

MCHENRY COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

IRTA AREA 2, REGION 2, UNIT 13



www.irtaonline.org | www.mcirta.org

2019 Meetings

D'Andrea's

April, June,
September, November

MCC

May, December

McHenry Country Club

March, October

Upcoming Programs:

May: Bryan Kennedy,
Magician

June: Scholarship Winners

Programs subject to change
Meeting begins at 11:45 am
Lunch begins at Noon
Reservations due one week
prior to meeting.

May Menu

Salad
Pork Loin
Mashed Potatoes
Sauerkraut
Stuffing
Cookie
Coffee/Tea

President's Message

Stephen Polep

I am getting calls from members who have questions about Health insurance, pensions, income tax, legislation and benefits. I am happy to help so keep the calls coming. I will do my best to help you.

In June, there will be an Area conference held by the IRTA state office. If you have a desire to become more active in the unit this would be of benefit to you. See me at the May meeting to get more information.

May Guest

Jude La Francis

Bryan Kennedy

Magician

Financial Report

Our organization is seeking an individual in the area of Finance. This person would work closely with the current treasurer to provide financial oversight for our organization. The main task areas are financial planning and financial reporting. If you are interested, or have questions about this position please see one of the board members.



Membership News

Marlene Griffith and Linda Young

May means RETIREMENT! Because of the privacy laws, it is becoming more difficult for us to obtain the names and addresses of new retirees. If you know of any teacher or administrator retiring from a school in our county, please pass this information on to Marlene Griffith, Linda Young, or Steve Polep.

You can also invite a new retiree or a non-member to one of our meetings. If he/she joins our organization, we will give you a coupon for a free lunch at a future meeting. (NOTE: This does not apply to people who have been members and have let their dues lapse.)

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).

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

Questions? Email Marlene at marlenegriffith@icloud.com or call her at **815.385.3533**.

NEW MEMBER:

DEATHS:

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**



Scholarship Report

Mary Noe

A big thank you goes out to the 2019 MCRTA scholarship committee for their efforts in collecting monthly raffle ticket money, selecting this year's recipients, and for presenting at the high school honor assemblies. Those who assisted this year are Jan Fredriksen, Jane Gritmacker, Peggy Hart, Jude LaFrancis, Donna MacKay, Cathy Schiller, April Shouse, Marti Swanson, and Mary Noe, chair. We are so grateful to Sue Olson for her many years of running our scholarship raffles at our monthly meetings. The MCRTA board recognized Sue with a special restaurant gift card as she has retired from this position. We are pleased to announce that our 8 2019 scholarship winners are from Crystal Lake South, Harvard, Huntley, McHenry East, McHenry West, Prairie Ridge, Richmond-Burton, and Woodstock North High Schools. Please come to our June MCRTA meeting as we hope to meet many of our scholarship winners. They receive their \$1500 scholarship after successful completion of their first semester of college. Thank you all for your raffle support!

Legislative Report

Norbert Wolter

Governor Pritzker has withdrawn his proposal to reduce pension payments. This action coupled with the fact that TRIP appropriations are in the state budget indicates that IRTA lobbying efforts are having an impact.

The IRTA endorsed candidate for the TRS Board , Douglas Strand, was elected by members of the Teachers' Retirement System. The vote totals showed the strength of our organization and will allow us to have meaningful representation on the board.

During the past few weeks, members of our legislative committee have met with some of our local legislators to discuss IRTA legislative goals. Representative Tom Weber from the 64th District and Senator Craig Wilcox from the 32nd district were available during the recent legislative recess to discuss issues that affect our members. Representative Steve Reick from the 63rd district will meet with us on June 17.

Salvation Army Backpacks

Once again, we are collecting money for the McHenry County Salvation Army Backpack program. Our goal of \$1300 had an early start of \$106 collected in April. We will be collecting money in May and June. Please bring your checks or cash! As retired educators, we know how important it is to be prepared for school. This program helps our needy students throughout McHenry County. Thanks for being so generous! Once again the MCRTA board voted to collect money at our May and June general meetings to support our McHenry County Salvation Army Backpack program. Our county Salvation Army provides filled backpacks to needy students throughout the county just before school starts. We have been a most generous group. Last year we donated \$1300. Please bring your checks written out to Salvation Army or cash donations in May or June for this project. Thank you so much for your generosity!

Member Benefits

Rose Turk

Are you planning to go on a vacation in the near future to relax and have fun? Illinois Retired Teachers' Association is teamed up with Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA) to make member only benefits available to our association. Here are some benefits you can use to save money on your vacations this year.

If you are looking for a hotel room, IRTA through AMBA offers members discounts on hotels. As an IRTA member you can save between 15-20% on hotel reservations at thousands of destinations for La Quinta Inns and Suites. All you have to do is use the code AMBA when making your reservations and you will save money. Discounts for members also apply for car rentals. The top 3 car rental agencies (Avis, Budget, and Hertz) will give members up to a 25% discount on the rentals of cars, vans, and SUV's that are available at airports or neighborhood locations. 800 phone numbers and codes are available on the link from IRTA for the hotel chain and rental car companies.

AMBA and Restaurant.com have teamed together to offer members exclusive dining discount cards for use on Restaurant.com. First buy your discounted gift certificates from www.myAMBA dining.com. Then you will receive an email with a voucher code in 24 hours. Now go to www.dine.restaurant.com to use your voucher code for dining deals at many restaurants in your area. These coupons can also be used at many restaurants anywhere in the United States. There are directions on the AMBA dining page to help you navigate through the purchasing process. **To find out more about these deals go to irtaonline.org.** On the top of the page click on **MEMBERS ONLY** and then login. On the left side you will see **Membership Benefits**.