

OCTOBER 2019

THE ESSENTIAL PIECE

Richland County Association of Educational Office Professionals
Newsletter

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Newsletter Committee:

Chair: Heather Failla, CEOE

Lynn Bookert, CEOE

Bridgette Branson

Hope Eddy, CEOE

Teresa Faile, CEOE

President's Message

BY MELODY WISE BUTLER, CEOE

Greetings!!

First, I want to apologize for the delay in getting a message out to the membership, as the start to the new school year has been very hectic. I am honored and humbled to serve as president of RCAEOP. I appreciate your trust and support of me as we work together to carry out the mission of RCAEOP. Our association is continuing to grow stronger because of the collective efforts of our members who are always willing and ready to serve.

A few reminders and updates:

Mid-Atlantic Professional Development Days will be held on the campus of Norfolk State University in Norfolk, Virginia, October 24-25, 2019. Our very own Georgette Council, CEOE serves as the Mid-Atlantic Area Director.

Registration for the SCAEOP conference is now open. Please refer to the SCAEOP website for the registration packet.

The next PSP filing deadline is January 15, 2020. If you are not enrolled in the PSP, please consider enrolling – you have plenty of time to get the ball rolling and there are many people here ready and willing to assist you.

In closing, please do not hesitate to contact me if there is anything I can do to assist you in any way. Thank you for all you do to make RCAEOP a success. "When you see success as a journey, you'll never have the problem of trying to arrive at an elusive final destination." –John Maxwell



We are Family

By Georgette Council, CEOE

The Urban Dictionary defines family as *"A group of people, usually of the same blood (but do not have to be), who genuinely love, trust, care about, and look out for each other."* When I think of RCAEOP, there is no better word to describe it than **Family**. During my recent health crisis and diagnosis of breast cancer, it became even more apparent how deeply this family cared for one another. The calls, texts, emails, cards, flowers, meals and especially the prayers that were sent on my behalf and on that of my family are appreciated more than you know. There is no adequate way to thank my RCAEOP family for the love and compassion that was shown me during this difficult time, but I would like to offer a very simple, humble **Thank You**. I am ever grateful to have been blessed with the opportunity to know and work with each of you. Desmond Tutu said *"You don't choose your family. They are God's gift to you, as you are to them."* While we are not family by blood, we are definitely family by choice and I would have it no other way. Thanks to all of the prayers sent up on my behalf; I am happy to say that I am back at work full-time, with limited restrictions. I am excited to be getting back to a normal routine and to being amongst my "family" again. There have been many lessons learned from my bout with cancer, not the least of which is to cherish your health and to listen to your body. To all of my family, I want to remind you of the importance of breast self-examinations as well as mammograms for those over the age of 40. I am here today as a "Survivor" thanks to the early detection afforded me by way of mammography.

Thank you again for being such a great family and for truly showing what faith in action looks like. I am so very appreciative of your kindnesses in helping me and my family weather this storm and wish blessings upon each of you. I look forward to seeing you soon.

"You don't
choose your
family. They are
God's gift to you,
as you are to
them"

Desmond Tutu





What's Happening with RCAEOP

The RCAEOP Scholarship Application is now on the website for the 2019-2020 school year. Please feel free to download the application to share with family and friends who have students in Richland One and Richland Two. We know that the school year has just begun, but it is important to students and parents in finding scholarship monies to help off-set the cost of college tuition. The Scholarship Committee will be looking at other avenues in getting the scholarship applications out to our students. The deadline date for submission must be postmarked by March 16, 2020. Further details are listed on the application. Thank you.

The Belk Charity Sale will be held on November 9th. Since the Charity Sale is an all-day event this year, tickets will be available at the registers and all ticket money collected in store will be allocated equally among the organizations that participate at the location on the day of the event. RCAEOP will be volunteering again this year at our three area Belk locations: Village at Sandhill, Richland Mall and Columbiana Mall. Our scheduled volunteer times are from 6:30 am until 11:00 am and have been broken down into the following shifts: 6:30 am - 8:00 am, 8:00 am - 9:30 am, and 9:30 am - 11:00 am

Monthly Meetings

Meetings are generally held on the first Thursday of each month at the Richland Two Conference Center, located inside Columbia Place Mall, at 5:00 p.m.

The dates for our upcoming meetings are as follows:

Nov 07, 2019
Dec 05, 2019
Jan 09, 2020
Feb. 13, 2020
Mar. 05, 2020
Apr. 02, 2020
Jun 11, 2020

Our Annual Gala is being planned for May 7, 2020

Fall Fundraiser

The Belk Charity Sale is **November 9th!** Tickets are \$5 and proceeds from our ticket sales prior to the event will be go directly to RCAEOP. RCAEOP will be volunteering on the day of the event at the Belk locations at Columbiana Mall, Richland Mall, and Village at Sandhill.

Please contact Jennifer Dyrmett, CEOE (jdyarmett@richland2.org) about additional tickets or volunteering for the day of the sale.





News from NAEOP

Don't forget to make plans to attend our 2020 Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah from July 20-24. Registration will begin in January. The conference will take place at Little America, located in the heart of Salt Lake City. Reservations can be made by calling 801.596.5854; don't forget to mention NAEOP when calling. More information can be found at www.naeop.org under the events tab.

News from SCAEOP

Hopefully your calendars are marked for the SCAEOP Conference being held February 6-9, 2020. There will be amazing presenters, state baskets, 50/50, raffles, great vendors, and much more!

Hotel Information:

Embassy Suites Oceanfront Resort

9800 Queensway Blvd., Myrtle Beach, SC 29572

\$149 per night (group code EDU)

Parking is free for Hilton Honors Members

Please make your reservation early! The deadline to receive the group code is January 6, 2020. You may call 800.876.0010 or visit Embassy Suites online to make your reservation.

What to Wear:

Business attire is appropriate for all daytime sessions. The Installation Banquet is a "dressy" evening and attendees usually wear formal, semi-formal, or Sunday dress.

Breakfast:

You will be able to enjoy complimentary breakfast every morning starting at 6:30 a.m. at the hotel. Sunday morning breakfast will start at 7:00 a.m.; please enjoy this complimentary breakfast prior to the closing session breakfast will not be served at the closing.

Before the conference begins, here are a few things to think about:

- Have goals before you arrive at the conference. What will success look like?
- Map out your session strategy before you arrive.
- Have a plan and allow for serendipity, too
- Engage with exhibitors based on your goals, not their giveaways.

Thank you all for everything you have done to help make our 2020 Conference a huge success!

*Marybeth Gawrys, CEOE
SCAEOP Conference Chair*

Shout Out:

Congratulations to Louise Snipes on PSP/CEOE renewal!





Cornbread Recipe

FROM WWW.CAFEDELITES.COM

Ingredients

1/2 cup unsalted butter melted (or bacon drippings)
1 cup all-purpose flour
1 cup yellow cornmeal
1 tablespoon sugar (optional)
2 teaspoons baking powder (optional: yields a fluffier cornbread)
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 1/2 cup buttermilk shake before measuring
2 large eggs

Directions

Preheat the oven 400F. Lightly grease a 9-inch cast iron skillet or 9-inch square baking dish with butter and place skillet/dish into the oven to heat up. (Alternatively for cast iron skillets: heat 1/2 cup of unmelted butter in your cast iron over stove top on medium heat until melted, turn heat off then allow the butter to cool slightly before adding to the batter.) In a large bowl, whisk together the flour, cornmeal, sugar, baking powder (if using), baking soda and salt. Make a well in the center and add the buttermilk and eggs. Mix together well to combine, then add in the slightly cooled melted butter. Mix again until 'just' combined (don't over mix). Carefully remove your 'hot' pan or dish from the oven with oven mitts, and pour the batter into the hot skillet or dish. Bake until the cornbread begins to brown on top and a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean (about 20-23 minutes). Allow to cool for about 10 minutes before slicing and serving.

"The best comfort food will always be greens, cornbread, and fried chicken."

Maya Angelou

