

SERREAM

Newsletter

Spring 2023

President's Message: Barb Hunter

Hello Everyone!

I hope you are surviving the winter. Maybe you have even been able to get away from the cold for a while. This time of year can be difficult for some. I find it helps me to keep busy.

In April we have the Spring Conference to look forward to attending. RARE has done a lot of work organizing it and it looks to be a great event for all.

SERREAM needs your help. We have positions open on the board that we need to fill. One is the position of vice president. This person would move into the office of president in another year. We desperately need someone to step into the role of secretary of SERREAM. This person would take notes at meetings and write them up. Another position that needs to be filled is the newsletter editor. The way it is set up now all you would need to do is remind people to send you their articles and then forward them onto our printer. There would also be proofreading involved. If you do not want to use your personal email we will set an email up just for SERREAM business. Please consider helping your organization out!

I hope to visit locals this year. I plan on being in Faribault in March at their meeting. If I haven't contacted you, please don't hesitate to extend an invite. You may reach me at 507-440-4923, please leave a message.

Fill out the registration on the bottom of page 2.

Copy page 3 and give to AARP members and potential members.

SERREAM CONFERENCE
Wednesday April 19, 2023
Rochester International Event Center (near the airport)
7333 Airport View Drive SW

Agenda

- 8:15 – 8:45** Registration, morning refreshments
 - 8:45 – 9:00** Kim Norton, Rochester Mayor, Welcome
 - 9:00 – 9:45** Jay Haapala, AARP, Community Engagement
 - 9:45 – 9:55** Anita Hellie, REAM president
 - 9:55 – 10:05** Break
 - 10:05 – 11:05** Jay Stoffel & Doug Anderson, Executive Directors of TRA and PERA
 - 11:05 – 11:45** Tim Moynihan, REAM Vice President and Legislative Co-Chair
 - 11:45 – 12:00** Membership Opportunities for AARP, REAM, SERREAM, & RARE
 - 12:00 – 12:30** Lunch catered by the Canadian Honker
 - 12:30 – 12:50** Barb Hunter, SERREAM President, Business meeting
 - 12:50 – 1:10** Edna Thayer, SERREAM Awards Chair, Presentations
 - 1:10 – 1:15** Nancy Kampmeier, Necrology
 - 1:15 – 2:00** Aaron Grossman, Election Administrator, City of Minneapolis
 - 2:00 – 2:05** Break
 - 2:05 – 2:40** Chad Israelson, History Instructor
 - 2:40 – 3:00** Door Prizes and Closing
- Local units are asked to bring a door prize.

REGISTRATION for THE SERREAM SPRING CONFERENCE
& Annual Meeting

Name _____

Check all that apply:

Guest ___ Member AARP ___ REAM ___ SERREAM ___ Local unit ___

Address _____

Email _____ Phone # _____

Above contacts needed in case of pandemic or storm forcing a cancellation

REGISTRATION FEE of \$30 includes lunch.

Register by APRIL 8.

Make checks payable to RARE. Mail checks & registration form to
Sharon Parker
250 Cedar Point
Oronoco, MN 55960

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An Invitation

SERREAM, a retired educators association, invites AARP members and potential ones as well as educators to our April 19, 2023 Spring Conference.

What's NRTA REAM AARP SERREAM RARE?

How do these organizations help us, help our communities, & help our state?

Morning Session - Main speakers:

Jay Haapala, AARP, Assistant State Director of Community Engagement

In 2020 the FBI recognized Jay for his work to stop Elder Fraud.

Jay Stoffel, Executive Director of TRA, pension fund report

Doug Anderson, Executive Director of PERA, fund report

Tim Moynihan, REAM Vice President and Legislative Co-Chair, and a devoted volunteer advocate for our TRA pension

An opportunity to join AARP, REAM, SERREAM, RARE

Lunch catered by The Canadian Honker

Afternoon Session – New ways in voting and in teaching

Aaron Frossman, Election Administrator for the City of Minneapolis

“RCV (Ranked Choice Voting) in Minneapolis”

Luke Turner, Olmsted County Election Manager attending also.

Chad Israelson, History Instructor

“Sentimental Journey: a look at post-war US through music.”

REGISTRATION FEE of \$30 includes lunch, Register by April 8.

Name _____

Check all that apply

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Address _____

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Make checks payable to RARE. Mail check & form to Sharon Parker

250 Cedar Point

Oronoco, MN 55960

Spring 2023 SEREAM Legislative Report

Typically at the beginning of legislative session, SEREAM publishes the names and contact information of the members of the current Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement (LCPR). Several new faces are on the new commission, and we encourage you to contact members with your questions and concerns as the pension priorities begin to come forward. With a healthy budget surplus, we can expect many groups “getting in the ears” of legislators. SEREAM members should be no different. Please advocate for yourself and all Minnesotans who receive public pensions.

Most senators ask that you use the email form on their webpage: “Use this email form”

2023 LCPR Roster

Senate members

Sen. Nick Frentz (Vice Chair)
3109 Minnesota Senate Bldg
651-296-6153
Use email form

Sen. Jeff Howe
2231 Minnesota Senate Bldg
651-296-7136
Use email form

Sen. Erin Murphy
3211 Minnesota Senate Bldg
651-296-5931
Use email form

Sen. Carla Nelson
2301 Minnesota Senate Bldg
651-296-4848
sen.carla.nelson@senate.mn

Sen. Sandra Pappas
2113 Minnesota Senate Bldg
651-296-1802
Use email form

Sen. Jordan Rasmusson
2409 Minnesota Senate Bldg
651-296-4875
Use email form

Sen. Judy Seeberger
2109 Minnesota Senate Bldg
651-296-8060
Use email form

House members

Rep. Kaela Berg
577 State Office Bldg
651-296-5387
rep.kaela.berg@house.mn.gov

Rep. Ethan Cha
527 State Office Bldg
651-296-1147
rep.ethan.cha@house.mn.gov

Rep. Danny Nadeau
291 State Office Bldg
651-296-4315
rep.danny.nadeau@house.mn.gov

Rep. Michael Nelson
585 State Office Bldg
651-296-3751
rep.michael.nelson@house.mn.gov

Rep. Timothy O’Driscoll (Secretary)
237 State Office Bldg
651-296-7808
rep.tim.odriscoll@house.mn.gov

Rep. Kaohly Van Her (Chair)
359 State Office Bldg
651-296-8799
rep.kaohly.her@house.mn.gov

Rep. Dan Wolgamott
401 State Office Bldg
651-296-6612
rep.dan.wolgamott@house.mn.gov

Keep this membership list handy. If you have questions or concerns about your pension, call one of these LCPR members.

REAM Board Meeting March 13, 2023

Present: Sharon & Ben Baratto, Barb Hunter, Kathryn Lastime. Kay Morcomb, Edna Thayer, Margie White

The meeting was called to order at 8:50 am by President, Barb Hunter.

The minutes were approved as printed in the newsletter. Sharon Baratto gave the Treasurer's report: Mediascope was paid \$836.36 for the newsletter. Dues and dues were \$400.00, Balance is: \$12,592.44. Membership: 588.

President, Barb Hunter said we are in need of a vice president, secretary, and newsletter editor.

She led a discussion regarding way in which we could increase our membership. She suggested having speakers at local chapter meetings and inviting the public as well as putting notices in local newspapers. Kay Morcomb discussed the possibility of speaking to teachers at the schools and explaining the importance of membership. Feasibility of that was discussed. It was mentioned that some schools do not allow us to address faculty in the building. We also discussed inviting new retirees to a breakfast at the Fall chapter meeting. It was noted that names of new retirees could be found in minutes of the school board meetings which are online and in newspapers. Ben Baratto spoke about the importance of inviting newly retired teachers to officer positions to get them involved. He also noted that the Winona Chapter has a newly retired teacher as president and also one as vice president. He also noted that a gala was held bringing teachers and community members together to raise money for the School Foundation.

Education Minnesota send out information regarding what is on the agenda for the commission. It was suggested that the legislative chair of each chapter designate one person on the board of that chapter to receive legislative news from Education Minnesota so that designee can inform the local members of news.

President Barb Hunter explained the new dues increase. REAM dues are \$3 per month if paid by credit card or auto bank withdrawal. Yearly dues paid by cash or check will be \$48. Life membership is no longer available If you have a life membership it will remain in effect as is at present (no additional charge).

Kay Morcomb presented the schedule and information for the Spring Conference. It will be held in Rochester on April 19th with reservations due by April 8th. The Fall conference will be held in Austin on October 18th. Possibilities of venue, and speakers was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned 10:20.

**Respectfully submitted,
Margie White**

Congratulations to Margie White from Winona and Mary Osborne from Faribault, who have been selected as the recipients of the 2023 SEREAM Educator Awards. Margie has been very active in the Winona area and now serves on the SEREAM Board. Mary is currently in her sixth year as co-president of the Faribault unit. The unit is very active and continues to thrive, which is a testimony to her excellent leadership. Perhaps "the apple doesn't fall far from the tree". It's interesting to know that Mary's mother, May Bottke, received the SEREAM Educator Award 20 years ago in 2003. 😊 Plan to congratulate them in person at the spring conference in Rochester in April. Their poem tributes will appear in future newsletters.

Awards Committee:

Edna Thayer, Nancy Reynolds, Jeanette Bergler.

**SEREAM members may copy this page
to give to potential members.**

CHECK YOUR RECORDS!

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES FOR

SEPTEMBER 2022 THRU AUGUST 2023

SEREAM Membership Form

Complete this form and mail with \$10.00 per person to:
Ben Baratto, 779 Bluffview Circle, Winona, MN 55987

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

Make checks payable to SEREAM.

Membership year: September 1, 2022–August 31, 2023

The newsletters can be found at SEREAM.org.

SOUTHEAST RETIRED
EDUCATORS ASSOC. OF MN
Ben Baratto
779 Bluffview Circle
Winona, MN 55987

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