

A FOCUS SPECIAL ELECTRONIC EDITION  
CELEBRATING OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND COLLEGIALITY.

SEPTEMBER 2018

## Retired from our position... but not our profession!



### CHEER!!! Caring Help for Education Endeavors by Retirees

A history...and an update.

It was in the fall of 2013 that MNEA-Retired received a surprise gift in the mail – a \$100 check from NEA-Retired member Mary Parten (pictured with Carole Weatherford on page 2). This sprightly 90-year-old lady wrote that she wanted



Pictured above is Marie Theerman, one of the founders of MNEA-Retired. She enjoyed the afternoon with other MNEA-R members and newly-retired educators at the Metro St. Louis “Not-Back-to-School” picnic.

Even pouring rain did not stop the St. Charles Region from enjoying time together at their “Not-Back-to-School” picnic. This group donated school supplies for local students at their gathering.



Celebration!



All Missouri workers won with the defeat of Prop A!

#### Upcoming MNEA-R Regional Events:

9/21 - Springfield  
10/2 - Metro STL  
10/12 - SE MNEA-R  
10/18 - GKC MNEA-R

For More Regional Events, and details on events check us out on Facebook at  
**MNEA-Retired**

to "do something to help our association." Her gift was the catalyst for a brand- new MNEA-Retired charitable effort, CHEER. As retirees, we understand the financial sacrifice made by active educators, so we established this opportunity for active members to apply for grants of up to \$250. Our (Greater Kansas City) member Janet Leachman was instrumental in developing the plan, and she currently serves as our association's "Cheer Leader" (aka, committee chair).



Once the initial details had been worked out, our retired members responded generously. Within two years we were able to approve our first grants -- one to a first-year kindergarten teacher for classroom supplies, another to replace an educator's materials lost in a fire, and a third to supplement the expense of a science field trip.

To date, MNEA-Retired has been able to fund 31 for a total of almost \$7200. As the plan has grown, contributions from retired members and applications from active members continue to increase. Both individual and ongoing tax-exempt contributions are welcome!

In an ongoing effort to streamline and simplify the process of applying for a grant, a new & improved application form is being developed. Watch the MNEA-Facebook page for information and the MNEA-Retired website for the updated forms -- coming your way soon!

## HAPPY CHEER GRANT RECIPIENTS PICTURED HERE!

