

UNIT 1 MADISON COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS NEWSLETTER



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&
Sherry Rexford
Co-Editors**

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President's Message

Kathy Bredenkoetter

Hello to All!

I hope you are all doing well and that you are looking forward to us gathering again at our IRTA local breakfast meeting on September 9. It has been way too long since we have been able to meet and quite a bit has happened to our world and lives. We are looking forward to catching up with friends and welcoming our 2020 and 2021 retirees. They should love being the youngest people in the room!

We have a full agenda planned which I believe will be beneficial to all. One item that has been placed on the agenda relates to the passing of our past local and state president Phil Robbins. Please give some thought as to a fitting tribute to Phil and his many years of service to the community as well as to education.

Please give your friends and colleagues the pleasure of your company on Sept.9 at the Premier Best Western, 3559 College Ave. The doors open at 8:30 and breakfast follows our local meeting.

Hope to see there,

Kathy

General Membership Meetings:

Calendar of Events

- ◆ Thursday Sept 9, 2021 8:30 a.m. Premier Best Western, College Ave.
- ◆ Thursday Dec 9, 2021 TBD

Minutes: Brenda Vernatti, Secretary

Madison County 1 Unit #73 Executive Committee of IRTA Meeting August 5, 2021

Meeting began at 3:30 and ended at 4:35

- The meeting was held at Liberty Bank on Godfrey Road. Those in attendance were Kathy Bredenkoetter, Larry Thompson, Ron Mayhew, Donna Massey, Susan Hansberry, Ed Gray, Cheryl Champa, Bev Curlovic, Jan Dunbar, Brenda Evans, and Gloria Lawrence.
- The first order of business was the September 9 General Membership Meeting which will be held at Best Western on College Ave. It will be a breakfast meeting with registration beginning at 8:30 am. Bev Curlovic and Janice Dunbar have planned the event. We have invited recent retirees to be our guests at the breakfast and hope that they will give serious thought to joining our vital organization. Cheryl Champa will be there to collect 2021 dues from current members and Gloria Lawrence will be available to sign up new members.
- Jan and Bev will check in our members and contact the new retirees prior to the breakfast. Big Thanks to of our hard-working committee members.
- Cheryl Champa presented the Treasurer's Report which will be in our newsletter. She will also check on the prospects of purchasing Mutual Funds when our CD matures in Oct. We want to maximize the return on our money as much as possible. Bev Curlovic gave her a representative to contact as did Larry Thompson. We are exploring our options currently.
- In addition to our recent retirees, we are inviting retired secretaries to join us at the breakfast. Sherry Rexford will be our contact for the secretaries.
- We reviewed the agenda for the breakfast and changes were made to accommodate our members' interests. Kathy will contact Mayor Goins and Bev will contact the mayor of Godfrey. The committee will also bring to the membership a proposal to honor Phil Robbins, past President of the local and state IRTA. We want to honor Phil's work with a memorial that supports his passion for education and his community.
- In addition to the local memorial, Phil Robbins will be the Convention Unit Honoree at the state convention in Oct. Those representing Unit 1 include Kathy Bredenkoetter, John Cunningham, Larry Thompson, Cheryl Champa, Brenda and Dale Evans, and Bill Funkhauser and his wife. Cheryl Champa will pursue the registration process online. Please remember to reserve a room. Information is available on the IRTA website.
- Bill Funkhauser was unable to attend the meeting, however, he sent a political update to share with the committee. In addition, he shared proposals to be voted on at the convention regarding representation at the state level. Kathy will invite Bill to the September 9 breakfast.
- Susan Hansberry mentioned sympathy cards to non-members and members and memorial contributions to the state for members of the local. All agreed colleagues should be remembered at their passing.
- Submitted by Kathy Bredenkoetter

Foundation Advisory: Susan Hansberry August 5, 2021

Cards sent since February, 2020, are as follows:

CONGRATULATIONS went to: Barbara McCourtney on her 99th birthday; Debra Pitts on her induction into the Basketball Fan Hall of Fame; Susie and Earl Brown on their 50th Anniversary; and Paul and Joan Klockenkemper on their 60th Anniversary!

Receiving GET WELL wishes were: Melinda Whittaker, Wilma Stinnett, Mary Buckley, Margaret Haseltine, Shirley Dodds and Ed Gray.

DEPARTED RETIREES (Cards sent to their families)

Don Lindsey (2-25-20); Billy Joe Brockhouse (3-19-20); Byron Sackett (4-6-20); Reno Calcari (6-13-20); Carl Day (7-3-20); Stan McAfoos (7-12-20); Marjorie (Midge) Hallett (9-4-20); David Delawder (9-8-20); Judith Garner (10-31-20); Lanita Sims (11-1-20); Phil Robbins (11-3-20); Priscilla Rains (1-5-21); Betty Rain (1-5-21); Max Heinz (1-12-21); Sandy Beckman (1-17-21); Mary Jo Ducey (2-5-21); Dean Browning (2-22-21); Cleve Journey (4-17-21); Norm Swick (4-27-21); Wilma Elliott (5-22-21); Judy Howald (6-7-21); Dennis Frazier (7-10-21); Jack Jungers (7-12-21).

Also receiving condolences on the loss of family members were:

Jan Dunbar, sister-in-law; Pete McFarlane, mother Bertha (103); Cathy Droste, father, Victor Goeken; Kathy Swift, husband Richard; Gayle York, husband Michael; Ron Mayhew, sister Sharon Dawdy; Brenda Vernatti, father Lee Bernt; Thomas Raglin, father Thomas; Ron Fedorchak, sister Patricia Shackelford; Sue Buckley, sister Clara Lang; Kim Laux, mother Margaret Ruyle; Ruth Henderson, son Doug; Cindy Moore, mother, Mary Jo Ducey and son Timothy; Dale Lockard, mother Josie; Vernetta Caffey, husband Tom; Wilma Stinnett, brother James Sauerwein; Shirley Aszman, brother Norm Logue; Joyce Hairston, husband Johnny; Marilyn Schroeder, husband Roger.

Please continue to call Susan Hansberry at 466-1661 with member information.

Thanks!

Treasurer's Report: Cheryl Champa

February 1, 2021 - June 30, 2021

Balance brought forward (checking):	\$4668.40
Total received	821.04
Total disbursed:	90.00
Balance on hand:	\$5,400.03

Cheryl Champa, Treasurer

Proposed By-Law Changes

Larry Thompson

The changes to the By-Laws are suggested to make the language for who may be a member more clear. For example, line B suggests that anyone "interested in education" is eligible with full membership privileges. Since that statement includes nearly everyone on the planet, I suggest we drop the line. If the line B was added to include those who were not spouses in line A, I suggest adding "/partner" which should have been in line A in the original writing of these By-Laws. If line B was added to include retired non-certified staff, I suggest changing "anyone interested in education" to "any retired non-certified staff member". I interpret Line D to mean those such as Dave Elson who retired and was receiving benefits from TRS before he was hired by ACUD #11 as superintendent. If that is what Line D was to mean originally, I propose changing the wording to say that exactly.

These are the proposed changes that will be voted on at the September meeting.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP - DUES

Section 1 The Unit shall have three classifications of membership: active, associate, and pre-retirement.

- A. Active: Any retired certified staff member of public or private schools, colleges, or universities, or spouse/partner of a deceased member shall be eligible as an active member with full membership privileges.
- B. ~~Associate: Any other person interested in education shall be eligible as a member with full membership privileges.~~
B. Associate: Any retired non-certified staff member shall be eligible as a member with full membership privileges.
- C. Pre-retirement: Any certified Illinois public or private school staff member is eligible as a pre-retirement member with full membership privileges.
- D. ~~Any current active member not meeting the requirements of A above may continue active membership.~~ Any member who resumes their career in education may continue active membership.

Section 2 The dues of the Unit shall be determined by the membership and shall be payable on or before January 1 each year.