

MCHENRY COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

IRTA AREA 2, REGION 2, UNIT 13



www.irtaonline.org | www.mcirta.org

2023 Meetings

April 19

May 17

June 21

September 20

October 18*

November 15

December 13

*Subject to Change

Doors open at 11:15

Meeting begins at 11:45 am

Lunch begins at Noon

Suggestions for future venues or speakers are welcome.

Please contact Beth Miller

millerfam80@sbcglobal.net

Need to Cancel?

If you cannot show the day of the meeting, call Linda Young at 847-209-8047. We do need you to pay for your meal if you do not cancel with one week's notice.

A Tribute to Hank

At the last general meeting, the board honored Hank Kenyon for his long-time service to the MCRTA board. Marlene Griffith spoke about many of his accomplishments.

Hank was a teacher at McHenry Junior High. When Parkland Middle School opened, he moved there. Marlene described Hank as a "resource, the person to turn to if you needed knowledge or help."

When Hank retired from District 15, he continued to work at the McHenry Public Library. Hank became a member of the MCRTA and joined the board serving as our Historian. He filled this role for 29 years. Another of Marlene's descriptions of Hank is "If he does not know the answer, he definitely will know how to find it for you, and he will do so happily."

Hank was also a board member of the McHenry County Historical Society. He served on that board for 9 years and has just retired from that position as well. Karen Whitman wrote to us about Hank. "He was a leader in educational programming and also volunteered in the library where he would answer research inquiries. He is a delightful man and we are going to miss him."

Hank has given of his time and talents to education children, to strengthen the genealogy department of the McHenry Public Library, and to preserve the history of our organization and that of our county.

We will miss Hank on the board, but expect to see him at our luncheons. Thanks Hank for everything you have done!



Board Members

Elected Members

President: Joann Jazak
 Vice President: Linda Young
 Board Secretary: April Shouse
 Unit Secretary: Cathy Schiller
 Treasurer: Dick Seaborn

Appointed Members

Membership: Marlene Griffith
 Programs/Venues: Beth Miller
 Scholarship: Mary Noe
 Member Benefits: Rose Turk
 Information: Kathy Speaker
 Legislative: Norb Wolter
 Public Relations: Peggy Hart
 Nominations: Olivia Santarelli
 Constitution: Lois Shartiag
 Finance: Olivia Santarelli
History: Robert Frenz
 Budget: Nancy Tober

**Special Welcome
to our new Historian:**

Robert Frenz

Reach us at:
PO Box 1776
Crystal Lake, IL 60039
mchenrycrta@gmail.com

Grant News

Peggy Hart

The McHenry County Retired Teachers Association is pleased to announce the winners of the 2022-23 Excellence in Education Awards. These monetary awards provide funds to support classroom projects that further enhance the educational goals of the students. This year the MCRTA was able to fund or partially fund ALL the submissions that it received. The winning projects:

Jake Hadden, organic chemistry instructor at Johnsburg High School, will receive funds to purchase 50 copies of *The Martian* by Andy Weir. This project will strengthen the collaboration between literature and science as many of the events in this novel parallel the concepts studied in organic chemistry, offering students insight into creative ways that new learning can be applied outside the classroom.

Amy Costello, 6-7 th grade literacy teacher at Harrison School in Wonder Lake, will receive money to buy a class set of the novel, *Wonder* by RJ Palacio. This book will provide students with the opportunity to read a book cover-to-cover with content that is accessible to them. This novel also incorporates many of the English Language Arts Common Core Standards for middle school students.

Kathleen Choi, K-4 music teacher at Algonquin Road School in Fox River Grove, will receive funds to purchase additional instruments to add to their Orff instrument collection which is an integral part of the K-4 music curriculum.

Aubrey Kuhns, Pre K-early childhood at Harrison School in Wonder Lake, will receive funds to support the creation of a sensory garden that will extend the students' learning environment outside the classroom, allowing them to explore using their five senses while building and developing more of their fine and gross motor skills.

Rachelle Sikes, K-3 resource teacher at Harrison School in Wonder Lake, will receive money to provide each K-3 classroom with STEM kits. These kits include hands-on materials for early elementary learners that support science/math instruction, learning center activities, challenge projects, etc. This project will support the students in eight classrooms. MCRTA Dues





A \$200 donation was given by the MCRTA board to the McHenry County Historical Society in honor of Henry Kenyan. This donation was dedicated to help repair the bell tower at the West Harmony School."

Thank You Letter from McHenry County Historical Society

It is with great pleasure and appreciation that I write to inform you that our Giving Tuesday "Keep The Bell Ringing" campaign was an overwhelming success. And we have YOU to thank for it!

The Retired Teachers' generous contribution of \$200 to the McHenry County Historical Society helped us meet and surpass our goal of \$1,500 to make repairs to the bell tower of the 1895 West Harmony School. And I can't think of a better way to honor Henry Kenyon's legacy.

It is our intention to begin that work next season when temperatures finally warm up. Thank you, once again, and have yourself a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Kurt Begalka, Administrator McHenry County Historical Society & Museum

HELP HELP HELP HELP HELP

I would love to shed some sunshine to any of our members that need a friend. I need to know the names of any of our members that a card or phone call would help bring a friendly person into their lives. So if you know of anyone that I could help, please share that information with me. Linda Young postteach@att.net or call 847-209-8047

Wouldn't it be nice to have organized trips to fun places? Are you good at planning events? Consider joining our board as our Event Coordinator. Just plan 1 or 2 fun events for the membership outside the regular meetings. Maybe a trip to a zoo, museum, or ball game would be nice. Maybe a longer trip to Branson or Paris! Now there's a dream!

DO YOU NEED TO PAY YOUR DUES?

DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND YOU WOULD LIKE TO INVITE TO JOIN?

MCRTA Dues --- You have three choices:

- 1) Annual dues, \$10 for 2023
- 2) 3-year dues, \$25 for 2023-2025
- 3) LIFE membership for \$150

I choose to pay (CIRCLE ONE)

Annual Dues	\$10
3-Year Dues.	\$25
LIFE membership.	\$150

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____

Phone _____

WRITE CHECK PAYABLE TO MCRTA. MAIL THIS FORM AND YOUR CHECK TO MCRTA

PO BOX 1776

CRYSTAL LAKE, IL 60039