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Banner

September 2024

WELCOME BACK MEETING, SEPTEMBER 17

Dr. Ebony Johnson, superintendent of Tulsa Public Schools, will be guest speaker for our first meeting of the year on Tuesday, September 17 at 10:00. **Tulsa Teachers Credit Union** will also be on hand to welcome back everyone with a continental breakfast, fun giveaways, and information about the many ways that the credit union serves its customers.

Dr. Johnson is a product of Tulsa schools, having attended Walt Whitman Elementary, Gilcrease Middle School, and graduating in 1994 from McLain High School. She earned a degree in English Education and an MA in Educational Leadership from Northeastern State University. She received her doctorate in Education from University of Oklahoma with a 4.0 GPA. She has been TPS superintendent since 2023.

TMREA meetings are typically held the third Tuesday of each month at TPS Service Center in the Selmon Room, located at 31st and New Haven.



SAVE THE DATE

OREA CONVENTION



BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

Date:

October 7th and 8th, 2024

Location:

Edmond Hilton Garden Inn and Convention Center
2833 Conference Drive, Edmond, OK 73034

Tulsa Teachers Credit Union has been a faithful supporter of Tulsa Metro Retired Educators Association. TTCU has helped underwrite the costs of publishing our newsletter, as well as providing a back-to-school-year breakfast for us. Plus, who can function without the calendars, pens, and notepads they provide? Thank you wholeheartedly!



President's Message

by Don Hertzler



Dear TMREA Members:

The new school year has started. Can you recall the excitement and the stress that always entailed? – – – The anticipation of a new crop of students and the chance to try out some new creative ideas for classroom delivery or enhanced learning techniques? It's been 21 years since I retired. I can still feel the excitement. I'm relieved that I don't have to deal with the stress of getting ready – the barrage of meetings – new administrators and new guidelines – a background of political stress. In retirement we can still be supportive of teachers. We must be encouraging of our teachers and our schools. So . . . the excitement of a new school year is still there for us.

Be sure to bring your TMREA dues (and OREA dues if you don't use payroll deduction) for this school year. To save time, bring a filled-out dues form provided in this newsletter.

When you arrive, please fill out and wear one of the name tags provided at the officers table along the east wall. . . or wear a name tag you have at home. It will be a big help to others.

One of the more meaningful experiences that our organization offers its members is to serve as a delegate to the OREA Annual Convention. This year it will occur on October 8th at the Hilton Garden Inn Edmond / Oklahoma City North. We get to hear inspiring speakers, get updates on what is happening in our legislature concerning education and our retirement system, and support our PAC which provides encouragement for legislators who support improving both education and our retirement system.

TMREA pays for our delegate registration and for the bus transportation to and from the convention for each of our 45 delegates. We are one of only a few units which does that. A photo of a past convention luncheon table with TMREA members is shown at right.



Since the convention is in Oklahoma City, we leave Tulsa at 6:00 AM and return around 5:00 PM. It's a full day, but we ride in a comfortable bus with air conditioning and a rest room. The convention is a chance to meet and greet other retired educators from across the state and a chance to become better informed. If you haven't attended the convention, I encourage you to volunteer to be a delegate. We are allowed 45 delegates this year. We need more alternate delegates and, because life happens, many of our alternates will get a chance to be full delegates and attend the convention. Our unit covers the registration including lunch and the cost of the bus transportation. You only need to bring money for purchase of vendor items, gift baskets, or donations to the OREA Fund. If you are not already on the list, let our membership chair, Nancy Anderson, know that you would like to attend by sending her email (nancya48@aol.com) or calling her ((918) 695-6972). You must have paid your TMREA and OREA dues to be a delegate.

Preconvention entertainment and food is provided Monday evening for those interested in driving themselves to OKC and stay overnight. We do not cover the \$35 ticket. You can register for that event and a motel room on the OREA web site (www.OREA.org).

Don Hertzler

2024-25 TMREA Meeting Schedule

September 17, 2024

October 15, 2024

November 19, 2024

December 17, 2024

January 21, 2025

February 18, 2025

March 18, 2025

April 15, 2025

May 20, 2025



OREA State Convention
October 8, 2024
Hilton Garden Inn, Edmond

Delegates for OREA State Convention on October 8

Nancy Anderson, Membership Chairperson, has issued a call for more convention delegates. "Technically, these people will be alternates because we presently have a complete delegate roster. However, as has happened in past years, some of these alternates will need to act as delegates because the original delegates encounter situations that keep them from attending," explained Nancy.

These TMREA members have their registration fees paid for the convention and will be able to ride the bus that TMREA is chartering for the event. Anyone interested in being a delegate needs to be a member of TMREA and OREA. You can contact Nancy Anderson at 918/695-6972 or nancya48@aol.com.

Silent Auction

Special Events Coordinator Glenda Murphy is still looking for items for the silent auction held each year at the convention. Glenda creates a variety of desirable baskets, often using themes like OSU and OU, coffee, bath products, etc., in addition to plants in decorative pots. She also likes to offer a gift card tree featuring cards from popular stores and restaurants. You can help by bringing products that work with the themes, gift cards, or donating money so Glenda can buy any items she needs to complete the baskets. The TMREA baskets always draw a lot of bids and are highly prized.

WELCOME BACK!

Be COLLECTING these items



Teaching Tools	Games & Puzzles	Student Incentives	Flash Cards	Magazines
Seasonal decorations	Pencils	Stickers	misc. office supplies	
Bulletin Board items	Posters	Copy paper/Cardstock		
Arts, Crafts, Supplies		Counting blocks/manipulatives		
Paper towel/toilet paper/gift wrap rolls		egg cartons, shoe boxes, coffee cans		
Yarn, thread, embroidery thread, buttons		games, decks of cards		
scrapbooking materials		cookie cutters, mason jars		
Greeting cards new/used (tear off message)		travel soap, lotion, shampoo		
plastic kitty litter bins (empty)		plastic cutlery, paper plates, napkins		
File folders used/written on				

Clarehouse®

Living. Loving. Sharing.

Toiletries

Disinfectant wipes

Pill bottles (no labels)

Plastic bags

Plastic bags with handles



**SOUTH TULSA
COMMUNITY HOUSE**

Food: canned,
boxed, snacks

Books: Westerns,
cookbooks, crafts,
Bibles, self-help, How to Repair, non-
fiction



**“IT'S NO
BIG THING,
BUT YOU
MAKE BIG THINGS
OUT OF
LITTLE THINGS
SOMETIMES.”**

- ROBERT DUVAL
ITSALLYOUBOO.COM



Don't Forget to record your volunteer hours and send that information to Nancy Remus nremus@cox.net. You can also fill out a form at the next meeting.

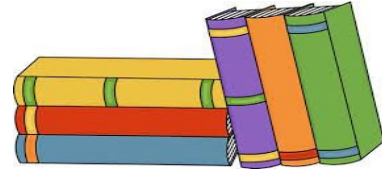
OREA 2023-2024 Community Service Award Application

TMREA members donated and wrote over 600 messages of good cheer during monthly meetings last year. These messages were added to other cards which were distributed with pieces of candy as follows:

Meals on Wheels —	753
Trinity Woods —	118
University Village —	77
Coffee Bunker —	51
TOTAL	999

This will be an ongoing service project for this year.

Book Exchange



Proposed book themes for 2024-2025

September — Favorite summer books and SERIES.

*Forms for members to name their favorite adult and children's book authors

October — Mysteries/thrillers/science fiction

November — First Ladies, Gift books (YA, children, and coffee table, Presidents)

December — Favorite authors (see September)

Book and magazine exchange for May earned \$66.00.

Total amount taken in for the 2023-2024 school year was \$455.20.

All donations were sent to the OREA PAC fund.



Below: Pencil Box Volunteers this summer included Susan Stackler, Karen Gaddis, Yvonne Buchanan, Dana McBurney, Susanna Belsley-Director of Pencil Box Operations, Nancy Remus, and Sheila Hayden.



Don't forget to pay your membership dues. Just \$15 to join TMREA for the year: spouses cost \$5. OREA memberships may be payroll deducted, or you can pay a yearly due of \$42.00. **Keep in mind that retired teachers have the benefits we have because of OREA.** Under the leadership of Sabra Tucker, OREA is constantly fighting for us! Join Today!



2024-25 TMREA Officers

Tulsa County District Director for OREA, Janet Brewster (far right) installs the new officers at last May's meeting. From left, Karen Gaddis — Treasurer, Constance Murray — Vice President in charge of programs, Elaine Dodd — Co-Vice President-Elect, Dianna Buck — Secretary, Don Hertzler — President. Not Pictured, Diane Dross — Co-Vice President-Elect. In all, about twenty members serve on the TMREA Executive Board.

Janet Brewster was the half-pot winner at the May meeting. After collecting \$221.00 in tickets on May 21st, Legislative Fund Director Sharon Day reports that the OREA PAC Fund received \$110.50, as did Janet.



Peach Pecan Bread

- 1 c. coarsely chopped pecans
- 2 peaches peeled, pitted, cut up
- 2/3 c. granulated sugar 1/4 c. milk
- 1/4 c. canola oil 2 large eggs
- 2 c. flour 1 t. salt 2 t. baking powder

Stir together the sugar, milk, oil, and eggs.

Now mix in the flour, salt, and baking powder. (Batter will be a bit dry.)

Fold in peaches and pecans until thoroughly blended.

Pour batter into standard 9x5 loaf pan. Bake at 350 for 50-60 minutes, or until knife inserted in middle comes out clean.

Allow to cool for 20 min.

In a small bowl, whisk together

1/2 c. powdered sugar

2 T. milk.

Drizzle over bread when ready to serve.



REGISTER TO VOTE

BECAUSE YOUR VOTE MATTERS

Today!

<https://mvlc.sos.state.mi.us/RegisterVoter/Index>



You can do the following things:

- Register to Vote
- Update Voter Record
- Check Voter Status
- Request a Vote-by-Mail
- Find Election Information
- Get Your Questions Answered
- Vote Democrat to Protect Our Rights!

ELECTION DAY
NOVEMBER 5, 2024



September Fun Facts

1. September comes from an old Roman word that means "seven." It was the seventh month of the calendar until the advent of the Gregorian calendar.
2. The Romans believed that September was watched over by the god of fire, so they always expected September to be full of fire and volcanic eruptions.
3. September is spelled with the most letters in its name, containing nine letters. No other month has the same number of letters as its place in the calendar.
4. September 17 was the day the Constitution was adopted in 1788.
5. September 22/23 is the first day of fall in North America.

Membership Form, Tulsa Metro Retired Educators Assoc.

Check if this is your first time to join.

Name: _____ (please print)

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email Address _____ (for communications by email)

Check to receive The Banner by mail (costs us money). Otherwise The Banner will be sent by email.

Annual Dues:

Tulsa Metro Retired Educators Unit \$15.00 \$ _____

Associate Membership (non-educator) \$5.00..... \$ _____

Optional: TMREA Legislative Fund (Support TMREA lobby effort in OKC) \$ _____

Other Annual Dues

Oklahoma Retired Educators Assoc. (State organization) \$42.00 \$ _____

OREA Associate Membership (non-educator) \$24.00..... \$ _____

NEA dues (optional: Requires OREA membership) \$35.00 \$ _____

Make Check to TMREA TOTAL = \$ _____

Mail check and form to: Karen Gaddis, TMREA Treasurer, 6409 S 90th E Place, Tulsa, OK 74133

OPTIONAL PAYROLL DEDUCTION OF OREA DUES

I authorize the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma to deduct \$3.50 each month from my benefit check and remit same to the Oklahoma Retired Educators Association for payment of membership dues. This authorization is to remain in effect until cancelled by written notice to OREA. I understand this is a voluntary authorization and my receiving a monthly benefit is not dependent on membership in OREA. (NOTE: The TRS requires that you fill in the last four digits of your SS# for identification.)

SIGNATURE _____ DATE: _____ LAST 4 DIGETS SOC SEC #: _____

