ten Minutes a Day to a Better Band or Orchestra! – Peter Boonshaft
- THU 3:00 pm – Tips and Tricks for Helping Beginning Bassoonists Thrive – Margaret Fay
- THU 3:00 pm – Growing Beginning Instrumental Programs – Christian Daviduk & Bethany Graham
- FRI 8:30 am – Elementary Instrumental Recruitment: How We Enroll 80% of Our Kids – Chris Horn
- FRI 8:30 am – Maximizing Electronics Design for Your Marching Ensemble – Michael Zellers
- FRI 8:30 am – Musicianship Through Movement – Patricia Cornett & Joshua Roach
- FRI 10:00 am – Grade Thrive! Choosing Music of Excellence for Beginning Band – Jason Worzbyt
- FRI 10:00 am – Taiko FUNDamentals – Rob Reams
- FRI 1:00 p.m. – Brass Pedagogy: Today’s Seeds, Tomorrow’s Shade – Jonathan Helmick
- FRI 1:00 p.m. – Let It Grow: Innovative & Proven Methods for Growing Your Marching Program – Joe Santanello & Matthew Tenaglia
- FRI 2:30 pm – Performance tips for Percussionists – Nathan Buonviri
- FRI 2:30 pm – Recruitment and Retention in a Small School Setting – John Leiderman
- FRI 2:30 pm – Simple Systems for Better (Marching) Bands: LEVEL UP Your FUN-da-MENTALS – Adam Gumble



Choral/Musical Theater

- THU 10:30 am – Shifting Gears! Unique and Effective Techniques for the Young Tenor-Bass Voice – Jon Simmons
- THU 1:30 pm – Not Throwing Away My Shot... to Direct a Great High School Musical – Erin Kauppila & Sara Hannum
- THU 3:00 pm – Just Take a Deep Breath: A Survival Guide for the First Year/Beginning Choral Director – Michael Ehrlich
- THU 4:30 pm – Technology-Assisted Direct Evaluation in the Choral Classroom – Ryan Keeling
- THU 4:30 pm – Use Your Superpower! Directing Musicals for a Greater Purpose – Diane Beckstead
- FRI 8:30 am – How Do I Make THAT Sound? Vocal technique for the Non-Voice Major Director – Erin Camburn
- FRI 10:00 am – Pitch Perfect Pedagogy: Teaching Contemporary A Cappella – Ryan Perrotte
- SAT 10:30 am – Choral Reading Session – Joy Meade, Host

2024 Annual Conference – “Making Waves” – Proposed Sessions (*continued*)

Version 11.13.23 – The complete schedule will be posted once finalized at <https://www.pmea.net/pmea-annual-in-service-conference/>

Classroom/General Music

- THU Noon – Purposeful Play – Cassandra Eisenreich
- THU 1:30 pm – Nurturing Wholeness in the Elementary General Music Classroom – Roger Sams
- THU 4:30 pm – Tennis Balls, Basket Balls, and Hula Hoops, Oh My! – Courtney D’Aversa
- FRI 8:30 am – It’s a Musical World: Travel the World Through Music – John Jacobson
- FRI 11:30 am – K-2 for You – John Jacobson
- FRI 1:00 pm – Super Six: Making Deeper Connections with Classroom Instruments – Brittany Bauman & Cassandra Eisenreich
- SAT 10:30 am – Spirals & Circles: Playing with an Integrated Arts Theme in the General Music Class – Rob Amchin
- SAT Noon – Poems & Proverbs: Exploring the Spoken Word in the General Music Class – Rob Amchin

Collegiate/PCMEA

- THU 8:00 am – PMEA Council TTRR Showcase and free breakfast for PCMEA members! – Paul Fox, host
- THU 10:30 am – Don’t Stop the Music: Using Nonverbal Communication for Rehearsal Efficiency – Tina DiMeglio
- THU 1:30 pm – Doormats, Bookends, and Doorstops: Demystifying Expressive Gestures, Phrasing, and Fermatas – Jason Worzbyt
- FRI 1:00 pm – Standing Out: Advice for Landing Your First Classroom Job – David Pope
- FRI 2:30 pm – PCMEA Session – Scott Sheehan

All PCMEA Members:

Come to the **Council TTRR Showcase** on **Thursday, April 18 @ 8 a.m.** and enjoy a free continental breakfast courtesy of PMEA.

Conducting

- THU 10:30 am – Don’t Stop the Music: Using Nonverbal Communication for Rehearsal Efficiency – Tina DiMeglio
- THU 1:30 pm – Doormats, Bookends, and Doorstops: Demystifying Expressive Gestures, Phrasing, and Fermatas – Jason Worzbyt
- FRI 11:30 am – The Choral Conductor’s Toolkit: The Transformative Power of Gesture and Movement – Kyle Zeuch

Diversity/Equity/Access/Inclusion

- THU 3:00 pm – Marginalized Concert Band Repertoire – Tonia Asel Kaufman
- FRI 11:30 am – Culturally Responsive Music Education: Possible, Practical, and Prudent – Rachael Fleischaker
- FRI 11:30 am – Equitable Programming: Engaging Students as Agents of Change – Jonathan Helmick & Benjamin Johnston
- FRI 1:00 pm – A Historical Perspective of Women in Band & Moving Forward to Create a More Inclusive Ensemble – Michquelena Ferguson
- FRI 2:30 pm – Move, See, Sing: Supporting Multilingual Learners in Choral Ensembles – Austin Norrid

Early Childhood

- FRI 10:00 am – Greatest Hits in Early Childhood Music – Rachel Whitcomb & Cassandra Eisenreich

Exceptional Learners

- FRI 2:30 pm – Autistic Musicians! – Andrew Erb & Scott McCaskey plus student panelists

Guitar/Modern Band

- THU 10:30 am – Modern Band Playbook: Where Do I Start? – Timothy Bupp
- THU Noon – Exploring the Modern Band Method – Bryan Powell
- THU 1:30 pm – Let’s Write a Song Together – Warren Gramm
- THU 3:00 pm – Back to “Basics” – Warren Gramm

Health/Wellness/Retirement

- THU 10:30 am – How to Be an Effective Music Educator and Maintain a Personal Life... – Kathleen Melago and panelists
- THU 1:30 pm – Social Emotional Learning and Music Education: A Powerful Combination – Kathleen Melago
- THU 3:00 pm – Anxiety, Imposter Syndrome, and Other Games We Play – Adam Brennan & Jonelle Brennan
- THU 4:30 pm – Strategies to “C” Your Way Through a Career Crisis (for the Seasoned, Struggling Educator) – Neal Lutz
- FRI 10:00 am – Retirement 101: Retiree Stories and Strategies – Paul Fox and Retired Members

Higher Ed/Research

- THU 10:30 am – Research Poster Session – Nate Buonviri, host
- THU 1:30 pm – Achieving Transcendent Flow States through Dalcroze Eurhythmics: Ritual Music Rapture – Anthony Molinaro
- THU 3:00 pm – Evaluating the Efficacy of AI Music Technologies in Music Education: Composition – Susan Raponi
- FRI 10:00 am – Invited Researcher: Kevin Shorner-Johnson
- FRI 11:30 pm – PMEA Research Paper Presentation Session 1
- FRI 1:00 pm – PMEA Research Paper Presentation Session 2

All PMEA Members:

You are cordially invited to the **Retirement 101** session on **Friday, April 19 @ 10 a.m.**

Retired Members:

After our breakfast on Friday, please join your Retired Member Coordinator to co-present/share your own ideas and experiences on successful retirement prep, self-reinvention, transitioning, and “living the dream” during post-full-time employment.

2024 Annual Conference – “Making Waves” – Proposed Sessions (continued)

Version 11.13.23 – The complete schedule will be posted once finalized at <https://www.pmea.net/pmea-annual-in-service-conference/>

Music Technology

- THU 10:30 am – Cables, Carboard, & Citrus Fruits Can Make Music? Seriously?? – Susan Basalik
- THU Noon – Create a Recording Music Technology Class with Little or No Budget – Bryan Helsel
- THU 3:00 pm – Beethoven Back from the Dead – Using AI Composed Music to Engage Students & Audiences – Jeffrey Tedford
- FRI 10:00 am – Clicks and Tracks: Let's Stay Together – David Bachart

Strings/Orchestra

- THU 10:30 am – Strings 101 – Melissa Brun Salerno
- THU Noon – Global to Local: Wellness for Strings in Our Schools – Stephanie Paden
- THU 1:30 pm – Creating an Engaging and Fun Middle School String Class – David Pope
- THU 3:00 pm – The Low-Down on Lower Strings (CELLO Version): Creative Strategies & Teaching Techniques... – Stephen Benham
- FRI 8:30 am – Setting the Upper Strings Up for Success – Brenda Brenner
- FRI 10:00 am – Bad Bowing Diagnostics; Treat the Problem, Not the Symptom – Melinda Crawford Perttu
- FRI 1:00 pm – From Poof to Portato: A Sequence of Bow Strokes for the Heterogeneous Class – Brenda Brenner
- FRI 2:30 pm – The Literate Beginning Orchestra: Reading, Writing & Playing Music – Lauren Forshey

World Music

- THU 3:00 pm – World Music Pedagogy: Frameworks for Success in Elementary General Music – Sarah Watts
- FRI 2:30 pm – Jamaican Me Crazy: Teaching Jamaican Drumming in the General Music Classroom – Kathryn Landis

General Sessions:

THU April 18 at 9 a.m.

Marcia Neel, keynote speaker

FRI April 19 at 3:45 p.m.

**Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser,
keynote speaker**

SAT April 20 at 8:30 a.m.

**PMEA Awards Breakfast
Rob Amchin, keynote speaker**

Meetings:

THU 4/18 @ 8 a.m.

**“Council TTRR Showcase”
(free breakfast for PCMEA)**

FRI 4/19 @ 8:00 a.m.

**Retired Members Breakfast
MPA Committee @ 8:30 a.m.**

Composition Program @ 1:00 p.m.

All-State Concerts

Warner Theatre

FRI 4/19 @ 7:30 p.m.

**Jazz Ensemble &
Contemporary
A Cappella Ensemble**

SAT 4/20 @ 11:00 a.m.

Band & Orchestra

SAT 4/20 @ 4:00 p.m.

Chorus and Wind Ensemble

Guest Performances as of 11.13.23

Altoona Brass Collective – THU 4/18

Ambridge Area HS Steel Pan & Percussion Ensemble, Todd Hartman, Director – THU 4/18

Armstrong River Hawks Taiko, Rob Reams, Director – FRI 4/19

B. Reed Henderson HS Chamber Choir, Jonathan Kreamer, Director – THU 4/18

Bethel Park HS Chamber Orchestra, Stephanie Glover, Director – FRI 4/19

Bridle Path-Knapp Elementary School Jazz Band, Allison Kershner, Director – FRI 4/19

Brookville Area HS Concert Band, Kyle Grabigel, Director – THU 4/18

Butler Rock Orchestra, Katherine Vercek-Black, Director – THU 4/18

Cedar Crest MS Falcon Ensemble, Jared Daubert, Director – FRI 4/19

The Crescendudes, Kelly Rocchi, Director – THU 4/18

Curwensville Area Select Choir, Jacob Mandell, Director – FRI 4/19

Dallastown Area MS Concert Choir, Vanessa Trauger, Director – THU 4/18

Grove City College Touring Choir, Katherine Mueller, Director – FRI 4/19

Harmonix, Susan Huster, director – THU 4/18

Hempfield HS Chamber Choir, Alejandro Ramos, Director – THU 4/18

Lewisburg Area HS Chamber Choir, Jonathan Walz, Director – FRI 4/19

Lincoln Park Performing Arts CS Women's Choir, Marissa Ulmer, Director – THU 4/18

Moon Area MS Wind Ensemble, Abigail Finkelstein and Alan Fear, Directors – THU 4/18

Mt. Lebanon HS Wind Ensemble, Jason Cheskawich, Director – FRI 4/19

Neshaminy HS Select Choir, Kristin Nichols, Director – FRI 4/19

North Allegheny SHS Honors Chamber Orchestra, Sarah Lavelle, Director – FRI 4/19

North Hills HS Low Brass Ensemble, Len Lavelle, Director – FRI 4/19

Penn State Bassoon Ensemble, Margaret Fay, Director – THU 4/18

Penndale Camerata, Jennifer Klenk, Director – FRI 4/19

Penndale Jazz Ensemble, Robert Kennedy, Director – FRI 4/19

Plymouth Whitemarsh Clarinet Choir, Tonia Asel Kaufman, Director – FRI 4/19

IUP Jazz Ensemble, James Flowers, Director – THU 4/18

Susquehanna University Saxophone Ensemble, Gail Levinsky, Director – THU 4/18

Upper Merion Chamber Strings, Diana Helmetag, Director – FRI 4/19

U.S. Army Field Band Jazz Ambassadors – THU 4/18

Warwick HS Symphonic Band, Matthew Tenaglia, Director – FRI 4/19

West Chester University Mastersingers, Ryan Kelly, Director – THU 4/18

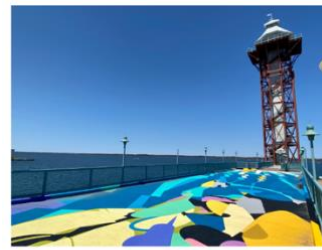
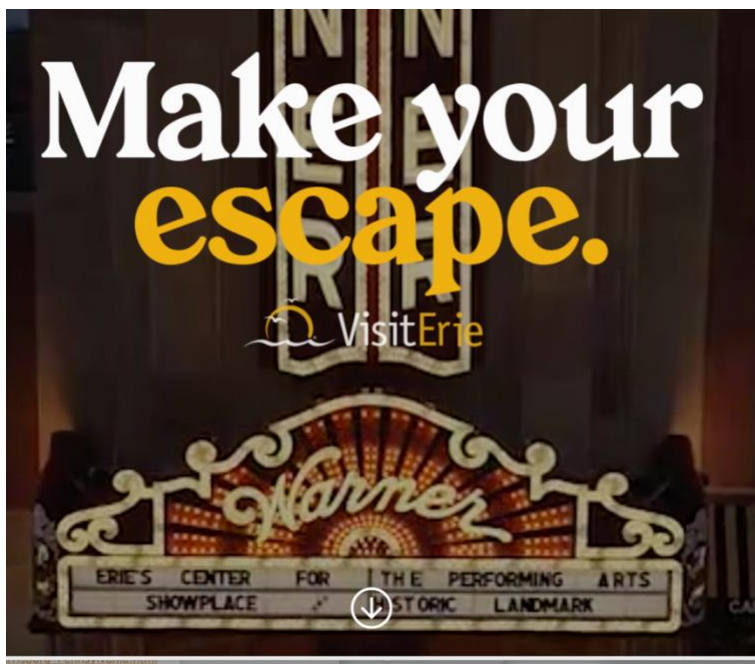
West Chester University Symphony Orchestra, Paul Bryan, Director – THU 4/18

Westminster College Wind Ensemble, R. Tad Greig – FRI 4/19

Westmoreland Winds, Chris Marra, Director – THU 4/18

Wilson HS Chamber String Ensemble, Kelly Kuhn, Director – THU 4/18

Wilson HS Treble Choir, Emily Fredericks, Director – THU 4/18



Dobbins Landing



U Pick 6 Craft Beer Pubs & Restaurants



Outdoor Dining at the Bayfront Grille



814 Photo

More THINGS-TO-DO while in Erie! Retirees: Make it a 3 or 4 Day "Get-Away!"

TripAdvisor's Top Dozen Attractions for You or Family Members to Do Before/After the PMEA Conference

1. Presque Isle State Park https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-q52607-d1519750-Reviews-Presque_Isle_State_Park-Erie_Pennsylvania.html
2. Splash Lagoon https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-q52607-d272288-Reviews-Splash_Lagoon_Indoor_Water_Park_Resort-Erie_Pennsylvania.html
3. Erie Maritime Museum https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-q52607-d146062-Reviews-Erie_Maritime_Museum-Erie_Pennsylvania.html
4. Waldameer & Water World https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-q52607-d478865-Reviews-Waldameer_Water_World-Erie_Pennsylvania.html
5. Tom Ridge Environmental Center https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-q52607-d612599-Reviews-Tom_Ridge_Environmental_Center-Erie_Pennsylvania.html
6. Erie Zoo https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-q52607-d477916-Reviews-Erie_Zoo-Erie_Pennsylvania.html
7. Asbury Woods https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-q52607-d3863728-Reviews-Asbury_Woods-Erie_Pennsylvania.html
8. Hagen History Center https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-q52607-d8807053-Reviews-Hagen_History_Center-Erie_Pennsylvania.html
9. UPMC Park https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-q52607-d6998258-Reviews-UPMC_Park-Erie_Pennsylvania.html
10. Port Erie Bicentennial Tower https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-q52607-d4222728-Reviews-Port_Erie_Bicentennial_Tower-Erie_Pennsylvania.html
11. Warner Theater https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-q52607-d3915695-Reviews-Warner_Theater-Erie_Pennsylvania.html
12. Presque Isle Lighthouse https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-q52607-d10486911-Reviews-Presque_Isle_Lighthouse-Erie_Pennsylvania.html

View all 149 TripAdvisor recommendations: https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-q52607-Activities-0a0-Erie_Pennsylvania.html



Erie Playhouse



expERIENCE Children's Museum



Perry Monument



St. Patrick Church

Soon-to-Retire Corner – Book Review

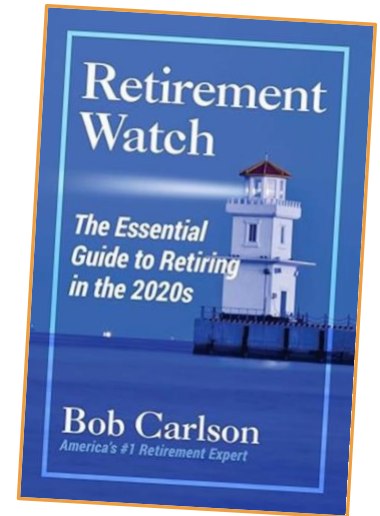
by Paul Fox

Retirement Watch – The Essential Guide to Retiring in the 2020s

Most of my PMEA book reviews offer advice to help a newly retired (or soon-to-retire) person to self-reinvent, find his or her own purpose, structure, or community towards “living the dream” in post-employment. Frankly, for the “big money” issues – investment and estate planning – I would expect you would consult a full-blown financial counselor or even an elder-law attorney. In other words, “you get what you pay for...” I would not rely on a single book to set-up my “retirement plan,” deal with taxes, nor choose the right investment strategies. But, perhaps one source might be high on my list as an exception...

The main premise of Bob Carlson’s book and website is that we are due for a period of explosive changes in retirement finances that will disrupt our short- and long-term planning. The author maintains that what is coming will be challenging but he is positive that he has a few remedies for you to consider. “My goal is to help you get ahead of these changes so that you can increase your financial security and independence at a time when others are worrying. I believe that there are solutions and responses to the concerns that I’ve identified. By solutions, I don’t mean dramatic actions by Congress or regulators, though some such actions would help. Rather, I present practical actions that you can take, and I discussed them in clear and easy-to-understand terms. This is what I’ve been doing for more than thirty years in my newsletter retirement watch and its accompanying website.” <https://www.retirementwatch.com/>

“The Fox” recommendation? All thumbs up! But don't wait until you are already retired to purchase and read it!



Chapters

1. The Coming Retirement Squeeze: Why the Mid-2020s Will Be a Tough Time for Many Retirees
2. How to Build a Moat Around Your Retirement
3. Why You Need Guaranteed Lifetime Income to Reduce Risk and Increase Spending
4. Don't Leave Money on the Table: How to Make the Most of Social Security
5. How to Create More Guaranteed Lifetime Income
6. The Spending Plan: Why It's Critical, and How Most Retirement Plans Get It Wrong
7. How to Avoid the Mistakes Most People Make About Medicare and Retirement Medical Expenses
8. Who Will Change My Light Bulbs? How to Sort Through the Confusion and Chaos in Long Term Care
9. IRAs and 401(k)s: Maximizing the After-Tax Value of Your Most Valuable Assets
10. The Five Big Retirement Tax Ambushes and How to Avoid Them
11. Ensure Your Legacy: Estate Planning Is Much More Than Tax Reduction
12. The Overlooked Retirement Asset: Making the Most of Your Home Equity
13. The Solo Years: When Many Retirement Plans Fail
14. Do Retirees Have Too Much Invested in Stocks? (and Other Investment Issues)
15. How to Avoid the Major Causes of Retirement Failure and Achieve True Success in Retirement

From the Back Cover...

"You've worked all your life, contributed to Social Security, saved money and invested. You've planned and strategized, brainstormed and daydreamed about spending your golden years doing the things you love with the people you love. But you're plagued by a nagging question: Will my money last?"

"The answer to that question is as uncertain as it has been in decades. Over the past 40 years, retirees benefited from strong bull markets in both stocks and bonds, low interest rates, and low inflation. But this isn't your parents' economy. Financial experts, who touted 'the 4-percent rule,' are now advising that it may no longer be safe to spend on your assets at that rate."

Will Your Retirement Be a Dream or a Disaster?

"Bob Carlson of Retirement Watch proposes he has done the research [and] promises to explain everything you really want to know about:

- *Social Security and Medicare: When is it smart to spend from your nest egg rather than claim your benefits?*
- *Long term care insurance: Do you need it? How can you afford it?*
- *Annuities: What should you know about this long-neglected vehicle for structuring retirement income?*
- *The all-important "spending plan." How it will determine your standard of living – and whether (or not) your retirement will be successful."*

Collegiate Communiqué

"Ask and You Shall Receive" – A Little Relief for College Music Education Majors

PMEA – *your* professional association – truly listens to its members – active, retired, collegiate, and corporate! We have heard that more than a few of our PCMEA friends are facing economic challenges. This has been a hot topic at meetings of the PMEA EXCOM and Council for Teacher Training, Recruitment, and Retention meetings... and this problem and related issues will continue to be addressed in the future.

Well, albeit very small "first steps," several initiatives have been recently introduced by PMEA members to assist our most valuable resource – college music students – soon to be the major players and "the future of our profession." All that is asked is that the collegiates become active and engaged in their professional associations – PCMEA *and* PMEA – pay their NAFME and local chapter dues and participate in PMEA professional development opportunities for enrichment.



Are YOU aware of the initiation of these new programs over the past year?

- **Send a Collegiate to the Conference** (see page 3). In January or February 2014, a digital news bulletin will be emailed to you to sign-up for the random drawings of complimentary PMEA/Erie registrations (\$40).
- **Breakfast is on PMEA for PCMEA members** (see page 5) who attend the opening "early-bird" session of the *Council TTRR Showcase* on Thursday, April 18 at 8 a.m. "Do I have to get up early?" Yes, but at least it is one fewer meal expense you will need to budget!
- **Two NEW scholarships** for reimbursement of college expenses: the PMEA Council TTRR Continuing Education Awards and the PMEA Music for Lifelong Learning Award, both funded by the Stark-Fox Family Fund. This past year, we are proud to announce the first recipients of the PMEA Council TTRR Awards (\$5,000 each): Elizabeth Corbett, a junior at Duquesne University; Adam Hanna, a senior at Susquehanna University; and Mitchell Hourt, a senior at Moravian University. For more information, visit the scholarship page on the PMEA website or <https://www.pmea.net/scholarships-and-awards/stark-fox-family-fund-scholarship/>

Of course, these were added to the other "benefits of membership." Be sure to peruse the PMEA website to reach PMEA mentors, access the Retiree Resource Registry, find mock interviewers, and use the links to the PCMEA leadership and other helpful contacts, collegiate member discounts, etc. *PMEA is here for YOU!*

Employment Resources for PCMEA Members, "Rookies," or New Transfers – from Past Issues of the PMEA Collegiate Communiqué

<https://paulkfoxusc.files.wordpress.com/2023/04/nafe-pmea-interview-clinic-s041523.pdf>

How should you prepare for interviewing and getting ready for those upcoming employment screenings?

Did you miss the 2023 PMEA Spring Conference at Kalahari Resort? No worries. PMEA Council TTRR Chair and workshop presenter Paul Fox has provided a way for you to download the handouts and articles for his past session "Interview Clinic 2.0," including one of the most comprehensive set of links to blog-posts and other sources of interview questions, developing story-telling skills, learning how to market yourself, the do's and don'ts at job screenings (to avoid those big boo-boo's and bad habits that crush your chances), and creating a professional (e-)portfolio, résumé, website, and business card. This PDF file will only be active and available for a limited time.

Go to the link above or visit www.paulfox.blog and click on "Training/Jobs" from the top menu.

For more assistance, please feel free to peruse other sections from these websites:

- <https://paulfox.blog/category/interviewing/>
- <https://paulfox.blog/category/training/>
- <https://majoringinmusic.com/category/music-education-2/>
- <https://nafme.org/blog/mock-interviews-unraveling-the-puzzle-of-landing-a-music-teacher-job/>
- <https://nafme.org/blog/storytelling-developing-employment-marketing-skills/>
- <https://paulfox.blog/category/ethics/>



Graffiti – Inspiration and “Funnies” from Retirees

Send your humorous or thoughtful “clippings” to paulkfox.usc@gmail.com.



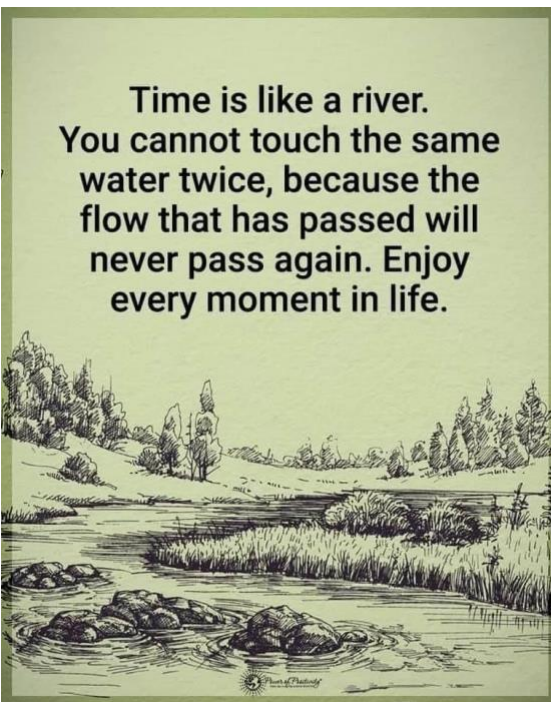
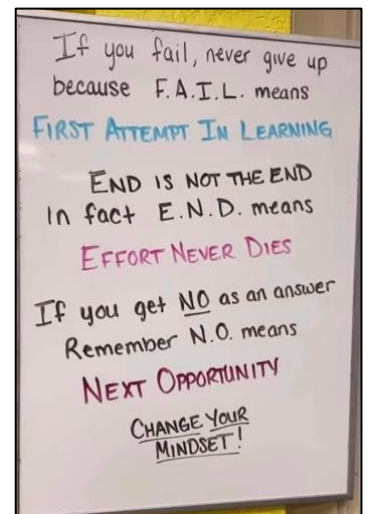
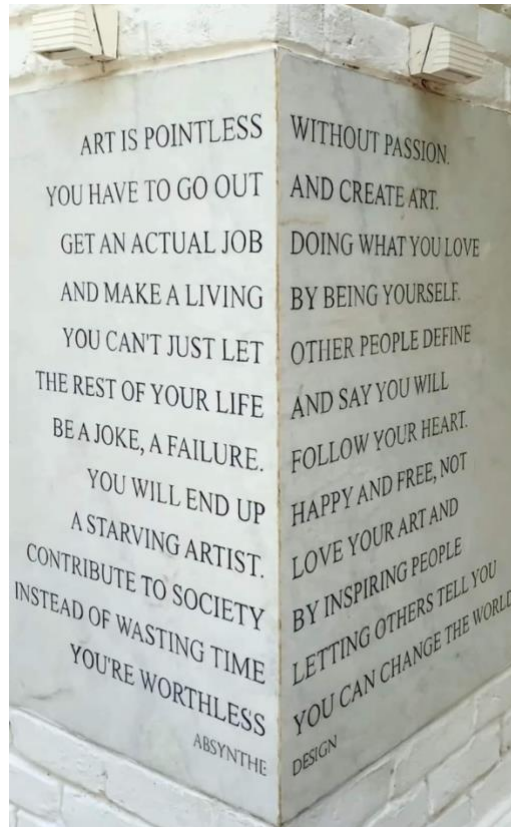
Did you figure out the right way to ready this?



"Whenever we want to improve something we add music to it. A movie, we add music. Dining experience we add music. A sports event, music. Political gathering, music. But when it comes to our education system we take music away to improve it? I call shenanigans."

-The 13th Chair

www.the13thchair.com © The phazelFOZ Company, LLC All Rights Reserved



Your Work Matters ... And So Do You

66 Teaching music is not my main purpose. I want to make good citizens. If children hear fine music from the day of their birth and learn to play it, they develop sensitivity, discipline, and endurance. They get a beautiful heart.

- Shinichi Suzuki 99

mPoweredEducator.com



Therapist: a picture can't hurt you.

The picture:

rit.
vibrato furiously

Violin $\text{♩} = 10$

fff
arco



Objects in mirror are closer than they appear




"I'm gonna need even less tuba."

Heard Through the "Vintage" Grapevine

Do you know who are these people and what are they doing as retirees?

It's worth repeating here: Our music teachers are truly busy. And since almost all of them (and YOU!) do not send in any updates or news announcements, the Retired Member Coordinator is forced to "troll the Internet" and capture "rumors" like these! What's the lesson here? Email paulkfox.usc@gmail.com "what's happening in YOUR LIFE," OR you might see an unflattering photograph from social media, or a Google search posted here! Tell us about your grandchild(ren), pets, a fun vacation trip, new hobby, household renovation, musical pursuit, or ??? Even more critical: *Please send us pictures!* (They say a thousand words!)

psst...

