

KENDALL RETIRED TEACHERS



NEWSLETTER



SERVING RETIRED TEACHERS OF KENDALL COUNTY

SEPTEMBER 2019

The September 12, 2019 meeting of the KRTA will be held at Whitetail Ridge Golf Club, 7671 Clubhouse Drive, (Rt. 126), Yorkville IL, 60560. The luncheon, beginning at **12:00 NOON**, will be \$19. Our Program will be: Larry Pfeiffer, the legislative chair for TRS, and Larry Newman, AMBA benefits chair, who will be discussing current benefits.

Be sure to mark your calendar and let your caller know if you can join us. Deadline is September 6, 2019. If you don't get a call by then, you can RSVP to Theresa Weidman, 630-897-6377.

Also, don't forget your money for the 50/50—you have two chances to win! The money will again go to the IRTA Legal Fund.



SECRETARY'S REPORT

MINUTES FOR THE KRTA UNIT MEETING: June 13, 2019



The KRTA membership meeting was called to order by President Jim Hissong at noon at Whitetail Ridge Golf Club, Yorkville. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Tom Meade said Grace. Tom introduced his prayer as one from the 1967-68 era, and one which he and

his classmates recited everyday in their small rural school. It was a familiar prayer for most of us. Lunch was then served.

Jim Hissong introduced new members Al Gonnerman of Yorkville High School and Deb Chatman from a Plano Elementary School. Jim asked the membership to approve the April 11th meeting minutes. They were approved as read. Kyle Price reported there was \$4,086.97 in the treasury.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Community Service - Alimae Persons announced that today the donations were collected for school supplies for the Kendall County Community Food Pantry. In August the KCCFP serves up to 600 Kendall County students grades K - 12 needing help with attaining required school supplies. Alimae shops sales all year to stretch KRTA donated monies 100%.

Program - Jan Hissong reported that the KRTA Supper Club would meet in June. She said watch for news about that in your email. There are two trips being considered for the fall and early winter. A fall trip may be to the old Joliet Prison under renovation and the Joliet Historical Museum. The cost would be about \$20, and no bus would be included. The second trip would be to the Chicago Symphony Christmas Program December 15, Sunday at three o'clock. This trip would cost approximately \$85 which includes charter bus transportation and main floor tickets. More information will be coming.

Tom Meade reported that the 5 FEA, or Educators Rising grants will be awarded to the 5 Kendall County High Schools sometime this summer. These schools are Oswego High School, Oswego East High School, Plano High School, Newark High School, and Yorkville High School. Due to end of school year schedules, none of the five schools' representatives could attend today.

Legislation - Sid Simmons was absent, but Jim Hissong presented his report: The 2019 Session ended two days late on June 2. A capital bill, revenue for the bill, marijuana legalization, gaming expansion, a

constitutional question for income tax increases, and a budget were passed. Revenue was allocated for road and transportation projects throughout the state. The revenue for this plan will come from taxes on gasoline, cigarettes, parking taxes, and gaming expansion.

PROGRAM

Jim introduced the first of two program speakers. Wendy Wiegers has been the IRTA Foundation Board Director in Area Two. She will soon be replacing Bob Kaplan as Area Two Representative. Today she is here to announce an IRTA Foundation Scholarship award of \$1500 for college recipient Karly Grapenthin. She is a junior at Northern Illinois University majoring in Special Education. Wendy also presented the Moler-Austin Scholarship award to the two Kendall County winners Brooke Jensen of Yorkville and Connor Christian of Newark. Brooke is majoring in Middle Level Education at Illinois State University and Connor is majoring in Agriculture Education at the University of Illinois.



Wendy awarding Brooke's scholarship to her.



The second speaker was Bill Polasky, first runner up for the Illinois Teacher of the Year. Bill is a high school Social Studies teacher for School District 223 in Ogle County. Bill talked about the additional role of good teachers today. New teachers may be hired to teach the subjects math or social studies, but they soon learn that a relevant part of a teacher's teaching role is an awareness and understanding of students' social emotional issues that are enhanced nowadays by the social media's effect on them. If good teachers can effectively do this, they can become great teachers for today's students.



Wendy awarding Connor's scholarship to

Jim concluded the KRTA meeting with announcing the 50/50 drawing winner. This was Moler-Austin award recipient Connor Christian! The IRTA Legal Defense Fund will receive the rest of the drawing monies. Jim reminded the members that a new KRTA President and Treasurer need to be voted upon at the September 12 membership luncheon/meeting at Whitetail Ridge Golf Club, Yorkville. Nominations will gladly be accepted. Jim adjourned the meeting.
Respectfully Submitted, Recording Secretary Pat Johnson



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President's Message for September:

I hope everyone had a great and relaxing summer as you watch all of the students go back to school!

I would like to take this time to congratulate one of our long time K.R.T.A. board members, Sid Simmons, on being selected to represent us as our honoree at the state I.R.T.A. convention on Oct.14-15 in Springfield. Sid has been the legislative chairperson for us for the past 25 years and an invaluable resource for legislative issues, both current and upcoming, for our local chapter and for associations throughout the state of Illinois.



I would also like to thank all of the volunteers that came out to help donate their time on August 6 on School Supply Distribution Day at the Kendall County Food Pantry. Over 600 needy families were served on that day.

In July our K.R.T.A. had 2 outings – A Kane County Cougars game in Geneva on July 22 and a Righteous Brothers concert in St. Charles on July 23.



On December 15 @ 3:00 P.M. we are planning to attend the Chicago Symphony Christmas Program--details in this newsletter.

Plan to attend our September 12 luncheon--our speakers will be Larry Pfeiffer, the T.R.S. Legislative chairperson for the state of Illinois and Larry Newman, the A.M.B.A. benefits chairperson.

At the end of this year, Kyle Price, our treasurer, and I are stepping down from our positions. Ideally, we would like to fill these positions with co-chairs. Step up now and see what it would be like to lead a great group of individuals – the K.R.T.A.!

Sincerely, Jim Hissong, President



MEMBERSHIP

Kendall County Retired Teachers Unit 10 Membership:

Welcome New Members:

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Deb J Chatman | Al Gonnerman |
| 220B Hillcrest Avenue | 6 Roulock |
| Yorkville, IL 60560 | Montgomery, IL 60538 |

IN MEMORIUM

Zola Searl—1934 - 2019
Taught in Plano, Jacksonville, Highland Park

We are happy to state that we have 182 members. Many that were invited in June were not able to come for one reason or another...some said they will attend in September. If you know of anyone who is retired and not a member of KRTA please let us know and we will contact them

The September meeting is the traditional kick-off for the next year's membership (2019-2020). We will be accepting 2020 and any late 2019 KRTA membership dues (\$15) at this meeting. If you cannot make the meeting, use the membership form in the back and mail your check to Sharon Pagoria.

Also, if you are not a member of Illinois Retired Teachers Association, our parent organization, you need to be. There will be sign up forms at the membership table at the September meeting. We have a great organization, and everyone is important. There is strength in numbers--at the local and also at the state level.

Sincerely,
Membership Chair, Sharon Pagoria



E-MAILS: I am happy to state that we currently have 148 E-mail members. If you would like to join us, please let me know. This is especially handy for people who travel. You may do so by e-mailing me, Janet Reardon, at janetreardon44@sbcglobal.net. After receiving your e-mail, I will gladly put you on our list. You will receive the newsletter in two formats: by Word 97 – 2003 and PDF file. I look forward to putting your name on this list.



. As you slide down the banister of life, may the splinters never point the wrong way.



TREASURER'S REPORT

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| OPENING BALANCE – 5/20/2019 | | <u>\$5,615.41</u> |
| RECEIPTS | | |
| | Lunch Receipts | \$906.00 |
| | Replace lunch change | \$200.00 |
| | Dues | \$117.00 |
| | Events | \$270.00 |
| | 50/50 Legal Fund | \$45.00 |
| | Food Pantry | \$185.00 |
| TOTAL RECEIPTS | | <u>\$1,723.00</u> |
| TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS | | <u>\$7,338.41</u> |
| EXPENSES | | |
| | Lunch Change | \$200.00 |
| | IRTA Legal Fund | \$45.00 |
| | Newsletter | \$65.92 |
| | Events | \$1920.73 |
| | Bill Polasky | \$177.72 |
| | WhiteTail Golf | \$1083.00 |
| | Food Pantry | \$185.00 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | | <u>\$3,677.37</u> |
| RECONCILED BALANCE – 8/20/2019 | | <u>\$2,444.41</u> |
| Kyle Price, Treasurer | | |



LEGISLATIVE

The State legislature has been quiet of late; however our TRS board has been busy investing our money. Here is a synopsis.

About Teachers' Retirement System: The Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Illinois is the 37th largest pension system in the United States, and provides retirement, disability and survivor benefits to teachers, administrators and other public school personnel employed outside of Chicago. The System serves 417,292 members and had assets of \$52.2 billion as of June 30, 2019.

TRS Invests \$1.15 Billion on Behalf of Illinois Educators

Teachers' Retirement System reported \$1.15 billion in strategic allocations to various investment opportunities designed to enhance the retirement trust fund for the System's 417,000 members.

During the Board of Trustees' regularly scheduled August meeting, the TRS investment staff reported the following actions:

- Within the System's \$6.86 billion Private Equity Portfolio:
 - The commitment of \$75 million to **Arlington Capital Partners**, of Chevy Chase, Maryland. This is a new money management relationship for TRS.
 - The commitment of \$75 million to **Aurora Capital Partners**, of Los Angeles, California. This is a new money management relationship for TRS.
- Within the \$520 million Real Assets Portfolio:
 - The commitment of \$200 million to the **Carlyle Group**, of Washington, D.C. Carlyle currently administers \$112.2 million in TRS assets.
- Within the \$7.3 billion Real Estate Portfolio:
 - The commitment of \$300 million to **Oak Street Real Estate Capital**, of Chicago. Oak Street currently administers \$44.1 million in TRS assets.

- Within the \$18.1 billion Public Equity Portfolio:
 - The commitment of \$400 million to **RhumbLine Advisors**, of Boston, Massachusetts. RhumbLine currently administers \$4.5 billion in TRS assets.
 - The termination of a \$500 million passive currency overlay program administered by **Adrian Lee & Partners**, of London, United Kingdom.
- Within the \$5.5 billion Diversifying Strategies Portfolio:
 - The commitment of \$200 million to **Kirkoswald Capital Partners**, of New York, New York. This is a new investment relationship for TRS.
 - The redemption of \$96 million from **Penso Advisors**, of New York, New York.
 - The redemption of \$13 million from **Cevian Capital**, of Stockholm, Sweden.
 - The redemption of \$40 million from **KeyQuant**, of Paris, France. KeyQuant will continue to administer \$75 million in TRS assets.

Sid Simmons, Legislative Chair

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION



Thank you for your generous donation for school supplies to be given to the Kendall County Pantry. I spent \$265.50 on items they had requested such as lined paper, pencil boxes, folders, markers, and notebooks. I delivered them July, 21. They were very pleased to receive these items; and, I was proud of our organization for its generosity.

Also, **Thank You** to our KRTA members who helped distribute these supplies. Thanks, and I hope to see you at the luncheon. We will be collecting for Kendall County Outdoor Education.

Alimae Persons, Community Participation Chair



KUDOS TO ALIMAE: With coupons, sales, and the generosity of Meijer, Kohl's, and Menards, Alimae was able to purchase over \$600 worth of school supplies for \$265.50—saving at least \$300!!!



Happy Birthday!!

The following members are celebrating their birthdays this quarter. **Happy Birthday** to all of you--and May you have many more!

OCTOBER

Pricilla Jorstad 10/1
 Karen Deutch 10/1
 Madeline Mead 10/11
 Susan (Reed) Ahuja 10/19
 Beverly Rehberg 10/19
 Nancy Larson 10/22
 Ruth Aagesen 10/24

NOVEMBER

Janelle Burd 11/5
 Judith Davis 11/7
 Marsha Friedman 11/10
 Norm Meier 11/11
 Sue Thill 11/22
 Truby Szewczyk 11/25
 Jean McBride 11/29
 Nancy Reynolds 11/30

DECEMBER

Pat Lofthouse 12
 Susan Schindel 12/3
 Don Snyder 12/5
 Richard Sitch 12/8
 Barb McCoy 12/11
 Theda McMinn 12/13
 Diane Gerner 12/18
 JoAnn Beane 12/19
 Alimae Persons 12/23
 Carol Hayner 12/23
 Judy Gilmour 12/26



So far, 102 members are celebrating their birthdays with us. I would love to have more members join. If you did not see your name in the birthday recognition for this quarter and wish to be honored, please let Janet Reardon have your birth month and day by e-mail (janetreardon44@sbcglobal.net.) If you notice any errors, please let me know as well.

Renew your KRTA Membership for 2019

Just complete the form below, enclose a check for \$15, and return to the membership co-chairperson below. Please encourage other retirees to join our wonderful organization!

KRTA membership committee chairperson:

**Sharon Pagoria
981 Lake Holiday Drive
Sandwich, IL 60548**



Local Unit Membership Form for Regular and Associate Members:

IRTA Local Unit Name: Kendall County Retired Teachers' Association

Name: _____

Address: _____
Last First Middle City: State Zip

Phone: () _____ Retirement Year: _____ District Retired From: _____

E-Mail: _____ Dues Paid: \$ _____ (\$15.)



SAYINGS FOR THE FUN OF IT!!

The Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but mosquitoes come close.

When you get to your wit's end, you'll find God lives there.

People are funny; they want the front of the bus, middle of the road, and back of the church.

Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on the front door forever.

Some minds are like concrete, thoroughly mixed up and permanently set.

Peace starts with a smile.

If God is your Co-pilot, swap seats!

God loves everyone, but probably prefers 'fruits of the spirit' over 'religious nuts!'

K.R.T.A.

Chicago Symphony & Chorus

Holiday Concert

Sunday, December 15, 2019-3:00 P.M.

Symphony Hall – Chicago, IL.

Includes: Charter Bus, Main Floor Ticket &
Refreshments on the Bus for a cost of \$85 P.P.

Deadline is Thursday September 26.

Bus Leaves from JC Penney, Montgomery, 1:00 P.M.

Return Form Below to:

Jim Hissong, 102 Strawberry Lane

Yorkville, IL. 60560

Questions? Call – 630-553-9153

Chicago Symphony Holiday Program-Dec.15-3:00

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Number of Tickets _____

Amount Enclosed _____

Make Checks out to: K.R.T.A.

We are Limited to only 36 tickets

You can bring your form & \$ to our Sept. 12 Lunch.



A A R T A invites K R T A

MEMBERS & FAMILY & FRIENDS

RESERVE NOW THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24

DRURY LANE OAKBOOK

(limited tickets)

\$64.00 – included – Meal, Show Ticket & Gratuity

Reservations due: on or before, Tuesday, October 1

AARTA – General Meeting & Luncheon

-----Cut & Return with Reservation-----

| Meal Choice | Veggie | Herbed | Tilapia |
|---|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Includes: Salud, Dessert, Coffee/Tea | Kabob | Chicken | |
| Name _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Phone # _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Name _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Phone # _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Name _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Phone # _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Name _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Phone # _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Send Check payable to:

Arlene Hawks [630-254-7283]

930 Garfield Avenue

Aurora, IL 60506