

# NEWS BULLETIN

RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO

Since 1956

VOL. LXVI

SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER 2010

NO. 3



ILLINOIS LEGISLATORS  
AND  
THE ILLINOIS GOVERNOR  
**BETRAY**  
CHICAGO TEACHERS AND RETIREES  
AND WEAKEN OUR PENSION FUND!  
*Let's Squeeze them*  
*There can't be a squeeze without u*

COME TO THE RTAC LUNCHEON  
ON OCTOBER 27, 2010  
AT THE PALMER HOUSE!  
AND PACK THE PLACE!  
**LET'S SEND THEM A MESSAGE**  
**THEY UNDERSTAND**  
(DETAILS INSIDE)

**RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION  
OF CHICAGO**

20 East Jackson Boulevard - Suite 1500  
Chicago, IL 60604-2235  
<http://www.RTAC.org>

email: **Office@RTAC.org**

webmaster: **rtac-webster@sbcglobal.net**

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RTAC Office (HOURS: 10 AM to 3 p.m. school days).....	312-939-3327
RTAC Fax Line.....	312-939-0145
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Mail your **typed** article to Rosemary Tirio, 6235 N. Knox Ave., Chicago, IL 60646 or email it to [rtac\\_editor@comcast.net](mailto:rtac_editor@comcast.net). Mail handwritten articles to the RTAC office. **Deadline for the next issue is November 15, 2010.**

## THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

It has been an honor to serve as President of the Retired Teachers Association of Chicago (RTAC) for the past two years. RTAC, with its membership of over 11,000 former educators is one of the largest retired teachers' associations in the United States. It's a wonderful association! We as retired teachers are called to give back to our community in exchange for the privilege of educating our children through the coming years. It is through RTAC that this service continues.

For the past two years, RTAC has been a leader in efforts on behalf of a number of retired teachers who, for several years, received an incorrect pension payment. This was a glitch--an error that overpaid the pension of a number of retired teachers, for which efforts are now being made to recover these overpayments. As the courts continue to deliberate on this issue, RTAC stands firm with the help of their attorneys to assure that these teachers are protected from experiencing undue hardships.

Recently, you may have received a notice from the teachers pension fund of Chicago stating that, due to inaction of the State legislature during this year's session, the health care rebate (which you have been accustomed to and which you should receive) may be reduced from 70% to 60% as of January 1, 2011. To prevent this from taking place, the State legislature must act before the end of this year. RTAC is represented by three members on the Pension Board of Directors. They have been directed by RTAC to take whatever action is necessary to preserve the rebate we now have and to take steps



*Vaughn J. Barber*

to increase the amount of the rebate and to make the rebate permanent. In view of the peculiar characteristics and mission of RTAC, it is within the province of the legislature to protect these items.

I firmly believe that RTAC and its Board of Directors look on their tasks, not as a job but as a responsibility to preserve the rights and professionalism that retired teachers and administrators have earned.

Over the past years, RTAC has worked for the adoption of important legislation. In the past legislative year, RTAC has sponsored or co-sponsored eleven bills in Springfield and lobbied in support of dozens more. We realize our legislature has been paralyzed by State financial crises that no one seems to have the courage to tackle. RTAC continues to be a leader in important issues.

As we recover from the worst economic disaster since the Great Depression, we at RTAC, though stressed by reduced revenue, are taking steps to insure that the services our members now enjoy are maintained, and that as a retired teacher, you will continue to enjoy the security of your pension. Please continue to visit our website. We are updating it regularly to keep you informed and to serve you better.

As we go forth in the second decade of this century, think about how you can preserve the legacy of retired teachers by volunteering to work with RTAC. GET INVOLVED! I promise that the rewards you receive from your gift of service will be enduring.

*Vaughn J. Barber*

### JOIN THE RTAC ALERT NETWORK

*by Roy Coleman*

RTAC has created an alert network that will send you an e-mail whenever there is a need for PROMPT action. It is designed to give our members the latest breaking news, especially when the legislature is in session and a quick call or visit to your legislator's office might make a difference in how they vote.

To join the RTAC alert network, send an e-mail to [webmaster@rtac.org](mailto:webmaster@rtac.org) listing your name and postal zip code. These will be used to verify your RTAC membership, avoid duplication of services and provide targeted information.

You can be sure that your e-mail address will be safe as RTAC will NEVER share your personal information with anyone else.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

The end of summer is usually marked by the return of children to school. It's also a great time to be personally reminded that we, as retired teachers, do not have to return to the classroom. We can all look out the front window and enjoy the freedom of retirement. There is no retired teacher that I know of who says, "I wish I were still teaching." The job has changed so much that we really wouldn't want to face the tasks that teachers face today. Sooo--enjoy the Fall and get busy taking care of your most important business--making sure your pension and health care are protected and before more adverse legislation takes place!



Robert F. Bures

As you all should know, new teachers as of January 1, 2011, will have a dramatically different pension. The legislation changing the pension for new teachers--SB 1946--passed both houses of the Illinois General Assembly and was signed by the Governor in less than nine hours earlier this year. Check out the list in this issue of who voted for these changes. Hey, folks, it's BOTH Democrats and Republicans! Changes included having to work until they are 67 years old to collect a full pension, no 2.2 formula, and a change in the Annual Increment from 3% to Cost of Living increase - whichever is LESS! and is NOT compounded! These are just a few of the changes facing these new teachers. Now, how about us!?!?! Don't think the Illinois General Assembly isn't eyeing us!

Just as new, incoming teachers, have their future to worry about. so do we! We have been accustomed to believing that our pension is impregnable, important people in Illinois are saying now that that may not be so! We are used to believing that our Illinois Constitution protects our pension from ever being diminished. Hmmmm. The Commercial Club of Chicago recently spent pots of money on this issue and asked the huge law firm of Sidley and Austin to investigate this assumption. Well, well! Their top notch lawyers believe that the Consitution does NOT protect our pensions so positively. This may very well have to go to court. Likewise, our three percent annual and compounded increase to our pension is being treated in the same dangerous fashion. Trouble is often said to come in threes. Well, here's three. Your pension is NOT taxed as income in Illinois presently. Well, guess what--your legislators are looking at reducing or eliminating that benefit also!! On top of that, as you also know, the pen-

sion fund is considering lowering the Medical Insurance rebate! WOW! WHAT TO DO?

I can tell you that the Illinois General Assembly is ripe for more changes! It is vitall that YOU become involved in protecting your pension and its benefits! Here's what to do:

1. Attend the October 27 RTAC Fall Luncheon at the Palmer House. Send in your ticket request today and bring a friend! WE EXPECT TO FILL THE HOUSE WITH 1,000 MEMBERS! It's an inexpensive way to have your voice heard!

**2. CHECK THE LIST ON PAGE 5 OF THOSE ILLINOIS SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES WHO VOTED FOR SB 1946! THEN SEND A LETTER INSISTING THAT NO ADVERSE LEGISLATION BE PASSED REGARDING CURRENTLY RETIRED TEACHERS! Don't know how to contact your legislators? Check out the directions ON THE BOTTOM OF PAGE 5.**

3. Insist that your legislators change the pension law to allow the Chicago Teachers Pension Fund to spend up to 100% of the cost of heath insure on us! **It doesn't cost the state anything** and we can benefit!

4. Tell the legislators to raise the amount of pension that our oldest annuitants receive to a living pension. May of our retirees have such a small pension they qualify for food stamps and welfare!

5. TELL the legislators that retirees MUST have an additional trustee on the board of the Pension Fund. Right now there are 12 trustees--it should be an odd number to prevent ties! Additionally, there are 23,500 annuitants and 25,000 active teachers. We deserve at least one more trustee to even it out--after all, the active teachers have many more trustees than we do and we have very nearly the same number in the Pension Fund.

6. ESPECIALLY STRESS TO THE LEGISLATORS THAT THEY MUST **NOT** PASS ANY MORE ADVERSE LEGISLATION--REMEMBER, THERE IS THE 3% ANNUAL INCREMENT, THE NO STATE INCOME

***[Continued on next page]***

## HOW DID YOUR LEGISLATORS VOTE ON SB1946?

On March 24, the following Senators and Representatives voted **FOR** the **VERY HARMFUL** Senate Bill 1946 which undermines the future of OUR PENSION raising retirement age to 67 and reducing the annual Cost-of-Living Adjustment. Please check the list and, **IF YOUR LEGISLATORS VOTED FOR SB1946, WRITE, PHONE, FAX or EMAIL THEM THAT YOU ARE VERY UNHAPPY WITH THEIR VOTE.**

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Chris Lauzen		Esther Golas	Jerry Mitchell	

TAX ON OUR PENSIONS, NO PROTECTIONS OF OUR PENSIONS AND MANY MORE. THESE ITEMS ARE MAKING THE LEGISLATORS JUST SALIVATE FOR CHANGE! SPEAK UP!

LET'S SHOW THE LEGISLATORS THAT WE MEAN BUSINESS. ATTEND THE LUNCHEON AT THE PALMER HOUSE ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27TH! LET'S PACK THE PLACE. REMEMBER IT WAS BOTH DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS THAT ARE INTERESTED IN PASSING THESE ONEROUS LAWS.

LET'S SHOW THEM THAT WE CARE AND THAT WE VOTE! SEE YOU ON OCTOBER 27TH! SEND IN YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW!

*Bob Bures*

## **DON'T KNOW YOUR LEGISLATORS? IT'S FAST AND EASY TO FIND OUT!**

CHECK OUR WEBSITE: [www.rtac.org](http://www.rtac.org)

Look on the left-hand side of the home page. Find: Legislators or Legislation--then click Enter your 9 digit zip code. Everyone has a 9 digit zip code.

Your legislator's information will come up quickly. Then call, fax, mail or e-mail your legislators and let them know how you feel. Be polite but firm. Tell them you live in their district and your name and address. You will be happy that you did! Or call this FREE number and get the same information. **1-888-VOTE SMART or 1-888-868-3762** or go directly to: [www.votesmart.org](http://www.votesmart.org)

**SEE PAGE 13 FOR QUESTIONS  
YOU CAN ASK YOUR LEGISLATORS.**

# PENSION NOTES

## WALTER PILDITCH THE OVERALL ECONOMY

Based in information provided by Mercer and Company this year of 2010 held good promises for many of us as we looked toward an improving economy. Certain measures such as falling consumer confidence, low employment growth, negative equity markets and even the financial crisis in Greece all provided a rough way to go in our progress and for the road ahead.



Walter Pilditch

The annual rate of GDP growth was at 2.4% based on the first half year. Other index figures showed very slight increases and in some cases negative progress. Oil prices were lower, settling at \$78 a barrel at the end of the spring quarter. Housing prices increased 3.8% in the last measure. Market measures were mixed with several wide moves such as the “flash crash” of the Dow Jones Industrial Average of 998 points on May 6. In addition to the problems in Greece, China is tightening measures to slow inflation. These global happenings affect us in our country. While this brief report can appear somewhat discouraging, large cap stocks did better than expected and corporate earnings showed strength. Our U.S. dollar improved against other currencies including the euro, Australian dollar, Swiss franc and the British pound.

## PENSION FUND REPORT

During the spring quarter our fund dropped to a total value of \$8.9 billion compared to a value of \$9.4 billion during the winter quarter. **The main reason for this drop: we are now using our principal funds to make pension payments each month because the Chicago Board of Education is not making its full payments to the Fund.**

Other reasons are indicated in our investments including our equity holdings, which are down 7%. International equity went down by 8.2% for the year, but the bright spot came when fixed income (bonds) rose by 5.9%. This last measure accounts for just under \$2 billion of our investments. Infrastructure returns showed a 4.7% decrease and our hedge funds increased by just 1%. Cash holdings increased by 6.9%. Star performers along these lines were: Waddell and Reed, Harris Investments, Northern Trust Investments, and Dimensional Fund Advisers.

International investments varied. The mid-year report showed Brazil, Taiwan and Russia with the most negative growth and only India and Malaysia with positive performances. As you can see, our Fund is affected both positively and negatively by what is happening around the world.

## MARY SHARON REILLY LEGISLATORS HOLD KEY TO PENSION TAX, INSURANCE REBATE

The Illinois General Assembly is on recess until after the election in November, but we need to continue our contact with our Senators and Representatives.

There are number of issues of importance to retirees that are sure to be on the legislature’s agenda when they return.

One that is important to all Illinois retirees is the taxation of pensions. SB 3932 was introduced by Senator Viverito that would apply the Illinois income tax to all pensions in Illinois. Expect this bill or something similar to be brought up after the election.

House Bill 4826 would authorize CTPF to spend up to \$100 million to subsidize health insurance premiums. The current \$65 million does not cover the 70% rebate pensioners have enjoyed. The new 60 % rebate is due

to this lack of more spending authority.

Dramatic changes in Illinois pension law occurred with passage of PA 96-0889. The CTPF Pension News gave a thorough comparison of the two-tiered system that is now in effect for all systems covered by Illinois statute. Pensioners and current employees are covered under Tier I with no change in existing law, while those hired after January 1, 2011 will be covered by the new provisions.



Mary Sharon Reilly

The focus for all retirees living in Illinois must be to contact legislators to prevent passage of legislation that will tax pensions (SB 3932) and to secure the \$100 million to rebate health insurance premiums (SB 4826). While legislators are home campaigning is an excellent time to visit them in their local office and express your concerns. **[See REILLY next page]**

**PENSION NOTES**

**JAMES F. WARD**

**THIS PENSION CRISIS**

The recession, securities market declines, unemployment, strained state and local budgets, ignorant "pension envy," and lack of planning by the Chicago Board of Education have resulted in reduced benefits, reduced funding, and continued talk of further benefit reductions for Chicago teachers and pensioners.

If that is not enough, we are now spending down our \$9 billion trust corpus. For 30 years as Executive Director of the Fund, I became accustomed to paying benefits and seeing the corpus grow each year, from 30% funded with \$200 million in 1971 to \$12 billion at 100% funded in the late 1990s.

Today the Pension Fund **must sell \$40 million dollars of assets every month just to pay current benefits.** As a pension trustee I should suggest some solution(s). Should we make a plan or have one imposed on us as in Senate Bill 1946? Here are some counter-strategies.

One action is to continue jaw-boning our state legislators. Make an appointment with your legislator. Go and see him or her. Tell them that we paid for our pension plan with mandatory deductions from our paychecks. We did not steal them in the night. We obeyed the laws and played by the rules.

The Pension Fund is reducing the health insurance rebate from 70% to 60% (increasing our out-of-pocket costs by about \$100 per month) on January 1, 2011. Further insurance cuts are planned. Should we be shortchanged now after devoting a lifetime to Chicago's school children?

A second plan is to move the investment portfolio

**[REILLY Continued from page 6]**

Because of the changes in the health care rebate and other questions about health insurance, it is important to attend the Open Enrollment Seminars being held on Thursday October 7 or Thursday October 14. Much information and an opportunity to have questions answered will be available at both sessions. See page 8 for more details about the CTPf Seminars.

to higher return assets called alternative investments, including real estate. While less liquid than stocks and bonds, they do carry larger returns over the long term. The Pension Board is increasing alternatives from 15% of the portfolio to 30%.

A third suggestion may be to lower our sights for the duration of the current recession. Let us lobby for just enough public money to maintain a level corpus of the trust of \$9 billion. That would be about \$480 million a year, but Senate Bill 1946 became law and cut the Board of Education's required contributions over three years by \$1.2 billion.



*James F. Ward*

Allowing for the time value of money, that is just about the value by which pension fund assets must be sold off to pay benefits at current market levels for the next three years. Was this a coincidence? Or was it deliberately fashioned to continue our sell-off at current levels? Can politicians be that smart? **Are they using our Pension Fund to get through the current recession?**

Lastly, we could explain to current teachers that the erosion of the trust corpus will have the most devastating effects on them rather than current pensioners. In some states, the local government has abolished the pension plan and replaced it with 401-type savings accounts which calculate your pension based on the value of your assets at the time of retirement. That could happen here. How would current teachers like to cash out their pension promise when the markets are way down? That is how a 401 plan works.

Current teachers should understand that the defined pension right they pay for is an enforceable contract and cannot be reduced or impaired during their term of service, which is what the Illinois Constitution says.

Pensioners cannot strike. Teachers can. Will they make pension rights a possible strike issue? If things get any worse, maybe they should.

JFW urokward@yahoo.com

## PENSION BOARD HAS GOOD NEWS, BAD NEWS

**The Good News:** Chicago Teachers Pension Fund (CTPF) will continue providing a partial subsidy of insurance costs for members.

**The Bad News:** Due to the financial downturn, the CTPF will reduce the subsidy from the current 70% to 60% effective January 1, 2011.

**More Bad News:** In order to save an estimated \$3.68 million, the Pension Board also voted June 22 to require members not enrolled in a fund-endorsed insurance plan to re-enroll in one during the open enrollment period, Oct. 1 through Nov. 12, or lose their rebate entirely.

**Bad News Reversed:** However, at the urging of RTAC Secretary and longtime CTPF Trustee James F. Ward, the Board reversed itself on this last decision at the Aug. 19 CTPF Board meeting. James argued that if the over 2,058 members not insured in a CTPF plan were to enroll in a BC/BS plan, CTPF would have to pay about \$18 million in rebates, far more than the anticipated \$3.68 million saving.

“Should we dump 7,000 pensioners for the benefit of the other 15,000?” James asked. “What kind of solidarity is that? Such action flies in the face of a Pension Fund tradition of service to our members.” The motion to reverse the previous decision passed 7-2.

CTPF recipients will continue to receive a partial subsidy of their health insurance premium, but the amount CTPF can spend is limited by Illinois law to \$65 million per year. CTPF subsidized nearly \$80 million in health insurance expenses in 2010 (\$65 million plus carryover funds). However, the carryover funds are being rapidly depleted, so CTPF will be forced to

reduce future subsidies.

According to CTPF Executive Director Kevin Huber, the subsidy was capped at \$65 million in 2003-2004 when CTPF supported 18,500 pensioners. Today, there are more than 24,000 CTPF pensioners. “We lobbied for an increase in the spending cap,” Huber said, “but without passage, we cannot sustain a 70% subsidy. We hope the state will...increase the spending cap during the next legislative session.”

Governor Quinn signed Senate Bill 1946 into law on April 14 creating a second-tier of benefits for **future** members of the State Teachers Retirement System. The law undermines the pension system for **future** teachers of Illinois by raising the retirement age to 67 and reducing the annual Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) to the **lesser** of either 3% or the Consumer Price Index. Furthermore, the annual increase will not be compounded for future members as it has always been for us.

These very negative changes to the Pension Fund will affect only the teachers hired after Jan. 1, 2011, leaving our pension benefits unaffected-**for now**. It still behooves us to fight to maintain the integrity of our pension. Our legislators passed SB1946 after only 12 hours of debate. They can change any of the laws affecting **our pensions** just as easily. **NOW** is the time to contact your legislators and win their support before our retirement incomes, which we earned through our many years of devotion and service, are **reduced or destroyed completely**.

### CTPF TO HOLD SEMINARS IN OCTOBER

CTPF will hold two Open Enrollment Health Insurance Seminars Thursday, Oct. 7 at Marriott O'Hare 8535 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, and Thursday, Oct. 14 at Hilton Oak Lawn, 9333 S. Cicero Ave., Oak Lawn.

Seminars on both dates will begin at 9 a.m. with Medicare plan options followed by Non-Medicare plan

options at 1 p.m. The Seminars will offer presentations about health insurance options and changes, and the opportunity to meet with vendors and CTPF staff, ask questions and fill out insurance enrollment forms.

**Reservations for both seminars are required.** Call Member Services, 312-642-4464. Enrollment materials will be mailed in September.



## NOMINATING COMMITTEE PRESENTS 2011 SLATE

The Nominating Committee presented the Board-endorsed slate of officers at the June Board meeting. The nominees for Board Officers are:

President.....Steven A. Kailes  
First Vice-President.....Marcella L. Morrison  
Second Vice-President.....Veronica Chemers  
Secretary.....James F. Ward  
Treasurer.....Arthur E. Keegan

Nominees to fill Board vacancies are: Hubert Jackson and Louella Preston

Voting will take place at the RTAC Fall Luncheon,  
October 27 Palmer House Hilton

## PENSIONS: IS CONSTITUTIONAL PROTECTION ENOUGH?

*by V. K. Brown, Editor Emeritus*

A story in the August 10 issue of the Web-based publication *Stateline.org* reports that a number of states, Illinois very much among them, are searching intensively for ways to avoid their current pension obligations. Current law and legal precedent strongly support the existing system, but there are now many hundreds (if not thousands) of exceedingly capable and highly-motivated legal experts at work on the project, and the judicial system that

will review the results has become visibly more conservative of late.

To see the full article including many specific details, you can type the link below into the address bar of your computer. As an alternate to typing the following address, you can log on to our website (RTAC.ORG) and just click on the link in the center yellow box. <http://www.stateline.org/live/details/story?contentId=504503>

## WEBSITE REPORT

*by Webmaster Roy Coleman*

REMEMBER: RTAC IS YOUR PENSION WATCHDOG. RTAC is NOT a part of either the Chicago Public Schools or the Chicago Teachers Pension Fund. We keep a watchful eye on both these organizations and work with both of them and the legislature to insure that YOUR PENSION is not reduced or infringed upon.

The fastest way to keep up to date on pending legislation is to check the "Pending Bills" page of the RTAC.ORG website. Pending legislation of importance to our members is listed along with the latest action taken on each proposed bill. If a bill of interest is voted on, we will post a link to the voting

record so you can see how your legislators voted.

If you know either your voting district or your legislator's name, there is a link on the 'Pending Bills' page giving you their contact information. If you do not know either, there is a link to 'Project Vote Smart' that will use your 9 digit zip code to find your legislators.

Other RTAC.ORG pages list volunteering opportunities, provide job offers for retired teachers or provide some humor to brighten your day. Please visit the website and leave a comment for us in the Guestbook.

*Fall Luncheon Wednesday, October 27  
Palmer House Hilton Hotel  
See Invitation p. 27 (inside back cover)*

# AID FUND RECEIVES BEQUESTS, SEEKS RECIPIENTS

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

During the last few months the Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund, Inc., received three bequests.

These were from the estates of Amanda G. Moloney, Marian Urland, and Kathleen Slattery. Ms. Slattery had introduced herself to me at one of RTAC Luncheons, and I had the opportunity to share with her the work we do for our needy clients. These benefactors will be remembered by our organization for their good deeds.

Bequests to the Aid Fund can easily be made and if one chooses with no extra paperwork. I welcome people to speak directly to me if they have any questions. You can also remember friends who

have passed away or honor living friends on special occasions by making a donation to the CHICAGO RETIRED TEACHERS AID FUND. You will be helping us in assisting those teachers who retired so long ago that their pensions have fallen below the poverty level. Please use the Donation Form on page 11.

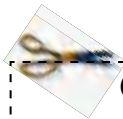
I likewise urge RTAC members, if they know of someone who might be in need of financial help but is reluctant to apply, to call me or our Executive Director, Bob Bures (312-939-3327) and we will handle this matter discreetly without mentioning any names.

**What better way for teachers to help teachers?**

## CRTAF: THE POWER TO CHANGE LIVES

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

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



### CRTAF AID FUND APPLICATION

Please send an application to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

This is for a friend.

This is for me.

Send to:  
CRTAF - Suite 1500  
20 East Jackson Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60604-2235  
312.939.3324



Board members Veronica Chemers (left) and Rita Naughton collected 538 members' email addresses at the Spring Luncheon. These addresses will be added to the ALERT NETWORK so members can be alerted to important developments at a moment's notice and without the expense of postage. See Page 3 for details of the ALERT NETWORK.

### APOLOGIES

Laneare Drayton was kind enough to inform the News Bulletin that we have been spelling the name of the Jesse Spalding School with a "u," which is wrong. Then we went and spelled her name wrong--Land Are Drayton. We apologize, Laneare and thank you again for correcting our errors.

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

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

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

The minimum donation is \$10 for each name listed.

(PLEASE PRINT) Donor \_\_\_\_\_

This donation is made (please check below):

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

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

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

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

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



**CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM**

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

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

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

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

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

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

If you live elsewhere for part of the year, please circle the issues JANUARY MAY SEPTEMBER

you would like to have delivered to your part-time address: \_\_\_\_\_



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

In amounts of \$10 and over  
(from April 9, 2010 to August 9, 2010)

DONOR:	IN MEMORY OF:		
Mary R. Perrin	Anna (Kilgariff) Egan	Henry Adamowicz	Bernadine Karsol
Pauline Crout	Mary Florence O'Shea		Jerry Christmas
Mary Alice Dineen	Joyce L. Meyers		Esther F. Jennsen
Anonymous	Joan Scullion	Elizabeth Curylo	Stanley T. Ptak
Sherry Mazzetti	Melamie Elizondo		Jeanne M. Carey
Johnnie M. Newton	June Finch	Marion C. Hoffing	Betty Besse
	Dr. William Finch		Lucille Budzinski
	Bernard Spillman		Nathaniel Blackman's mother
	Gladys Ray		James F. Ward's mother
	Dr. William Gwynn		Dolores and Jack Petty
Michael & Carol Lynn Pruchnicki	Arthur Cervinka		Edith and Joseph Portle
	John Coughlin		Dr. Clementine A. Skinner
	Mal Golden		Marita Hogan
	Patricia Denning-Golden	David T. Peterson	Thomas J. Corcoran
Esta Kallen	Selma White		Andy Miller
Mary Sharon Reilly	Selma White	George J. Richter	Lou Schiff
Rose Ann Skirha	Florence Stritch		Thomas Jackson
Mary F. Russell	Norbert L. Kane		Anna Anthony
Greg & Maryann Golinski	Helen Brych	Peter J. Miscinski	Dian Cooper
Noreen V. Briggs	Mary Dwyer		George Ricks
Therese Derbas	Gene Rimkus	Charles & Betty Kerkorian	Kay Horwitz
Rita Allen	Richard Allen	Bobbie P. Womack	Bert Lorber
Mary Jane Cascino	Loretta A. Karas (Pinkosz)	Laurel & John Delin	Adrienne Hanus
	CTC Class of 1950	Nadine A. Thompson	Selma Stewart White
Joseph Eckl	Mary Fogarty	John Demczyk	Gloria C. Walk
Virginia A. Mc Divit	Mary Prendergast Conley		Donald Thompson
Deirdre O'Malley	Richard J. Moore		Rev. Dr. Nicholas M. Golemis
Charles E. Pace	Richard Bradley		George E. Pincle
Walter Pilditch	Floyd Daniels		Rev. Dr. Chester Mitorzaj
	Mildred Hitt		Marie India
	Norbert Kane		Dale Lamos
	Mary O'Shea		Dr. Joseph Ewald
	Albert Pratt	Lauretta Obara	Dr. Helen Putko
	George Ricks		Phyllis Swanson
	Sheldon Rosen	Loretta Kelty	
	Bruce Troutman		Phyllis R. Swanson
	June Waligura	Sandra J. Socha	
Irving Wishner	Debbie Hughes		June J. Waligura
Mary Ann Cox	Kathleen Connors	Adalyne Downings	Elmer G. Lipstadt
Carolyn F. Jacobson	Amanda G. Moloney		Hazel M. Adams
	Age 105, my wonderful 7th grade teacher at Parkside School who inspired me to become a teacher	Eileen McNulty	Alice K. Cason
		Joy Alfonsi	Mary Griffin
		Anonymous	Norris Ballantyne
		Rosemary L. Tirio	Mary Griffin
			James L. Foley
			Selma Stewart White

**SPECIAL DONATIONS TO**

**CHICAGO RETIRED TEACHERS AID FUND, INC**

<b>DONOR</b>	<b>OCCASION</b>
Roger M. & Kathryn Koenig	In honor of "Science on Wheels" Teacher's Mobile Program
Josephine Borromeo	General Purpose
Donna Patek	General Purpose
Eugene Jerkatis	In honor of all CPS employees who have served honorably in the Armed Forces of the United States
Albert Juengling	General Purpose
Sandra Maison Rosen	General Purpose
Joseph J. Eckl	All teachers everywhere
Joseph J. Eckl	70th Anniversary of Lane Tech Class of 1940
Joseph J. Eckl	General Purpose
Robert M. Lamont	General Purpose
Irving Wishner	In honor of Daniel Yahav's Graduation from Hebrew Theological College

Raphael Juss	In honor of Audrey Mivelaz
Anonymous	General Purpose
Martha Semisch	General Purpose
Jacqueline Sallamme	General Purpose
Marilyn E. Quas	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 April 9, 2010 to August 9, 2010)

<b>DONOR:</b>	<b>IN MEMORY OF:</b>
Suzanne Belz	Katherine Geiger Ass't Principal Wicker Park School
Marsha Davis	Lourdes Afable Anna Anthony Selma Stewart White
Madeline Rossetti	Jeanne Mullooly Carey Maureen McMahon
Jean V. Franckowiak	June Kakacek
Henry Suder Club	Phyllis Swanson

*New Life Members*

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

Jesus C. Abalos	Fern E. Hahn	Theresa A. Perry
Patricia A. Celano	Paula Hyman	Madonna Dunne Pierce
Carol K. Dorsey	Joyce Krasowki	Mary E. Quirk
Janet A. Elkins	Remedios Mendoza	Jack Silver
Pearl Gilson	Cassandra Metcalfe	Alean Stancil
Susan J. Grabowski		Carol C. Thomas

~\*~

**QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK YOUR LEGISLATORS**

When speaking or writing to your legislator you may want to ask some of these questions:

1. How are you voting on SB3932, a bill that would tax public pensions in Illinois?
2. What is your position on reducing insurance rebates for pensioners?
3. Do you think it is fair to eliminate the 3% automatic annual increase on pensions?
4. Do you think it is appropriate for the state to consider reducing the constitutionally guaranteed benefit package that retirees have paid into for several years?

## RTAC WELCOMES NEW CTU PRESIDENT KAREN LEWIS



*Karen Lewis, newly elected president of the Chicago Teachers Union*



RTAC Board of Directors gathered at the Union League Club August 26 for a cocktail reception to welcome the newly elected president of the Chicago Teachers Union, Karen GJ Lewis. “We are not going to go down this road alone,” Mrs. Lewis said. “We are going to work together and work smart.” Citing many detrimental changes enacted recently by the Board of Education, Mrs. Lewis said, “We need to start working together.” RTAC President Vaughn J. Barber (center, back row) pledged RTAC-CTU solidarity.

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## KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH THE ‘BIG BOYS’

*bys V.K. Brown, Editor Emeritus*

I’ve been sending copies [of letters to the editor] to politicos, from #1 on down. Since Barack abandoned us, our new state senator is Kwame Raoul (family from Haiti). I couldn’t resist putting this paragraph in the intro to Kwame’s copy:

“Yesterday, I emailed the following letter to the editors of the *New York Times*. It then occurred to me that you might possibly be interested. (Please forgive me if you’re not.) Your predecessor [*Barack Obama--ed. note*] liked my writing—he asked me to keep him on my mailing list. But he took another job out-of-state some place, and I kinda lost touch.”

Here’s the letter I enclosed:

The final countdown for an Apollo space mission some years ago was halted for what turned out to be several hours while a problem was located and fixed. The astronauts remained in their launching positions during all that time. After the mission was completed, a reporter asked the lead astronaut what he was thinking about during those endless hours.

“I had just one thought, and couldn’t get rid of it,” came the reply. “It was this. Every part in this thing was made by the lowest bidder.”

Jobs by the tens of thousands have been flooding out of our country to where labor costs are lower—and educational levels are rising. As long as the United States continues its frenzied search for ever-cheaper methods of “educating” public school students, I confidently predict that those jobs will not return.

## GANG VIOLENCE--A TIME FOR ACTION

By Ned F. McCray, RTAC Director and Past President



President Obama declared that we are in a war against terrorists and that they must be disrupted, dismantled and destroyed. May I suggest that the gang violence in Chicago and other cities will not go away until we declare war on homegrown terrorists, i.e., gangs.

The law-abiding citizens on the South and West sides of Chicago deserve to live in peace and tranquility like citizens in other parts of Chicago. They do not deserve to live in fear of being killed, being terrorized and being intimidated by gangs

The blame for this situation is shared by the adults of this city who have allowed groups of young people, who tend to be uneducated, unskilled and uncultured, to run roughshod over large sections of the city. It is allowed to go on and on, day after day, with no sense of urgency or outrage as though certain lives are not as valuable as others.

So, the question is, since by police account, most of the killings are gang-related, why are we not going after the gangs? If a gang member commits a murder, it was probably ordered by the gang leader, which indicates conspiracy. Thus all are culpable.

Many gang members have blood on their hands. They have committed murder, some multiple times, and are walking the streets unpunished and will likely murder again.

Asking people to snitch is not realistic because witnesses have to live in the midst of the gangs. Banning guns would be helpful, but this will not happen any

time soon. Besides, if there were no guns available, there would still be gangs who would find other weapons with which to commit mayhem.

The following actions are called for:

1) Instead of being intimidated by gangs, society has to turn the tables and intimidate gang members. Presently there is no stigma attached to being in a gang. We have to make gang membership uncomfortable and intolerable by keeping the glare of publicity on the members and their activities. Constant harassment is called for.

2) Money, cars and property gained from illicit gang activities should be of interest to the IRS.

3) A warning needs to be issued to gang members: Either renounce gang membership and get out of the gang or stay in and go to jail.

4) A neighborhood that is controlled by a gang means that a police beat is controlled by a gang. That should be an intolerable situation for any police department. If they, with all their resources, cannot control the streets, the besieged citizens have no chance. The Police Department should admit its inability to solve this problem and ask for help in the form of additional resources and/or help from the state and federal governments.

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

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## NEED HELP CALLING THE PENSION FUND?

Hearing impaired? Can't react as quickly as in the past?

If you find that when you call the Pension Fund you are unable to keep up with the information needed to leave a message for CTPF, or, perhaps you can't hear what is needed as well as you could hear in the past, RTAC has a solution for you!

Just call us during business hours--10 a.m. to 3 p.m. We'll take your information and requests and we'll call for you. Then we will call you back with the information you need. We know that as one gets older it's harder and harder to keep up with phone calls, so we'll do it for you.

But, PLEASE, don't call if you can do it yourself. Our number is 312-939-3327.

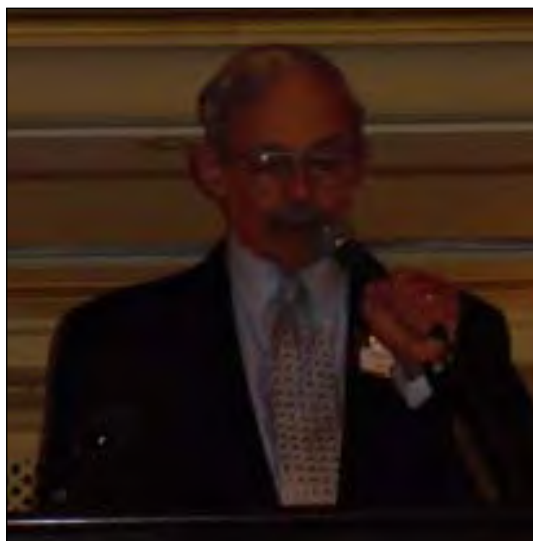
# SPRING LUNCHEON HIGHLIGHTS. . . .



*A record 840 members packed the 2010 Spring Luncheon.*



*Happy Birthday, Dear Marion! Longtime member and former director Marion Hoffing received a special RTAC salute on a very special birthday*



*Board Member Walter Pilditch reminded members to refer teachers in need of financial aid to the RTAC Teachers Aid Fund. Several CPS retirees living in New Orleans received help following the devastation of hurricane Katrina, he said.*



*Dr. Audrey Mivelaz was inducted into the RTAC Wall of Fame in recognition of her longtime service to RTAC as a director and 1st Vice President. Dr. Arthur Lehne, past president and Board member, was also named to the Wall of Fame. He was unable to attend the Luncheon.*



*Board member Nathaniel Blackman, Jr., first principal of the Metropolitan High School (Metro) met with former Metro social studies teacher Blythe Olshan-Findley.*

*Phyllis Jaffe and Raphael Juss flank Audrey Mivelaz who was their supervisor and mentor when they became school psychologists. 'We were her interns. She read all our reports and decided what to keep in and what to leave out,' Phyllis said. 'They were good, smart kids,' Audrey said.*





**AND THE WINNERS WERE. . . .**



*Emelda Estell won the Four Seasons weekend.*



*Susan Kriesman won the Snoopy display donated by MetLife.*



*Steve Heller won \$100.*



*Dale Peters won the \$100 certificate donated by PEB.*

**PLEASE JOIN US AT THE  
84th Annual Fall Luncheon  
October 27 Grand Ballroom  
Palmer House Hilton**



*Alice Carney, Christine Reilly Heller, Joe Garvey, Torris Majett, Annie Walker, Patricia Hight accepting for Brenda Greene, Lynn Miller, Sorina Conway, Shirley Anderson, Aryliss Lisner, and Bob Clay went home with Barnes & Noble gift certificates and bottles of the “bubbly.” President Barber (far left), Vice-President Marcella L. Morrison, Director Walter Pilditch and Executive Director Bob Bures (far right) supervise the festivities.*

*[Luncheon photos courtesy of Director Sherye Garmony-Miller]*

## A Memorial to Our Departed Member Selma Stewart White



*Selma Stewart White*

Selma S. White was a loyal and dedicated member of the Retired Teachers Association of Chicago. She was elected by the members of RTAC to serve as a Director for many years. Selma steadfastly served as an untiring advocate for the retired teachers of Chicago public schools.

Selma always engaged in professional, educational and social activities that enhanced the lives of RTAC members. For many years she provided the musical accompaniment for the two annual membership meetings and made us all sound great.

She frequently was involved in numerous activities for the membership, be it trips to Springfield, Luncheon trips on Lake Michigan or theater performances. We, as members of the Board of Directors, will always cherish her involvement in board meetings, either as a committee chair or member, engaging in meaningful discussion to share her ideas and resources to enhance the board and better serve the general membership.

On Tuesday, May 11, 2010, God took Selma White from us. Although her spirit has gone, Selma leaves a legacy of devotion, determination and dignity. The RTAC Board of Directors respected and loved her because she shared her ability to love, honor and render service to all.

The Board of Directors of the Retired Teachers Association of Chicago wishes to pay a tribute of love and great appreciation for her friendship, service and encouragement. The Retired Teachers Association of Chicago extends its deepest sympathy to the family of Selma Stewart White.

We wish to share with all the following:

### ***Miss Me—but Let Me Go—***

*Author Unknown*

*When I come to the end of the road*

*And the sun has set for me*

*I want no rites in a gloom-filled room*

*Why cry for a soul set free?*

*Miss me a little, but not too long*

*And not with your head bowed low,*

*Remember the love we once shared*

*Miss me, but let me go.*

*For this is a journey we all must take*

*And each must go alone*

*It's all a part of the Master's plan*

*A step on the road to Home.*

*When you are lonely and sick of heart*

*Go to the friends we know*

*And bury your sorrow in doing good deeds*

*Miss me, but let me go.*

*And each must go alone*

*It's all a part of the Master's plan*

*A step on the road to Home.*

*When you are lonely and sick of heart*

*Go to the friends we know*

*And bury your sorrow in doing good deeds*

*Miss me, but let me go.*

## FRIENDS GONE AHEAD

*Requiescant in pace*

Name	Date	Age	School	Year Retired	Service
Hazel (Miles) Adams	April 25	84	Dulles	1993	38
Ann S. (Lundy) Aiuppa	April 15	98	Nobel	1976	15(3)
Paul E. Alvey	July 10	64	Sullivan	2007	33
Alicia (Watts) Anderson	March 11	61	Kozminski	2006	33(1)
Karen L. Asher	July 16	76	Hayt	1994	34
Meyer P. Avers	May 3	82	Kelly	1992	40
William N. Bandelin	April 12	85	Special Ed	1993	38
Elizabeth L. Bard	May 19	95	Walsh	1978	41
Wanda F. (Davis) Bates	April 18	68	Doolittle West	2003	40
John E. Bell	June 26	90	Belding	1983	38
Jose Bernal	April 19	85	Von Steuben	1993	27
John Bertacchi	May 2	83	Sullivan	1990	34
Sophie Nissebaum Bloom	May 21	92	Seward	1986	19(2)
Donald J. Blyth	July 3	89	Service Center	1984	42
Ruth F. (O'Hearn) Bowden	April 1	90	Healy	1985	16
Leslie M. Brevard	June 25	63	Corliss	2005	35
Myrtle (Barrar) Brinkman	June 29	99	Boone	1966	24
Margie A. (Hughes) Brown	July 11	90	Marquette	1985	20
Mary T. Brown	April 26	79	Kelly	1990	35
Pearl T. Brown	April 25	82	Dewey	1993	32
Ruth N. (Christian) Brown	March 16	92	Burnside	1983	19
Carol A. Bradley	June 3	84	Spalding	1988	8
Helen Brych	March 21	69	Budlong	1994	34
Marlene A. (Pekan) Burcl	April 22	74	Fleming	1990	33
Marian R. Byrnes	May 19	85	Fisk	1984	22
Gloria M. Cantieri	June 13	78	Foreman	1988	32
Marietta (Wainess) Carmichael	May 2	82	Morgan Park	1990	19
Walter B. Cartwright	July 17	75	Tesla	1995	32
Bonnie S. (Katzman) Chelin	June 11	63	Disney	2003	35
Judy Chervis	July 10	74	Coonley	1993	40
Joan (Otis) Clemens	May 12	90	Falconer	1982	30
Alice (McCormack) Condon	April 8	92	Reilly	1984	39
Susanne (Ostergren) Connors	April 10	94	Schurz	1976	26(11)
Kathleen A. Connors	May 7	76	Lyon	2000	41
Lillie A. (Nero) Cotton	April 6	89	Hinton	1986	29(6)
Gordon E. Crandall	May 23	92	Hubbard	1980	19(8)
John M. Cronin	June 13	73	Fenger	2000	40
Catherine P. Cunningham	May 13	86	Clissold	1988	33
Diane L. Draper	July 19	62	Johnson	2009	24
Florence Devenish	May 8	102	Taft	1970	40
Donald E. Drew	April 7	70	Curie	1993	33
Mary T. Dwyer	March 31	81	Greenwood	1994	39

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

Name	Date	Age	School	Year Retired	Service
Aurelia E. Earles	May 6	73	Ward	2006	11
Dorothy L. (Davis) Ellison	March 28	80	Linne	1999	38
Willard D. Eubanks	April 17	93	Harlan	1979	9
Marilyn Elaine Fay	June 14	66	Ericson	2007	39
Delores (Jackson) Floyd	April 22	69	Dunbar	2009	14
Ronald E. Fredrick	May 17	75	W. Young	1993	32
Agnes (Massias) Friedlander	July 6	89	Ravenswood	1986	28
Mary A. Gambla	April 11	67	Hubbard	2001	37
Bernice E. (Wright) Gardner	March 25	74	Price	1993	38
Joanne M. (Garrard) Gardner	April 11	69	Neil	2005	23
Paula A. (Jackson) Grayer	May 9	92	Sullivan	1987	31
Dorothy G. Green	May 1	91	Donoghue	1987	35
Herman M. Gross	March 5	86	Yates	1986	22
Barbara A. Gunderson	June 4	81	Mason	1995	29
Adrienne M. Hanus	June 7	66	Taft	2001	36
Margaret (Smith) Harris	May 17	94	Kelvyn Park	1985	24
Mable R. (Jones) Harvey	July 25	105	Brainard	1971	24
Annie Hemphill	July 27	66	Deneen	2005	37
Edward T. Hill	July 20	93	Junior College	1980	32
Jesse G. Hill	July 13	76	Michele Clark	1994	38
Marian (Diamond) Horwitz	March 31	93	Calhoun	1991	22
Adeline (Kocimski) Iorio	May 11	88	Perkins	1979	35
Thomas E. Jackson	May 12	65	Wells	2002	36
Jeanelle (Baker) Jennings	May 7	90	Central Office	1986	31
Sam Jones	May 4	61	Westinghouse	2004	34
Thelma L. Jones	June 6	73	Kilmer	1994	17
Claire (Davis) Kahn	April 23	86	Haugan	1984	25
Sadako A. Kajiwara	May 23	86	District 31	1988	32
Loretta A. (Pinkosz) Karas	May 4	85	Reilly	1986	38
Jayne (McCarthy) Karow	April 22	77	Dore	1996	36
Mary Jean (Kelly) Kearney	April 14	76	McCormick	1999	26
Mary K. Kelly	May 30	86	Durso	1993	45
Doris H. Kennon	July 9	68	Chalmers	1993	32
Beulah (Britton) King	May 9	102	Hinton	1973	7
Alfred Klein	April 18	87	Roosevelt	1988	40
Joseph J. Kuprewicz	July 2	88	Central Office	1989	37
Thaddeus J. Kuta	March 20	71	Alcott	1995	22
Carl D. Lasusa	April 9	75	Everett	1994	38
Rose (Ng) Lee	June 22	86	Schurz	1989	22
Walter Leibfritz	June 12	87	Lane Tech	1983	20
Richard Leiby	May 20	86	Clemente	1991	33
Wyssie E.(Rutherford) Lenard	May 4	84	Lovett	1995	30
Sarah (Strayer) Levin	May 4	64	Von Humboldt	2007	30
Charles D. Levy	May 31	101	Calhoun North	1973	21
Thelma (Woodbury) Lewis	May 22	87	Colman	1980	33(2)
Lauretta M. Leyden	June 28	82	Prescott	1986	30
Elmer G. Lipstadt	July 12	92	Beaubien	1981	30

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

Name	Date	Age	School	Year Retired	Service
Mildred (Lynk) Long	May 11	74	Spencer	2004	15
Bertram I. Lorber	May 4	78	Robeson	1991	25
Josephine Loving	June 9	85	Crane	1988	37
Gerald F. Lowe	May 13	66	Foreman	2004	23
Rita A. Luft	May 10	86	Pritzker	1993	29
Doris E. Lutsch	April 7	78	Funston	1992	38
Helen El (Doherty) Lyons	June 18	80	Nobel	1992	35
Betty (Booth) Magnuson	April 5	84	Sheridan	1991	38
Judy Ann Marion	March 15	63	Jefferson	2008	36
Anne Markey	June 11	82	Clemente	1993	38
Evelyn M. (Larson) Marks	July 15	89	Kinzie/Everett	1982	35
Oksana A. (Turchyn) Marrese	May 24	70	Budlong	2004	21
John T. Martin	July 4	77	Senn	1992	37
Therese J. Martyn	April 18	82	Spalding	1985	35
Helen R. (Mittelman) Mason	April 24	87	Darwin	1985	18
Marilyn (Brissette) McCallister	April 3	62	Avondale	2006	27
Bertha (Sanders) McClendon	April 26	87	White	1988	18
Marilyn (McDonald) McGee	April 19	91	Kellogg	1983	15(1)
Suzanne McWethy	June 18	89	Smyth	1990	28
Joyce L. Meyers	March 23	81	Hibbard	1993	33
Lula (Foster) Miller	April 26	86	Libby	1998	37
Amanda (Gaudette) Moloney	April 2	106	Norwood Park	1964	32
Edith (Bagan) Multack	May 18	87	Metcalf	1993	38
Dolores J. Nicosia	July 7	85	Central Office	1985	10
Bernice(Lindenbaum)Ochakoff	May 1	73	Kilmer	1994	17
Mary E. O'Connor	June 4	86	Birney	1979	31
Sheilamae (Shannon) O'Hara	May 3	74	Jackson	2001	13
Grace M. (Ferguson) Oliver	May 10	89	District 18	1987	20
GraceO'Malley	April 26	100	Schneider	1970	31
Lucille (Fant) Owens	March 31	82	Region 3	1999	38
Guy Joseph Paradiso	June 10	84	Tilden	1993	37
Antoinette Pareti	June 9	85	Von Humboldt	1991	43
Marian (McCallister) Parker	June 23	92	Bell	1981	24
June L. (Green) Pembroke	May 1	74	Beasley	2002	39
Andrew J. Penn	May 28	81	Cook	1987	36
Barbara A. Pope	May 23	65	Gresham	2002	36
Barbara J. (Kincaid) Potts	March 15	73	Avalon Park	1997	36
Ruth (Ross) Prale	July 25	82	Haugan	1993	33
Ronald G. Ross	May 29	81	Courtenay	1998	23
Estelle(Rapaport)Rubenstein	March 28	102	Rogers	1969	35
Theodore R. Russell	June 6	79	Skinner	1993	38
Corinne I Saltzman	June 28	67	Yages	2005	20
Peter Samuiloff	May 11	78	Curtis	1997	26
Mary D. Schlentz	June 6	92	Fenger	1978	22(5)
Hazel M. Scott	May 5	80	Warren	1995	31
Ruth (Oliver) Secord	June 15	98	Hurley	1977	40
Alice R. Shelist	June 20	84	Dett	1993	24

[Numbers in parentheses indicate service outside CPS.]

Name	Date	Age	School	Year Retired	Service
Mary Louise (Bobbit) Sims	April 4	84	Farragut	1991	34
Anna M. (Hall) Smith	April 23	71	Cadwell	1993	38
Green K. Smith	May 16	74	Crane	1999	39
Renee (Rosen) Snow	May 19	76	Nettlehorst	1993	39
Dorothy (Richter) Sosin	July 8	93	Whitney Young	1988	23(12)
Lillian M. (Bagel) Srivastava	March 25	71	Ericson	2001	11
Bernice Steinholtz	July 11	84	Hefferan	1992	26
Charles E. Stine	June 11	75	Schurz	1994	37
Ella B. (Haley) Stipley	April 27	89	Service Center	1981	37
Thais (Fonseca) Suarez	April 16	79	Stowe	1998	21
Phyllis R. Swanson	July 1	84	Junior College	1992	17
Ida (Weiner) Swarsensky	July 7	92	Substitute	1979	14
Julius C. Taylor	March 17	84	Central Office	2001	24
Mary A. Terretta	July 16	63	Goudy	2005	34
Catherine (Mooney) Theis	April 27	83	West Pullman	1984	26(4)
Dorothy A. (Coleman) Thomas	April 4	72	Schiller	1994	30
James E. Thorp	April 24	75	Prosser	1994	39
Clarence M. Tolbert	July 28	71	Carver	2003	35
Marian (Farnsworth) Van	April 24	102	Cooley	1973	18(7)
Frances (Fiscella) Varias	June 19	96	Nixon	1973	30
Charles L. Vass	May 21	74	Lindblom	1993	38
Gloria C. Walk	June 11	78	Chappell	1997	35
Thelma L. Walls	May 23	97	Copernicus	1979	23
Susie (Skinner) Ward	March 6	94	Stagg	1986	32(2)
Margaret (Bruch) Warshawsky	April 18	70	Steinmetz	1994	35
Thomas P. Watkins	April 15	63	Von Steuben	2004	25
Louise(Malmberg)Wennerholm	July 12	100	Wicker Park	1970	23
Selma (Stewart) White	May 11	82	Senn	1993	28
Annette M. (Watkins) Whiting	May 1	72	Farady	1993	38
Dora M. Williams	April 8	59	Spencer	2009	30
Sylvester Williams	April 14	88	Senn	1985	37
Mary A. (Ellis) Williamson	March 13	81	Budlong	1993	38
Muriel (Harris) Wilson	March 23	88	Senn	1985	37
George Zemtseff	May 30	81	Budlong	1993	38

[Numbers in parentheses indicate service outside CPS.]

### PIONEER IN SPECIAL ED, AUTHOR DR. MARY ANNE BELL

A pioneer in the field of Special Education, Dr. Mary Anne Bell died Sept. 1 at the age of 91. Dr. Bell trained many of the Special Education teachers in the Chicago Public Schools. "She was one of the first professors of Special Ed at CTC [Chicago Teachers College] North," said Elizabeth Glasco whose mother was a close friend of Dr. Bell. "She trained more Special Ed teachers than anyone in the system," she added.

Dr. Bell started her career at Emerson School and

then became a counselor at the Mary Mapes Dodge School. Later, she was a counselor at Farragut High School before completing her doctoral studies at Loyola University where she was one of the first Black women to receive a doctorate in Special Education.

She taught at CTC/Northeastern Illinois University for many years until her retirement in 1989. She also authored many books including *Hope, Courage and Life*, and many children's books and coloring books.

## EDUCATING SPRINGFIELD

*By V.K. Brown, Editor Emeritus*

The last state legislative session brought some serious setbacks for retired teachers, particularly those who have not yet even started teaching. The nationwide scramble for funds by governments at all levels is so desperate that even police officers are being laid off (Oakland, Calif.) and fire stations are being closed (nationwide). In a priority system forced to allow such cuts, it is no surprise that hard-pressed legislators are casting increasingly hungry looks at YOUR pension checks.

In November we select the people who will make

the vital decisions for at least the next two years. Will they be concerned about constituents who never contact them, who never offer support? LEGISLATORS ARE ELECTED BY VOTES, not by letters every now and then. We are asking their support for two years; they urgently need ours now.

Go to our website ([WWW.RTAC.ORG](http://WWW.RTAC.ORG)) and check the RTAC voting record for your legislators. Choose the candidate(s) most likely to support RTAC, and give them as much support as you possibly can. Your future (and mine!) depends on it.

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### HANDLING TELEMARETERS

#### THREE LITTLE WORDS THAT WORK

The three little words are: "Hold On, Please..." Saying this, while putting down your phone and walking off (instead of hanging up immediately) would make each telemarketing call so much more time-consuming that boiler room sales would grind to a halt.

Do you ever get those annoying phone calls with no one on the other end? What you can do after answering, if you notice there is no one there, is immediately start hitting your # button on the phone, 6 or 7 times as quickly as possible. This confuses the machine that dialed the call, and it kicks your number out of their system.

#### Help for Junk Mail

When you get ads enclosed with your phone or utility bill, return these ads with your payment. When you get those "pre-approved" letters in the mail for everything from credit cards to 2nd mortgages and similar junk, do not throw away the return envelope. It costs them more than the regular 44 cents postage, if and when they receive them back. It costs them nothing if you throw them away. Why not get rid of some of your other junk mail and put it in these postage-paid return envelopes. You can even send the envelope back empty if you want to just to keep them guessing. It still costs them 44 cents.

You get the idea. If enough people follow these tips, it will work.

### OUTSMARTING JUNK EMAILERS

#### ADVICE FROM SNOPE.COM

1) Any time you see an email that says "forward this to 10 of your friends," "sign this petition," or "you'll get bad luck," or "you'll get good luck," or "you'll see something funny on your screen after you send it," or whatever--it almost always has an email tracker program attached that tracks the cookies and emails of the people you forward to. The host sender is getting a copy each time it gets forwarded and then is able to get lists of 'active' email addresses to use in SPAM emails or sell to other spammers. These people don't care how they get your email addresses just as long as they get them. Also, emails that talk about a missing child or a child with an incurable disease "how would you feel if that was your child"-email tracking. Ignore them and don't participate.

2) Almost all emails that ask you to add your name and forward on to others are similar to that mass letter years ago that asked people to send business cards to the little kid in Florida who wanted to break the Guinness Book of Records for the most cards. All it was, and all any of this type of email is, is a way to get names and 'cookie' tracking information for telemarketers and spammers--to validate active email accounts for their own profitable purposes.

You can do your friends and family members a GREAT favor by sending this information to them. You will be providing a service to them. And you will be rewarded by not getting thousands of spam emails in the future.

## A NOTE FROM MARION

*I want to thank my RTAC friends for their sweet remembrance of my birthday at the Spring Luncheon. The gift is beautiful, but not as lovely as the friendship and good memories I've had for so many years of my association with this wonderful organization.*

*I celebrate all of you RTAC members who allowed me to serve on your Board for so many precious years, and I leave you with one more little selection of words to live by:*

Hope is what allows us to look beyond what we can't do and celebrate what we can.

[Marion was elected to the RTAC Board of Directors in 1978 after a brilliant career of teaching

dance in the Chicago Public Schools. Since that time, she has served in many capacities, including, "minister," as she refers to her presentation of the invocations at the start of every meeting. She contributed numerous poems and sayings for the News Bulletin, and she composed THE CHICAGO SCENE section until financial constraints forced its elimination. She continues to order and deliver the flowers used to adorn every RTAC Luncheon, and, of course, conducts the Luncheon raffles along with her assistant, Director Nate Blackman, Jr.]



*Marion Hoffing*

## \*CULTURAL ORGANIZATION OFFERS RTAC MEMBERS TRIP TO CHINA

The Chinese American Cultural Bridge Center (CACBC), a non-profit organization promoting cultural exchange since 1992, has created a leisure travel itinerary for RTAC retired educators. This is for those able to walk on foot, but also for those who would love to take advantage of a cart and boat rides.

The 2011 Retired Educators Tour to China is only for retired educators, their families and friends. From March 14–28, 2011, enjoy Beijing, Xian, Chongqing, Yantze River Cruise, Suzhou, and Shanghai, all at an \*inclusive price of \$3,995. Deadline for reservations: November 1, 2010.

The cost includes international round trip, three domestic flights within China, all buses, an English-speaking guide per bus, all hotels (4 star), meals, sight-seeing, all costs on cruise (including shore excursions), and more. . . .

Would you like to see the Great Wall of China, the famous Terra-Cotta Soldiers in Xian, go on a Yangtze river cruise to see the 3 gorges, and watch a classroom full of Chinese kids learning.

For more information contact Jennifer Chan, CACBC Program Director, 847-902-7229, or go to our website [www.cacbc.org](http://www.cacbc.org). Or email [Travelstudychina@gmail.com](mailto:Travelstudychina@gmail.com) for more information.



*Temple of Heaven*



*The Forbidden City*

**\*RTAC has no affiliation with CACBC.**



## Volunteer Opportunities

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

Alex Haley Academy	Chicago South	Karen Demots	773-371-3661
American Cancer Society	West Suburbs	Marni Fredrickson	708-484-8541x231
American Red Cross (CPR & First aid)	Chicago Central	LaToya Sewell-Hall	312-729-6111
Aquinas Literacy Center	Chicago Near South	Alison Altmeyer	773-927-0512
Battered Women's Network	Chicago Central	Betsy Minor	312-750-0730
Black Ensemble Theater	Chicago Near North		773-769-4451
Blue Gargoyle Community Services	Chicago	Ashley J. Hobbs	773-955-4108x308
Bucharest Christian Academy	Bucharest Romainia	Donna Brown	
Burr Oak School	South Suburbs	Natashia Harris	708-388-8010
CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate)	Cook County	L. Robinson-Locke	312-467-6987
Chicago Architectural Foundation	Chicago	Barbara Hrbek	312-922-3432x225
Chicago Cultural Center	Chicago Central	Marianne Wolf	312-744-7096
Chicago Foundation for Education	Chicago	Sarah Hoppe	312-670-2033
Chicago History Museum	Chicago Near North	Marne Bariso	312-642-4600
Chicago Humanities Festival	Chicago Central	Annie Tully	312-661-1028
Chicago Symphony Orchestra	Chicago		312-294-3160
Child Services	Cook, Lake, DuPage	Greta Nielsen	773-693-0300
Count Me In!	Chicago	William N. Black	773-381-6024
Court's Special Advocate (Child Advocacy)	Cook County	Imogene Harris	312-433-6997
Crown Family Playlab at Field Museum	Chicago Central	Kate Cary	312-665-7307
Cycle	Chicago	Melinda Brand	312-664-1194x14
DuSable Museum of African American Hist.	Chicago South	Kay McCrimon	773-947-0600x239
Field Museum	Chicago	Mary Ann Bloom	312-665-7505
Friends of the Parks	Chicago Central	Laura Ronneberg	312-922-3307
George Armstrong School	Chicago Northwest	Kim Bendig	773-534-2150
Glenkirk (Developmentally Disabled)	Northbrook	Roberta M. Rekus	847-400-8569
Grandma Please	Chicago	Kathy Slover	773-561-3500
Heartland Alliance Vista	Chicago Central	Carol McNeill	312-696-4500x4085
Ill. Action for Children (Children's Advocacy)	Chicago Central	Rebecca Klipfel	312-986-9591
Inner Voice Learning Ctr	Chicago Near West	Antoinette Toliver	312-666-8110
Junior Achievement Chicago	Chicago	Cherie Russ	312-715-1300x269
LaRabida Childrens Hospital	Jackson Park	Judi Blakemore	773-256-5985
Lira Arts (Polish)	Chicago	Katherine McJimsey	773-508-7040
Literacy Connection	Northwest Suburbs	Karen Oswald	847-742-6565
Mercy Housing Lakefront	Chicago	LeKeeta Charley	312-913-1065x112
Naperville Settlement	Naperville	Diane Ernst	630-420-6010
Project Care	Near West	Mary Jo Kuhn	708-656-8000x383
Roseland Community Hospital	Chicago Roseland	Jennifer Seldon	773-995-3470
School Childrens Aid Society	Chicago	Margaret Paul	773-247-1311
Smith Village	Chicago South	Sarah Jewett	773-474-7300
Travelers Aid	O'Hare Airport	Laura Smith	773-894-2427

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



## SATELLITE DOINGS

### SAN DIEGO

By Sam Dolnick

The next luncheon/business meeting will be held at noon on Tuesday, Oct. 12, at the Olive Garden Restaurant on Carmel Mountain Road. If any of our colleagues in San Diego County are not receiving reservation notices, please contact Sam Dolnick at 5706 Baltimore Drive, Unit 348, LaMesa, CA 91942, 619-697-4854, [samdolnick@juno.com](mailto:samdolnick@juno.com).

### FLORIDA

By Jean Wise

The retired teachers of Southwest Florida will meet again for lunch at the Villages at Country Creek in Estero, Fla., at 11:30 a.m. March 2. Please save the date. More information will follow in a later bulletin. If you need more information contact Rosemary McMahon at 239-591-2879 or [RM9706@aol.com](mailto:RM9706@aol.com).



*'Snowbird'  
Jean Wise at  
the Spring  
Luncheon*

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## 'STILL ACTING UP!' TROUPE SEEKS ACCOMPANIST

Retired Rogers School Science Teacher Sylvia Gilbert and her husband Ray, active members of Still Acting Up!, informed the News Bulletin that the group is seeking a volunteer pianist to accompany the award-winning troupe.

Still Acting Up! is a Skokie Park District-sponsored group of talented seniors over the age of 60. They perform original musical productions throughout the Chicago area and present a new production each October at the Devonshire Cultural Center in Skokie, 4400 Greenwood Ave. at Kostner.

If you are an experienced pianist who can sight read and read lead sheets and would like to join other energetic retirees in presenting the annual show debunking the many misinformed myths of aging, please call Jill Shellabarger, 312-865-3971.

Other retired teachers in the troupe include CPS retirees Frieda Bernstein (G.B. Armstrong), Sally Jablo (Disney), Connie Cook (Boone) and Barbara Brown, Julian Gestrin and Georgia Cohen who taught in Evanston. While retired teachers make up the largest career group in the 23-member ensemble, retirees from all walks of life including retail sales, insurance and mortgage adjusters, consultants and purchasing agents enjoy the challenge of creating and presenting the completely original show.



Rehearsals are on Tuesdays 10 months of the year (January and July are off) and are held at the Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton Street, Skokie, 847-933-4325. After six presentations at Devonshire, the group performs at 14 other venues including libraries, senior centers and park districts.

The Still Acting Up! group, which has been in existence for over 20 years, provides members, in addition to the opportunity to hone their talents, many lasting friendships and a caring support network. Focusing each year with wit, humor and insight on an irritating but non-life-threatening problem, the group has presented shows with such titles as "Your Flight Has Been Delayed" and "No Senior Left Behind."

This year's performance, "A Pinch of Sage," will be presented on October 13, 16, 17 and 20, 23, 24. Tickets are available by calling 847-674-1500, ext. 2400.



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

## 84th Annual Fall Luncheon

Wednesday, October 27, 2010

11:45 AM until 2:30 PM

**Doors will open no earlier than 11:45 AM**



In The Wonderfully Renovated Palmer House Hilton

(You may enter the hotel from State, Wabash or Monroe Streets)

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

~\*~

### **SPECIAL TOPIC: Let's put the "Squeeze" on the Legislature!**

(Notice that it is hard to squeeze without U.)

You MUST attend this luncheon to get the TRUTH about the new  
DEVASTATING pension legislation and more!

~\*~SPECIAL GUESTS~\*~

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

GUESTS FROM THE PENSION FUND, PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION AND THE LEGISLATURE HAVE BEEN INVITED!

Many Door Prize winners will be called throughout the program.

✂✂✂✂----- Complete and cut here! Mail to RTAC today!----- ✂✂✂✂

Enclosed find: \$ \_\_\_ for \_\_\_ member tickets at \$45 each and

\$ \_\_\_ for \_\_\_ guest tickets at \$50 each

**NO PRICE INCREASE SINCE 2008!!!**

Although downtown hotel luncheon prices have gone up significantly,

RTAC still subsidizes a sizable portion of each ticket's price!

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

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

Make check payable to: RTAC Luncheon

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

Retired Teachers Association of Chicago

20 East Jackson Blvd. Suite 1500 Chicago, IL 60604-2235

For additional information call: 312-939-3327

Sorry, NO refunds for any reason. **FINAL DEADLINE: October 18<sup>th</sup>**

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

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

**Retired Teachers Association of Chicago  
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