

NEWS BULLETIN

RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO
Since 1926

VOL. LXIV

APRIL 2008

NO. 2

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF RTAC

As always, you have our continued best wishes for health, abundance, and prosperity.

It may sometimes appear that it has become too overwhelming to keep up with the flood of electioneering taking place, but the political scene remains vitally important to retired teachers. Unfortunately, we lost a few of our important friends in the February primary elections — you may remember we warned you that primary elections are often more important than general elections.

It remains important, however, that we continue to maintain contact/communication with those lawmakers and legislators we elect to represent us. If you have not already done so, establish contact with your new legislators-to-be, as soon as possible, for 2008 continues to be an election year. (Remember that you will never have more influence than just before an election!)

Become and continue to stay informed. Although the media seem to be focusing on healthcare as the primary issue facing us nationwide, surveys and reports also indicate that increasing property taxes are among the foremost issues for seniors and those on fixed incomes.

Locally, newspapers report that the Cook County Board of Review reopened its appeals process for a special two-week period, March 17

through March 31, to appeal property tax assessments. Take advantage of this suggestion.



Ethel Philpott

The current downward spiraling of our economy -- the outsourcing of industries and jobs, increasing prices, increasing fees and taxes of all sorts -- affects us all, and retired teachers in particular. Our **RTAC Aid Fund** can help retired teachers in serious need of financial assistance. Many such teachers are reluctant to ask for help; we need **your** eyes and ears to find them. Live within your means and seek help when needed, as soon as possible.

We send our prayers to the families and victims of violence, both here and worldwide. Although not always front page news, seniors increasingly are also falling prey to the violent ones among us. Stay alert.

Heller v. the District of Columbia, a Second Amendment case, is currently before the U.S. Supreme Court. The case, as I understand it, is about the Washington, D.C., 1976 handgun ban, and how much constitutional power our government has to keep individuals from owning guns. There are also changes to Tax Sheltered Annuity law. A brief overview of these and other topics will be presented at our Spring Luncheon at the Palmer House May 21. **Be there.**

Again, stay healthy, informed, and (especially important!) *politically active.*

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RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO

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News Bulletin Circulation: 10, 643 (10, 749)

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Annual Membership \$30; free from age 85 and up.

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| 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 |
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| Elder Abuse Hotline (State of Illinois) | 800-252-8966 |
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The News Bulletin invites YOU to email or mail your typed contribution to (**rtac_editor@comcast.net**) or to the editorial office (below). If NOT typed, please send it to the RTAC Office for typing. **July 2008 issue deadline: May 15, 2008.**

| |
|---|
| <p>Rosemary Tirio, Editor 6235 N Knox Ave Chicago, IL 60646-5029</p> |
|---|

MEMBERS RESPOND TO RTAC'S SUCCESSFUL DEFENSE

The following letters, along with generous donations, were received by RTAC in response to the recent mailing regarding RTAC's defense of some 3500 pensioners who retired between June 1999 and June 2004.

A miscalculation of their pensions resulted in what the CPS regarded as an overpayment to the pensioners concerned. The CPS sought restitution in what would have amounted to a repayment of up to \$4,000 by each pensioner and a reduction of their benefits of between 3 percent and 4 percent.

Attorneys hired by RTAC argued that the pensioners were in no way to blame for the miscalculation, and Judge Nancy J. Arnold dismissed the suit citing that the CPS had a limited time to file for corrections and the statutory time limit had expired. The pensioners would not have to make restitution nor would their pensions be reduced.

Dear RTAC,

I retired in 2004, and, of course, had no idea that my pension was more than I should be receiving. I want to thank you for going to bat for all of us.

I wish I could send more, but, as they say too often, I'm living off a pension!

*Respectfully,
Gayle Modell*

Dear RTAC,

Thank you for the legal work that you do on behalf of the retirees. Enclosed is a check for \$100 to add to funds for emergencies affecting Chicago teacher pensioners.

*Sincerely,
Lillian Holmes*

HOW DID THE PENSION GLITCH HAPPEN?

Pensioners who retired between June 1999 and June 2004 can thank RTAC for the undisturbed status of their CPS pensions. Because of a miscalculation of their pension benefits during those years, they came dangerously close to having to refund up to \$4,000 to the Board of Ed and having their future pension benefits reduced.

According to **Walter Pilditch**, immediate past president of RTAC and longtime Chicago Teacher Pension Fund Trustee, the problem started in 1999 when the school year, which previously had always started after Labor Day, began in August. In 1999 three days were added at the beginning of the year and another two days were added in June. This practice continued with varying numbers of days until June 2004.

A law passed in the legislature several years earlier provided that if a teacher worked five or more days in a pay period they received the full 10 days' *credit for their pension*. When the five days were added to the calendar each year starting in 1999, the retiring teachers received *pension credit* for two extra pay periods.

Calculation of teacher pensions that year and each year until 2004 included credit for two pay periods when the teachers actually did not work and had not paid into the pension fund. This glitch affected 3500 CPS pensioners and created an overpayment of approximately \$13 million.

In 2004 Pension Board officials discovered that these pensions had been miscalculated and stopped the practice. However, it wasn't until nearly two years later that the CPS brought suit in an attempt to recoup the money that had been paid in error. The CPS sought the return of overpayments of from \$2,000 to \$4,000 depending on when each pensioner had retired as well as a reduction of their future pension benefits of 3 to 4 percent.

RTAC, incurring around \$40,000 in legal fees, stepped in and received authorization by the Court to represent the affected retirees. The Judge found that the CPS had waited too long to initiate proceedings, and ruled in favor of RTAC and the pensioners. The case is not closed, however, as the CPS is appealing the verdict. RTAC will continue to represent the pensioners involved.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

By Robert F. Bures

I'm writing this is mid-March and Spring sure seems just around the corner. I hope winter will be behind us and only good weather will prevail! Holidays like Easter and Passover are most often the harbingers of Spring! Make a pledge to get outside and do something pleasant - maybe walking - to shake off the winter doldrums.

The Primary Election season is over in Illinois. The electioneering will probably start again right after Labor Day since the General Election is in November. I'm sure that you'll be making up your mind as to the best Presidential candidate for you to support. That's always quite personal.

Something that is REAL PERSONAL is also coming up in November — that is the question on the November ballot whether or not we should have an Illinois Constitutional Convention again. Our present Illinois Constitution includes a clause that provides for Illinois citizens to call for a new constitution every 20 years. I'm sure that this will be kept sort of quiet for awhile since the power brokers in the state can't wait to get hold of the Constitution and change some vital parts.

You are being notified by me right now that **YOU MUST VOTE NO ON THE CON-CON QUESTION IN NOVEMBER.** Con-Con is short for Constitutional Convention. If there is a Con-Con, it might very well mean the **END OF OUR PENSION AS WE KNOW IT!**



Robert F. Bures

Presently my pension and your pension is a Defined Benefit Pension. This is the BEST kind to have. This is protected in our current Illinois Constitution. We **DO NOT WANT TO CHANGE IT!** Illinois law insures that

our pension will **NEVER GO DOWN!** Mischievous politicians and power brokers want to change this!

Watch for discussions in the newspapers and on TV. They'll be buried in back pages or at times inconvenient to watch TV ... that's because the media wants a convention. They like you ignorant of the facts! RTAC along with other public employee organizations are strictly opposed to a Con-Con.

Please remember that RTAC ASKS YOU TO VOTE **NO ON CON-CON IN NOVEMBER!** NEED MORE INFORMATION????? Call me or drop me a note and I'll talk it out with you!

Sincerely,

Bob Bures

On a lighter note....

Summer is just around the corner! Need luggage tags? We'll send you up to six handy tags. To avoid mistakes, please SEND us the information you want on the tags and we'll return your tags that will clearly identify your luggage!

Don't know our address? Check out page 2 of this *News Bulletin*.



BE SURE TO MARK **MAY 21ST** ON YOUR CALENDAR FOR **RTAC'S SPRING LUNCHEON** AT THE ALL NEWLY RENOVATED **PALMER HOUSE HILTON!** CHECK OUT PAGE 39 FOR THE NOTICE IN THIS EDITION OF THE *NEWS BULLETIN*. BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND MAKE A DAY OF IT.



Save the date. . . .

THE BUDDY HOLLY STORY AT OAKBROOK TERRACE JUNE 18

Join your RTAC friends or bring a guest to a wonderful afternoon of lunch and musical theatre Wednesday, June 18 at 11:30 a.m. Luncheon and 1:30 p.m. for *The Buddy Holly Story* at the Drury Lane Theatre, Oak Brook Terrace, IL. Easy to get to and plenty of free parking.

Luncheon includes three courses and unlimited beverages. **Circle one:** Tilapia Chicken Breast Marsala

Date: Wednesday, June 18
Time: 11:30 a.m. Luncheon
1:30 p.m. Theatre
Place: Drury Lane Oak Brook Terrace
100 Drury Lane
Cost: \$46* (all-inclusive)

Name _____

Guest(s) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone () _____

_____ Yes, I want to attend

_____ I have completed the form below and included \$46* (all-inclusive) for both the meal and the theatre! **I'm prepared for a great afternoon.**

I have enclosed \$_____ for #_____ tickets for the person(s) named below. My check number is #_____.

*Includes donation to RTAC's Committee on Political Action. Covers RTAC's mailing and processing expenses.

SORRY, NO REFUNDS.

I need a wheelchair requirement for _____ persons. The theater and luncheon space are handicapped accessible.

Please mail by **May 10** to RTAC

220 S. State St. Rm. 2100
Chicago, IL 60604-2180



REUNION PLANNED FOR DRIVER ED DIRECTORS

A reunion luncheon celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Driver Education Program in the Chicago Public Schools is tentatively planned for Thursday, July 10.

Invitations listing time, place and cost of the luncheon will go out soon. Names and addresses for several retired Driver Ed directors are still needed.

(See list below). Please contact the Luncheon committee if you can help.

The Luncheon Committee includes: Jim Artese (Bogan), Sam Clemente (Wells), Jerry Conforti (CVS), and Ed O'Farrell (Central Office). Further information and/or inquiries can be made by contacting Jerry Conforti 219-922-7823 GGCRA@aol.com --or-- Jim Artese 630-789-1349 jimartese@yahoo.com.

Following is the list of retired Driver Ed directors for whom addresses and phone numbers are needed:

| | | | |
|----------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| James Barry | Micheal Hionis | Loretta Martin | Henry Soltisinski |
| Wilford Bonner | George Hoey | Jake (John) Maciag | Wayne Stingley |
| Donald Breitenreiter | William Keenan | Edward Mitchell | Gerald Szucala |
| Thomas Byrdak | Steve Kotis | George Nahabedian | Stewart Templer |
| Edward Cook | Frank Krasnowski | John Neville | James Tracy |
| John Costello | George Leddy | Kenneth Olsen | Harold Watson |
| June Deadmon | Thomas Leonard | Richard Ovington | Frances Williams |
| Gerald Flanagan | George Lindley | Steven Polasek | William Woodrow |
| Donald Fontana | Mel Lloyd | Theodore Rake | John Woodville |
| James Foreman | John Mahoney | Edward Rybicki | Yoshio Yamada |
| William Harden | | Charles Saieva | |

Please contact a member of the Luncheon Committee or Ed O'Farrell at eo9126@msn.com if you have information about any of the above.

CTPF PRE-RETIREMENT SEMINARS

Remember when you and your friends were first contemplating the possibility of ending your teaching career and embarking upon that wonderful second career--RETIREMENT? Thousands of CPS teachers and administrators are doing just that right now.

On Feb. 18, the Presidents' Day holiday, one of several pre-retirement seminars was held by the Chicago Teachers Pension Fund at the O'Hare

Marriott. RTAC members were there to mentor, advise and recruit new members.

Now, more than ever, membership in the only organization that safeguards our pension is vital for all retirees. If you have retired friends or colleagues who are not yet RTAC members, why not pass along your copy of the News Bulletin and encourage them to join?



Prospective retirees listen attentively as CTPF speakers inform them of retirement procedures and what to expect after they make the BIG decision.



Bill McGowan, CTPF field rep and retiree addresses prospective retirees about post-retirement employment and downloading the pension application from the CTPF website.



Mark Kravets, retired Orr High School Assistant Principal who now works as a CTPF counselor, discusses retirement plans with Saul Osacky currently Cluster 4 Area Attendance Administrator. In the background is Marianne Schury, Supervisor of Member Services.



CTPF staff facilitated the day's activities. Seated (from left) Sharena Bennett and Naomi Batie; standing, Frances Radeneic, CTPF Office Manager and Communications Director, Tonika Grant and Mark Kessey, office service team members.

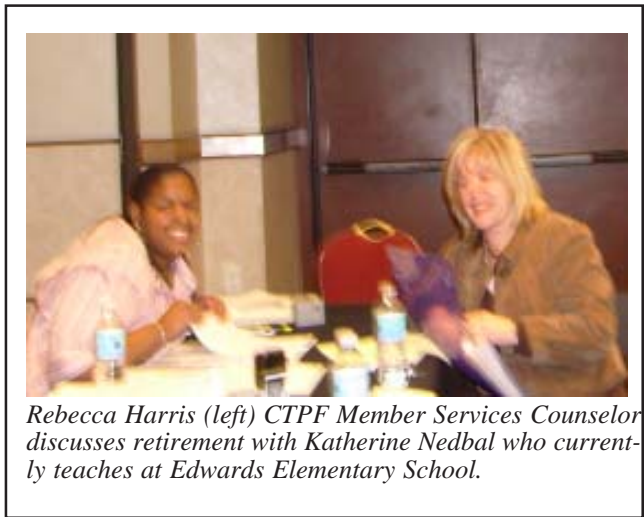
RTAC WAS THERE. . . .



*RTAC Vice-President **Veronica Chemers**, Pat Hambrick, Chief Operating Officer of the CTPF and Insurance Administrator Kathy Knight stand behind RTAC sign at Feb. 18 Pre-Retirement Seminar.*



*Recently elected Trustee **Mary Sharon Reilly** at RTAC table with Executive Director **Bob Bures**.*



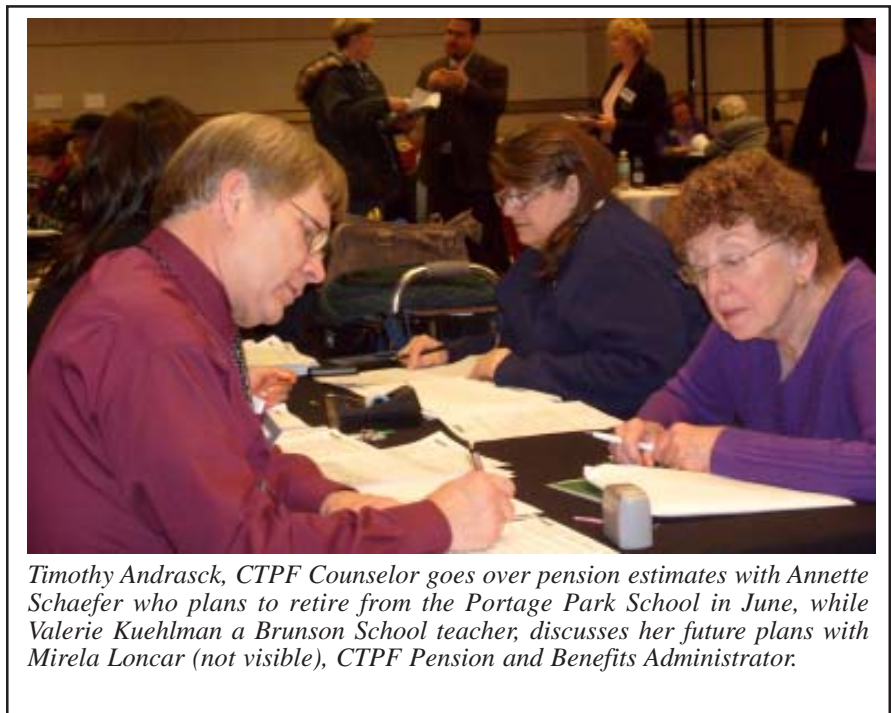
Rebecca Harris (left) CTPF Member Services Counselor discusses retirement with Katherine Nedbal who currently teaches at Edwards Elementary School.



Pam Swigert, Member Services Counselor, and Guillermo Hernandez, Pension Administrator, prepare to meet prospective pensioners after seminar.



*Kathleen Knight, CTPF Insurance Coordinator, **Veronica Chemers**, RTAC Vice President and Kevin Huber, CTPF Executive Director.*



Timothy Andrasck, CTPF Counselor goes over pension estimates with Annette Schaefer who plans to retire from the Portage Park School in June, while Valerie Kuehlman a Brunson School teacher, discusses her future plans with Mirela Loncar (not visible), CTPF Pension and Benefits Administrator.

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Due in large measure to legislator preoccupation with other matters, our legislative priorities remain the same as they were in January of 2008.

Although we haven't recently mentioned it, RTAC has continued to work with other retiree associations on behalf of the Social Security Fairness Act of 2007 (H.R. 82 and S. 206). You may remember that these bills would eliminate the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO) sections of the Social Security Act, which penalize public employees and their survivors as much as 60 per cent (in rare cases, even more) of the Social Security benefits they've earned.

At the February National Retired Teachers Association (NRTA) National Advocacy Conference in Washington, D.C., on Feb. 24-27 2008, Executive Director **Bob Bures** and I met with a group of individuals from the affected states. The group decided to launch another coordinated campaign for passage of the bills. They chose tentative dates of March 17, 2008 to blitz members of Congress with postcards; April 2 to concentrate on phone calls; and April 16 to follow up with e-mails. Their plans also included working with various labor organizations for this concerted effort. Sample copies of postcards were provided by the Association of Retired Teachers of Connecticut.

RTAC's involvement with repeal of the GPO and WEP provisions was initiated by **Dr. Mae Hunter**, a past president of RTAC. At that time, as a result of the actions of RTAC's members, with their letters, postcards, petitions, and e-mails, all but a very few of Illinois Congressmen signed on to support the bill. Will you again join in this effort? Check our website for ideas and sample letters.

In your January 2008 News Bulletin, and again on p. 4 of this issue, Executive Director Bob Bures discusses a possible Illinois Constitu-

tional Convention, potentially a very serious threat. Payment of public employee pensions in the state of Illinois is guaranteed by the 1970

Constitution. Many billions of dollars (over \$12 billion in the CTPF alone!) are now reserved for this purpose. If the state guarantee were to be dropped, our state legislators would be able to "borrow" those funds without having to worry about paying them back. Guess what that would mean for your pension!



Ethel Philpott

Please also reread the article by our lobbyist, Dick Lockhart, in the October 2007 News Bulletin. Keep watching our web site (www.rtac.org) and call for updates. Introduced initially by the Rev. Senator James T. Meeks and Representative David E. Miller, the "750s Tax Swap bills" have resurfaced, as we alerted you to watch for. The two new bills which appear to be companions, SB 2288 Education Funding-Tax Swap and HB 750 Property Tax-School District, are currently residing on Calendars for additional Reading.

Last year, the original form of the bills (numbered 750 in each house) proposed taxing pensions. You can get a synopsis of any bill by going to www.ilga.gov, entering the bill number and following the prompts. When you do this for the new HB 750, a careful reading discloses the following sentence: "Includes retirement income within the definition of "base income" for certain individuals...." Does this mean what we fear it may? Call your state representative and ask him or her, "Have you signed on as a sponsor of these bills?"

Stay alert and informed. Remember your Committee on Political Education fund (COPE) which provides for legislative and lobbying expenses. Stay well, politically informed and politically active. We are fortunate to have three RTAC members on the Board of Trustees of the Chicago Teachers Pension Fund.

See you at our Luncheon.

PENSION NOTES

From James F. Ward, Trustee

Blessing-Counting Time

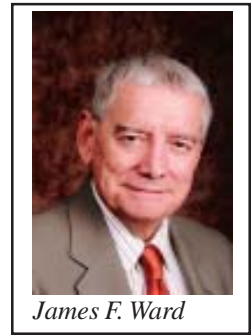
A popular economist states that “our children face a future of rising taxes, squeezed or falling public services, and aging infrastructure (roads, sewers, transit systems). Today’s young workers and children are about to be engulfed by a massive income transfer from young to old. It will make it harder for them to afford their own children.” We are all aware of the “slowdown” as the President says, or the “recession” as his opponents term it. Is it only the political season when problems are exaggerated by politicians? Not really. Our pension system, after posting a return last year of over 17%, will likely end this year with substantially lower returns due to stock prices, the sub-prime credit crunch, and the lack of liquidity in bond markets. Economics has hills and valleys and maybe this is a valley. Now, the good news.

When times are rough we should count our blessings. One blessing I like is that our pension fund still remains a defined benefit plan. This means that we have a guaranteed retirement income with no investment risk to teacher pensioners. Also, we have cost of living adjustments and our pension benefit was never dependent on a teacher’s ability to save or invest. Contributions and benefits are statutory.

The only disadvantage of our defined benefit plan is that it may be difficult to understand. Ergo, this article points out how the best time to realize the great plan we have is when it is protecting us from the hills and valleys of economic fluctuations. This is a great time to point out that our pension fund doesn’t just keep records and issue checks. It also invests our assets and when times are tough, it takes the losses. It is a buffer between our retirement security and the volatile world. It was truly designed for us to devote our lives to Chicago children without the strain of worrying about breadlines in our golden years. It has been doing this for 113 years. So far, so good.

It should be repeated here that, since 1926, the Retired Teachers Association of Chicago has been the premier watchdog of the pension laws and their execution. If you have not heard of the lawsuit we recently won for pensioners, please see my report on the RTAC website, RTAC.org, or email me at urokward@yahoo.com.

[Editor’s note: See page 2 for members’ letters in response to the RTAC defense of pensioners.]



James F. Ward

From Walter Pilditch, Trustee

General Market Commentary

The “R” word—recession—has been referred to with increasing frequency the past few months and to expose the problem even more, the adverse housing market is expected to last through much of this year, oil prices are at \$100 a barrel, unemployment figures are up and inflation rates have risen as well. The Federal Reserve Board has tried to assist the economy by dropping the interest rate two times during the last quarter, by one-half percent each time.

As of the end of 2007 the rate was 4.25 per-

cent. Mercer Investments, the financial advisers for the pension fund reports on the following: The consumer price index rose over 5.5 percent during the last quarter of 2007 and this figure is over 4 percent for the entire year. Prices of finished goods went up six percent for the year and the unemployment rate hit 5 percent after figures in the the entire year. The news about the economy has hit the security
(Continued next page)



Walter Pilditch

(Continued from p. 9)

PENSION NOTES

markets as well. Large cap, small cap, energy and fixed investments all reported declines on expected incomes as well. The only bright spots were the international equity markets. The following paragraph gives the details for our fund.

Chicago Teachers Pension Fund

Unlike previous reports for the past many quarters, our fund has dropped by \$324 million to a grand total of \$12.4 billion or as Mercer reports a drop of about 1 percent during the last quarter of 2007. While this will cause concern, our fund is making acceptable progress as compared to other funds. In domestic equity New Amsterdam, Piedmont and Waddel & Reed outperformed their benchmarks. Our investments in Holland and Lynmar did well and in value equity Harris and Lombardia ranked first in their fields. Our mid cap equity fund, Chicago Equity Partners, struggled

but measured about equal to the market figures. Seligman, DFA and Zevenbergen brought in acceptable figures for the small cap area. In our women- and minority-owned funds Attucks and Progress Funds did better than their Russell index benchmark. In the international equity area, Earnest Partners, Lazard and Morgan Stanley outperformed their expected figures for the quarter. William Blair needs to be added to the success list for the international small cap universe. In the fixed income area LM Capital exceeded the index for the quarter after lukewarm results in earlier periods. Another money manager, Taplin, Candia & Habacht, did better than their benchmark in the fixed income area.

In spite of this past turbulent year for investments, our fund performed at an 8.0% rate for all of 2007. This is in keeping with our long-term expected return on all investments. We are all expecting better results for 2008, but only time will tell.

From Mary Sharon Reilly, Trustee Pension Law & Rules Committee

The legislative proposals being considered by the Chicago Teachers Pension Fund include items of interest to retired and active teachers. These are listed chronologically as developed through the years by the pension board.

Fiscal Year 2008 Legislative Proposals

The following House Bills were sponsored by

Rep. Robert S. Molaro:

- 4271 5+5 Early Retirement Incentive Program.
- 4272 Provide 80% maximum pension percentage.
- 4273 Provide for a service retirement pension for members with 10 or more years and a minimum age of 60 years.
- 4274 Provide for all income earned to be pensionable effective 7-1-1999.
- 4275 2.4 pension formula.
- 4276 Automatic annual increase of 3% beginning one year following retirement.

The following House Bills were introduced by

Rep. Angelo Saviano:

- 4286 Provide minimum survivor benefit payable upon death of teacher or pensioner which occurred prior to 12/31/86.
- 4298 Provide for ad-hoc lite increase for those on pension prior to 1980.
- 4299 Restore the local property tax collection to the pension fund.
- 4300 Additional tax levy of .1%.
- 4301 Provide pension fund survivor benefits to domestic partners.



Mary Sharon Reilly

The following House Bills were introduced by

Rep. Richard T. Bradley:

- 4335 Allow 2.2 benefit for all teachers without the cost to upgrade; allow refunds of 2.2 upgrade costs to all teachers.

(Continued next page)

(Continued from p. 10)

PENSION NOTES

- 4436 Increase the maximum number of sick days used to compute additional pension credit to 315 days.
- 4340 Provide for all income earned to be pensionable effective 7-1-2008.
- 4341 85% maximum rebate, \$65 million cap.
- 4342 Increase the maximum total payments for health insurance rebate to \$75 million.
- 4343 Provide a minimum pension of \$18,000 per year plus the automatic annual increase to pensioners who retired with 20 or more years of service.
- 4344 Health insurance rebate of 75%, no cap.

The following Senate Bill was introduced by **Sen. James A. DeLeo:**

1898 Provide for dependent beneficiary (parent or disabled child) eligibility for a survivor pension.

As of publication time these are proposals. They have been sponsored by legislators and costs to the pension fund have been calculated. Currently, these bills are in the Rules Committee. At the appropriate time, legislation will be voted on and passed for the benefit of retired and active teachers.

SERVICE COMMITTEE SENDS 113 BIRTHDAY GREETINGS IN FEBRUARY

By Marcella Morrison, Chairman

The Service Committee met on Thursday, Feb. 28. In attendance were nine committee members who addressed 113 cards and messages to RTAC members celebrating birthdays in March. No one reached the century mark this month, however.

When correspondence was read, a beautiful and meaningful card from Virginia M. Walsh was read, thanking the committee for the lovely roses

and birthday card she received from RTAC on her 100th birthday.

To many Service Committee members the opportunity to serve others is well worth coming to the RTAC office every month to send greetings and to brighten the days of others.



Marcella L. Morrison

AH, POLITICS. . . .

A woman in a hot air balloon realized she was lost. She lowered her altitude and spotted a man in a boat below. She shouted to him, "Excuse me, can you help me? I promised a friend I would meet him an hour ago, but I don't know where I am."

The man consulted his portable GPS and replied, "You're in a hot air balloon, approximately 30 feet above ground, elevation 2346 feet above sea level at 31 degrees, 14.97 minutes north latitude and 100 degrees, 49.09 minutes west longitude."

She rolled her eyes and said, "You must be a Republican."

"I am," replied the man. "How did you know?" "Well," answered the balloonist, "everything you

told me is technically correct, but I have no idea what to do with your information, and I'm still lost. Frankly, you've not been much help to me."

The man smiled and responded, "You must be a Democrat."

"I am," replied the balloonist. "How did you know?"

"Well," said the man, "you don't know where you are or where you are going. You've risen to where you are, due to a large quantity of hot air. You made a promise that you have no idea how to keep, and you expect me to solve your problem. You're in exactly the same position you were in before we met, but, somehow, now it's my fault."

Courtesy of Marion C. Hoffing

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Many retired teachers find that working for a worthy cause as a volunteer is extremely satisfying. The following organizations are among those who have asked us for help in recruiting. A more complete list appears on our web site at <http://www.rtac.org>. The Retired Teachers Association of Chicago **does not endorse any organization**; potential volunteers must make their own judgments.

| | | | |
|--|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| A. C. E. S. | Chicagoland | Eric Werge | 773-535-6922 |
| American Lung Association of Chicago | Chicagoland | | 312-628-0234 |
| American Red Cross CPR & First aid | Chicagoland | | 312-729-6227 |
| Aquinas Literacy Center ESL | Chicagoland | Alison Altmeyer | 773-927-0512 |
| Boys/Girls Clubs | Chicagoland | Desiree McIntosh | 312-285-5009 |
| Burr Oak School | South Suburbs | Natashia Harris | 708-388-8010 |
| Chicago Architectural Foundation | Chicagoland | Barbara Hrbek | 312-922-3432x225 |
| Chicago HOPES Homeless support | Chicagoland | Arifa Boyer | 773-553-2242 |
| Chicago Symphony Orchestra | Chicagoland | | 312-294-3160 |
| Child Services | Cook, Lake & DuPage | Greta Nielsen | 773-693-0300 |
| Court's Special Advocate Child Advocacy | Chicagoland | Imogene Harris | 312-433-6997 |
| Cycle | Chicago-Near North | Melinda Brand | 312-664-1194x14 |
| Forest Preserve District | Western Suburbs | Chris Linnell | 630-942-6169 |
| Friends of the Parks | Chicago-Central | Laura Ronneberg | 312-922-3307 |
| Glessner House Museum | Chicago-Near South | Clare Schaecher | 312-326-1480 |
| Graue Mill | DuPage County | Sandy Brubaker | 630-920-9720 |
| Ill. Parents Anonymous Parental Counseling | Chicagoland | Melinda Crosby | 312-649-7301 |
| Inner Voice Learning Center | Chicagoland | Antoinette Toliver | 312-666-8110 |
| JCB School | Chicagoland | Amber Egelston | 773-467-3746 |
| KIPP Ascend Charter School | Chicagoland | Sheri Barrette | 773-261-9972 |
| LaRabida Childrens Hospital | Chicago-Jackson Park | Judi Blakemore | 773-256-5985 |
| Lira Arts Polish | Chicagoland | Katharine McJimsey | 773-508-7040 |
| Mercy Home for Boys and Girls Mentor | Chicagoland | J. Brown/E. Dordek | 312-738-7554 |
| Metro Family Services | Chicagoland | Dee Speich | 773-298-5065x345 |
| Museum of Science & Industry | Chicago-Jackson Park | Penny Aulston | 773-753-2595 |
| Naperville Settlement | Naperville | Diane Ernst | 630-420-6010 |
| National Runaway Switchboard | Chicago-North | Molly Billette | 773-880-9860x218 |
| Oakton Community College | Des Plaines | Rita Stewart | 847-635-1434 |
| Oriental Institute, University of Chicago | Chicagoland | Cathy D or Terry | 773-702-1845 |
| Peace Corps | Chicagoland | Chicago Region | 312-353-4990 |
| PetCare Curriculum | Chicagoland | Julie Smith | 773-784-5605 |
| Read to Learn Literacy Tutors | Northwest | Lesley Goldberg | 847-718-7224 |
| Red Cross | Chicagoland | Robbin Kotajarvi | 312-729-6100 |
| Salvation Army Group Home | Chicago-Central | Frank Massolini | 312-455-8059x200 |
| School Childrens Aid Society | Chicagoland | Margaret Paul | 773-247-1311 |
| Swedish-American Museum | Chicago-North | Tina Harris | 773-728-8111x28 |
| Teen Connection Mentors | Chicagoland | Sara Manewith | 312-226-0963x234 |
| The Learning Center Adult Tutoring | Chicagoland | Sr. Monice | 773-277-3111 |
| Triton College Literacy | Chicagoland | Carol Di Fatta | 708-456-0300x3407 |
| Woman Made Gallery | Chicago-Northwest | Pamela Callahan | 312-328-0038 |



Marion Hoffing

THE RTAC NEWS BULLETIN ONCE AGAIN JOYFULLY PRESENTS

The irreplaceable quarterly anti-ennui shielding provided by

MARION HOFFING

THE CHICAGO SCENE

to enjoy during April, May, and June

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

ADLER PLANETARIUM 1300 South Shore Dr. 312-922-STAR
SHOOT FOR THE MOON - a look at lunar missions with the restored Gemini 12 as centerpiece and
THE OTHER SIDE OF INFINITY - a trip inside the Super Massive Black Hole.

ALLSTATE ARENA 6920 N. Mannheim Rd., Rosemont Permanent Exhibit
847-635-6601

THE POLICE, LIVE & IN CONCERT MAY 10
with special guest ELVIS COSTELLO & THE IMPOSTERS FINAL AREA APPEARANCE

ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO Michigan at Adams 312-433-3600

EDWARD HOPPER and WINSLOW HOMER - Two famous American artists who worked as illustrators, created prints and excelled as water color artists. View 220 interesting and artistically created masterworks by the most talented American artists. Thru 5/11
ED RUSCHA AND PHOTOGRAPHY - Photographic Books and Film by this painter and print maker, many never seen before. Thru 6/1

CADILLAC PALACE THEATRE 151 W. Randolph St. 312-902-1400
www.broadwayinchicago.com

"SWEENEY TODD" - The touring company of John Doyle's sophisticated Broadway revival of the Stephen Sondheim enigma should fill the Cadillac Palace for two weeks this spring. It will offer the chance to hear one of the greatest scores of the musical theatre sung by those cast for their musical chops rather than for their screen charisma. April 23 thru May 8

CHICAGO ARCHITECTURE FOUNDATION 224 S. Michigan Ave. 312-922-3432
www.architecture.org

"DO WE DARE SQUANDER CHICAGO'S GREAT ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE?"
This new exhibition at the Chicago Architectural Foundation promises to examine the stories of individuals and grassroots organizations that fight to make the past a part of the future. The show, co-organized by foundation curator Gregory Dreicer and freelance curator Kate Keleman, and later programs explore what motivates preservationists and their hold on Chicago. Thru May

CHICAGO HISTORY MUSEUM 1601 N. Clark St. (312) 642-4600
www.chicagohistory.org

THE BIG PICTURE - an exhibition exploring Chicago's painting history highlighting works from the late 19th century to the mid 20th century. You will see the city's artistic personality! Thru 8/3

CATHOLIC CHICAGO - the museum's newest exhibition. Explore how the experience of being Catholic in Chicago was transformed over time and how Catholic traditions have shaped the city's identity. Thru 1/4/09

CHICAGO ILLUMINATING COMPANY 19 E. 21st St. 312-326-9500
www.chicagoilluminatingcompany.com

THE VISION AND ART OF SHINJO ITO
Collected works and wonders from Japan's foremost Buddhist Artist. 4/8 thru 5/1

CHICAGO OPERA THEATRE 2501 N. Keeler Ave. 773-292-7521

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart DON GIOVANNI April 30, May 3,6,9,11
John Adams Conducting A FLOWERING TREE May 14, 17, 20, 23, 25
George Frideric Handel ORLANDO May 28, 31, June 3, 6, 8

CHICAGO THEATRE 175 N. State St. 312-443-1130
JERRY SEINFELD April 11, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.
MARK KNOPFLER, LIVE IN CONCERT July 13, 7:30 p.m.

DRURY LANE - OAKBROOK TERRACE 100 Drury Ln., Oakbrook Terrace 630-530-8300
www.drurylaneoakbrook.com

SWEET CHARITY - Set in the swinging '60s, it depicts the romantic adventures of an unlucky-in-love dance-hall girl. Originally choreographed by Bob Fosse (Amundsen H.S. Class of '45) and written by Neil Simon, it explores the well-known themes of big city dreams and the endless search for love. Thru 5/18

THE BUDDY HOLLY STORY - Set in the rockin' '50s, it celebrates the exuberant energy and undying spirit of this legendary musician. 5/22 thru 7/27

THE BOYS FROM SYRACUSE - Set in the frolicking '40s, this comedy of errors revolves around the escapades and romantic mix-ups of not one but two sets of identical twins. 8/9 thru 9/28

FIELD MUSEUM of NATURAL HISTORY Roosevelt Rd. at Lake Shore Dr. 312-922-9410
www.fieldmuseum.org

GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER - What makes a man a legend? In the case of George Washington Carver, it wasn't just peanuts. Born into slavery, Carver used his extraordinary gifts of persistence and compassion to become a trail-blazing scientist with a lifelong mission to bring practical knowledge to those in need. His experiments with plants introduced poor Southern sharecroppers to sustainable agriculture and laid the groundwork for today's research on plant-based fuels, medicine and everyday products. Discover the mighty vision of this remarkable man. Thru 7/6

NATURE UNLEASHED: INSIDE NATURAL DISASTERS

Earthquakes, tornadoes, hurricanes, volcanic eruptions, Tsunamis. From California to Krakatoa, these immense forces of geology and weather have shaped our planet and our world. How do they affect us, and how do we respond? Can we prevent them? Should we try?

Opening 5/23 through 1/4/09

THE ANCIENT AMERICAS - Step into the windswept world of the Ice-Age Mammoth hunters. Walk through a replica of an 800-year-old pueblo dwelling and imagine your entire family cooking, eating and sleeping in one small room. Explore the Aztec empire and its island capital, Tenochtitlan, a city of more than 200,000 people and an extraordinary feat of engineering for any era. Discover what Field Museum scientists and others have learned about people who lived in the Americas before us, and how it's changed nearly everything we thought we knew. See this groundbreaking Exhibition.

EVOLVING PLANET - What did the world look like through the eyes of a 500-million-year-old trilobite? What could you see and hear in the swampy forest that was Chicago 300 million years ago? How would it feel to touch the face of our early human cousins? Looking for Dinosaurs? This is the place!

Permanent Exhibitions

GAHLBERG GALLERY McAninch Arts Center at College of DuPage 425 Fawell Blvd. Glen Ellyn
630-942-4000
Thru 4/19

THE WORK OF MICHAEL PIAZZA
Piazza was a Chicago visual artist and writer who taught art, culture and education at the School of the Art Institute, Columbia College, and DePaul University. He spent several years working alongside adults with developmental disabilities and has collaborated with resident youth at the Cook County Temporary Detention Center in Chicago as an artist in residence.

Annual Juried Student Art Exhibit 4/24 thru 5/24
A juried display of paintings, drawings, sculptures, photographs, ceramics, jewelry by College of DuPage art students.

ALASTAIR NOBLE
Alastair Noble's artistic practice on sculpture, public art and interior installations. Poetry has informed his work over the years, and recently has emerged as a major structural element of his sculptural forms.
Permanent Exhibition

GARFIELD PARK CONSERVATORY 300 N. Central Park Ave. 312-746-5100
www.garfield-conservatory.org

The FREE ANNUAL SPRING FLOWER SHOW, "Age of Azaleas," will present a changing bouquet of spring blooming plants beginning with azaleas and then hydrangeas. The floral exhibit also features flowering shrubs, tulips, daffodils and hyacinths.

HYDE PARK ART CENTER 5020 S. Cornell Ave. 773-324-5520
Thru 5/11

Chuck Walker - A Chicago Artist who achieved some prominence in the 1980s is at the Center with his new collection of paintings and drawings. The local art critic and curator was especially drawn to the *Image with a Bicycle*. It embodies everything I like about Chuck's work. It's mysterious and soulful and strange.
Thru 4/6

CHICAGO OPERA THEATRE 2501 N. Keeler Ave. 773-292-7521
info@hydeparkart.org

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart | DON GIOVANNI | April 30, May 3, 6, 9, 11 |
| John Adams Conducting | A FLOWERING TREE | May 14, 17, 20, 23, 25 |
| George Frideric Handel | ORLANDO | May 28, 31, June 3, 6, 8 |

LA SALLE BANK THEATRE 18 W. Monroe St. 312-902-1400
JERSEY BOYS - The Story of Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons open end

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY MUSEUM OF ART 820 N. Michigan 312-915-7600
"SILVER CLOUD" from Andy Warhol's exhibit for a 10-week run. The pillow-shaped balloons will waft around the 2,000-square-foot gallery space propelled by a fan-generated wind.
ALSO ON DISPLAY is Max Finkelstein's photographs of Warhol and other Factory denizens and Warhol's print portfolios (1971 - 1980) on loan from the Gank of America collections.
Thru 4/27

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART 220 E. Chicago Ave. 312-280-2660
COLLECTION HIGHLIGHTS 1949-2007
A SHOWCASE OF SOME OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT WORKS IN THE MUSEUM'S collection, including works by Vito Acconci, Francis Bacon, Rene Magritte, Ed Paschke, Robert Rauschenberg, Andy Warhol, H.C. Westermann, Chris Burden, Chuck Close, Jeff Koons, Matthew Barney, Ellen Gallagher and Jeff Wall.
Thru 6/8

GORDON MATTA CLARK: "You Are the Measure"
The first full retrospective for an artist (1943-1973) whose radical work with architecture and space figured prominently in the early history of the MCA.
Thru 5/4

KAREN KILIMNIK

A STAR OF THE 1980S Scatter-Art scenes, Karen Kilimnik lifts the concept of collage out of 3-D and creates entire environments. Here, that means a video screened in a gazebo and a salon-style parlor hung with oil paintings of pop-culture figures from Paris Hilton to Snow White. Thru 6/8

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY 57TH & Lake Shore Dr. 773-684-1414
www.msichicago.org

The MSI turns 75 this year! More than 175 million visitors later, the Museum carries on Rosenwald's vision, inspiring minds young and old.

EXPERIENCE THE WORLD OF GLASS

In "The Glass Experience" examine the beauty, science and craftsmanship behind glass making. Each day see glassmakers shape raw material into colorful masterpieces. See works by famous glass artists including a forest of brilliant glass pieces created by Dale Chihuly. Thru 9/1

SMART HOME: GREEN+WIRED.

Powdered by ComEd and warmed by Peoples Gas, you can tour a fully functioning environmentally friendly "green" home right in the Museum's backyard. See how to make green living a part of your life with the latest in amazing eco-friendly design, materials and cool technologies for the 21st century.

Explore the photography exhibit by Terry Evans all leading up to the BIG 75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION. 6/18 thru 6/22

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF MEXICAN ART 1852 W. 19th St. 312-738-1503

HORNS, HOOVES, WINGS, FINS and TAILS - Explore the history of animals in Mexican Art. Thru 6/3

CHUPACABRUS - Local artists reinterpret the Urban Mexican legend. Thru 7/20

Chicago *Dia del Nino* Family Festival Free in UIC Pavilion Sat. April 19 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

FREE PUBLIC TOURS Sat. 4/26 and 5/24 at noon in English and at 1 p.m. in Spanish

NORTHLIGHT THEATRE 5115 Church St, Skokie 847-677-5276
northlight.org

"The Lady with all the Answers" - Biographical drama about the late *Tribune* advice columnist set on Lake Michigan on Lake Shore Drive. May 21 thru June 29

PRITZKER MILITARY LIBRARY 611 N. Fairbanks Court - 2nd Flr. 312-587-0214

Enjoy more than 26,000 volumes of Military History and Fiction. A varied collection of vintage posters dating back to the Civil War. The Pritzker Museum is a unique place to learn about the Citizen Soldier's life in America. Comfortable, state of the art facilities and a dedicated, knowledgeable staff is always on duty.

Open Mon. thru Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Guided Tours - Call for an Appointment

ROSEMONT THEATRE 5400 N. River Rd. 847-671-5100
www.rosemont.com

JOHNNY MATHIS, THE ONE AND ONLY May 31 8 p.m.

ELMO MAKES HIS MUSIC May 7 thru May 11

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE ON NAVY PIER 800 E Grand Ave (312) 595-5600
THE COMEDY OF ERRORS directed by Barbara Gaines April - June

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO 5550 S. Greenwood Ave. 773-702-0200
SMART MUSEUM OF ART Now thru May 4

ADAPTATION Video Installations by Ben Ner, Herrera, Sullivan and Sussman and The Rufus Corporation.

UNITED CENTER 1901 W. Madison St. 312-455-4500
CIRQUE DU SOLEIL - KOOZA GRAND CHAPITEAU 6/26 thru 7/27

New Life Members

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

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Frana L. Allen | Richard M. Frye | Thomas Koran | Mercedes Rio |
| Elaine G. Alper | Betty J. Fuller | Gloria M. Lowery | Diana C. Rochon |
| Linnie M. Archie-Gentry | Sherye Garmony-Miller | Julienne Mallory | Patricia M. Ronan |
| Barbara Baker | Linda M. Garner | Patricia A. Maloney | Ronald P. Stoeckig |
| James W. Barker | Joan D. Garnett | Bernice Maxwell | Margaret Sullivan |
| Patricia P. Bennett | Gwendolyn Greene | Alice K. Melady | Margaret Sullivan |
| Sandra A. Bertrand | Charlena Gueste | Linda L. Mitchell | Suzanne Sullivan |
| Carolyn Brewer | Juanita Hall | Pearl E. Montgomery | Mary Lee Taylor |
| Florence Byer | Annetta Y. Harris | Alexandra Pradella-Ott | Wilbert Theodore |
| Miriam Cammallerie | John L. Harris | Bobby W. Purham | Lucy Thomas |
| Pamela E. Coleman | Barbara M. Heffelfinger | Lynne C. Rajkowski | Richard B. Wasserman |
| Frank DeLisa | Martha Y. Hill | Ronald A. Reinke | Linda Allums Watkins |
| Marjorie A. Dugout | Valerie King | Thomas F. Riley | Linda Wolf |



CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

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

Name: _____

NEW Address _____ Apt. _____

NEW City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

NEW phone () _____ - _____ Effective date (mm/dd/yy): ____/____/____

OLD Address _____ Apt. _____

OLD City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

OLD phone () _____ - _____

(**Please** use this form if you will spend part of **this** year in one location and part of it in another.) 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 my OLD address, and these _____ should be mailed to my NEW address.

Please mark this box if these instructions apply every year.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS TO
CHICAGO RETIRED TEACHERS AID FUND, INC.
*FEDERAL TAX DEDUCTIBLE. In amounts of \$10 and
over
(from December 7, 2007 to March 12, 2008)*

| <u>DONOR:</u> | <u>IN MEMORY OF:</u> | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Robert Bures | Josephine Ward | Norbert A. Hodanick | Louis Gratch |
| S.L. Dolnick | Doris Joy Moderona | June Kakacek | Stanley Ptak |
| Wilhelmina Carter | Willie and Cora Jenkins | Freedom Club | Harry Donahoo |
| | | Gabriel A Chiri | Kahler Jackson |
| | | Dian Dionesotes | Wanda H. Gorny |
| | | Patricia D. Faire | Wanda H. Gorny |
| Juanita Riley | Mayala Powers Smith | Thomas J. Kernan | Mary Fox |
| Jones Hampton | Dr. William E. Finch | Janet and Sam De Figlio | Michael Burton |
| | Robert H. Jones Jr. | Genevieve Lober | Anne Taylor |
| | Clarence J. Riley | Hilda Mansfield | Mr. Wm. Harvey |
| | Calena Riley Ryan | Rosemary L. Tirio | Sylvester Blaylock |
| | Donald G. Hampton | Sonya Mc Millan | Grace Powers |
| Arthur E. Keegan | Josephine Ward | Jewel Koch | Burton Duffie |
| Marion C. Hoffing | Josephine Ward | | Doris Moderow |
| | Arthur Cervinka | | Helene Blake |
| | Milton Bobus | | Walter Leydon |
| Karen Lemke | Tanna Mattingly | | Ralph Mansfield |
| Douglas Moderow | Doris J. Moderow | | Salvador Escoto |
| Constantine P. Kiamos | Arthur Cervinka | | Theolene E. Simpson |
| Mary Nalbandian | Joyce I. Dabbouseh | | Andrea M. Ibe |
| Kevin Huber and CTPF Staff | Josephine Ward | | Herman Baldassarree |
| Anne W. Bannor | Doris Moderow | | Art Cervinka |
| Arsene Boykin | Andrew C. Miller | | Andy Miller |
| Delphine C. Szulakiewicz | Milton J. Schular | | Lucille Weaver |
| A. J. Kemp | Richard B. Kemp | | Deceased Teachers from Bryn Mawr Elementary |
| Theodis Brown | Coletha Brown | | Joseph J. Copper |
| Dolores Fetes | Louise Cadwell | | My sister Annie Marie Harris Fletcher |
| Jean Franckowiak | Wanda Gorny | | Jeanne Junker |
| | | | Erma Beck |
| | | | Andrew Miller |
| | | | Margaret L. Clerken |
| | | | Mamie Mobley |
| | | | Alfred Rudd |
| | | | Arthur A. Cervinka |
| | | | Mallalieu Golden |
| | | | James Coughlan |

| | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Peter Miscinski | James N. Hambourger | Anonymous | General Purpose |
| Svea Karlson | Nancy Gedons | Kappa Chapter, Lambda | Retired Teachers |
| Martha W. Bell | Otho Anthony | Delta Kappa Gamma | Past and Present |
| | Angeline Davis | Society Int. | |
| | Kathryn Peecher | Anonymous | General Purpose |
| Alberta Gresh | Joyce Dabbouseh | Anonymous | General Purpose |
| M. C. Hoffing | Mary Ellen Patterson | Anonymous | General Purpose |
| | Esther Bergman | Anonymous | General Purpose |
| | John Tirio | | |
| John Demczyk | Dale Lamos | Martha Semisch | General Purpose |
| | Marie India | Roy E. Coleman | General Purpose |
| Nancietta L. Stocking | Harold Kiehm | Georgia M. Young | In Honor of |
| Rina M. Naddeo | Arthur A. Cervinka | | Dr. Nina Jones |
| | Of CPS May he rest in | | Greetings to |
| | Peace! | | Maizelle and Jerry Archie |
| Anonymous | Dr. Theresa M. White | | |
| Robert C. Konen | Pearl Jehn | Karen A. Svendsen | General Purpose |
| George J. Richter | Doris Moderow | Diane A. Smith | General Purpose |
| | Al Sterling | Sandra Maison Rosen | General Purpose |
| | Vince Conroy | George J. Richter | In Honor of |
| | Art Cervinka | | Howard Sloan and |
| | Andy Miller | | Gerard Heing |
| | Al Charnes | Anonymous | General Purpose |
| | Jean Miller | | |
| | Al Drenstein | | |
| Marilyn and Jim Kenney | Ellen M. Jordan | | |
| Therese Derbas | Andrew Meyer | | |
| | Ken Peterson | | |

**MEMORIAL DONATIONS TO
RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION of CHICAGO
FOR THE GENERAL EXPENSE FUND
NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE. In amounts of \$10 and
over**

(from December 6, 2007 to March 12, 2008)

**SPECIAL DONATIONS TO
CHICAGO RETIRED TEACHERS AID FUND, INC.**

| <u>DONOR:</u> | <u>OCCASION:</u> |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Anonymous | General Purpose |
| Florence M. Devenish | General Purpose |
| Bonita and John Lyles | General Purpose |
| Frank C. Mc Clenahan | General Purpose |
| Kathleen M. McKee | General Purpose |
| Flora Moreno Soto | General Purpose |
| Anonymous | General Purpose |
| Anonymous | In Honor of James L Folley |

| <u>DONOR:</u> | <u>IN MEMORY OF:</u> |
|----------------------|--|
| Ethel G. Hightower | Selvey Wesley Wade |
| Carol J. Korten | Wanda H. Gorny |
| Leroy Weathersby Sr. | Josephine Adams William M. Beverly Priscilla Dorsey Edythe L. Ellis Sidney Fisher George E. Goodridge Henry Mayberry Eunice Roberts Alice B. Weathersby Doxie Woodard |
| John J. Garvey | Art Cervinka |

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| John P. Keating | Roy Littner |
| Martin P. Cieslak | Mariam Buckley |
| JoAnne E. Walsh | John Tobin |
| V. I. Vaughns | Lettie M. Bell Kathryn E. Brown Mary E. Coleman Lorraine Galberth Chestene Seaberry Sarah Stigler |
| John Demczyk | Dr. Joseph Ewald Dr. Helen Putko Mary Marnel |
| Shirley Kremsner | Marilynn Greenfield (Kinsella) |

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

| <i>DONOR:</i> | <i>OCCASION:</i> |
|-----------------|--|
| Anonymous | General Purpose |
| Mark S. Renz | General Purpose |
| V. I. Vaughns | Happy birthday Thomascena J. Laws and Joyce H. Brown |
| Florence Baker | General Purpose |
| Denise Edwards | General Purpose |
| Gayle E. Modell | General Purpose |
| Lillian Holmes | General Purpose |

| | |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Robert A. Saddler | Doris H. Barnes Charles Jones |
| Eugene Kaczmarek | Gerald Krane Donald Wahle |

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CHICAGO RETIRED TEACHERS AID FUND, INC.**

| <i>DONOR:</i> | <i>OCCASION</i> |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Anonymous | General Purpose |
| Florence M. Devenish | General Purpose |
| Bonita and John Lyles | General Purpose |
| Frank C. Mc Clenahan | General Purpose |

MEMBER WRITES OF HER ORDEAL WITH BREAST CANCER

Another RTAC member has unleashed her writing talents in retirement to create a work that is being hailed as an inspiration for all ages.

M. Marva Allison, a 39-year veteran CPS teacher who taught English and French at Wendell Phillips and later served in the Mentoring for Teachers program at Englewood, has written a book titled *It's Time to Sing My Song: Overcoming Circumstances with Faith*.

Published by Author House, the book describes how faith, family and friends helped Marva through the terrifying and unpredictable journey of breast cancer. In a recent phone interview, Marva said, "I kept it [her condition] a secret for so long. I didn't tell anybody, not even my own child. I just couldn't deal with it. I was angry at the world, angry at God. One day, I stopped being crazy and told

myself to wake up and find out what I needed to do for myself."

The story Marva wrote of her experiences details her determination to overcome anxiety, fear and adversity. Grateful for and proud of her new identity as a cancer survivor, Marva is also grateful for and proud of her son and his family, her "grandpeople," as she calls her grandchildren.

Marva's busy retirement also includes working as District Secretary and Treasurer for District 1A of Lions International and helping in the Volunteers for Senior Advocacy program at St. Margaret's parish. .

Marva's book, *It's Time to Sing My Song: Overcoming Circumstances with Faith*, is available on the internet at Amazon.Com, Barnes & Noble.Com and Lacheremma@aol.com.

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

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

- Political Education Fund (**not** tax deductible; make check payable to **RTAC COPE**)
- Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund (Federal tax deductible; make check payable to **C.R.T.A.F.**)
- Retired Teachers Association of Chicago (**not** tax deductible; make check payable to **R.T.A.C.**)

Donor's name(s) _____

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 the following that this donation has been made.

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____



AID FUND PROVIDES EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR MEMBERS

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

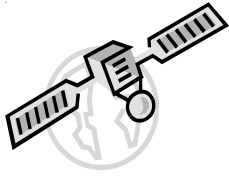
The year 2007 had an unusually large number of our fellow retired teachers being threatened with imminent evictions. Many times these emergency situations occur because of an increased number of medical and prescription bills. This year, 2008, is also starting with an increased need for our assistance.

Under the direction of RTAC President, Ethel Philpott, a program has been instituted to deal with these emergencies. As you can imagine, when one of our members is literally being put in the street along with all of his or her possessions, time is of the essence! The CRTAF Board has established a system which calls for the immediate and coordinated response of our Grants Committee Chairs, **Robert Konen** and **Walter Pilditch** and

our Treasurer, **Vaughn Barber**. A check must be issued and then hand-delivered. (In one case, the Landlord insisted on cash only!) This all worked to perfection on one of those recent sub-zero wind chill days this past January.

Thanks to all of you contributors to the Aid Fund which has made this possible. The letters of appreciation from our clients cannot but bring a feeling that we are all doing what we should be doing for those less fortunate.

Finally we of the Aid Fund cannot forget the time, efforts and donations of Carol Bures. For our clients, she shops for new clothes, purchasing correct sizes, fashionable styles and even managing to buy their favorite colors. Carol, thank you!



SATELLITE DOINGS

SAN DIEGO SATELLITE TO MEET APRIL 8

By Sam Dolnick

The San Diego Satellite members will have their next meeting on April 8 at the Olive Garden Restaurant, 11555 Carmel Mountain Road in San Diego. Further information can be obtained from Sam Dolnick at 619-697-4854. Anyone in the SD County area who is a former member of the CPS is invited to attend. Cost will be \$16.

The San Diego satellite started in the early '80s with some 42 members. Later, the number of members grew to around 50. Today, only 21 members remain, but they still faithfully meet every year and enjoy catching up with the latest news.

Anyone can start a satellite** simply by sending your zip code along with the zip codes of neighboring areas where you think RTAC members might be residing to the RTAC office in Chicago. They will be happy to supply address labels of members living in the zip code areas you request. After you have the names and addresses, contacting the members should be simple.

**Please see p. 24.

[Editor's note: The News Bulletin will be happy to assist in satellite formation by publishing contact names and phone numbers, email addresses, etc.]

NEW FLORIDA SATELLITE TAKES WING. . . WHERE IS PHOENIX???

In a recent email, Gail Obie wrote,

The retired Chicago teachers, all 21 of us, gathered today [March 2] at The Villages at Country Creek clubhouse for a luncheon get-together. It was a wonderful turn out and we all had a great time.

The following teachers attended: Al Blackman, Alice Carney, Tom Connelly, Sylvia Fefer, Carmela

Gilbertson, Herbert Herman, Susan Malone, Rose Marici, Alice Macready, Rosemary McMahan, Terri McManaman, Jacqueline Mooney, Gail Obie, Dick Ovington, Janice Michaels Port, Mary Ann Ross, Jannette Simon, JoAnne Walsh, Bill Woodrow & wife, and Joan Slaven. (See photos next page.)

If you have any further questions, my phone is 239-948-9423. Thanks for publishing the notice for the get-together!

CENTRAL FLORIDA SATELLITE HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING

Annette Brown, Secretary-Treasurer of the Central Florida Satellite in Ocala reports the following:

The Chicago RTAC Florida group held its Annual Spring Meeting on Thursday, March 6, in Palm Coast, Fla. (Palm Coast is 15-20 minutes north of Daytona Beach.) Nathaniel Mason and John West hosted the gathering at the Grand Club of the Pine Golf Course. More than 40 members and guests enjoyed a delicious buffet lunch in a beautiful room overlooking the golf course. The program included a fun ice-breaker, comments from members and a very informative and inspirational

talk by Hosley A. Moorman, a member of the City Council of Palm Coast, on the development and progress of a mentoring program for middle school boys.

Those in attendance included Drs. Manford and Cheri Byrd, Doretha Coleman, Lavinia Cross, Adolphus and Anita Dabney, James and Carrie Felton, Frank and Tessie Garner, James and Patricia Grissett, Loris Brown-Leonard, Gloria Malmore, Dr. William and Freeda Marshall, Nathaniel and Sandra Mason, Walter and Theresa Parker, Alvin and Anita Peterson, James and Alyce

Continued on page 24



Bill & Babe Woodrow

**S.W. FLORIDA
SATELLITE
MEMBERS MET
FOR THE FIRST
TIME MARCH 2**



Carmela Gilbertson & Jan Michaels



Al Blackman & Gail Obie



Herbert Herman & Joan Slavenc



Jacqueline Mooney & Susan Malone



Terri McManamon & Tom Connelly



Southwest Florida Satellite retirees met March 2 for the first time. Twenty-one former CPS teachers and administrators attended.



Mary Ann Ross & Rose Marici



Babe Woodrow & Joanne Walsh



Rosemary McMahon & Jannette Simon



Gail Obie & Alice Macready



Jan Michaels & Dick Ovington

**THANKS TO GAIL & CHARLES
OBIE FOR SENDING THESE
WONDERFUL PHOTOS**



Alice Carney & Sylvia Fefer

FYI: ANYONE CAN START A SATELLITE

Yes, anyone CAN start an RTAC satellite. Sam Dolnick, treasurer and founding member of the San Diego satellite was kind enough to share models of the letter he sent to Executive Director Bob Bures enlisting his assistance in getting this year's satellite meeting organized. Bob has all the info you need to locate RTAC members all around the country. He'll even send address labels and postage. Why not get back in touch with "that old gang of yours" and meet some new CPS veterans along the way? Thanks so much, Sam, for sharing. Sam also sent a model one-page invitation/reservation form. This is available to anyone interested in forming another satellite. Just contact the *News Bulletin*.

RTAC

Attn: Robert F. Bures, Exec. Director
220 South State Street, Suite #2100
Chicago, IL 60604

Dear Robert:

It is my pleasure to announce that the San Diego Satellite is alive and well and is continuing the luncheon/business meetings twice a year. The next meeting of the San Diego Satellite will on be Tuesday, April 8, 2008, and will be held at the Olive Garden Restaurant on Carmel Mountain Road. The second Tuesday in April is one of our usual meeting dates; the other meeting date is the second Tuesday in October.

Could you please send us address labels for the enclosed zip code listing so that all members residing within the two counties will be able to receive the reservation announcements? May we impose upon you to send sufficient 41-cent stamps for the addresses? The help the parent organization gives us is doing much to keep our group alive.

Keep up the good fight to keep our pensions strong and our health benefits ongoing. Thank you for all your past courtesies and please give our fondest regards and best wishes for good health to all our colleagues.

Cordially,
Sam Dolnick
Treasurer
Enclosures: Zip Codes
Reservation form FYI

Central Florida Satellite, continued from p. 22.

Sanders, Arthur and Jacqueline Short, Dr. Allen and Mildred Smith, Dr. John and Ellen West, Dr. Alfred Williams and Dr. Katherine Smith-Williams and Michael and Faye Williams.

The next meeting will be held in the Orlando area hosted by Al and Ann Peterson on or about March 11, 2009. For information or to be placed on our mailing list, please contact Annette Brown at 352-347-2407 or Teri Parker at 773-354-8919.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ZIP CODES

| | | |
|-------|-------|-------|
| 91902 | 92004 | 92102 |
| 92672 | | |
| 91905 | 92007 | 92103 |
| 91906 | 92008 | 92104 |
| 91910 | 92009 | 92105 |
| 91911 | 92014 | 92106 |

ORANGE COUNTY ZIP CODES

| | | |
|-------|-------|-------|
| 91913 | 92019 | 92107 |
| 91914 | 92020 | 92108 |
| 92651 | | |
| 91915 | 92021 | 92109 |
| 92672 | | |

[Editor's Note: The above is just a sample of the much larger number of zip codes Sam sent to RTAC to obtain addresses of RTAC members living in the vicinity of the San Diego satellite. Thanks again, Sam!]



MADELINE STRATTON MORRIS INTRODUCED BLACK HISTORY IN 1941

When longtime RTAC member Madeline Stratton Morris passed away peacefully last Dec. 26 at age 101, both Chicago daily newspapers ran obituary articles about her. It was not only her great longevity that these articles extolled, however. Both articles as well as a 2003 interview that appeared in *The History Makers* recognized Mrs. Stratton Morris' pioneering efforts in introducing African American History into the Chicago Public Schools curriculum way back in 1941.

Mrs. Stratton Morris began her 36+ year teaching career after receiving her teaching certificate from Chicago Teachers College in 1933. Her first assignment was at Emerson School. She went on to receive her bachelor's and master's degrees in education from Northwestern University in 1941 and did postgraduate work at the University of Chicago from 1942 to 1946.

A teacher, historian and author, Mrs. Stratton Morris soon discovered the complete absence of African American History from the public school curriculum, which prompted her to write two textbooks and many articles on the subject. "I wrote two textbooks--*Stride Forward: Afro-American Biographies* and *Negroes Who Helped to Build America*--because. . . black people would never be accepted if no one had ever seen or heard about us," she said in a 1999 interview that appeared in "Ten Chicagoans Master the Art of Growing Older" in the *University of Chicago Magazine*. "One of the important reasons for writing these books was so that young black children would have some information and take pride in themselves."

In the same interview, Mrs. Stratton Morris left some impressions of her life and times: "The issue of race has encompassed my life and that of other black people. It narrowed the kinds of experiences we could have and even our right to be a human being. Certain things were just expected. When we moved into this [Hyde Park] apartment, there was what was called a 'colored price' and a 'white price.' That was expected. But we were friends with a white couple who bought the whole building at the better price and then sold our place to us at a

fair price. When something decent like that happened, it was a surprise.

"Teaching was one of the few things a black woman could do. I taught at Emerson School on West Walnut for about 15 years, and later at A.O. Sexton School on South Langley for another 17. Teachers were trained better when I came along, and children weren't as unruly as they are now. Parents were more involved with the school and taught their children to be polite. My father expected all six of us children to be sitting at the table at dinnertime--and to be early at the table on Sundays. The expectations of parents are different today. Social promotion is bad, too, for children, because they aren't encouraged to feel that they have accomplished something."



Madeline Stratton Morris

In 1963, Mrs. Stratton Morris was one of eight Chicagoans chosen by Mayor Richard J. Daley to receive the annual achievement award from the Chicago Commission on Human Relations. She was cited "for her devotion, as a teacher, to the mutual understanding of peoples and for her efforts to make Negro history part of the public school curriculum.

Mrs. Stratton Morris retired from the Dixon School on May 31, 1969. She continued teaching and consulting for the CPS, Chicago State University, Governors State University and Mayfair College, now Harry S. Truman College. She was also a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 1980 and has received awards from the National Council of Negro Women and the National Negro Museum and Historical Foundation.

[Editor's note: Thanks to Teresa Banaszak, niece of the late Mrs. Stratton Morris, who supplied the information for this article and called the accomplishments of this very notable RTAC member to our attention.]

FRIENDS GONE AHEAD

Requiescant in pace

ADAMS-TYLER, CLOVISE.

Née Adams. On February 15, 2008, at the age of 68 years, Clovise died. She retired from the Gresham School in 1996 after 28 years.

AKRIDGE, JAMES C.

James retired from Julian High School in 1997 after a 30-year teaching career. He died on April 5, 2007, at age 73.

ALI, MIRIAM R.

Miriam had taught for 18 years when she retired in 1983 from the Revere School. She was 86 when her life ended on April 13, 2007.

ARMSTRONG, NAOMI Y.

Née Young. Naomi's career of 21 years came to an end as she left Von Humboldt as Assistant Principal in 1983. When she passed away on January 20, 2008, she had reached the age of 90.

ATKINS, ELSA D.

Née Royack, Née Aylward. In 1978, when she retired from the Stockton School, Elsa ended her 18-year career with the Chicago School System and three years outside Chicago. On November 29, 2007, her life ended after 84 years.

AVERY, ELVIRA G.

When she died on August 30, 2007, Elvira was 85 years of age. She ended a 36-year career when she left Burnside in 1987.

BAILEY, DONN F.

Resigning from the City Colleges in 1996 after a career as a Professor that lasted 11 years, Donn passed on at the age of 75 on December 21, 2007.

BAKER, DORLA T.

Née Tubbs. Dorla was affiliated with the Chicago Public Schools for 24 years when she retired from the Kinzie School in 1984. At the time of her death on February 5, 2007, she was 78 years of age.

BANNICK, DOROTHY R.

Née Morin. Dorothy succumbed on November 15, 2007, at the age of 92. She served five years as an Assistant Family Instructor resigning from the Chicago Parental School in 1977.

BARATTA, JOSEPH J.

His 13-year career ended at Proviso High School in 1993 when Joseph retired as a Counselor. Death came for him on March 27, 2007, at the age of 76.

BARNES, MARY L.

Née Dennis. Mary was 77 years old when she died on January 19, 2008. She was at Harold Washington School when she resigned in 2001 after a 28-year career.

BECHEL, CHARLES R.

Charles passed on at age 92 on November 30, 2007. He resigned in 1982 after a 22-year career that ended at Coonley.

BECKER, WILLIAM R.

After teaching 24 years, William resigned in 1986 from Lafayette. He succumbed at the age of 79 on February 8, 2008.

BEEKIL, LOIS S.

Née Samuels. Lois retired from Carter in 1987 after teaching for 24 years in Chicago and three years outside Chicago. On November 23, 2007, she died at age 77.

BELLETYNEE, INEZ.

Née Lindgren. Inez ended a 24-year career in Chicago when she resigned from the Avondale School in 1971. She also taught for 16 years outside the Chicago System. At her death on November 4, 2007, she was 104 years old.

BELOZ, AUGUSTINE.

Having ended a 38-year career at Mason by resigning in 1993, Augustine expired on February 14, 2008, at the age of 72 years.

BENNOON, CARMEL.

Carmel was at Roosevelt High School at retirement in 1982 after a 36-year career, and died on December 13, 2007, at age 81.

BENSON, OVELTA M.

Resignation in 1994 from the Sumner School ended Ovelta's 29-year career. Death came on December 25, 2007, at the age of 84 years.

BENTLEY, ROBERT R.

Robert was 89 at his death on November 24, 2007. He ended his six-year career when he retired from the City Colleges in 1988.

BETZ, ROBERT F.

Robert retired as a Professor from Chicago Teachers College North in 1993 after a 10-year career. Death came for him at age 84 on April 5, 2007.

BEZLER, GEORGE.

At the age of 73, George passed away on January 17, 2008. After 38 years in the system, he resigned from Sheridan in 1993.

BLACKBURN, RUBY L.

Née Lane. When she resigned from Dunbar Vocational High School in 1977, Ruby capped a 25-year career. She was 91 when she died on November 9, 2006.

BRANCH, ESSIE G.

Née Greene. Essie retired in 1993 from Martin Luther King High School ending a 38-year career. At the end of her life on December 20, 2007, she was 74 years old.

BROWN, ANNA M.

A teacher at Sullivan High School when she resigned in 1998, Anna had served for 11 years. She was 49 on the date of her passing, April 4, 2007.

BUCK, RITA B.

Née Maher. After a career of 20 years as a Substitute, Rita retired from the Area A Schools in 1974. She died on October 11, 2007, at the age of 94.

BURCH, RALPH.

Ralph retired in 1993 from Julian High School, after teaching 25 years. His life ended on January 30, 2008, at the age of 72 years.

BURKE, SARAH S.

Née Scott Sarah was at Burke when she resigned in 1973 after 34 years in the Chicago Public Schools. She was 94 on December 3, 2007, when she passed on.

CAROSELLA, GERALDINE.

Née Zeigler. When she left Avondale in 1987, Geraldine put a 39-year career to an end. Her life ended on October 13, 2007, at the age of 83.

CATES, JANE L.

Née Lohrer. After 5 years in Chicago Schools, Jane retired in 1975. She was 97 when she expired on October 27, 2007.

CHAIN, MERCEDES.

A 35-year career in Chicago Schools came to an end for Mercedes when she left the Doolittle West School in 1976. She died on November 10, 2007, at the age of 96 years.

COMPTON, C.J.

Death claimed C. J., who resigned from Schurz High School in 1984 after 33 years, on April 8, 2007, at the age of 84.

COOPER, JOSEPH J.

Joseph was at Mozart when he retired in 1985 after 32 years in Chicago and two years teaching elsewhere. He was 92 when he succumbed on December 2, 2007.

COUPET, JOSEPH A.

In 1993, when Joseph was at Senn High School, he retired after 25 years. He was 83 years old when he expired on December 29, 2007.

CRIST, DOROTHY.

In 1982, when she retired from the Neil School, Dorothy ended her 34-year career with the Chicago School system. On November 28, 2007, her life ended after 82 years.

CROSSMAN, MARY R.

Née Richards. Ending a 33-year career, Mary left Foreman High School in 1977. When she died on December 11, 2007, she was 96 years of age.

CROWDER, SAM.

Sam's resignation from Morgan Park High School in 1993 ended a 38-year career. On January 21, 2008, he passed on at the age of 77 years.

CULLEN, VERA M.

Née Ahearn. After 97 years, death came for Vera on January 21, 2008. She ended her career at Low Incident Handicapped Center in 1976 after teaching 25 years in Chicago and eight years elsewhere.

CUTT, WILLIAM R.

At his death on February 20, 2008, William was 76 years old. His 33-year career ended when he resigned from Dawes in 1988.

DAMATA, LAURA. NÉE BARR.

Assigned to Steimetz High School when she resigned in 1973 after 41 years, Laura passed away at the age of 101 on February 26, 2008.

DAVIS, CLYDE F.

Clyde retired in 1993 from Kelvyn Park High School ending a 37-year career. At the end of his life on February 11, 2008, he was 76 years old.

DAVIS, JESSE.

At the age of 75, Jesse died on February 14, 2008, having retired from Englewood High School in 1996 after a 22-year teaching career.

DELANEY, FRED W.

A teacher at Washington High School when he retired in 1985 after 36 years, Fred passed away on April 10, 2007, at the age of 81 years.

DELICH, JUNE G.

June retired from Spaulding High School in 1993 after teaching for 30 years. On November 4, 2007, she died at age 87.

DIRKSEN, MARY A.

When she retired as a School Nurse in 1982 from the Bureau of Health Services, Mary had served for 21 years. She was 86 years of age at her death on February 10, 2008.

DONEGAN, ROSA MARY.

In 1976, Rosa retired from Lane Technical High School after 20 years of teaching. On October 18, 2007, she passed on at the age of 86 years.

DONOVAN, WILLOUISE.

Née Artingstall. Willouise passed away on December 13, 2007, at the age of 98 years. She retired from the Goudy School in 1974, ending a career that spanned 39 years.

DOVERSBERGER, ROBERT A.

On December 1, 2007, life came to a close for Robert at the age of 70. He had been at Hirsch High School, retiring in 1993 at the end of a 29-year career in the Chicago Schools.

DREUTH, LENORE R.

Née Rosen. A 27-year career in Chicago Schools came to an end for Lenore when she left Orr High School in 1984. She died on January 13, 2008, at the age of 87 years.

DYSON, LUCILLE D.

Née Fax. Lucille passed on at age 90 on January 21, 2008. She resigned in 1982 after a 10-year career that ended at Sojourner Truth School.

ERB, JOAN F.

When she retired from Van Vlissengen School in 1993, Joan ended a career that included 27 years in the Chicago System. Death claimed her on November 19, 2007, at the age of 75 years.

ESCOTO, SALVADOR P.

In 1994, Salvador resigned from Amunden High School after an 18-year career in Chicago and two years' teaching elsewhere. When he expired on January 9, 2008, he was 77 years old.

FITZGERALD, DOLORES K.

Née Kurent. Dolores was at Cardenas when she retired in 1989 after a 34-year career. She was 76 when she died on November 12, 2007.

FORTINO, MARGUERITE K.

Marguerite was at Hancock when she resigned in 1969 after 38 years in the Chicago Public Schools. She was 103 on March 31, 2007, when she passed.

FRIEDMAN, ELSIE L.

Née Liebross. Her career of 33 years ended when she left the Hurley School in 1968. Elsie died on January 2, 2008, at the age of 101.

FRITZLER, WAYNE A.

At the age of 61, Wayne passed away on October 25, 2007. He was at C.E. Hughes in 2004 when he ended a 35-year career in the Chicago System.

FURMAN, BENJAMIN F.

Benjamin was at the Mt. Vernon School when he retired as Principal in 1993 after a 36-year teaching career. He was 77 at the time of his death on April 4, 2007.

GEDONS, NANCY M.

Nancy retired from the Alcott School in 1982 after a career that lasted 41 years. She expired on January 14, 2008, at the age of 88 years.

GERSTEIN, MARILYN E.

Née Erler After a 29-year teaching career, Marilyn retired from Roosevelt High School in 2000. She died on December 28, 2007, at age 67.

GESHKEWICH, BARBARA S.

Née Scherber. When she resigned from Crane Tech High School in 1970, Barbara ended a career that included four years in the Chicago System. Death claimed her on March 29, 2007, at the age of 67 years.

GILCHRIST, GEORGIA.

Née James. After teaching 38 years, Georgia resigned from the Ross School in 1992. She was 84 when death claimed her on February 12, 2008.

GOODMAN, JOSEPH M.

Joseph was a teacher at the City Colleges when he resigned in 1984 after a 17-year teaching career. His life ended at the age of 87 on February 13, 2008.

GORNY, WANDA.

Née Zajdowicz. Wanda resigned from the Eli Whitney School in 1977 after 21 years. She was 90 when she expired on January 10, 2008.

GREEN, DANIEL B.

Death came for Daniel on December 14, 2007, when he was 84 years old. He ended his career at Johnson in 1988, after 28 years.

GRIFFIN, RICHARD A.

Richard's 18-year career in the Chicago Schools ended when he retired from Chicago Vocational High School in 1982. On October 9, 2007, at the time he succumbed, he was 92 years old.

GUDE, MARILYN N.

Marilyn succumbed at age 61 on January 21, 2008. She taught for 27 years before retiring from Dumas in 2006.

HALL, WILLIAM EDGAR.

After teaching 30 years, William resigned from Las Casas Occupational High School in 2007. He was 61 when death claimed him on November 26, 2007.

HAMBOURGER, JAMES.

James was assigned to Mather High School when he retired in 1988 after 32 years in the Chicago System. He was 75 when he went to his reward on January 31, 2008.

HANSON, EDNA L.

Née Burkholder. Edna's 21-year career as a School Nurse ended when she retired from District 18 in 1982. She passed away on April 30, 2007, at the age of 85 years.

HANSON, JEAN S.

Née Sandahl. When she retired in 1971 from the Mt. Greenwood School, Jean had taught for 28 years. She was 93 years of age at her death on January 6, 2008.

HARRIS, DELORIES.

Née Dorsey. When Delories retired from the Calhoun School in 2002, she ended a 12-year career. She expired on January 5, 2008, at the age of 66 years.

HASTY, MARY L.

When Mary retired in 1993 from Curtis, her career had lasted 25 years. Her life ended at the age of 78 on November 5, 2007.

HECK, ALMA M.

Née Hurnbeck. Death came for Alma on April 21, 2007, when she was 77 years old. She ended her career as Principal at Harvard in 1990, after 35 years.

HERNANDEZ, ROMERA.

At the age of 66 years, on December 18, 2007, death took Romera, who had retired from the Bouchet School in 2006 after serving 16 years.

HEWITT, MARK C.

Mark ended a 38-year term in the Chicago System by retiring in 1993 from Clemete High School. At his death on April 17, 2007, he was 74 years old.

HILL, KATHERINE Y.

Née Emmons. Katherine retired from the McCorkle School in 1999, ending an 18-year career. On February 10, 2008, when she passed on, she was 75 years old.

HILLIARD, GLORIA E.

After 34 years, Gloria resigned from Agassiz in 1986. Death took her on January 14, 2007; she was 83 at the time.

HOLECHKO, MARY G.

Née Santelli. In 1993, Mary retired from Thorp after 17 years of teaching. On December 14, 2007, she passed on at the age of 80 years.

HOUSER, OTIS.

His 29-year teaching career ended when Otis retired from May School in 1994. He was 69 when his life ended on February 11, 2008.

HUGHES, EDDIE.

Eddie was at Foreman High School at retirement in 2007 after an 18-year career, and died on January 7, 2008 at age 59.

INNISS, WARREN A.

When he resigned from Near North High School in 2002, Warren capped a 26-year career. He was 74 when he died on April 28, 2007.

IRVING, WINNIFRED C.

Née Carlisle. Winnifred retired from the Eli Whitney School in 1976, after a 15-year career. She succumbed on December 9, 2007, at the age of 93.

ISRAEL, CARRIE B.

Her 37-year teaching career ended when Carrie retired from Morgan Park High School in 1993. She was 84 when her life ended on December 24, 2007.

JAKE, EMMA J.

Née Jones. Emma was assigned to Libby when she retired in 2000 after 29 years in the Chicago System. She was 62 when she passed away on November 12, 2007.

JAMIRO, GLORIA B.

Gloria was affiliated with the Chicago Public Schools for 20 years when she retired from the Haugan School in 1996. At the time of her death on November 9, 2007, she was 79 years of age.

JARECZEK, LEONARD.

Last assigned to Lane Tech High School, Leonard retired in 1985 after 36 years of service. He passed away on January 30, 2008, at 85 years of age.

JENKINS, MARY D.

Mary was 69 years old at her death on April 5, 2007. She resigned from Marshall High School in 2000 after 34 years in Chicago.

JOHNSON, CAROL.

Née Banks. Carol had taught for 23 years when she retired in 1981 from the Sutherland School. At the end of her life on September 25, 2006, she was 89 years of age.

JOHNSON, ELI.

Eli died on March 19, 2007, at the age of 80. His career of 31 years ended when he left the Ward School in 1992.

JOHNSON, LULA B.

A Substitute teacher for 10 years, Lula she retired in 1990. She passed on at the age of 88 on February 4, 2008.

JOHNSON, NORMA J.

Née Manns. Norma was associated with the Chicago Schools as a Psychologist for 38 years. She was assigned to District 17 when she retired in 2002. She was 65 years old when death took her on April 2, 2007.

JOHNSON, WILLENA M.

Willena resigned in 1993 from Yale, ending a 38-year time span in the Chicago System. She was 75 at the time of her death on September 16, 2007.

JOHNSTON, THOMAS A.

Thomas ended a 19-year career when he resigned from the Spaulding School in 2006. At his death on December 10, 2007, he was 60 years old.

JONES, ARTHUR L.

After 37 years in Chicago Schools, Arthur retired from the De Priest School in 2000. He was 67 when he expired on January 11, 2008.

JULIEN, VIRGINIA W.

Née Wilson. After 26 years in the Chicago School system, Virginia retired from the Oakland School in 1976. When death took her on April 5, 2007, she was 91 years old.

JUVANCIC, HELEN T.

Née Toomey. After 40 years, Helen resigned from Lovett in 1982. Death took her on November 7, 2007; she was 90 at the time.

KARLEN, HARVEY M.

When he retired from the City Colleges in 1984, Harvey ended a career of 16 years in Chicago schools with four years' teaching elsewhere. He was 90 when his life came to a close on February 9, 2008.

KELLEHER, LAVERNE J.

Née O'Brian. After a career that lasted five years, Laverne retired from Hearst in 1991. She was 87 when she died on January 8, 2008.

KERR, CAROL B.

At the close of her life on April 18, 2007, Carol was 100 years old. A teacher for 44 years, she retired from the Nobel School in 1973.

KLEIMAN, JOHN J.

On February 14, 2007, John passed on at the age of 84 years. He had spent four years in Chicago schools when he resigned from Burns in 1995.

KLETNICK, LORRAINE.

Née Lerner. Last assigned to Peirce, Lorraine retired in 1983 after 23 years of service. She passed away on March 13, 2007, at 90 years of age.

KOBUKATA, KENNETH.

After a career of 39 years, Kenneth retired from the Central Office as a Coordinator in 1988. He died on November 2, 2007, at the age of 82.

KUBAN, ANDREW.

Andrew was associated with the Chicago schools for 32 years, the last as the Director of the, Bureau Of Practical Arts where he was when he retired in 1978. He was 91 years old when death took him on February 18, 2008.

LABRECHE, ELLEN J.

After 16 years in the Chicago School System, Ellen retired from the Fulton School in 1973. When death took her on November 9, 2007, she was 99 years old.

LAMBROS, GLADYS M.

Née Gjorup. Gladys was at Blaine when she retired in 1969 after 31 years. She was 96 when she succumbed on December 13, 2007.

LATVENAS, GENEVIEVE.

Née Swierkes. When Genevieve retired in 1978 from Pullman, her career had lasted 36 years. Her life ended at the age of 89 on October 12, 2007.

LEDVORA, JANICE.

Née Barner. Principal of the Woodson School when she retired in 2007 after 35 years, Janice's life closed on February 4, 2008, at the age of 57 years.

LEWIS, BERNICE.

Née Hawkins. At the age of 75, Bernice passed away on January 14, 2008. She was at Medill in 1993 when she ended a 36-year career in the Chicago System.

LEWIS, EMMA L.

Née Jackson. Emma's 28-year career in the Chicago Schools ended when she retired from Gladstone in 1992. On February 15, 2008, at the time she succumbed, she was 85 years old.

LICHTENSTEIN, MIRIAM.

Née Ginsberg Miriam retired in 1980 from the Niles Township High School, after teaching 10 years. Her life ended on December 26, 2007, at the age of 93 years.

LIEBOW, ELY M.

In 2001, Ely left the City Colleges after a career that lasted 10 years. When his life ended on March 30, 2007, he was 83 years of age.

LIGHTNER, WERNER W.

Werner left the Central Office as an Administrator in 1990 after a career that lasted for 37 years. He expired at the age of 81 on December 10, 2007.

LIPTON, ELLIE B.

Née Bougas. On January 10, 2008, when she was 91, death claimed Ellie. She had taught 34 years when she resigned from the Lafayette School in 1977.

LONZO, MARY L.

Mary expired on October 12, 2007, at the age of 67. Her career of 30 years ended when she retired from the Leslie Lewis School in 2005.

LUBERA, HENRY R.

On November 5, 2007, Henry passed away at the age of 78 years. He retired from Patrick Henry in 1993 after 39 years of teaching.

MACKENZIE, DAPHNE.

Née Miller. Daphne left Lincoln Park High School in 1981 after a career that spanned 24 years. She expired at the age of 91 on November 2, 2007.

MAGIC, DONALD L.

Donald succumbed on December 24, 2007, at the age of 71. He served 10 years, resigning from the Esmond School in 1998.

MANGAN, HELEN O.

Née O'Brain. Helen resigned from the Skinner School in 1972 after a 32-year career. She was 101 years old when she died on January 6, 2008.

MANSFIELD, RALPH.

Ralph resigned from the City Colleges in 1977 after a 10-year career. He was 95 years old when he died on December 17, 2007.

MARANDIUC, PARASCHIVA.

Née Gradinarh. At her death on November 11, 2007, Paraschiva was 73 years old. Her eight-year career ended when she resigned from Disney Magnet in 2000.

MASELLA, CHRISTINE.

After teaching two years at Orr High School, Christine left the Chicago System in 1989. When she passed away on October 5, 2007, she had reached the age of 78.

MATTHEWS, HARRYETTA.

Née Babb. Harryetta died on April 14, 2007, at the age of 88 years. She retired as a Nurse from Health Services in 1983 after a career of 26 years.

MAYER, ANDREW M.

After a career that lasted 38 years, Andrew retired from Washington High School in 1994. He was 76 when he died on January 31, 2008.

MCCAUGHERTY, KAREN K.

Karen's career of 37 years came to an end as she left Northside College Prep. High School in 2003. When she passed away on December 13, 2007, she had reached the age of 67.

MCDONALD, MARGARET.

Née Broecker. Margaret left Christopher in 1976 after teaching for 17 years. She left us at the age of 93 on November 22, 2007.

MCLENDON, JESSE A.

Resignation in 1993 from Farragut High School ended Jesse's 38-year career. Death came on February 6, 2008, at the age of 76 years.

MEDINA, MANUEL.

Life ended for Manuel at the age of 80 on January 3, 2008. He retired from Lane Tech High School in 1989 at the end of a 21-year career.

MIELECKI, PATRICIA L.

Née Hooper. Patricia was a teacher at Hanson when she resigned in 1990 after a 24-year teaching career. Her life ended at the age of 78 on February 12, 2008.

MINGER, JULIA M.

Née Fernandez. Julia was 91 at her death on February 8, 2008. She ended her seven-year career when she retired from Tuley Middle School in 1978.

MITCHELL, WILLIE E.

Death on November 2, 2007 at age 78 was the final event of Willie's life after resignation from Morgan Park High School in 1994 ended a 15-year career.

MITCHUM, HASKER G.

Having ended a 33-year teaching career at Cregier Vocational High School by resigning in 1992 as Assistant Principal, Hasker expired on November 21, 2007, at the age of 73 years.

MOONEY, WILLIAM T.

When he resigned after 17 years in 1988, William was at the Corkery School. On December 25, 2007, he died at the age of 84.

MOORE, HILDA P.

Hilda resigned as Assistant Principal from Orr High School in 2004 after 34 years. She was 60 when she expired on November 8, 2007.

MORRIS, MADELINE R.

Née Robinson. A teacher at Dixon when she resigned in 1969, Madeline had served for 36 years. She was 101 on the date of her passing, December 26, 2007.

MOTLEY, LEO.

Leo had taught for 28 years before he retired as Assistant Principal from the Industrial Skill Center in 1987. He was 82 when his life ended on December 27, 2007.

MUELLER, CLAIRE O.

When she left Goudy in 1983, Claire put a 15-year career to an end. Her life ended on January 25, 2008, at the age of 87.

NAVOLIO, FLORENCE.

Florence was at Nixon when she retired in 1983. Her career spanned 32 years, and she succumbed at the age of 85 on April 9, 2007.

NEARY, ANN G.

Née Grogan. A teacher in the Carroll School when she retired in 1992 after 36 years, Ann passed away on October 28, 2007, at the age of 79 years.

NEEDHAM, LORETTA A.

After a career that spanned eight years, Loretta retired from Taft High School in 1989. She expired on March 21, 2007, at the age of 79.

NEYHUS, MIRIAM.

Née Hankin. In 1982, Miriam resigned from the Mulligan School after a 23-year career. When she expired on January 4, 2008, she was 87 years old.

O'CONNOR, LOUISE D.

Louise was 85 at the time of her passing on November 9, 2007. Her career lasted 42 years, ending when she resigned from Boone in 1988.

OLIVER-ROBINSON, LOWANTHA.

Née Oliver. Life ended for Lowantha at the age of 66 on April 14, 2007. She retired from Frazier in 1994, at the end of a 29-year career.

OMEKE, JONADAB A.

A 16-year career in the Chicago Public Schools ended when Jonadab, who expired at the age of 61 on November 13, 2007, retired as Assistant Principal from Bethune in 2002.

PAGE, LORRAINE X.

Née Bender. Lorraine taught at the Kozminski School until she resigned in 1981, after five years. On November 21, 2007, she passed away at the age of 92.

PELTZ, SEAMEN S.

Seamen resigned from the Dumas School in 1983 after a 37-year career, and died on February 20, 2008, at the age of 84 years.

PERA, JOHN J.

John ended a 43-year career when he left Nettelhorst as Assistant Principal in 1993. When he died on November 30, 2007, he was 82 years of age.

PESAVENTO, ALYCE.

Née Perrenoud. Alyce had taught for 33 years before she retired in 1988 from the Brenan School. She was 78 when her life ended on January 7, 2008.

PETERSON, KENNETH.

A teacher at Washington High School when he resigned in 1993, Kenneth had served for 33 years. He was 66 on the date of his passing, December 6, 2007.

PEYTON, ROSETTE C.

Née Caldwell. In 1996, when she resigned from Kozminski, Rosette completed a 40-year career. She was 78 when she died on April 20, 2007.

PONDER, GWINDELLE W.

Née Wilson. Gwindelle died on January 30, 2008, at the age of 81. Her career of 18 years ended when she retired from the Wendell Phillips High School in 1996.

POULLETTE, SYLVIA D.

Née Dopp. Sylvia's 26-year career ended in 2003 when she resigned from Spaulding. Death claimed her on November 23, 2007, at age 69.

PRENTISS, JEFFERSON E.

A 34-year career in Chicago Schools came to an end for Jefferson when he left the Libby School in 1996. He died on February 10, 2008, at the age of 71 years.

PRUITT, GEORGE.

In 2002, when he retired from the Robeson High School, George ended his 34-year career with the Chicago School system. On December 16, 2007, his life ended after 71 years.

RALIS, LOIS M.

Née Cooney. Lois had reached 82 years of age when her life came to a close on December 8, 2007. Her 17-year career ended when she resigned from the Funston School in 1989.

RANSLEY, BERNICE.

Née Markunis. In 1990, Bernice left Whitney Young High School after a career that lasted 33 years in Chicago with six years' teaching outside Chicago. When her life ended on November 16, 2007, she was 89 years of age.

RAPP, MARY K.

Née Hendershot. Mary was at Taft High School when she retired in 1980 after a 28-year teaching career. She was 87 at the time of her death on March 31, 2007.

RAY, ADINE D.

Née Deluc. When her life ended on February 7, 2008, Adine was 100 years old. Her retirement in 1966 from Gillespie marked the end of a 25-year career.

REDLICH, PAUL R.

Paul retired from Dett in 1977 after teaching for 22 years. On March 23, 2007, he died at age 84.

REDMOND, EDWARD N.

When he retired in 1993 from Clemete High School, Edward had taught for 31 years. He was 66 years of age at his death on April 12, 2007.

RICE, ETHLYN.

Née Jordan. Ethlyn ended a 38-year term in the Chicago System upon her retirement in 1986 from Arai as Assistant Principal. At her death on April 8, 2007, she was 86 years old.

RICE, ROXIE W.

Née Washington. A teacher for 17 years, Roxie was at Einstein when she retired in 1994. She passed on at the age of 91 on November 20, 2007.

SAIDEL, HELEN A.

Née Fabricant. Her 22-year career ended at South Shore High School in 1980 when Helen retired. Death came for her on April 21, 2007, at the age of 87.

SAUNDERS, ALPHRA.

Alphra retired in 1994 while at Prosser High School, ending a 35-year career, and passed away on December 3, 2007, at the age of 70.

SCHELLHAAS, ETHEL.

Née Cuchran. When she retired from Edison in 1969, Ethel's career spanned 27 years. At the end of her life on December 14, 2007, she was 93 years of age.

SCHNABEL, BARBARA F.

Née Fetter. Barbara retired from Kilmer in 2006 after an eight-year career. Death came for her at age 69 on December 6, 2007.

SCOTESE, ELIZABETH L.

Elizabeth passed on at the age of 75 on October 5, 2007. Her 47-year career ended when she left the Citywide Home/Hospital Services in 2000.

SCOTT, THOMAS A.

In 1964, Thomas resigned from Daniel Williams School after six years of teaching. On October 21, 2007, he passed on at the age of 73 years.

SENN, PETER R.

When he retired from the City Colleges in 1984, Peter ended a career that included 14 years in the Chicago System and two years elsewhere. Death claimed him on December 11, 2007, at the age of 84 years.

SEVERNANCE, PAULINE.

Née Trautwein. Her 35-year teaching career ended when Pauline retired from the Peck School in 1988. She was 84 when her life ended on November 9, 2007.

SHANAFIELD, MARGARET G.

Née Goodman. In 1975, when Margaret was a Counselor at the City Colleges, she retired after 18 years. She was 97 years old when she expired on April 5, 2007.

SHERRILL, JOHN W.

John was at Jenner when he resigned in 1988 after 30 years in the Chicago Public Schools. He was 80 on February 19, 2008, when he passed on.

SHIRLEY, EFFIE M.

Née Dobson. Life ended for Effie on January 9, 2008, at the age of 90 years. She ended her 26-year career at the Fiske School in 1987.

SHLENSKY, PHYLLIS.

Née Fogelman. At the age of 90, Phyllis passed away on April 14, 2007. After 20 years in the system, she resigned from Orr High School in 1987.

SIEGEL, BETTY B.

Née Burke. Betty was at Oglesby when she retired in 1981, terminating a 23-year career. At her death on April 2, 2007, she was 87 years of age.

SIMMONS, RUTHERFORD B.

Rutherford retired from Gage Park High School in 1990 after a career that lasted for 28 years. He expired on January 19, 2008, at the age of 84 years.

SIMS, LEONARD G.

Leonard succumbed at age 76 on January 20, 2008. He taught for 24 years before retiring from Lane Tech High School in 2001.

SLATTERY, BETTY A.

Née Fenton. After 24 years as a Nurse, Betty resigned in 1980 from Pupil Service Center North. She succumbed at the age of 82 on November 12, 2007.

SOWINSKI, JOSEPHINE.

Née Gormley. Josephine resigned from Key-Clark School in 1992 after six years. On October 31, 2007, she passed on at the age of 77 years.

SPAACK, MILDRED E.

Née Hall. On December 29, 2007, life came to a close for Mildred at the age of 100. She had been at the Newberry School, retiring in 1962 at the end of a 29-year career in the Chicago Schools.

SPEARS, BESSYE.

Née Beethoven. Bessye's 31-year career ended when she left Clark in 1982. She was 88 years old when she died on April 7, 2007.

SPITZER, HELEN T.

Née Traub. After a career that spanned 15 years, Helen retired from Chicago Vocational High School in 1981. She expired on April 16, 2007, at the age of 88.

STASZAK, RAY S.

When Ray retired in 1977 as a Substitute, his career had lasted six years. His life ended at the age of 97 on January 2, 2008.

STEPHENS, NAOMI V.

Naomi's career lasted for 37 years, until she resigned from the Kohn School in 1998. She was 82 when she died on January 17, 2008.

STEWART, WILLIAM E.

After 10 years as a Substitute, William resigned in 1986. Death took him on November 1, 2007; he was 77 at the time.

SYKES, JEROME.

His 30-year teaching career ended when Jerome retired from Gompers in 1990. He was 82 when his life ended on November 23, 2007.

TATE, JAMES W.

James was affiliated with the Chicago Public Schools for 37 years when he retired from Fenger High School in 1999. At the time of his death on April 13, 2007, he was 69 years of age.

TATE, WILLIE C.

Resigning from the Bethune School in 2001 after a career that lasted 37 years, Willie passed on at the age of 67 on December 9, 2007.

TAYLOR, ADOLPHUS.

Adolphus was 65 years old at his death on December 10, 2007. He resigned from Dunbar Vocational High School in 1999 after 34 years in Chicago schools.

TERAJI, THOMAS S.

A teacher for 38 years, Thomas was Director of the Bureau of Planning when he retired in 1988. He passed on at the age of 89 on February 14, 2008.

THIEL, JEANNE M.

After a career of 10 years with the Chicago Public Schools, Jeanne passed away on February 14, 2008, at the age of 62. She retired as a Speech Pathologist from Davis Developmental Center in 1990.

THOMAS, LAVERGNE.

Lavergne ended a 42-year career by resigning as Counselor from the Doolittle East School in 1997 and on March 20, 2007, expired at age 78.

THOMPSON, RICHARD E.

Richard resigned as Assistant Principal in 1997 from Harlan High School, ending a 35-year time span in the Chicago System. He was 73 at the time of his death on February 8, 2008.

TOOMEY, MARY F.

Mary died on February 27, 2008, at the age of 92 years. She retired as Assistant Principal from the Peck School in 1979 after a career of 41 years.

WADE, SELVEY W.

Née Wesley. At the close of her life on November 15, 2007, Selvey was 77 years old. A teacher for 26 years, she retired from Westinghouse Vocational High School in 1983.

WEGLOSKI, ELEANOR.

Née Shatkowski. Eleanor retired from the Sayre School in 1992 after a career that lasted for 30 years. She passed on December 17, 2007, at 82.

WELCH, SALLIE L.

Née Long. On January 8, 2008, Sallie passed on, at the age of 68 years. She had spent 11 years in the Chicago schools when she resigned from Fulton in 2003.

WENCEWICZ, MARGARET D.

Née Dwyer. Margaret served the Chicago Public Schools for 23 years, retiring from the Von Humboldt School in 1966. She was 97 when death took her on February 21, 2008.

WHITMORE, LILLIAN.

Née Watts. Lillian resigned in 1978 from Dusable High School, ending a 2-year time span in the Chicago System. She was 90 at the time of her death on December 22, 2007.

WILEY-ROSS, DRENDA.

Née Pearson. When she resigned after 33 years in 1999, Drenda was at Dusable High School. On April 21, 2007, she died at the age of 63.

WILLIAMS, CORA A.

Née Appleby. A teacher for 36 years in Chicago and another year outside the CPS, Cora was at Fuller when she retired in 1982. Her life came to a close at the age of 87 on November 3, 2007.

WILLIAMS, MARGARET S.

Née Styczynski. Margaret succumbed at age 69 on January 3, 2008. She taught for 39 years before retiring from Randolph in 2000.

WILLIAMS, SHULAMITH.

Née Lome. When she retired from Yates in 1990, Shulamith ended a career of 33 years. She was 75 when her life came to a close on March 17, 2007.

WILLIAMSON, GORDON.

At the close of his life on February 16, 2008, Gordon was 89 years old. A teacher for 36 years, he retired from Prosser High School in 1987.

WILSON, DOROTHY E.

Née Moran. On December 20, 2007, Dorothy passed away at the age of 81 years. She retired from Dixon in 1996 after 47 years of teaching.

WILSON, HERBERT L.

After 28 years in the Chicago School System, Herbert retired from the Wadsworth School in 1983. When death took him on December 30, 2007, he was 86 years old.

WILSON, RICHARD O.

Richard expired on December 4, 2007, at the age of 91. His career of 30 years ended when he retired from Englewood High School in 1985.

WITTE, ERNEST G.

Ernest's career of 36 years came to an end as he left Du Sable High School in 1993. When he passed away on February 22, 2008, he had reached the age of 67.

WITTER, ROBERT J.

Robert resigned from the City Colleges in 1993 after four years. He was 75 when he expired on December 19, 2007.

WOOD, MARION W.

Née Wallace. Marion was 104 years old at her death on December 19, 2007. She resigned from Senn High School in 1971 after 30 years in Chicago and nine years outside the Chicago System.

YANG, JAMES.

When he left Taft High School in 1993, James put a 38-year career to an end. His life ended on January 30, 2007, at the age of 87.

ZEBROWSKI, CHESTER.

Chester was Principal of the Burr School when he retired in 1986. His career spanned 38 years. He succumbed at the age of 86 on December 9, 2007.

ZULAWSKI, JOSEPH J.

After a career of one year as a Substitute, Joseph retired in 1969. He expired on January 20, 2008, at the age of 90.

~ ~ ~

*MAY THIS SEASON OF BEAUTY
BE A SEASON OF BLESSINGS FOR YOU.*

ANOTHER GOOD THING ABOUT RTAC. . . .

Did you ever wake up, and for some reason, one of your former (NOT OLD!) teachers popped into your mind. “I wonder whatever happened to Ms. or Mr. So and So. . . .”

Now, at age 56, Debbie Oziminskil. Novack must have had a similar experience, but about 25 years ago. Debbie recently sent an email to the *News Bulletin* in an effort to contact Mrs. Christine Weidener, her 4th grade teacher at the Dawes School in 1962. “I keep hitting dead ends and have been trying to locate this lady for some time now.”

After a long and fruitless search, Debbie was desperate for assistance. RTAC member Lynn Rajkowski, a recently retired Counselor from Hedges School and a relative of Debbie’s, gave her a copy of the *News Bulletin* and suggested that she contact us.

Her request was forwarded to Frances Radencic, Chicago Teachers Pension Fund Office Manager and Director of Communications. (FYI, Frances is the official keeper of your “Permanent Record.” Yes, there actually is a permanent record. You can see Frances’ photo on page 6.)

Frances immediately determined that the name Debbie was looking for, “Christine Waggoner,” was actually “Christine Weidener,” hence the dead ends. Frances then located Mrs. Weidener’s current address and phone number and offered to forward a note from Debbie to her. When Debbie contacted Frances, however, she was kind enough to phone Mrs. Weidener who had retired in 1969 and moved

to San Diego. Pleased to learn that a former student was trying to contact her, Mrs. Weidener gave permission to release her address and phone number to Debbie.

Reuniting former teachers with their former students is nothing new to Frances. “From time to time we get requests from students trying to organize reunions,” Frances said. She is very happy to be of assistance. “Teachers need to know they do affect the lives of the children they taught,” Frances said. She described her brief conversations with Christine and Debbie as “delightful. . . . It was so nice to hear something good for a change,” she added.

In her original email, Debbie reminisced about how Mrs. Weidener would read aloud from a “HUGE” book. “Reading was very difficult for me. I was never able to visualize the scenes until Mrs. Weidener read to us. . . . If I can find her, I would love to tell her about the long lasting impression she had on me with her story telling, and of course [get] the name of that big book.” A grandmother now, Debbie wrote that she would like to read from that book to her 8-year-old grandson, Ryan Ambrose.

Find her, she did, and both teacher and student reached the same conclusion: they “made each other’s day.” Debbie learned that the book was one of three Frank Baum books (NOT *The Wizard of Oz*, but three of the 15 other books written by the Chicago-based author) that Mrs. Weidener would read from once or twice a week when the children were good.

Keeping in touch is one of our many benefits.



The 82nd Annual Spring Luncheon

Wednesday, May 21

11:45a.m. until 2:30p.m.

Grand Ballroom ~ Palmer House Hilton

PLEASE JOIN US. . . .

The Buddy Holly Story

Oakbrook Drury Lane Theatre

Wednesday, June 18

11:30 a.m. Luncheon ~ 1:30 p.m. Theatre



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

82nd Annual Spring Luncheon and General Business Meeting

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

11:45 AM until 2:30 PM

~*~

The Newly Renovated Palmer House Hilton
Grand Ballroom (4th Floor)
enter from Monroe Street between State and Wabash

~*~

~ SPECIAL GUESTS ~

WALTER PILDITCH, MARY SHARON REILLY and JAMES F. WARD
Your RTAC Pension Board Trustees

~*~

Mr. John O'Brill, President, Chicago Teachers Pension Fund
Mr. Kevin Huber, Executive Director, Chicago Teachers Pension Fund
Mr. Richard Lockhart, RTAC's Chief Lobbyist in Springfield
AND OTHER SPECIAL GUESTS HAVE BEEN INVITED!

Parking is convenient at 55 East Monroe, the Grant Park North Garage at Monroe
and Michigan or on Adams between State and Wabash.

>>>> **Many Door Prizes ~ and a Grand Door Prize!** <<<<<
.....Complete and cut here! Mail to RTAC today!.....

Enclosed find: \$_____ for ___ member tickets at \$35 each and
\$_____ for ___ guest tickets at \$40 each
NO INCREASE FROM 2007!!!!

Although downtown hotel luncheon prices have gone up significantly,
RTAC still subsidizes a sizable portion of each ticket's price!
Any special dietary request must be made with this reservation.
Only a very limited number of special requests can be honored.

Member's name _____ Phone (____) _____

To assist in an RTAC survey, please tell us the year you retired _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Paid Guests' names: _____

Make check payable to: Spring '08 Luncheon
Mail remittance and a stamped self-addressed envelope to:
Retired Teachers Association of Chicago
220 South State Street - Suite 2100 Chicago, IL 60604-2180
For additional information call: 312.939.3327
Sorry, NO refunds for any reason. FINAL DEADLINE: April 27
WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCOMODATE WALK-INS!

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

Retired Teachers Association of Chicago
220 S State Street, Room 2100
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