

2012 NEA-Retired/NEA Delegate Candidate Biographies

Sandra Rogers Alston Durham County RSP

From the time that I began my teaching career to now, being active in my educational professional organizations invigorates me. On the local level (Durham Retired School Personnel), I am beginning my fifth two-year term as treasurer and chairperson the Budget Committee. In addition, I always assist when needed. On the state level, I am beginning my second two-year term as secretary, this time running unopposed. During my retirement, I have been a delegate to the NEA-Retired and NEA conventions twelve times. Thank you in advance for your vote. I will represent you well.

Florence Arnold Armstrong Edgecombe-Nash RSP

Florence Arnold Armstrong is a member of the Edgecombe –Nash RSP and currently serves as President of NCRSP District 12. She has been an active member of NCAE/NEA for over 35 years, served as a building representative, treasurer of the local association, and served as a delegate to NCAE and NEA conventions. Since retirement she served as a local representative for Edgecombe-Nash at workshops, district meetings, NCRSP and NCAE conventions. She is grateful for your support and vote in this election. She will represent the membership well at the NEA-R.

Lillar S. Barnes Wake County RSP

Lillar was a teacher and counselor for forty years. She holds leadership positions in various organizations/community boards and the Wake RSP: three two-year terms as president; District 11 RSP: three two-year terms as treasurer, past president; NCRSP: State Rules and Credentials Chairperson (2006-2008); member, Chairperson (2010-2012). Lillar was featured on the cover of the NEA March, 2008 Edition of This Active Life, and was the 2008 NCRSP outstanding Volunteer. She serves on the NCRPSC Board, past recipient of the Order of the Long Leaf Pine and attended eleven NEA-Retired/NEA Conventions. She would appreciate your support!

Joan Bass Greensboro/Guilford RSP

As a 30 year member of NCAE, I have served as local unit president, treasurer, and AR as well as on the state Board of Directors and many committees and commissions. I have been elected an NCAE and NEA delegate for many years. For several years I served as New Business Item Chair for the NCRSP Convention. I am currently treasurer and membership chair of Greensboro/Guilford RSP, treasurer of District 7, Policy Chair on the NCRSP Executive Board and archivist for NCRSP. I have enjoyed representing you at NEA-R for the past several years and seek to represent you again.

Leona Brewer Union County RSP

Having just retired, I am looking for ways to stay involved with NCAE, with increasing membership, and with protecting public education. While serving as UCAE treasurer for over ten years, I attended every state convention and most of the national conventions. I also served as state canvassing chairman for two years and have worked on other state committees. Currently, I am actively assisting the local UCAE in both the treasurer's and membership activities. I would appreciate your vote and I will represent our retiree issues well. Thank you for your consideration.

**Carmen M. Brewington-Code
New Hanover County RSP**

Dedication and a willingness to work are qualities that I have shown since beginning my career in education. As a NCAE member I have served in various local, district and state position. In the local I served as AR, Retirement Chairman, President, and delegate to RA and NEA many times. In the district I have served as Vice President and member of State Resolutions. As a retired member I have served as local President, member of NCRSP Constitution and Bylaws Committee, and current chairperson. I ask for your vote as a NEA-RETIRED/NEA DELEGATE.

**Gwendolyn B. Brown
Wake County RSP**

My career as an educator and my involvement with NEA have coincided for more than thirty (30) years. As a native of Wake County, it has been my pleasure to have taught secondary English and other related electives at two schools before retiring in 2008. Simultaneously, I served diligently as NCAE Association Representative (AR) at two schools, Wake Executive Committee member, and delegate to state and national conventions. I have continued active involvement, serving as assistant secretary and serving on other committees since retiring and would appreciate the opportunity to serve as a delegate to the NEA-R Convention in 2012.

**Agnes H. Chavis
Robeson County RSP**

Agnes H. Chavis is a candidate for the NEA-Retired/NEA delegate convention for the 2012 Annual Meetings. If elected, I agree to attend both NEA-Retired and NEA Annual Meeting in their entirety. I have been involved in the professional organization at the local, district, state and national level. During my teaching and retired career, my involvement has been in many positions. If elected I will represent you to the best of my ability. Thanks for all you have done for the Association

**Kever Clark
Onslow County RSP**

I, Kever Clark, seek your vote to be elected to go to the NEA-R Convention to be held in Washington, DC. I have served in every capacity in Onslow County Unit of NCAE and Retired School Personnel. I have also served as the District President, Secretary, and District Director. I have served as President of OCRSP unit and as State, District and Local Community Participation Chairperson. I currently serve on the State Legislative Committee and Chair both my District and Local. If elected I promise to serve you well. I am thanking you in advance for your vote and support.

**Elaine Rukiya Dillahunt
Wake County RSP**

My name is Elaine Rukiya Dillahunt and I need your vote to be a delegate at the 2012 NEA-Retired/NEA convention for 2012. I am a current member of the NCRSP and NEA-Retired. I have served as Treasurer for the Wake County Retired School Personnel for 2 years. Before retiring I represented my Wake/NCAE and NCAE at the NEA Conventions for more than 25 years as a local and state delegate. I hope you will allow me to continue to represent you nationally at the 2012 NEA Retired/NEA Convention as a retired delegate.

Marrion M. Dunn
Wake County RSP

The past 36 years of my life has been dedicated to service in our professional organization including: member 36 years, President of Wake-RSP, Wake-RSP Treasurer (4 years), Membership Co-chair (4 years), Directory committee (4 years), Convention delegate/alternate NEA-R, delegate NCAE 28 years and NEA 17 years, faculty repl. 28 years, Vice-President and Treasurer of Wake-ACT/NCAE, member of all local Unit committees and the NCAE Communications committee. I have served as a volunteer on the NCRSP membership materials packing committee (2 years) and facilitator of the District Treasurer Training and the training CD. Please support me with your vote.

Rwanda Farrer
Pasquotank/Perquimans/Camden/Currituck RSP

She joined NEA/NCAE her very first year of teaching and has had continuous membership for over 31 years. Upon retirement in 2005, she immediately transitioned into NCRSP and became a Life Member. She has served our Association in several capacities from Building Rep to local President, District Secretary, NCAE delegate to several State Conventions, RSP Secretary and current RSP President. Rwanda is currently serving as chairperson of the Membership committee for District 15, and has been appointed to the state IPD Committee for NCAE board. She has attended 6 National Conventions since retirement in 2005, at her own expense.

Steve Fletcher
Robeson County RSP

As a 30 year member of NCAE, I served as a school representative for 25 years, was on District 5B Board for ten years and served as Vice-President for two years. I was on the Robeson County Executive Board for ten years and four years as Vice-President. I have attended five NEA conventions and 25 NCAE conventions. I am currently a member of the Robeson County Retired School Personnel and would appreciate your vote to attend the NEA-R/NEA conventions in Washington, DC.

Barbara Grau
Gaston County RSP

During the past 35 years as an NCAE member I held various local, district and state offices. Locally, I was on the board 25 years. I was District President and Vice-President several times. I served on several state committees, chairing the HR committee. I organized PAC fundraising at daily NEA Caucus meetings many years. Since I have retired, I am the Local President at Gaston County RSP and state chair of Elections. I am the liaison from RSP to the current local NCAE board. I would appreciate very much your support.

Dorothy W. Hardy
Wayne County RSP

I am currently the President of WCRSP unit and have served in various positions in the unit since retirement in 1998. I served as president of both Wayne County and Goldsboro City units of NCAE, District 14 President and NCAE State Legislative committee, Cadres and other NCAE committee positions. I attended several NEA Conventions and would appreciate the opportunity to represent NCRSP at an NEA Retired Convention. I possess leadership skills and would faithfully represent my professional organization

Yvonne Hart
Haywood County RSP

NCRSP is an essential part of our professional association. As a RSP/NCAE liaison, I continue to work with retired and active members across this state. Attendance at RSP, NCAE, and NEA meetings has kept me aware of the issues retirees support. Presently I am a member, or chair, of committees at all levels of the association, including NEA-Retired elections committee, state Health and Retirement Issues chair, and legislative at the local and district. I am the local secretary and served as president for four years. With your support I will continue to be an effective voice for NCRSP.

Sandra Hatley
Catawba County RSP

Sandra retired in June after being a Special Education teacher for 42 1/2 years in Burke County. She has been a part of the NEA/NCAE since high school, have held every local and district office many times, been District Director for 2 terms, served on many NCAE committees/commissions, especially PR&R, Government Relations, Elections, and Resolutions. She has attended over a dozen NEA conventions, put forth many resolutions and new business items that have become state law and/or policy and have had great impact on children and educators. Please vote for Sandra Hatley for delegate to the NEA-Retired/NEA Convention.

John Hoffman
Rowan County RSP

A member of the Rowan Retired School Personnel, I have served NCRSP on the Communications Committee as Editor of *Panorama*. While I am not currently Editor of *Panorama*, during my tenure, NCRSP was awarded First Place for Established State Newsletter by NEA-Retired in 2007 and 2010. Currently, I serve as Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee and as Vice President/President-Elect of NCRSP. I also represent NCRSP members on the NCAE Board of Directors as NCRSP Member-at-Large. I would appreciate your support to attend the NEA-Retired Convention in Washington, DC as a Delegate this year.

Joyce Hooks-Hawkins
Wake County RSP

Over the past 30 years I have served actively with NCAE-NEA as a faculty rep, interviewed FTA students across the state, was one of the first members of First Cancer Caucus in California and served as a recruiter for NCAE for 8 years. I now actively work with NCRSP-NCAE and am dedicated to the cause. I have served as a Membership Chair, local Vice President and President of District 11. I am currently the State Memorial Chair. I have attended 10 NEA-R conventions as a Non-Delegate and would appreciate your vote to be a Delegate in DC.

La Harve Mangum Johnson
Durham County RSP

As an active retiree, La Harve was featured in the September 2010 issue of [This Active Life](#) magazine, pages 9-10. She is Past President and Vice-President of the Durham Retired School Personnel. She joined NEA as a teacher in 1975, served as local Chair of the Women's History Committee, and served as an active member of the Political Action Committee that endorsed candidates for the local School Board race. As a principal, she served as the School Administrator's representative to the local organization. She served at the state level as a member of the Safe School's Committee.

Laurette W. Lewis
Edgecombe-Nash RSP

As an active member of NEA and NCAE for 31 years, I was local president, elections and hospitality chairpersons, school representative, Summer Leaders and Mid-Atlantic Region Conference participant, NCAE state committee member, NCAE Leadership Workshop presenter, NC Teacher Academy trainer, and NEA/NCAE conventions delegate. I currently serve as President of our local Edgecombe-Nash RSP (4 years) and served as Vice-President, program chairperson, and membership chairperson. I have represented our local organization at the district, state, and national levels as a delegate to the NCRSP, NCAE, and NEA conventions. Your support and vote will be greatly appreciated!

Pat MacLean
Union County RSP

Pat MacLean's organization participation began in 1963 with Student NEA East Tennessee State University and continues today in Union County and District VI, more recently as District VI president. Working in middle schools as Language Arts Teacher and Curriculum Coordinator, in North Carolina and other southern states, she served in every capacity from building representative to unit president. Highlights include being a delegate at state and national conventions, lobbying, assisting in NEA's study PL-94-142 for the southeast and participating in an educational strike in West Virginia. Her present goals include increased membership for NCRSP, volunteerism and protecting retiree benefits.

Cynthia D. McKoy
Wake County RSP

I am retired from the Wake County Public School System and asking for your vote to become a delegate to the 2012 NEA-R/NEA RA. I would like to continue my service to educators and children of North Carolina. I have served as an Association Representative, Local Unit Officer, member of the NCAE Board of Directors, held various official positions with the NCAE Black Caucus, including president, president of the Student Services Division and on several committees and commissions, delegate to NCAE Conventions and several NEA RA Conventions. I enjoy representing our membership and voicing our concerns. I appreciate your vote.

Robert L. McLean
Onslow County RSP

Robert has been very involved with NCAE/NEA/NCRSP throughout his professional career. He served as local President, Secretary, Treasurer and faculty representative before retiring in 1995. He is currently local President of Onslow County RSP and has been very active with the unit since retiring. He is Chairman of the Trustee Board at St. Julia AME Zion Church, a life member of NEA and Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and President of Onslow County Chapter of Fayetteville State University. Your vote for him is greatly appreciated and you will know that you will be well represented with him as a delegate.

Geraldine McNeill
Cumberland County RSP

Commitment and activism best describe Geraldine McNeill's NCAE/NEA involvement--at every level--of the Association. She began as an Association representative in Cumberland County, North Carolina and held almost every local office, including that of president. She also served as NCAE director from that district. For nearly 15 years, McNeill served on the NCAE Board of Directors, in addition to serving on numerous committees. She was also NCAE vice president and president. At the national level, McNeill was a member of numerous committees and on the NEA Board of Directors for six years.

Dr. Terry G. Mitchell
Alamance-Burlington RSP

Over the past 40 years I have had the pleasure of serving in numerous positions within NEA, NCAE, and NCRSP including: Convention delegate, District/Cluster NCAE Director/ President/ Secretary, NCAE Board of Directors Finance and Personnel Committee and Government Relations Committee member, NCAE Constitution Cmt. Chair, Alamance-Burlington President, Vice President, Secretary /Treasurer, and newsletter editor, NCAE/NCRSP New Business Items Committee, District 9 RSP President/President Elect, NCRSP Parliamentarian, NCAE/NCRSP Resolutions Committee and Special Constitution Revision Chair, and the most important job in any of these organizations is a member of NCRSP Family. I ask again for your support in this year's election..

Effie Sanders
Wake County RSP

I retired from the Wake County Public School System in January of 2011. I was very active as a RA at Knightdale High School. I plan to continue working in any capacity that I am needed to ensure that our retired NCAE members receive all the benefits to which they are entitled. At the present time I volunteer by assisting the Wake Treasurer by filing forms. I have worked and will continue to work to recruit new members.

Affie M. Sawyer
Cumberland County RSP

I am a life member of National Education Association-Retired, North Carolina Retired School Personnel, and Cumberland County Retired School Personnel. I have been a member of the professional education associations throughout my career as a teacher of science. My professional career started in Georgetown County, then Greenville County, South Carolina. Migrating to North Carolina, I became employed in the Fayetteville City Schools, then Cumberland County Schools. Upon retirement, I became a member of the National, State, District and Local Retired Association and was elected to serve as Vice President of Cumberland County RSP (2008-2010), and President from 2010 until present.

Diann Bishop Russell
Edgecombe-Nash RSP

I am a candidate from District 12 seeking a NEA Retired Delegate position. I am a team leader of the new millennium that "Reflects, Re-Directs, and Re-Energizes." Diann Bishop Russell a new retiree from Nash Rocky Schools with 34 years experience with NCAE/NEA. Positions held in my local unit included president, vice-president, and treasurer. On the state level, I served as District 12 and 7A Director, district president, NCAE Convention delegate. My national experience includes serving as a NEA Minority Leadership trainer, NEA Alternate Director, attending the Mid-Atlantic Regional Leadership Conference, and serving as delegate to the NEA Representative Assembly.

Deborah S. Shephard
Wilson County RSP

I have been involved with and a member of NEA/NCAE for over 30 years. I have been a member of NCRSP for 7 years or more. On the local level I was the building representative for NCAE for over 20 years and held the position as membership chair for 4 years. I was the local president for Wilson County NCAE for 2 years. I was acting secretary for one year for the WSRSP. I have just been elected as president for the WSRSP for the next 2 years. I have attended about 20 NCAE Conventions and about 6 NEA Conventions.

Vera W. Taylor
Transylvania County RSP

Vera has attended NEA conventions as a delegate since 1973. She has been a member of the NCRSP Executive Board since 1999; serving as Editor of Panorama, Strategic Planning, Vice President, and President. She currently serves on the Board as Past President. She has served 4 years as RSP District President and is currently serving a 3rd term. A “unified” member and leader since 1960, she has served in most leadership positions at the local and district levels, as well as State President of the Division of Principals/Administrators. Member advocacy in the fight for rights has been her focus constantly.

LaVeta H. Weatherington
Pitt County RSP

An active NEA/NCAE member the past 37 years LaVeta has served as local treasurer, local and district vice-president/president, on the NCAE Board of Directors, and many committees/commissions. She has continued to be a political activist in retirement following two terms on the GRC. She has strongly supported retiree issues presented at NCAE-RAs including expanding representation on the NCAE Board. She serves as a NEA Diversity trainer and liaison between Pitt-RSP and the local NCAE board, helping to build bridges between them. Having served as a local/state NEA delegate I'd appreciate your vote to represent you as a NCRSP NEA-RA delegate!

Wayne Webb
Richmond County RSP

I currently serve as Vice President of Richmond County RSP and Historian for District 8 RSP. I have been a delegate to the NEA Representative Assembly for 12 years and served as State Contact Committee Chairperson for 5 years. Additionally, I have served as District 5A Director, District 5A President, District 8 President, and served on the Communications Committee and canvassing Committee. Before retiring I have served as Richmond County Association of Educators' President, Vice President, Treasurer, Read Across America coordinator for Richmond County Schools, Editor Professional Educator's News, and an Association Building Representative for 18 years.

John E. Williams
Sampson-Clinton RSP

I retired from Sampson County Schools in 2003. As an active teacher I served in the following capacities: Sampson County President; Vice-President; Newsletter Editor; Scholarship Committee Chair and Association Building Rep.; District 13 (Current District 8-A) Minority Affairs Commission Chair; State (NCAE) Communications Committee Chair; Minority Affairs Commission Chair; NCAE Convention Delegate and NEA Convention Delegate. My relevant retiree involvement includes: Sampson-Clinton RSP Vice-President (2004-2008); SCRSP President (2008-2012); NCRSP Convention Delegate and NCAE Convention Delegate. Your vote for me to represent you in Washington, DC in 2012 is greatly appreciated.

Jackie Wooten
Pitt County RSP

As an active member of NCAE for 40 years, I served as building rep, newsletter editor, vice-president, and president at the local level. I served 2 terms on the NCAE Board of Directors and represented my cluster on the Government Relations Commission. I served on NEA Resolutions Committee for 6 years and am currently a trainer for the NEA Diversity Cadre. Having been a delegate for the last 25 years, I have the experience and knowledge of previous debates and actions related to retirees. If elected, I will work hard to ensure retiree issues are fully debated at the convention.