

DEAR

An Alliance of DTE Energy Retirees

Detroit Edison and MichCon retirees
working to preserve our hard earned benefits

WINTER / SPRING 2018

Dear Fellow Retirees:

For the past nine years, I have had the privilege to be your president of DEAR, but today I am writing this letter as I step down from my role. As many of you know, I have Parkinson's disease which is progressing slowly thankfully, but has managed to tap out more and more of my energy over time. As president, the work of DEAR has been extremely rewarding over the years but does require much dedication, more than I can give going forward. With that I am very pleased to announce that at our January Board of Directors' elections, Janet Seefried was elected President effective April 1, 2018. Janet retired from Detroit Edison in 2001 after 24 years and she has served on the DEAR board for the past two years. I have known Janet for many years now and can say she will be a very strong, capable representative for all of you.

*Your DEAR Board has elected its officers for 2018:
President - Janet Seefried
V.P. - Charlie Mahoney
Treasurer - Bob Barrette, Jr.
Secretary - Cheryl VanVliet*

One of the most rewarding parts of my term as president, and of my years on the Board, has been the chance to meet so many of you whether it was over the phone, at the annual meetings or on my visits to so many of our retiree clubs throughout Michigan. I do plan to remain on the DEAR board and am looking forward to seeing all of you at this year's annual meeting on May 9th. Thank you for your continued support. I have been honored to be a part of this Board and to be a representative for our retirees.

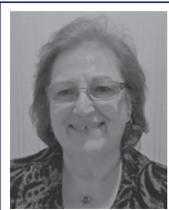
Many, many thanks to our dedicated board members for their years of commitment and hours of their time that they have given to ensure the benefits we worked so hard for remain intact. A very special thanks to the tireless Charlie Mahoney, who has worked side by side with me over the years, keeping me on track, attending meetings with company officials, arranging meetings with officials in Washington, producing this newsletter, helping with the annual meeting and so much more.

I will stay on the Board of NRLN, the organization we have worked with to help pass federal legislation or safeguard laws that pertain to retirees' benefits. As I so often have done in past newsletters, I will ask you one last time to continue to support the work of the NRLN both financially and especially by responding to the various ALERTS that come out giving you a voice to address your concerns directly to our elected officials with your letters.

As you begin to think Spring mark your calendars for the DEAR Annual Meeting on May 9th at the Ukrainian Hall in Warren details for registration follow in this newsletter. Stay well, stay healthy - see you at the May meeting.



Bob Tompkins, President



Meet Janet Seefried incoming President of DEAR

Janet started with DTE in 1978 as the Assistant General Supervisor, Food Service Department. After completing her MBA in Finance at the U of D in 1981, she joined Budget and Management Information in the Controller's organization -where she was in various departments and positions. When she retired in October 2001, she was Director of Cost Management in the Finance organization.



Important Dates for Your Calendars

◆ May 3 – The DTE Annual Meeting ◆ May 9 – The DEAR Annual Meeting

DEAR Board of Directors

Bob Barrette ◆ Jan DeRyckere ◆ Ron Henson ◆ Charlotte "Charlie" Mahoney ◆ Karen Mitchell
Janet Seefried ◆ Ray Sturdy ◆ Bob Tompkins ◆ Cheryl VanVliet ◆ Kathy Williams ◆ Gerald Winkler

"By Retirees for Retirees"

DEAR FACT:

The DEAR Newsletter goes to over 8900 retirees
We continue to receive donations from approximately
7% of our retirees
Retiree support is important
On behalf of all retirees

THANK YOU

Mail your **DONATION payable to DEAR**

to Robert Barrette

58 Greenbriar Lane, Grosse Pointe Shores, MI 48236

A Note From DEAR Treasurer

Bob Barrette, Jr.

So, we moved into 2018 with unusually warm weather for this time of year, then back to more realistic winter weather with above normal snow fall and cold temps. I am sure we will welcome spring – which hopefully will arrive soon. DEAR is now planning our next “fly in to Washington DC” to join NRLN and retirees from across the nation to talk with our elected officials on Medicare cost, Prescription drugs and Pension preservation along with other related retiree issues. Your donations are key

for us to be able to go to Washington to give input and viewpoints on these very key issues. We thank you for your support. As always have a great 2018 and the best to all. I hope to see you at our May 9th Annual Meeting. As always, have a great spring and enjoy this new year of 2018.

!! Make your Reservation!!

DEAR Annual Meeting

Wednesday - May 9, 2018

All retirees, their spouses and surviving spouses are welcome

Ukrainian Cultural Center - 26601 Ryan Road - Warren, MI 48091

The Center is located on the West side of Ryan Road just south of I-696

Doors open at 9:30AM - business meeting at 10:30 AM - Lunch at 11:45AM

A nominal charge of **\$10.00 per person** collected at the door. Exact payment appreciated.

Reservations for lunch are required, and must be made by Wednesday, May 2, 2018

Guest speaker – Nancy Moody, Vice President Public Relations - DTE

RSVP by phone or email to:

Charlie Mahoney 248 474-0905; Bob Barrette 313 882-6128; Kathy Williams 248 464-9910
or mahoneyc@prodigy.net; or kakjwilliams1974@gmail.com

FRANK TORRE, SR. PASSES



Francisco “Frank” Torre, Sr. passed away peacefully Tuesday, February 27, 2018. He was 92 and a lifetime member of the DEAR Board of Directors. Frank was, in fact, one of the original founders of the Detroit Edison Alliance of Retirees (DEAR), a non-profit corporation that benefits his fellow retirees and he worked tirelessly to help the retirees and their surviving spouses maintain the benefits they earned. Frank served his country in WWII as a member of the US Marine Corps and was a member of Carlson’s Raiders an elite WWII unit. Frank worked for 43 years at DTE retiring as a supervisor. Frank was also involved in his community appointed to the Warren Planning Commission for 23 years. He was a proud member of the Marine Corps League detachment 152-Utica/Macomb County Chapter and a founding member of the American’s of Italian Origin Chapter in Warren. Most importantly Frank loved and cherished his family. He and his wife of 65 years, Frances Bruglio, raising three children. Frank enjoyed being with his grandchildren, fishing and gardening.

Frank's final resting place will be at Great Lakes National Cemetery off Belford Road, also known as, PFC Frank Torre Sr. Drive. Adjacent to the entrance, there is a historical marker commemorating PFC Torre's World War II Marine Corps service. In honor of Frank, and in lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation as Frank was actively involved in the organization's charitable endeavors. The DEAR Board and its retirees thank Frank for his involvement on their behalf.

“By Retirees for Retirees”

REMINDERS

DEAR DONATIONS *payable to DEAR* to Robert Barrette, 58 Greenbriar Lane, Grosse Pointe Shores, MI 48236 barretterh@comcast.net

U.S. MAIL/E-MAIL NEW/CHANGES to Charlie Mahoney, 18633 Williams Ct., Livonia, MI 48152 mahoneyc@prodigy.net

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS to Janet Seefried, 3000 E. 13 Mile Road, Warren, MI 48092 seefriedj@gmail.com

HELP WANTED – RETIREE READERSHIP! – DEAR is interested in reaching as many DTE retirees as possible with our newsletter. We need help in getting mailing addresses for retirees. Please share your newsletter with retirees you know – especially those joining us after 2005. If they would like to receive their own copy, encourage them to send their U.S. Mailing address and e-mail address in an email to: mahoneyc@prodigy.net or in a postcard or note via US Mail to:
DEAR c/o Charlie Mahoney 18633 Williams Ct. Livonia MI 48152. Your assistance in this important matter is appreciated.

OTHER RESOURCES

Alliance for Retired Americans	On-line www.retiredamericans.org
American Association of Retired Persons	On-line www.aarp.org
American 1 Credit Union	On-line www.american1cu.org or phone 1.888.213.2848
DEAR	On-line www.dearalliance.org
DTE Retiree	On-line www2.dteenergy.com/wps/portal/dte/retiree
Aon-Hewitt – Your Benefit Resources	On-line www.ybr.com/dteenergy or phone 1.866.899.4DTE (4383)
Lake Trust Credit Union	On-line www.laketrust.org or phone 1.888.267.7200
Local 17	On-line www.ibewlocal17.org or phone 1.248.423.4540 ext 10
Local 223	On-line www.local223uwua.org or phone 1.313.271.9700
Medicare	On-line www.medicare.gov
National Retiree Legislative Network (NRLN)	On-line www.nrln.org
National Healthcare Changes	On-line www.healthcare.gov
PayFlex	On-line retiree.payflexdirect.com or phone 1.855.652.0112
RHA Exchange (eHealth)	On-line www.rhaexchange.com/dte or phone 1.844.866.8257
Your Benefit Resources - Aon-Hewitt	On-line www.ybr.com/dteenergy or phone 1.866.899.4DTE (4383)

DEAR

Detroit Edison/MichCon Alliance of Retirees

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