

Exciting Fall Conference planned



Nico Spadafora

by Marleen Wallingford

The OEA-Retired Fall Conference, Escape to the Mountain, will be held October 6-7 at the Mt Hood Resort in Welches.

Two engaging keynote speakers are planned.

Nico Spadafora, the owner and lead educator for The Fossil Team and lead researcher and manager at the North American Bigfoot Center will share his adventures. He also created The Fossil Team, a traveling museum that uses fossils and modern animal bones to teach the public about the world we live in.

Our second keynote speaker is Lisa Riversong Franklin an artist, athlete and active businesswoman. She is the Curator and Tribal Liaison for R.L.K. and Company. This company

holds the operating permit for the National Historic Landmark Building Timberline Lodge and ski area. She also serves as the Tribal Liaison by managing relationships with local tribes and is an Alpine Ski Trainer

There will be several programs to choose from ranging from brain health , mountain search and rescue and the science behind Bigfoot.

Our UniServ Consultant Lesly Muñoz will give us legislative updates. She was elected last fall as an Oregon State Representative for the first time from Woodburn.

There will be time to explore the beautiful Mt. Hood area as well as play games with our fellow retired educators.

We will have a special celebration of OEA-Retired's 40th Anniversary.



Lisa Riversong Franklin

Oregon hosts NEA Representative Assembly

by Ray Johnson

What a great event Portland just hosted—the annual NEA RA—the first week of July. According to numerous delegates and volunteers, there was much positive that occurred.

The Information Booth, of which I was in charge, received constant accolades from delegates about what a great city Portland is; for returning lost credit cards, driver's licenses and cell phones; assisting with accessibility issues; finding restaurants; locating meeting rooms around the Convention Center; helpfulness of volunteers—the list could go on and on.

These comments were not just heard at the Booth as many Oregon delegates heard such praise, too.

One veteran NEA Staff member even commented that it was the best Convention Center she had worked with in her 14 years at RAs.

Portland Travel, the tourism bureau, received

much praise from us for providing an overflow of city information for the Booth, having a staff person on site throughout the RA, as well as having signs and employees at the airport to assist arriving delegates and families. The most popular items at the Booth were passes to Nike, Adidas and Columbia Sportswear employee stores.

A big Shout Out! goes to the more than 30+ retired members who volunteered out of the approximately 250 total.

It was great being part of the NEA RA Host Planning Committee that was chaired by Hanna Vaandering and kept everything running smoothly. Also on the Committee were retirees JoAnn Conroy, who chaired Event Services and Bobbi Yambasu, treasurer.

My personal note is completing a cycle as I worked at the Volunteer Booth the last time it was held in Portland 1973.

Random remarks

by President Eileen Wende



Oregonians started the spring off by being asked to join a nationwide “Hands Off!” action to demonstrate resistance to the many cuts and roll backs coming out of the current administration.

On April 5, thousands of us across the state, including many OEA-Retired members, came together in their communities in support of this collective action. Creative signs were made to say such things as, “Hand’s Off ...our Social Security, our Medicare, our immigrants, our public education, our healthcare, our personal data, our free speech, our environment, etc.”

Citizens organized in communities large and small, rural, suburban and urban to protest the lawlessness and cruelty of the current Trump administration. Tens of thousands of protesters turned out across the country to support this day of action.

On June 14, Flag Day, and coincidentally, Donald Trump’s Birthday, he ordered a massive display of tanks and military personnel to parade in his honor. A national day of action was declared for this same day, called, “No Kings!”

Once again across Oregon and our nation a national day of defiance was organized. Many of us participated in peaceful demonstrations in our communities to protest authoritarianism, to demonstrate that the flag does not belong to President Trump and to show the world what a true democracy looks like. The numbers of protestors across our country, far out numbered the lightly attended military parade in Washington, D.C.

On July 16, the Supreme Court ruled that the Trump administration could move ahead with plans to lay off half the workforce in the Department of Education. These measures will result in cuts to programs for students with disabilities and for students living in poverty, as well as cuts to Pell Grants and student loan programs. There is an expectation that states and individual localities will pick up these costs, even though most school districts have already developed their budgets for the coming school
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CALENDAR

2025

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| Oct. 6-7 | Retired Fall Conference, Welches |
| Oct. 7 | Retired Board Meeting, Welches |
| Nov 3 | Retired Board Meeting, Salem |

2026

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Jan 12 | Retired Board Meeting, Salem |
| Feb. 1 | PrimeTimes published |
| March 2 | OEA-Retired Annual Assembly, Salem |
| March, TBD | OEA PAC |
| April 1 | PrimeTimes published |
| TBD | NEA-Retired Leadership Conference |
| April, TBD | OEA Representative Assembly |
| May 18 | Retired Board Meeting, Salem |
| June 1 | PrimeTimes published |
| June 30- | NEA-Retired Annual Assembly |
| July 1 | Denver, CO |
| July 13 | Retired Board Meeting, Salem |

Region I plans

by Viki Mulick

Region I encompasses the greater Portland area. Please feel free to bring along a retired educator friend to any of our functions so they can experience some good old-fashioned collegiality.

Region I hosted a lunch on July 21 at the Cartside Food Carts in North Portland. We usually have a food cart lunch to cap off our summer get-togethers.

Region I "Not Back To School" Ice Cream Social.

This event is free of charge and we're hoping you can all join in.

We'll be at the Philip Foster Farm in Eagle Creek, near Estacada, on Wednesday, September 10. We have a guided house tour of the historic farmhouse from 12:30-2:00 p.m. Ice cream will follow on the grounds of the historic park.

Philip Foster was one of the first white settlers in Oregon. The farm is part of a 640-acre land claim. Foster built a store, house, barn and a one-room schoolhouse—what educator can resist a one-room schoolhouse?

Region I Lunch

11:30 a.m., October 23
Mi Pisco Peruvian Restaurant is located in Tigard and if you haven't tried Peruvian food, this is your grand opportunity.

The Peruvian cuisine is often a fusion of Peruvian with Asian flavors. These Asian flavors were brought to Peru by 19th Century immigrants.

Perhaps you'd like to try Peru's signature cocktail, the Pisco Sour. More information will come out as we get closer to October.

RSVP to Viki Mulick at:
mulickv1@frontier.com.

Region II plans

by Cherene Mills

First off, thank you for electing me as the new Region II Director of OEA-Retired.

We currently have three activities planned, and hope that you will send me ideas of activities and/or locations for future activities, whether they be an event or just a coffee and social. My email address is cmills.ret@gmail.com.

Duty Free

Back to School Picnic

10 am, September 2.

We will eat at noon. Paul Schutz is again welcoming us to his home for this event at 721 Dalke Ct, Salem. It is requested that you bring a side dish or dessert with the rest being provided. Please RSVP to me at cmills.ret@gmail.com.

Corvallis Fall Festival

September 27

OEA-Retired will meet at the Corvallis-Benton County Library, 645 NW Monroe Ave, Corvallis, and venture out to lunch.

Please RSVP to Marty Bronstein at
mab7@comcast.net.

First Tuesday Breakfast

Sybil's Omelettes

2373 State St. S, Salem.

As retired Fall Conference is October 6-7, we will start the monthly breakfast meetings on November 4.

New leaders elected

by Mavis Randle

The following people were elected to OEA-Retired positions:

Treasurer Bobbi Yambasu
Secretary (appointed to one-year term) JoAnn Conroy

NEA-Retired Annual
Assembly/ NEA RA Successor
Delegate (2026)

1. Janis Eggert

2. Bobbi Yambasu

Region I Director (two years)
Viki Mulick

Region II Director (three years) Cherene Mills.

OEA RA Delegates/OEA-Retired Board Members: Pam Wojcik, Viki Mulick, Judy Christensen, Ardeth Woods, Anne Jones, Robert Rice, Alex Rabchuk, Eileen Wende, Vickie Jackson, Darlene Cook, Russ Fillis, Cherene Mills, Nancy Larsen, Kathleen Adams

Thank you to everyone who voted.



Breakfast

9:30 a.m., September 11

Proud Mary

2012 NE Alberta

RSVP to Marleen at

marleenwong@gmail.com

For our September activity, we plan to take a walking tour of the Portland's historic south waterfront. This was a thriving immigrant community until an urban renewal project, the Keller Auditorium, replaced the residents in the area with high-rises, parks and fountains.

The project destroyed hundreds of classic Old Portland homes that dated back to the 1870s and 1880s

*Now that I have become a
senior, everything has
started to click for me!
My back, my knees, my
hips, my neck...*

Remarks

Continued from Page 2.

year. These senseless mandates at the Federal level will in all probability lead to more cuts to school programs and staff.

Every effort should be made to keep cuts as far away from classrooms and direct student services, as possible. For example, school districts should not be increasing administrative staff.

What can we do? We must pay attention! We must continue to support organized actions in our communities! There is evidence that these protest rallies are having an impact. Not so much on the Washington administration, but on local elected representatives concerned about their upcoming elections.

Our congressional representatives, most of whom are supportive of our educational legislative goals, need to hear that we appreciate their efforts to fight the proposed cuts and rollbacks. We need to thank them for their continued efforts on our behalf.

We need to keep up the pressure by attending the protests, participating in virtual and in-person town hall meetings of our Senators and Representatives and by joining NEA's FastAction to send pertinent emails to our congressional representatives.

Google NEA Take Action and sign up to email your legislators.

When we act together, we can make a difference!

PrimeTimes editor needed

by Marleen Wallingford

We are seeking a new volunteer for this work. You will need to solicit articles, edit articles and, occasionally,

provide articles yourself.

You do not have to be on the OEA-Retired Board to do this rewarding work. You will be able to produce the newsletter with OEA-Retired's iMac, which was purchased for the editor's use. If you are more comfortable with a PC, that could be considered.

Contact our Communications Committee Chair Russ Fillis at cello16@comcast.net or me at marleenwong@gmail.com or 503-927-2766 if you are interested or want to find out more.

One step forward, two steps back!

by Cherene Mills

The headline expresses how it feels gaining new members. We get retired educators to join OEA-Retired and then our membership list grows smaller as we learn of recently deceased members.

Each OEA-Retired member holds unique reasons for being a member and become a member in different ways. For some, becoming an OEA-Retired member was the logical step to continue union work and advocacy for public education.

For others, it may have been to keep connected with fellow educators they came to know through their work and union. For others, all it took was a personal ask by another OEA-Retired member.

Think about why you joined OEA-Retired. Think about how you learned about OEA-Retired and what it took for you to become a member.

Now, do you know a retired educator who you think is already an OEA-Retired member? Would you be

surprised that it is often assumed that since an educator was an active union member while working, and may even be a local leader, that they became a member of OEA-Retired? This is not necessarily true!

One currently employed educator, during OEA RA, connected with his father, who is a retired educator, and paid for his father's annual membership. Another retired educator during a membership happy hour event said that she had never been asked to join OEA-Retired.

Help OEA-Retired grow stronger. Ask at least one retired educator whom you are not sure is a member to join this year. Come to an event and bring them with you. The Fall Conference in October, the Annual Assembly in March, and regional social events are great opportunities for retired educators to enjoy the camaraderie and learn about OEA-Retired. Or, come to a board meeting as a guest.

If ones you ask have questions you cannot answer, be sure to contact me, OEA-Retired Membership Chair, at cmills.ret@gmail.com.

Let's change "One step forward, two steps back" to "Two steps forward, one step back." Small changes are good changes.

NEA online

by Ray Johnson

We hope that you received the August digital issue of NEA Today for NEA-Retired Member magazine as it replaces the usual print issue.

This past year we have been promoting this change for August, and just last month, you should have received a postcard, or an email that urged you to

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Support OEA-Retired by traveling

by Ray Johnson

If interested in the great fall colors in the Northeast part of the United States, our brochures for **Colors of New England** for October 1-8, 2026—see sidebar for details—just arrived.

However, if you would prefer taking a Collette tour that is not on our list, as some of our travelers have done, it is very easy to do. Just follow these steps.

1. Look up Collette's large selection of tours at:
<https://www.gocollette.com/en>.
2. Pick one or two of them, determine your month of departure, and then call Collette World Connect at 800-437-0235.
3. State that you are connected with Oregon Education Association-Retired and give them this customer service number: 8222-19. This will guarantee you a discount, and we will receive credit.
4. Have your driver's license (domestic tours), or passport (international tours), handy for easy reference along with a credit card.
5. Send an email to confirm that you have booked a tour through Collette World Connect to:
rayugene@gmail.com.



NEA online

Continued from Page 4.

sign up for the digital version so as not to miss out on NEA-Retired news.

With the switch to digital, the August magazine was able to focus entirely on our lives as retired educators, instead of being like the former print issue that predominately featured information about our still-in-school colleagues, due to federal regulations about the content of mailed publications.

Although, the next four issues will be in print, the August issue will continue to be digital. We recommend that you still sign so that you will receive future digital issues at: nea.org/RetiredEmail.



OEA-Retired Tours

2025

Christmas on the Danube

December 2-11, 2025

SOLD OUT

2026

Celebrating America's 250th Birthday

March 23-31. 9 days with 12 meals.

Cost: \$4,249. Deposit of \$698 due September 22, 2025. Final payment due December 22, 2025.

For more information or reservations, go to <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1289926>

Cultural Treasures of Japan

April 19-May 2. 14 days with 18 meals.

Cost: \$8,449. Deposit of \$698 due September 20, 2025. Final payment due January, 2026.

For more information or reservations, go to <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1280593>

Colors of New England

October 1-8. 8 days with 12 meals.

Cost: \$4,099. Deposit of \$698 due March 25, 2026. Final payment due July 1, 2026.

For more information or reservations, go to <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1289928>

2027

Holland and Belgium Springtime River Cruise,
March

Croatia and Its Islands, May

For information on America's Birthday or Colors of New England contact Sandi Rosenfeld at 503-880-9953, or sanrosenfeld@gmail.com

For Japan, contact Nancy Lewis at 503-352-4453, or nancyjolewis@gmail.com

Escape to the Mountain

OEA-Retired 2025 Fall Conference

October 6-7, 2025

Register Early



Join us on Scenic Mt. Hood October 6 and 7, 2025.

Bring all your OEA-Retired friends, spouses, neighbors, etc. for a getaway at the Mt Hood Oregon Resort in Welches. Come and enjoy the conference. Make it a mini vacation.

Sessions...

Timberline Lodge History and Art - Fossil Cats of North America, - The Science of Sasquatch - Native American Tribes of Mt. Hood - Mt. Hood Search and Rescue Mt. Hood Ski Patrol - Brain Health - NEA Member Benefits - Mt Hood Cultural Museum - Mt. Hood Fruit Loop - Legislative Session Recap.

Activities...

Happy Hour - Croquet Tournament - Putting Tournament
Golf - Hiking - Swimming - Tennis - Health Spa

OEA-RETIRED 2025 FALL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
October 6 and 7 - Mt. Hood Oregon Resort
Welches, Oregon

Send registration and check to Bobbi Yambasu: 14223 SE Alder, St., Portland, OR 97233

Member Name(s) Guest Name(S) _____ \$60 _____

Member Name(s) Guest Name(S) _____ \$60 _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

Email _____

Please note any dietary needs _____

Interested in Putting Tournament? Yes ___ No ___ Name _____

Interested in Croquet Tournament? Yes ___ No ___ Name _____

Prizes will be awarded for each tournament

Closer, closer and closer

Closer to what you might ask??

The 40th Anniversary Celebration of OEA-Retired of course!

Where: Mt Hood Oregon Resort

When: Oct 6 & 7, 2025

It will be a fun, entertaining and informative program about OEA-Retired and there will be CAKE!!

What more could you ask?

As long as you are coming to Mt. Hood for cake you might as well sign up for the OEA-Retired Fall Conference. There is a registration form above. There will be a croquet tournament and a putting tournament plus many different presentations on a variety of exciting topics.

AND, the 40th Anniversary Celebration and CAKE!!

We hope to see you there. If we haven't met, please come up and introduce yourself.

If you have questions, please contact: Ray Johnson at rayugene@gmail.com

Let's read together

by Bobbi Yambasu

The Equity and Social Justice Committee has developed the following book list for the next year. We meet virtually at 9:30 a.m.

September 24

Take My Hand by Dolen Perkins-Valdez (Fiction)

November 5

The Sum of Us: What Racism

Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together by Heather McGhee (Non-Fiction)

December 17

The Personal History of Rachael Dupree by Ann Weisgarde (F)

January 28

Unfamiliar Fishes by Sarah Vowell (NF)

March 1

There There by Tommy Orange (F)

April 22

Hijacking History by Kathleen Wellman (NF)

June 3

A Queer Case by Robert Holton (F)

July 15

This Book Won't Burn by Samira Ahmed (F)

Any OEA-Retired member may join our book club. Since we are a statewide group, we meet via Zoom. If you would like to join this group of readers, email Bobbi Yambasu at bobby4967@gmail.com so that you get the Zoom link

OEA Foundation asks:

***Can you help provide
an incredible education?***

Every day, students in our schools need -

🍏 new school clothes 🍏 eyeglasses
🍏 warm winter coats 🍏 hearing aids

OEA and OEA-Retired members across the state are helping by making tax-deductible contributions to the **OEA Foundation** to provide these basic needs to ensure a better education for these students. **OEA Foundation** takes no administrative costs out of your donation, so 100 percent of your contribution goes directly to the students to provide the needed items.

- ✓ Can you mail a check to **OEA Foundation**, 6900 SW Atlanta St., Portland, OR 97223) to help our students, or donate online at www.oregoned.org/oeafoundation?

Also, you can earn redeemable points for the Foundation by registering your Fred Meyer Rewards card at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards (use Foundation number 85681), or similarly for Amazon at org.amazon.com.



**Have you
moved or
changed
your email?**

Contact: Nikki Burke
Oregon Education Association
2540 Coral Ave NE, Salem, OR
97305
503-364-6987
nikki.burke@oregoned.org