

NAREOP

JANUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

“GUIDING LIGHTS OF KNOWLEDGE, WISDOM AND EXPERIENCE”

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

I hope each of you had a wonderful holiday season and your 2024 is off to an amazing start. I know many of us have been experiencing some wintry weather and some of us have had snow regularly since we rang in 2024.

I attended the NAEOP Winter Board meeting on January 13-14, in Little Rock, Arkansas. The snow in Little Rock prevented one Board member from attending and delayed others’ return to their homes after the meeting. A motion passed to move the NAEOP Winter Board meeting to the second weekend in November effective with the November 2-3, 2024, meeting.

Winter is not my favorite season, but the inspiration given at the NAEOP Winter Board meeting helped me to see winter in a new light. The inspiration stated that winter provides us the opportunity to slow down and reflect upon the previous year and focus on ways in which we can make the coming year better. I hope each of us will now see winter as an opportunity to improve ourselves by dealing with burdens we might carry and hide when we are so busy with the other three seasons. I still like to remember that each day is getting longer and soon spring will be upon us with all the beauty that comes with the growing season!



SUBMITTED BY
SHARON LUCAS, CEOE
NAREOP PRESIDENT,
2023-2024

This picture was taken at the airport as we were returning home from the Winter Board meeting.



PICTURED LEFT TO RIGHT: NAREOP PRESIDENT SHARON LUCAS, CEOE, NAEOP PRESIDENT TERESA HIMMELBERGER, CEOE, AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CHAIRMAN SHELIA STANLEY, CEOE.



Happy Birthday to all NAREOP members who have January birthdays and to our Immediate Past President Sarah Tierce.

SCHOLARSHIPS

SUBMITTED BY SHARON LUCAS, CEOE
NAREOP PRESIDENT, 2023-2024

This is the time of year that many high school seniors will begin their search for scholarships to assist with the funding of their college expenses. As Co-Chairs of the Jackie and Anne L. Evans Scholarship Committee, both Linda Rush and Becky Shipley are excited about the opportunities to provide students with financial assistance in pursuing their career goal through higher education.

In 2023, the Scholarship Committee was able to award two scholarships of \$1,000 each

Heartfelt appreciation to Ellen Gamel, CEOE, from Alaska once again for the beautiful afghan she donated for the Fall Scholarship raffle as well as to the Scholarship Committee for coordinating this raffle. The raffle was so successful that we will again be able to award multiple Jackie and Anne L. Evans Scholarships this year to qualifying grandchildren or great-grandchildren of current NAREOP members.

Linda Rush, CEOE, Scholarship Co-Chair is ready to accept scholarship applications for the 2024-2025 year.

The application is available on the
NAREOP WEBSITE
<https://www.naeop.org/nareop>

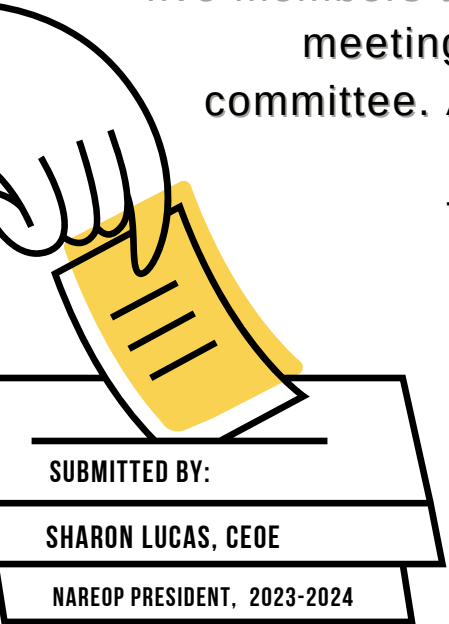


Deadline to submit applications is April 1, 2024

Please make sure the application is completed accurately and submitted by the application deadline. It is always beneficial to have someone else review the application to confirm every necessary part of the application has been completed or is enclosed. I would love to see at least three scholarships successfully awarded this year!

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

In my December newsletter, I reported that we were unable to elect five members to the Nominations & Elections Committee at the annual meeting last July. I asked members to consider serving on this committee. A couple of days after the distribution of the newsletter, we had volunteers and a complete committee. Thank you for your willingness to serve in this capacity.



CO-CHAIRS

Becky Shipley, CEOE
Sarah Tierce, CEOE

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

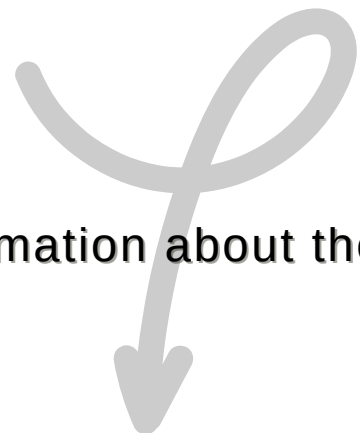
Pam Posey, CEOE
Wendy Heslink, CEOE
Dottie Walker, CEOE

I am thrilled to announce that not only did we have a full committee, but we also have a full slate of candidates for the 2024-2025 NAREOP Executive Board. I would like to thank the members of this committee for their diligent work in getting a full slate of candidates.

Ballots will be emailed to members on January 30, 2024.
Copies of completed ballots can be either emailed to Sarah Tierce at satierce@yahoo.com or sent via US mail to Sarah Tierce, 7208 Bandolero Way, Bakersfield, CA 93308. Ballots should be returned no later than **February 15, 2024.**



I asked each candidate to provide information about themselves.



President-Elect Candidate – Sharon Lucas, CEOE

I completed a 35 ½ year career with the State of North Carolina on July 1, 2018. My career consisted of working at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, NC, for 15 years. My family relocated to the North Carolina mountains in October of 1999. I began working at Appalachian State University at that time and remained there for 6 years. When my son started playing high school sports, I wanted the work flexibility to allow me to attend his athletic events, so I began a job with Ashe County Schools as their middle school data manager. I worked in this position for 13 years. Fortunately, the State of North Carolina allows you to use your unused sick leave towards total time of service, and I had a year and a half of sick leave which gave me the total of 35 ½ years of service.

I joined NAEOP when I became a District President within the North Carolina Association of Educational Office Professionals (NCAEOP) in 2012-2013. I served two years as District President for NCAEOP, followed by 5 years on the NCAEOP Executive Board. I was the 2017-2018 NCAEOP President. I attended my first NAEOP Conference in 2016 in St. Louis, Missouri. I was hooked and have attended all NAEOP conferences except one since then. I joined NAREOP upon my retirement and decided to get more involved with the retirees. I served as NAREOP Vice President for three years, NAREOP President-Elect one year and now as your 2023-2024 NAREOP President.

I have been married to my husband for 34 years. I have two amazing sons, a wonderful daughter-in-law, a 2-year-old grandson, and a 6-month-old granddaughter. We purchased a beach home after I retired so we are “vacationing” every day in either our North Carolina beach or mountain home. I am a very blessed woman.

Secretary Candidate – Maria Gonzalez

My name is Maria Sara Gonzalez. I retired four years ago from Los Angeles Unified School District as a Senior Secretary. I worked for the School District for seven years in various positions at the school site and at the District headquarters in Los Angeles School District in California. I am interested in continuing on the NAREOP Board as the Secretary. I enjoy helping and supporting the association with my time, talents and skills.

Secretary Candidate – Joette Cappello

I retired in 2019 from the East Aurora Union Free School District in East Aurora, New York.

I spent 25 years in the Business Office as the Secretary to the School Business Administrator, where we managed every cent that went through the district.

I have a bachelor's degree from SUNY Buffalo.

I spent 20 years on the board of the New York State Association of Educational Office Professionals and feel it is very important to give back to the communities that have supported you. In retirement, I have been active in my local community volunteering at the Great Erie Federal Credit Union. I currently serve as Board President.

I have been married for 32 years to Ray and have 2 boys (grown men really) and 2 grandsons, ages 7 and 5. I love to travel and last year was in 13 different countries. This year I will get to visit the U.K. for the first time.

Vice President Candidate – Colleen Clarke, CEOE

Hello! My name is Colleen Clarke, CEOE, and I am currently serving as the NAREOP Vice President. I am from Rochester, New York.

I retired in March 2021 following 38½ years as an Educational Office Professional with the Rochester City School District.

I joined the Rochester Association of Educational Office Professionals in 2004 and served on their Board as Treasurer from 2005 until 2010, at which time the association disbanded. I was also a member of the Monroe County Association of Educational Office Professionals, serving on their Board as Secretary. I joined the New York State Association of Educational Office Professionals (NYSAEOP) in 2007. I served on the NYSAEOP Board as Audit Chairperson (2008-2010), Vice President (2010-2012), President (2012-2014), Immediate Past President (2014-2016) and Empire News Editor (2016-2020). I joined NAEOP when I attended my first NYSAEOP conference in 2007 and attended my first NAEOP conference in 2009. I was hooked and have attended every NAEOP conference since then.

I live with my brother Bob, who many of you have met, as he travels with me to all of the NAEOP conferences. I am a lifetime Girl Scout, and I enjoy reading, traveling and spending time with friends and family. And I look forward each year to catching up with my many NAEOP friends at the annual conference.

Hope to see you all in Little Rock!

ANNUAL CONFERENCE - SAVE THE DATE

SUBMITTED BY: SHARON LUCAS, CEOE NAREOP PRESIDENT, 2023-2024



JULY 14-17
2024

NAEOP Annual Conference

2024

*Double Tree Downtown
Little Rock, Arkansas*

NAEOP Conference 2024 will be here before you know it. I hope you are making plans to attend. Conference registration as well as hotel reservation links will be available in the near future on the NAEOP.org website. Please make sure to use the hotel reservation link to assure you receive the NAEOP Conference room rate.

There is a space for requesting special accommodations on this link as well.

NAREOP EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

SUNDAY, 7/14/24

7:30-9:00 P.M.

ANNUAL NAREOP MEETING

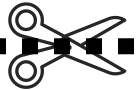
TUESDAY, 7/16/24

8:00-10:00 A.M.

Free trolleys run through downtown Little Rock every 20 minutes. I highly recommend you take one to get some historical information as well as to get around downtown. The trolley will be one hundred years old next month and has been restored. Here's some pictures I took while at the Winter Board meeting.



I received the following thank you note from Carlie Adair who is one of the NAREOP scholarship recipients. I wanted to share it with the NAREOP membership.



Homemade Hot Chocolate Mix

4 Tablespoons cocoa powder

2 cups sugar

2 packages powdered milk

2 cans instant cocoa mix

Store in half gallon baggies

1 baggie = 30 Cups of Amazing Hot Chocolate

As you can see this recipe makes a large amount of hot chocolate mix. I have used this for small Christmas gifts. There is no better way to warm up on a cold, winter day than with a good cup of hot chocolate. You can mix the powder with water or milk. Garnish to your liking (marshmallows or peppermint).



SUBMITTED BY:
SHARON LUCAS, CEOE NAREOP PRESIDENT

WAYS AND MEANS

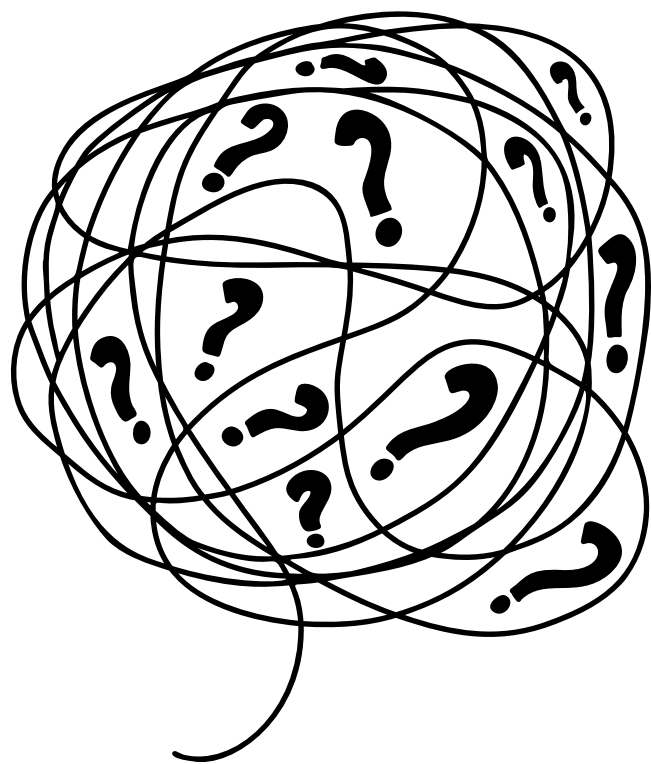
Proceeds from Ways and Means provides funding for the operation of NAREOP. NAREOP Vice President Colleen Clarke, CEOE, is now accepting donations for Marketplace as well as for the Spring raffle. The Spring raffle will begin in late May, and the lucky winners will be announced at the conclusion of the 2024 Conference. Monetary donations are also welcomed.



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION, PLEASE CONTACT COLLEEN AT:
COLLEENCLARKE.NYSAEOP@OUTLOOK.COM

MY REMEMBERER IS BROKE

(A LITTLE HUMOR FOR RETIREES)



My forgetter's getting better,
But my rememberer is broke
To you that may seem funny
But, to me, that is no joke

For when I'm "here" I'm wondering
If I really should be "there"
And, when I try to think it through,
I haven't got a prayer!

Oft times I walk into a room,
Say 'what am I here for?'
I wrack my brain, but all in vain!
A zero, is my score

At times I put something away
Where it is safe, but Gee!
The person it is safest from
Is, generally, me!

When shopping I may see someone,
Say 'Hi' and have a chat,
Then, when the person walks away
I ask myself, 'who in the world was that?'

Yes, my forgetter's getting better
While my rememberer is broke,
And it's driving me plumb crazy
And that isn't any joke.