

Region 9 Director Report

Region 9 has two local chapters of MEA-Retired. With COVID restrictions both chapters have tried to stay active any way we can.

Region 9 MEA-Retired has not had a meeting since March 10, 2020. We got in just under the wire before the shut down. Since then the executive board has been meeting on line on a regular basis. We are keeping up with our newsletter to keep our members informed. We have had to suspend the Wellness exercise program, of course, because of the limitations due to COVID. The executive board also suspended our scholarship program for this year because we earn our money through working Parade of Homes in the Grand Rapids area and the parade was suspended last year. So we have no revenue to support the scholarships. We are hanging in there and hoping to start up meetings next fall.

Lakeshore MEA-Retired also is in the same situation. The executive board keeps in contact between phone and email. We communicate with our members through our fall newsletter and then letters throughout the year. Our membership chairperson, Linda Walsh, also maintains a Facebook group for our chapter and we use that to share information.

Lakeshore was fortunate to be able to have a meeting on September 17, 2020. We met in a park on Lake Macatawa that has a covered picnic area where we could spread out using our own chairs. We had lunch delivered so it was fun. We are hoping to hold another meeting in May that way we can meet outside if necessary.

Mary Yedinak
Director, Region 9