

# NEWS BULLETIN

RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO  
Since 1926

VOL. LXIV

JULY 2008

NO. 3

## REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF RTAC

Thanks to each of you who braved the remodeling/construction obstacles at the Palmer House to attend our Spring Luncheon. The Grand Ballroom, filled with an overflow crowd of over 800 attractive guests, colorful presentation of meals, and attentive servers providing quality service, contributed to the most festive RTAC luncheon I have been privileged to attend. With a few more training sessions, we speakers shall possibly even master the mike.

Thanks also to each of you who turned out for the Service Committee meeting, at 10a.m. on Thursday May 22. The hand-written personal contacts that members send to our most senior RTAC members form a substantial part of their contacts with the world, as their answering letters vividly remind us. The additional hands taking part this month were greatly appreciated.

Our RTAC Aid Fund continues to need your eyes and ears to help find those retired teachers who may find themselves in serious need of financial assistance. Thanks, too, to each of you at the luncheon who filled out and handed in the survey sheets and postcards regarding HB 1231 (our Health Insurance rebate bill). The 751 postcards were mailed to President Emil Jones. The bill can be researched at [www.ilga.gov](http://www.ilga.gov). There you can find that, although the bill passed the House, it missed action deadlines in the Senate that have now caused it to be re-referred to the Senate Rules Committee, which at latest count had 2,622 other

bills to consider. Further action in this session is not certain.



The year 2008 continues to be an election year at both the local and national levels. It remains important that we continue to stay politically informed and active. This legislative session was concluded at the end of May. However, as the climate of State government seems to have become more divisive and hostile, who knows what new surprises and proposals we shall face? Remember, RTAC

lost several very good friends in this past primary election. Hopefully we can avoid a repeat in the next primary.

Our pension fund cash reserves continue to attract increasing attention among the ethically challenged. We need your help in continuing to be watchdogs for the many creative endeavors which seem to be about, to 'share the wealth' of monies that we worked hard for during our active years. Remain watchful of the media and its messages and messengers. Remember and make allowances for the fact that a few 'giants' control and edit the information we receive. Read widely and listen wisely. Honest and complete factual reporting is on the endangered list, but can sometimes be found buried in language intended to hide it. Political pandering is endemic....

Stay well. We need you!

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## RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO

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**Rosemary Tirio**, *Editor*

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

### **RTAC SERVICE DIRECTORY**

RTAC Office (HOURS: 10 AM to 3 PM school days.) .....	312-939-3327
RTAC Fax Line .....	312-939-0145
CRTAF Aid Fund .....	312-939-3364
ID Theft Reports (Call AIG Group: Use Policy # 916240) .....	866-434-3572
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Law Line (Anne Chestney Mudd) .....	312-502-3949
MetLife Dental Plan .....	800-345-7868 Optn 4

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The News Bulletin invites YOU to email or mail your **typed** contribution to [rtac\\_editor@comcast.net](mailto:rtac_editor@comcast.net) or to the editorial office (below). If **NOT typed**, please send it to the RTAC Office for typing. **October 2008 issue deadline: Aug. 15, 2008.**

**Rosemary Tirio,**  
**Editor**  
6235 N Knox Ave  
Chicago, IL 60646-  
5029

Following the May 7 monthly meeting of the RTAC Board of Directors, several members attended “An Afternoon with Archbishop Desmond Tutu” sponsored by the Community Support Service at the InterContinental Hotel.



*Archbishop Tutu presenting his message of inspiration and peace with projected image behind him.*



*Flanking Archbishop Tutu are (from left) RTAC Secretary Marcella L. Morrison, President Ethel Philpott, Treasurer Vaughn J. Barber, 2nd Vice-President Veronica Chemers, Director Esta Kallen and Rosemary Tirio, News Bulletin editor.*  
 [Photo courtesy of Veronica Chemers]



*Vice-President Veronica Chemers “networking” with Channel 5 News personality Warner Saunders.*

## GETTING AROUND WITH RTAC



*Social Committee Chairman Esta Kallen, Vice-President Veronica Chemers and President Ethel Philpott relax before the event.*



*Director Vera M. Paul, Past President Mae M. Hunter, Treasurer Vaughn J. Barber and Director John W. Craig awaiting the presentation.*



*Vice-President Veronica Chemers, Past President Mae M. Hunter, President Ethel Philpott, Past President Helen P. Johnson and Secretary Marcella L. Morrison attended a Women’s Financial Seminar at the Union League Club.*  
 [Photo courtesy of Veronica Chemers]

# RTAC NEEDS YOU!

By *Marcella Morrison, Service Committee Chairman*

The RTAC Service Committee writes notes to our 85-year-old and “up” members wishing them Happy Birthday. In addition, they usually write a short note of current happenings to allow these veteran members to know what RTAC is “up to.”

With about 20 Service Committee members, the committee meets on the fourth Thursday of each month for about two hours in the morning at RTAC offices. This is a genuine opportunity to meet some very nice volunteers and to make our “older members” feel very, very good that someone cares

enough to think about them. Additionally, we send RTAC members who are more than 100 years of age flowers on their birthday.

Consider volunteering. Our seniors love receiving correspondence and you will enjoy the good will that comes from these simple acts of kindness. Call RTAC at 312-939-3327 and tell us “I’M



*Marcella L. Morrison*



*At the May meeting, RTAC Director John Tintiango, representing the Chicago Chapter of the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division Association, presented RTAC Board President Ethel Philpott with a framed certificate of appreciation for RTAC’s contribution to the ad book of the Marines Honoring Marines Program. The program honors the veterans of the Guadalcanal Campaign from the Chicago Chapter.*

## OLCE SEEKS VOLUNTEERS FOR REFUGEE PROGRAM

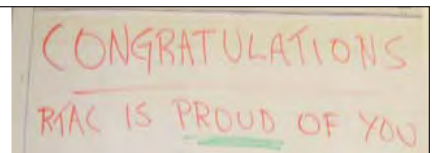
The Refugee Program of the Office of Language and Cultural Education at Chicago Public Schools is looking for volunteers willing to work with refugee students during the summer school session and the 2008-2009 school year. Please contact Kaylee Sonnek, Refugee Tutor Facilitator at [kasonnek@cps.k12.il.us](mailto:kasonnek@cps.k12.il.us) or phone at 773-553-1930.

## RTAC ABOUT TOWN

Art Fumarolo reported in his “Retirees Corner” of the Chicato Principals Association Auxiliary XVI that RTAC Executive Director **Bob Bures** was guest speaker at the April 24 meeting of the retirees’ auxiliary of the Chicago Principals Association.

Bob brought members up to date on the efforts to resurrect HB#4342 which, if passed, will allow the Pension Fund to increase the total health insurance rebates expenditures to \$75 million from the current \$65 million. Bob also urged a resounding “NO!” vote on the Constitutional Convention question that will appear on the November ballot.

**BRAVO,  
NATE!**



*RTAC members congratulated Trustee Nate Blackman with a sign displayed at the May meeting. Nate was featured in an article titled “A Career Without Walls” that appeared in the Chicago Teacher Pension Fund Bulletin Caring for Teachers. . . Preparing for the Future.*



# REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

By Robert F. Bures

I'm penning this message at the end of June hoping that all the last-minute items for our impending move go off well. YES! FINALLY! RTAC is moving at the end of June! We will be in our new offices on July 1st! Letting go of our former State Street offices is bittersweet, just like moving from one's home. Our new offices will be bright and spankingly new! We can't wait to get in and then invite all of you to a welcoming Open House!

Our new address, effective July 1, 2008 is:

**Retired Teachers Association of Chicago  
20 East Jackson Boulevard - Suite 1500  
Chicago, IL 60604-2235**

Our phone/fax numbers, e-mail and web address stay the same:

**312.939.3327 - Direct  
312.939.0145 - Fax  
[office@rtac.org](mailto:office@rtac.org)  
[www.rtac.org](http://www.rtac.org)**

Our hours of operation stay the same:

**Monday - Friday  
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Our motto stays the same

**Protecting Your Pension  
Enhancing Your Life  
... Since 1926**

## More news important to you

The Illinois General Assembly adjourned at the end of May. Although they did pass a budget, it has not been accepted by the Governor yet. The two sides—the General Assembly and the Governor's Office—still are battling, and no one is sure just yet how it will be resolved. RTAC has been assured--to about a 99% level--that our \$75

million appropriation for annuitants' health care is in the budget and is likely NOT to be cut. So let's cross our fingers and say a prayer that we will be able to hold onto the Pension Fund's generous rebate. We're watching the news every day and trying to glean accurate political intelligence from all sources as to our financial status for the rebate. Wish us luck.



Our May 21st luncheon at the Palmer House was a great success. Thanks to the over-800 guests who attended. My, how good it felt to look over

the crowd knowing our special pink [post]cards to the President of the Senate, Emil Jones, were going to inundate his office in favor of our \$75 million rebate appropriation. He made good on his promise, and a Senate staff member called me and said, "Thanks, but please, no more cards--we're swamped!" RTAC is a power group. Thanks! Let's get to a thousand at our Fall luncheon! We can do it! We deserve our reputation of power!

**Lawsuit Update:** As you may recall, RTAC intervened in the suit between the Board of Education and the Pension Fund that charged that the CTPF had figured some 4,400 pensions of those retiring between 2000 and 2004 as too high. RTAC was allowed by the court to intervene on behalf of the affected annuitants. RTAC and the CTPF PREVAILED on all counts. We WON! But...in America losers--meaning the Board—have the right to appeal to the Illinois Appellate Court, and they did. So now all parties will have to wait for this court to set a date, probably in 2009 or maybe 2010. So we wait...and RTAC will still be out there defending the pensions of these 4,400 annuitants. After all, that's our job: **Protecting Your Pension.**

Finally, please accept my personal best wishes for a great, happy and safe summer. Send me a card from some faraway place and we'll post it on the bulletin board in our new offices! Thanks!

Sincerely,

Bob Bures

# Almost record turn-out creates political coup for RTAC

Although “almost” only counts in horseshoes, the 2008 Spring Luncheon came very close to breaking the attendance record with 857 RTAC members and their guests in attendance in the newly refurbished Grand Ballroom of the Palmer House Hilton Hotel May 21. According to Executive Director Bob Bures, a previous luncheon exceeded the 900 mark.

Bob was especially pleased with the great turnout because, as a “culminating activity” as we teachers used to say, everyone was asked to com-

plete one of the bright pink postcards that had been distributed to every table. In just a few days, the Honorable Emil Jones, President of the Illinois Senate, received 751 pink postcards urging passage of HB1231, which will provide an increase in our health insurance rebates. At press time, the bill, although locked in the rules committee, was almost sure of passage. Once again, Director Bob Bures urged a **NO** vote on the Constitutional Convention question. “We deserve that pension; open it [the Illinois Constitution] and they can do anything.”



Photo Courtesy of Ralph Childs of the Service Committee

*“My, how good it felt to look over the crowd knowing our special pink cards to the President of the Senate Emil Jones were going to inundate his office in favor of our \$75 million rebate appropriation.”*



Executive Director Bob Bures

Photo Courtesy of Ralph Childs



*RTAC Director and Treasurer Vaughn J. Barber, Past President and Pension Fund Trustee Walter Pilditch, Past President, RTAC and Pension Fund Trustee James F. Ward, RTAC and Pension Fund Trustee Mary Sharon Reilly and Past President Ned L. McCray enjoy the luncheon before the speeches begin.*

Photo Courtesy of Ralph Childs



*RTAC Treasurer Vaughn Barber told the audience that the cost of living has increased drastically especially for our colleagues who retired before 1980. “The pensions they receive don’t come close to what they need for daily living,” he said, urging our continued support for the Aid Fund and seeking our help in identifying colleagues in need.*



*Who said men don’t attend RTAC luncheons? Former Principals Bill Cox and Joe Garvey enjoyed the festivities.*



*RTAC and Pension Fund Trustee Mary Sharon Reilly addresses the gathering.*

Photo Courtesy of Ralph Childs

## *But are we having fun yet?*

The fun really begins when the door prizes are awarded, an RTAC Luncheon tradition. Veteran prize-masters Marion C. Hoffing and Director **Nathaniel Blackman** emceed the proceedings with their usual aplomb.

At stake were prizes that any retiree would love to win: A weekend get-away at the Four Seasons obtained by RTAC 1st Vice-President Steven A. Kailes; ten \$25 Barnes & Noble gift certificates provided by RTAC; and 12 bottles of sparkling wine donated by an anonymous RTAC Director.

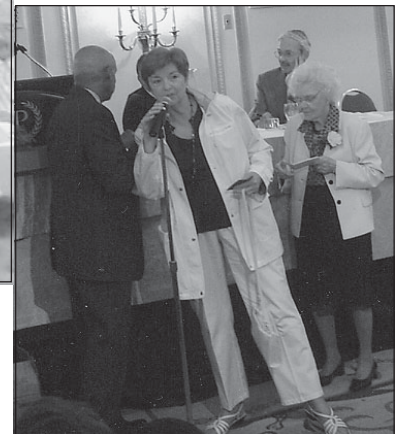
The Grand Ballroom came to life as Marion pulled the winning numbers and Nate handed out the prizes. Gleeful winners, smiling with delight, made their way to the stage to accept their prizes, identify themselves and the schools where they once taught. As usual, everyone went home happy after a delightful afternoon with former colleagues.

If you've never attended an RTAC Luncheon, why not make plans to join us for the Fall Luncheon in October? You might be a winner!

### *'Come on Down!'*



[Photo courtesy of Ralph Childs]



[Photo courtesy of Ralph Childs]

Among the lucky winners were Ellie Delaplane who won the weekend at the Four Seasons; Agnes Vidovic, Rose Ann Mulhern, and Joan Calhoun-Adams, who won Barnes & Noble gift certificates;

and Margaret Lebrecht, Shirley Venerable, Lillian Nach, Helene Gray, Susan Kriesman, Janis Thomas and Lois Schmidt who won the sparkling wine.

Below: Guests enjoyed the luncheon, too!



*A Vanderpoel Triumvirate came together to enjoy the Spring Luncheon: Sherye Garmony-Miller, former District 6 Superintendent, Helen C. Wooten, former Principal, and Robert V. Cunningham, a current teacher at the Vanderpoel School.*



*Marion Hoffing (right) invited a former Wells High School student, Mag Givhan. Mag is now Media Relations Manager for the Chicago Cultural Center.*



*Pat Hambrick, (left) Pension Fund Chief Operating Officer and first-time attendee at an RTAC Luncheon said, "I'm amazed at all the people!"*

## WHAT WILL THE CAR THIEVES THINK OF NEXT?

The car thieves peer through the windshield of your car or truck, write down the VIN# from the label on the dash, go to the local car dealership and request a duplicate key based on the VIN#.

I didn't believe this e-mail, so I called Chrysler-Dodge and pretended I had lost my keys They told me to just bring in the VIN #, and they would cut me one on the spot, and I could order the keyless device if I wanted.

The Car Dealer's Parts Department will make a duplicate key from the VIN #, and collect payment from the thief who will return to your car. He doesn't have to break in, do any damage to the vehicle, or draw attention to himself. All he has to do is walk up to your car, insert the key and off he goes to a local "chop shop" with your vehicle. You don't believe it? It IS that easy.

To prevent this from happening to you, simply put some tape (electrical tape, duct tape or medical tape) across the VIN Metal Label located on the dash board. By law, you cannot remove the VIN, but you CAN cover it so it can't be viewed through the windshield by a car thief. Even easier, simply tape a 3 x 5 card over the VIN NUMBER.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE. . . .

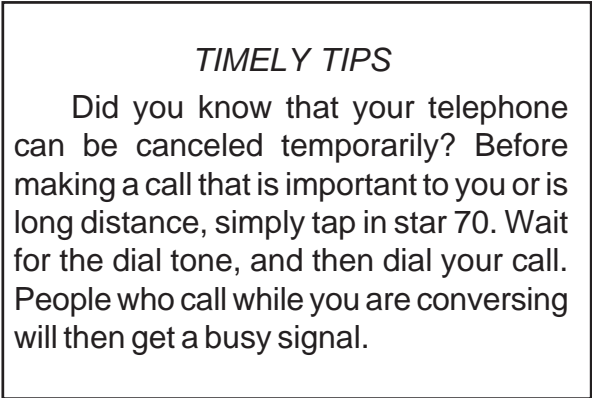
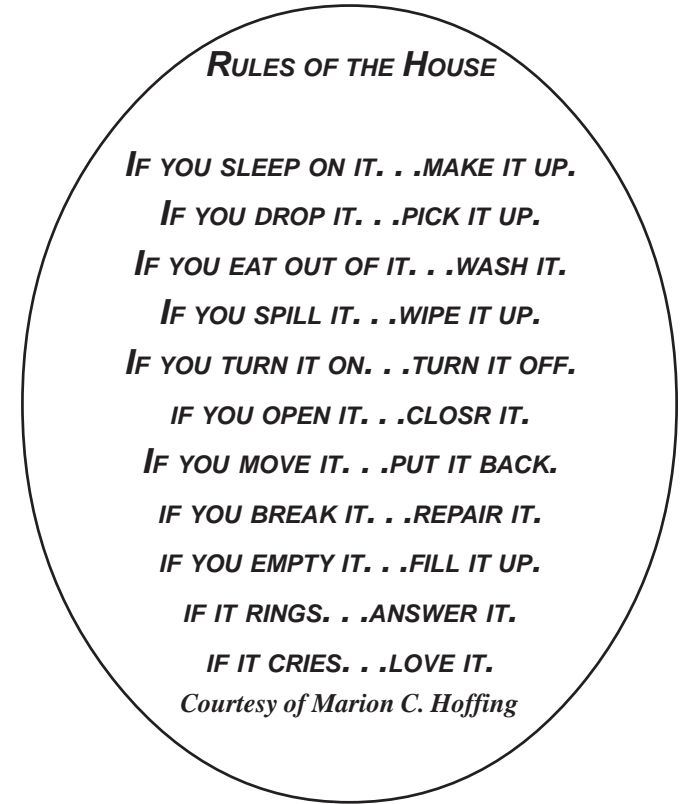
## NEVER ARGUE WITH A WOMAN

One morning the husband returns after several hours of fishing and decides to take a nap. Although not familiar with the lake, the wife decides to take the boat out. She motors out a short distance, anchors, and starts to read her book.

Along comes a game warden in his boat. He pulls up alongside the woman and says, "Good morning, Ma'am. What are you doing?"

"Reading a book," she replies, (thinking, Isn't that obvious?)

"You're in a Restricted Fishing Area," he informs her.



"I'm sorry, officer, but I'm not fishing. I'm reading."

"Yes, but you have all the equipment. For all I know you could start at any moment. I'll have to take you in and write you up."

"If you do that, I'll have to charge you with sexual assault," says the woman.

"But I haven't even touched you," says the game warden.

"That's true, but you have all the equipment. For all I know you could start at any moment."

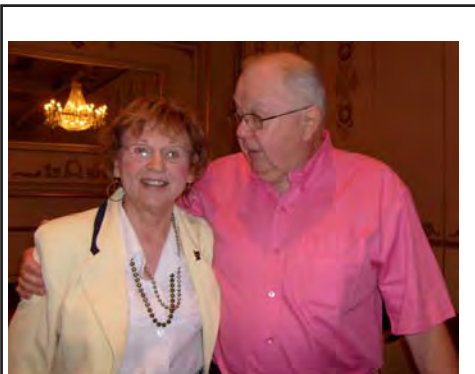
"Have a nice day ma'am," and he left.

**MORAL:** Never argue with a woman who reads.

It's likely she can also think.



## ***'Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story' at the Oakbrook Drury Lane***

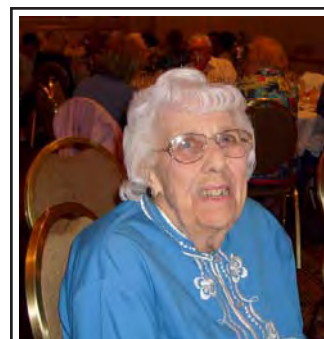


*Our hosts for the delightful afternoon, Vice-President Veronica Chemers, Special Events Chairman, and Executive Director Bob Bures.*



*Marie Cristol happened to be celebrating the 20th anniversary of the exact day, June 18, that she began working at the RTAC Office. A retiree from Brentano School, Marie said she has no plans to retire again.*

June 18 was yet another occasion for 157 RTAC members and their guests to get together for lunch and an afternoon of reliving the '50s with the rock 'n' roll of the late Buddy Holly. Arranged by Special Events Chairman Vice-President **Veronica Chemers**, the play, starring the very talented Justin Berkobien, featured a score full of over twenty classic toe-tapping tunes from Buddy Holly, the Big Bopper and Ritchie Valens including "Peggy Sue," "That'll Be the Day," "You Send Me", "La Bamba" and "Chantilly Lace."



*Shirley Fogg drove all the way from Hickory Hills to see The Buddy Holly Story with RTAC. A 30-year veteran teacher, Shirley was assigned to Mt. Greenwood School and spent the last 15 years of her career overseeing the District Reading Clinic.*



*Father and daughter teaching team Richard Englund, a retiree from the Otis School, and daughter Nancy Kabat, a music teacher in Glenview District 34, join in the fun with RTAC members.*



*Helping to sort out the chicken from the fish tickets and making sure that the luncheon went smoothly were RTAC Director Vera M. Paul (left) and Secretary Marcella L. Morrison.*



*Vivian Szcupak (left) and Lois Jennings, both former Von Humboldt teachers and longtime friends of Veronica Chemers, helped at the ticket table.*

*[Photo courtesy of Veronica Chemers]*

# LEGISLATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Shhh! Lean over! Listen! It's a secret!

This is in Article XIII of the current (1970) Illinois Constitution:

## SECTION 5. PENSION AND RETIREMENT RIGHTS

***Membership in any pension or retirement system of the State, any unit of local government or school district, or any agency or instrumentality thereof, shall be an enforceable contractual relationship, the benefits of which shall not be diminished or impaired.***

So what? You know your future pension is safe, don't you?

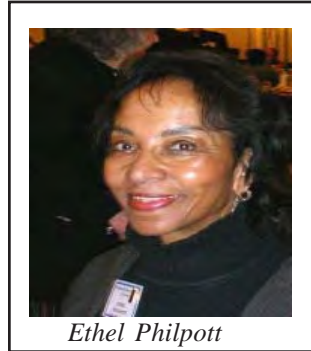
Don't you?

In January of 2006, we called your attention to the plight of hundreds of thousands of American retirees who thought they did, too, but who found out they were wrong – tragically wrong. The story of the vanishing pensions was summarized beautifully in a two-part series titled ***The Broken Promise*** in ***Time*** magazine, beginning in the issue of October 23, 2005. Our article on the subject in January of 2006 was titled "In the Crosshairs – Your Pension!" (You can find a copy on our web site, or call the office if you misplaced your copy.)

Our defined benefit pension plan requires large reserves to pay out the benefits we are promised. The Chicago Teachers Pension Fund currently holds something over \$11 ***billion*** for this purpose, very roughly 85% of what it needs to cover all pension benefits earned to date.

The other kind of pension, the defined contribution plan, carries no guarantees. All the employee knows for sure is how much is taken from his paycheck; his actual pension depends on what's left when he retires. Because there are no guarantees, no pension fund is necessary.

Using various legal strategies (including bankruptcy), many hundreds of companies have successfully changed employee retirement plans from defined benefit to defined contribution, opening up the accumulated pension funds to the tender mercies of whatever corporate raider masterminded the change. Since these strategies *are* legal, it follows that the courts are of no use whatever to the pensioner-victims who just lost part or all of their life incomes.



Ethel Philpott

***Time*** quotes one knowledgeable observer as predicting that, given the present legal climate, the defined benefit pension plan will vanish within ten years. (Note that the prediction was made two years ago.)

Enter Section 5 of Article XIII of the 1970 Constitution. Under it, the State of Illinois guarantees that ***the pension of every state or local employee in Illinois "shall not be diminished."***

The Illinois Constitution also provides that every 20 years, the voters must decide whether the Constitution is good for another 20 years, or if it should be tossed in a landfill somewhere and we start all over again from scratch. The so-called Con-Con proposition (isn't that an amazingly appropriate name?) on your ballot puts the question up to you. Should we keep the 1970 Constitution with its guarantee of our pensions at their present levels, or should we throw it out and just hope that any new constitution will give us the same guarantee?

Bear in mind that not only would our \$11+ billion reserve be in play; so would that of every other Illinois pension fund--maybe \$100 billion total. That sort of money is very attractive indeed to the huge flock of awfully hungry and terribly clever, opportunists sitting around out there looking and waiting.

We recommend you vote "**NO**" on the Con-Con!

# PENSION NOTES

From James F. Ward, Trustee

## LEGALLY WIGGLING OUT

In 1895 when the Chicago Teachers Pension Fund (CTPF) started, it was funded by teacher contributions and a local tax levy. Unionist Margaret J. Haley and Pension Board President Jane Addams (of Hull House fame) fought to collect those taxes. City fathers did not want to pay them. Margaret and Jane prevailed and the taxes were paid under various formulae until 1995 when the CTPF tax levy was repealed and a new tax in the same amount was passed for the CPS (coincidence?).



James F. Ward

In addition, the 1995 laws put public funding of teacher pensions on a firm actuarial footing for the first time in history. Article 15-158 of the Illinois Pension Code requires the State to fund the Teachers Retirement System of Illinois (TRS) in amounts that will result in TRS (founded in the 1930s) to be at 90% ratio of assets to liabilities by 2045. Article 17-129 of the Pension Code makes the CPS responsible for funding the CTPF so that it too would be at 90% by 2045.

In 1995 the CTPF was nearing 100% of assets to liabilities and therefore the CPS owed CTPF nothing. Since then CTPF funding levels have dropped to 80%. What was the CPS response? They introduced a bill in the Legislature to transfer their responsibility as found in 17-129 to the State of Illinois. The proposal did not pass.

What next from CPS? They filed a **lawsuit** on March 13, 2008, in the Cook County Circuit Court against the State Treasurer and the State Comptroller. It claims that the funding laws on the books for years are unconstitutional and asks the court to “declare the disparity between TRS and CTPF unconstitutional” and to “enjoin the Treasurer and Comptroller from enforcement” of one of the two sections that cover funding methods, namely 17-127.

The brief is replete with reasons why the CPS should not have to pay the pension costs for their teachers. The State should instead. But 17-127 is the section through which we obtain our health insurance rebate (now at 70% of our costs). Any monies CTPF receives from the State under 17-127 serve as offsets to the CPS obligations to CTPF under 17-129.

If CPS wins the suit, how will the CTPF pay the insurance rebates? That is not mentioned. Will the CPS go further and have 17-129 declared invalid as well? With reduced or no public revenues how will CTPF get to 90% in 2045? Can a judge order the General Assembly to pass a new law requiring the state to take up the costs? I don't think so. Besides, CPS doesn't ask for that. They only ask that one section of our funding laws be held unconstitutional and unenforceable.

I am not an attorney, but I have read and reread the brief. One thing seems clear to me. If the State of Illinois were the sole public support for CTPF wouldn't the State “own” the CTPF as a state agency? How long would it take before the CTPF (80% funded) was merged into the TRS (62% funded)? Well, we've heard this song before.

Recently CPS sued for reductions in 3500 pensions. RTAC, at considerable expense, intervened, won, and CPS appealed. RTAC does not have the unlimited resources the CPS seems to have for endless litigation. Is the CPS an educational institution or a lawyer's relief agency? How many hundreds of thousand of dollars in legal fees will this lawsuit cost taxpayers for this legalized buck passing? Perhaps when a judge is assigned to the case #08CH09640, pensioners might want to tell the judge what we think about it. Certainly more research is needed. JFW. urokward@yahoo.com

# PENSION NOTES

From Walter Pilditch, Trustee

## LATEST PENSION NEWS

The news from the Pension Board is that there has been a drop in the total value of the fund from about \$12.5 billion down by \$936 million or about 7.5%. This leaves our fund in the \$11.5 billion range. You might well ask, "Why?" Just look at the overall economy and for this Mercer and Company (our overall investment advisor) outlines the details:

Unemployment has risen to a three-year high of 5.1

Surveys of consumer confidence show a five-year low.

Foreclosures and delinquency rates continue to rise in housing.

New home sales have dropped again to their lowest level in 13 years.

Overall prices rose 0.8% for the first quarter and at about a 4.0% yearly rate.

Stock market prices losses and negative corporate earnings blanket the news.

Trying to improve the situation, the short-term interest rates are down 2% and the federal funds rate is 2.25%. To give you an idea of the markets, small cap stocks are underperforming large cap stocks and down by 9.9% while large cap stocks are down by 10.2% and small cap growth stocks are down by 12.8%. The largest losses are in the technology, telecommunication and financial fields.



Walter Pilditch

The only bright spot points to the fixed income performance which for the past quarter is up by 2.2%. If it gives you any comfort, the rest of the world is not doing much better. Hong Kong dropped by 18.9%, Germany is down by 11.7% while the United Kingdom lost 10.5% and France went down 8.3%

Back to the Chicago picture, the international equity figures are gaining, largely to the weakening of the U. S. dollar. Leading the way are the firms MFS, Morgan Stanley, Acadian and Lazard. In small cap equity nearly all our firms trailed the index except for DFA

which benefited from health care investments. In our minority- and women-owned firms Attucks and Progress both outperformed their benchmarks. The results for the quarter showed LM Capital exceeded the index while other fixed income firms lagged behind their quotas.

Where are we looking next? Investments in infrastructure have been approved this past quarter including Macquarie (Australia) and JP Morgan. At present the Pension Board is considering a search for a fund of hedge funds and this should be completed later this month. We surely trust news on this front will be better soon. In the meantime, have a great summer!

---

### *Thought for the Day:*

Your net worth to the world is usually determined by what remains after your bad habits are subtracted from your good habits.

Ben Franklin

### *From the Webmaster*

Webmaster Roy Coleman reminds RTAC members: "As we approach the November election, please check the RTAC Website ([RTAC.ORG](http://RTAC.ORG)) for the latest on candidates' positions and breaking news on pension and educational reform issues."

## PENSION NOTES

From Mary Sharon Reilly, Trustee  
Pension Law & Rules Committee

### REBATE BILL STILL HAS A CHANCE

The Chicago Teachers Pension Fund (CTPF) legislative agenda for 2008 was presented in the April issue of the RTAC *News Bulletin*. The trustees continue to adopt these items annually while battling: 1) the employer, who is determined to prevent any improvements; and 2) the tax payer public whose perceptions (or misconceptions) of public pension funds lead them to believe that a public pension means instant riches.



Mary Sharon Reilly

One of the key pieces of the legislative agenda began in Spring 2008 with HB1231, which raised the maximum allowable for health insurance from \$65 million to \$75 million. This would allow continuation of a rebate of 70% for the next two to three years. This bill passed the House of Representatives but is currently stalled in the Senate and will most likely die very soon.

However, all is not lost. At this writing, HB4342 is in the House and is the 2008 version of HB1231. This bill will need to be passed by the House and sent to the Senate. It is currently awaiting further action in the House, as a bill is not called and voted upon until it can be properly “worked” and the votes can be tallied. The expectation is that the bill will be called and passed by the House. However, there is no certainty in the Senate.

RTAC encourages members to contact the legislative leaders, Speaker Madigan and President Jones, as well as individual Representatives and Senators to request passage of the minimal increase of \$10 million that will provide the rebate that is rightly earned. At the May 21 RTAC Luncheon, nearly 800 postcards to President Jones were completed and collected to be mailed by RTAC requesting this passage. Since this is an election year, it is hoped that legislators will listen.

---

## HEALTH NOTES

### HUMMING YOUR WAY TO CLEARER SINUSES...

Tired of nasal sprays and medicine to clear up your sinuses? Try something new that anyone can do and afford.

Humming! No need to be in tune or rhythm, just do some humming which vibrates through your nose. These vibrations along with increased nitric oxide levels apparently can help keep the sinuses healthy.

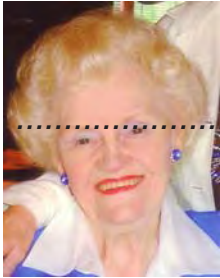
The effect of humming on sinus health was studied by Swedish researchers a few years ago. Defining humming as “exhaling with sound while the mouth is closed,” the study found that “humming increased nitric oxide levels fifteenfold compared to quiet exhalations without sound. The exhalations of people with healthy sinuses tend to have high nitric oxide levels, indicating that more air is able to flow between the sinuses and the nose.”

So why not try it?

## 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.

Adler Planetarium	Chicago	Hannah Katz	312-322-0514
Alex Haley Academy	Chicago-Far South	Karen Demots	773-371-3661
Anixter Center Literacy Pgm	Chicago-Nr North	Sara Kohl	773-929-8200x265
Aquinas Literacy Center (ESL)	Chicago-South	Alison Altmeyer	773-927-0512
Boys/Girls Clubs	Chicago-South	Desiree McIntosh	312-285-5009
Brookfield Zoo	Suburbs-West	Regi Mezydlo	708-485-0263x366
Catholic Charities (Tutor)	Chicago	Albert Curtis Jr.	312-655-7412
Chicago Academy Sciences	Chicago	Susan Carlson	773-549-0606x2026
Chicago Architectural Found	Chicago	Barbara Hrbek	312-922-3432x225
Chicago Youth Centers	Chicago-West	Michelle Gauthier	312-762-5655
Child Services	Cook/Lake/DuPage	Greta Nielsen	773-693-0300
Child Services	Chicago-RogersPk	Michelle Genarro	773-973-3662
Council for Jewish Elderly	Chicago	Anne L. Simon	773-508-1064
Court's Special Advocate	Cook County	Imogene Harris	312-433-6997
CPS Student Science Fair	Chicago	Rita Nelson	773 553-6318
Cycle	Chicago-Nr North	Melinda Brand	312-664-1194x14
Evanston NorthWest Healthcare	Evanston	Ronna Jacobson	847-570-2840
Field Museum	Lakefront Museum	Mary Ann Bloom	312-665-7505
Forest Preserve District	DuPage	Chris Linnell	630-942-6169
Friends of the Parks	Chicago	Laura Ronneberg	312-922-3307
George Armstrong School	Chicago-Near West	Kim Bendig	773-534-2150
Ginkgo Organic Gardens	Chicago-North		773-404-7114
Grandma, Please	Chicago	Kathy Slover	773-561-3500
Graue Mill	Oak Brook	Sandy Brubaker	630-920-9720
Heartland Alliance Vista	Chicago-Loop	Carol McNeill	312-696-4500x4085
Ill. Action for Children	Chicago-Loop	Rebecca Klipfel	312-986-9591
Ill. Parents Anonymous	Chicago	Melinda Crosby	312-649-7301
Ill. Volunteers of America	Chicago	Peggy Schweiger	312-707-8707
JCB School	Chicago-North	Amber Egelston	773-467-3746
KIPP Ascend Charter School	Chicago-West	Sheri Barrette	773-261-9972
Little Bros Friends of Elderly	Chicago	Geri Mead	312-455-1000
Mercy Home for Boys and Girls	Chicago	J. Brown/E. Dordek	312-738-7554
Metro Family Services	Mt Greenwood	Dee Speich	773-298-5065x345
Museum Science & Industry	Chicago-South	Penny Aulston	773-753-2595
N Shore Senior Center	Suburbs-North	Paul J. Luzwick	847-784-6000
Naperville Settlement	Suburbs-West	Diane Ernst	630-420-6010
Nat'l Runaway Switchboard	Chicago-North	Molly Billette	773-880-9860x218
Oakton Comm College	Northwest Suburbs	Rita Stewart	847-635-1434
Peace Corps	International	J. Ostermeier	312-353-7716
Salvation Army Group Home	Oak Park	Frank Massolini	312-455-8059x200
Spring Valley Nature Center	Schaumburg	Susan Findling	847-985-2100
Swedish-American Museum	Andersonville	Tina Harris	773-728-8111x28
School Childrens Aid Society	Chicago-West	Margaret Paul	773-247-1311



Mari©n Hoffing

THE RTAC NEWS BULLETIN ONCE AGAIN JOYFULLY PRESENTS

The irreplaceable quarterly anti-ennui shielding provided by

MARI©N H©FFING

# THE CHICAGO SCENE

to enjoy during July, August and September

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

### THE ZULA PATROL: UNDER THE WEATHER

The Zula Patrol: Under the Weather *definiti*® show is presented in the world's first all-digital, 360-degree planetarium theater for an immersive experience. This exciting new show features the Zula Patrol as they try to save the Solar System's weather from interplanetary villain Dark Truder. Shows in the *definiti*® theater provide an exciting experience in a virtual reality environment that launches you into the outer reaches of space.  
Daily Show Times: 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 3:15 p.m.

### TIMESPACE. . . TIME TRAVEL ONLY AT THE ADLER

Experience TimeSpace, a new show that turns the Adler's *definiti*® theater into a time machine! TimeSpace transports audiences across the Universe over 14 billion years to see and experience the Big Bang, the Doom of the Dinosaurs, the sudden appearance of Halley's Comet in the Yucatán Sky, Apollo 11's moonlanding and man's first steps on the moon, and a leap into the future to 3001. Explore the Universe at America's First Planetarium — the only museum in the world with two full-size planetarium theaters.  
Daily Show Times: 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 4:45 p.m.

*The Adler Planetarium does not offer advance ticket sales. Show tickets are sold on a first-come, first-served basis at the Adler box office. Times are subject to change without notice.*

## CHICAGO HISTORY MUSEUM

1601 N. Clark St.

312-642-4600

[www.chicagohistory.org](http://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 SHAKESPEARE THEATER

800 E. Grand Ave.

312-595-5656

### WONKA by Roald Dahl

The regional theatre will turn its attention to the Chocolate Factory, the stage adaptation of the very popular "Willy Wonka" musical film. The play will be directed by Joe Leonardo with Sean Fortunato as Willy and Patrick Anderson as Charles Bucket.  
7/8 thru 8/17

### AMADEUS by Peter Shaffer directed by Gary Griffin

Eighteenth-century Vienna is the setting, and two popular artists of the day are the protagonists in this award-winning drama based on the music and intertwining lives of the brilliant Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and his jealous rival, Court Composer Antonio Salieri.  
9/6 thru 11/9

## FARMERS' MARKETS

The Mayor's Office of Special Events has announced the schedule of farmer's markets, which will be held until October.

The Downtown Markets will be held on Tuesdays thru Oct. 28 at Federal Plaza, 230 S. Dearborn St. and through Oct. 21 at Prudential Plaza, 150 E. Lake St.

Markets will be held on Thursdays through Oct. 2 at Daley Plaza, 100 N. Dearborn St., and thru Oct. 30 at Sears Tower Plaza, 233 S. Wacker Dr. Market hours are from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Northwest Side a market will be held on Thursdays through Oct. 30 in the parking lot of Cheesecake World, 6701 W. Forest Preserve Dr.

The city sponsors dozens of markets located throughout the area, which feature products from farmers across the Midwest. For more information, call the Mayor's Office of Special Events, 312-744-3370.

FIELD MUSEUM of NATURAL HISTORY      Roosevelt Rd. at Lake Shore Dr.      312-922-9410  
[www.fieldmuseum.org](http://www.fieldmuseum.org)

### 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. These natural events that have occurred through the centuries are caused by the forces behind the earth's geology and meteorology. While human beings cannot stop these forces, our actions have a strong impact on how frequently they occur and on how damaging they are when they happen. A better understanding at Field!

Thru 1/4/09

### MYTHIC CREATURES: DRAGONS, UNICORNS and MERMAIDS

Examine the legend and the science behind some of the most fascinating creatures ever invented. Enter the fabled world of dragons, journey to the depths of the ocean and soar above the clouds to uncover the powerful magical creatures that have been part of the origins of human experience for thousands of years. They still live on in the everyday lives of many cultures. . . and now today they live at the Field for you to visit.

Thru 9/1

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

### LIGHT OPERA WORKS

Cahn Auditorium      600 Emerson St. at Sheridan Road Evanston      847-869-6300  
IOLANTHE - It's the story of the fairy world versus the House of Lords. Even Gilbert and Sullivan get into the political-satire spirit this season.      8/16-8/24

LYRIC OPERA - Civic Opera House      20 N Wacker Dr # 860      312-332-2244  
MANON in French with English Titles  
Opening Night Gala is Chicago's most elegant, beautiful ball (6 p.m.). Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and sweets to be offered at the reception before MANON and during Intermission. This year promises to be a spectacular opera season!      9/27

MILLENNIUM PARK BOEING GALLERIES      20 E. Randolph St.      312-742-1168  
MARK DI SUVERO

A belated solo exhibition in Chicago presenting five large outdoor sculptures of steel by one of the most important sculptors working in North America. The Boeing Galleries are two adjacent open spaces dedicated for a rotating display of public art. The galleries are located within Millennium Park.

[www.waymarking.com/waymarks](http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks)



5 MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY

57<sup>TH</sup> & Lake Shore Dr.

773-684-1414

[www.msichicago.org](http://www.msichicago.org)

## THE GLASS EXPERIENCE

The only way to experience the world of glass is to see it firsthand as craftsmen forge works of art from audience suggestions. Stroll through Dale Chihuly's stunning 2000-square foot Macchia Forest and discover more than 20 large, hand-blown colored glass sculptures constructed for the exhibit by the renowned artist.

Thru 9/1

## ALL GREEN HOUSE

Visit the only ALL GREEN HOUSE in the Museum's backyard - 3000 square feet of smart and grand living. Technology that harnesses the power of the sun. A waste water system, a rooftop lawn, a house that works your energy system, a remote control that keeps you comfortable at all times regardless of weather, furniture and furnishings green and beautiful and practical. Visit this home of the future.

Thru 1/4/09

## NAVY PIER

800 E Grand Ave

312-595-5600

### CIRQUE SHANGHAI: GOLD

The Chinese acrobatic spectacular returns for a third season at Navy Pier. How many performers can you fit on the back of a unicycle?

## NEWBERRY ANNUAL BOOK FAIR

60 W. Walton St.

312- 943-9090

Celebrate your summer reading at the National Newberry Library Annual Book Sale. More than 100,000 donated books are sorted into 60 appropriate categories for your easy browsing convenience. With many books priced under \$2 it's easy to replenish your home library. Sounds like a GREAT SALE!

7/24 thru 7/27

## ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

1155 E 58th St.

773-702-9514

### CATASTROPHE! THE LOOTING AND DESTRUCTION OF IRAQ'S PAST

A look at the ongoing disruption of the Baghdad Museum and nearby archaeological sites.

Tues, Thurs., Sat. - 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Wed. - 10 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.; Sun. noon - 6 p.m.

Thru 12/31

## PUBLIC GARDENS

### LINCOLN PARK CONSERVATORY

2391 N. STOCKTON DRIVE

312-742-7736

### GARFIELD PARK CONSERVATORY

399 N. CENTRAL PARK AVE.

312-746-5100

### OAK PARK CONSERVATORY

615 GARFIELD ST., OAK PARK

708-725-2450

### MORTON ARBORETUM

4100 LINCOLN AVE., LISLE

630-725-2089

### CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN

1000 LAKE COOK RD., GLENCOE

847-835-5440

### MILLENNIUM PARK

201 E. RANDOLPH ST.

312-742-1168

### CANTIGNY GARDENS

1S151 WINFIELD RD., WHEATON

630-668-5161

## THEATER

- BAILIWICK THEATRE REPERTORY                      1229 W. Belmont Ave.                      773-883-1090
- THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME: A New Musical                      extended thru 8/31
- BLACK ENSEMBLE THEATER                      777 N. Green St.                      773-769-4451  
I AM WHO I AM : The Story of Teddy Pendergrass                      Thru 8/3
- DRURY LANE - OAKBROOK                      100 Drury Lane Oakbrook Terrace                      630-530-0111  
THE BUDDY HOLLY STORY                      thru 7/27
- Back By Popular Demand                      DEBBIE REYNOLDS - IN CONCERT                      7/31 thru 8/3  
The warbling sweetheart who first struck gold in "Singin' in the Rain" and gave birth to the notorious Carrie celebrations, 55 years in the biz in this evening of songs and comedy.
- THE BOYS FROM SYRACUSE - Rogers and Hart's swinging take on Shakespeare's "The Comedy of Errors." David Bell directs.                      8/7 thru 9/28
- GOODMAN THEATRE                      170 N Dearborn St.                      312-443-3811  
AIN'T MISBEHAVIN': The New Fats Waller Musical Show!  
Chuck Smith turns the Goodman Theatre into a sultry summer cabaret.                      Thru 7/27
- LIFE LINE THEATRE                      6912 N Glenwood Ave                      773-761-4477  
[www.lifelinetheatre.com](http://www.lifelinetheatre.com)
- LYLE, LYLE CROCODILE  
Lifeline brings back its hit musical show from earlier in the season, adapted by Christian Calvit and George Howe from the Bernard Waber book.
- MARRIOTT THEATRE LINCOLNSHIRE                      10 Marriott Dr., Lincolnshire                      847-634-0200  
THE FULL MONTY - Those Rust Belt workers left behind by NAFTA, of whom we've heard so much this election year, come up with a sexy plan to raise money by dropping their trousers. David Yazbek and Terrance McNally's musical re-sets the hit British movie in upstate New York.                      7/16 thru 9/21
- MERCURY THEATER                      3745 N. Southport Ave                      773-325-1700  
THE KID FROM BROOKLYN: the Danny Kaye Musical - This musical entertainment from Florida is a tribute to the late, great entertainer Danny Kaye.                      Thru 9/24
- MORTON ARBORETUM                      4100 Lincoln Ave, Lisle                      630-725-2089  
[www.mortonarb.org](http://www.mortonarb.org)
- KEY EXCHANGE - Theatre Hikes become Theatre Bikes for this show. An ambulatory by way of bicycle staging of Kevin Wade's romantic comedy about biking singles in New York, biking with the Arboretum standing in for Central Park. Bring your own bike. Ticket prices include a picnic with adult refreshments afterward.                      6/21 thru 9/20
- NORTHLIGHT THEATRE                      5115 Church St. Skokie                      847-677-5276  
[northlight.org](http://northlight.org)
- IN-TER-PLAY                      The Northlight Reading Series  
Now in its third exciting year, *in ter play* continues to engage growing audiences with provocative new works. *In ter play* celebrates Northlight's long-standing commitment to new work by bringing these exciting projects straight to the audience. View five new works, five emerging stories, that will engage, challenge and entertain you. Plus, *in ter play* attendees have the chance to talk with the playwrights, actors and directors and to participate more fully in the creative process. Purchase tickets online or call 847-673-6300.

ROYAL GEORGE THEATRE CENTER                      1641 N Halsted St                      312-988-9000

GUTENBERG! THE MUSICAL - People make musicals out of the most inane ideas. This off-Broadway spoof explores how and why.                      Thru 7/17

A STEADY RAIN - Keith Huff's acclaimed drama about a pair of hard-luck City of Chicago cops. Thru 10/5

STEPPENWOLF THEATRE                      1650 N Halsted St                      312-335-1650

SUPERIOR DONUTS - Win a Pulitzer Prize and people pay attention to your next play. Tracey Leita's "donut shop comedy" is the most anticipated opening of the summer.                      Thru 8/17

TIME LINE THEATRE COMPANY                      615 W. Wellington Ave.                      773-281-TIME (8463)

"FIORELLO" - Back and even better!                      Thru 7/27

~\*~

SHEDD AQUARIUM                      1200 S. Lake Shore Dr.                      312-939-2438.

You can learn more about Great Lakes ecology at Shedd this summer. Find ways to help protect your Great Lakes from invasive species, pollutants and other threats by visiting [listentoyourlakes.org](http://listentoyourlakes.org). Contribute to the conversation about conservation on their blog.

Join Shedd for a cleanup at the 12th Street Beach on Saturday, Sept. 20. You'll make a visible difference and have a lot of fun at the same time.

Enjoy your lake, have a picnic on the beach with family and friends and be sure to recycle, dispose of or take home your refuse--the "leave only tracks" principle. Have leftovers? Please do NOT feed them to the birds. Picnic fare is not part of a healthy natural diet for our native shorebirds.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO                      5550 S. Greenwood Ave.                      773-702-0200

SMART MUSEUM OF ART  
Seeing the City: Sloan's New York, gritty images of early 20th century urban life.                      Thru 11/2  
Idol Anxiety, on the troublesome history of objects of worship.  
Open Tuesday thru Friday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Wed., 10 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.; Sun. noon - 6 p.m.

UNITED CENTER                      1901 W. Madison St.                      312-455-4500

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL - KOOZA      GRAND CHAPITEAU                      Thru 7/27

NEIL DIAMOND                      7/26 - 7/27                      8 p.m.

THE EAGLES                      9/24 - 9/25                      8 p.m.

TINA TURNER                      10/3 - 10/4                      8 p.m.

MADONNA                      10/26 - 10/27                      8 p.m.

~\*~

# *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.*

Sandra M. Aguilar	Maryann Durbas	Michael H. Jacobson	D-ella V. Pyrzynski
Frank A. Blatnick	Patricia A. Gaines	Sue Ellen Levins	Linda Sienkiewicz
Bonita Boggan	Cheryl Gholar	Sharon I. Madison	Shirley M. Turner
Arthur J. Colella	Frank A. Hayes	Susan L. Madura	Gail Wilson
Joellen Conley	Jeanne Heinen	Elaine Mierzwa	Irene B. Wilson
Jyotiben Y. Desai	Faye Noreen Hughes	Patrice V. Newell	Mary Ellen Ziegler
	Dianne Akemi Ichishita	Readia Pope	



## **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 March 13, 2008 to June 20, 2008)*

DONOR:

IN MEMORY OF:

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 Francine Zurkowski

Toby Rockwell  
 Lenore Yaccino

Dr. Minnie L. Bruce

Dr. Minnie L. Bruce

Florence A. Navolio

Clarisa Hug

Bernice Lewis

Leonard Jareczek  
 Norman Bannor

Jeanette Schoer

Louise Julia Klunk  
 (Mother of  
 Dr. Edward T. Klunk)  
 Sherrie Picchiotti

Eli M. Liebow

Ralph Reynolds

Florence Paskind  
 Pat Durkin  
 Shirley Stack  
 Jeanette Anderson  
 Tom McDonald  
 Marge Lenner

Helen Juvanic  
 Harryetta Matthews  
 Elizabeth Scotese  
 Shulomith Williams  
 And for Petra Harris in  
 memory of her sister  
 Annie Harris Fletcher

Bettye M. Stuckey	Richard E. Thompson	Catherine T. Hester	Jean Mills Margaret Wysocki
Joan B. Hampton	Benjamin F. Furman		
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Ralph E. Projahn	Elaine E. Projahn	Walter E. Sowa	General Purpose
Louis N. Pyster	Alan Butler	Sandra Maison Rosen	General Purpose
Faith Bertronski	Carolyn Musto	Douglas Moderow	In Honor of Howard Sloan
Dian Dionesotes	Tanna Mattingly Lenore Dreuth	Melanie R. Wojtulewicz	Celebrating Retired Science Teachers
Eugene Jerkatis	Iris Burke-Kinzie UGC		
Delores Partekel	Iris Burke	Anonymous	General Purpose
John Demczyk	Maria India Dale Lamos Mary Marnel	Anonymous	General Purpose
		Anonymous	General Purpose

George J. Richter	In Honor of Howard Sloan Gerard Heing Harry Starsburg Eleanor Pick	Michael O'Shea Ashley	Eddie B. Tate, Jr.
Anonymous	General Purpose	Anne W. Bannor	Ellie B. Lipton Leonard Jareczek
Anonymous	General Purpose	Richard P. Carroll	Iris Burke Roy Littner James Fealey Nancy French Mark Hewitt
Roger M. Koenig	In Honor of Retired Teachers of John H Kinzie/Kennedy H.S.	John Barrett	Joan M. Barrett
Barbara Larsen	General Purpose	John Demczyk	Rev. Chester Mitoraj Robert Healy\ Ann Hennessy Madeline Feliciano
Anonymous	General Purpose	Maureen Woods	
Anonymous	General Purpose	Sam and Harue Ozaki	Tom Teraji
Diane Aleta Smith	General Purpose		

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

		<u>DONOR:</u>	<u>OCCASION</u>
Helene A. Gray	General Purpose	Denise A. Edwards	General Purpose
Evangelyste R. Taylor	In Honor of Mr. Johnnie Flowers	Gayle E. Modell	General Purpose
Linda R. Williams	General Purpose	Lillian A. Holmes	General Purpose
Anonymous	General Purpose	James P. Kennedy	General Purpose
Georgine C. Vacca	General Purpose	Janis Sullivan	General Purpose
Mary Ellen Foran	General Purpose	Melvyn T. Cornelius	In Honor of Steven A. Kailes Ned L. McCray Friends & Colleagues At Beidler School General Purpose
		Guy J. Paradiso	General Purpose
		Betty Portenlanger	General Purpose
		Rita R. Solly	General Purpose
		Mary K. Vaughn	General Purpose
		Tony Crowe	General Purpose

*MEMORIAL DONATIONS TO*

**RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION of  
CHICAGO**

FOR THE GENERAL EXPENSE FUND

**NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE.** *In amounts of \$10 and  
over (from March 13, 2008 to June 20, 2008)*

<u>DONOR:</u> Harold and Marjorie Dwy	<u>IN MEMORY OF:</u> Mary Leonardi Marilyn Schaefer
---	---

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

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

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

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 INCREASES ASSISTANCE AS ECONOMY SAGS**

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

The Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund has recently received several inquires regarding "gift giving" to benefit retired teachers with specific needs.

Several bequests, which had been made by retired teachers several years ago, mostly as part of their estate planning or as a direct bequest, have recently been received and placed in the Fund. These new funds will go a long way in helping retired teachers who may be experiencing the effects of a sagging economy on a fixed income. The Aid Fund helps retired teachers at all income levels.

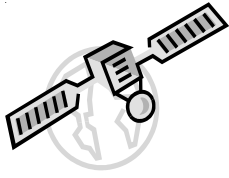
Through the efforts of RTAC President **Ethel Philpott** and the Aid Fund's past boards and un-

der the leadership of **Dr. Mae M. Hunter, Helen P. Johnson, Robert C. Konen, Arthur R. Lehne, Ned L. McCray, Audrey U. Mivelaz, Edward A. O'Farrell, Walter Pilditch, Zygmunt K. Sokolnicki, and James F. Ward**, the fund in 2008 provides assistance, on a monthly basis to over 20 persons in need.

The Fund treasurer, **Vaughn J. Barber** has agreed to provide assistance to persons who may wish to explore or participate in a "shared giving" program. Call Attorney Vaughn J. Barber at the RTAC office (312) 939-3327.

Beginning this fall, RTAC will have a special recognition board permanently affixed with the names of those who have expressed their devotion and generosity to the Fund.





## SATELLITE DOINGS

# SAN DIEGO SATELLITE INCREASES ATTENDANCE

By Sam Dolnick

On Tuesday, April 8, 2008, the San Diego Satellite was fortunate to have an increase in participation at its luncheon/business meeting, from 14 in October 2007 to 18.

The participants were **Dorothy Benshop, Jack and Fran Blumenthal, Wesley Buchwald, Sam Dolnick, Ruth Harris, Sylvia Kayser, Nancy Lewis, Linda and Paul Mooney, Ellen Perry, Evalyn and Arthur Schiff, Rose and Clem Schulman, Irene and Angelo Sharres, and Vlasta Williams.** If anyone knows the whereabouts of **Yvonne Crute** and **Louise Daugherty** please let us know. Neither answer their phone. The mail reservation forms were not returned as non-deliverable and we are very concerned. We hope that they are doing well.

**Linda Mooney** made all the arrangements with the Olive Garden restaurant. She will also make the arrangements for the Oct. 14 meeting.

It was noted that the 2008 BlueCross/Blue Shield of Illinois health premium for a single retiree increased by 8.5%. It was also noted that 70% of the premiums would continue to be reimbursed in

2008. Both RTAC and the pension board were applauded for their efforts in retaining the 70% reimbursement.

Again, everyone was pleased that the BlueCross Rx is sending monthly information about the medications that were ordered and the amount paid. This will make it much easier for those who take medical expenses off their income tax to document their deductions. Other than one complaint about a change in the prescription formulary, everyone was pleased with the improvements by PrimeMail Therapeutics in sending out the medications ordered in a more timely manner.

We hope that all our colleagues had a pleasant Memorial Day, and we wish all a very happy and **HEALTHY SUMMER TO COME.**

With fondest regards.

*Sam Dolnick*

5706-348 Baltimore Drive  
La Mesa, CA 91942-1654  
Phone/Fax: 619-697-485  
[samdolnick@juno.com](mailto:samdolnick@juno.com)

## S.W. FLORIDA REPORTS

Gail Obie writes from the S.W. Florida Satellite: I have no new information for you about the Florida group. I did receive a number of additional phone calls after the last issue was published from retired teachers in the area who never saw the first article and want to be included in the next luncheon.

**Douglas and Rose Gordon's donation in memory of the late Arthur Cervinka was omitted from the April News Bulletin. We apologize for the oversight.**

## LD SPECIALIST POSITION AVAILABLE

Part-time position available: **PLuS** clinician (LD specialist) at DePaul University. Work with students with **LD** and/or **AD/HD** in one-on-one sessions, providing strategies, study skills, remediation, etc. Master's degree required, with specialty in LD.

For more information, or to submit resume and cover letter, contact: Elisabeth Sullivan, Assistant Director, PLuS Program, 2250 N. Sheffield Avenue, Chicago, IL 60014 (773) 325-1677 ([esulli15@depaul.edu](mailto:esulli15@depaul.edu)).

## **FRIENDS GONE AHEAD**

*Requiescant in pace*

### **ANTONIDES, ESTELLE M.**

Neé Peterson. Assigned to Morgan Park High School when she resigned in 1970 after 16 years in Chicago and eight years elsewhere, Estelle passed away at the age of 99 on May 20, 2008.

### **AVICHOUSER, CHARLES.**

Charles ended a 32-year career when he resigned from Kelvyn Park High School in 1986. At his death on May 2, 2008, he was 79 years old.

### **BABKA, LORETTA J.**

Neé Moryl. Loretta was at Pickard when she retired in 1993, terminating a 36-year career. At her death on April 10, 2008, she was 77 years of age.

### **BARICH, JOSEPH M.**

A 37-year career in Chicago schools came to an end for Joseph when he left the Healy School in 1993. He died on March 24, 2008, at the age of 77 years.

### **BARNES, AMY L.**

Neé Cotharn. After teaching 25 years, Amy resigned from Robeson High School in 1985. She was 83 when death claimed her on March 8, 2008.

### **BELL, JUANITA L.**

Neé Sharpe. Juanita passed on at the age of 87 on April 23, 2008. Her 35-year career ended when she left the Shoop School in 1980.

### **BENJAMIN, TESSIE E.**

Neé Edwards. On February 21, 2008, life came to a close for Tessie at the age of 89. She had been at Calumet High School, retiring in 1990 at the end of a 33-year career in the schools.

### **BENYEK, MARGARET R.**

Neé Robinson. After 33 years as a teacher, death came for Margaret on May 28, 2008, when she was 91 years old. She ended her career at Marquette in 1977.

### **BERNSOHN, NORMA**

Neé Raphael. Norma had taught for seven years when she retired in 1977 from the City Colleges. At the end of her life on April 15, 2008, she was 91 years of age.

### **BETTUZZI, ANTOINE A.**

Having ended a 34-year career at Marshall High School by resigning in 1998, Antoine expired on April 17, 2008, at the age of 73 years.

### **BODANIS, FLORENCE.**

Neé Passell. Florence's 20-year career in Chicago with six years' teaching outside Chicago ended when she left Von Steuben High School in 1988. She was 90 years old when she died on March 30, 2008.

### **BONILLA, NEREIDA.**

Resignation in 2002 as Principal of the Audubon School ended Nereida's 35-year career. Death came on April 26, 2008, at the age of 67 years.

### **BRACERO, SONIA N.**

Neé Santana. Sonia's career lasted for 11 years, until she resigned from the Nixon School in 2001. She was 42 when she died on March 5, 2008.

### **BRANHAM, ALICE W.**

Neé Williams. Alice resigned in 1974 from Jackson Adult Education Center, ending a 19-year time span in the Chicago system with 20 years in another school system. She was 96 at the time of her death on March 3, 2008.

### **BROOKINS, NAOMI A.**

Neé Newsome. Naomi left Washington in 1994 after teaching for 24 years. She left us at the age of 83 on April 29, 2008.

### **BROOKS, SYDONIA M.**

Neé Wardner. After 37 years in the Chicago school system, Sydonia retired from the Kipling School in 1988. When death took her on January 4, 2008, she was 87 years old.

**BUCHANAN, ESPERANCE.**

Neé Farmer. A teacher in the Sheilds Elementary School when she retired in 1988 after 30 years, Esperance passed away on February 15, 2008, at the age of 89 years.

**BUIE, ERNESTINE.**

Neé Hicks. Ernestine passed on at age 84 on April 21, 2008. She resigned in 1988 after a 38-year career that ended at Fuller.

**BULLOCK, ALVA M.**

Neé Morrison. Alva's 35-year teaching career ended when she retired from J. N. Thorp School in 1987. She passed away on March 11, 2008, at the age of 90 years.

**BURKE, IRIS V.**

In 1993, when she retired from the Kinzie Elementary School, Iris ended her 45-year career with the Chicago school system. On April 13, 2008, her life ended after 82 years.

**BURNETT, ALICE.**

When she retired from the City Colleges in 1993, Alice ended a career that included 18.5 years in the Chicago system. Death claimed her on March 30, 2008, at the age of 85 years.

**BURNS, MARY JANE.**

Neé Hodgeman. After a 33-year teaching career, Mary Jane retired from Hearst Elementary in 1990. She died on April 6, 2008, at age 80.

**BUSH, EMERSON W.**

His 38-year teaching career ended when Emerson retired from Aldridge as Assistant Principal in 1990. He was 81 when his life ended on March 2, 2008.

**BUTLER, ALAN L.**

Alan retired from Gage Park High School in 1985 after a career that lasted for 25 years. He expired on March 9, 2008, at the age of 82 years.

**CAHILL, MARY M.**

Mary retired from Johnson Elementary in 1978 after teaching for eight years. On April 7, 2008, she died at age 95.

**CAMPBELL, FLOYD.**

Floyd succumbed at age 71 on March 6, 2008. He taught for eight years before retiring from Brown in 1999.

**CARSELLO, CARMEN.**

Neé Joseph. Carmen's 16-year career ended in 1985 when she resigned from the City Colleges. Death claimed her on March 21, 2008, at the age of 93.

**CHRISTIANI, RITA M.**

At the close of her life on May 23, 2008, Rita was 91 years old. A teacher for 27 years, she retired from the Woodson South School in 1983.

**CHRISTOPHER, LEUTHERIA.**

Neé Houvouras. Leutheria retired from the Drummond School in 1991, ending a 32-year career. On March 19, 2008, when she passed on, she was 83 years old.

**CLARK, FRANCES R.**

A teacher at Sojourner Truth when she resigned in 1984, Frances had served for 41 years. She was 91 on the date of her passing, April 17, 2008.

**CLARKE, RUBY R.**

Neé Rimmer. Ruby passed away on April 19, 2008, at the age of 101 years. She retired from Bowen High School in 1972, ending a career that spanned 28 years in Chicago and seven years elsewhere.

**CODELL, ROSALIE.**

Rosalie retired from Senn High School in 1986 after a career that lasted for 25 years. She expired on March 27, 2008, at the age of 87 years.

**CONNELL, GERALDINE.**

Geraldine was at Senn High School when she resigned in 1973 after 21 years in the Chicago Public Schools. She was 90 on March 28, 2008, when she passed on.

**CRANE, EDWARD W.**

After nine years, Edward resigned from Nichols High School in 1985. Death took him on March 2, 2008; he was 79 at the time.

**CRONIN, MARGARET T.**

When she left Guggenheim in 2003, Margaret put a 23-year career to an end. Her life ended on April 10, 2008, at the age of 68.

**CUMMINGS, MARY A.**

Neé Brown. When she resigned from Cather in 1993, Mary capped a 16-year career. She was 61 when she died on May 6, 2008.

**DAVIS, ROSALIE D.**

Neé Dorsey. At the age of 92, Rosalie passed away on April 4, 2008. She was at Ross in 1979 when she ended a 35-year career in the Chicago system.

**DAVITT, FRANCIS J.**

A 38-year career in the Chicago Public Schools ended when Francis, who expired at the age of 85 on April 8, 2008, retired from Whitney Young High School in 1987.

**DAWSON, BERNARR E.**

Death on April 22, 2008 at age 84 was the final event of Bernarr's life, after resignation as District Superintendent of District 17 in 1989 ended a 36-year career.

**DENNIS, JOSEPHINE.**

Neé Stanaitis. When she left Tilden High School in 1971, Josephine put a 31-year career to an end. Her life ended on May 18, 2008, at the age of 94.

**DEVAULT, LOUISE R.**

Neé Roberts. A teacher for 30 years, Louise was at Einstein when she retired in 1986. Her life came to a close at the age of 92 on April 19, 2008.

**DEVINE, RICHARD G.**

At the close of his life on January 20, 2008, Richard was 76 years old. A teacher for 31 years, he retired from Senn Metro High School in 1990.

**DISALVO, MARY F.**

Neé Fiscella. Mary retired in 1982 from the Marquette School ending a 35-year career. At the end of her life on May 2, 2008, she was 87 years old.

**DOSS, BARBARA J.**

Neé Billups. After 32 years in Chicago schools, Barbara retired from the Brownell School in 1994. She was 74 when she expired on April 22, 2008.

**EDWARDS, DENISE.**

Neé Stanton. Denise resigned from the Hayt School in 2000 after 24 years. She was 74 when she expired on April 2, 2008.

**ELLIS, MIRIAM J.**

Miriam had taught for 28 years before she retired in 1984 from the Carter school. She was 90 when her life ended on April 20, 2008.

**ENGSTROM, CARL J.**

Carl ended a 23-year career when he left Lyon in 1983. When he died on March 29, 2008, he was 84 years of age.

**FAHEY, GENEVIEVE.**

A 36-year career in Chicago schools came to an end for Genevieve when she left Bogan High School in 1972. She died on April 17, 2008, at the age of 98 years.

**FAIRBAIRN, JOYCE E.**

Joyce left the Whitney Young High School in 1993 after a career that spanned 34 years. She expired at the age of 70, on May 14, 2008.

**FELDBERG, LIBBY K.**

Libby succumbed at age 97 on March 26, 2008. She taught for 38 years before retiring from Stone in 1976.

**FIGATNER, ANNETTE.**

Neé Cohen. Annette was assigned to the City Colleges when she retired in 1985 after five years in the Chicago system. She was 83 when she went to her reward on March 11, 2008.

**FISHER, LOIS N.**

Neé Goldfine. In 2007, when Lois was at the Chappell School, she retired after 18 years. She was 66 years old when she expired on March 13, 2008.

**FITZGIBBON, DENISE.**

Neé Dopke. Denise was at the Moos School when she retired in 1996 after a 22-year teaching career. She was 73 at the time of her death on May 2, 2008.

**FUENER, NANCY L.**

Neé Ssvoboda. Nancy was at Kelly High School when she retired in 1991. Her career spanned 33 years, and she succumbed at the age of 79 on May 10, 2008.

**GABRIEL, GEORGE G.**

On April 25, 2008, George passed on, at the age of 73 years. He had spent 32 years in the schools when he resigned from Mather High School in 1988.

**GAMBLA, ROSEMARY.**

Neé Simec. After a career that spanned 38 years, Rosemary retired from Barnard in 1993. She expired on May 4, 2008, at the age of 80.

**GERAGHTY, PATRICK.**

Patrick left Taft High School in 1985 after a career that lasted for 32 years. He expired at the age of 80, on April 16, 2008.

**GILES, KARLA ANN.**

In 2007, Karla left the position of Substitute after a career that lasted five years. When her life ended on May 15, 2008, she was 66 years of age.

**GODWIN, MADELINE.**

Neé Barnes. After a career of 13 years, Madeline retired from the Oak Glen School in 1972. She died on April 3, 2008, at the age of 98.

**GOLDRICH, RUTH G.**

Neé Greensweig. At the age of 83, Ruth passed away on March 15, 2008. After 30 years in the system, she resigned from Schubert in 1983.

**GOOCH, ALICE B.**

Neé Byrne. Alice was Principal at Marsh when she retired in 1985 after a 35-year career in Chicago and three years' teaching elsewhere. She was 91 when she died on March 18, 2008.

**GUIDER, DORIS J.**

Neé Curry. Death came for Doris on April 4, 2008, when she was 61 years old. She ended her career at Byrne in 1998, after 28 years.

**HALL, RODGER L.**

When he retired from Hyde Park High School in 2005, Rodger ended a career that included 34 years in the Chicago system. Death claimed him on March 13, 2008, at the age of 59 years.

**HALLETT, CARYL B.**

Neé Nover. On March 21, 2008, when she was 76, death claimed Caryl. She had taught six years in Chicago and 24 years elsewhere when she resigned from the Byrd School in 1992.

**HAMROCK, RONALD J.**

When he retired from Addams in 1984, Ronald ended a career of 29 years. He was 80 when his life came to a close on April 28, 2008.

**HANSFORD, LAVENYA.**

Neé Haigh. Lavenya retired from Gresham in 1977 after a 19-year career in Chicago with five years outside the Chicago system. Death came for her at age 96 on March 29, 2008.

**HENNING, GRACE E.**

Ending a 35-year career, Grace left Armstrong in 1973. When she died on April 17, 2008, she was 93 years of age.

**HENTON, DONALD E.**

In 1988, when he retired from the Sumner School, Donald ended his 27-year career with the Chicago school system. On March 19, 2008, his life ended after 78 years.

**HORN, WILLIAM P.**

William died on May 13, 2008, at the age of 83. His career of 24 years ended when he left the Prussing school in 1980.

**HOUK, HELEN.**

Neé Lamb. Life ended for Helen on April 1, 2008, at the age of 72 years. She ended her 27-year career at Hyde Park High School in 1995.

**HOUKE, GLORIA A.**

Neé Johnson. When Gloria retired from the Copernicus School in 1993, she ended a 38-year career. She expired on February 21, 2008, having achieved the age of 76 years.

**JOHNSON, NAOMI.**

Neé Ransom. A teacher in the Pirie School when she retired in 1984 after 24 years, Naomi's life closed on April 5, 2008, at the age of 81 years.

**JONES, JOAN L.**

Neé Blackburn. Joan ended a two-year career when she resigned from Bowen High School in 1988. At her death on January 22, 2008, she was 83 years old.

**KINZIG, MARIAN L.**

Neé Leies. Marian was 102 years old when she died on April 5, 2008. She was at Cleveland when she resigned in 1972 after a 10-year career.

**KNAPHURST, FRANCES.**

After a career that spanned 39 years, Frances was Principal of Jahn when she retired in 1974. She expired on March 21, 2008, at the age of 97.

**KNAPP, EDWARD T.**

Edward had taught for 38 years before he retired in 1993 from Kennedy High School. He was 80 when his life ended on March 29, 2008.

**KROON, RUTH M.**

Neé Bernstein. When she retired from Nettlehorst in 1973, Ruth ended a career of 25 years. She was 97 when her life came to a close on January 5, 2008.

**KURZ, ROSEMARY R.**

Neé Rosania. On April 28, 2008, at the age of 91 years, Rosemary died. She retired from the Sawyer School in 1976 after 36 years.

**LANE, RAY U.**

Life ended for Ray at the age of 88 on April 2, 2008. He retired from the City Colleges in 1987, at the end of a 19-year career.

**LINDER, BERNICE M.**

Neé Hunte. Bernice served the Chicago Public Schools for 28 years, retiring from the Deneen School in 1997. She was 78 when death took her on March 8, 2008.

**LITES, ETTALEE S.**

Neé Strange. Ettalee's career of 38 years came to an end as she left Ellington in 1989. When she passed away on April 29, 2008, she had reached the age of 81.

**LOVELACE, LEROY.**

Leroy was associated with the Chicago schools for 38 years, the last at Phillips High School, where he was when he retired in 1994. He was 82 years old when death took him on April 22, 2008.

**LUBAR, EVELYN M.**

Neé Margoles. When she retired from Stewart in 1975, Evelyn's career spanned 19 years. At the end of her life on January 18, 2008, she was 99 years of age.

**LUSE, IDA L.**

Neé McCoy. Ida had reached 94 years of age when her life came to a close on May 8, 2008. Her 25-year career in Chicago with eight years outside Chicago ended when she resigned from the Gershwin School in 1978.

**MAGERS, NORMA E.**

Norma was 87 years old at her death on March 10, 2008. She resigned from the Principalship of Beard School in 1976 after 30 years in Chicago.

**MARGOLIS, SYLVIA.**

Neé Golman. Sylvia was at Rogers when she retired in 1974 after 36 years. She was 94 when she succumbed on March 22, 2008.

**MARKS, WALLACE.**

Wallace resigned from Taft High School in 2004 after an 11-year career. He was 62 years old when he died on April 10, 2008.

**MCCLAIN-MURRAY, EDNA.**

Neé Moore. In 1995, when she resigned from Hope Academy, Edna completed a 36-year career. She was 90 when she died on May 22, 2008.

**MCGOVERN, JOHN P.**

In 1990, John retired as Principal from Herzl after 39 years of teaching. On March 15, 2008, he passed on at the age of 77 years.

**MCNELLY, ISAURA.**

Neé Hernandez. After 22 years as a Coordinator, Isaura resigned in 1989 from Central Office. She succumbed at the age of 89 on March 12, 2008.

**MILLER, WILLIAM G.**

After a career of 36 years, William retired from the Orozco school in 2005. He died on April 24, 2008, at the age of 64.

**MOORE, WILLIE MAE.**

Neé Higgins. Her 35-year career ended at the Smyth school in 1998 when Willie Mae retired. Death came for her on May 3, 2008, at the age of 68.

**MORAN, CELESTE D.**

Neé Devane. Celeste was a teacher at Pilsen when she resigned in 1994 after a 34-year teaching career. Her life ended at the age of 75 on March 31, 2008.

**MORAN, RUTH H.**

Neé Heffernan. Ruth was 95 at her death on April 27, 2008. She ended her 21-year career when she retired from Burley in 1978.

**MUSTO, CAROLYN J.**

Carolyn succumbed on May 5, 2008, at the age of 62. She served 36 years, resigning from Curie High School in 2001.

**O'KANE, JOAN C.**

Neé Zaleski. A teacher for 39 years, Joan was Assistant Principal at Sutherland when she retired in 1994. She passed on at the age of 68 on April 11, 2008.

**PALMER, EDYTHE A.**

Edythe died on March 21, 2008, at the age of 87 years. She retired from the Phillips High School in 1993 after a career of 27 years in Chicago and six years outside the Chicago system.

**PANKOW, ELEANOR.**

Neé Gemberling. Eleanor resigned from Hurley in 1982 after 24 years. On March 11, 2008, she passed on at the age of 92 years.

**PENNINGTON, JULIA.**

Neé Foster. At her death on March 14, 2008, Julia was 93 years old. Her 26-year career ended when she resigned from Haines in 1981.

**PERLYSKY, GABRIEL H.**

Gabriel was affiliated with the Chicago Public Schools as a Psychologist for 25 years when he retired from the Farragut High School in 1993. At the time of his death on February 24, 2008, he was 84 years of age.

**PETTA, FRANK A.**

When Frank retired in 1978 from Bradwell, his career had lasted 23 years in Chicago and seven years outside the Chicago system. His life ended at the age of 90 on March 3, 2008.

**PHILLIPS, RAYMOND C.**

Raymond succumbed on April 15, 2008, at the age of 63. He served 34 years, resigning from the Reilly school in 2004.

**PICCHIOTTI, SHERRI.**

Neé Bell. On April 14, 2008, Sherri passed on, at the age of 61 years. She had spent 34 years in the schools when she resigned from Crane Tech High School in 2002.

**POINDEXTER, DAISY A.**

After 33 years in the Chicago school system, Daisy retired from Bowen High School as a Counselor in 1993. When death took her on April 28, 2008, she was 80 years old.

**POLLACK, PHILLIP A.**

Phillip resigned in 1993 from Von Steuben High School, ending a 39-year time span in the Chicago system. He was 74 at the time of his death on February 17, 2008.

**PYSTER, GERALD.**

Last assigned to Von Steuben High School, Gerald retired in 1998 after 36 years of service. He passed away on May 17, 2008, at 69 years of age.

**RANDLE, MINNIE MAE.**

Neé Tate. Minnie Mae expired on February 28, 2008, at the age of 72. Her career of 32 years ended when she retired from the Douglass Jr High School in 1999.

**REESE, INEZ.**

Inez resigned as a Substitute in 2001 after two years. She was 69 when she expired on April 11, 2008.

**REZEK, JANE.**

Jane died on April 27, 2008, at the age of 73. Her career of 26 years ended when she retired from Lincoln Park High School in 2006.

**RIEMER, RAMONA N.**

A teacher for 37 years in Chicago and five years elsewhere, Ramona was Assistant Principal at Ebinger when she retired in 1973. She passed on at the age of 98 on March 4, 2008.

**RIVERS, MAREA C.**

Marea's career of 47 years came to an end as she left Dusable High School in 2002. When she passed away on April 19, 2008, she had reached the age of 75.

**ROBINSON, ALMA O.**

Neé Boyd. Last assigned to Foster Park, Alma retired in 2004 after 31 years of service. She passed away on April 29, 2008, at 69 years of age.

**ROTKIN, RISHA.**

Risha retired in 2004 while at the Von Humboldt School, ending a 39-year career, and passed away on March 6, 2008, at the age of 63.

**SAHAGIAN, ARTHUR.**

When he left Lincoln Park High School in 1987, Arthur put an 18-year career with three years outside Chicago to an end. His life ended on February 18, 2008, at the age of 84.

**SAUNDERS, MABEL V.**

Mabel was associated with the Chicago schools for 19 years, the last at the Key school, where she was when she retired in 1990. She was 83 years old when death took her on May 25, 2008.

**SAVIT, HY.**

After 27 years in Chicago schools, Hy retired from the Agassiz School in 1985. He was 83 when he expired on April 30, 2008.

**SCHAEFER, MARILYN.**

Marilyn was affiliated with the Chicago Public Schools for 31 years and had taught three years outside Chicago when she retired from the Lewis Elementary School in 1986. At the time of her death on March 15, 2008, she was 78 years of age.

**SCHAIBLE, DAVID A.**

David resigned from Schurz High School in 1998 after 36 years. He was 69 when he expired on March 24, 2008.

**SCHOER, JEANETTE R.**

Neé Rosene. After a career of 18 years with the Chicago Public Schools and three years elsewhere, Jeanette passed away on April 15, 2008, at the age of 94. She retired from Corliss High School in 1983.

**SEIGLIE, ALICIA.**

In 1988, Alicia retired from Clemente High School after 21 years of teaching. On March 31, 2008, she passed on at the age of 87 years.

**SHAFER, GORDON O.**

On April 15, 2008, Gordon passed away at the age of 80 years. He retired from Howe in 1995 after 42 years of teaching.

**SHULTS, HELEN Z.**

Neé Zwiép. Helen was 98 years old at her death on May 5, 2008. She left Van Vlissinger in 1975 after 23 years in Chicago and five years elsewhere.



**SIKMA, CLARA.**

After a career that lasted 23 years, Clara retired from Spaulding High School in 1985. She was 88 when she died on April 29, 2008.

**SILIGER, AGNES I.**

Neé Crockett. Agnes' 40-year career in the Chicago schools ended when she retired from the School at Cook County in 1990. On April 29, 2008, at the time she succumbed, she was 87 years old.

**SIMONSEN, GERALD R.**

In 1977, Gerald left the Hendricks School after a career that lasted 3. years. When his life ended on April 19, 2008, he was 62 years of age.

**SIMPSON, MARTHA J.**

Martha resigned in 1966 from Fenger High School, ending a two-year time span as a Substitute in the Chicago system. She was 78 at the time of her death on February 23, 2008 .

**SMITH, LARRY R.**

When he resigned from the City Colleges in 2000, Larry capped a onr-year career. He was 71 when he died on May 26, 2008.

**SMITH, TED.**

Ted retired as a Substitute in 1980 after teaching for eight years. On March 18, 2008, he died at age 89.

**SOMMER, WALTER W.**

A teacher for 37 years in Chicago and another year outside the Chicago system, Walter was at Harper High School when he retired in 1973. He passed on at the age of 95 on February 19, 2008.

**STEVENS, DANIEL J.**

When he retired in 1981 as Assistant Principal from the Hefferan school, Daniel had taught for 25 years. He was 87 years of age at his death on March 18, 2008.

**SWAIN, LANEENIER.**

Laneenier resigned from the Revere School in 1994 after a 40-year career, and died on April 5, 2008, at the age of 75 years.

**TALLEY, BERNICE Y.**

Neé Lucas. When her life ended on March 28, 2008, Bernice was 83 years old. Her retirement in 1988 from Ferguson Child Parent Center marked the end of a 27-year career.

**THOMAS, LORRAINE A.**

After 23 years, Lorraine resigned from MillerChild Parent Center in 1976. Death took her on March 23, 2008; she was 97 at the time.

**TILT, DOROTHY.**

When she retired in 1974 from the Brenneman School, Dorothy had taught for 39 years. She was 96 years of age at her death on April 3, 2008.

**VOGT, THOMAS T.**

After a career that lasted 32 years, Thomas retired from Hamilton in 1991. He was 73 when he died on April 9, 2008.

**WATSON, ANGELINE L.**

Life ended for Angeline at the age of 83 on April 24, 2008. She retired from Douglas in 1984, at the end of a 22-year career.

**WHELAN, RUTH MARY.**

Neé Gorman. Ruth Mary retired in 1970 from the Bureau Of Child Study , after working as a Psychologist for 22 years. Her life ended on March 16, 2008, at the age of 93 years.

**WHITE-WALKER, BARBARA.**

Neé White. At the close of her life on April 13, 2008, Barbara was 68 years old. A teacher for 42 years, she retired from the WhitneyYoung High School school in 2007.

**WILCOX, CLAUDINE.**

Neé Edmonds. In 1993, Claudine resigned from the Paderewski School after a 34-year career. When she expired on March 11, 2008, she was 78 years old.

**WILLIS, RICHARD C.**

Richard was 70 years old at his death on February 20, 2008. He resigned from Curie High School in 1993 after 37 years in Chicago.

**WILSON, LOUELLA M.**

Neé Moore. Louella retired from the Nash School in 1994, after a 38-year career. She succumbed on April 18, 2008, at the age of 76.

**WOOTEN, ROBERT E.**

A teacher at Dusable High School when he resigned in 1994, Robert had served for 38 years. He was 78 on the date of his passing, March 27, 2008.

**WRIGHT, GLADYS M.**

Neé O'Connor. Gladys taught at the Locke School until she retired in 1977, after 34 years. On February 19, 2008, she passed away at the age of 96.

**WYSOCKI, MARGARET.**

On May 5, 2008, Margaret passed away at the age of 100 years. She retired from O'Tool in 1973 after 38 years of teaching.

**ZAMZOW, PATRICIA A.**

Neé Shea. Patricia was 84 at the time of her passing on March 13, 2008. Her career lasted 28 years, ending when she resigned from Kipling in 1984.

**ZARLENGA, JANE ANN.**

Neé Cappa. Jane ended an 16-year term in the Chicago system upon her retirement in 1989 from Lane Tech High School. At her death on May 12, 2008, she was 86 years old.

**ZEKELMAN, RALPH M.**

When he resigned after 34 years in 1986, Ralph was at the Senn Metro High School. On March 29, 2008, he died at the age of 77.

**ZUGER, JOEL P.**

Joel was at Kenwood High School when he resigned in 2001 after 12 years in the Chicago Public Schools. He was 71 on March 9, 2008, when he passed on.

**ZURKOWSKI, FRANCINE M.**

Neé Blaszyński. Her career of 36 years ended when she left the Haugan school in 1993. Francine died on April 2, 2008, at the age of 78.

**MEDI-CHECK MEDICAL EMERGENCY CARD COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE**

The Medi-Check Medical Emergency Card is for your wallet or purse. It can mean the difference between life and death. In case of an accident or sudden illness that leaves you unconscious, your physician and/or family can be contacted immediately if you are carrying your medical emergency card.

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Peter Mayer, a Des Plaines resident, started the Medi-Check Foundation in 1965 after the misdiagnosis and resulting death of his 3-year-old daughter, Elizabeth Jo. He and his wife Marlene have provided over 200,000 medical emergency devices and cards to children and adults throughout the country *free of charge*, so that other parents might be spared the anguish of losing a child or other relative because of a misdiagnosis.

Pete has graciously offered to supply Emergency Medical Cards to any RTAC members who want them. Simply drop a note requesting an application with your name and address to Medi-Check International Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 1062, Morton Grove, IL 60053. **Include a stamped, self-addressed #10 envelope and mention that you are a member of RTAC.**

The cards are without charge; however, small donations are welcome. Pete and Marlene, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last December, have maintained the foundation for over 38 years with the support of civic organizations, medical institutions and individuals who make use of the cards. If you can't send a donation, however, Pete and Marlene will gladly send you the Medi-Check emergency card free of charge.



## DAUGHTER PAYS TRIBUTE TO HER MOTHER, A TEACHER

*By Diane Whiteley*

I suppose everyone thinks their mother is the best, but I have to say, I was the luckiest girl in the world to have my mother, Jeanette Rosene Schoer, as mine.

She was a very special lady who thought of the feelings and needs of others always before her own. Everyone whose life she touched was blessed to have known her.

Her students were her pride. When I came home to Chicago once, from New York City where I was working, she took me to school with her, Harlan High at that time, and introduced me to all her students. They were all very special to her, even the ones who were “problem” kids. She loved them all and made them feel important and equal.

She taught English. In addition to the regular program of language and reading, she always wanted her students to be familiar with all the great works of famous authors. She had books and books at home, as she had been a librarian with the Chicago Public Library before teaching. (One of her favorite memories of working as a librarian was being chosen to give the young Judy Garland a tour of the main downtown library!)

My mother read all the classics and more, and she wanted to share the beautiful words and writing with her students, no matter what their level. She encouraged reading, and many students came to her later and said that it was because of her that they wanted to read and could read.

My cousin wrote of my mother: “My Aunt Jeanette always felt like the quiet strength in the room to me. From the time I was a small child she always encouraged me to read, and through the years we spent many hours discussing our favorite books. To give a child a love for reading is a very special lifelong gift, for which I will be forever grateful. We will miss her warmth, her smile and her clarity deeply.”

My mom was often discouraged because of a lack of funding in the schools for books and supplies for the students and the teachers. She always made sure to buy what was needed so the students would have what they might not be able to afford.



She was a friend to the students as well as their teacher. They often came to her with their problems, just needing someone to talk with. She was always there for them.

My mom started substitute teaching when I was in high school (Bowen). Then she became a full-time teacher. She was always worried that I would be embarrassed if she taught at my school, so she tried to stay away until I graduated. What she didn't know was that I was always proud of her and what she had accomplished, and would not have minded. Well, maybe a little bit. . . .

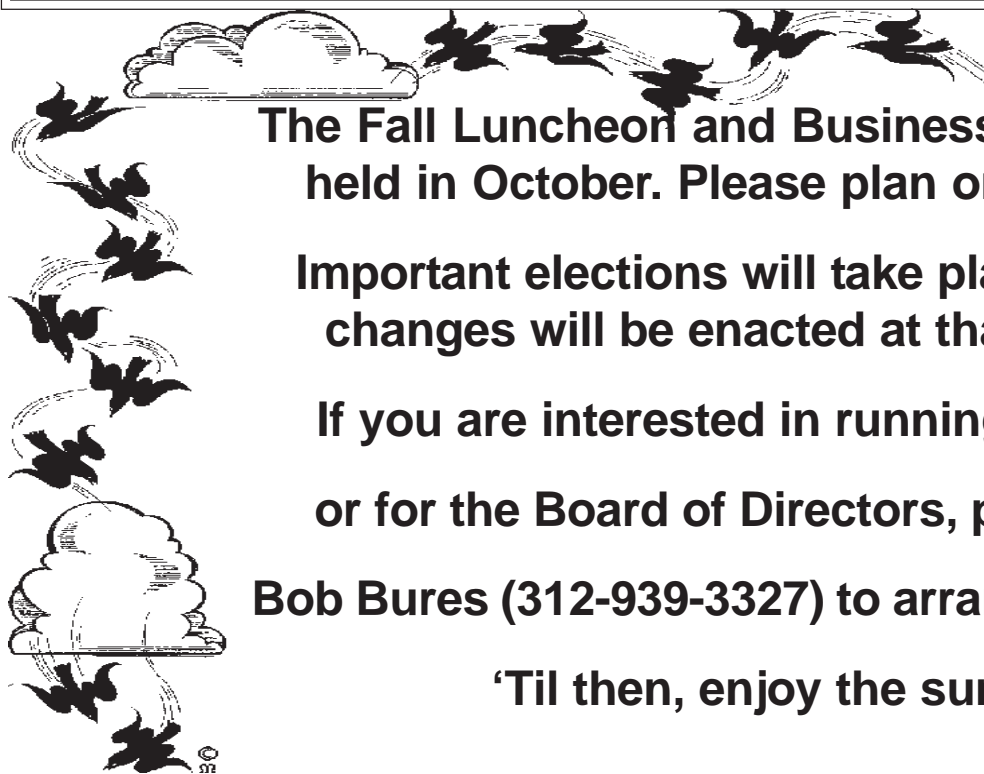
Now we are in a time of computers and internets, and although the new media are incredible, there won't be a lot of opportunity for students to experience a teacher like my mother, or hold a book in their hands, having great respect for the author and for that teacher who encouraged them and introduced these works to them.

My mother was proud to be a teacher and she was very proud to be a member of the Retired Teachers Association of Chicago. She treated me to several Spring Luncheons at The Palmer House Hilton. We enjoyed the speakers and the large room full of people together. I was a proud daughter then, and I will always be.

I just hope that everyone has the opportunity to be touched by a special mother, a special person or a special teacher like my mom.

~ ~ ~

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.



**The Fall Luncheon and Business Meeting will be held in October. Please plan on attending.**

**Important elections will take place and by-law changes will be enacted at that meeting.**

**If you are interested in running for an office or for the Board of Directors, please contact Bob Bures (312-939-3327) to arrange an interview.**

**'Til then, enjoy the summer!**

**Retired Teachers Association of Chicago  
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