

MCHENRY COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

IRTA AREA 2, REGION 2, UNIT 13



www.irtaonline.org | www.mcirta.org

2022 Meetings

October 19—31 North
Candidates Forum

November 16—31 North
Deborah Thielen
Community Foundation for
McHenry County

December 14—MCC

Note Date Change

Cello Player Annie Ballin

Doors open at 11:15

Meeting begins at 11:45 am

Lunch begins at Noon

**Suggestions for future
speakers are welcome.**

Please contact Joann Jazak
847-738-3036

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 weeks

October Menu

Homemade Bread/Butter
Chicken Noodle Soup
Beef Stroganoff
Green Beans
Assorted Desserts
Coffee, Tea, Water

President's Message

Linda Young, Interim President

Our fall luncheon will be on Wednesday, October 19th at Café 31 North in McHenry. We are hoping to get back to 90-100 members attending along with new retirees. It's time to get together with friends, sharing your summer adventures. AND... above all taking time to laugh with our fellow retired educators.

TRAIL INSURANCE UPDATE

Beginning January 1, 2023 your new medical and prescription drug plan will be Aetna Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug (MAPD) PPO Plan. This new plan will replace your current plan. No action is required unless you want to opt out of the Aetna MAPD PPO Plan, add or remove dependents, or change dental/life coverage, if applicable.

IRTA WEBSITE

The member portal located in the Member's Only section of the IRTA website has changed. IRTA member's username is now your email address. You will need to establish a new password. The Member's Only section on the website looks very similar to how it did in the past, but it has been updated to use with the new IRTA database.

MCRTA BOARD

Soon, you will be receiving an email listing board positions that need to be filled. It is imperative to keep our MCRTA membership growing. With that in mind, we need members willing to step forward and become a more active member of our association.

October Program

Joann Jazak

Local Candidates

Names listed in Legislative News section



Board Members

Elected Members

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

Appointed Members

Membership: Marlene Griffith
 Programs: Joann Jazak
 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: Henry Kenyon
 Budget: Nancy Tober

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

Membership News

Marlene Griffith and Linda Young

Autumn = MCRTA Dues Collection

If it is time for you to pay your membership dues. You have received either an email or a letter from MCRTA. I would appreciate it if you paid your dues soon so I do not have to send out reminders.

NOTE: If you no longer wish to belong to our organization, please email me at marlenegriffith@icloud.com and ask me to take you off the roster and email list. Thank you.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

Kim Ulrich, McHenry - Retired 2022, McHenry D15
 Diana Frisbie, Woodstock - Retired 2020, Woodstock D200
 Patricia Hivon, Crystal Lake - Retired 2022, Crystal Lake D47
 Kathleen Shea, Woodstock - Retired 2020, Woodstock D200
 Bette Chwalisz, Woodstock - Retired 2021, McHenry D15

WE ARE SO HAPPY THAT YOU HAVE JOINED US!

Questions? Email: marlenegriffith@icloud.com; call or text 815-385-3533.

If you have a new email or want to add your email to our list, please email mchenryrta@gmail.com.

HELP WANTED

Name Tag Assistant

The MCRTA needs a member to take responsibility for providing appropriate name tags for members and guests who are attending our luncheons.

To get more information on this or if this appeals to you, call Linda Young at 847-209-8047.



Legislative News

Norb Wolter

The Candidate's Forum scheduled for our next meeting on October 19 will give attendees an opportunity to ask questions of local legislative candidates on issues of importance to retired teachers. Following are the names of those candidates who will be in attendance:

Senate Candidates

- D. 26 Maria Peterson
- D. 32 Craig Wilcox. (Endorsed by IRTA)
- D. 33 Donald DeWitte (Endorsed by IRTA_

Representative Candidates

- D. 63 Bryan Myers. (Endorsed by IRTA)
- D. 64 Rick Konter

The Nov. 8 Mid-Term Election is rapidly approaching as you can tell by all of the TV ads. Here are some important dates to put on your calendar.

- 10/24 First day of early voting at satellite locations such as city hall or township offices
- 11/3 Last day to request a mail ballot
- 11/8 Last day mail ballots can be postmarked
- 11/8 In-person voting at your assigned polling place (check your new voter registration card as many polling places have been changed)

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

Mary Noe

STEVE POLEP SCHOLARSHIP

The MCRTA board decided last month to establish The Stephen Polep Memorial Scholarship. We felt that Steve would be happy having a scholarship in his memory, helping young people open the door to a teaching career.

We would like to thank many of you for your donations to the to this special scholarship. We have collected over \$2200 already. Checks may be brought to our meetings this year or mailed to our post office box.

If you would like to make a donation, please indicate Polep Memorial in the memo section. Our address is:

MCRTA
PO Box 1776
Crystal Lake IL 60039

Member Benefits

Rose Turk

If you travel frequently, whether it be local or abroad, you may be interested in a service that AMBA provides IRTA members. It is Medical Air Services Association, MASA. This is an international company that provides life-saving emergency assistance from home or while traveling. MASA has provided this service to its members for over 30 years.

Some of the benefits included are:

- Emergency Air Transport
- Helicopter Transportation
- Ground Ambulance Transport
- Mortal remains air transport
- Worldwide coverage
- Escort Transport - Spouse, family, companion travel inflight if space available
- Recuperation/Repatriation
- Return Transport
- Minor children/grandchildren return - an attendant will be provided when necessary
- Vehicle Return
- Organ Retrieval
- Pet return

There are several memberships for which you can sign up: Individual, Family, Platinum, and upgrades.

To see the details about MASA, go to irtaonline.org. At the top of the page click on Members Only and login. Along the left side click on Members Benefits. Look under Available Endorsed Benefits and scroll to the bottom of these benefits where you will find Medical Air Services Association, MASA. Next click where it says, "Click here to learn more." Go to Medical Transportation and click. Here you will find a page that gives information about MASA. You will find a phone number that you can call to talk to someone or you can also enroll online.

And don't forget: While you are on the Member Benefits page, look at all the benefits that you can take advantage of as an IRTA member. You can see all of the benefits if you click on and download the blue link in the second paragraph of the Benefits page. AMBA offers our members many great discounts.

Finance Committee

Olivia Santarelli

Our CDs were renewed 9/27/22 for 14 months at 2.1%.
\$12,000 from the Wright C.D will be deposited in checking to use for scholarships.

MailChimp

Did you get the September meeting emails? Are you still having trouble? Do you know someone else who didn't get the email? Please let us know if you are having issues. Our email is mchenryrta@gmail.com. You can email us and we will check to see that we have your correct email in our system.

We can also be reached through our website: mcrta.org. You can contact us for various reasons or sign up for a meeting. You will receive a confirmation email if you sign up by replying to our email or via the website. Don't forget to continue to check your spam/junk folder for emails from our organization.

IRTA MESSAGES

TRAIL Premiums: The Aetna PPO health insurance premiums will be as follows. They will be \$2.06 a month for individual coverage and \$6.18 a month for a dependent. CMS confirmed that these monthly premium costs will not vary by more than 5 percent a year. CMS stated that there will not be an option to participate in an HMO. Enrollment: Members already enrolled in TRAIL will not need to do anything during the November 1-November 30 enrollment period to maintain their coverage in TRAIL .

Questions and Answers on the new AETNA Drug plan can be found on MCRTA.org.

IRTA Endorsed Candidates

Rep. Margaret Croke (D-12), Rep. Michael Kelley (D-15), Kevin Olickal (D-16), Rep. Jennifer Gong-Gershowitz (D-17), Rep. Robyn Gabel (D-18), Rep. Lindsey LaPointe (D-19), Rep. Bradley Stephens (R-20), Rep. Debbie Meyers-Martin (D-38), Rep. Terra Costa-Howard (D-42), Rep. Anna Moeller (D-43), Rep. Fred Crespo (D-44), Diane Blair-Sherlock (D-46), Kevin Wallace (R-49), Rep. Mark Walker (D-53), Mary Beth Canty (D-54), Rep. Michelle Mussman (D-56), Rep. Jonathan Carroll (D-57), Rep. Bob Morgan (D-58), Rep. Daniel Didech (D-59), Rep. Rita Mayfield (D-60), Rep. Joyce Mason (D-61), Brian Meyers (D-63), Rep. Tom Weber (R-64), Rep. Dan Ugaste (R-65), Rep. Maurice West (D- 67), Rep. Dave Vella (D-68), Rep. Jeff Keicher (R-70), Rep. Daniel Swanson (R-71), Gregg Johnson (D-72), Rep. Lance Yednock (D- 76), Rep. Jackie Haas (R-79), Rep. Anthony DeLuca (D-80), Rep. Keith Wheeler (R-83), Rep. Stephanie Kifowit (D-84), William Hauter (R-87), Rep. Tony McCombie (R-89), John Cabello (R-90), Sharon Chung (D-91), Rep. Norine Hammond (R-94), Rep. Tim Butler (R-95), Rep. Sue Scherer (D-96), Rep. C.D. Davidsmeyer (R-100), Rep. Carrol Ammons (D-103), Rep. Mike Marron (R- 104), Dennis Tipsword Jr. (R-105), Rep. Thomas Bennett (R-106), Wayne Rosenthal (R-108), Rep. Charles Meier (R-109), Rep. Amy Elk (R-111), Rep. Katie Stuart (D-112), Rep. Jay Hoffman (D-113), and Rep. Patrick Windhorst (R-117).

Javier Cervantes (D-1), Senator Sara Feigenholtz (D-6), Senator Ram Villavalam (D-8), Senator Laura Fine (D-9), Senator Laura Ellman (D-21), Senator Cristina Castro (D-22), Senator Karina Villa (D-25), Senator Ann Gillespie (D-27), Senator Laura Murphy (D-28), Senator Julie Morrison (D-29), Senator Adriane Johnson (D-30), Mary Edly-Allen (D-31), Senator Craig Wilcox (R-32), Senator Donald DeWitte (R-33), Senator Dave Syverson (R-35), Michael Halpin (D-36), Senator Sue Rezin (R-38), Senator Patrick Joyce (D-40), Senator Linda Holmes (D-42), Rachel Ventura (D- 43), Senator Sally Turner (R-44), Andrew Chesney (R-45), Senator Dave Koehler (D-46), Senator Doris Turner (D-48), Senator Jil Tracy (R-50), Senator Chapin Rose (R-51), Terri Bryant (R-58).