

MCHENRY COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

IRTA AREA 2, REGION 2, UNIT 13



www.irtaonline.org | www.mcirta.org

2019/20 Meetings

D'Andrea's

April, June,
September, November

MCC

May, December

McHenry Country Club

March, October

Upcoming Programs:

Nov: Ellen Amore—CASA
Judge David Gervais—
McHenry Court System
Dec: Rich Frankenfeld—
TRS

Programs subject to change

November Menu

Mixed Green Salad
Chicken w/ Mornay Sauce
Baked Potato
Vegetable Medley
Sherbet
Coffee

President's Message

Stephen Polep

I know that those members attending last month's meeting were concerned that Jim Bachman was not present. Jim was with his wife at a Springfield hospital. Jane Bachman passed away on October 26.

The obituary can be found at legacy.com Marie Bachman

My wife and I spent some quality time with Jane over the years and loved her. I was able to travel to Springfield on Wednesday, October 30, 2019 to join family and friends in celebrating Jane. I am very sad.

I went to San Antonio Texas in early November to go to the AMBA roundup and spent some quality time learning about IRTA benefits. You are a member of a super organization. Use the benefits you have earned by retiring.

November Guests

Jude La Francis

Ellen Amore—CASA

Judge David Gervais—McHenry Court System



Membership News

Marlene Griffith and Linda Young

I am looking for people who would be interested in helping me with mailings and/or delivering newsletters to schools in McHenry County. I would like to involve members from all the school districts represented in our organization. If you can help me out, please let me know. I have a notebook at the Membership Table where you can sign up.

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**

Membership has the names of **90 educators who retired in 2019** from McHenry County schools. **Of those 90, just 17 retirees (19%) have joined MCRTA and 33 of the 2019 retirees (37%) have joined IRTA.** If you know a retiree who does not belong to our organizations, please inform that person of how important our organizations are to them.

Another way to encourage non-members to join MCRTA is to invite one to an MCRTA lunch. If the retiree then joins our organization, **YOU get a free lunch.** NOTE: This applies only to new members, not to those who have let their membership dues lapse.

Questions? Email Marlene at membership@mcrta.org or at marlenegriffith@icloud.com.

You can also call or text her at **815-385-3533**.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

- ***Linda Fain, McHenry** – Retired 2019, McHenry D15
- ***Colleen Jackson, Woodstock** – Retired 2008, McHenry D15
- ***Jody Nichols, Wonder Lake** – Retired 2015, Crystal Lake D47
- ***Cynthia Palmer, Village of Lakewood** – Retired 2019, Woodstock D200

DEATHS:

John Mackie of Buchanan, MI



Member Benefits

Rose Turk

Did you know that you can get insurance for your pets? IRTA through Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA) offers insurance for your cat, dog, bird or even exotic animal. Nationwide Insurance Company offers Veterinary Pet Insurance (VPI). Just mention that you belong to IRTA and you will receive 5% discount on a new pet insurance policy.

There are three pet health plans from which to choose:

- 1) Pet Wellness is an everyday preventive care policy that covers wellness exams, tests, flea prevention, and vaccinations.
- 2) Major Medical covers exams, lab tests, surgeries, chronic conditions, some hereditary conditions, and more.
- 3) Whole Pet with Wellness bundles major medical and wellness for more coverage and savings.

VPI has plans to fit your needs and budget and you automatically receive a 5% discount for being an IRTA member. A good feature of this insurance is that you can use any veterinarian, specialist, and/or emergency provider you want. Sign up for a plan. After payment has been received your pet is covered within 24 hours for the Wellness coverage and within 14 days for the other 2 coverages. Then you can go to the vet of your choice for the service you need and submit a claim. You will then receive a check reimbursement for the bill.

Whole Pet with Wellness covers not only common ailments but also uncommon things. Your coverage remains the same year after year even if your pet was previously sick or hurt. Nationwide plans have either a yearly deductible or no deductible at all. This coverage also includes hereditary and congenital conditions.

To see details about this insurance, log in to irtaonline.org. At the top, click **Members Only** and login. On the left side of the page you will see **Membership Benefits** where you click the arrow. Scroll down the page to the bottom of **Available Informative Benefits** where you see Veterinary Pet Insurance. "Click here". This will take you to the AMBA page. Click the website for the pet insurance. On this page go all the way to the bottom of the page (dark blue area) and click Pet Healthzone. Take a look around this page. To find out more information about the insurance, at the top of the page click "Pet Insurance" and then "Buyers Guide". Under Buyers Guide you will find insurance for many different animals. This page explains what the insurance covers. If you are interested in the pet insurance, take a look at the website to see if this is what you can use for your pet. Then you can enroll your pet. There is also a phone number you can call. Take advantage of this Benefit now.

Legislative

Norb Wolter

With the election season for 2020 gaining momentum, it is imperative that efforts are made to elect legislative representatives who are willing to endorse IRTA legislative initiatives. It takes resources to become a player in the election process. In order for us to impact the elections, a war chest must be maintained to help out endorsed legislative candidates in tight races. The IRTA PAC provides funds for these candidates. If you have not joined the IRTA PAC dues deduct program to help maintain our influence in the legislature, you should sign an authorization form ASAP. If you choose to support IRTA PAC through the dues deduct program, monthly installments of \$1.00 will be deducted from your monthly TRS payment. Norb Wolter has the authorization forms necessary to help support IRTA PAC.

Elections

Joann Jazak

At our October meeting the following people were elected into office for two year terms. These individuals will be sworn in at the November MCRTA membership meeting.

President:	Steve Polep	Vice-President:	Linda Young
Board Secretary:	April Shouse	Unit Secretary:	Cathy Schiller
Treasurer:	Dick Seaborn		

Consumer Information—MN Attorney General

Scam artists now use technology to make a person's caller ID show their own name and phone number-making it appear as though a person is calling him or herself. These scam artists are falsifying-or "spoofing"-caller ID information. Spoofing scams are often perpetrated by criminal gangs located outside the state or country attempting to mask their identity and evade law enforcement.

Under the Federal Truth in Caller ID Act of 2009, using caller ID spoofing to defraud someone is a crime. Scam artists who use spoofing technology perpetrate so-called card services scams, medical alert device scams, and a number of other scams. These scams are usually designed to steal money or personal information, so it is very important to be wary of calls that appear to come from your own name and phone number. You should never provide your personal or financial information to unknown callers.

It is generally a good idea not to answer a phone call that appears to be from your own phone number. There is typically no legitimate reason for a person to receive such a call, and by answering, the scam artist is notified that your number is active, often leading to more scam calls. Unfortunately, scammers who use caller ID spoofing tend to ignore Do Not Call lists.