

# NEWS BULLETIN

RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO

*Since 1926*

VOL. LXVII

SEPTEMBER 2011

NO. 3

## Fall Luncheon October 6 at the Conrad Hilton



*[Photo Courtesy of Roy Coleman]*

### PENSION TRUSTEES ELECTION IN NOVEMBER



WALTER PILDITCH



MARY SHARON REILLY



JAMES F. WARD

*The election of Pension Fund Trustees will take place in November. Above are RTAC-endorsed candidates Walter Pilditch, Mary Sharon Reilly and James F. Ward. All are seeking re-election to these extremely important positions to which they have already given many years of outstanding service.. Their experience and expertise are vital to the future of our Pension. Voting will be by mail-in ballot in November*

1998-2004 RETIREES  
SEE PAGE 6

SPRING LUNCHEON  
PHOTOS PAGES 16-18

FALL LUNCHEON  
INVITATION PAGE 31

**RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION  
OF CHICAGO**

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The **News Bulletin** invites you to mail your **typed** article to Rosemary Tirio, 6235 N. Knox Ave., Chicago, IL 60646 or email it to **rtac\_editor@comcast.net**. Mail handwritten articles to the RTAC office. -----**is the deadline for the next issue** .

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*By Steven A. Kailes*

Even though the Illinois legislature is now starting their summer recess, this is a busy time for RTAC Officers and Board members. This is an ideal time for us to meet with individual legislators--when they are more at ease, less pressured, and have more time to converse and contemplate.

Vaughn J. Barber, our distinguished immediate former President is busy not only coordinating appointments with these lawmakers, but personally making visits.

The purpose of these visits is to express our concerns with these lawmakers and to emphasize that RTAC represents 23,000 local voters and their families.

Roy Coleman, our Webmaster is constantly and instantaneously keeping us informed. Go to our web site for the latest news.

Likewise, Rosemary Tirio, our News Bulletin editor is constantly on the alert to publish the pertinent news.

Again, and again, we must thank our respected former President Ethel Philpott and First Vice-President Marcella Morrison for their continued sharing of their experiences, insights and wisdom.

Finally, please note that Ned McCray, an-

other former Past President, is busy submitting columns for Letters to the Editor correcting misconceptions, misinformation and laying out the actual facts.



*Steven A. Kailes*

To complete our goals, the Board is again urging our members to fully support our recommended slate for CTPF Trustees--Walter Pilditch, Mary Sharon Reilly, and Jim Ward. As you well know, throughout the years, these three collectively have demonstrated their experience, knowledge and concern for the pensions and benefits of all our retirees.

It is most important that you not only sign all three of these petitions, but, of course especially vote for all three of them in the fall election.

RTAC, which was organized in 1926, held its 85th Annual Spring Meeting/Luncheon in the Grand Ballroom of the Hilton Chicago May 25. Among the many changes to our usual surroundings, we experienced a cuisine catered by distinguished Chef Mario Garcia who was the designee for the recent Chicago visit of the Chinese Premier.

In addition, we had a larger and better arranged room, larger tables, more space between tables, a better audio system and excellent service. Validated parking was \$15. Please do let us know your feelings regarding this change of venue.



### ***DIRECTOR SHERYE GARMONY-MILLER***

#### ***HONORED FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENTS***

During the June Executive Directors report Mr. Bob Bures was honored to announce that Ms. **Sherye Garmony-Miller** was feted by the Ladies of Distinction Association, which is dedicated to providing scholarships and other community services.

At the luncheon Ms. Garmony-Miller was given the Orchid Award by the group for lifetime achievements in education and community activities. Kudos to our own Director Garmony-Miller!

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

*By Bob Bures*

Whooooooaa! Summer is ending already and those NOT retired are getting mentally and physically fit for the next school year. Thank goodness you ARE retired! In fact, where did you find the time to work? I know most annuitants are so busy with other things that they couldn't find time to teach. I know the feeling!

Lots of things are going on!

First and foremost: MARK YOUR CALENDAR! RTAC'S FALL LUNCHEON IS THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2011 NOON AT THE CONRAD HILTON, 720 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVENUE!



*Bob Bures*

IT'LL SELL OUT FAST SO RESERVE EARLY! GRAB YOUR FRIENDS AND RESERVE A TABLE OF TEN AND HEAR THE LATEST NEWS ABOUT YOUR PENSION.

Send in your reservations today. Last time we had more than 1,000 reservations. Don't miss this important opportunity for you and your colleagues to know exactly what's going on with your MONEY!

Look on the inside back cover of this issue for a reservation form!

Next: IF you retired between 1999 and 2004 you MAY fall into a class of retirees that the Board of Education claims was OVERPAID by the Pension Fund!

Some five years ago the Board of Education sued the Pension Fund to return these "overpaid" monies. RTAC joined the suit as an intervener representing the retirees--YOU. We have been in court for every hearing, every discussion and every decision along the way. Our attorneys have been active on behalf of this class of annuitants to the tune of more than \$80,000! We keep fighting along with the Pension Fund to allow this class of annuitants to keep the so-called extra dollars and not to have to repay it!

It all stems from some years ago when Mr.

Paul Vallas changed the school year calendar and some school year days actually were in the previous school year--Yes, that happened. Consequently, pensions were calculated with some time in both years.

RTAC has been spending lots of dollars--coming from your dues--to pay for our intervention. Now, not to put so fine a point on it--but retirees that are not yet members of RTAC are included in our pursuit of this case. Please, if you are NOT an RTAC member, but ARE in this class of annuitants, please consider sending your dues of \$30/year to RTAC. Literally, we will use the money to help defend YOU.

Most recently, the Judge (whom we perceive as friendly to our side) asked us to represent the whole class of annuitants and conduct the Class Action. Wow! This we cannot do unless we spend another \$80,000. We have told the Judge that we cannot do this and the Board of Education, which, by the way, had approved all the pensions at the time, now wants to lower them.

One of my favorite sayings is "What to say, what to do?" I know one thing to do is for those non-members of RTAC in this group, to kindly send in the \$30 for dues. It's a small price to pay for protecting your pension.

These are the kinds of fights we carry on for our members. Read the Jim Ward article on this matter (**page 5**) in this issue of our News-Bulletin for a fuller discussion of this vital case.

### POLITICS--ESPECIALLY ILLINOIS POLITICS-- ARE ALWAYS INTERESTING!

Illinois politics are always in the news! Whether it's Bloggo, George Ryan, Mike Madigan, John Cullerton, Tom Cross or Christine Radogno--there is always something to follow. You can be sure that Illinois pension politics in particular are being followed closely each day in the newspaper, on TV, on-line and using special reports.

Many of you have called me (and I welcome that) asking if your pensions will be safe?

**[Continued on page 5]**

**[Continued from previous page]**

No one, especially me, has a crystal ball or sits next to a genie and his magic lantern, but I can tell you, in my personal and professional opinion, the legislature is very unlikely to change your pension plan. I have been reassured, in person, by many legislators that the pensions of those like us, will not be touched. I believe them. But, one has to be careful. Health care and our annual 3% increases are not technically part of our pension. Legislators can be cagey. We always have to keep one ear to the ground and both hands on our wallets.

The Fall “veto” session of the Illinois General Assembly starts on October 25 for three days and continues on November 8 for three more days. Ostensibly the legislators are in Springfield to review legislation vetoed by the Governor. However, almost anything can be addressed. Good thing RTAC is having its Fall

Luncheon at the Hilton on October 6. Plan to attend so that we can give you an update on what’s likely to happen at the veto sessions. We will have our Springfield lobbyist Dick Lockhart giving us the latest news at the Luncheon.

**YOU SHOULD BE THERE ON OCT 6!  
I HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE HILTON!**

Just as a reminder: RTAC is the only group that fights exclusively for retirees! The Union has to worry about their Active Teacher members first and then retirees. The Pension Fund worries about Active Teachers and the retirees. The Board of Education ... well, they don’t worry about anyone but themselves!

RTAC ... PROTECTING YOUR PENSION ...  
ENHANCING YOUR LIFE ...SINCE 1926!

See you at the Hilton!

*Bob Bures*

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*[Editor’s note: This article appeared in an earlier edition of the News Bulletin]*

**RTAC CONTINUES FIGHT FOR 1998-2004 RETIREES**

*by James F. Ward*

Traditionally the salary deductions for pensions were deducted on the basis of a ten month school year with ten day pay periods as the unit of credit. In 1999 the CPS designed school calendars that did not quite fit the system provided in the pension law for pension deductions. This resulted in the unusual effect of having the pension salary be higher than the contractual salary. The CPS and the Pension Board accounted for the deductions as they always had with the pensions being slightly higher than they would have been with straightforward ten-month calendars. In these years the teachers and the CPS paid for the higher calculation.

Sometime in 2003 the CPS saw that their strangely shaped school calendars were not dividing the annual pay in equal parts and the yearly salaries were slightly higher than the contracted salary. They said, “We will no longer pay on the higher calculation. Use the lower amount.” The Pension Board said, “What is done is done. We shall use the lower calculation prospectively, but we cannot change the benefits already granted to retirees from 1999 to 2004.”

The CPS sued in Circuit Court. On June 15, 2007, the judge ruled that CPS was right because the pen-

sion salary should not be higher than the contractual salary. But the judge did not, as of July 31, 2007, rule on what remedy should be imposed on the CPS, the Pension Board, or the 3,500 pensioners. On July 31, 2007, attorneys for RTAC filed a petition asking to be allowed to intervene in the case. The judge’s decision was to grant RTAC the right to be a party to the suit and represent the 3,500 affected retirees.

RTAC instructed its attorneys to argue that the judge should hold the pensioners harmless and make no changes to their benefits because they they did nothing wrong but relied on the experts at the CPS and Pension Office to make irrevocable retirement decisions. After months of nail biting and some \$40,000 in legal fees, your RTAC board is proud to note that we won the case in late December. What a Christmas present!

In short, Judge Nancy J. Arnold dismissed the CPS lawsuit and even vacated her original decision that the original calculations were wrong. She said the CPS had a limited time to file for corrections and the statutory time limit had expired. Many of the 3,500 affected pensioners may never know what RTAC

**[See FIGHT on page 6]**

## WEBSITE REPORT

*By Webmaster Roy Coleman*

### STAY INFORMED: REGISTER WITH ALERT NETWORK

If you are an RTAC member and wish to join the Alert Network, please send an email to [webmaster@rtac.org](mailto:webmaster@rtac.org). Be sure to include your name and zip code so we may verify your membership. RTAC is a watchdog organization dedicated to protecting and enhancing your pension ; it is NOT part of either CPS or CTPF.

We will try to alert you whenever there is legislation introduced which could adversely affect your pension or which needs your support to enhance your pension. Whenever we issue an alert, we ask that you contact your Illinois legislators and express your opinions.

You can find contact information for both Illinois Senators and Representatives on our website at [www.rtac.org](http://www.rtac.org)

#### **[FIGHT continued from p. 5]**

did for them in not HAVING THEIR PENSIONS REDUCED by 3-4% and in not having to pay back MANY THOUSANDS of dollars in what the CPS claimed was "overpayments."

*[The remainder of this article was added by Webmaster Roy Coleman for this publication.]*

In January 2011, CPS appealed Judge Arnold's decision and the Appellate court set aside the decision and sent it back to Judge Arnold. RTAC is fighting for the original decision, but our feeling is that CPS is just trying to wear us down and run us out of money. At the May 2011 hearing CPS asked for another continuance.

At the latest hearing in July, Judge Arnold ruled that the Board of Education needs to come up with the names of affected pensioners and the amounts each "owes" since they were allegedly overpaid pension amounts during the years of 1999 to 2004.

### POSSIBLE REFUND DUE CPS FOR OVERPAYMENT

If you, or anyone you know, retired between 1998 and 2004 you should know that CPS is trying to obtain a refund and reduce your pension.



*Roy Coleman*

Read the details at:<http://rtac.org/LegalVictory1.html> (Copy and paste this into your browser or go to RTAC.ORG and click on the RED box 'RTAC Pension Actions' and go to the link about half way down)

Remember that RTAC is here to protect your pension, but we may need to reevaluate our involvement due to the increasing costs incurred by CPS appeals. Donations will be gladly accepted.

The Board of Education is stating they were overpaid while the Pension Fund feels the retirees in question earned the amount that each received under the pension rules in effect then. Since RTAC represents about 50% of all retirees, the judge wonders how the rest of the "class" could be represented, thus having the names of these retirees would be important. She feels they should have their "day in court" just like everyone else. Sadly, those who are not RTAC members are likely unaware of the precarious position they are in. In short, this is far from over and there are mixed signals from all the sides represented in court at this time. Stay tuned!

Due to the ever-increasing cost of the litigation RTAC is reevaluating its participation. When you are looking for someplace to send donations, please keep RTAC in mind. We need the money for the next emergency affecting Chicago teacher pensioners. If you know former colleagues who are affected by this litigation but who have not yet joined RTAC, please pass this information on to them and urge them to join.

# Educators Reaching Legislators 2011

## CTPF, RTAC & CTU SPEARHEAD RESPONSE TO PENSION ATTACKS

By *Vaughn Barber, Past President and Committee Chairman*

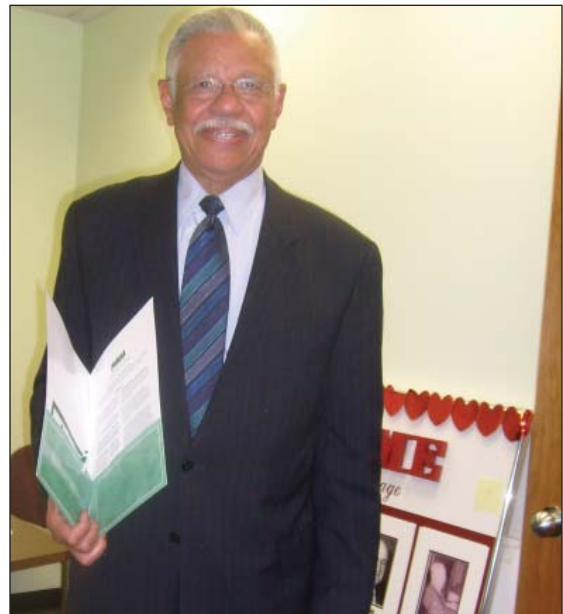
Was it a phone call, an e-mail, a visit to a legislator's office or just making someone else aware of the Pension Reform that was proposed in Springfield?

RTAC's participation played a key role in the postponement of the bill moving through the general assembly today [May 30], the last scheduled day of the Spring Session. Leaders of both chambers announced that hearings would be held this summer and a vote would be put off until the veto session in November and December, at the very earliest.

RTAC and Union opposition proved to be too intense to move a public employee pension reform plan through the House yesterday. And with the remap, many legislators are not clear where they should be on this bill.

Our work has just begun. We need to begin to think of ways to be even more effective as we let those who represent us in Springfield know that we are very interested in how they vote. As legislators return to their districts this week, reach out and thank them for their continued support.

And may I personally thank you for the efforts you made during the week of April 19. If your time



did not permit you the opportunity to contact your legislator then, now would be a perfect time to get in touch with them. And, as you cash your pension check today, remember there is no guarantee that it will always be the same. We must continue our vigilance and our continued united efforts to block any legislation that would harm our pensions in any way.

### **'WE ARE ONE ILLINOIS' LAUDS JOINT EFFORT**

Springfield legislators heard you loud and clear. This afternoon [May 30], Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan and House Minority Leader Tom Cross issued a joint statement announcing that pension-cutting bill SB 512 would not come to a vote this session. In response to this positive news, *We Are One Illinois* issued the following statement:

In recent weeks hundreds of thousands of Illinois citizens have spoken out in an unprecedented way to defend the modest pensions earned by public employees. Today in Springfield their voices have been heard and the pension assault turned back.

Retirement security is an essential part of the American Dream, and our coalition will go forward with renewed strength and solidarity to protect it....

House leaders have declared their intent to have meetings over the summer to address the state's unfunded pension system. We believe strongly that any funding solutions....must go to the root of the problem: the failure of politicians over decades to make required contributions, even as public employees always faithfully paid their share.

Although we are pleased with today's outcome we know the battle is far from over. We urge you to stay informed and involved. You can check this website for updates.

On behalf of the more than one million working men and women of the *We Are One Illinois Coalition*, thank you for everything.

## PENSION NOTES

**JAMES F. WARD**

### A BRIEF HIATUS ON SENATE BILL 512

Just when we think we have won a battle, both political parties in Springfield issue a joint press release telling us the war is still on.

Your phone calls, emails, visits, and letters made the difference on SB 512. For the first time the Chicago Teachers Pension Fund, the Chicago Teachers Union, and the Retired Teachers Association of Chicago worked together to stop SB 512 and to further educate Illinois legislators about pensions and post-retirement health insurance funding for Chicago teachers.



*James F. Ward*

Illinois House Speaker Michael J. Madigan and Illinois House Republican Leader Tom Cross issued a joint statement indicating that they will not call the bill. Instead, they plan to work over the summer to develop support for a pension reform bill, perhaps for the November veto session of the Legislature. RTAC opposed SB 512 because it shifts additional cost to employees but fails to insure that employers would contribute to the pension system. There's the rub.

In 1995 Illinois law placed the responsibility with the CPS to keep the CTPF 90% funded by 2045. Thing is, we were close to 100% funded when they passed the law so the CPS did not have to pay us anything for years until the ratio of assets to liabilities dropped below 90% after the turn of the century. Instead of planning for the inevitable employer pension costs, the CPS sued to have the funding law requiring their payments to the Fund declared unconstitutional. They lost that suit, so they petitioned the General Assembly to pass SB1946 in April 2010 to give themselves a "pension holiday" for three years, 2011, 2012, and 2013. According to law they will owe about \$600 million to the CTPF in 2014. Will they pay up or will they again petition the State for another "holiday?"

Plus, they don't have to push us to 90% until 2059 instead of 2045. Don't you hate it when politicians promise things that can't be delivered until after they are out of office? As far as their suit on the law requiring the CPS to budget for pension costs:

who else should do it other than the body doing the hiring of the employees? We all know what can happen when local school boards hire pals to be school superintendents at \$200,000 to \$400,000/year salaries. They do it so that the state must pay exorbitant pensions through the Teachers Pension System of Illinois. If those local municipalities had to pay the employer's pension costs on those unconscionable salaries maybe they would not be so generous. And furthermore, they should not be listed in the *Tribune* stories of the "highest teacher pensions" in Illinois. They are NOT teachers, they are simply cronies.

Why should retired teachers continue to fight against SB 512? On July 14, 2011, the Legislation Committee of RTAC will be studying SB 512 in depth to ascertain the long term effects of such a trifurcated law and the best strategies to continue our fight against it. The first unintended consequence of the proposed changes in SB 512 could be on the total finances of the Fund.

Here are the three new parts of pension law that SB 512 would add and some questions that arise:

Tier 1 benefit structure at a cost of 12.75% of salary (up from 9%). This option is available only for those current employees hired prior to January 1, 2011. Would this tier be combined with the liabilities of the all other beneficiaries hired before January 1, 2011? Would it strengthen or weaken the funding level for the CTPF which has been around since 1895?

Tier 2 benefit structure at a cost of 7% of salary. This is the greatly reduced benefit structure which includes using the highest eight years instead of four to calculate final average salary, salary caps, lower cost of living increases, and a minimum retirement age of 67. This option is available for all current employees. How would this separate section of the law be accounted for? Would it simply be reported as a separate asset and liability on the CTPF financial statements? Could its reserves be used to pay or offset liabilities of the other two benefit tiers?

**[See James Ward on p. 9]**



**PENSION NOTES**

**WALTER PILDITCH**

**THE OVERALL ECONOMY**

**CHICAGO TEACHERS PENSION FUND**

While not all economists agree, there are some noted improvements in the overall recovery noted in the past few months. I projected in my last article that since the Dow Jones measured over 12,000 for a while and stayed there, this should be a good sign of improvement.

it would seem again that progress is noted, but at a slow rate.



*Walter Pilditch*

Staying above the ten billion mark, our pension fund now continues to rise and as of this writing is \$10.487 billion in value. Net of fees, the fund has shown a rise of 4.41% and this ranks us up high among the various public funds.

That lasted for a few weeks and now, just as this article is being written, it went below that mark twice and now the stock market has dropped for the past five weeks. The first quarter of this year saw an increase of 1.8% which indicates a slow rate of growth, overall. Profits in the corporate area are up significantly over the past few quarters.

Our exact ranking puts us in the ninth percentile. Generally most of the segments have performed well with the exception of two: international equity and the real estate investment areas. Measuring our fund against the Russell 3000 index, we are well above the median for the last quarter. The Barclays index showed our fixed income outperforming others. In addition our hedge fund composite is doing well.

Looming on the down side are housing concerns, weak consumer confidence and rising oil prices. On this last item, world political unrest has had an effect on higher oil prices as gasoline approaches four dollars a gallon. Unemployment, while dropping below nine percent earlier this year, now has risen to 9.1% recently. Energy stocks are up and industrial stocks as well, as other areas of the market lagged.

In the past few weeks our fund has taken steps to make corrections with money managers that have been on the watch list for poor performance. This will help insure rises in our investments in the future. Beginning this year, Callan Associates assumed our overall fund management and their figures and some conclusions are contained in this report.

Other areas of concern were the foreign equity markets since events in Japan have had a worldwide effect. The domestic markets performed somewhat better. As the second quarter nears its close,

**[James Ward continued from p. 8]**

Tier 3, a self-managed plan (SMP) ONLY for employees with less than five years of service Under the SMP, employees would contribute a minimum of 6% of their salary to this plan matched by a 6% employer contribution. Employees would control and also assume the risk of investment. Again the question comes up: Will the CPS pay the continuing 6% cost or petition the Legislature for "holidays?"

Or do the liabilities of all three plans constitute the one liability of the Fund in total? Can the CPS allow one plan to go bankrupt while maintaining the other plans?

The contribution rate in option #1 or #2 will be recalculated every three years. Employees would be allowed to change their option every three years If employees are allowed to switch plans, do their Fund liabilities follow them to the new plan?

These are puzzling questions of inter-Fund liabilities and individual member equity that should be answered before we pass SB 512 and launch into the new world of multi-plan administration. RTAC may have more answers before the short November session of the Legislature.

JFW, [urokward@yahoo.com](mailto:urokward@yahoo.com)

## PENSION NOTES

MARY SHARON REILLY

PENSION LAWS AND CHARTER

The Pension Laws and Rules Committee of the Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund (CTPF) is a standing committee consisting of all trustees. The major responsibility is to set the legislative agenda, recommend support or opposition to proposed legislation, and recommend amendments to the pension code.



Mary Sharon  
Reilly

In the Spring Session of the General Assembly a number of pension-related issues were considered:

Changes were made to the manner in which service credit is calculated for active teachers;

Dramatic changes to pension benefits were proposed but the General Assembly adjourned without taking any action (a summary of the proposals is found in Mr. Ward's article in this newsletter);

The increase in state funding to CTPF of 20% of the downstate funding was defeated;

Increase in the allowable funds for the health insurance rebate from \$65 million to \$100 million was not passed;

Unfortunately for CTPF, there have been no improvements for retired teachers.

The committee also reviews compliance with and recommends amendments to the By-Laws and Rules of CTPF. In recent months, with the assistance of the fund attorneys, By-Laws and Rules have been revised to comply with the changes in the Illinois Ethics Law. These govern the conduct of trustees, staff, and service providers. The committee also developed new re-employment rules. Retirees should know these rules if they intend to seek any employment with CPS. Refer to the CTPF website to review a copy of these rules.

Recently, the committee interviewed candidates to serve as lobbyists for CTPF. As of this writing contracts have not been finalized.

As always, should you have any specific questions please contact CTPF. The CTPF website also has a wealth of information for retirees ([www.ctpf.org](http://www.ctpf.org))

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*Guest Editorial*

### CHARTER SCHOOLS--THE UNTOLD STORY

*By Ned L. McCray*

The proliferation of charter schools and other selective enrollment schools in urban areas of the country has created a dilemma for society. On the one hand, they provide for the aspirations of the middle class and those who aspire to the middle class, for exclusiveness, selectivity and privilege, but on the other hand they create a brain-drain on the schools that remain.

Public school systems throughout the country are being eroded and decimated by this development. The very system that produced past genera-

tions of Americans who made this great country prosperous, is being deprived of scarce resources, both financial and human.

If you have a system that doesn't have much life-blood to begin with and then proceed to drain the remaining blood, you are being unrealistic and disingenuous to believe that that system is going to be robust and vital.

While it is understandable for parents to want the best school setting for their children--these spe-

**[See Charter Schools p. 11]**

***[Charter Schools continued from p. 10]***

cial schools are deemed better because of selected parents, teachers and children--creating oases of privilege have unforeseen and unintended consequences. We are all aware of the many higher education institutions becoming so exclusive and costly that they are priced beyond the reach of even the middle class.

In data gleaned from the Chicago Public School website, the first charter school was established in 1997. The great thrust began in 2004 when Mayor Daley launched Renaissance 2010; a bold initiative he stated would improve public education and expand quality education options to children across Chicago. His goal was to establish 100 such schools by 2010. The website indicates there are approximately 30 charter schools that served 22,700 students in the 2007-2008 school year. The number of students served has increased yearly.

The present trend will do nothing more than to create a wider gap between rich and poor, haves and have-nots and the privileged and under privileged. If this is what society wants, this is what it will get. Obviously this is what many politicians and educational leaders think is the way to stem the tide of middle-class migration from the cities.

Charter schools and selective enrollment schools have by their very nature, built-in success elements. Bringing together motivated students, parents and teachers should automatically produce high scores. And they do, up to a point. It all depends on the achievement levels of the entering students. Because the student is the key component of the educational process, students entering with below grade level scores will not achieve grade level by the mere fact of being in a selective enrollment school.

This accounts for the varying degree of success in these schools throughout the country. Those selective schools with the top students will have the top scores; those with less than top students will have lower scores.

It doesn't matter, whether it is public, private or charter, a school is no better or worse than the people in it, and the student is the key.

It is apparent that the phenomenon of charter schools is not found in most suburban areas where the students, in most cases, come to school prepared and motivated. It is found primarily in areas where upwardly mobile parents view public schools as less than desirable.

The exception is to be found in Chicago's southern suburbs where a charter school has been approved in District 227. Approval for this charter was granted in spite of strenuous objections by district educators. This situation developed primarily because of the demolition of low-income housing in Chicago. Subsequently, great numbers of these displaced citizens migrated to the southern suburbs of Park Forest, Chicago Heights, Ford Heights and parts of Matteson.

The influx of these new students into the schools resulted in schools declining in quality in the eyes of many.

The result of all of this is public school systems that are being bled to death and worst of all, the schools that remain in the system are labeled failures and everyone in them- teachers, students, and parents- are so labeled.

Can anything be so unfair, unjust and undemocratic? Our public school parents, teachers and students deserve better than this. They deserve all the resources, support and encouragement we can give them. School boards have to resist this trend of using ever more of the ever dwindling resources on these selective schools

They must instead work with the students, parents and teachers of each public school to determine what that school needs to be the best it can be.

. Most importantly, as many resources as possible need to be poured into Head Start and the early grades. Our only hope for the future is to give our less fortunate children a little better start on the educational ladder.

In a democracy, how we treat the least of us is a measure of our greatness.

*[Ned L. McCray is the Retired principal of Simeon High School. nedmccray@aol.com]*

# AID FUND REPORT

by *Steven A. Kailes,*  
*President Teachers Aid Fund, Inc.*

At our May 25th Luncheon Dr. Walter Pilditch the CoChair (along with Bob Konen) of the Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund Grants Committee related to us about just a few of our clients. Their needs are great. They have low pension checks and are desperately in need of extra assistance to help them with their basic costs of medicine, rent or mortgage, and food.

The CRTAF is proud of its record of disbursements because virtually--except for auditor's mandate of expenses--all of our bequests and donations are devoted to helping them. This is due to the diligence of our Officers, First Vice-President Marcella Morrison, Second Vice-President Veronica Chem-

ers, Treasurer Art Keegan and Secretary Jim Ward. Along with Directors Nate Blackman, Dr. Ralph Juss, Ethel Philpott, and Dick Tryba, they do not allow any "administrative expenses"!

Anybody wishing to make a bequest can do so easily. No wills or extra paperwork is involved. For details, please call me at our office.

If you know of anyone who is also in need, either you or they should contact our Executive Director, Bob Bures.

With your input, we all are there to help.

**CRTAF: THE POWER TO CHANGE LIVES**

Do you know a retired teacher in really difficult financial circumstances? Bank on their back? Car payment late? Can't pay the mortgage? Medical bills piling up? Maybe it's even YOU!

If you or a friend are in such need during these difficult times, call CRTAF today for an application or fill out the application below and send it to the RTAC office. CRTAF assures your complete confidentiality and a prompt reply.

**CRTAF AID FUND APPLICATION**

Please send an application to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

This is for a friend.

This is for me.

Send to:  
CRTAF - Suite 1500  
20 East Jackson Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60604-2235  
312.939.3327

***In Appreciation. . .***

**We thank the following for their large bequests and contributions to the Aid Fund.**

**Loren C. Aspel, trust**  
**Nate Blackman**  
**(memory of Mamie)**  
**Louise E. Christensen**  
**(memory of Bernice Boye)**  
**Beatrice J. Burchfeld (bequest)**  
**Florence M. Devenish**  
**(memory of Teresa,**  
**Lucille and Frances)**  
**Frances K. Dykes, estate**  
**Hugh A. Gammel, estate**  
**Helene Gonska, estate**  
**Lois J. Hinkle, estate**  
**Irene E. Johanes, estate**  
**Shirley Klaper estate**  
**Frances H. Knaphurst, trust**  
**Rita Levy, trust**  
**Amanda Moloney, trust**  
**Mildred L. Mueller, trust**  
**Lillian Treka, trust**  
**Phi Delta Kappa of Chicago State University**  
**Kappa Chapter--Delta Kappa Gamma**  
**Phoenix, Arizona Chapter of RTAC**  
**Southern California Chapter of RTAC**

# Board of Directors Election at Fall Luncheon

Eight candidates, seven incumbents and one first-timer, will stand for election at the Fall Luncheon October 6 at the Conrad Hilton Hotel. They will serve for the years 2012 and 2013.

Their names are listed in the next column. All have served at least one term with the exception of John A. Butterfield, a first-time candidate.

John Butterfield is a Chicago native who began teaching 8th grade at St. Vincent Grammar School in 1962. He left education in 1965 for a four-year stint in the U.S. Navy during which he experienced more than 20 months of Vietnam duty.

Returning to Chicago in 1969, John began a 39-year career in CPS. He taught for a year each at Waller, Lake View and Orr high schools. He was then assigned for 11 years to South Shore. John transferred to Mather High in 1982 where he spent the next 25 years, the last 10 as principal. He retired in 2007 and presently works as an assistant to the president of the Chicago Principal & Administrators Association.

## Board of Directors Candidates for 2012-2013

John A. Butterfield\*

Roy Coleman

Robert V. Cunningham

Sharye Garmony-Miller

John J. Garvey

David T. Peterson

Mary Sharon Reilly

Richard Tryba

\*First-time candidate

---

### A GENTLE STORY ENDING IN A GENTLE REMINDER

Florence Devinish passed on to her heavenly reward after a lingering illness at age 102.

Florence retired after forty years of service at Taft High School. In fact she was on the original faculty when it opened in the twenties. As a Home Economics teacher she touched many, many students. In fact, one of those students became her faithful care giver in the last years of her life.

Interestingly, Florence was one of four sisters, all never married, who all became CPS teachers, and all preceded her in death. Ms. Devinish was not survived by any relatives.

During her retirement which lasted forty years, Florence frequently gave generous amounts to our Aid Fund. Can you imagine what pensions were then? She always was concerned for the welfare of her colleagues city-wide.

Prior to her passing she made arrangements to donate a very generous sum to our Aid Fund upon her death.

Florence Devinish will be well remembered at The Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund.

Thank you, Florence!

MEMORIAL DONATIONS TO  
**CHICAGO RETIRED TEACHERS AID FUND, INC.**  
 FEDERAL TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

In amounts of \$10 and over  
 (from March 16,2011 to July 15, 2011)

DONOR:	IN MEMORY OF:
John and Donna Moscinski	Sharon Daly James Foley
Stephen E. Herzog	Robert C. Todd
June M. Chenelle	Ella Watkins
Sally Nusinson	Dephane "Jeri" Rose
Diane Farwick	Angie Seretis
Johnnie M. Newton	June Finch
	Dr. Willilam Finch
	Gladys Ray
	Bernard Spillman
	Dr. William Gwynn
Elizabeth Smeriglio	David Helberg
C.D. Abarbanell	Dena (Maxson) Faires, my first drama teacher
Stewart E. Brekke	Francis Kennedy
Rosalie Crosley	Kathryn Sidwell
David W. Foster	Leroy Carbonneau
Nancietta L. Stocking	Hazel Bauman
Henry A. Adamowicz	Jerry Christmas Judy Cheris Bernadine Kargol Stanley T. Ptak Bill Little
Jack Adams	Reginald Simon
Beverly Johnson Biehr	Maria Acierto
	Ann E. Allen
Dian Dionesotes	Louis Ligands
	Phyllis Healy
Diane Farwick	Dr. Joan Ferris
Ann Hennessy	Margaret (Marge) Stangel
Eugene Jerkatis	Sharon Daly
John and Sharon Kudenholdt	Sharon Goldberg
John and Donna Moscinski	Mary and Barbara O'Malley
Rose Ann Mulhern	Dr. Joan Ferris
	William McKeever
Eva Nickolich	Bobby Ryan
	Barbara Stanger
	Walter Thiel

Rick Ronuik

Sandra Maison Rosen  
 Robert E.  
 Riemenschneider  
 John Demczyk

Rose Ann Skirha

Anna M. Stork

Robert and Nancy  
 (Hausman) Komada

Peter J. Miscinski  
 Mary F. Russell  
 Sally Nusinson

Yossel Nailman  
 Ted Lenart  
 Lloyd Leaverton  
 Bob Todd  
 Lee Baska  
 Jack Feldman  
 John Oklepek  
 Mary Schwickrath  
 Dorothy E. Clark  
 Daniel P. Jankoski  
 Seymour S. Miller  
 Dorothy Stinn  
 Rev. Dr. Chester  
 Mitoraj  
 Dale Lamos  
 Maria India  
 Kathy Sidwell  
 Margaret Richter  
 Eleanor Wiza  
 Matilda Yoelin  
 Marge Bruzzini  
 Dominic Savickas  
 Sharonjoy Jackson  
 Dena M. Faires  
 David Helberg  
 John T. Martin  
 Kathleen A. Connors  
 Myron R. Ridgway  
 Philip R. Orawiec  
 Penny Robinson

SPECIAL DONATIONS TO  
**CHICAGO RETIRED TEACHERS AID FUND, INC**  
 DONOR OCCASION

Ronald K. Clayton

In honor of  
 Richard Bradley  
 Sy Roth  
 Bernard Spillman  
 General Purpose  
 General Purpose  
 In honor of  
 Victor Herbert Staff  
 1964-1999  
 General Purpose  
 In honor of the  
 former teachers  
 at Alexander  
 Graham  
 Celebrating Great  
 Science Teachers  
 General Purpose  
 General Purposes

Anonymous  
 Tony Crowe  
 Diane Tartol Faubl

Phyllis Jones  
 Anonymous

Melanie R. Wojtulewicz

Anonymous  
 Josephine N. Sanders

Jayne A. Stokes In lieu of flowers  
 Mary S. Horvitz In lieu of flowers  
 Robert M. Lamont General Purpose  
 Helen Marie Wallace General Purpose

Gloria Middleton

Arthur Cervinka  
 Mal and Pat Golden  
 Willard Uber  
 Randall Middleton  
 Joseph Berry  
 Mary Thomas  
 Clarence Brown  
 Charlotte Coleman

MEMORIAL DONATIONS TO  
**RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION of CHICAGO**  
 FOR THE GENERAL EXPENSE FUND

NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE. In amounts of \$10 and over  
 (from March 16, 2011 to July 15, 2011)

<b>DONOR:</b>	<b>IN MEMORY OF:</b>
Michael O. Ashley	Ophelia Ashley- Mitchell
Harold and Trudy Hill	Eddie B. Tate, Jr. Ruth Ekholm Josie E. Eubanks Barbara Farnandis Iris Kalsch Shirley A. Kelso Thomas Sieracki
Michael and Carol Lynn Pruchnicki	James Coughlan

SPECIAL DONATIONS TO  
**RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION of CHICAGO**

<b>DONOR:</b>	<b>OCCASION</b>
Anonymous	Congratulations on including Louella Preston in the leader ship team
Anonymous	General Purpose
Leslie Lynn	General Purpose
Mildred V. Porter	General Purpose
Ronald F. Smith	In honor of A Great Nation, USA (1933-1973)
Frances D. Fortier	General Purpose

**DONATION FORM**

Retired Teachers Association of Chicago  
 20 East Jackson Blvd. Suite 1500  
 Chicago IL 60604-2235

My enclosed check (no money orders please!) for \$\_\_\_\_\_ is to cover checked items below:

- Political Education Fund (not tax deductible; make check payable to RTAC COPE)
  - Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund (Federal tax deductible; make check payable to C.R.T.A.F.)
  - Retired Teachers Association of Chicago (not tax deductible; make check payable to R.T.A.C.)
- The minimum donation is \$10 for each name listed.

(PLEASE PRINT) Donor \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

This donation is made (please check below):

- In memory of \_\_\_\_\_
- In honor of \_\_\_\_\_
- Happy birthday/anniversary to: \_\_\_\_\_
- Celebrating: \_\_\_\_\_
- On general principles.
- Anonymously; please do NOT publish my name.

OPTIONAL: Please notify the following that this donation has been made.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_



# Spring Luncheon 2011



*RTAC President Steven A. Kailes prepares to welcome a record number of attendees to the first RTAC Luncheon to be held at the Conrad Hilton Hotel, 720 S. Michigan Ave.*

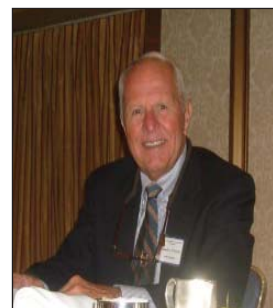


*Past President Ned L. McCray led the opening prayer.*

## In Praise of Presidents



*In Praise of Presidents - Each Past President was honored with a Special Presentation: (From left) Mae M. Hunter, Helen P. Johnson, Ned L. McCray, (standing) Ethel Philpott, Vaughn J. Barber, Walter Pilditch.*



*Past President Edward A. O'Farrell*

*(Right) Immediate Past President Vaughn J. Barber holds one of the Skyline views coming into Chicago that each of the Past Presidents received from RTAC in appreciation for their years of service and devotion to the organization. Each award is inscribed with the Past President's name and years of service.*





# The Dinner...



*Chef Mario Garcia left his busy kitchen to greet appreciative RTAC diners*



*RTAC Director Dr. Raphael Juss (second from left) with the Hilton Hotel officials who worked to make our luncheon a very special event. Martha Itulya, Senior Catering Manager, Hazel Lewis Leventhal, who arranged to have the Social Committee meet with Mr. Edward Chen, director of catering operations. Luncheon attendees made very positive comments about the luncheon and the service and professionalism of the staff.*

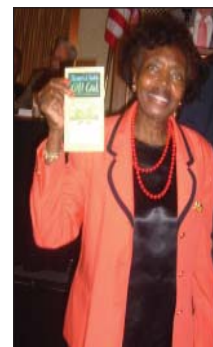
# ...and the Winners!



*Mary Griffin, Curie High School, with Raffle Masters Marion Hoffing and Dave Peterson*



*Susie Reed, Shields Elementary School*



*Jeanette Jackson, Corliss High School*



*Linda Capondono, Eberhardt School*



*Abraham Talley, Kelly High School*



*Peggy Bartee, DuBois Elementary School*



*Lois Smith, Holden Elementary School*



*(Right) Marge Rappe, Jordan Community Elementary School*



*Mary Sharon Reilly is endorsed by RTAC for reelection to the Chicago Teachers Pension Fund. She has served the CTPF and RTAC very capably in a number of capacities.*



*Jame F. Ward, Past President, current Director, Pension Fund Trustee and one of three RTAC-endorsed candidates for Pension Trustee in the upcoming November election. Walter Pilditch is also a Pension Fund Trustees seeking reelection.. He is endorsed strongly by RTAC.*



*First Vice President and Chairman of the Service Committee Marcella Morrison praised committee members for faithfully gathering every month to write personal birthday greetings to members 85 and over. "If you want to help, come down and be a member of the Service Committee," she urged.*



*At the conclusion of the Spring Luncheon, members were asked to sign nominating petitions for the three RTAC-endorsed candidates for the Chicago Teacher Pension Fund Board of Directors. The candidates are WALTER PILDITCH, MARY SHARON REILLY and JAMES F. WARD. All are incumbents and all have served both the CTPF and RTAC for many years with distinction. The CTPF election will be held in November.*

*New Life Members*

*RTAC welcomes the following Life Members and applauds their commitment to lifetime membership in the only organization that is safeguarding our pension rights and benefits. Their membership makes us stronger and better able to make our voices heard.*

- JESUS C. ABALOS
- PATRICIA A. CELANO
- JANET A. ELKINS
- PEARL GILSON
- SUSAN J. GRABOWSKI
- FERN E. HAHN
- PAULA HYMAN
- CAROL C. THOMAS
- JOYCE KRASOWSKI
- REMEDIOS MENDOZA
- THERESA A. PERRY
- MADONNA D. PIERCE
- MARY E. QUIRK
- JACK SILVER
- ALEAN STANCIL

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Mail to: RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION of CHICAGO  
20 East Jackson Blvd. Suite 1500  
Chicago, IL 60604-2235

- Enclosed is my check or money order (payable to RTAC) for \$\_\_\_\_\_
- RENEW MY ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP (January 1 - December 31) .....\$30.00
  - ENROLL ME AS A NEW MEMBER .....\$30.00
  - ENROLL ME AS A LIFE MEMBER ..... \$200.00
  - Lifetime membership at age 85 or over.....FREE

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Phone\_(\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

Retired In Year \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number \_\_xxx-xx-\_\_\_\_\_(Only need last 4 digits)

(For verification purposes - your confidentiality is assured.)

Non-CPS E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

**THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT**



**PASS IT ON!**



# Chicago Teachers Pension Fund Trustee Election in November

Never before in recent history have the Retired Teachers of Chicago needed so acutely the expertise and the more than 50 combined years of experience that our RTAC-endorsed candidates bring to this election. In November, you will receive a mail-in ballot. Please watch for it and return it promptly with your vote for the present and future security of the Chicago Teachers Pension Fund: WALTER PILDITCH, MARY SHARON REILLY AND JAMES F. WARD.



**WALTER PILDITCH**



**MARY SHARON REILLY**



**JAMES F. WARD**

## When experience counts

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Please use this form to change your permanent address or call the RTAC Office (312-939-3327)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. \_\_\_\_\_

NEW City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW phone (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Effective date (mm/dd/yy): \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

If you live elsewhere for part of the year, please circle the issues JANUARY MAY SEPTEMBER you would like to have delivered to your part-time address: \_\_\_\_\_

## THE JAMES E. ARMSTRONG AWARD

The Retired Teachers Association of Chicago has established this Award to honor those individuals who have demonstrated a devotion to the Association, its goals and membership.

James E. Armstrong was the principal of Englewood High School beginning in the 1880s and is reputed to have originated several significant pedagogical innovations. Among his many accomplishments was his co-authorship with James B. Norton, then principal of Lake View High School, of one of the most widely used high school chemistry lab manuals of the time. (Please note that it is still available from Amazon).

James E. Armstrong was one of the founders of RTAC in 1926. The initial organization was devoted to the problems of retired Chicago teachers, which continues to be our primary concern today.

~~~~~

Please submit the name(s) of your nominee(s) to the Award Committee with a brief rationale for your selection(s). Nominations should be submitted no later than September 25, 2011, for consideration.

### NOMINATION FORM (PLEASE USE ONE FORM PER NOMINEE)

(Please Print) Nominee's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

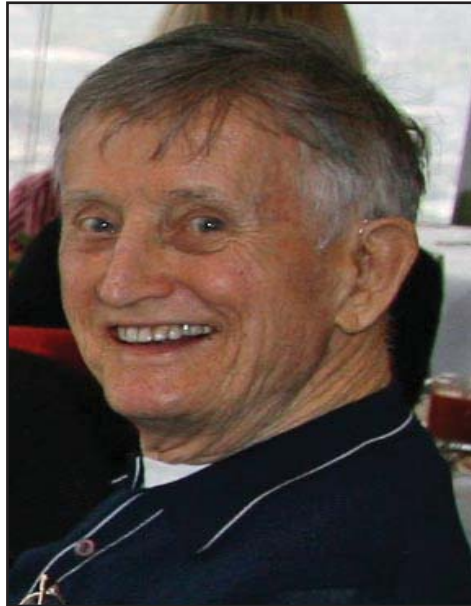
Rationale: \_\_\_\_\_

~\*~  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

NOMINATIONS DUE BY SEPTEMBER 25, 2011.  
SUBMIT BY E MAIL TO JAMES E. ARMSTRONG AWARD OFFICE @RTAC.ORG  
OR MAIL TO: JAMES E. ARMSTRONG AWARD COMMITTEE  
RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO  
20 E. JACKSON BLVD. SUITE 1500



# A Tribute to V.K. Brown, 1927-2011



The Retired Teachers Association of Chicago  
greatly regrets the passing of our beloved past editor

**V. K. Brown**

**1927 - 2011**

V.K. joined his Lord in Heaven on Saturday, August 20, 2011,  
after a prolonged fight against cancer.

V.K. was our *News Bulletin* editor for fifteen years, 1993 to 2007. He  
started the "Letter-A-Month" club to alert our members to possible  
adverse legislation and initiated the RTAC.ORG website.

A Memorial Service will be held October 8, 2011,  
4 to 7 p.m. at the Ramada Inn Hyde Park,  
4900 South Lake Shore Drive

Cards, calls and condolences can be sent to:

Betty Brown

4800 South Chicago Beach Drive-#2516 N

Chicago, Illinois 60615-2170

## END OF THE ROAD - A FINAL NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Hi , Jokesters!

The one truism we all know is that all good things must come to an end. So after more than eight decades (which kept getting better and better), my own life is drawing to a close. Although my Doctor son Gil is much too wise to make individual longevity predictions, I have given my wife firm instructions not to buy me any more green bananas.

Overall, the world has been VERY good to me (in case anybody cares). After a muddy start that led me to keener appreciation of what followed. Several years of entry-level employment ended with Physics teaching and I discovering each other (as I used to ask the kids: "What other job lets you play with toys all day and the taxpayers buy them for you?")

My first marriage didn't work out – much of the fault was mine. Second marriage produced second divorce, and two world-class sons.

Activity with Teachers Union led President Bob Healey to establish a CTU-PAC, with me as chair. The CTU-PAC held a meet-the-candidates rally on the far West Side. I took a girl whom I had recently met to the rally — and discovered that she was the dream girl I had long since stopped even hoping to meet. August 2011 will mark our 37th anniversary. Today, our boys each have two sets of parents, who hold joint holiday gatherings together that we all delight in and enjoy.

After retiring in 1992, I took over as editor of the quarterly publication of the Retired Teachers Association of Chicago, a post I held for 15 years—non-stop learning and fun.

VERGIL KENNETH BROWN,

'V.K.' or 'Ken', 83, died peacefully on Saturday, August 20, 2011, at home, holding the hand of his beloved wife of 37 years, Betty. Ken was born in 1927 to V.K. Sr. and Floy Brown in Chicago. Ken had a rich and full life. In his early years, Ken searched for his life's calling, with forays into taxi driving, the Navy, and the meat industry among other adventures. While playing pool one day, he took an interest in the dynamics of the way the balls bounced off each other and thus fell into his long-term love of physics.

He spent over 25 years in this field teaching at South Shore High School and later at Lindblom Technical School among others. Ken was passionate about making the world a better place and he was deeply involved in the political sphere. Among his many contributions, he shared in development of the Magnet School System, he served as chair

of the Chicago Teachers Union Political Action Committee to Springfield and Washington, and he was long-term editor for the Retired Teachers Association of Chicago *News Bulletin*. Ken is most remembered for his kind heart and his indomitable sense of humor. "Don't buy me any green bananas" was one of his last requests.

Ken is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, his sister, Margaret, his brother Jim (Helaine) and his sons Gil (Jane Park) of Fort Walton Beach, Fla., and Steve (Takako Kato) of Nagoya, Japan, grandchildren Lindsay, Nina, and Ann; his sons' mother Charlotte Shivers and by numerous cousins, nieces and nephews. A memorial service will be held. October 8, from 4 to 7 p.m., Ramada Inn Hyde Park, 4900 South Lake Shore Drive, Chicago. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the ACLU or the Salvation Army.

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*[Editor's Note: It has been my honor, privilege and pleasure to work with V.K. Brown for the last several years. He was a giant among men, a brilliant intellect and a person of great ardor and passion for what he believed in.*

*and the News Bulletin were the loves of his life. He cared earnestly about every word on every page. It took 74 separate procedures to list the death reports in paragraph form. V.K. was a genius with the computer.*

*To me, V.K. was the News Bulletin . He lived and breathed it. After Betty and his sons, I think RTAC*

*Truly, he was a great teacher, a fine person and, to me, a wonderful Friend Gone Ahead.]*

## FRIENDS GONE AHEAD

*Requiescant in pace*

| Name                           | Date           | Age | School            | Retired | CPS Service |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-----|-------------------|---------|-------------|
| Bertram I. Abell               | May 8, 2011    | 83  | Calumet           | 1992    | 13          |
| Suzanne Ackerman               | June 1, 2011   | 65  | Kennedy           | 2006    | 40          |
| Murad Agenlian                 | June 21, 2011  | 84  | Hibbard           | 1993    | 36          |
| Elaine Anderson-Boyd           | July 2, 2011   | 68  | Taft              | 2007    | 26          |
| Arlene (Grecco) Antonovits     | May 28, 2011   | 68  | Mason             | 1998    | 29          |
| Urve Auksi                     | May 13, 2011   | 74  | Castellanos       | 1999    | 41          |
| Natalie D. Bailey              | May 28, 2011   | 82  | Sexton            | 1994    | 44          |
| Malcom E. Banks                | July 1, 2011   | 71  | Parkside          | 2005    | 20          |
| Anne (Wedgeworth) Bannor       | June 15, 2011  | 87  | Bridge            | 1988    | 25          |
| Miriam (Rosen) Barshefsky      | May 9, 2011    | 99  | Brown             | 1977    | 10          |
| Robert Lee Benford             | July 9, 2011   | 66  | O'Toole           | 2007    | 33          |
| Lawrence R. Beverage           | June 5, 2011   | 70  | Young             | 2007    | 41          |
| Michael C. Bilder              | May 12, 2011   | 92  | Washburne Trade   | 1984    | 13          |
| Helen E. Bock                  | May 21, 2011   | 88  | Harlan            | 1986    | 31          |
| Lillian F. Bowden              | June 14, 2011  | 93  | Holden            | 1979    | 37          |
| Robert J. Braasch              | May 16, 2011   | 94  | Cook Co Juvenile  | 1978    | 37          |
| Madeline J. (Patton) Bradley   | May 12, 2011   | 74  | Central Office    | 2001    | 33          |
| Walter H. Butler               | May 29, 2011   | 84  | Poe               | 1990    | 38          |
| Harold E. Charles              | June 27, 2011  | 77  | Farragut          | 1993    | 35          |
| Jeanette (Geeo) Charles        | July 13, 2011  | 101 | Thorp             | 1975    | 13(3)       |
| Ronald S. Chew                 | June 7, 2011   | 78  | Substitute        | 2004    | 11          |
| Jerry A. Clarizio              | June 1, 2011   | 92  | Brentano          | 1986    | 29          |
| Lucile (Radigan) Coffel        | June 3, 2011   | 94  | Kelly             | 1986    | 28          |
| Carole G. (Cebelin) Coltman    | May 11, 2011   | 70  | Mather            | 1994    | 34          |
| Ronald W. Daniels              | May 14, 2011   | 69  | Simeon            | 2004    | 39          |
| Ira L. Davis                   | May 7, 2011    | 79  | Farren            | 2003    | 31          |
| Patrick J. Dawson              | May 3, 2011    | 78  | Lane Tech         | 1993    | 21          |
| Jocelyn S. (McKay) Durr        | July 4, 2011   | 69  | Schools & Regions | 2007    | 15          |
| Joan M. Ferris                 | May 20, 2011   | 81  | Dist 1            | 1995    | 43          |
| Margaret M. Fitzpatrick        | June 20, 2011  | 93  | Spencer           | 1979    | 18(4)       |
| Joseph Fleming                 | July 19, 2011  | 91  | C.C. Jail School  | 1985    | 38          |
| Carl Fowler                    | May 4, 2011    | 72  | Claumet           | 1993    | 36          |
| Charles R. Fullman             | July 4, 2011   | 71  | Carver Military   | 2004    | 36          |
| Thelma S. Garfin               | May 25, 2011   | 88  | Chopin            | 1989    | 20          |
| Adolphus Garmon                | July 8, 2011   | 71  | Morgan Park       | 2003    | 24          |
| Francis E. Glover              | June 22, 2011  | 71  | Burroughs         | 1994    | 39          |
| Janis (Sigel) Goldman          | July 10, 2011  | 87  | Stockton CPC      | 1990    | 28          |
| Marie (Sikora) Goryl           | June 5, 2011   | 88  | Seward            | 1991    | 35          |
| Bertha M. (Owens) Green        | July 23, 2011  | 63  | Metcalfe          | 2004    | 34          |
| Gene Green                     | July 15, 2011  | 71  | Mann              | 1994    | 37          |
| Raphael Gilbert Guajardo       | June 7, 2011   | 67  | Kelvyn Park       | 2005    | 26          |
| Patricia (Martin) Hassett      | June 8, 2011   | 80  | Penn              | 1993    | 38          |
| Patricia A. (Cunningham) Hayes | June 22, 2011  | 71  | Young             | 1998    | 20          |
| Tempie (Tartt) Henderson       | July 25, 2011  | 73  | Sullivan          | 1993    | 38          |
| Dorothy A. (Polk) Hicks        | May 22, 2011   | 81  | Hughes            | 1991    | 30          |
| Blanche A. (Vasahlik) Holicky  | June 22, 2011  | 100 | Jensen            | 1976    | 22(2)       |
| Leroy Holmes                   | April 6, 2011  | 91  | Montefiore        | 1992    | 32          |
| Lillie R. (Williams) Hudson    | April 20, 2011 | 90  | Marshall          | 2001    |             |

5

[Numbers in parentheses indicate service outside CPS.]



| Name                             | Date           | Age | School          | Yr. Retired | CPS Service |
|----------------------------------|----------------|-----|-----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Carolyn A. (Sanford) Johnson     | June 14, 2011  | 67  | Stockton CPC    | 2007        | 24          |
| Fred B. Johnson                  | April 19, 2011 | 90  | Irving          | 1991        | 14          |
| Lenzora (Street) Johnson         | June 18, 2011  | 76  | Kandon          | 1994        | 38          |
| Archie Jones                     | July 23, 2011  | 67  | Funston         | 2005        | 36          |
| Gustavus A. Jones                | May 11, 2011   | 91  | Lindblom        | 1991        | 23          |
| Inga Kaminski                    | May 17, 2011   | 85  | Schurz          | 1986        | 22          |
| Patrick J. Keane                 | June 12, 2011  | 68  | Juarez          | 2004        | 34          |
| Donald F. Kimball                | May 9, 2011    | 78  | Chalmers        | 1991        | 35          |
| Steven E. Koror                  | July 7, 2011   | 65  | Dirksen         | 2004        | 34          |
| Ronna L. (Gutofsky) Kramer       | June 11, 2011  | 66  | Gale            | 2005        | 24          |
| Norma J. (Ballon) Krcmaric       | June 9, 2011   | 76  | White           | 1993        | 39          |
| Margherita (Leni) Krzan          | July 8, 2011   | 90  | Simeon          | 1993        | 26          |
| Bruce La Force                   | June 19, 2011  | 65  | Mather          | 2007        | 40          |
| Eunice (Nickens) Lecesne         | April 29, 2011 | 96  | Reavis          | 1978        | 28(10)      |
| Bernice (Steward) Lee            | July 12, 2011  | 77  | Truth CPC       | 1994        | 32          |
| Anne (Aronesti) Levin            | July 5, 2011   | 87  | District Office | 1994        | 34          |
| Joy B. (Eisenberg) Lipman        | Jun3 9, 2011   | 89  | Lane Tech       | 1989        | 27          |
| Virginia (Nelson) Loven          | May 27, 2011   | 86  | Fenger          | 1990        | 27          |
| Rosetta B. Marsh                 | May 6, 2011    | 89  | Fulton          | 1992        | 12          |
| Virginia Lee (Livingston) McCabe | April 24, 2011 | 69  | Simeon          | 2007        | 21(2)       |
| Casimir J. Mika                  | July 17, 2011  | 87  | Lincoln         | 1982        | 31          |
| William W. McKeever              | May 19, 2011   | 80  | Farragut        | 2007        | 46          |
| Dorothy L. Myree                 | May 2, 2011    | 91  | Williams        | 1984        | 32(7)       |
| Masayo Nishimura                 | June 22, 2011  | 74  | Trumbull        | 1998        | 34          |
| Bhanumati R. Patel               | July 8, 2011   | 72  | Spencer         | 2007        | 31          |
| Edith (Magid) Peal               | April 8, 2011  | 93  | Field           | 1979        | 20          |
| Willa Mae (McNelly) Pegues       | May 24, 2011   | 87  | Fermi           | 1982        | 26(8)       |
| Jeanne E. (Fisher) Peters        | May 22, 2011   | 88  | Suder           | 1990        | 22          |
| Cleo B. (Yehling) Petersen       | May 30, 2011   | 83  | Fulton          | 1989        | 37          |
| Ethel (Baum) Peterson            | June 26, 2011  | 81  | Michele Clark   | 1993        | 35          |
| Mary Anne Player                 | April 12, 2011 | 91  | Cole            | 1990        | 10          |
| Robert M. Powell                 | June 29, 2011  | 92  | Wright Branch   | 1983        | 9           |
| Kathleen (Doogan) Rademacher     | July 4, 2011   | 78  | Brentano        | 1993        | 38          |
| Ora L. (Wilson) Ray              | April 21, 2011 | 78  | Substitute      | 2003        | 11          |
| Dorothy (Campbell) Richardson    | July 8, 2011   | 77  | Farren          | 1997        | 37          |
| Margaret (Schmidt) Richter       | June 5, 2011   | 84  | Schurz          | 1985        | 27          |
| Edith (Williams) Ricks           | May 15, 2011   | 80  | Fort Dearborn   | 1992        | 32          |
| Myron R. Ridgway                 | April 26, 2011 | *86 | Mather          | 1994        | 12          |
| John V. Roberts                  | May 5, 20 11   | 91  | Fenger          | 1980        | 23(11)      |
| Penelope (Anthony) Robinson      | June 2, 2011   | 89  | Dewey           | 1980        | 35          |
| Daretta F. (Russell) Rogers      | June 26, 2011  | 64  | Calhoun North   | 2007        | 37          |
| Vhanesse L. Rogers               | July 15, 2011  | 85  | Carter          | 1993        | 38          |
| Richard A. P. Ryan               | April 30, 2011 | 85  | Marshall        | 1990        | 30          |
| Katherine (Kido) Sasaki          | July 13, 2011  | 84  | Ebinger         | 1992        | 26          |
| Frederic Schuster                | June 7, 2011   | 78  | Res. & Eval.    | 1988        | 33          |
| Pearl (Widen) Schwartz           | April 22, 2011 | 91  | Garvy           | 1984        | 19          |
| Annie M. (Lambert) Scott         | May 07, 2011   | 78  | Avalon Park     | 2002        | 26          |
| Vera A. (Lee) Scott              | April 27, 2011 | 75  | McKay           | 2001        | 25          |
| Rosaleen T. (Smith) Sherlock     | June 6, 2011   | 82  | Emmet           | 1994        | 38          |
| Mits Shiraishi                   | July 4, 2011   | 79  | Arai            | 1994        | 31          |
| Jeannette (Fiedor) Skarbek       | June w6, 2011  | 93  | Wright Branch   | 1982        | 21          |
| Rita M. Silveri                  | May 3, 2011    | 89  | Wright          | 1984        | 19          |
| James Allen Simich               | May 17, 2011   | 61  | Corliss         | 2006        | 35          |
| Jocelyn F. Simmons               | May 26, 2011   | 77  | Bethune         | 1999        | 41          |

*[Numbers in parentheses indicate service outside CPS.]*

| Name                             | Date           | Age | School         | Retired | CPS Service |
|----------------------------------|----------------|-----|----------------|---------|-------------|
| Barbara (Baskin) Sims            | April 26, 2011 | 66  | Alex Haley     | 2005    | 35          |
| Jeanette S. (Lee) Sims           | May 22, 2011   | 88  | Pirie          | 1985    | 36          |
| Ann (Vignola) Sisco              | June 23, 2011  | 92  | Earhart        | 1981    | 16          |
| Emma (Poole) Stacker             | June 4, 2011   | 97  | Hyde Park      | 1979    | 40          |
| Margaret (Cunnea) Stangel        | May 9, 2011    | 76  | Gage Park      | 1993    | 31          |
| Holly (Gronn) Stephenson         | June 3, 2011   | 63  | Spec. Svcs     | 2007    | 34          |
| Betty P. Stevens                 | May 10, 2011   | 89  | Bogan          | 1983    | 5           |
| Eleanor Swirsky                  | May 28, 2011   | 93  | Prussing       | 1982    | 19          |
| Walter Leslie Thiel              | May 16, 2011   | 69  | Central Office | 2005    | 33          |
| Madge M. Thornton                | May 27, 2011   | 93  | Dodge          | 1988    | 27          |
| Louise Anne Tilden-Martorana     | April 23, 2011 | 65  | Eberhart       | 2011    | 19          |
| Carole A. Tucker                 | July 25, 2011  | 73  | King           | 2000    | 34          |
| James E. Tucker                  | May 21, 2011   | 67  | Bowen          | 2000    | 33          |
| Kenneth W. Tucker                | June 22, 2011  | 83  | Einstein       | 1993    | 30          |
| Shirley A. (Krull) Verdugo Perez | May 17, 2011   | 72  | Schurz         | 2005    | 29          |
| Melvin (Friarson) Walker         | May 11, 2011   | 87  | Burke          | 1984    | 36          |
| Rosetta B. (Harris) Walker       | June 6, 2011   | 76  | Earle          | 1997    | 5           |
| Rose M. (Garzonetti) Wessel      | May 8, 2011    | 101 | Bryant         | 1971    | 16          |
| Mary (Parks) Wesson              | June 20, 2011  | 90  | Black          | 1992    | 43          |
| Norma (Galvin) Wilkins           | May 27, 2011   | 81  | Lewis          | 1990    | 31          |
| Florence M. (Wolper) Wilson      | May 31, 2011   | 88  | Prescott       | 1988    | 16          |
| Johnyce J. Wright                | July 6, 2011   | 67  | Roosevelt      | 1999    | 30          |
| Evelyn G. Wurum                  | June 18, 2011  | 99  | Schurz         | 1977    | 32          |
| Violet (Nathan) Zuckerman        | July 3, 2011   | 85  | Price          | 1990    | 35          |

[Numbers in parentheses indicate service outside CPS.]

Rest in Peace

**Penny Robinson 1922 – 2011**

The Retired Teachers Association of Chicago

greatly regrets the untimely passing of

Our Friend, Our Colleague and Our Collaborator.

An outstanding teacher;

The beloved principal of the Dewey School;

Always cheerfully willing to assist others,

professionally and personally;

A generous helper to the Service Committee  
of the Retired Teachers Association of Chicago.

Penny's informal motto was "Service above Self."

Our always smiling and joyful Penny will be missed by all



## Volunteer Opportunities

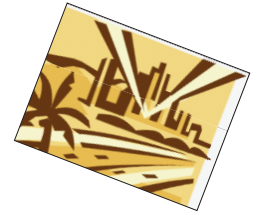
Many retired teachers find that working for a worthy cause as a volunteer is extremely satisfying. The following organizations are among those who have asked us for help in recruiting. The Retired Teachers Association of Chicago does not endorse any organization; potential volunteers must make their own decision.

|                                            |                    |                    |                  |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Alex Haley Academy                         | Chicago South      | Karen Demots       | 773-371-3661     |
| American Cancer Society                    | West Suburbs       | Marni Fredrickson  | 708-484-8541x231 |
| American Red Cross (CPR & First aid)       | Chicago Central    | L. Sewell-Hall     | 312-729-6111     |
| Aquinas Literacy Ctr. (ESL) (Tutoring)     | Chicago Near South | Alison Altmeyer    | 773-927-0512     |
| Battered Women's Network                   | Chicago Central    | Betsy Minor        | 312-750-0730     |
| Black Ensemble Theater                     | Chicago Near North |                    | 773-769-4451     |
| Blue Gargoyle Community Services           | Chicago            | Ashley J. Hobbs    | 773-955-4108x308 |
| Burr Oak School                            | South Suburbs      | Natashia Harris    | 708-388-8010     |
| CASA (Court App. Special Advocate)         | Cook County        | L. Robinson-Locke  | 312-467-6987     |
| Chicago Architectural Foundation           | Chicago            | Barbara Hrbek      | 312-922-3432x225 |
| Chicago Cultural Center                    | Chicago Central    | Marianne Wolf      | 312-744-7096     |
| Chicago Family Directions                  | Glen Ellyn         | Dennis Nyhan       | 630-222-8266     |
| Chicago Foundation for Education           | Chicago            | Sarah Hoppe        | 312-670-2033     |
| Chicago History Museum                     | Chicago Near North | Marne Bariso       | 312-642-4600     |
| Chicago Humanities Festival                | Chicago Central    | Annie Tully        | 312-661-1028     |
| Chicago Symphony Orchestra                 | Chicago            |                    | 312-294-3160     |
| Child Services                             | Cook, Lake, DuPage | Greta Nielsen      | 773-693-0300     |
| Count Me In!                               | Chicago            | William N. Black   | 773-381-6024     |
| Court's Special Advocate (Child Adv.)      | Cook County        | Imogene Harris     | 312-433-6997     |
| Crown Family Playlab at Field Museum       | Chicago Central    | Kate Cary          | 312-665-7307     |
| Cycle                                      | Chicago            | Melinda Brand      | 312-664-1194x14  |
| DuSable Mus. of African American Hist.     | Chicago South      | Kay McCrimon       | 773-947-0600x239 |
| Field Museum                               | Chicago            | Mary Ann Bloom     | 312-665-7505     |
| Friends of Historic Second Church          | Chicago Near South | Katy Gallagher     | 800-657-0687     |
| Friends of the Parks                       | Chicago Central    | Laura Ronneberg    | 312-922-3307     |
| George Armstrong School                    | Chicago Northwest  | Kim Bendig         | 773-534-2150     |
| Glenkirk (Pgm for the Dev. Disabled)       | Northbrook         | Roberta M. Rekus   | 847-400-8569     |
| Grandma Please                             | Chicago            | Kathy Slover       | 773-561-3500     |
| Heartland Alliance Vista                   | Chicago Central    | Carol McNeill      | 312-696-4500     |
| Ill. Action for Children (Children's Adv.) | Chicago Central    | Rebecca Klipfel    | 312-986-9591     |
| Inner Voice Learning Ctr. (Leadership)     | Chicago near West  | Antoinette Toliver | 312-666-8110     |
| JCB School                                 | Chicago            | Amber Egelston     | 773-467-3746     |
| Junior Achievement Chicago                 | Chicago            | Cherie Russ        | 312-715-1300x269 |
| KIPP Ascend Charter School (Tutors)        | Chicago West       | Sheri Barrette     | 773-261-9972     |
| LaRabida Childrens Hospital                | Chicago Jackson Pk | Judi Blakemore     | 773-256-5985     |
| Lifelong Learning Institute at N. L. U.    | North Suburbs      | Joan Marks         | 224-233-2366     |
| Lira Arts (Polish)                         | Chicago            | K. McJimsey        | 773-508-7040     |
| Little Brothers Friends of Elderly         | Chicago            | Geri Mead          | 312-455-1000     |
| MetroMentors                               | Wheaton            | Gregory O'Donnell  | 630-784-4810     |
| Naperville Settlement                      | Naperville         | Diane Ernst        | 630-420-6010     |

**The above list is only a part of the full list of volunteering opportunities available to RT AC members. For a full list visit [HTTP://RTAC.ORG](http://RTAC.ORG) and surf to "volunteers." The "Other Opportunities" page on the RTAC website also lists requests for volunteers for specific events like the Chicago Marathon or election workers along with requests for information on the history of the Chicago Public Schools.**



## SATELLITE DOINGS



### SAN DIEGO

*By Sam Dolnick*

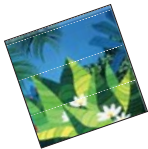
The next San Diego Satellite luncheon/business meeting will be on Tuesday, October 11, 2011, at 12 noon sharp at the Olive Garden Restaurant in Carlsbad, California.

I thought the following listing was appropriate.... After all, the kids have all their little codes...like BFF, WTF, etc. So here are some codes for us techno-seniors.

#### SUBJECT: SENIOR TEXTING CODES:

ATD - At the Doctor  
 BFF - Best Friends Funeral  
 BSOD - Big Sale On Depends  
 BMMW - Bring Me My Wheelchair  
 BYOT - Bring Your Own Teeth  
 CBM - Covered by Medicare  
 CUATSC - See You at the Senior Center  
 DWI - Driving While Incontinent  
 FWBB - Friend with Beta Blockers  
 FWIW - Forgot Where I Was  
 FYI - Found Your Insulin  
 GGPBL - Gotta Go, Pacemaker BatterLow  
 GHA - Got Heartburn Again

IMHO - Is My Hearing-Aid On?  
 LMDO - Laughing My Dentures Out  
 LOL - Living on Lipitor  
 LWO - Lawrence Welk's On  
 OMMR - On My Massage Recliner  
 OMSG - Oh My! Sorry, Gas  
 ROFL...CGU - Rolling on the Floor Laughing...Can't get Up!  
 TTYL - Talk to You Louder  
 WAITT - Who Am I Talking To?  
 WTFA - Wet the Furniture Again  
 WTP - Where's the Prunes  
 WWNO - Walker Wheels Need Oil



## SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

*By Rosemary McMahan*

The Retired Teachers of Southwest Florida will hold our annual luncheon on Tuesday, March 6, 2012. We will gather at The Creekside Restaurant located in the Villages of Country Creek in Estero, Florida. Social Hour will begin at noon.

Once again Walter Pilditch has agreed to join us and will give us pension updates. We have had more southwest Floridians join us each year. Mark your calendar now and plan to join us in March. If you need more information please contact [RM9706@aol.com](mailto:RM9706@aol.com) Updated information will come in a later bulletin.

## LETTERS

*May's News Bulletin: "Stop Blaming Teachers" by Director Richard Tryba was the BEST article I've read in years! In my 37 years of teaching I always asked, 'Why am I being blamed?'*

*The last 18 years of service I would leave my house around 7 a.m. and not return during football*

*season until 11 p.m., during basketball season maybe around 8 p.m. and on a regular day around 7 p.m., for I was there for my students. Where are the politicians? Blaming teachers!*

Mylah Deliford, Baton Rouge, La.  
RTAC Life Member; Retired from Dunbar High School

**[Contributor's note: "Thought you'd enjoy this one! You['ll] want your children and grandchildren to read it. They won't believe this happened, but it DID."]**

## HARRY AND BESS

Harry Truman was a different kind of President. He probably made as many, or more important decisions regarding our nation's history as any of the other 32 Presidents preceding him. However, a measure of his greatness may rest on what he did after he left the White House.

The only asset he had when he died was the house he lived in, which was in Independence, Missouri. His wife had inherited the house from her mother and father, and, other than their years in the White House, they lived their entire lives there.

When he retired from office in 1952, his income was a U.S. Army pension reported to have been \$13,507.72 a year. Congress, noting that he was paying for his stamps and personally licking them, granted him an "allowance" and, later, a retroactive pension of \$25,000 per year.

After President Eisenhower was inaugurated, Harry and Bess drove home to Missouri by themselves. There was no Secret Service following them.

When offered corporate positions at large

salaries, he declined, stating, "You don't want me. You want the office of the President, and that doesn't belong to me. It belongs to the American people and it's not for sale."

Even later, on May 6, 1971, when Congress was preparing to award him the Medal of Honor on his 87th birthday, he refused to accept it, writing, "I don't consider that I have done anything which should be the reason for any award, Congressional or otherwise."

As president he paid for all of his own travel expenses and food.

Modern politicians have found a new level of success in cashing in on the Presidency, resulting in untold wealth. Today, many in Congress also have found a way to become quite wealthy while enjoying the fruits of their offices. Political offices are now for sale.

Good old Harry Truman was correct when he observed, "My choices in life were either to be a piano player in a whore house or a politician. And to tell the truth, there's hardly any difference!"

*[Submitted by Director Art Keegan]*

### ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT GOVERNMENT BUREAUCRACY

- Pythagorean theorem: ..... 24 words.
- Lord's Prayer:.....66 words.
- Archimedes' Principle: .....67 words.
- 10 Commandments: .....179 words.
- Gettysburg address: ..... 286 words.
- Declaration of Independence:.....1,300 words.
- US Constitution..... 7,818 words.
- US Government regulations on sale of cabbage:  
.....26,911 words.

SORT OF PUTS THINGS INTO PROPER PERSPECTIVE, DOESN'T IT?

*[Submitted by Director Roy Coleman]*

### APOLOGIES

Several errors appeared in the May issue Memorial Donations.

Judy M. Dever made donations in memory of Sharonjoy Cross, Jane Schlee, Joe Barich and Ruth Bowden; Judy was incorrectly listed among the persons memorialized.

Marie Goggin-Bourgeois was incorrectly listed as a donor; Eva Nickolick made a donation in her memory. June Kakacek was spelled incorrectly as June Karace.

In New Life Members, Jane Moy was incorrectly listed as Jun Moy.

The News Bulletin staff regrets these errors.

## 13 THINGS YOUR BURGLAR WON'T TELL

1. Of course I look familiar. I was here just last week cleaning your carpets, painting your shutters, or delivering your new refrigerator.

2. Hey, thanks for letting me use the bathroom when I was working in your yard last week. While I was in there, I unlatched the back window to make my return a little easier.

3. Love those flowers. That tells me you have taste, and taste means there are nice things inside. Those yard toys your kids leave out always make me wonder what type of gaming system they have.

4. Yes, I really do look for newspapers piled up on the driveway. And I might leave a pizza flyer in your front door to see how long it takes you to remove it.

5. If it snows while you're out of town, get a neighbor to create car and foot tracks into the house. Virgin drifts in the driveway are a dead giveaway.

6. If decorative glass is part of your front entrance, don't let your alarm company install the control pad where I can see if it's set. That makes it too easy.

7. A good security company alarms the window over the sink. And the windows on the second floor, which often access the master bedroom and your jewelry. It's not a bad idea to put motion detectors up there too.

8. It's raining, you're fumbling with your umbrella, and you forget to lock your door - understandable. But understand this: I don't take a day off because of bad weather.

9. I always knock first. If you answer, I'll ask for directions somewhere or offer to clean your gutters. (Don't take me up on it.)

10. Do you really think I won't look in your sock drawer? I always check dresser drawers, the bedside table, and the medicine cabinet.

11. Here's a helpful hint: I almost never go into kids' rooms.

12. You're right: I won't have enough time to break into that safe where you keep your valuables. But if it's not bolted down, I'll take it with me.

13. A loud TV or radio can be a better deterrent than the best alarm system.

## 8 MORE THINGS A BURGLAR WON'T TELL YOU:

1. Sometimes, I carry a clipboard. Sometimes, I dress like a lawn guy and carry a rake. I do my best to never, ever look like a crook.

2. The two things I hate most: loud dogs and nosy neighbors.

3. I'll break a window to get in, even if it makes a little noise. If your neighbor hears one loud sound, he'll stop what he's doing and wait to hear it again. If he doesn't hear it again, he'll just go back to what he was doing. It's human nature.

4. I'm not complaining, but why would you pay all that money for a fancy alarm system and leave your house without setting it?

5. I love looking in your windows. I'm looking for signs that you're home, and for flat screen TVs or gaming systems I'd like. I'll drive or walk through your

neighborhood at night, before you close the blinds, just to pick my targets.

6. Avoid announcing your vacation on your Facebook page. It's easier than you think to look up your address.

7. To you, leaving that window open just a crack during the day is a way to let in a little fresh air. To me, it's an invitation.

8. If you don't answer when I knock, I try the door. Occasionally, I hit the jackpot and walk right in.

*Sources: Convicted burglars in North Carolina, Oregon, California and Kentucky; security consultant Chris McGoey and Richard T. Wright, a criminology professor at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, who interviewed 105 burglars for his book *Burglars on the Job*.*

*[Submitted by the late V.K. Brown, Editor Emeritus]*

The Retired Teachers Association of Chicago  
invites you to join RTAC Friends and Board Members  
at the

85th Annual Fall Luncheon  
General Meeting and Board Election

Thursday, October 6, 2011

11:45 AM until 2:30 PM

Doors will open no earlier than 11:30 AM

The RTAC Luncheon has a wonderful NEW location:  
**THE CONRAD HILTON GRAND BALLROOM**  
720 South Michigan Avenue – Chicago

The Grand Ballroom is immediately inside the main hotel entrance and UP the staircase on your left.  
An elevator is available for those who need it.

Convenient self-parking is easy; it is connected to the northwest corner of the hotel and is just \$15

~\*~SPECIAL TOPIC~\*~



Founded 1926



Founded 1926

## CONTINUING OUR WORK TO DEFEAT PENSION CHANGES!

You must attend this luncheon to hear the ways we can defeat devastating pension legislation again under consideration in the Illinois General Assembly! There is less time to derail these bills!

**GUESTS FROM THE PENSION FUND, PRINCIPALS ASSOCIATION AND THE LEGISLATURE ARE INVITED!**

**Many Door Prize winners will be called throughout the program.**



----- Complete, cut here and mail to RTAC today! -----



(Please PRINT) Enclosed find: \$\_\_\_ for \_\_\_ member tickets at \$45 each and  
\$\_\_\_ for \_\_\_ guest tickets at \$50 each

NO PRICE INCREASE SINCE 2008!

Although downtown hotel luncheon prices have gone up significantly,  
RTAC still maintains the price line!

Member's name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

To assist in an RTAC survey, please tell us the year you retired: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE give RTAC your e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

Paid Guests' names: \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: **Fall 2011 Luncheon**

Mail remittance and a **stamped self-addressed envelope** to:

Retired Teachers Association of Chicago

20 East Jackson Blvd. Suite 1500

Chicago, IL 60604-2235

For additional information call: 312-939-3327

Sorry, NO refunds for any reason. FINAL DEADLINE: September 30th

**WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCOMMODATE WALK-INS!**

**NOT AN RTAC MEMBER AND STILL WANT THE SPECIAL LOWER RTAC MEMBER PRICE? CALL 312-939-3327 TO JOIN TODAY!**

**Retired Teachers Association of Chicago  
20 E. Jackson Blvd. - Suite 1500  
Chicago, IL 60604-2235**

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CHICAGO, IL  
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**Please attend our**

**85TH ANNUAL FALL LUNCHEON**

**Thursday, October 6 - the Conrad Hilton Hotel**

**720 South Michigan Avenue.**

**Never has there been a greater need to show our SOLIDARITY  
and STRENGTH than the present. We must NOT PERMIT our  
pension and benefits to float away like balloons in the wind.**

**Come to the Luncheon and learn what we can do  
to preserve our hard-won benefits.**



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