

Oregon official to headline Conference

By At Large Directors Judy Richards and Greg Abbott

The Program Committee is pleased to announce that Kate Brown, Oregon's Secretary of State, will be the keynote speaker at the annual OEA-Retired Fall Conference on October 3 at the Salem UniServ office.

We are excited to have her attend our Conference to talk about what she has been doing as one of Oregon's top elected leaders.

We also will be showing *Inside Job*, the 2010 Academy Award winner for Best Documentary.

Charles Ferguson wrote, produced and directed this

compelling film, which stars Matt Damon, William Ackman and Jonathan and Daniel Alpert. *Inside Job* takes a closer look at what brought about the financial meltdown in 2008. Nancy Lewis, who has seen this movie, said it is really worth watching.

If the movie does not interest you, we will have our own Janet Jackson and her husband talking about the state parks in Oregon and, really, they have visited all 208 of them (they were featured in the November 2010 issue of PrimeTimes on this accomplishment). This will be like watching the Travel Channel but it will be about our own parks and narrated by one of our members.

The other half of the time while the film is showing, Karen Hans, from the state Department of Fish and Wildlife, will give a great and funny presentation on fish in the Willamette Valley. Her comment, after hearing she would be opposite the movie was, "My presentation could compete with that movie any day."

Also, the OEA-Retired Program Committee, consisting of Ardeth Woods, Jerry Wilkins, Bobbi Yambasu, Barbara



Kate Brown Oregon Secretary of State

Davidson, Nancy Lewis, Deb Wiskow, Larry Johnson, Thelma Baldwin, Greg and I have been working for a year on a special project—holding a two-day conference next fall. Be sure and look for the "SAVE THE DATE" notice elsewhere in the PrimeTimes.

The registration form is on Page 7. Be sure to mail in before the deadline of September 26.

Regions plan events

By Vice President Terri Domenigoni

Looking for something to do this fall? Why not check out our fall events and plan to attend one or all. The events will be held in the regions for easier commutes and provide a great way to catch up on other retired colleagues. Bring another retired OEA member and let the contact person know you plan to attend. We hope to see you there!

Region 1

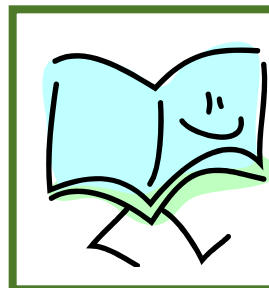
Not Back to School Picnic

11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., September 6, Cook Park, 16638 SW 92nd Ave., Tigard. Chicken, water and pop provided. Last name A-M, bring a salad, last name N-Z, bring a dessert. Everyone bring a children's or young adult's book. Come to socialize, enjoy a picnic lunch, receive door prizes, hear about the park trails, find out about master gardeners and recycling and other activities. RSVP by September 2, 2011 to Nancy Lewis at 503- 639-7050 or nancyjolewis@gmail.com.

PAT-Retired Local Chapter Meeting

2:30 p.m, September 16, Laurelhurst Park, Portland. Attend a meeting with the retired chapter and stay for the fall picnic with PAT. Marleen Wallingford for details at 503-526-1340 or marleenwong@comcast.net.

See Fall Events, Page 8.



Books Needed!

Coming to the Fall Conference? Please bring a new or gently used children's book, suitable for kids of any age for our Literacy Project.

Random remarks



**By
President
Martin A.
Bronstein**

It is hard to imagine that summer is practically over. Of course, our summer of 2011 was late in arriving, and, for awhile, it was hard to believe that it would ever get here.

When we were working as educational professionals the “summer layoff” was always such a welcome relief from the grind and stress of the school year and a time for regaining energy and strength for the fall when getting back to reality was inevitable. As it got closer, I remember being very pragmatic and started to get my creative juices flowing again.

After so many years of working in and around a school calendar, many of us never really could completely void our minds of everything school-related and we often would be thinking about the changes that were being proposed or developed for the fall semester—sometimes welcome ones, sometimes collaboratively developed and sometimes imposed on us due to budget constraints, mandates and changing demographics.

I spent time thinking about curriculum changes, wild ideas to make the mundane seem more enticing and things that I could introduce that would generate a bit more enthusiasm for learning the basics and the profound. Ours was a never-ending challenge and pretty close to a year-round job.

Throwing in some teacher association meetings and business during the dog days of July and August (admittedly, self-imposed) added to the inability to

totally escape thoughts of everything non-academic. This was, of course, utter nonsense to my non-education related friends and family, who believed that our summer lives were ones of absolute frivolity, total idleness and privilege! The most amusing expression of their frustration with my work calendar was when I would start receiving, surreptitiously, these strange and mysterious “packages” in my mailbox or near my front door of envelopes stuffed with the earliest “Back To School” ads that would begin in late June!

My “revenge” was to send them anonymous notes in late spring about how many days were left of school before summer vacation! The irony of this seasonal resentment was that when I asked them if they would like to trade

jobs with me for a week (even for a day or a few hours), and I would do their jobs for the same length of time, they would immediately (if not faster) reject any such notion! However, now that we are truly *See Duty Free Page 7.*

Save the Date!

To provide more opportunities for members, OEA-Retired will hold a two-day Fall Conference for the first time on **October 1-2, 2012** at Holiday Inn, Wilsonville.

Mark your calendars so that you can join us for:

- Great Sessions
- Knowledgeable, interesting speakers
- Fun activities
- Good food and Time to talk and laugh with friends.

Watch the next PrimeTimes for more information.


2011-12 CALENDAR

2011

September 1 PrimeTimes published
October 3 Fall Conference, Salem
November 1 PrimeTimes published
November 14 Retired Board, Salem

2012

January 23 Retired Board, Salem
February 1 PrimeTimes published
March 2 Read Across America
March 5 Annual Assembly, Salem
March 9-10 OEA-PIE Convention, Portland
April NEA-Retired Conference
April 1 PrimeTimes published
April 20-21 OEA RA, Portland
May 21 Retired Board, Salem
June 1 PrimeTimes published
June 26-28 NEA-Retired Annual Meeting, Washington, DC
June 30-July 5 NEA RA, Washington, DC
July 16 Retired Board, Salem
October 1-2 Fall Conference, Wilsonville



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OEA-Retired
STAY INVOLVED • STAY INVIGORATED • STAY IN TOUCH

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rayugene@att.net

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Summer shows a bit

By OEA Director Paul Zastrow

Gosh, the first week of August has come and gone, and the weather has just found a bit of summer for the OEA Summer Conference in Bend (See Members at OEA confab article on Page 1).

Most of the OEA Board members were there as well, prior to the Board Retreat. It started with a good thunder shower, while we were all inside the Bend Conference Center, and then an even better one later that week—a real downpour and even a bit of hail. Monday's set off several fires—even saw smoke on my way north.

The Board had several days of work sessions dealing with the Strategic Plan, as well as getting everyone to know each other better. With over 10 new members on the Board, the latter is essential each year if we are to truly work as a team when we meet only five or so times per year. Of course, stating it was for two days is a real stretch as we started about two p.m. on Wednesday and ended Thursday evening with main Board business saved for Friday.

We accepted the outline for actions on the Strategic Planning Process—looking especially at three areas for closer scrutiny and action: “Leading the Way to Great Schools: Educator Driver Innovation and Policy Making,” “Building Powerful, Visionary, Member-Driven Locals United through OEA” and “Reshaping Politics in Oregon: Locally, Statewide; Ballot Initiatives.”

The Strategic Action Planning Task Force and Goal Work Groups will report their ideas to the OEA Board in January 2012 for referral to the OEA Representative Assembly in April. One of the first moves will be a “listening survey” for members that we will start at the October 5 OEA-Retired Fall Conference in

Salem.

We had updates about negotiations for both the Professional Staff Organization and Associated Staff Organization unions with no results yet, other than some staff seem not to be truly aware of OEA's tight financial conditions and must think that the Relief Fund (Strike Fund), with its millions in reserve, can be easily tapped to fund salary and fringe increases. As things continue, I will try to keep you posted.

Other business saw the Board approve our Board Norms, Standing Rules, the Board Handbook, charges to committees and task forces, etc. We did accept that whenever we have a full Friday meeting we will also have an opportunity to demonstrate solidarity with some aspect of unionism and education via road overpass demonstrations!

In the end, another good meeting and with expectations that with the newness of Board members, staff and such, the OEA will again become much more into organizing in such a way to do more for ourselves, working truly to become the Voice and Face of Education in Oregon once again. May the 800-pound gorilla reawaken and take control of the political process, lighting the way for all to follow, making stable, equitable school finance a reality once and for all!

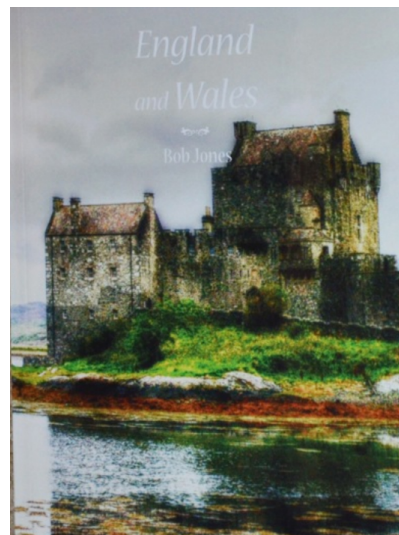
This week I travel to Europe for five weeks, seeing several countries and some of “my boys” from past Youth Exchange programs. Here is to all for a great end of summer and may the autumn months find us all refreshed and willing to truly fight for what is right!

Book printed

By Bob Jones

“Ten Years of Travel in Scotland, Ireland, England and Wales” is a new book by Bob and Anne Jones and tells some of the stories of their travels in the British Isles since they retired in 2000.

“Ten Years” is not a travel guide like their other three books, although you might get some ideas of what you want to do or see on your own trips. The book tells about the Scourge of Scotland and the chocolate-demanding fox of East Clare, Ireland. There are heroes, villains, and beasties. All this in a series of short vignettes, as well as articles Bob has written for Scottish magazines.



“Ten Years of Travel in Scotland, Ireland, England and Wales” book cover.

The book is available from the Jones's website, www.penandprint.com, or www.amazon.com for \$12, plus shipping. You can also follow Bob and Anne's travels on their blog, “Have Pen and Camera, Will Travel,” at www.penandprint.blogspot.com.

At NEA RA

By Kathryn Warrior

This year's NEA Representative Assembly, June 30-July 5 in Chicago, where Steve Hillis and I were OEA-Retired delegates, began the evening before with a welcome reception for the Oregon Caucus at our hotel. See Theme Page 8.

PIE meets

By OEA-PIE Director June Buck

At the July 31-August 2 meeting of the OEA-PIE Board, the analysis of the recent session of the state legislature was pretty grim. We won some issues but lost some major ones. Politics, not the interests of Oregon's students, determined outcomes in this 2011 session. Our usual "friends" in the legislature proved not to be so friendly.

The 2011 OEA Legislative Summary and Report Card was handed out and we had long, direct conversations with regard to who did what, when and where. I will bring copies of this summary and report card for those interested to our next two meetings.

Out of 90 legislators, 62 got a D or F. Four C's were received in the Senate, a C being the highest grade on the Senate side. Those were Senators Bonamici, Dingfelder, Prozanski and Shields.

The only two A's were on the House side and they were for Representatives Beyer and Matthews. There were nine B's, for Reps. Barnhart, Buckley, Doherty, Holvey, Hunt, Nathanson, Smith, Tomei and Witt. The thirteen C's were Reps. Barker, Clem, Cowan, Dembrow, Frederick, Garrett, Gelser, Greenlick, Hoyle, Jensen, Nolan, Read and Schaulfer.

As you can see, some of our long-time friends whom we have supported more than once are not named on this list—even at the C level. For this reason, the OEA-PIE Board is recommending not doing candidate interviews or recommendations until after the February session.

Backroom deals by our governor and some legislators hurt public education funding and programs by strengthening "for profit" virtual schools, reducing requirements for charter schools, open enrollment,

ESD opt outs, appointment of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and more. It seems a coalition of Stand For Children, Chalkboard Project, Oregon Business Alliance and some administrators organized against us and were quite effective.

Our legislators need to hear from us in a respectful but firm way about what's good for students! Please read the Report Card in the Legislative Summary—it can be downloaded as PDF from the OEA website, www.oregoned.org—and contact your legislator to let them know of your disappointment. Also, get involved with your local UniServ.

The Board also reelected Steve Anderson as chair and Jay Reed as vice-chair and appointed a committee to revise the Legislative Questionnaire.

Dues to go up

By Patricia Scarratt

If you have not considered life membership with NEA-/OEA-Retired, you could save \$50 in your membership dues.

The NEA Board of Directors is expected to increase NEA-R life member dues from \$200 to \$250 and annual dues from \$25 to \$30 at their February 2012 meeting, with the increase to go into effect September 1, 2012.

Doing the math, if you now are paying annual dues, which total \$50, next year you will be paying \$55, so in the next 10 years it will cost you \$550. If you choose a life membership now, in 10 years you will have paid \$50 less, plus the remaining years of your membership are at no cost.

As OEA-Retired and NEA-R have united memberships, just as it was when you were an active member, you must join both to belong to either.

The information was contained in the August mailing that you received. So fill out your membership form accordingly or contact OEA

Membership at 503-684-3300 or becky.nelson@oregoned.org if you have questions or wish to make a change.

Web updated

By Vice President Terri Domenigoni

I have been working with Bruce Scherer, OEA Communications Consultant, to update the OEA-Retired website. Our main page now has the invitation graphic on it and really looks good.

We also updated the leadership page with current leaders for the 2011-12 year and have a link for the OEA-Retired membership pamphlet, flyer and invitation that all members can access to copy and print. This should help keep our printing costs down and only have hard copies for conferences.

All local presidents can access the pamphlet and send out to members electronically. You might want to take the time to check out the updates on our webpage.

The major accomplishment for the Communications Committee this past year has been the increased numbers who are in receiving PrimeTimes by email. If you are not getting your PrimeTimes by email, contact Editor Ray Johnson at rayugene@att.net to make the change.

Be watching for survey questions in the PrimeTimes this year. Instead of the yearly survey in the mail, survey questions will show up in PrimeTimes.

Also the committee, with the help of Meg Krugel, OEA editor, designed a new logo for OEA-Retired—see it in the Masthead on Page 2—and will be used for letterhead and other documents

Don't forget the fall activities held in the three regions (See Regions plan events on Page 1). The fall events are a great way to touch base with fellow retired members, renew friendships and, hopefully, learn something new.

New laws disappoint

By Dan Domenigoni

The 77th State Assembly brought mostly disappointment to public education's supporters this session. Doomed by the lingering financial effects of The Great Recession, the political landscape was further marred by an unprecedented evenly split House of Representatives and a nearly split Senate. Horse trading for pet priorities underlay most legislative victories for those who had them and most of those trades were transacted behind doors closed to the public and legislative advocates. As a result, the democratic process itself was the loser.

As usual, OEA had a relatively ambitious agenda, formed through the OEA Legislative Advisory Committee, of which I am a member, process. Unfortunately, only 12 of the 30-plus bills we supported passed.

Of course, there were many other proposals relating to education introduced this session—some of which OEA and its allies worked hard to defeat. As a result, our record of success in stopping ill-advised legislation was mixed. This was due in part to an end-of-session deal struck by Gov. John Kitzhaber with the legislative leadership to pass a series of bad bills in exchange for their support for his bills to transform education governance.

Some highlights, or lowlights as it may easily be termed, are negative changes to the online charter schools law, weakening the requirement for 100 percent of fully licensed teachers and diverting badly needed funding resources from already cash-strapped public schools. Drastically increasing the number of charter school "authorizers" was a bill that comes from the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), funded by

corporate interests and wealthy entrepreneurs such as the Koch Brothers. Be on the lookout for this group. It is one of the great threats to all democratic legislation.

The open enrollment bill permits only districts receiving a would-be student (and which benefit from the associated funding) to have a voice in whether a student may transfer out of the resident school district. And, it requires the districts to provide transportation.

Some additional money was also allocated from the Education Stability Fund (ESF) for noneducation-related funding over our objections and those of Ted Wheeler, State Treasurer.

The list of bad bills goes on to include inequities in full-day kindergarten funding, ESD opt-out possibilities for some districts that meet the requirements, funds being diverted from the ESF for a study by the Chalkboard Project, the appointment of the Superintendent of Public Instruction by the governor and others.

There is some good news, namely:

- Career and technical education got a boost with the support and hard work of OEA Board Member Deborah Barnes from North Clackamas School District.
- The Educator Preparation Fund will advance collaboration between universities and school districts around teacher and administrator quality.
- An additional \$25 million was added to K-12 funding, taken from the ESF.
- Some gains were made in teacher and administrator evaluation language. SB 253, the brainchild of the Oregon Business Council, demands that 40 percent of adults be college graduates or advanced degree holders; that another 40 percent be associate or technical degree holders; and that the remaining 20 percent be high school diploma recipients.
- Every student will pass the state

test.

All in all, it was not a stellar performance by our legislative and executive branches. Much effort will have to be made to mitigate many of these changes and move in a more progressive direction.

Feel free to contact me at 503-654-9910 or domenigoni@gmail.com with any ideas for legislative efforts for the next session in February.

Region 1 meets

By Region I Director Bobbi Yambasu

Region I will once again hold its Not-Back-To-School Picnic on September 6, the first day back at school for many Oregon students. The picnic will be held at Cook Park, Tigard and once again we will have great food, games and activities.

Please join us at 11 a.m.–2:30 p.m. You should be receiving a flyer concerning the Region I picnic as well as activities being held in other regions (See Regions plan events, Page 1).

In addition, PAT-Retired will have its first meeting of the year at 2 p.m., September 16, at Laurelhurst Park, Portland. Following at 3:30 p.m., the Portland Association of Teachers will have its annual picnic to which members of Portland Area Teachers-Retired are invited.

Also, I would like to invite all our members to the OEA-Retired Conference October 3 (See Oregon official to headline conference article on Page 1).

You can always contact me at 503-233-1341 or bobbij@q.com if you need more information or wish to carpool.

Congrats!

Congratulations to Jeanne Mackie for her years of service as treasurer for OEA-Retired and for being featured in the June NEA-Retired This Active Life magazine.

Want to be involved?

By Region 1 Director Bobbi Yambasu

Do you like politics? Interested in Literacy? Want to expand regional events? Want to volunteer with the OEA Foundation.

You can get involved in these and many other OEA-Retired activities. OEA-Retired has a number of committees that deal with our activities but they can always use more member involvement.

Most of the committees do their work during the OEA-Retired Board meetings. However, one does not have to be a Board Director in order to become involved. For example, you can work with your regional directors to foster more regional activities.

Or, come to a Board meeting and sit in on the committee and/or regional meetings. If you need a ride to the meetings, contact one of the directors from your region as many of us carpool. And, there are some committees that meet outside Board meetings, such as Bylaws and Policies.

So, if you would like to help plan our next conference, host a literacy event, political coffee or meet-and-greet, contact any of the OEA-Retired officers or directors and discover ways to be involved in our activities, while renewing old friendships and fostering new ones.

Members at OEA confab

By OEA-Director Paul Zastrow

The OEA Summer Conference, called WE ARE ONE, was held August 1-3 in Bend at the Riverhouse Conference Center with some 300-plus OEA members and staff in attendance. I believe we had four or five of our OEA-Retired members in attendance, either taking advantage

of several of the classes or being presenters, or both!

The opening ceremony lunch speaker was Dr. Elaine Bernard from Harvard University, a real labor champion and high school drop-out. She highlighted the challenges of maintaining true unions with the values that have built our nation along with the request that it continue.

Attendees had various opportunities to network with each other by either selecting from five different-themed General Sessions or the one-and-half hour Breakouts covering a myriad of topics.

I chose the latter option, with most selections dealing with the political aspects of our union. "Tax Breaks Demystified" certainly should have our attention when we realize that 53 cents of each dollar collected goes back for tax breaks or offsets, including some \$4 billion to DC and another \$4 billion lost from matching funds due to many things from breaks to refusals to find any local matching funds!

Tuesday opened with the Session in Review—the report card on the legislators in the past state legislative session, as well as the good, bad and ugly bills with emphasis on UGLY! Bills that good thinking people would not approve of, yet our elected senators and representatives approved virtual schools, open enrollment and others that will disrupt local districts and are just plain bad public policy.

As a result, few legislators received what could be called good grades! Perhaps the rush to end caused them to stop thinking but I would surmise it is more of one of our own blame, for not contacting them and holding their feet to the flames of accountability (ours and theirs).

Listening to presentations for "Relational Organizing 102: How to Really Listen" was both enlightening as well as entertaining. It was my only General Session topic, led by

three good, new and energetic OEA staff members.

Wednesday morning, I attended a session called "External Organizing 103: Lessons from Wisconsin," given by three of our newest OEA UniServ Staff, two who were there in Wisconsin in February when all hell first broke loose. This was the real highlight of the time in Bend, allowing us a closer look at the how, when and what happened in Madison, and even how it could happen here if we continue to be complacent!

All this was topped off with a Solidarity Rally for Unions in Deschutes County where almost 200 of the Conference attendees demonstrated support and assisted union members at the county administrative center with signs, chants, singing and marching around the building and on the street. It was a great time marching once again, even if it was not a true job action! Hopefully these union workers will be treated with more respect and garner a good contract.

The rally was a great conclusion to a well-developed series of short courses designed to enlighten members.

Meeting quiet

By Steven Hillis

This year's NEA-Retired Annual Meeting, June 28-29 in Chicago, was rather quiet and main actions were limited to the election of new officers. Nancy Lewis ran for two positions on the executive board but the competition was very stiff. She gave a good accounting for Oregon and we were proud of her efforts.

A very interesting work session dealt with the current political/legislative climate and exposed how little the rhetoric and hysteria have to do with reality. We are going to have to stay vigilant and be in nearly constant contact with our legislators and other *See Stay Alert Page 7.*

OEA-RETIRED FALL CONFERENCE

October 3, 2011 ~ Salem/Mid-Valley UniServ Office
9:30 a.m.: Registration & Refreshments ~ 10 a.m.: Conference Welcome

Directions To Salem/Mid-Valley UniServ Office

From I-5, take the Salem Market Street Exit. Go East and turn left onto Lancaster Drive, left onto Wolverine and then right onto Coral Avenue to 2540 Coral (on right side).

SEND THE REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECK, MADE OUT TO OEA, TO:

Barbara Hodgson
884 Win Way
Eagle Point, OR 97524

541-830-5090
bbhodgson@charter.net

Conference fee includes lunch. After Monday, September 26, fee will be \$20 or \$25.
Cut Here

OEA-RETIRED FALL CONFERENCE

October 3, 2011 ~ Salem/Mid-Valley UniServ Office

Member Name(s) _____ \$15 X _____ = _____

Guest Name(s) _____ \$20 X _____ = _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Stay alert

From Page 6. fighting for our retirement benefits.

There are three suggested talking points to use:

- Social Security has not contributed one dime to the federal deficit as it has a surplus of \$2.6 billion.
- Social Security belongs to people who worked hard all their lives and contributed to the program.
- Proposed cuts would undermine a secure retirement for millions of hard-working Americans.

I next attended a work session that dealt with Social Media. This included email, Facebook, Twitter, web-portal and e-newsletters. This sounds great, IF one has a dedicated member who will stay on top of the program. It is work intense.

Over all, Kathryn Warrior and I, OEA-Retired's delegates, did not feel that this year's meeting was

very successful as much of it was spent to prepare us for the major goals of the NEA RA, to pass a \$10 media assessment and the new policy on "pay for performance."

Duty free

From Page 2. in positions of "absolute frivolity, total idleness, and privilege (yeah, right)," we do have the opportunity to celebrate the impending new school year with enthusiasm and reduced anxiety by getting together for some "duty free" picnicking and coalescing during the fall.

OEA-Retired is dedicated to continuing to "Stay Involved, Stay Invigorated and Stay In Touch" with the realities of public education and to continue to work to advocate and support public education (and our active members), to volunteer and help fund raise for the Oregon

Education Association Foundation and to promote literacy around the state.

Be sure to plan on attending our OEA-Retired Fall Conference in early October, and other fall events. Last year at the Fall Conference we had Oregon's Attorney General, John Kroger and this year we have Oregon's Secretary of State, Kate Brown. There are also break-out sessions on other topics that are relevant to us as retired members.

There was event information in your membership packet that was mailed to you last month. Your friends, who have planned these events, are putting in the time to make sure that we have fun, renew long-standing friendships, learn and stay informed.

We want you to stay involved and have fun, so take care, stay healthy and above all enjoy this next phase in the adventure.



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Fall Events

From Page 1. **Region 2**

Salem Area Chapter 4-Hour Duty Free Picnic

10 a.m.-2 p.m., September 6, Minto-Brown Park, Salem. Bring a salad, side dish or dessert. Chicken, drinks and table service will be provided.

Contact Paul Schutz at 503-370-9208 or ztuhcs@yahoo.com.

Wednesdays at Cottage Grove

Meet monthly on Wednesdays for lunch. Date and time vary. For information on this and other activities planned this fall, contact Deb Wiskow at 541-942-7612 or gramma4madisen@yahoo.com.

Region 3

Hood River/The Dalles BBQ

1-4 p.m., September 24, Paul Zastrow's home. Bring a side dish. For details, contact Paul at 541-354-1002 or pzaastrow@gorge.net.

Bend/Prineville/Redmond/

Madras/Sisters

For details contact Steve Hillis at 541-475-6448 or shillis@crestviewcable.com or Gilda & Richard Phay at 541-447-3151 or richardvp@q.com.

Klamath Falls Coffee

4 p.m., September 19, Matteo's (OIT Campus) for coffee. Contact Darlene Cook at 541-331-3282 or kfteach@aol.com.

Southern Oregon/Roseburg Lunch

11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., September 21, Southern Oregon UniServ Office, Medford. Lunch with speaker.

Contact Barbara Davidson at 541-245-2729 or barbdav@charter.net.

South Coast Coffee

September 14. For time and place, contact Ruth Greiner at 541-267-3549 or reg2006@charter.net.

NE Corner (Baker City/LaGrande) or East Central (Ontario/Vale/ Burns)

If a retired member would like to help with hosting in either of these

areas, please contact Barbara Davidson, above.

Theme

From Page 3. Three highlights of the meeting for me was: NEA President Dennis Van Roekel's keynote address, the Friend of Education Award being given to the "Wisconsin 14"—the state senators who left the state rather than vote for a bill that would weaken and possibly eliminate collective bargaining for their public employees and the vote for early endorsement of President Barack Obama—the vote was by secret ballot with more than 70 percent support.

Thought for the Day

There is a great need for a sarcasm font.