

MCHENRY COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

IRTA AREA 2, REGION 2, UNIT 13



www.irtaonline.org | www.mcirta.org

2018/19 Meetings

9/19 Turnberry CC
Larry Newman, AMBA
Christy Bartolino
Liberty Mutual Insurance

10/17 D'Andrea's
Candidates

11/14 Turnberry CC
Jim Bachman

12/19 MCC
CPA—new tax laws

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

If you have any other news

September Menu

Mixed Baby Greens Salad
Tuscan Chicken Breast
Mashed Garlic Potatoes
Roasted Sweet Peppers
Seasonal Vegetables
Brownie

President's Message

Stephen Polep

Recently, I attended a state senator's meeting. What his feeling was is that the pension problems are the fault of unions and teachers. The mostly republican audience agreed with him and is opposed to property taxes and funding schools. Teachers are the new bad guys and we are hated for having pensions.

Governor Rauner signed into law SB3046. SB3046 was an initiative of IRTA's. The bill provides that on and after the effective date of this Act, eligible TRS benefit recipients and TRS dependent beneficiaries may elect to participate in TRIP or TRAIL if they previously opted out of the program. The bill provides that the election must be made during the benefit recipient's annual open enrollment period, subject to specified conditions.

The TRAIL MAPD Open Enrollment period begins October 15 and runs through November 15, 2018. Online or phone enrollment can only be processed during that time period. The effective date of the new plan will be January 1, 2019. You should receive your TRAIL MAPD Decision Guide for Plan Year 2019 in the mail by the first week of October (2018). If you are currently enrolled in TRAIL MAPD, and wish to keep your coverage as is, you do not need to do anything. However, if you wish to make any changes to your current TRAIL MAPD coverage, contact MyBenefits (toll-free) 844-251-1777 or MyBenefits.illinois.gov. 08/10/2018

September Guests

Jude La Francis

Leslie Bertolino, Liberty Mutual
Larry Newman, AMBA



Membership News

Marlene Griffith and Linda Young

Thank you to Regional Superintendent of Schools Leslie Schermerhorn for allowing me to use her office to duplicate all the letters I send out about dues and about joining IRTA and MCRTA.

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.

If you know a retired educator who does not belong to MCRTA, consider inviting that person to one of our meetings or give the retiree this newsletter. **We are a group worth joining.** Although we are all retired, we support the youth in our county by providing school supplies to needy students; we contribute to Salvation Army's backpack program; we give thousands of dollars to college freshmen through our scholarship program; and we provide grants to teachers in McHenry County. We also have a wonderful group of speakers lined up for our lunch meetings this year. **We make a positive impact upon education and the young people of our county, and we provide our membership with informative programs and the chance to socialize with colleagues.**

Membership has begun collecting dues for 2019. If you are a LIFE member, you owe no dues. If you are not a LIFE member, you have three choices:

- 1) \$10 for 2019
- 2) \$25 for 2019, 2020, 2021
- 3) \$150 for LIFE membership

You may pay your dues at the meetings by seeing Marlene or Linda at the Membership Table, or you can send them to this address: **MCRTA, PO BOX 1776, CRYSTAL LAKE 60039.**

NOTE: **NEW** email address: marlenegriffith@icloud.com
I am NO LONGER USING the membership@mcrt.org address.

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



New Members

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

Linda Aubert, Crystal Lake - Retired 2018, Huntley D158
Luis Carbajal, Crystal Lake - Retired 2018, Crystal Lake D47
Pete Catan, Woodstock - Retired 2018, Woodstock D200
Teresa Dailey, Crystal Lake - Retired 2018, Woodstock D200
Joy Hafer, Woodstock - Retired 2018, McHenry D15
Cheryl Lampinen, Algonquin - Retired 2018, Cary D26
Paulina Levy, Chicago - Retired 2018, Prairie Grove D46
Jody McKesson, Crystal Lake - Retired 2018, Cary D26
Katherine Mitchell, Chicago - Retired 2018, Woodstock D200
Diane Rimmer, Twin Lakes, WI - Retired 2018, Johnsburg D12
Nancy Saumann, Huntley - Retired 2018, Crystal Lake D155
Bonnie Smith, Woodstock - Retired 2018, Huntley D158

Salvation Army School Backpack Drive

A BIG thank you to our generous retired educators for your spring donations totaling \$1300 to our county's Salvation Army Backpack program. That filled many backpacks for our needy students as they returned to schools this August. Thanks so much for caring!

Legislative Report

Norb Wolter

A Candidate's Forum will be hosted by our Legislative Committee at our next meeting on October 17. You will have an opportunity to pose questions to those local legislative candidates who are in attendance.

On August 21, 2018 Governor Rauner signed into law SB3046 (Public Act 100-1017). The bill provides that eligible TRS benefit recipients and TRS dependent beneficiaries may elect to participate in TRIP (this includes participants in TRAIL) if they previously opted out of the program. This bill was backed by IRTA at the request of our membership.

This legislative effort was sponsored by Senator Andy Manar and Representative Jehan Gordon-Booth; following is the voting record of our local legislators on this important bill:

Senate

Althoff - Yes
 McConchie - No Vote
 McConnaughay - Yes

House

McSweeney - No
 Reick - No
 Skillion - No
 Wheeler - Pass