



Volume 21 Number 3

After School Views..



April 2021



Zoom Virtual Meeting

Mon. June 7, 2021

10 A.M.

Pg. 2 Budget

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Program: Scholars Awards

The SCREA is affiliated with the New Jersey Retirees' Education Association

President: 973-383-8575
Pam Raynor

First Vice Pres. 201-874-8603
Sharon Mullen

Second Vice Pres. 973-714-1646
Linda Adams

Treasurer/Membership 973-209-4129
Ann C. Lane

Secretary 973-209-8731
Theresa Boscia

Necrology 973-271-4318
Gail Baum

Travel: 973-714-1646
Linda Adams

Editor: 407-443-4247
Georgeanna Lewis

There's a light at the end of the tunnel, I see where we may be able to meet once again in person. Our last in-person luncheon was back in December 2019; it seems so long ago. We have had to cancel 5 luncheons to ensure the health and safety of our SCREA members. Now, after 15 months, there seems to be a ray of light coming through as we patiently wait our turn for our vaccine. I am happy to say many of our members have had the first shot and are waiting for the second shot. The scientists are saying that 2 weeks after our last shot we should continue safe distance, wear our masks, and continue to wash our hands. After two weeks, they are saying we will be able to get out and about with friends and family, like we did in the good old days of 2019, where we traveled, went out for meals, shook hands and gave warm hugs. I do miss giving hugs.

At our spring meeting, we usually collect food and household products to donate to local food banks. Since we can not meet yet, please consider giving them a donation.



Primary day in New Jersey is on June 8, 2021. Voting by mail applications are due to your county clerk by June 1st. While speaking of voting, one must also speak of the Political Action Campaign, PAC. Be on the lookout for the annual PAC donation letter. Our donations go to NJEA endorsed candidates who support educational issues, students and school employees, active as well as retired educators. This November, our governor and all 120 seats in the legislature are up for election. Please send a donation. Remember DUES money CAN NOT BE GIVEN to political candidates.

It was great to have so many attend our April 12th General Meeting. As I soon will be Past President, I ask that you consider becoming more involved in the SCREA and NJREA. Try the zoom, NJREA meeting on April 22. We need a first vice-president, second vice-president, Legislative Action representative, Health Benefits representative, and representatives on other NJREA committees. We will help you as others have done for us. Call or email Sharon Mullen or me for further information, or to volunteer.

AFTER SCHOOL VIEWS

Budget for 2021-2022

A vote on this budget will be taken at the June 7, 2021 meeting as required for our affiliation with NJEA. Please realize that with the Covid-19 pandemic, 2020-2021 was very different than expected. We hope to have in-person meetings in Sept. 2021. At the February executive meeting, a raise in dues was discussed but dismissed. Questions may be directed to Treasurer Ann Lane, whose contact information is on page 3.

Current Budget					
9/1/2020 through 8/31/2021 Using Budget 1					
Category	Budgeted	9/1/2020 Actual	Anticipate Spending	Anticipated Totals	2021-22 Budget
INCOME	\$15,020.00	\$5,832.99			\$14,770.00
06 Dues	\$5,000.00	\$5,830.00	\$0.00	\$5,830.00	\$5,750.00
09 Interest	\$20.00	\$2.99	\$17.01	\$20.00	\$20.00
11 Donations Gifts to County	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
12 Income From Luncheon MeetingS	\$9,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,000.00
18 Miscellaneous Income	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
EXPENSES	\$15,020.00	\$833.93			
22 Telephone	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
23 Postage	\$600.00	\$275.08	\$165.00	\$440.08	\$600.00
25 General Office Supplies Expenses	\$500.00	\$74.00	\$0.00	\$74.00	\$400.00
31 Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
32 Legal Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
33 Accountant's Fees	\$300.00	\$320.00		\$320.00	\$350.00
34 State of NJ NonProfit Filing Fee	\$100.00	\$30.50	\$50.00	\$80.50	\$100.00
36a Other Admin. Expenses	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
36B Other Admin Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
36C Other Admin Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
36D Other Admin Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
45 Officers Reimbursable Expenses	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
52 Executive Committee	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
53 Committee Meetings	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
54 General Membership Meetings	\$9,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,000.00
58 Workshops	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$120.00
62 Legislative & Political Activities	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
64 Communications (Newsletter, Website)	\$2,400.00	\$134.35	\$200.00	\$334.35	\$2,000.00
66 Membership Promotions	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
67 Social Activities (other than trips)	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
70 Gifts Honorium Memorials	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
71 Other Program Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
72 Other Program Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
73 Other Program Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
74 Other Program Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
75 Other Program Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Net Difference:	\$0.00				\$14,770.00
					\$0.00

Important Contact Information

NJEA/ NJREA Headquarters 609-599-4561

Aetna 866-816-9662

NJEA Confidential Helpline 866-243-6532

Aetna Medicare Rewards 866-816-3662

NJ Division of Pensions/ Benefits 609-292-7524

Medicare 800-633-4227

NJEA Member Benefits 800-637-4636

Horizon 1-800-355-2583

MBOS Member Benefits Online System– access your pension information at

[Www. NJ.gov/treasury/pensions/documents/pdf/mbos-flier.pdf](http://www.nj.gov/treasury/pensions/documents/pdf/mbos-flier.pdf)

SCREA MEMBERSHIP

Prepared by Ann Lane, Membership Chair
For February/ April 2021 meetings

Please remember that any dues paid during the school year go toward that year's dues (Sept. 1 – August 31) not a year from your payment.

*Renewal forms for the 2021-22 membership year will start going out the week of April 19th. If you don't receive your personalized form, please contact me for a membership form.

*If you or your friends do not receive your NJREA/ NJEA/NEA/or SCREA 2020-2021 publications you may not have paid your annual dues. You can always contact me to check your membership statue. Please make sure that you add SCREANJ@gmail.com to your email contacts so that you are assured you receive the SCREA newsletter.

*NJREA Life members who do not have unified membership should send their \$250 life membership to PO Box 502, Augusta, NJ 07822 made payable to SCREA.

* If you have any questions/problem about membership or your membership or receiving the county newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone, email or snail mail. (973.209.4129, laneac9999@gmail.com, or 21 Aspen, Hamburg NJ 07419).

Member Benefit Webinars

On April 22 there will be a webinar explaining Member Benefits. On May 13 at 4:30 PM there is a webinar on Financial Essentials in Retirement. On May 27 at 4:30 PM one on Women and Retirement. To register go to www.njea.org/webinars.

Go to <https://memberbenefits.njea.org> for information on discounts from various vendors.

Necrology by Gail Baum

December 7, 2020 to April 11, 2021

We are sad to report the loss of one of our members.

Anne Bozek, former President of the Sparta Education Association and a representative to the NEA-RA died December 8, 2020 at the age of 91.

Please contact me if you hear of the demise of one of our members at 973-271-4318 or

2020-2021 SCREA Treasurer's Report



For the February/ April Meetings

Prepared by Ann C. Lane, Treasurer

General Checking Account

Balance 10/27/2020	\$28,774.41
Income	731.72

Debit	<u>57435</u>
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Balance 12/31/2020	\$28,932.78
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As of 12/31/2020

Visions Regular CD (Matures 4/11/2021)	2,212.01
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Visions Primary Share	40.32
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Lifetime Visions CD (Matures 4/10/2021)	13,634.95
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Lifetime Lakeland	15,152.65
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Philanthropic/Scholarship 12/30/2020

Lakeland	5,450.18
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Visions Non-profit checking	6,457.57
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Visions (Main Shares 01)	25.67
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Visions (Main Shares 02)	25.31
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Visions CD (Matures 4/10/20)	2,829.51
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Contact the Center for Prevention and Counseling at 908-747-1143 or at Catherine@centerforprevention.org

Send your PAC donations, to help support legislators who uphold secure pensions and health benefits to

NJEA PAC c/o WSFS
PO Box 13661
Philadelphia, PA 19101-3661

Secretary's Report

By Theresa Boscia

The April 12, 2021 Virtual Zoom meeting was called to order by President Raynor at 10:56 AM. President Raynor read the NJEA "closed meeting" notice. Following the Flag Salute and the singing of God Bless America, she gave the invocation. New retirees were welcomed and committee members, not giving reports, were introduced. President Raynor thanked the 30 members who attended and mentioned that there were quite a few new faces. The executive committee met in Feb. to set up plans for this meeting.

President's Report: Members have received the NJEA 2021 election ballot for state delegates to the 2021 NEA representative assembly and for NJEA Secretary-Treasurer. Ballots are due Apr. 15, 2021. The NJ Primary election will be held June 6. Ballots should be sent back by June 1. At our April meeting we've traditionally collected food for the Sussex County Food Bank. It is requested that donations be made to your local church or food pantry. The budget is in the newsletter for review. Voting on the budget will take place in June. Dues will not be raised. Changes to your contact information, address, phone or email can be update on the NJEA website. If you have a question contact Ann Lane.

Slate of officers for the 2021-2023 term: Nominated were Sharon Mullen for president and Ann Lane has a as Treasurer/Membership. Positions of 1st VP, 2ndVP and Secretary are open. Linda Adams is willing to be any one of these positions.

1st VP: Sharon Mullen reported that Aetna and Horizon Blue Cross will again be awarding gift cards for eligible health care activities and screenings from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2021. For details see page 8. Horizon's plan is in effect from Nov. 1, 2020 - Oct. 31, 2021. Contact HorizonBlue.com/NJWELL or 1-800-414-SHBP .

2nd VP & Trips: Linda Adams reported that there has been no activity from Sunset Tours. We were hoping to have an in-person luncheon meeting in June, perhaps we can in September. The June 7 meeting will be virtual on Zoom.



Meet Dr. Gayle Carrick

Superintendent of School of Sussex County

Our guest speaker, Dr. Carrick came from the South Orange– Maplewood district, but has been an administrator of many northern NJ schools, one being Fredon.

She began her career as a special education teacher in Union. Dr. Carrick also worked at Seton Hall and Montclair Universities.

Dr. Carrick spoke about the challenges that COVID has presented to the students, teachers and other staff of our county schools. (continued on pg. 7)

Scholarship: Chair Sharon Mullen reported that four \$1,500 scholarships will be awarded. Some applications have been sent in. Those making donations have received tickets for a June drawing. The prize is a painting by Linda Adams. Elaine Freda, a guidance counselor, will become the new scholarship chair. Treasurer/Membership: Ann Lane's report is in the newsletter. We now have 753 members, about 20 more than last year.

Other Reports: NJWELL is an on-line program you can sign up for through Aetna. NJREA members are invited to a virtual meeting to get the latest news on upcoming events and issues affecting retirees on April 22, 2021 at 10:00 AM. For registration link visit njea.org/NJREA.

Pension information - NJEA Consultant and Past President of the SCREA, Gary Wikander answered a question about health benefits and he will answer questions about them, pension problems and NJREA functions at (973) 903-5238.

Adjournment: 11:41 AM

SCREA Trip Report by Linda Adams

Currently the tour groups that we utilize are still closed. Therefore, our Washington DC trip is on hold, not cancelled.

We hope to begin again in the fall with perhaps a day trip to the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse in late November, to see a Playhouse Christmas. In the fall, we can possibly go on the Miss Lotta cruise on Lake Hopatcong by driving that short distance out of Sussex County. It might be good if we stipulate that those attending have been vaccinated. I refuse to send deposits for trips to companies, in case their tours be canceled and we don't get our money back.

Scholarship Report by Sharon Mullen

The Scholarship committee has sent all Sussex County public high schools our application forms and they have been posted on their websites. Our due date is April 22 and we have already received some applications.

The Philanthropic committee has proposed, that all members who donate to our scholarship fund be eligible for a drawing to win a beautiful painting by our very talented Linda Adams. A raffle ticket will be submitted for each \$5.00 donation.

The winner will be selected at the June 7th meeting. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

There are short biographies on page 6 of NJEA leaders from Sussex County, Warren D. Cummings and Fred Aug whose names are on our scholarships.

NJREA Delegate Council "Calorie Free" Spring Meeting on Thurs. April 22, 2021 10 AM to 2 PM

This virtual meeting will feature NJEA officers, as well as information from Al Beaver, Director of Government Relations on NJEA PAC endorsed candidates for the June Primary, and Denise Policastro, Director of Research and Economic Services, on pension and health benefits updates for Medicare.



Raffle Drawing June 7, 2021

Minimum Donation \$5 per ticket

We will add a ticket for every multiple of \$5.

You need not be present to win.

For Donations to the SCREA Philanthropic Fund (scholarship) and/or raffle of the Painting

Name: _____ Amount _____

Date: _____ Phone Number or email _____

Address: _____

(Optional) In memory of _____ or number of tickets _____

(Optional) Name & Address to send acknowledgement to

Please write check to **SCREA Philanthropic Fund** and mail it to

SCREA Philanthropic Fund, PO Box 502, Augusta, NJ 07822



Scholarship News

WARREN D. CUMMINGS
Biography for SCREA Scholarship Applicants

Warren D. Cummings taught English at Newton High School from 1930 until his retirement in 1975. He is remembered as a master teacher who instilled in his students a love of reading and a desire to achieve excellence. Although respected as a strict taskmaster, he is most often remembered for his contagious enthusiasm and his sense of humor.

He loved history and was widely known for the books and articles in which he wrote about the history of Sussex County and New Jersey. He held numerous offices in the Newton Education Association, the Sussex County Education Association and the New Jersey Education Association. He served on committees of the National Education Association and was a delegate to the World congress of the Teaching Profession in London, England. He held offices in organizations representing retired educators and other senior citizens.

“Bill” Cummings had the unique ability to bring out the best in others. He tried to see the other person’s viewpoint. He was generous in sharing his wisdom and in giving constructive advice.

Annually in June, a Scholarship will be awarded in Warren D. Cummings’ name to a student who plans to devote his/her life to making a difference in the field of education.

FRED AUG
Biography for SCREA scholarship Applicants

Fred was an all-star athlete in multiple sports while a student at Pompton Lakes High School. He served in the Air Force and Army during the Korean War. He also played minor league baseball with the Chicago Cubs Organization. Fred completed a bachelor’s degree in education from William Paterson University on a GI Bill scholarship and a master’s degree in education from New York University. He served as a teacher and head basketball coach for more than 30 years in the Pompton Lakes, North Warren and Vernon Township School Districts.

Fred was a longtime advocate for the teaching profession, serving in a variety of leadership positions with the New Jersey Education Association as both an active and retired teacher. He felt deeply about advocating for the rights of members who were war veterans themselves and served as chairman of the NJEA Veteran’s caucus. He worked tirelessly to lobby for a bill to change the pension formula for veterans and after 12 years was instrumental in the passage of this bill, formally known as Chapter 390.

He believed strongly in ensuring that public employees’ voices were heard and as an active association member he served as president of the Vernon Township Education Association and the Sussex County Education Association.

Once he became retired, Fred gained notoriety as one of the “most visible” members of the retired organization. He served as the constitution expert for Sussex County Retired Educators Association and was the sitting president of the Passaic County Retired when he passed away.

Fred served as president of the New Jersey Retired Educators Association for six years. In his final president’s message, Aug wrote, “It is my hope that during my years of serving as your president, I have left the association better for what I have done and who I have been.”

AFTER SCHOOL VIEWS

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Sharon Mullen was nominated for 2021-2023 SCREA President and Ann Lane for Treasurer. They are willing to serve. We need volunteers for the positions of First Vice President, Second Vice President and Secretary. Linda Adams has consented to hold a position. Here are our job descriptions.

President: Conducts 4 general and 4 executive meetings a year and attends state meetings on behalf of the association. This is the spokes person for our group.

First Vice President: Makes arrangements for our speakers, which are often from NJEA and assumes the duties of the President if unable.

Second Vice President: Arranges for the location and menu for general meetings and collects the fees for meals and distributes name tags. He/she is the chair of the Policy Committee which supports our Constitution and Bylaws. The 2nd VP assumes the office of 1st VP or President if necessary.

Secretary: Records the minutes of the executive and general meeting and sees they are distributed and those of the general meetings are in the newsletter.

Treasurer: Keeps the financial information of the organization, pays our bills, and does a yearly required report for NJEA which includes a budget.

We also need committee chairs and representatives. The NJREA president can name members to general committees of the NJREA such as Elections, Health Benefits, Member Benefits, Scholarship, etc. We need more people to fill these rolls and they can be co-chairs.

Government Relations: Keeps our members informed of what is happening with the state and federal legislatures by giving a short report at meetings and writing a short report for the newsletter. NJREA will supply some information.

Member Benefits: Informs our county members of benefits they may receive from NJEA.

Website: Maintain our SCREA website, contact Pam Raynor or Ann Lane as to specifics. No trip to Trenton needed for this committee.

Dr. Gayle Carrick (continued from pg. 4)

She has been watching the Kelly index, where red means close schools. It has been orange, where local districts decide. For the most part schools were able to open with either hybrid or in-person learning.

The superintendents of the 30 Sussex County districts have worked closely together and the digital divide has been closed. She responded to questions about regionalization by stating that though there's been some consolidation, no one wants to give up home rule. Because of local governance, the state does not mandate regionalization and funding follows a very complex formula.

She encourages retired teachers to sign up as substitutes. Retired teachers working alongside active teachers could help lessen the learning loss.

Constitution: The chair makes sure our constitution and Bylaws are in line with NJREA. Shirley Smith is chair of this committee

Scholarship: Promotes donations to this fund, sends applications to our public high schools, chairs the selection committee and introduces the awardees. Elaine Freda has consented to do this but others are needed on this committee.

Necrology: Reports on the deaths of our members, writes quarterly reports and conducts a yearly necrology service. Gail Baum is doing this at present.

Newsletter: Collects information and edits it into an on-line and snail mail newsletter. G. Lewis is now doing this, but needs a photographer to take photos at in-person meetings.

Budget: Assists the treasurer in preparing the yearly budget.



Returns to
 PO Box 502
 Augusta, NJ 07822



VOTE
Primary NJ Election
Tues. June 8, 2021

First Vice President's Report

By Sharon Mullen



I recently spoke with **Aetna** representatives regarding our **Wellness Rewards program**. Aetna has confirmed that the wellness program is still in effect this year with a few minor changes. Gift cards are offered for completing certain wellness visits between Jan. 1, 2021 and Dec. 31, 2021. The Hearing exam is no longer included, but Colorectal screening and Mammogram have been added to the program. Please remember to call **855-255-5435** when you have your Wellness exam, Vision exam, Home health visit and Flu shots, along with the colorectal screening and mammogram. Aetna will also send a \$25 gift card if members exercise three times in a month. This is to promote a healthy lifestyle. In addition Aetna is continuing the reimbursement for our co-pays up to \$250, but would like us to be aware that the reimbursement will be coming later in the year.

Those members with Horizon can learn more at www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/njwell or 1-800-414-SHBP.

Please take advantage of these offers.

Program for June 7th

This year SCREA will be awarding 4 scholarships instead of 2, due to the school closures of last year. Please consider donating to our philanthropic fund, as we would like to continue our support of young people entering the field of education. As chair of our philanthropic committee, I have found our members to be extremely generous, and the award recipients to be very deserving young men and women who will bring honor to our profession. We hope to have our recipients with us virtually on June 7th.

SCREA Calendar

- Thurs. April 22, 2021 NJREA Virtual meeting
- Mon. May 10, 2021 Exec. Zoom Meeting
- Mon. June 7, 2021 Virtual General Mtg.
- Mon. August 19, 2021 Executive Meeting