

UNIT 1 MADISON COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS NEWSLETTER



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&
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Co-Editors**

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President's Message

John Cunningham

Dear Fellow RTA Member:

While I was working, I willingly carried picket signs and walked picket lines to get a fair salary. During my career, I have been privy to negotiate from both sides of the table. When I retired I thought the vigil was over, but it seems the struggle for fair treatment never ends. Someone has to remain vigilant to ensure that our insurance and pension will remain protected.

Calendar of Events

◆ Thursday	Sept	12	8:30AM	Breakfast	Best Western	Alton
◆ Thursday	Nov	7	2:00PM	Board Meeting	Liberty Bank	Godfrey
◆ Thursday	Dec	12	10:30AM	Christmas Lunch	Julia's	East Alton
2020 Thursday	Mar	12	10:30AM	General Meeting	Moonlight	Alton

Our Unit has been honored to have past State Presidents like Ms. E. Starkey and Phil Robbins. Presently, Ms. Shirley Dodds is the IRTA State Treasurer. This fall Shirley will be passing the checkbooks to a new State Treasurer. Shirley got involved as many have and gave the time and service to keep a watchful eye on our retirement benefits. Many of us would be wise to give some of our time and passion to some personal goal or organization. Shirley, we thank you for answering the call and giving the time and service – “Live long and Prosper”.

This is an election year at the IRTA State and Local level. At the September 12th meeting, we will be holding the elections for local offices (President, V. President, Secretary and Treasurer). Contact Donna Massey as indicated in the newsletter. You can begin to consider if you are available to serve. The 2019 IRTA Convention will be held at the Crown Plaza in Springfield on October 14th and 15th, 2019.

Our Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) and Teacher Retirement Insurance Program (TRIP) remain the object of legislative discussions. The Local and State Associations enable us to remain victors and not victims. Remember to contact a fellow retiree that has not joined the Local or State and encourage them to join us. Local dues are \$10.00 a year and State dues are \$30.00 a year.

I invite you to join me in welcoming our new retirees. I look forward to seeing you at the breakfast on September 12, 2019 at Best Western Premier Hotel (formerly Holiday Inn), registration begins at 8:30 a.m.

Sincerely,

John E. Cunningham, President

Madison County 1 – Unit 73

Foundation News: Shirley Dodds

She discussed and reviewed RTA fund raising efforts.

Foundation Advisory: Susan Hansberry

Our next meeting in September gives us the chance to welcome our new retirees – such an enjoyable occasion! Let's all encourage them to join our local and state associations and to participate in our meetings.

From February 2019 to August 2019, 16 members and their families received cards. We congratulated Dave and Nancy Elson and Vernetta and Tom Caffey on their 50th wedding anniversaries! Get well and thinking of you cards were sent to Brenda Vernatti, Sandy Beckman, Bonna Downey, Theo Tonkinson, Jim Chestney and Dick Propes.

Our sympathies were offered to Barb Gillian on the passing of her father-in-law, William Yates; Janice Dunbar on the loss of Rosalee (6-12-19); the family of JoAnn Hall on our loss of JoAnn (7-14-19) and to Rose Lammers on the passing of her mother, Eva Bierbaum.

Please continue to call Susan Hansberry (466-1661) with news about our members. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Hansberry

Minutes

ILLINOIS RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

MADISON COUNTY 1 UNIT 73

General Membership Meeting March 14, 2019

Meeting of began at 11:00AM

President's Report:

John thanked the organizers and callers for this event.

- Recognized past local President: State president; Area 6 Bill Funkhouser

September will receive nominations for new officers.

Motion made to accept President's report by Jackie Vander, 2nd by Ken Conrady – Motion Passed.

Motion made to accept Secretaries' Report as printed by Shirley Dodds, 2nd by Gloria Lawrence – Motion Passed.

Motion made to accept Budget as printed by Donna Massey, 2nd by Ed Gray – Motion Passed.

Motion made to accept Treasurer's report by Kathy Bredenkoetter, 2nd by Gloria Parker – Motion Passed.

Vice President

Kathy Bredenkoetter addressed the newsletter and gave instructions on how to open. Postage is \$.55 and Kathy is soliciting email addresses to send the newsletter as an attachment instead of snail mail. Brenda and Kathy are asking you to contact them if having a problem with newsletter. Also asked for volunteers to help with this IRTA local.

Membership:

June 2, Day at Ball Park

October, Irish Adventure

Gloria Lawrence and Pat King suggested a lanyard for retired teachers going to State meeting on April 8 in Springfield.

Foundation: Shirley Dodds

Fundraiser in April will be a magnetic calendar, which will include important numbers and the web address. Retired teacher support active teacher grants. 828 S. 2nd St there is a mortgage and being paid by investment not from fundraising money. The 620 N Walnut Building is being leased and that money goes to paying mortgage.

Legislation – Bill Funkhouser

New governor and budget addressed

Good news, proposed funding for Teacher Retirement Program:

- Changes on funding TRS. Governor is proposing over 500 million dollar cut
- Progressive income tax not going to happen before 11/2020
- Consolidating Pension System 46% of funding comes from investing
- IRTA/TRS Board Doug Strand is being endorsed
- Trustee election Daniel Winters is not running
- Fundraiser Raffle is \$10,000. Drawing at the convention. Tickets available on IRTA website
- Shirley Dodds is retiring from IRTA Treasurer
- Donny Olson is running

Speaker

Attorney Leonard Berg Discussed Power of Attorney for Healthcare and Property.

Phil Robbins prayer over the meal. Lunch was served. Meeting Adjourned at 1pm

Treasurer's Report (February 1, 2019-July 31, 2019: Cheryl Champa)

Balance brought forward (checking)	\$3,448.65
Total received:	1851.94
Total disbursed:	2014.54
Balance on hand:	3,286.05

Menu: September Breakfast

Date – September 12, 2019 Registration at 8:30 a.m.

Place – Best Western – former Holiday Inn on College Avenue in Alton

Price - \$14.00

Menu – Scrambled eggs, potatoes, bacon and sausage, pastries, French toast, fruit bowl, biscuits and gravy, orange juice, coffee and tea

Program – Welcome new retirees

Reservations by Sept. 7

Please reserve through your caller or call Bev Curlovic at 466-0668

