Sue Strand, a true powerhouse in Nevada Education, passed away from pneumonia on April 18. She had just turned 78 the month before.

She started teaching for the Clark County School District in 1974 and soon became an outspoken advocate for teachers’ rights and overall excellence in Nevada education.

Her obituary points out that Strand’s leadership roles spanned three decades, from the 1980s to 2003. She had been president of the Clark County Education Association, president of the Nevada State Education Association, and a director of the National Education Association. Additionally, Sue Strand was listed in “Who Are the Women of Las Vegas, 1984” and the “Who’s Who of Nevada Educators. 1989-1990.”

Following her retirement, she was president of her HOA board, and she remained an active member of the Clark Retired Education Association, rarely missing a meeting. In 2010, Sue was awarded the Nevada State Education Association’s Retired Achievement Award.

Current CREA President Brian Morgan remembered, “Sue always worked for the betterment of those who worked in the education field.” He added, “From the start of my time with CREA, I relied on Sue’s advice and direction. Although I did not always follow it, Sue was always supportive of the decisions I made. You always knew what Sue’s opinion was on any topic.”

NSEA-R President Tom Wellman added, “Sue Strand was truly a force to be reckoned with, both in the labor community and in Nevada’s education system. She was well versed on all of the issues and how they impacted membership. Sue was not afraid to offer you her opinion and to tell you why you where wrong. She left a lasting impression on Clark County School District and the state of Nevada. Sue will be missed, and we are a better place from her efforts.”

United States Congresswoman Dina Titus said, “She was a powerful force in the teachers’ union and remained at the forefront of educational policy making throughout her life. I respected her, feared her, admired her, and liked her very much.”

Political leader Chris Giunchigliani, who, like Strand, served both as president of the Clark County Education Association and president of the Nevada State Education Association said, “Sue was funny, fierce, and passionate about kids and teachers. She couldn’t be bullied and had a solid sense of right and wrong. She was a loyal friend and mentor to me, and I’m proud to have known her.”

Natha Anderson, President of the Washoe Education Association, remembered Sue Strand as someone who fought for what was right, not for personal power and that she “knew how important relationships are.”

Nevada State Senator Joyce Woodhouse said Sue Strand was, “one of the best as a friend, mentor, and union warrior. She was always prepared for the work ahead and just as passionate to accomplish the goals of that work.”

Others recalled Strand as “Nevada education’s resident historian” and “a keeper of democracy who always fought for education.”

A recent vote by the board of the Nevada State Education Association changed the name of their outstanding achievement award to the Sue Strand Outstanding Achievement Award.

If you would like to send a personal note to Sue Strand’s family, you can write to: Family of Sue Strand, 5525 West Flamingo Road, Unit 1031, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89103.
Our members overwhelmingly passed a bylaw amendment to change the way NSEA-Retired members vote in their elections. The change allows our NSEA-R members to use electronic ballots to cast their votes. Bylaw amendment #1 had 94% of our members voting for its passage. Here are the results:

- 264 ballots were cast
- 250 ballots voted YES – 94%
- 12 ballots voted NO – 5%
- 2 ballots were deemed invalid

The bylaw amendment was created because times have changed, and costs are on the rise! As a program of NSEA, it’s hard for us to meet the needs of our members with limited resources, so to cut costs and save expenses we went to our membership with the cost saving proposal of moving to electronic voting. It saves time, and it helps reduce NSEA expenses that can be redirected to other programs.

Before each election we will still reach out to our member and ask their ballot preference, whether mail or electronic. We anticipate that the mail-in ballots will begin to dwindle as our members become more familiar and comfortable with the electronic voting process.

If you move or change your email address, do not forget to notify NSEA. You can contact Julie Stamps at Julie.stamps@nsea-nv.org. Those changes can also be sent to me at WTazziemann@aol.com, or you are welcome to call me at 702-525-9084.

Below is text of the newly-enacted bylaw and amendments:

**ARTICLE IX - ELECTIONS**

**SECTION 1**
The officers and delegates shall be elected by a paper ballot or an electronic ballot.

**SECTION 2**
All elections shall be conducted with open nominations and secret ballot procedures adopted by the NSEA-R Board of Directors. According to the Election Policy and Procedures, with the exception of the NSEA-R member of the NSEA Board of Directors, the candidate with the highest number of votes, shall be declared the winner.

**ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENTS**

**SECTION 1**
Amendments to these bylaws may be proposed by the Elections Committee, by resolution of the Board of Directors or by a petition signed by fifteen percent (15%) of the total voting membership and submitted to the Secretary. Following the receipt of a proposed amendment(s) to the bylaws, in accordance with the above, the Board of Directors shall schedule a vote on the proposal(s).

There shall be at least one opportunity annually to vote on such amendment(s), if necessary, and the vote shall be by a paper ballot or an electronic ballot. A copy of the proposed amendment(s), together with the recommendations of the Board of Directors, shall be sent to each voting member of the Association at least fifteen (15) days prior to the date the paper ballot is to be returned, and/or the electronic ballot is cast.

**SECTION 2**
A majority affirmative vote of the members voting is required to adopt the proposed amendment(s) which shall become effective immediately upon adoption at the beginning of the next fiscal year, unless otherwise provided in the amendment(s) or accompanying documents.
Social Security Administration is here to help our members

On behalf of the Social Security Administration (SSA), we want to let you know that during the current coronavirus pandemic, SSA continues to provide help to you and others in your community.

While their offices are not providing service to walk-in visitors due to COVID-19, SSA remains committed to providing ongoing benefits and vital services. SSA asked me to let you know that they remain ready and able to help you by phone with most Social Security matters. You can speak with a representative by calling your local Social Security office or their National 800 Number. They provide local office phone numbers conveniently online with their Social Security Office Locator.

SSA also wants you to know they have many secure and convenient online services to:

- Apply for Retirement, Disability, and Medicare benefits,
- Check the status of an application or appeal,
- Request a replacement Social Security card (in most areas),
- Print a benefit verification letter, and More

Most business with SSA can be done online, but they know that many people still rely on phone or in-person help. That's why they want you to know you can still count on them by phone. And, if you have a critical situation they cannot help you with by phone or online, they may be able to schedule an appointment for you.

If you need help from SSA, please don't wait until they can see you in person. Reach out now and get the help you need.

Lastly, SSA also understands that getting medical and other documentation can be difficult due to the pandemic. So, they are continuing to extend certain deadlines wherever possible.

NEA and The Campaign Detective
Susan Kaiser, WREA Board of Directors and NSEA-R Pac co-captain

This has probably happened to you too! A campaign mailer or an advertisement in the media disparages the efforts of educators. Using misinformation, the authors place blame and point fingers or just frame the message to be slanted. You know from your educator experience this information is not quite true and so like me you may grumble and fume without an option to take action against these untruths. That is until now. NEA has partnered with Campaign Detective – an app used successfully in Minnesota in the last election to combat misinformation that may be found in campaign messages in all forms of media – especially social media.

Campaign Detective allows us to help NEA track the campaign messages of candidates running for office at the local, state and national level. The idea is if you see something; say something. For example, if you see a campaign message containing “facts” that are not quite accurate or framed to make a candidate look friendly to education when they are not, you would report this in the app. All of these ads are gathered, curated and fact checked so that inaccurate messages can be countered and sometimes removed. An example in Reno would be Marsha Berkbigler claiming to be an education supporter in one of her billboards; there is no evidence in her record as Commissioner which supports this claim. The app is easy to use and takes only a minute to report an ad. All forms of advertising are being monitored including mailers, radio, TV and social media advertising. What they learned in the initial use of Campaign Detective is that many social media ads are really incubators to test messaging before it is run on a larger scale - think Swift Boat Veterans for Truth.

I invite you to view the short video, download the app and join in to help impact our election information in a positive way. (Click here for all the information you need to help replace Betsy DeVos). This is the tool to combat campaign messages that disrespect our profession and contribute to misinformation in our news feeds.
The HEROES Act  
*Steve Horner, Vice-President, NSEA-R*

The Covid-19 pandemic has created huge deficits in our State's budget, which can be devastating to Public Education. The HEROES Act passed by the House of Representatives has money set aside that helps each state bridge that gap. Without these Federal monies, layoffs, furlough days, larger class sizes and weaker schedules are very real possibilities. When the Senate reconvenes after the Summer Recess it is imperative that stimulus for the States is passed to aid the States to keep Public Education public and funded.

However, it is also important to maintain both Social Security and Medicare. There are some members of Congress that want to help offset the stimulus money with cuts to Social Security and Medicare taxes with payroll tax rebates. We should ask our Senators and Congresspersons to find ways to help the stimulate the economy without undermining the Social Security Act or Medicare.

Retirees depend on the future of these programs; without future funding they will eventually be either privatized or eliminated. We are in difficult times and we have elected good people to help us through these times, but that will take hard work on all our parts. Yes, we need the stimulus but not at the cost of retired, disabled, and survivor benefits. Please write or call our Congressional Delegation and ask them to find ways to help stimulate the economy without destroying the safeguards of Social Security and Medicare.

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**Senator Catherine Cortez Masto**  
Washington DC: 516 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510  
(202)224-3542  
Las Vegas: 333 Las Vegas Blvd South, Ste 8016  
Las Vegas, NV 89101  
(702) 388-5020  
Reno: 400 South Virginia St, Ste 902  
Reno, NV 89501  
(775) 686-5750  
Mobile Office (Rural Nevada):  
(775) 225-1457

**Senator Jacky Rosen**  
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Las Vegas: 333 Las Vegas Blvd South, Ste 8203  
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**Rep Mark Amodei (NV2)**  
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Reno: 5310 Kietzke Lane, Ste 103  
Reno, NV 89511  
(775) 686-5760  
Elko: 905 Railroad Street, Ste 104D  
Elko, NV 89801  
(775) 777-7705

**Rep. Susie Lee (NV3)**  
Washington DC: 522 Cannon House Office  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-3252  
Las Vegas: 8872 S Eastern Ste 210 & 220  
Las Vegas NV 89123  
(702) 963-9336

**Rep. Steven Horsford (NV4)**  
Washington DC: 1330 Longworth House Office  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-9894  
North Las Vegas: 2250 N Las Vegas Blvd, Ste 500  
North Las Vegas, NV 89030  
(702) 963-9360
NSEA-R needs your help finding contact information for our members who are listed below. They joined our organization and have paid their lifetime dues, yet we no longer have any way to contact them. Can you help? Do you have any information on these members?

If you are still in touch with any of them and can share their contact information, please feel free to email me at WTazziemann@aol.com or call my cellphone at 702-525-9084.

We would love to reconnect with these missing members and get them involved in our association and in their local chapters.

In addition, if any of your own contact information has changed, please let me know, and we will make sure it is updated immediately.

Thank you for any assistance you can provide.

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