

NEWS BULLETIN

RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO

Since 1926

VOL. LXII

JANUARY 2006

NO. 1

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF RTAC

A big thank you to the 9,790 retirees who voted in the Pension Trustee election in November. The results are just what RTAC had sought. In order of votes: **James Ward, Walter Pilditch and Vaughn Barber.**

Obviously many of you consulted endorsements made in this publication in earlier issues and in the special mailings we made. The RTAC Board of Directors was asked to consider the qualifications of each candidate and select three to recommend to you for your consideration.



Other candidates also had previous experience on the Pension Board, as well as qualifications such as legal expertise and legislative knowledge. I personally know three of the other four, and I

freely admit they would have also been very well qualified trust-

ees. It was very difficult to settle on only three RTAC endorsements. As an organization we are fortunate indeed to have so many capable persons who are willing to serve as trustees of our vastly important Pension Fund. These newly elected trustees took office November 29, and, as soon as we can, we will notify you of the results of elections that day for officers of the fund and the chairs of the committees so you will be up to date in knowing about your pension.

In the last issue I spoke of our move to the Palmer House Office Building, and progress has been made in this direction. We are renting the present space in our present building, 220 South State Street, on a month-to-month basis until all details of the move are worked out. Thanks to the

assistance of our Board of Directors' legal experts, we have been able to negotiate the best deal possible. We were even able to lower the cost per square foot for the entire term of the lease, as well as recover the price of moving our furniture, equipment, records, etc. to the new location. As I stated in the last issue, we will notify you of the move and of any open house the Social Committee may plan for the event. Stay tuned!

It is gratifying to know that many of you read these articles faithfully to keep up with the latest news about retirement and especially our pension. Responding to questions you have either telephoned in or written to us about,

here are some figures you will find interesting. These are from the Pension Board Handbooks for health insurance open enrollment meetings. They apply to retirees 65 or older (i. e., enrolled in Medicare):

Blue Cross/Blue Shield (Single Plan):

2005 Monthly Cost: \$ 354.93

2006 Monthly Cost: 281.09

HMO of Illinois (Single Plan):

2005 Monthly Cost: \$ 372.00

2006 Monthly Cost: 333.16

Humana Gold Plus (Single Plan):

2005 Monthly Cost: \$ 235.00

2006 Monthly Cost: 225.00

Looking at the above figures and comparing the costs prompted me to state, "The costs of the health plans are lower." For the couple rates, just double the figures above to get the approximate amount and don't forget to subtract the rebate of

(See **President**, page 3)

RTAC TRUSTEE TEAM WINS!
See page 3

**RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
OF CHICAGO**

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2006	2006-2007
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RTAC Office (HOURS: 10 AM to 3 PM weekdays.)	312-939-3327
RTAC Fax Line	312-939-0145
CRTAF Aid Fund	312-939-3364
ID Theft Reports (Call AIG Group: Use Policy # 916240)	866-434-3572
Chicago Teachers Pension Fund (203 N LaSalle St, 60601-1216)	312-604-1400
Discount Dental Plan (Identify yourself as an RTAC member)	888-632-5353
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Legislative Update, Insurance Counselor	312-939-3327
Law Line (Anne Chestney Mudd)	312-502-3949
MetLife Dental Plan	800-345-7868 Optn 4

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The News Bulletin invites YOU to email or mail your typed contribution (**editor@RTAC.org** at the editorial office (below). If NOT typed, please send it to the RTAC Office for typing. **April '06 issue deadline: February 20, 2006.**

<p>Mr. V. K. Brown, Editor Suite 2516 N 4800 S Chicago Beach Chicago IL 60615-2170</p>

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SPECIAL BLUE CROSS BULLETIN!

IF you have Medicare A and/or B, AND you are enrolled in a Chicago Teachers Pension Fund Health Care Plan, you are already enrolled in Blue Medicare Rx.

YOU NEED NOT, AND SHOULD NOT, ENROLL IN ANY OTHER MEDICARE D PRESCRIPTION PROGRAM!! The Pension Fund mailing you recently received points out that enrolling in a commercial Medicare D program MAY ACTUALLY ENDANGER YOUR PENSION FUND HEALTH CARE COVERAGE!



PRESENTING YOUR RETIREE TRUSTEES



Walter Pilditch (L) and James Ward celebrate their re-election as Pension Fund Trustees at the December Board meeting and holiday get-together. Vaughn Barber (photo at right), new to the Pension Fund Board of Trustees this year, was celebrating the holidays with family in England. (Staff photo)

THESE ARE YOUR NEW RETIREE TRUSTEES, sworn into office on November 29th, to serve the next two years as trustees of the Chicago Teachers Pension Fund, in the interest of retired Chicago teachers.



Vaughn J Barber

Please remember that they are elected to protect your interests at the Fund. When you want services from the Fund, of course you call their offices at 312-604-1400. But if you have a question regarding (for example) the reasoning behind a particular CTPF policy, or if you think the fund should rethink an existing policy or procedure, these are the men to ask. You can always get in touch with them through the RTAC office, at 312-939-3327.

Do you carry a complete current list of the medications you take? Your doctors will love you for it, and it could conceivably save your life!

REMINDERS AND TIDBITS

How long has it been since you looked - *really* looked - at the telephone numbers and other information at left, on p. 2? It should remind you that RTAC offers many valuable services to you, many of them free.

(President, continued)

70% that applies to the pensioner's insurance premium. If you have any more comments or questions, please write us, or, if you wish, contact the Pension Board directly at (312) 604-1400. Health care insurance is one of the most important benefits from our Pension Fund.

As we enter 2006, let's pause and be thankful our Pension Fund is in excellent financial condition

and provides us with a dependable source of income. This cannot be said of a great many other retirement financial arrangements. Let's keep our Fund strong: When we call upon you to contact your senator or representative, please be sure to respond so we can continue to enjoy the security of our Chicago Teacher's Pension.

Walter

In The Crosshairs: YOUR PENSION!

by V K Brown

Hundreds of thousands of U. S. retirees have lost pensions and health benefits that they were “guaranteed for life” by corporations, giant and small, that have sought refuge in bankruptcy.

A recent study by a respected news source⁽¹⁾ concludes that Congress has materially contributed to the trend. For example, Congress recently changed the bankruptcy laws, making it easier for corporations to get out from under their legal obligations to retirees. Many billions of dollars are at stake. In the case of the Polaroid Corporation, long-term employees had built up substantial fortunes in Polaroid stock through an Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP). Because Polaroid failed to respond successfully to the tidal shift to digital photography, its stock plunged from its high of \$60 per share. A bankruptcy court refused Polaroid employees permission to sell their stock, and they ultimately had to accept 9¢ per share.

There are basically two kinds of pension plans: Defined-contribution plans and defined-benefit plans. Under a defined-contribution plan, you contribute a regular fixed amount into the plan, and your pension is determined by whatever assets the plan has when you retire. Under a defined-benefit plan, you are promised fixed benefits at retirement, and if the plan’s assets are not sufficient, somebody has to make up the difference. Chicago teacher retirees have a defined-benefit plan that currently has about 86% of the funds needed; under current law the Chicago Board of Education must contribute enough to bring that level up to 90%.

Under the well-publicized givebacks accepted by United Airlines employees, some projected pensions have dropped by two-thirds. In many other



The nice thing about being senile is you can hide your own Easter eggs.

bankruptcies, the benefits, promised or not, simply cannot be paid at all.

Enter the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC), a non-profit, federally-created corporation that guarantees payment of certain pension benefits under defined-benefit plans without sufficient money to pay benefits. Started in 1974, it receives no Government funds. Sponsors of defined-benefit plans pay a Congressionally-determined insurance premium for the PBGC. In 2000, the fund had a surplus of some \$10 billion. By the end of 2005, it may have a deficit of \$30 billion, and the chairman reports that currently active bankruptcies total around \$50 billion. Considering what effect the resulting PBGC obligations will have on the premiums paid by sponsors of defined-benefit plans, the prediction of Time magazine is not surprising: “At the current pace, human-resources offices will **turn out the lights in their defined-benefit section within a decade or so.**”

Lawmakers and the laws they pass play a crucially important role in pensions, private as well as public. Current law actually invites firms to declare bankruptcy, dump their pension obligations, re-organize and start over again. They are also destroying the defined-benefit pension plan itself. Considering the declared financial condition of the State of Illinois, can our pensions be far behind? It all seems to be happening because nobody is watching.

Consider that 20,000 CPS retirees have our endangered defined-benefit plan, but less than 600 of them (the Letter-A-Month Club members) are even committed to writing as many as 12 letters *per year* to those who control their futures. That’s about one member in 30. Is it any wonder that a few politicians seem to feel free to pick our pockets at will?

(1) **The Broken Promise.** *Time*, Oct. 23, 31, 2005. By Donald L. Barlett and James B. Steele.



Snowmen fall from Heaven unassembled.

PENSION NEWS

by James F. Ward, Pension Fund Trustee

The Pension Board met September 13, 2005 as an Investment Committee of the Whole. Also present were Mr. **Kevin Huber** (Executive Director), Mr. Brad Blalock and Ms. Kristin Finney of Mercer Investment Consulting, and various staff members.

Representatives from the Gardner Rich Company briefly addressed the trustees concerning their private equity offering.

Regular reviews of equity managers J. & W. Seligman & Company and Fidelity Management Trust Company were then presented. The Investment Committee recommended following current policy, i. e, placing both firms on a watch list for three more quarters because of poor investment performance.

Mr. Blalock informed the trustees that Ms. Barbara Lumpkin has left Northern Trust and was replaced by Mr. Larry Jones as the new emerging/minority manager practice leader at Northern. Mr. Blalock recommended inviting Mr. Jones to the next Investment Committee meeting to inform the trustees of his plans for the practice. Mr. Blalock also reported that Progress Investment Management had substantially changed its organization, including a new chief financial officer, chief operations officer, senior vice president of investments, and a new analyst. They still need a chief investment officer. The trustees will be kept posted.

The Investment committee recommended that Northern Trust conduct a transition management educational session for the trustees at a future Investment Committee meeting. Transition management refers to all the trading that must be done when transferring from one portfolio manager to another when one is fired or resigns from an advisory assignment.

At the September 20 meeting, Mr. Huber described how the new system of account and file storing named Pension Gold went live on August 8,

2005. The office received a few phone calls regarding direct deposit issues, which were resolved.

Dr. **Walter Pilditch**, chairman of the Pension Laws and Rules Committee reported on the four measures affecting the Fund enacted by the Legislature. SB 1548 appropriated \$65 million to the Fund, and also appropriated \$9.9 million under Section 17-127 for 2.2 formula financing as required by statute. House Bill 165 clarifies the role of administrators in electing and serving as Pension Trustees. It provides that administrators have the same positions as principals in elections and therefore cannot vote for or serve in teacher positions. HB 3740 allows the Fund to withhold amounts owed to the Fund from pensioner benefit disbursements. Lastly SB 27 extends the ERO option to June 30, 2010 and specifies that the employer may not limit the number of ERO participants to less than 200.

The trustees voted to eliminate the annual requirement of certification for a member who has a same sex partner/partner's children carried on his/her health insurance plan, beginning for open enrollment periods starting November 1, 2005. New pensions were granted, bringing the yearly total to about 1200.

An employee salary schedule with an average increase of 4.2% was approved by the Board. The election procedure offered by the Elections Committee was discussed and approved.

At the October 20 meeting President Knazze reported that 330 teachers attended the Pension Fund Representative Training Seminar on October 8, 2005 and 2,000 retirees attended the Health Insurance Open Enrollment Seminars on October 3 and 4, 2005. The September 30, 2005 issue of the Pension Fund Newsletter was completed and mailed to members later that week. The letter encompassed elections, Medicare D, and investments.

(See *Pension*, next page)



FOR HAPPIER BIRTHDAYS

Is your 100th coming up? Are you getting married soon? Having an anniversary party? The Computer Age makes things easier for you every day.

Google, the computer search engine currently in the process of eating the world, has some neat gimmicks. When you're browsing the internet for bargains and find something that interests you, switch to Froogle. (You'll find the link just above the Google search box.) The Froogle engine puts all the prices right in front of you; and if you click a box on the left, you can view vendors in order of cost.

This is old stuff; but now there's something new. To the right of the price in the search results is a link "[Add to list.](#)" Clicking on this puts the condensed ad into your own personal wish list, where you can save it while you browse different web pages of interest to you. You can put goodies from all sorts of different firms into your own "me registry." For Holidays? Anniversaries? Anything else?

When you're finished listing all your secret desires, you can use the best feature of all. On the left side of the Froogle search results page, click on "My wish list." This brings up a long link that you can copy and paste into an email, and send it to anyone in the world, including Grandma, or your rich Uncle Herman, or your boyfriend. Goodbye Bridal Registry, and forget writing to the North Pole!



(Pension, continued)

Mr. Huber said he has been working with city and state funds to implement the Sudan Investment Prohibition Law. He explained that the Sudan Law prohibits funds from making any new investments in companies that do business with Sudan or the Government of Sudan, beginning January 27, 2006. A motion moving the November meeting to November 29, 2005 passed. A protest challenging

REAL LIFE AT THE AID FUND

By Audrey U. Mivelaz, President

Some years ago, a number of retired Chicago Public School teachers noted that many of their colleagues were living in desperate circumstances. The number of those in serious need was too great for just a few individuals to fill it, and so the Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund was born. From inception, it was designed to provide modest financial supplements to those retired teachers whose pensions and savings were inadequate to provide for the ever-rising cost of everyday living and its inevitable small emergencies. The fund was never intended to provide full support for any individual.

A few recent large contributions from some generous donors seem to have led a handful of people to believe that the Aid Fund's operating principles may have become less restrictive. How else can one explain – and this actually happened – a supplicant asking for a regular stipend of \$5,000 or \$10,000 per month?

The Aid Fund Board does not believe that the donors of the hundreds of small contributions would approve of their donations being used to support others in lavish style. Only by holding to its original purpose of providing emergency support to those in real need can the Aid Fund be sure it will be available whenever it is called upon.

We at the Aid Fund, and all of us at RTAC, hope that you and your family had a wonderful Holiday season, and that your year 2006 will be among the best.



the validity of the teacher trustee election was filed in late October by four candidates. On November 8, the Election Committee considered the 17 point protest, and recommended that the full board declare the election valid. At the special meeting of November 22, 2005, the Pension Board approved the election committee's recommendation. Elected trustees were sworn in on November 29.

Donors to the 2005 CRTAF Hurricane Relief Effort

Henry Adamowicz	Nancy Makowski
Daphne J. Baldie	Larry Martens
Ouida Barlow	M. Martino
Maryrita Boland	Ned Mc Cray
Mildred M. Brainer	Eileen Mc Nulty
V K & Betty Brown	Melinda Mitchell
Diane Burrage-Martin	Audrey Mivelaz
Veronica Chemers	Marcella L. Morrison
Karen Crotty	Sarah Mutua
Geraldine Di Biaso	Dianne K Nichols
Mary K. Dowd	Sally Nusinson
Birdell C. Edwards	Jacquelin Dare Perkins
Almena B. English	Ethel Philpott
Arthur A. Fumarolo	Walter & Joyce Pilditch
Ruth F. Gonzalez	Dolores N. Pillow
Dolores M. Graziadei	Mary Sharon Reilly
Paula Grisson	Carole Rivera
Fred Hunter	Joyce M. Seidel
Sharonjoy A. Jackson	Charlene K. Smith
Lois Jennings	Mildred A. Snowwhite
Delphine Johnson	Anna M. Stork
June R. Kakacek	Lena E. Talley
Esta Kallen	Lorraine B. Tancredi
Mary G. Leatherman	Shirley A. Trotter
Art Lehne	Virginia Wood

*In addition to the above efforts, RTAC Director Dr. **Mae Hunter's** son, **Henderson Hunter**, provided emergency lodging for as many as 35 people who were forced from their homes by Hurricane Katrina. Henderson works in real estate development and was able to use already existing homes, but underwent considerable personal expense for food and other costs. Several directors helped him with these expenses.*

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

By Ethel Philpott

Best wishes for health and abundance to all of you, as we move into 2006!

Three bills affecting us still remain in the Illinois legislature. They are **HB 299** (Molaro — the Ad Hoc Lite bill to provide pension increases for those who retired before 1980 and whose pensions are now near or below the poverty level), **HB 792** (Molaro — which would guarantee a 75% health care insurance rebate), and **HB 192** (Saviano — which would provide a minimum pension of \$18,000 for those with at least 20 years service.) If HB 192 were to pass, HB 299 might not be necessary.



Ethel Philpott

All three bills are now slumbering peacefully in the Rules Committee. With an abbreviated session, we will have little time to waste, so the Legislation Committee has already asked the Letter-A-Month Club which of the bills we should concentrate on. If you are (or would like to be) a member of the Letter-A-Month Club and you were NOT contacted about the first of December, PLEASE CONTACT V K BROWN IMMEDIATELY (see p. 2). In the very difficult session ahead, we will need all the help we can get.

As a hint of what may come, consider HB 750 (Miller) and SB 750 (Meeks), withdrawn for now. Among other things, they contained provisions which would levy state income taxes on retired teachers' pensions. We may not have heard the last of this and similar ideas, as the state thrashes about ever more desperately, trying to find more money without offending anyone.

Uppermost in your mind should be the fact that 2006 is an election year. Primary elections for all state and federal representatives, and a third of state senators, will be held on March 21, 2006. Primaries are usually much more important than general elections, because the opposing candidates are all of the same party and therefore party labels mean nothing. Although there may be exceptions, once the candidates have been nominated, whatever party dominates the district will

usually elect its candidate. ***If you want to gain influence with a legislator, get involved in his or her primary campaign!***

Although 300 US Representatives (more than 2/3 of the House membership) have signed on as co-sponsors, including all Illinois representatives except **Dennis Hastert** and **Henry Hyde**, repeal of the GPO/WEP Social Security penalties continues to languish in Congress. During the last session, another GPO/WEP repeal bill had the same kind of support. But when a discharge petition to force the bill out of committee onto the House floor was circulated, it failed badly.

Given recent worldwide natural disasters and our military costs, we do understand the need for Congress to make tough spending cuts. Under consideration are eliminating mortgage and home equity loan interest deductions, as well as state and local property and income tax deductions. These are euphemistically being labeled simplifications or revisions of the tax code. We must be very careful to see that pensioners and other Americans on low or fixed incomes are not "revised" into homelessness and poverty in the process. A frightening article entitled "*The Broken Promise*" appeared in *Time* magazine in late October of 2005, providing a searching look at Congressional complicity in legislation that encourages corporate bankruptcy and assaults on pensions. (See p. 4.) One wonders how much of the current focus on other matters represents a deliberate attempt to divert our attention from the rapidly escalating attacks on our lifetime savings.

If our pensions are to remain secure, we must all take part in the task. We must keep constantly in mind that powerful and influential interests are continuously casting covetous eyes on our ten billion dollar fund. Donate to RTAC COPE (see p. 15), or join the Letter-A-Month Club, today. Even better, do both!

Ethel Philpott

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

By Robert F. Bures

By the time you read this message we'll be into the NEW YEAR! Sooooooooooooo - Happy 2006, everyone!

At this time of year I'm always reminded how fast time flies. Back in grade school - most of you know I attended Tonti Elementary at 59th and Homan and graduated in 1953 - it seemed to take forever for a year to pass while in school. Now in retirement it seems that we're saying Happy New Year far too often.



Robert F. Bures

However, I'm really glad that I can still say it!

The holidays are behind us - Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa - and on behalf of RTAC, the Aid Fund and our Committee on Political Education - we sincerely hope that you had a joyous, happy and healthful season!

In order to meet our publishing date and mailing goals, I'm actually writing this message on November 16 - the day of the first snow in Chicagoland. Just a bit on my rooftop, but enough to remind me of winter. It is nice to take on winter on our own terms - we're retired! Thank goodness for a strong pension fund!

Speaking of our Pension Fund, THANK YOU for electing our three RTAC endorsed trustee candidates! **Vaughn Barber, Walter Pilditch** and **James F. Ward** led the field, with our team garnering 65% of the votes cast. This mandate from the annuitants means that we must fulfill our main objective - AN EVEN STRONGER PENSION FUND! Vaughn, Walter and Jim have pledged to represent the annuitants in the strongest possible manner. Remember, you can always express your opinions and needs to our Pension Trustees. Call the office, send a note or letter, email or fax us and I'll personally make sure that the message gets through and that they respond to you!

The Illinois General Assembly reconvenes again in Springfield in early January. The five

"tops" - the Governor, the Speaker of the House, the President of the Senate and the minority leaders in the House and Senate - have decided that the General Assembly will adjourn early in 2006.

The target date is April 7th.

The five "tops" have also decided that each Representative or Senator can introduce as many bills for action as they wish. BUT, and it's a major BUT, each legislator can advance only three bills in his or her respective chamber. This very important condition means that legislators can introduce

any bills promised to constituents, making them happy. He or she can later deride the leadership for the arbitrary rules that prevented advancing the constituent's bill. The effect of the rule thus makes it relatively easy to have bills introduced, but very hard to have them advanced. Even harder will be the task of having them passed by both houses, and then signed into law by the Governor.

You know the Boy Scouts motto - "BE PREPARED!" Please be prepared to jump into grass roots action as the legislative season begins. RTAC may very well ask you to call, write a note, email or fax your members of the General Assembly. We have done it before and were successful! Remember HB1269?

We inundated the legislature with so many calls and messages they begged us to stop! We may have to do it again! Thanks for being prepared to jump into action!

A RTAC member recently wrote to me saying that my "messages" are always so personal. Well, they are!

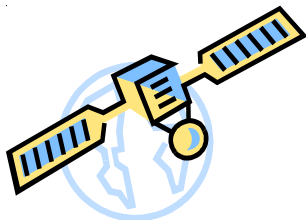
I try to write from both the heart and mind on topics that are important to our annuitants as well as to me.

In the meantime, stay healthy and active!

Bob Bures

SATELLITE DOINGS

SAN DIEGO UPDATE



Once again, the announcement that appeared in the October 2005 RTAC News Bulletin was successful. There were 26 retired teachers at the October 25, 2005 luncheon and business meeting held at the MCAS Miramar Officers Club. Sixty reservation letters were sent out and 26 people responded. None of the letters that went out were returned as non-deliverable, so the assumption is made that the non-responders could not make the luncheon for one reason or another. This fall meeting contained four fewer people than the spring meeting.

The names of those who attended are: **John Alden, Dorothy Benschop, Ruby Blackburn, Fran and Jack Blumenthal, Rich Buchwald, Marion and Peter Casa, Yvonne Crute, Louise Daugherty, Sam Dolnick, Rita Evoy, Layah Golden, Louana Hall, Ruth Harris, Sylvia Kayser, Linda and Paul Mooney, Florence Nemkov, Ellen Perry, Angelo and Irene Sharres, Zelda and Herman Sweet, Harriet Tuve,** and



When you are in deep trouble,
say nothing, and try to look inconspicuous.

Vlasta Williams. If any of the readers of this Bulletin recognize any of the above names be sure to write, c/o RTAC office.

Rita Evoy, President, took care of some business items, after a delicious lunch and dessert.

Sam Dolnick, Treasurer, was happy to report that the difficulties with Prime Therapeutics were resolved and everyone reported that their medications were coming in a timely fashion. Sam attended the RTAC fall luncheon in Chicago, as he was visiting with his son that week. He reported that the Pension Fund was 86% funded and is in good shape. He again emphasized that if a merger of the CTPF and the downstate teachers pension fund, which is only 56% funded, is attempted, RTAC (and presumably the CTPF) will resist the attempt. The forthcoming election for CTPF trustees was presented to the assemblage with RTAC's recommendations being **Vaughn Barber, Walter Pilditch** and **James Ward**. These names were presented to our group of 26 with an appeal to vote for them.

The new health insurance premium was discussed, with everyone pleased that the premium went down. However, this was offset in part by the fact that the deductible went up and also that our cost of the medications was increased from \$5.00 to \$10.00 for generic medications and from \$25.00 to \$35.00 for brand name medications.

Since most of the people in attendance had retired prior to 1978 it was reassuring to hear that both RTAC and CTPF are again trying to obtain the ad hoc raise that they have been seeking for the last four or five years. Maybe this year they will be successful.

That's all folks!

Please contact **Rita Evoy** at 858-566-1819, or at 619-697-4854 if you have questions or wish more information.

Cordially,

Sam Dolnick

FROM THE SERVICE COMMITTEE

By Betsy Clayton

We are all given lives of differing lengths. Survival for many years is not an unmixed blessing, considering the loss of so many friends and family members along the way. The Service Committee regularly greets our most senior members with individual notes and greetings on birthdays and holidays. These seniors deeply appreciate this concern, as evidenced by the responses they write.

*Do you remember any of the teachers who wrote these notes? Or do you remember another who may have helped you in the past? Take a minute, **now**, to write a note to him or her, in care of the RTAC office. We'll see that your note is either forwarded, or maybe returned to you with news you might not welcome. And if it is, won't you wish you'd written a little sooner?*

Ina Rosenblatt (IL) has published *To Life: A Collection of Poems Book 2*. That's quite an accomplishment, especially when you've reached the age of 95, Ina!

Grace F. McCray (AZ) asked a friend to write as she can no longer see to write. Her memories of her Chicago teaching days are very clear and she holds them close to her heart.

Agnes Shortino (Chi) is trying to learn how to walk after a broken hip. What a shame. How did it happen, Agnes?

Dorothy Benshop (CA) enjoys life in a retirement home in the San Diego area. The meals are excellent and there are many daily activities.

Dorothy Armbruster (IL) passed her driver's test recently. Is that a record, Dorothy, since you also write you celebrated your 96th birthday?

Marion Shortino (Chi) wrote "you helped make my birthday very special." That makes us feel good, Marion.

Mildred C. Medina (AZ) is living in a large retirement home halfway between Phoenix and Flagstaff. It's hot and her bones love it! There are many activities and her favorite crafts. She also enjoyed tutoring a young boy. She said she couldn't get away from old habits. Once a teacher, always a teacher, Mildred.

Patricia Dolan (FL) regularly swims 22 laps at the pool. That's a real accomplishment, Patricia! When she was 72, she won three First Places in Chicago's Senior Olympics.

Gladys Wright (IL) says her 93 years has slowed her navigation but she still gets around slowly. Take your time and keep right on going, Gladys.

Carrie M. Platts (SC) enjoys trips with her family and friends. She also keeps busy collecting salt and pepper shakers.

Esther Yost (CA) has macular degeneration in both eyes and though she'll never go blind, her eyesight will dim. Otherwise, she's in excellent health and her doctor thinks she'll live to be 100. We hope he's right, Esther!

Also sending greetings and thanks:

Julian B. Kanner (IN)
Sylvia Dombeck (FL)
Mary Jane McGinnis (AZ)
Elizabeth Yount (IL)
Frank J. Tezky (IL)
Charlotte Roller (Chi)
Susie Ward (Chi)
Victoria Brierty (Chi)
Virginia Wood (Chi)

SNAPPY COMEBACK DEPARTMENT

(Another RTAC benefit)

When they accuse you of being over the hill, just reply: "Over the hill? Oh, yeah ... that's when you begin to pick up speed..."

PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

RTAC's first Luncheon Photo Contest, for pictures taken at the Fall Luncheon 2005, ended with just two winners. Past President **Helen P. Johnson**, never one to shy away from new experiences, purchased a new digital camera and had a fine time snapping pictures at the Luncheon. Afterward, she emailed them to the Editor from her own computer.

One of those she took was this outstanding, split-second shot of RTAC President **Walter Pilditch**, reacting to something that Pension Fund Executive Director **Kevin Huber** said from the podium. Professional photographers know that it's just not



Walter Pilditch (l) is greatly amused by Kevin Huber. Is this a first-class, prize winning photo, or what? (See story.)

(Photo by Helen Johnson)



Are Willard Uber and friends all on the same page? There seems to be a variety of emotions here.

(Photo by Lotty Blumenthal)

possible to take such a picture deliberately, since no one reacts that quickly and the situation is long gone before both photographer and camera can possibly respond. And who could possibly fault that lighting?

Second place in the contest was awarded to **Lotty Blumenthal**, many of whose pictures have appeared in *Substance*, the alternative publication for active Chicago teachers. The \$25 prize winner for Lotty was this one of **Willard Uber's** table, with guests showing the widest possible range of emotions. Lotty sent her conventional prints to the editor by U. S. mail.

At the November Board of Directors meeting, Helen was greatly astonished and delighted to find that the judges unanimously selected this picture

as the first prize winner. Editor **V. K. Brown** presented Helen with the \$50 prize check, as Walter and Secretary **Jewel Koch** looked on.

President Pilditch later confided that he spent most of the rest of the Board meeting trying to remember what had been so funny.

If he succeeded, he didn't tell us.



A very much surprised Helen Johnson accepts her first prize award at the November Board meeting as President Walter Pilditch and Secretary Jewel Koch look on, amused.

(Photo by Steven Kailes)

**MEMORIAL DONATIONS TO
CHICAGO RETIRED TEACHERS AID FUND**

FEDERAL TAX DEDUCTIBLE. Amounts of \$10 and over
(from August 25, 2005 to November 18, 2005)

<u>DONOR:</u>	<u>IN MEMORY OF:</u>
Maurice E. Haynes	Hazel R. Huggins
Floyd & Shirley Du Bois	Ovida M. Palmer
Mary Nalbandian	Kathleen Mary Mc Kay
Jerome & Muriel Wachter	Frieda Chernoff
Rita M. Doherty	Coletta A. Duncan
Mary K. Dowd	Miriam Peterson Anita Richter Dorothy Stevens
Nancietta Stocking	Marie Vogt
Henry Suder Club	Richard Dukelow
Dan Remahl	Louis Gratch Joe Podraza
Mary Ann Gall	Michael V. Carelli
Henry Suder Club	James Curth
Robert L. Abson	Theodore Carlson
Mary K. Dowd	John T. Burke
Frank Glover	James W. Crowe Casimer Sutor
Helen P. Johnson	Theodore C. Carlson
Mary Quinn	Marsha Davis
Lauretta Obara	Mildred Dubyk Evelyn Moeller
Marion C. Hoffing	Theodore C. Carlson Martin P. Vidovic

Petra Harris	Marion Beach Mary Rose Evans Hazel Huggins Eunice Roberts Gloria Young Lucille Lightfoot Claire Holton
Henry Adamowicz	Esther F. Jenssen Jerry Christmas Dr. Vera Stevenson Stanley T. Ptak
Vivian M. Scott	Mary Sibyl Donn
Dorothy W. Raven	Lorraine Tuggle
Isabel H. Schechter	Frieda Chernoff
Joan M. Soderberg Williams	Katherine Kohn
Eva Nickolich	Ellen Reither
Bernadette M. Benson	James D. Liston
Marguerite E. Clakis	Vivian Healy
Ruth P. Artisuk	George E. Mishkin
Harriet Schab	Mary Kohl
Leonard V. Jareczek	Richard Majewski
David Earlix	Jacob Knaizer
Dorothy Kozeluh	Ms..Dorothy Kelly Lucia Satkoff
Elaine M. Thigpen	Jerri Jean Hawkins
Bernadette Urbanski	Toni Ozog Richard Urbanski Tommi Urbanski
Patricia Washington	Franklin Washington Zenobia Hamilton

(*Donors, continued*)

Steven Kailes	Theodore C. Carlson
Diane Farwick	Judith L. Baker
Alice M. Gutenkauf	Willie Scarborough Madelyn Sheridan Gwen Steele Boutte Ted Lewis Alberta Pruitt
Norman Anderson	Patrick Drukin John T. Burke Anthony J. Scotillo
Ruth Muth Skriden	Alice Pattara
Alice O. Keane	Muriel K. Von Albade
Pamela Guyton	Cynthia D. Brown
Don & Jean Hill	Mary Kohl Pat Durkin
Hilda T. Hogan	Marie Vogt
LeRoy Weathersby	Anna J. Berry Sidney Fisher George E. Goodridge William M. Martin John M. Sheehan Muriel J. Taylor Bennye Mae Tillman Gerald Y. Vasyliv Albert Washington Alice B. Weathersby
Richard Tryba	Bonnie Jones
Gwendolyn E. Long	Clara K. Holton Ronald Beavers Brenda Brown
Patricia Rozanski	Fern Taylor George Athanasopoulos
Shirley F. Levy	Judith L. Baker

*SPECIAL DONATIONS TO
CHICAGO RETIRED TEACHERS AID FUND*

<u>DONOR:</u>	<u>OCCASION:</u>
Martha Semisch	General Principles
North Shore Illinois Chapter The Links, Inc.	In honor of: Hazel Renfroe Huggins
Norman L. Anderson	General Puposos
Rose M. Barbarossa	General Principles
Anonymous	General Principles
Gloria A. Schwarzkopf	In honor of: Perennial Friendship
Anonymous	General Principles
Marilyn E. Quas	General Principles
Dolores K. Horwitz	General Principles
Edythe Samlan	General Principles
Hazel H. Kott	General Principles
Harryetta B. Matthews	General Principles

*MEMORIAL DONATIONS TO
RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION of CHICAGO
FOR THE GENERAL EXPENSE FUND
NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE. In amounts of \$10 and over
(from August 25, 2005 to November 18, 2005)*

<u>DONOR:</u>	<u>IN MEMORY OF:</u>
Shirley M. Kremsner	Robert F. Mueller
Joseph J. Eckl	Loretta Clair Nix
Ronald Pastryk	Memory of Philip Kozlowski Classmate of mine- Schurz H. S. '51-'55
Sarah Blumen	Edward Bush

(See *Donors*, next page)

DONOR FORM

Retired Teachers Association of Chicago
220 South State Street, Room 2100
Chicago IL 60604-2180

PLEASE NOTE: Sorry, but **WE CAN NO LONGER ACCEPT MONEY ORDERS.**

My enclosed **check** for \$_____ is to cover (please check below as appropriate):

- 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.**)

Donor's name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

All donations are gratefully accepted, but the following choices require a \$10 minimum donation, either to the Aid Fund or to RTAC, for each name listed.

This donation is made (please check below):

- In memory of _____
- In honor of _____
- Happy birthday/anniversary to: _____
- Celebrating: _____
- Just on general principles.
- Anonymously; please do NOT publish my name.

OPTIONAL: Please notify

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

that this donation has been made.

**PLEASE REMEMBER the Retired Teachers Association of Chicago
or Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund in your will.**

(Donors, continued)

John Keating Roy Littner

Mildred J. Armstrong, Ph. D. Letha M. Cole

Mary Hortense Schaefer Warren T. Baugh
Past President of IFT

Rose Mennella Alice Pattara

Joyce Gloppe Edith Diane Sinch

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

(See Donors, next page)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Please use this form to change your **permanent** address.

Name: _____

NEW Address: _____ Apt. _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone () _____ - _____

Please include your last mailing label, OR fill in your OLD address:

No. & Street _____ Apt. _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Effective date of change (month, day, year): ____/____/____

"SNOWBIRD" NOTICE

(**Please** use this form if you will spend part of this year in one location and part of it in another.)

Your Name: _____

The *News Bulletin* is mailed to arrive on approximately the first of January, April, July and October. *Please show below the issues you want mailed to each address:*

These issues _____ should be mailed to me at:

Address: _____ Apt. _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

(My telephone there is () _____ - _____)

These issues _____ should be mailed to me at:

Address: _____ Apt. _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

(My telephone there is () _____ - _____)

Please mark this box if these instructions apply every year.

(**Donors, continued**)

<u>DONOR:</u>	<u>OCCASION:</u>
Cornelia R. Eash	General Principles
Henry Adamowicz	General Principles
Joseph J. Eckl	Happy birthday to Betty Gorey
Joseph J. Eckl	Celebrating a new life!

Vivian G. Simenas	General Principles
Ruth Bowden	General Principles
Flora M. Soto	General Principles
Mary G. Devine	General Principles
Jesse White	General Principles



New Life Members

May 23, 2005 to August 25, 2005

Adamowicz, Donald	Kennedy, Margaret
Alvino, Sylvia	Kerke, Hattie L
Anderson, Margaret	Kinney, Rosemary
Aviles, Maria Frances	Kohnke, Jewel L
Bacskai, Sandra	Larsen, Barbara Ann
Baker, Joyce N	Laster, Joe E
Barszcz, Chester F	Laughlin, Laurence
Betancourt, Miriam	Malles, Louise M Price
Blatnik, Marcella	Malone, Mary T
Boyle, Jaclyn	Manthe, Barbara J
Bray, Patricia	Mc Cord, Michal C
Britton-Fuller, Ingrid	Milkowski, George E
Brown, Lawrence	Moore, Hilda P
Bullett, Maurice A	Moscinski, Donna
Burke, Marie C	Mullon, Norma T
Callegari, Sadie W	Mutua, Sarah Coleman
Cardash, Esther	Pedraza, Aurea Esther
Carlson, Linda	Phillips, Rheva
Carnes, Irene F	Premack, Renee
Carney, Alice	Rafferty, Adeline D
Castelli, Vito	Repetto, Marilyn L
Connellan, James M	Rey, Marina D
Dineen, Mary Alice	Rhodes, Sonja
Dinwiddie, Bernita K	Rice, Rosale
Donovan, Joy Panko	Roberts, Janice
Douglas, Claudette M	Rubino, Aileen P
Drucker, Evelyn W	Rubino, Antoinette
Everett, John E	Rucker, Alice E
French, Winifred W	Seaton, Pearlina R
Gaines-Smith, Mary B	Segal, Mae
George, Mayme J	Sullivan, Lorraine M
Glover, Mary De Jean	Sullivan, Raphael P
Gordon, Douglas L	Summers-Lavelli, Shari
Green, Mildred A	Swanson, Lawrence
Griefnow, Robert E	Talley, Lena E
Hampton, Juanita Riley	Terzian, Richard
Harmon, Essie	Thigpen, Elaine M
Ideno, Helen	Trainor, Nancy M
Jackson, Doris K	Valentino, Jeannine I
James, Ronald A	Wade, Onetia M
Johnson, Janet L	Washington, Margaret J
Johnson, Theresa	White, Mae Alice
Justice, Edwina R	Wishner, Irving
Kallas, James F	Woodbury, Emma L
Kelly, Essie L	Wooding, Rochelle
Kemp, Kathryn	

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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

A. C. E. S.	Chicago - All	Eric Werge	773-535-6922
AARP	Skokie	Loretta Hilsher	847-571-5514
AARP Illinois Center	Chicago - Loop	Carole Aston	312-458-3604
Abraham Lincoln Centre	Chicago - South	Charlene Preston	773-451-3360
Cabrini Connection	Chicago	Daniel Bassill	312-467-2889
Centro Loyola	Chicago - Pilsen	Daniel Loftus	312-226-7887
Chicago Botanic Garden	Glencoe	Linda Doede	847-835-8281
Chicago Cultural Center	Chicago - Loop	Marianne Wolf	312-744-7096
Chicago Found for Ed	Chicago – MI Ave	Liz Funk	312-670-2036
Chicago Humanities Festival	Chicago - All	Annie Tully	312-661-1028
Chicago Symphony Orch	Chicago - All		312-294-3160
Du Page Historical Museum	Suburbs W	Mary Johnson	630-682-6746
FreshStart (GED Tutors)	Maywood	Donna Thomas	708-205-1334
Garfield Park Conserv Alliance	Chicago - West	Kirsten Akre	773-638-1766X24
Glessner House Museum	Chicago – Nr S	Clare Schaecher	312-326-1480
Inner Voice Learning Center	Chicago - Nr W	Antoinette Toliver	312-666-8110
Junior Achievement Chicago	Chicago - All	Cherie Russ	312-715-1300x269
Kids Voting	Chicago	Ellen Solomon	312-332-3107
Kohl Childrens Museum	Wilmette	Charlene Podolsky	847-256-6056
LaRabida Childrens Hospital	Chicago - South	Judi Blakemore	773-363-6700
League of Women Voters	Chicago - Loop	Courtney Balok	312-939-5935
Lincoln Park Zoo	Chicago - North	Elizabeth Wheeler	312-742-2125
Lira Arts (Polish)	Chicago - N	Katharine McJimsey	773-508-7040
Literacy Tutoring	Suburbs - N	Cathy Niemet	847-635-1426
Loyola Museum Of Art	Chicago –Wtr Twr	Ann Meehan	312-915-7604
Nat'l Arts Foundation	Skokie	Art Sahagian	847-674-7990
Oriental Inst, Univ of Chicago	Chicago - South	Cathy D or Terry F	773-702-1845
PetCare Curriculum	Chicago – North	Julie Smith	773-784-5605
Polish Museum of America	Chicago - Nr N		773-384-3352
Prologue Adult Education	Chicago - N	Christina Mang	773-728-7221
Recording for the Blind	Chicago/OrlnPk	Joanne C. Ruxin	312-236-8715
Retired/Senior Volunteers	Nationwide		312-906-8600x214
Roseland Comm Hospital	Chicago - South	Jennifer Seldon	773-995-3470
School Childrens Aid Society	Chicago - West	Margaret Paul	773-247-1311
Spring Valley Nature Center	Schaumburg	Susan Findling	847-985-2100
Substance Newspaper	Chicago - Loop	C. Blumenthal	312-736-1702
Swedish-American Museum	Andersonville	Tina Harris	773-728-8111x28
TEC Tutoring	Chicago – All	Konora Maxwell	773-374-2363
Teen Connection	Chicago - Pilsen	Sara Manewith	312-226-0963x234
Travelers/Immigrants Aid	Chicago - All	Brian Harvey	312-629-4500x5011
Triton College (Literacy)	Suburbs - W	Carol Di Fatta	708-456-0300x3407
WITS	Chicago	Barbara Pace	312-751-9487
World Libraries	South Africa	Laura Wendell	www.worldlibraries.org
Youth Service Proj	Chicago – NW	Esther Prins	773-772-6270

FALL LUNCHEON 2005

The Fall 2005 RTAC Annual Luncheon and Business Meeting, which took place on September 29th at the Palmer House, formally began after a thought-provoking invocation given by Director **Nate Blackman**, the singing of the Star Spangled Banner accompanied on the piano by Director **Selma White**, and the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, all under the watchful eye of President

Walter Pilditch. Certain aspects of these festivities may have had a familiar ring to those present.

Presiding President Pilditch presented RTAC lobbyist **Dick Lockhart** next. Dick praised the audience for its activism, and reminded those present that 2006 is an election year. He viewed legislation from the last session as "some good, some bad," and expressed appreciation for the pension rights guaranteed by the Illinois Constitution of 1970. He reminded those present that two of the delegates to the Constitutional Convention preceding its adoption were present House Speaker **Michael J. Madigan** and Mayor **Richard M. Daley**. Dick regretted having been unable to gain passage of the "Ad Hoc Lite" legislation (that would bring a measure of relief to long time retirees on poverty-level pensions).

Pat Knazze, Pension Fund Board of Trustees President, and Pension Fund Executive Director **Kevin Huber** were presented with an award by the Illinois Senate Select Committee for doing more than was required by law for investment in women and minority-owned firms.

In his remarks, Kevin expressed his thanks for the opportunity to serve in that

capacity. He noted that the funding level is currently 86%, which he called not bad but not exceptional. Sources of funds include active teacher contributions, the annual State appropriation of \$65 million (devoted to health insurance rebates), and investment income (14% for the fiscal year ending 8/31/05). The fund is well diversified, minimizing risk. Kevin pointed out that Early Retirement Options and Early Retirement Incentives were drains on the fund, as well as pensions.

Among the primary legislative objectives Kevin cited were elimination of the \$65 million cap on healthcare reimbursements, and a one-time pension increase for those who retired before 1980 on miniscule pensions and desperately need the help.

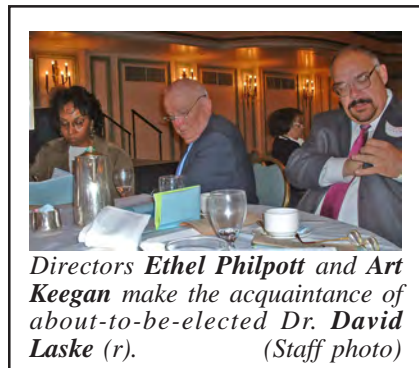
Incidental information from Kevin included the admonition that CTPF health plan members should NOT enroll in outside Medicare D programs; that the Board of Education is obligated to bring the funding level up to 90%; the downstate Teacher Retirement System (about which so much has appeared in the newspapers recently) has an appointed Board of Trustees while only two of the 12 CTPF trustees are appointed. He said future remittance advice forms sent by the Fund to those on direct-deposit will be clearly marked "Non Negotiable," because some retirees had tried to cash the advice (See **Luncheon**, next page)



Pension Fund President Pat Knazze and Executive Director Kevin Huber await their turns at the microphone. (Photo by Helen Johnson)



Seated together are long-time friends Bob Konen (l) and Sam Dolnick, who was visiting from his home in San Diego. Standing are Veronica Chemers and Ned McCray. (Staff photo)



Directors Ethel Philpott and Art Keegan make the acquaintance of about-to-be-elected Dr. David Laske (r). (Staff photo)



Once again, loyal cinematographer Sidney Zwick was there preserving events. (Staff photo)

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

MARCH 2006

MOTHER ROSA PARKS 1913-2005

by Marion Hoffing

“Mother Rosa Parks” a well-earned title for a humble, great lady who struck a mighty blow with a single act of dignity when she broke the racist rule of the segregated bus in her native Alabama by quietly refusing to relinquish her bus seat to a white gentleman one evening as she returned home from an exhausting day’s work.

Funerals are always sad but Rosa Parks’ must have felt like the end of an era. The lavishness of the service was in distinct contrast to all that she represented. Her remains had traveled from Montgomery, AL to Washington, DC, and then brought to the church in Detroit, MI, in a fleet of seven white limousines — a tribute this unassuming lady would never have expected.

Rosa Parks was a quiet woman who held no public office, an Alabama seamstress who sparked a tidal surge of freedom and managed to draw in thousands of celebrities from all walks of life.

Farewell Mother Rosa Parks — thank you for your quiet bravery, courage and love. You deserve the highest and the best. Rest in peace!



(Luncheon, continued)

forms and some banks had actually paid them. Kevin also praised the Fund’s impressive new offices.

Aid Fund President **Audrey Mivelaz** next thanked contributors for helping people who are in great need. Turning to the election of new directors for RTAC, she asked for nominations from the

floor; there were none. She then declared the entire slate elected.

Speaking in his own behalf as a CTPF Trustee candidate, RTAC Treasurer **Vaughn Barber** commented on RTAC’s excellent financial condition. He praised the work

of Finance Committee chair **Nancy Makowski**. Remarking on the many tasks that lie ahead for all of us, he quoted “What a difference a day makes,” and then told of a family in New Orleans. He also cited the plight of those who retired before 1980. By way of background for his Pension Fund Trustee candidacy, he mentioned that he had been a teacher and now has a legal practice. He described himself as “qualified to make a difference.”

Supporting his own candidacy, **Jim Ward** strongly urged passage of Illinois House Bill 792, which would key the health insurance rebate to a fixed 75% of the premium. Jim remarked that HB 299, the so-called Ad Hoc Lite bill to bring relief to those sorely pressed teachers who retired before 1980, would now benefit only about 300 survivors.

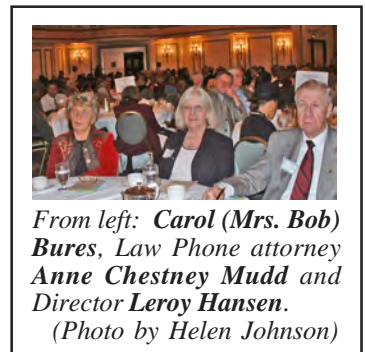
Audrey noted that three other members of RTAC were running for trustee, and introduced them – **Shirley Anderson** and RTAC Directors **Mary Sharon Reilly** and **Carole Nolan**.

RTAC Executive Director **Bob Bures** presented an update on progress in moving the RTAC office to a new location. He said that it was a very difficult task, but he predicted that the move would be accomplished by spring of 2006.

At intervals throughout the meeting, hostess **Marion Hoffing** awarded door prizes to lucky guests. The meeting adjourned at 2:12 PM.



Molly Steuber (l), Shirley Anderson and Mary Sharon Reilly relax before the luncheon. (Photo by Lotty Blumenthal)



From left: Carol (Mrs. Bob) Bures, Law Phone attorney Anne Chestney Mudd and Director Leroy Hansen. (Photo by Helen Johnson)

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

FEBRUARY 2006

ELIZABETH CATLETT (1919-)

By Marion Hoffing

One of the most revered and best known of African-American artists, approaching 90 and still working, Elizabeth Catlett has spent 50 years creating wood and bronze sculptures and linoleum and wood prints.

She was born the daughter of a math professor at Tuskegee Institute who died shortly after her birth. Although she never really knew him, he may be the person responsible for her life as a working artist. She was fascinated by a wooden bird carving he had made. Her mother was also a teacher.

After Elizabeth Catlett graduated from Howard University she taught Art at Dillard University and spent summers in Chicago at the Art Institute and the South Side Community Art Center. Here she met her husband Charles White, and they moved to Mexico on a Rosenwald Foundation Grant where she worked as a guest artist at the Taller de Gráfica Popular (People's Graphic Arts Workshop). She learned Spanish and fell in love with artist and Taller member Francisco Mora. Later she divorced Charles White and married Mora, giving birth to three sons and continuing her artistic career.

The Art Institute of Chicago recently awarded Elizabeth Catlett the Legends and Legacy Award and acquired five linoleum prints to add to their important Catlett collection. Two years ago the International Sculpture Center gave her its Lifetime Achievement in Contemporary Sculpture Award. A New York Art Dealer recently listed Catlett's large sculptures in the \$150,000 range and smaller bronze pieces \$30,000, testifying to her fame as a highly talented artist.

She has returned to the home and studio in Cuernavaca Mexico that she shared with her husband Mora, who died in 2003. She is working on her Memoirs and thinking about images for a modern version of "I am the Black Woman," partly inspired by the distress of black women shown on TV in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

Some of Elizabeth Catlett's art works may be viewed at the Art Institute of Chicago through February 11, 2006. See it! THIS IS A RARE OPPORTUNITY!!

SENIOR TALENT SEARCH

SERENDIPITY AUDITIONS — FEBRUARY 6, 7 & 8, 2006

All Chicago performers, age 60 years or better and residing within the city limits, please note that auditions are being held for the second annual **Serendipity**: Celebrating Chicago's Seniors on Stage. Proceeds benefit Meals on Wheels Chicago, Gallery 37 and Chicago Academy for the Arts, and free matinees are offered to Chicago seniors.

Performers are invited to call the Serendipity Hotline to schedule an audition. Selected artists will be included in the May 2006 performances at the famous Chicago Theater. Sponsored by:

Serendipity Seniors on Stage (not for profit)

Golden Benefactor, Blue Cross Blue Shield

In Association with Mayor Richard M. Daley and the City of Chicago

For more information call the Serendipity Hotline: (312) 673-4343.

WELL, WE MOVE SLOWLY...

In the spring of 2005, RTAC officials found that the building at 220 S. State was in the process of being sold to the United States Government, an 800 lb. gorilla if ever there was one. Since that time, a hard-working Site Selection Committee has been hard at work trying to find suitable new quarters.

There were many considerations to be taken into account by the Committee. The new location had to be convenient to public transportation and to parking. It had to be in a central location, in a relatively safe neighborhood. It needed good security. It should be on a lower floor, in the event of a fire disabling the elevators requiring people to walk down to the ground floor. Above all, the rent had to be reasonable. After months of searching, the Committee brought its recommendations back to the Board, and the choice was made: The Palmer House. That would certainly be convenient to the annual luncheons!

Then it was found that the Palmer House had been sold, too. Weeks of further delay followed, during which time we were told that the new owners were trying to decide whether or not to turn the building condo.

In the last few weeks, we were told that our bid was acceptable, so we entered into the final detailed negotiating process. Now, however, we are encountering reluctance to accept some conditions we had taken for granted.

As of this writing, the new owners of the Palmer House have been given a deadline for finalizing arrangements and costs. The ultimate decision, then, is still uncertain; we may yet have to locate elsewhere.

So if you've been waiting for that promised open house and party after we move in, you'll have to bear with us just a little longer. Trust us: We are much sorrier about the delay than you are!



REUNION

Have you ever been guilty of looking at others your own age and thinking, 'Surely I can't look that old!' Well, you are gonna love this one.

I was sitting in the waiting room for my first appointment with a new dentist when I noticed his diploma hanging on the wall. It bore his full name and I suddenly remembered a tall, handsome, dark-haired boy with the same name. He had been in my high school class some 40-odd years before and I wondered if he could be the same guy I had a secret crush on way back then.

When I got into the treatment room I quickly discarded any such thought. This balding grayhaired man with the deeply lined face was much too old to have been my secret crush... or was he???

After he examined my teeth I asked if he had attended Morgan Park High School. "Yes, I did. I'm a Mustang!" he said, gleaming with pride.

"When did you graduate?" I asked.

"1959. Why do you ask?" he answered.

*Well, you were in my class!" I exclaimed.

Then that ugly, old, wrinkled, dried-up unspeakable asked, "What did you teach?"



POLITICS WARMS UP

The second session of the 94th Illinois General Assembly will convene on January 6, 2006 under restrictive conditions. The session will adjourn April 7, seven weeks ahead of its May 30 deadline. Each member may introduce as many bills as he or she wishes, but each will be allowed to advance only three. Legislators will be anxious to leave in order to campaign, first in the primary on March 21, and finally in November.

The restrictive schedule will call for some fancy footwork on the part of our officers and our lobbyist. To get a feeling for the wishes of our membership, we asked the 545 members of the Letter-A-Month Club to give a priority to each of three bills still active in the legislature from the Spring session. The bills were HB 299 (one time pension increase for those who retired before 1980; HB 792 (rebate fixed at 75% of health care premium cost; and HB 192 (minimum \$18,000 pension for those who taught at least 20 years).

Within a few days, 9% had replied to our questions. Although virtually every pension awarded before 1980 is well below the poverty level, and the average pension is over \$45,000, the 75% rebate was easily the most popular, since everyone would benefit.

In the upcoming session, the emphasis is likely to be on speed of reaction to legislative needs. Letter-A-Month Club members, who have all prom-

ised to write letters and contact legislators directly, will be contacted first.

The LAM club is our first defense. To qualify for membership, just promise to write or call your legislators up to 12 times per year. You do NOT have to be an RTAC member! Help us protect all CPS retirees! Contact Editor/Coordinator **V. K. Brown** (details on how to do this appear on p. 2), and give your name, address and 'phone, and your email address if you have one. Currently, there are 545 members in the Letter-A-Month Club. Though they make up less than 3% of annuitants, their activity gives RTAC great political power.

The Illinois General Assembly controls your economic environment - whether you get a health care rebate and how much, or whether they care if your pension drops below the poverty level, for openers. You are not on the sidelines in this game; you're already in the middle of the playing field.

Every representative in Springfield and in Washington is up for re-election in November, but the primaries on March 21 may be much more important. In most districts, candidates who are not from the district's majority party have no real chance in the fall. Since in the primary, all candidates are all members of the same party; then party label means nothing. Whoever wins the primary on the district's majority party ballot is virtually certain to win in the fall as well. To make a friend of a legislator, then, offer to help at primary time.



*RTAC Directors **Nate Blackman** and **Jim Ward** confer. (Staff photo)*



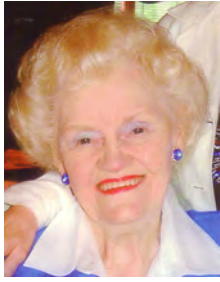
***Joan Sassano** (r), CTU Fashion Show impresario, with **Helen Hart** and **Larry Plotkin** at the LEAD dinner.*



*RTAC's most famous member? Illinois Secretary of State **Jesse White**, featured guest at the CTU LEAD dinner, moves up to the stage. (Staff photo)*



*CTU President **Marilyn Stewart** presents this year's appreciation award to CTU and RTAC member **Jesse White**. (Staff photo)*



Marion Hoffing

THE RTAC NEWS-BULLETIN ONCE AGAIN PROUDLY PRESENTS

The indefatigable MARION HOFFING'S humongous tri-monthly creation

THE CHICAGO SCENE

to enjoy during October, November and December

See Our **NEW REGULAR LISTING: REUNIONS**

COMPUTER USERS PLEASE NOTE:

The Events page on RTAC's web site (<http://www.rtac.org/events.htm>) now carries DIRECT LINKS to most venues listed! Just click on the name!

ADLER PLANETARIUM & ASTRONOMY MUSEUM 1300 South Shore Drive 312-922-STAR
<http://www.adlerplanetarium.org>

State-of-the-art in 1930 when it opened as the first planetarium in the Western Hemisphere, this museum remains on the cutting edge of technology. Museum for Astronomy and Space exploration includes a major collection of artifacts on the history of Astronomy and in-depth introduction to the wonders of the galaxy in the Amertech Milky Way Gallery.

LOST SPACECRAFT: Liberty Bell 7, second ever U. S. spacecraft, lost and now recovered. Thru 1/8

ONGOING : Space in Your Face: TimeSpace: This show promises the Sun, Moon, and Stars... and delivers. Examines the current night sky, including constellations and planets. The show covers the latest updates on space exploration and new astronomical discoveries. This show will make you see stars.

ALLSTATE ARENA 6920 North Mannheim Rd., Rosemont 847-635-6601
Tickets - (312) 559-1212 www.allstatearena.com
Smucker's **STARS ON ICE** Created by Scott Hamilton, Christopher Bean and Jet Billings. Produced by: Scott Hamilton. Special Guest Star Kurt Browning, Olympic and World Champion. 7:30 pm, 2/4

ARIE CROWN THEATER 2301 S Lake Shore Dr (McCormick Place E) 312-791-6190
<http://centerstage.net/music/clubs/arie-crown.html>
Chinese New year global gala: **Myths and Legends** Chinese and Western music, dance, drama and humor with color and sound. A vehicle to reconnect Chinese people with their heritage and westerners with tradition unknown but deeply moving. 7:30 pm, 2/4

ART INSTITUTE of CHICAGO Michigan at Adams 312-433-3600
<http://www.artic.edu>
MICHAL ASHER A conceptual piece that relocates a bronze cast of Jean-Antoine Houston's 1796 marble **sculpture of George Washington** forcing viewers to consider how differently it has been perceived according to where it has been displayed. Thru 1/31
Elizabeth Catlett's legacy: **A LIFE IN ART** - Five Linoleum prints recently acquired. Thru 2/8
These, along with the ironic print **Share Cropper** and four prints borrowed from other collections on display.
Legends and Legacy Award: Elizabeth Catlett 11/13/05-4/23/06
ONGOING - Faces, Places and Inner Spaces.

CHICAGO CULTURAL CENTER 78 E. Washington St. 312-744-1424
"The People's Palace." <http://www.cityofchicago.org/tourism/CulturalCenter/>
ROOM CODES: CR=Chicago Rooms; EH=Exhibit Hall; MAG=Michigan Avenue Galleries; PBH=Preston Bradley Hall; RG=Renaissance Court Gallery; YG=Sidney R. Yates Gallery, RC=Randolph Café, CCT=Claudia Cassidy Theatre BR=Bookbinders Room.
Juan Carmona Ensemble: Flamenco 2006 A Month Long Celebration
of **The Art of Flamenco** PBH 7 pm, 1/26
(See **Scene**, next page)

(**Scene**, continued)

Lunch Break Music Classical, Chamber and Opera Concerts PBH 12:15 pm 1/2,9,16,23,30,
Jazz, Blues & Beyond RC 12:15 pm 1/3,10,17,24,31
Arrive Derchi: The Bumblinni Brothers are a rip-roaring roller coaster of a good time and Chicago's only two-man comedy circus. CCT 3 & 7 pm, 1/28
Unforgettable A tribute to Chicago's own Nat King Cole. This musical tribute will highlight the multicultural aspect of Nat King Cole's music; and the influence it has had on THE Great American Songbook. 1/28
Reservations required. Call: Millenium Park Stage 312-742-1007.
Soprano Patrice Michaels: **The Divas of Mozart's Day**. Five women whose voices were immortalized by Mozart Classical Vienna. Call for time and place. 1/9
Exhibitions: Jan Theun van Rees **Photographs: Building Dreams** 1/21-3/19
Los Carpinteros: **Inventing the World/Inventer el Mundo**. 1/21-4/2
Fresh from Julienne's Garden: Sculpture by Preston Jackson 1/28

CHICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY North Ave. & Clark St. 312-642-4600
<http://www.chicagohistory.org> **ALL EXHIBITS CLOSED UNTIL SEPT 2006;**
RESEARCH DEPARTMENT AND STORE REMAIN OPEN

CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Symphony Center 312-294-3000
Michigan and Adams <http://www.cso.org/>
Old American Songs Copland Chicago Symphony Orchestra Alan Gilbert, Conductor 8 pm, 1/13
Adams Native and Sentimental Music Los Angeles Philharmonica Music Director, 1/19-22
Essa-Pekka Salonen
Shostakovich # 4 (Shostakovich composed this work in the Soviet Union under the dark shadow of Stalin. It was not performed for 25 years.) 3 pm, 1/29
Chicago Symphony Orchestra Mark Elder, Conductor
Symphony No.2 Sibelius 6:30 pm, 2/8
Consecration of the House Overture Beethoven
David Robertson, Conductor
Symphony No.6 Prokofiev 6:30 pm, 3/22
Overture to William Tell Rossini
Charles Dutoit, Conducting

COLLEGE OF DUPAGE, McAninch Arts Center 630-942-2321
425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn <http://www.cod.edu/ArtsCntr/>
ACJE=Art Center Jazz Ensemble, BTE=Buffalo Theatre Ensemble; CT=College Theatre; DOT=DUPAGE Opera Theatre; NCS=New Classic Singers, NP=New Philharmonic.
Kurt Elling 8pm, 1/7
The Barber of Seville DOT 8 pm 1/27&28, 6 pm 1/29
Brian O'Hern and the Model Citizens: ACJE 8 pm, 2/3
Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo 8 pm, 2/4
The Very Hungry Caterpillar and other favorites 1 pm, 2/8
The Baltimore Waltz BTE 2/10 to 3/4
The King's Singers 8 pm, 2/11
An Evening With **The David Sanborn Group** 7 pm, 2/12
The Bobs 8 pm, 2/17
Jim Paterick's World Stage 8 pm, 2/18
Measure for Measure CT 2/24 to 3/12
Lekas/Johnson NP 8 pm, 2/24,25
Buckwheat Zydeco 7 pm, 2/26
(See **Scene**, next page)

(Scene, continued)

Measure for Measure	CT	3/2 to 3/12
The Baltimore Waltz	BTE	3/2 to 3/4
River North Chicago Dance		8 pm, 3/3,4
DuPage Community Concert Band		7:30 pm, 3/7
Kidjazz!	ACJE	7 pm, 3/10
Concert for Peace	NCS	8 pm, 3/11
Boys of the Lough		7 pm, 3/12
Salt Creek Ballet: Divertissement		7:30 pm, 3/18; 2 pm, 3/19
Amy Beth Horman	NP	8 pm, 3/24,25
Groucho: A Life in Revue		7 pm, 3/26
Student Music Concert		8 pm, 3/30
Los Angeles Guitar Quartet		8 pm, 3/31

DEPAUL Geographical Society Schmitt Academic Center(Lincoln Park Campus)
2320 N. Kenmore; Room 154

The Gastronomic Community of India Dr. Colleen Taylor, Senior Advisor for Liquefied Gas, Gas Technical Institute. With India's size and location there are fascinating contrasts in its ethnicity, climate, culture, agricultural characteristics and cuisine. 1:30 pm, 1/14

Impressions of Vatican City – Earth's Smallest Country Room 120 A & B, 1st Flr. Student Center **Cardinal Francis George** shares his knowledge and experience in the world's smallest political unit, Vatican City. The Cardinal's comments reflect many of the sometimes surprising aspects of its daily life and activities. 1:30 pm, 2/7

China Then and Now Walter Keats, Executive Director of the Geographic Society of Chicago, offers his experiences with superb visual evidence of the ongoing changes in China's landscapes, economy and culture throughout the land. 1:20 pm, 3/11

DU SABLE MUSEUM of AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY 740 E. 56th Pl. 773-947-0600
<http://www.dusablemuseum.org>

BOLD Improvisation: 120 years of African-American Quilts Thru 1/8
Spanning a period from the 1880s to contemporary times, the exhibition reveals the bold improvisation employed by generations of African-American quilt makers who drew upon African traditions for inspiration in their choices of color, pattern and design.

100 Plus One: Celebrating America's Music Before Motown and Beyond Thru 4/2
This traveling exhibition takes form as a domestic and international exhibition celebrating Black Music and how it changed the world. The exhibit includes 250 rare music artifacts celebrating the styles of black music artists and companies. The contributors are placed within a special context tapestry not just American music for American history. Created by the nationally renowned collector Attorney Gregory J. Reed, Esq., Detroit, Michigan.

FIELD MUSEUM of NATURAL HISTORY Roosevelt Rd. at Lake Shore Drive 312-922-9410
<http://www.fmnh.org>

POMPEII Visitors will be transported to an exotic place caught in disaster. Casts, plus the stories of where the people were found and what they were carrying show how victims of the Vesuvius disaster, AD 70 eruption, lived and died. There is so much history in the artifacts and in the museum to explore through the ruins that give a snapshot of life during the height of the Roman Empire. See! Experience! Thru 3/26

(See **Scene**, next page)

(*Scene, continued*)

DINOSAUR DYNASTY DISCOVERIES FROM CHINA - China brings together nearly a dozen specimens excavated in that country in the last century. The Chinese dinosaur fossils, on loan from the Inner Mongolian Museum, are making a first visit to the U.S. Thru 4/23

FORD CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS (ORIENTAL THEATER) - 24 W. Randolph St. 312-902-1400
<http://www.centerstage.net/theatre/theatres/oriental.html>

A new "Wicked" - The untold **Story of the Wicked Witches of Oz**- Musical 1/17-4/30

INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF SURGICAL SCIENCE 312-642-0502

1524 N Lake Shore Drive

<http://www.imss.org/>

Ongoing: The Japan Hall of Fame; Windows to the World, the Science of Sight and Ophthalmic Art, Permanent Nursing Care for a Changing World, Milestones in Medical Imaging, and Nuclear Medicine.

ILINCOLN PARK ZOO

2200 N. Cannon Drive

312-742-2000

FREE!

http://www.lpzoo.com/index_2.html

Thirty-five acres of zoo grounds housing more than 1,000 mammals, reptiles, and birds. Enjoy the park Peace Cafe which includes an outdoor terrace overlooking the water fowl lagoon and swan pond. Don't forget to stop at the Farm In The Zoo; it provides an area for petting and feeding young animals. The Lincoln Park Zoo has an entirely new children's zoo that quietly takes its place in the landscape rather than standing apart from it like a spaceship. Here children and adults will walk through a forestlike environment of quaking aspens, white pines and red oaks. They'll look red wolves in the eye, watch black bears climb trees and see beavers and otters splash around in recreational areas. There is much more to enjoy and the real fun will be to come and visit. What better time than the Christmas Holidays to enjoy the festival of lights? This artfully arranged landscape and the entire beautiful project was the generous gift of the Pritzker family, and is formally known as the Pritzker Family Children's Zoo.

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY MUSEUM OF ART

630 N Michigan Ave

312-915-7600

www.luc.edu/luma

FREE TO STUDENTS WITH VALID STUDENT IDENTIFICATION AND MILITARY FAMILIES.

FREE Tues 10 am - 8 pm; Other Hours: Wed thru Sun 10 am -6 pm; Closed Mon & Catholic Holidays

View the Caravaggio **Una Mostra Impossible Collection**. This Italian Painter's works presented on illuminated glass panels using high-resolution digital technology is a retrospective not to be missed. Thru 2/11

MAYOR'S OFFICE of SPECIAL EVENTS

312-744-3370

FESTS:

Chicago Winter Delights

<http://www.cityofchicago.org/SpecialEvents/>

1/2-2/28, 2006

PARADES:

Chinese New Year

Wentworth 24th to 22nd

12:30 pm, 1/29

St. Patrick's Day

Columbus Drive, Balbo to Monroe

12 pm, 3/11

Southside Irish

S. Western, 103rd to 115th

12 pm, 3/12

MERCURY THEATRE

3745 N. Southport

773-325-1700

COME FLY WITH ME! Musical tribute, of big band music. Features numbers by Rogers and Hart, Cole Porter, Jerome Kern, Bobby Darin, Frank Sinatra, the Gershwins and others. Thru 1/8

(See **Scene**, next page)

(*Scene, continued*)

MUSEUM of SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY

57th & Lake Shore Dr.

773-684-1414

<http://www.msichicago.org>

Ongoing Daily

The museum has touched the lives of nearly 170 million people since the doors opened in 1933. For seven decades they have developed one-of-a-kind exhibits that spark the imagination. To develop and encourage scientific exploration, visionary Julius Rosenwald conceived of a hands on Museum in Chicago. The philanthropist pledged \$3 million dollars toward the creation of the museum. Today some of the most popular exhibits include: Adventures in Flight, the Silver Streak Zephyr, Colleen Moore's Fairy Castle, the U505 Submarine and the Coal Mine. A tribute to Chicago and Julius Rosenwald.

Magnificent Desolation: Walking On the Moon A film narrated by Tom Hanks features unreleased NASA film. The moonwalks are recounted by the astronauts who walked on the Moon between 1959 and 1972.

Thru 3/22

Imagination To Illustration: The art of Chris Van Allsburg. Twenty-five vivid and vibrant illustrations by best selling children's author and illustrator adorn the walls on the main floor of the Museum and even though a film based on Zathura is currently playing in Chicago, Mr. Van Allsburg feels the illustrations will have more appeal.

Thru 4/30

NATIONAL VIETNAM VETERANS ART MUSEUM 1801 S. Indiana

312-326-0270

www.nvvam.org

The NVVAM exhibits, collects and preserves art inspired by combat and created by veterans to honor their service, provide them with an artistic outlet as well as educate the public and encourage reflection on the experience of war and Vietnam in particular.

Purple Hearts Nina Berman's photographs of veterans of the war in Iraq — Sadness, Anger, Shame - document the postwar experience of wounded soldiers through 15 photographs and texts in the soldier's own words. Beyond coverage of the occasional welcome parade for the returning wounded, veterans who have come from Iraq have been virtually ignored. Officially, there have been approximately 14,500 soldiers injured in the war in Iraq. Nina Berman's photographs have made her an award winning photographer. Berman says, poignantly: "Amputees shouldn't be forced to use duct tape to secure prosthetics. Every guy I've talked to has told me he had problems somewhere along the way with benefits or care. What does it say about us as a nation if we can't care for the people we send to war when they come back?"

THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

1155 East 50th Street

773-702-9520

http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/OI_Museum.html

Ongoing

The Institute's Collection is rich in artifacts showing the development of the written word in the first city of Uruk. Traders needed to keep track of transactions and did so at first by devising systems of tokens and, later, photographic symbols pressed into wet clay. The symbols were drawn to denote sheep, cattle, grain and other goods. Eventually these evolved into more abstract symbols much like individual letters, called cuneiform writing, developed for commercial record keeping. The exhibit brims with other artifacts both prosaic and profound. There are the earliest wheels ever found, excavated by the Field Museum in the ruins of Kish, as well as toys, potter's wheels, weapons, jewelry, cooking utensils and other accoutrements of developing urban life from Uruk, Ninevah and Babylon.

(See **Scene**, next page)

(Scene, continued)

PEGGY NOTEBAERT NATURE MUSEUM/Chicago Academy of Sciences 773-549-0606
2430 N. Cannon Dr. (Lake Shore at Fullerton) <http://www.chias.org/>
A museum where science comes alive and the urban world meets the natural world thru Ongoing
the Museum's six permanent interactive exhibits and outdoor gardens that examine the
relationship between people and nature. See **Butterfly Haven**, a walk-through greenhouse
filled with butterflies and planted with tropical flowers and plants. Visit **Environmental**
Central where participants make decisions on land development, water use and pollution.
City Science houses creatures that live in every city home. **Water Lab** shows how rivers
and lakes affect daily life. See the **Children's Gallery** for children 3 to 6; take the **Wilder-**
ness Walk through dioramas of different ecosystems.
Climate Chaos!!!! Thru 4/13
ONGOING: **Roof Top Stop**: An indoor exhibit showcasing expanded roofing gardens
and landscaping gives visitors an opportunity to design their own green roof.
RiverWorks: An Interactive Waterplay Exhibit Mysteries of the marsh highlight
one of the MidWest's unique ecosystems through hands on activities.

REUNIONS

Chicago Teachers College Memories 2006 8/2/06
For further information, please call Dr. Thos. A. Tufo 815-648-2501

SECOND CITY

1608 N. Wells St. 312-337-3992

Immaculate Deception The cast is cute and fresh-faced. The women dress in snappy
black and red outfits. All six performers are good looking triple-threats. They harmonize
and they dance well. The show starts slow but by the second act "It's cooking!" End Open

SHEDD AQUARIUM

1200 S. Lake Shore Drive 312-939-2438

The world's largest indoor aquarium. Home to more than 8,000 fish and a 90,000
gallon Caribbean Reef where divers hand feed fish, sharks and a sea turtle. In
the Oceanarium nature trails wind through scenic re-creations of a Pacific North-
west coastline for close encounters with beluga whales, dolphins, otters, penguins,
and seals. Also visit the Amazon Rising, Seasons of the River, the Wild Reef, etc.
Wild Reef Sharks At Shedd A divers view of a Philippine Coral Reef arousing
more than 25 sharks, 500 species of reef fish and the largest public display of live
coral in the Midwest. <http://www.shednet.org>
Ongoing

SMART MUSEUM

5550 S. Greenwood 773-702-0176

<http://smartmuseum.uchicago.edu>
Beyond Green: Toward a Sustainable Art Explore the world of Ecology friendly Thru 1/15
artworks, structures, videos, murals, drawings, photographs, and more. Attempt to FREE!
balance environmental, social, economic and aesthetic concerns.

STEPHENWOLF THEATRE **Upstairs**

1650 N. Halsted Street 312-335-1650

<http://www.stephenwolf.org>
After The Quake seems custom made for our current year of cataclysms, Thru 2/19
whether they take the form of tsunamis, hurricanes, earthquakes or wars.

(See **Scene**, next page)

To Our Readers: There are fewer listings than normal in this issue. This is not due to a sudden increase in retiree longevity; rather, it is caused by the delay of a report. The News Bulletin apologizes to friends and survivors of the deceased, who must now wait another three months before their loss is made generally known.

FRIENDS GONE AHEAD

Requiescant in pace

ABRAMS, CATHERINE

A teacher for 26 years, Catherine was at Kennedy High School when she retired in 1983. She passed on at the age of 78 on July 30, 2005.

ABREU, EDWINA

Her 15 year teaching career ended when Edwina retired from Wicker Park in 1984. She was 84 when her life ended on August 31, 2005.

ADAMS, ROBYN A.

Resigning from the Herzl school in 2001 after a career that lasted 27 years, Robyn passed on at the age of 57 on August 1, 2005.

ALBERT, DELORES

Please see Allen notice.

ALLEN, DELORES

Née Albert. Delores retired from substitute teaching in 1980. She expired on August 28, 2005 at the age of 63 years.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

1131 E. 57th St

Mandel Hall

773-702-8068

http://chicagopresents.uchicago.edu/venues/history_mandel.htm

St. Paul Chamber Orchestra; Douglas Boyd, Conductor, Colin Currie, Percussion 3 pm, 1/22

Tokyo String Quartet; Sabine Meyer, Clarinet, Alexei Ogintchouk, Oboe 8 pm, 1/27

Takacs Quartet; James Dunham, Viola. Works by Schubert, Bartok and Mozart 8 pm, 2/17

Pacifica Quartet With Guests Phillip Ying, Viola, David Ying, Cello 3 pm, 2/26

Mendelssohn Quartet in E flat Major, OP. 12, Shostakovich Quartet No. 8,

Brahms String Sextet in G Major, OP. 36

Measha Bruggersgosman, Soprano. Chicago Debut 8 pm, 3/3

Roger Vignoler, Piano. Works by: Wm. Bolcom, Ravel and Jos. Marx

ROCKEFELLER MEMORIAL CHAPEL 5850 S. Woodlawn

Tallis Scholars Works by Praetorius, Hassler, Schutz & Bach 8 pm, 3/31

Mozart's Roots

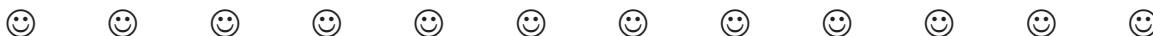
WBEZ CHICAGO PUBLIC RADIO 91.5 FM

848 E Grand

312-948-4855

BRINGING YOU in-depth news and quality programming year round beginning at 4:00 a.m. with Morning Edition and closing with an exciting musical journey at 3:59 am. Please check your local papers for complete programming and week-end offerings.

IMPORTANT! Be sure to CHECK SCHEDULES before you go! CHANGES DO HAPPEN! Also, remember to ASK FOR YOUR SENIOR DISCOUNT. **ENJOY YOUR CITY!**



ERRATA

In the October 2005 issue, we published an obituary for **Dorothy A. Clay**. The given name was in error; her first name was **Deborah**. The other information shown was correct.

In the same issue, we showed a memorial donation from **Eileen B. O'Malley** in memory of **Mary M McAuliffe** and **Alice O'Malley Keane**.

This was not correct.

In fact, the donation was made jointly by **Eileen B. O'Malley** and **Alice O'Malley Keane**, sisters; it was made in memory of **Mary M McAuliffe**.

The *News Bulletin* very much regrets these errors.

ALLENDER, EDE

Having ended a 12-year career in Chicago at Field and Peirce and 10 more outside by resigning in 1981, Ede expired on September 25, 2005, at the age of 90 years.

ANDREWS, PAULINE E.

Née Lane. Pauline resigned from the Drake in 1976 after a 21-year career. She was 96 years old when she died on September 17, 2005.

ANTHONY, HAZEL R.

Please see Huggins notice.

ATHANS, BASIL G.

Basil retired from Lindblom Technical High School in 1989 after a career that lasted for 19 years. He expired on August 16, 2005, at the age of 79 years.

AUBIN, LILLIAN M.

Please see Murphy notice.

BANNERT, BERTHA

When Bertha retired in 1966 from Kohn, her career had lasted 20 years in Chicago and five more years outside. Her life ended at the age of 88 on July 30, 2005.

BARDWELL, LAMAR

Lamar resigned from the Lawndale Community Academy in 2005 after a 42-year career, and died on August 21, 2005, at the age of 63 years.

BATTS, ESSIE W.

Née Wiley. When she resigned from McCorkle in 1993, Essie capped a 38-year career. She was 75 when she died on August 16, 2005.

BELCHER, MARJORIE

Please see Guenther notice.

BENNETT, SYLVIA K.

After 23 years in Chicago and 2 more years outside, Sylvia resigned from Haugan in 1984. Death took her on September 25, 2005; she was 89 at the time.

BIDLE, LOUISE L.

Née Leedy. Louise was assigned to Calumet High School when she retired in 1984 after 15 years in the Chicago system. She was 82 when she went to her reward on August 31, 2005.

BISHOP, BAILEY

Née Greenstein. Bailey had taught for 27 years before she retired in 1968 from the Colman school. She was 98 when her life ended on July 29, 2005.

BOWMAN, ANN M.

Please see Simington notice.

BOYLE, BEVERLY A.

Her 35 year teaching career ended when Beverly retired from Sutherland in 1984. She was 78 when her life ended on September 6, 2005.

BROWN, FLORENCE S.

At the close of her life on July 15, 2004, Florence was 79 years old. A teacher for 13 years, she retired from Harlan Academy in 1987.

BROWN, PATRICIA A.

After a career that spanned 43 years, Patricia retired from Wadsworth in 1999. She expired on September 12, 2005, at the age of 69.

BUCKNER, DONA S.

Please see Scott notice.

CARLSON, LUCILE

Née Wilcher. Last assigned to Edgebrook, Lucile retired in 1971 after 45 years of service. She passed away on August 26, 2005, at 99 years of age.

CLINNIN, MARGARET

Please see Sievers notice.

CLOYD, BURGESS J.

Please see Cooke notice.

COHEN, HANNAH F.

Née Friedman. Hannah ended a 16 year term in the Chicago system upon her retirement in 1984 from Carver. At her death on July 23, 2005, she was 87 years old.

COOKE, BURGESS J.

Née Cloyd. In 1979, when she retired from the Felsenthal school, Burgess ended her 18-year career with the Chicago school system. On September 17, 2005, her life ended after 91 years.

CULLEN, LAVERNE C.

Née McGaugh. Laverne left the Gale in 1974 after a career that spanned 20 years. She expired at the age of 97, on August 5, 2005.

DICANIO, MARIE D.

Please see Vogt notice.

DIGGS, CHARLES E.

Charles resigned in 2001 from Shedd Branch, ending a 43 year time span in the Chicago system. He was 74 at the time of his death on July 13, 2005.

DOWNS, RICHARD J.

After 34 years in the Chicago school system, Richard retired from the Reinberg Elementary school in 2002. When death took him on August 27, 2005, he was 62 years old.

DUNCAN, COLETTA A.

Coletta died on August 21, 2005, at the age of 79. Her career of 38 years ended when she retired from District 15 in 1986.

DUNN, MARY SIBYL

Mary resigned from Chicago Teachers College in 1983 after 26 years. She was 90 when she expired on July 29, 2005.

ELDER, NATHAN R.

Nathan resigned from Harper High School in 1989 after 22 years. He was 84 when he expired on September 5, 2005.

FIELDS, CHARLIE J.

A 27-year career in the Chicago Public Schools ended when Charlie, who expired at the age of 82 on August 6, 2005, retired from Tilden High School in 1993.

FRIEDMAN, HANNAH F.

Please see Cohen notice.

FRIEDMAN, BERTHA M.

Née Gold. Ending a 19-year career, Bertha left Beidler in 1973. When she died on September 9, 2005, she was 95 years of age.

FRYE, LOUISE V.

Please see McCoy notice.

GOLD, BERTHA M.

Please see Friedman notice.

GREENSTEIN, BAILEY

Please see Bishop notice.

GUENTHER, MARJORIE

Née Belcher. In 1986, Marjorie retired after 12 years of teaching. On September 26, 2005, she passed on at the age of 81 years.

HALL, CHARLOTTE.

Please see Thompson notice.

HARRIS, VANDY.

Vandy retired in 2000 while at the Kozminski, ending a 19-year career, and passed away on July 24, 2005, at the age of 64.

HOLIDAY, NEOLA P.

Please see Scott notice.

HOWARD, VIOLA

Née Toney. After 31 years in Chicago schools, Viola retired from the Sharp Elementary school in 1983. She was 84 when she expired on August 11, 2005.

HUBBARD, ANDREW L.

A teacher for 32 years, Andrew was at Spencer when he retired in 1981. He passed on at the age of 88 on September 8, 2005.

HUGGINS, HAZEL R.

Née Anthony. Hazel was at Area A Districts 17 & 18 when she resigned in 1970 after 45 years in the Chicago Public Schools. She was 100 on August 15, 2005, when she passed on.

JAMES, IONA J.

Please see Madison notice.

JOHNSON, VIRGINIA J.

Née Smith. When she retired from Deneen Elementary in 1992, Virginia ended a career of 26 years. She was 80 when her life came to a close on July 30, 2005.

JORDAN, ELLEN M.

Née Murtaugh. After a career of 38 years, Ellen retired as Principal of the Graham Training Center in 1993. She died on August 15, 2005, at the age of 71.

KELLY, DOROTHY C.

Dorothy was affiliated with the Chicago Public Schools for 42 years when she retired from the Stagg school in 1974. At the time of her death on September 23, 2005, she was 96 years of age.

KELLY, MURIEL K.

Please see Vonalbade notice.

KRAUS, GENE F.

Née Zimmerman. Gene was at Humboldt when she retired in 1975 after a 10-year career. She was 95 when she died on September 20, 2005.

KUMBERA, ADELAIDE

Née Weclaw. Her career of 31 years ended when she left the Chase school in 1973, and Adelaide died on August 1, 2005, at the age of 98.

LANE, PAULINE E.

Please see Andrews notice.

LEE, JAMES O.

James was at Dunbar High School when he resigned in 1977 after 34 years in the Chicago Public Schools. He was 93 on July 15, 2005, when he passed on.

LEEDY, LOUISE L.

Please see Bidle notice.

LESSARIS, CHRIS G.

After a career that spanned 35 years, Chris retired from Brenan in 1993. He expired on September 12, 2005, at the age of 79.

LOMBARDO, CHARLES

Charles' career of 35 years came to an end as he left Lane Technical High School in 1993. When he passed away on August 31, 2005, he had reached the age of 78.

LOTTICH, PHILIP B.

Philip was 91 years old at his death on August 25, 2005. He resigned from Loop Jr. College in 1979 after 4 years in Chicago.

LULICH-MUREN, MARTIN

Martin was at Clemente High School when he retired in 1994. His career spanned 34 years, and he succumbed at the age of 78 on September 15, 2005.

MADISON, IONA J.

Née James. Life ended for Iona at the age of 68 on August 20, 2005. She retired from Thorp in 1993, at the end of a 37-year career.

MALMBERG, LORAINÉ

Please see Peterson notice.

MCCAULEY, IRENE M.

Please see O'Berg notice.

MCCOY, LOUISE V.

Née Frye. A teacher at Tilton when she resigned in 1968, Louise had served for 20 years. She was 92 on the date of her passing, September 2, 2005.

MCCRUMBY, JEANNE

After 9 years in the Chicago school system, Jeanne retired from DuSable High School in 1992. When death took her on August 26, 2005, she was 83 years old.

MCFADDEN, JOAN M.

Née Mulcahy. Joan was associated with the Chicago schools for 19 years, the last at the Christopher school, where she was when she retired in 1985. She was 87 years old when death took her on September 14, 2005.

MCGAUGH, LAVERNE C.

Please see Cullen notice.

MCKAY, KATHLEEN M.

Kathleen was 78 years old at her death on August 29, 2005. She resigned from Reilly school in 1984 after 35 years in Chicago.

MITCHUM, MITSU

Née Mori. In 1986, Mitsu left the Haines Elementary school after a career that lasted 21 years. When her life ended on August 20, 2005, she was 89 years of age.

MORI, MITSU

Please see Mitchum notice.

MULCAHY, JOAN M.

Please see McFadden notice.

MURPHY, LILLIAN M.

Née Aubin. When she retired from Thorp school in 1980, Lillian ended a career that included 9 years in the Chicago system. Death claimed her on September 6, 2005, at the age of 89 years.

MURTAUGH, ELLEN M.

Please see Jordan notice.

NEIL, ROBERT A.

When he left Gage in 1986, Robert put a 17-year career to an end. His life ended on August 17, 2005, at the age of 78.

NELSON, CLARENCE A.

At the close of his life on August 2, 2005, Clarence was 71 years old. A teacher for 32 years, he retired from the School Service Center 6 in 1995.

NOLAN, ALICE T.

Please see Pattara notice.

NORDBLAD, DOROTHY.

When she left Beaubien in 1976, Dorothy put a 41-year career to an end. Her life ended on September 9, 2005, at the age of 94.

NOTI, MARIE V.

Née Vacco. Marie ended a 43-year career when she resigned from the McLaren school in 1971. At her death on August 13, 2005, she was 100.

O'BERG, IRENE M.

Née McCauley. On August 15, 2005, Irene passed away at the age of 82 years. She retired from Kennedy High School in 1983 after 20 years of teaching.

PAPPAS, DIAMOND

Diamond ended a 38-year career by resigning from the Citywide school in 1990; and on September 12, 2005, expired after reaching 83 years.

PARRO, WILLIAM C.

When William retired in 2003 from Morgan Park H S, his career had lasted 14 years. His life ended at the age of 76 on July 15, 2005.

PATTARA, ALICE T.

Née Nolan. On August 19, 2005, Alice passed on, at the age of 70 years. She had spent 33 years in the schools when she resigned from Vanderpoel Magnet in 1993.

PETERSON, LORAINÉ

Née Malmberg. Loraine succumbed on August 5, 2005, at the age of 90. She served 22 years, resigning from the Edison school in 1973.

PIETY, JAMES W.

After 6 years, James resigned from Wright College in 1992. Death took him on July 29, 2005; he was 80 at the time.

ROSENBERG, HAROLD

Harold succumbed at age 92 on September 9, 2005. He taught for 21 years before retiring from Harrison High School in 1982.

SAMBO, CARL S.

Carl expired on September 19, 2005, at the age of 67. His career of 41 years ended when he retired from Lane Technical High School in 2000.

SATKOFF, LUCIA E.

Lucia succumbed at age 91 on September 11, 2005. She taught for 26 years in Chicago and 11 more years outside before retiring from DuSable High School in 1973.

SCOTT, DONA S.

Née Buckner Dona's 15-year career in the Chicago schools ended when she retired from District 23 in 1977. On August 10, 2005, at the time she succumbed, she was 90 years old.

SCOTT, NEOLA P.

Née Holiday. After teaching 16 years, Neola resigned from the Beale school in 1972. She was 99 when death claimed her on August 17, 2005.

SIEVERS, MARGARET

Née Clinnin. Margaret retired from Carver in 1980 after teaching for 24 years. On July 14, 2005, she died at age 85.

SIMINGTON, ANN M.

Née Bowman. When she retired in 1993 from the Bass school, Ann had taught for 15 years. She was 74 years of age at her death on August 6, 2005.

SMITH, VIRGINIA J.

Please see Johnson notice.

STEIN, SYLVIA S.

Sylvia died on July 18, 2005, at the age of 94 years. She retired from the Audubon school in 1976 after a career of 14 years.

TEJERA, VIOLET H.

Violet's career of 6 years came to an end as she left Disney Magnet in 1992. When she passed away on March 12, 2005, she was 81.

THOMPSON, CHARLOTTE

Née Hall. When she resigned after 34 years in 1971 Charlotte was at Schurz High School. On September 11, 2005, she died at the age of 95.

TONEY, VIOLA

Please see Howard notice.

TURNBULL, JEAN B.

Jean resigned in 1984 from Hedges, ending a 43-year time span in the Chicago system. She was 91 at the time of her death on September 27, 2005.

VACCO, MARIE V.

Please see Noti notice.

VOGT, MARIE D.

Née DiCanio. A 35-year career in Chicago schools came to an end for Marie when she left the Cauty school in 1977. She died on September 17, 2005, at the age of 94 years.

VON ALBADE, MURIEL K.

Née Kelly. After a career that lasted 45 years, Muriel retired as Principal of the Barnard school in 1997. She was 84 when she died on August 15, 2005.

WALKER, THOMAS K.

Thomas was affiliated with the Chicago Public Schools for 23 years when he retired from the Ward Elementary school in 1993. At the time of his death on September 18, 2005, he was 69 years of age.

WECLEW, ADELAIDE

Please see Kumbera notice.

WILCHER, LUCILE

Please see Carlson notice.

WILEY, ESSIE W.

Please see Batts notice.

ZIMMERMAN, GENE F.

Please see Kraus notice.

NOTICE: Articles contained in this *News Bulletin* are included as being relevant to retired Chicago Public School teachers. They do not necessarily reflect the official position of the RTAC Board of Directors or the general membership.



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