

MCHENRY COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

IRTA AREA 2, REGION 2, UNIT 13



www.irtaonline.org | www.mcirta.org

2022 Meetings

31 North

April

MCC

May

June

Upcoming Programs:

May: Jeff Standish

Reducing Property Taxes

June: Scholarship Winners

Question & Answer Session

Sept: Jim Bachman, IRTA

Oct: Candidates

Suggestions for future speakers are welcome. Please contact Joann Jazak 847-738-3036

Programs subject to change
Doors open at 11:15
Meeting begins at 11:45 am

April Menu

Salad

Tropical Chicken

Mashed Potatoes

Vegetables

Assorted Desserts

Coffee

President's Message

Stephen Polep

I get phone calls from members who have questions related to being a retired teacher. I have so far found the answers. If you need help please call 847-639-1716, I will help.

In June at MCC the program will be the scholarship winners and a Q & A session. Get those question ready.

Next fall and winter the unit needs venues since D'Andreas closed. Please give Joann your thoughts.

April Program

Joann Jazak

Our speaker will be Mary Finch who will speak on her experience in Guatemala with purifying water.

We will also meet our new Regional Superintendent of Schools—Diana Hartmann

Scholarship Report

Mary Noe

Once again, we received some outstanding applications from 8 different high schools. Our scholarship committee had some difficult choices to make to get to the top 4. These recipients will be notified in May. A big thank you to the committee members: Peggy Hart, Cathy Schiller, and April Shouse.



Membership News

Marlene Griffith and Linda Young

Questions? Email Marlene at marlenegriffith@icloud.com or text/call her at **815-385-3533**.

TODAY'S GRACE

Bless our friends
 Bless our food
 Come O Lord and
 Bless Us.
 May our talk glow with peace,
 Bring your love to surround
 us.
 Friendship and Peace
 May they bloom and glow,
 bloom and grow forever.
 Bless our friends
 Bless our food
 Bless our dear land forever.

Need to Cancel?

If you cannot show the day of the meeting, call Steve Polep on his cell at 847-772-4162 and leave a message or text—even at the last minute. We do need you to pay for your meal if you do not cancel in time as the unit has to pay the venue. Thank you.

**Reach us at:
 PO Box 1776
 Crystal Lake, IL 60039**

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

- Claudia Agnes, Crystal Lake*** – Retired 2020 McHenry D15
- Mary Blietz, Hawthorne Woods*** – Retired 2020 Woodstock D200
- Sharon Chakoian, Crystal Lake*** – Retired 2020 Crystal Lake D47
- Brenda Huemann, Ringwood*** – Retired 2021 Johnsburg D12
- Ginger Johnson, Marengo*** – Retired 2020 Marengo D165
- Debbie Koniewicz, Algonquin*** – Retired 2020 Huntley D158
- Marla Peters, Woodstock*** – Retired 2018 Alden-Hebron D19
- Carol Sevrey, Crystal Lake*** – Retired 2020 Crystal Lake D47
- Emory Swinney, McHenry*** – Retired 2018 Crystal Lake D155
- Janet Wick, Lake in the Hills*** – Retired 2020 McHenry D15

YOU CAN HELP US TO REMAIN A STRONG AND VITAL GROUP BY ENCOURAGING RETIRED EDUCATORS TO JOIN OUR LOCAL ORGANIZATION (MCRTA) AND OUR STATE ORGANIZATION (IRTA).

IRTA Membership

Linda Young, Chairman Region 2

The IRTA State membership as of March 4, 2022 is 39,531. IRTA currently has 89 Local Units throughout the state. The McHenry County Retired Teachers Association was one of 18 units awarded the honor being an IRTA Unit of Distinction for 2021.

Congratulations to our McHenry County members for continuing to support the IRTA !



Member Benefits

Rose Turk

Are you having a problem hearing? As a member of IRTA there are 2 hearing benefits you and your family can take advantage of. They are *Start Hearing Benefits Plan* and *Hearing Plan Discount Benefit* which is the group *Hear In America*.

Start Hearing Benefits Plan offers free hearing screening for you and your immediate family. Most insurance plans do not offer coverage for hearing care. As an AMBA member you are already enrolled at no charge. You will be set up with doctors in your area for a screening. You will receive up to 60% discount on hearing aids, 2 years free of extended warranty with every purchase, a 3 years supply of free batteries and 1 year of free office visits.

Hear In America is another service endorsed by IRTA that provides hearing benefits for our members. You and your extended family are able to receive free annual hearing screenings from one of their providers in your area. If you purchase hearing aids through them you can receive a 35%-70% discount off manufacturers' retail prices. Plus, you will also receive 3 years of repair warranty, 3 years of loss and damage coverage, and a 3 years supply of free batteries.

To see either of these benefits go to irtaonline.org. At the top of the page go to Members Only and log in. On the left side of the page click on Members Benefits. You should glance at the page to see what is available to you as a member. To get more information on the hearing benefits, at the top of the page the second paragraph click the yellow sentence that starts with "Please click..." and download the two pages of information on how to get all the benefits you are entitled to as a member of IRTA. Go to the second page and find the Hearing Benefits. Here you will see the web addresses of these benefits. Click on those and it will take you the websites and you can get more information on each benefit.

Legislative Report

Norm Wolter

Minutes from the most recent IRTA Legislative Committee meeting indicate that the Governor's proposed budget included an uptick in funds for TRS but reduced funding for TRIP/TRAIL insurance programs. IRTA will be working to maintain the state's support for retiree insurance programs including a lawsuit challenging a reduction in the amount of insurance contributions by active teachers and school districts.

The election calendar has been changed this year so the General Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, June 28. The first day for mail-in voting will be May 19. Please be sure to vote!