

President's Report

Kay Walker Telma

April, 2020-April, 2021

Connecting with members

- Communicated with members statewide during the first few months of the COVID-19 “adventure” with frequent, positive “Stay Home” messages from March 26-May 26. These were available on *Constant Contact*, in emails to leaders and on mea-retired.org.
- Communicated with individual members by phone, texts and email and to the membership as a whole through *Constant Contact*, mea-retired.org, the *MEA-Retired Tribune* and the *Michigan Retirement Report*.
- Assisted members with using Zoom.

Connecting with leaders

- Had regular Zoom meetings, phone meetings, emails and texts with leadership team, Administrative Assistant Lisa Fox and Liaison to MEA Paul Helder.
- Set up and conducted virtual regularly scheduled (September, November, January, March) and emergency or special meetings of the MEA-Retired Leadership Team, Executive Committee and Board of Directors.
- Set up and conducted virtual meeting of MEA-Retired chapter presidents in August.
- Conducted the November Virtual Presidents’ Conclave.
- Met in person (and physically distanced) with leadership team, Anne Good and Lisa Fox to plan the Virtual Annual Meeting.
- Participated in MEA-Retired LPIC Committee Meeting.

Connecting with chapters

- Had a Zoom interview with Chapter President Darcy Lewis for the Gaylord area chapter meeting.
- Participated in and facilitated the Virtual Grand Traverse Bay Area Chapter Board meeting, virtual October luncheon and several “Virtual Happy Hours” with the chapter.
- Presented Tim McMann with a Certificate of Appreciation for his 20 years of service on the MEA Board of Directors at a physically distanced, outdoor gathering of the East Mid-Michigan chapter.

- Participated in virtual meetings of the Wayne County, East Oakland County, and Region 6 chapters.

Involvement with MEA

- Regularly scheduled and “emergency” MEA Board of Directors meetings.
- Both sessions of the virtual MEA RA.
- MEA-PAC Board and MEA-PAC Annual Meetings.
- MEA Screening and Recommending Committee events.
- MEA Board of Directors Diversity Training.
- MEA Conference Member Advisory Committee meeting.

Involvement with NEA, NEA-Retired

- Both sessions of the virtual NEA Representative Assembly.
- MEA NEA RA Caucus.
- Both days of the virtual NEA-Retired Annual Meeting.
- NEA-Retired State Presidents’ Training.
- NEA-Retired Political Action Meeting.
- Responded to questionnaires from NEA-Retired regarding membership and communication.
- NEA Virtual Fireside Chat with NEA President Becky Pringle, AFT President Randi Weingarten and Dr. Anthony Fauci.
- First-ever NEA Virtual National Leadership Summit and NEA-Retired Virtual Post-Summit Conference.
- Asked by NEA-Retired President Sarah Borgman to mentor a state EA-Retired president.
- Created gift packages for both the NEA-Retired Annual Meeting and the NEA-Retired Post-Summit Conference Virtual Auctions. Proceeds go to the NEA Fund for Children and Public Education.

Connecting through writing

- Wrote articles for *Constant Contact*, the *Michigan Retirement Report* and *MEA-Retired Tribune*.
- Submitted a proposal for NEA Executive Committee members Eric Brown and Shelly Moore Krajacic to present at the MEA-Retired Virtual Presidents' Conclave.

Staying connected in other ways

- Attended two virtual MPSERS Board meetings.
- Attended quarterly meeting with ORS health care liaisons.
- Helped with planning of and introduced NEA Executive Committee Member Eric Brown at the Virtual Tele-Town Hall with Sen. Gary Peters, attended by over 1600 MEA-Retired members.
- Participated in and introduced the keynote speaker at the National Multicultural Diversity Institute Annual Celebration.
- With Judy and Lisa, met virtually with East Mid-Michigan chapter member Julie Hyatt about being the Facebook and *Constant Contact* administrator.
- Met with leaders of the East Mid-Michigan chapter about activities and technology training opportunities.
- Helped tabulate paper ballots from the MEA-Retired Annual Election.