Salutations:

I just returned from our Annual REAM Conference in Granite Falls at the Prairie’s Edge Casino. What a great time for the members of REAM to gather and renew our friendships, attend Workshop sessions, be entertained, enjoy great dining, and conduct the business of our organization. This year is also the 65th Anniversary of REAM; so, at the end of the conference, we celebrated with a special cake. All the folks in attendance seemed to have a great time, so I hope to see them and many new folks next year at Treasure Island Casino near Red Wing, MN.

Congratulations to our most recent REAM Educator Award winners: Phoebe Praxl, Edna Thayer, Jan Anderson, and Chuck Hellie. These folks surely deserve this award for their tireless efforts to promote REAM in their locals, and around the state. If you know of a deserving member(s), please consider nominating them for the award(s) to be given at our 2020 Conference.

The Retired Educators Association of Minnesota (REAM) is the #1 organization actively working to protect and maintain Minnesota’s educator’s pensions. Our work on our members’ behalf includes:

- Regularly attending meetings of the Investment Advisory Council, the Minnesota State Board of Investment (the state agency responsible for investing all public employee pension funds), and the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement (LCPR), which establishes pension policies for all Minnesota public employees.

- Working closely with statewide public employee retirement systems, including the Minnesota Teachers Retirement Association (TRA) and the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA).

- Conducting legislative workshops for its 48 local retiree units; providing speakers and other assistance upon request.

- Working at the state and national level with the National Retired Teachers Association (NRTA) and AARP on issues of concern to all older citizens.

I’ll close with the following story: Rosa and Arthur, now well into their 80’s, went to breakfast at Bert’s Café where the Senior Special was two eggs, bacon, hash browns and toast for $2.99. “Sounds good,” murmured Rosa, “but I don’t want eggs.”

“I’ll have to charge you $3.49 because you’re ordering a la Carte,” the waitress warned her.

“You mean I’d have to pay for not taking the eggs?” Rosa spluttered.

“Yes,” stated the waitress.

“I’ll take the special then.” Rosa eventually decided, smiling at Arthur.

“How do you want your eggs?” the waitress asked.

“Raw and still in the shell,” Rosa answered with a glint in her eye. Rosa took the two eggs home.

Moral of the story: You can’t keep an old person down!”

In closing have a great fall, but please be careful so you don’t fall down!

Jennie K. Hanson, REAM President
The 2019 Conference had some interesting sessions. We had lots of good comments about the speakers and our entertainment. A big thank you to all the locals and individuals who donated door prizes. People seem to enjoy going home with a door prize. REAM members attended from all over the State of Minnesota. Thanks for making the long drive and joining us. The 2020 REAM Conference and Annual Meeting is Monday and Tuesday, September 28 and 29 at Treasure Island Resort and Casino near Red Wing. Mark your calendars!

Before heading to Granite Falls for the conference, I had asked our web coordinator to add our two new trips to the website. I had not yet received the brochures from the travel company, but when I returned from Granite Falls, I had a call about the cruise in the Western Caribbean and Panama Canal, which isn't until November 2020. They had found it on the website. Happy to hear people are using the website. The caller had some questions; and, she pointed out that this was the trip she and her husband had been watching for. They have already booked the trip! The biggest problem we have with the trips is that people often wait too long to book the trip. We have REAM members who booked the trip to “Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta” early. Then there were several who inquired about the trip three months before the trip date and ended up on wait lists. We offered a trip through the Panama Canal about five years ago. A man called me the day before the cruise ship was to leave Los Angeles and wondered if there was space available? Our travel companies don’t operate that way.

These days I am doing a lot of traveling for REAM. I spoke in Rochester at the SEREAM Conference in October. Also in October, President Jennie K. Hanson and I were up at Chase on the Lake in Walker to sign a contract for REAM’s 2021 Conference which will be September 20 and 21 in 2021. Also, in October, Lonnie Duberstein, REAM Past President and Member of the Legislative Committee, and I were in Washington, D.C. for NRTA’s (National Retired Teachers Association) Advocacy Conference. We had coffee with Senator Tina Smith and spoke with the Administrative Assistants, for our U.S. Senators and Representatives in the U.S. Congress.

In November, President Jennie K. Hanson and I will be in San Antonio, Texas for AMBA’s (Associated Member Benefits Advisors) 2019 Round Up. At that session we will be updated on all the benefits AMBA provides to our REAM Members. It’s also a good chance to visit with the Presidents and Executive Directors from other states.

Hope you are enjoying this fall season!
Connecting and engaging younger members often requires some changes in how we do things in our locals. Here are some ideas that have worked for our church women’s group that was referred to, by one baby boomer, as the old ladies’ club. She now does all the publicity, and she is good.

We changed most of the meeting times from afternoon to evenings. Many baby boomers are working and can’t come during the day. We also invited men to come to many of the meetings. No point in just educating the women. We opened the doors to all members of the community. The speaker cost is the same whether you have 20 or 100 in attendance.

Yes, younger folks will do things differently, but their ideas are just as good as those who have gone before them, they just go at it differently. Guess we were good teachers! More use of power point, better publicity—someone who knows how to use the computer to make interesting booklets, ads, posters, and whatever else they think we need.

Many events can be sponsored by local REAM groups that benefit the local community. Just invite the public to attend some of your meetings to hear a speaker on topics that affect us all. Get the REAM name out there. Here are a few ideas for topics:

“Poverty in (name your local town or area)”; “Immigration Law: What is and isn’t Working”; “Human Trafficking in (YOUR) County”, “Mental Health in (your town): How are the Children?”; “Unconscious Bias: Owning It”, “Being a Dementia Friend”. The list could go on.

Now, go for it at your local level. It’s a good way to get those young folks coming, but first, the doors to change must be opened and inviting.

You can call me at 507-301-3609 or email: ahellie@charter.net for more information, or to give ideas for topics that we can share with other locals. We need to help each other reach out to our younger retirees. What’s working?
### REAM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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**REAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

LaRae Kapaung, Registration Chair  
and Kay Morcom, SEREAM President.

Entertainment at the REAM Conference was Al Wortman and the Ellis Street Singers Alumnus singing "If I Were a Rich Man" from Fiddler on the Roof.

REAM 65th Anniversary Cake at REAM Conference.

Rachel Barth from TRA Speaks at the General Session at the REAM Conference.

REAM 65th Anniversary Cake at REAM Conference.
**REAM SPONSORED TRIPS**

Two new trips have just been added for 2020. They are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Double</th>
<th>Single</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 21-29</td>
<td>Ireland: Emerald Explorer</td>
<td>$3,995</td>
<td>$4,595</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 26-December 11</td>
<td>Panama Canal &amp; the Western Caribbean</td>
<td>$3,995</td>
<td>$4,295</td>
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**OTHER 2020 REAM TRIPS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Double</th>
<th>Single</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 11 – 17</td>
<td>Southern California Escape</td>
<td>$2,795</td>
<td>$3,485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 12 – 21</td>
<td>Costa Rica Adventure</td>
<td>$3,375</td>
<td>$4,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 29 - April 4</td>
<td>New Orleans &amp; Cajun Country</td>
<td>$2,645</td>
<td>$3,345</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 21 – 30</td>
<td>Highlights of Bavaria &amp; Austria</td>
<td>$5,375</td>
<td>$6,925</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Oberammergau – Passion Play</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 28 – August 3</td>
<td>Canadian Rockies &amp; Glacier National Park</td>
<td>$3,245</td>
<td>$4,295</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 13 – 21</td>
<td>Colorado Rockies, Rails &amp; Western National Parks</td>
<td>$3,145</td>
<td>$4,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 13 – 21</td>
<td>Discover Thailand</td>
<td>$2,995</td>
<td>$3,670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 9 – 14</td>
<td>San Antonio Holiday</td>
<td>$1,899</td>
<td>$2,499</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All trips Depart from and Return to MSP.

All brochures are on the REAM website: “mnream.org” under “Travel”.

Click on the picture of the trip and you will have the brochure and registration form.

or Call: Chuck Hellie at 507-301-3609 or email: cchellie@charter.net

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**CHECK OUT REAM’S FACEBOOK PAGE:**

Facebook.com/MNRetiredEducators
REAM MEMORIAL/GIFT DONATION

I’m happy to enclose a $__________ gift to be used by REAM to carry forward the objectives of my organization, namely, the improvement of the civic, cultural, social, economic and professional status of its members; (and/or)

I’ve enclosed a $__________ memorial in abiding memory of ____________________________ Chapter.

My Name ____________________________ or Name of Chapter ____________________________

Address ____________________________ City ____________________________ State Zip ____________________________

_____ Please do not print my name with this gift/memorial in the REAM News

Mail to REAM TREASURER, Gordon Wagner
317 Waite Ave. S., St. Cloud, MN 56301
The transition to the “Your Membership” web program proceeding. The program allows the membership database to be more accurate, more economical and financially efficient. Keeping your information up-to-date and accurate is your responsibility. We appreciate your acceptance and patience.

If you have logged in and updated your records, thank you. If you haven’t updated yours, follow these instructions. Go to the REAM Website www.mnream.org, log in, and review your membership data.

1. Click on the black oval - **Member Sign In. You will be directed to the Member Sign-in Page. Sign In using your temporary password and user ID.** YOUR TEMPORARY USER ID NUMBER IS PRINTED ON YOUR MAILING LABEL. It is a **six-digit number starting with a 1 or 5**.

3. Your temporary password is: **ream2019**

4. After accessing your profile, choose your own User ID and password. Please make necessary corrections to ensure your information is up-to-date. This continues to be your responsibility as you have information changes.

5. You can elect to receive the newsletter via email. There is an option on your Profile page that allows you to select email or printed delivery. REAM printing and postage costs are significantly reduced by not mailing a **printed copy** of individual membership renewal reminder letters and “REAM NEWS” Newsletters.

   If you have already updated your information, please take a minute, log in, and select your newsletter delivery preference. NOTE: This field was not previously available.

6. Need a membership card? Go to **Quick Links** on the top left and then **My Membership Card.**

**IF YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES IN 2019 – IT IS TIME TO RENEW.**

**CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL FOR YOUR EXPIRATION DATE. IT WILL SAY 2019.** **NOTE: If you sent a check in late October it may not have been processed yet. Labels are sent to the printer 2 weeks prior to mailing.**

Renew on-line at **www.mnream.org**

OR NOT A COMPUTER USER? or if you like this option better...

Complete the membership form in this newsletter and mail with your check to:

REAM  
PO BOX 130547  
ROSEVILLE, MN  55113

Questions?? Send an email to reammembership@gmail.com or call at 612-234-1145. Leave a detailed message and spelling of your last name. Then I can check your record before I return the call.

*If you are going south for the winter, remember to change your address in Your Membership, or send an email or note to the membership committee with your change of address. OR – sign up to receive the newsletter in an email or you can view it on-line.*
REAM STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Represent all school retirees, present and future, certified and classified.
Educate and inform all school personnel on matters related to the improvement of their economic and social status.
Assist and work to strengthen local and regional units in every way possible.
Monitor the actions of, and cooperate, with the legislature, all government units, and other organizations that deal with present and future retired school personnel.

Retired Educators Association of Minnesota
Renew online at: https://mnream.org/ or complete and mail the membership form.

Name (PRINT): ________________________________
FIRST MIDDLE LAST
Mailing Address (Street or Route Box): ________________________________
City: __________________ State: ______ Zip: _____ Phone: (_____) _____________
Email Address please: ________________________________

I AM A CURRENT OR FORMER MEMBER: YES ☐ NO ☐ (PLEASE CHECK ONE)
MEMBERSHIP REQUESTED: ☐ ANNUAL $15; ☐ FIVE-YEAR $70; ☐ LIFE - $175
Renew online at: https://mnream.org/ OR make checks payable to REAM and return check and membership form to: REAM Retired Educators of Minnesota, PO BOX 130547, ROSEVILLE, MN 55113
For a membership card, enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.