

NEWS BULLETIN

RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO

Since 1926

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NO. 1

Cullerton reassures pensioners at RTAC Fall Luncheon



“I can imagine that, given the onslaught of media coverage about pensions and so-called pension reform, you are all rightfully concerned about what the state’s politicians have in store for your pension checks.

“Let me be clear: your pensions are safe.”

**URGENT ACTION
NEEDED NOW PAGE 3**

**CULLERTON’S
SPEECH PAGES 6, 7**

**LUNCHEON PHOTOS
PAGES 20, 21**

**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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Executive Committee:

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RTAC SERVICE DIRECTORY

RTAC Office (HOURS: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. school days).....	312-939-3327
RTAC Fax Line.....	312-939-0145
CRTAF Aid Fund.....	312-939-3364
Chicago Teachers Pension Fund (203 N LaSalle St., 26th floor, 60601-1216).....	312-604-1400
Editor, News Bulletin.....	773-725-1087
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The News Bulletin invites you to mail your typed article to Rosemary Tirio, 6235 N. Knox Ave., Chicago, IL 60646 or email it to rtac_editor@comcast.net. Mail handwritten articles to the RTAC office. March 1, 2012 is the deadline for the next issue .

URGENT ACTION NEEDED NOW TO BLOCK HJRCA0005 (AMENDMENT #5)

By Roy Coleman

HJRCA0005 (Amendment #5) is a Constitutional amendment that will require that the Chicago City Council approve ANY CTPF 'pension benefit increase' by a three-fifths vote (30 of the 50 aldermen). Wording seems to be very ambiguous and open to interpretation, which will probably lead to considerable litigation.

This amendment will not affect our current pension payments but may require the Chicago City Council to vote to allow our 3% automatic annual increase (since the Constitution trumps the provision in the pension law). This may also affect future retirees as it is unclear whether a salary increase provided through CTU and CPS contract negotiations (thus raising our potential pension benefits) falls into the category of a 'pension benefit increase'. Note that the House Committee Amendment #1 does provide some specifics as to the type of things that would trigger a legislative vote.

The current status of HJRCA0005 is that it has been approved by the Illinois House Committee on Personnel and Pensions and can be called for a full House vote as soon as January 31. If it receives at least 71 'Aye' votes it will go to the Illinois Senate. A vote in the Senate would probably take place sometime between March 20 (the primary election) and May 6 (the deadline for legislative approval of Constitutional amendments). If it gets 36 'Aye' votes it will be placed on the November ballot. If it receives a majority of the total votes cast or a three-fifths vote of those voting on this issue it will become part of the Constitution.

This amendment will be a way for the Chicago City Council to control, i.e. reduce, pension costs

for ALL public employees, including police and firefighters. It is expected to pass the House, so attention is being focused on the Senate. Visit, call, fax, email, snailmail your state senator. This amendment will change the Illinois Constitution FOREVER. Remember, it is only the 1970 Constitution that protects our pension; this amendment opens the door to revising our benefits. For example, the City Council would be able to cap our COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) if this amendment is ratified.

If the referendum proposing Amendment #5 gets on the November 2012 ballot, there is a huge likelihood, that, given the economic tenor of the times, it will pass easily. We must not let this happen.

"Don't assume this 'bad' constitutional amendment will be defeated," said Lobbyist Dick Lockhart. "Don't be complacent on this issue. You need to have a personal visit with your State Senator between now and May. This issue is vital in terms of your future.

Current teachers will doubtless be affected by this amendment, and they are probably completely unaware of what is happening in Springfield. If you know any current teachers, please inform them of the situation and urge them to contact their State Senators immediately. As Lobbyist Lockhart said, "Everyone must fight to oppose this Constitutional Amendment."

We CAN do this. Remember how we turned back HB3827 last spring. We can't let them deprive us of our hard-earned pension benefits now!

READ THE FULL TEXT OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT ON THE RTAC WEBSITE (WWW.RTAC.ORG).

**WATCH THE RTAC WEBSITE AS THIS DEVELOPS. JOIN THE RTAC ALERT NETWORK TO GET
BREAKING NEWS ABOUT ANY PENSION CHANGING PROPOSALS.**

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Steven A. Kailes

This last quarter has been a busy and crucial time for RTAC's Officers and Board members. In addition to our long time lobbyist Dick Lockhart and his Associate, John D. Carr, the Board has hired another lobbyist, Bukola Bello.

We have been active in voicing our concerns regarding HB 3827 (which would give the Mayor control over CTPF Trustees' by his appointments as opposed to elections by the pensioners themselves, as presently).

We have been active in voicing our concerns regarding SB 512 which does not include any language requiring adequate or mandatory pension contributions from the Board of Education. And moreover would weaken CTPF itself.

We have been active as a Friend-of-the-Court in the *Board of Education v CTPF* lawsuit before Judge Arnold. At considerable cost, RTAC is defending those who retired between 1998 and 2004. This suit would allow the Board of Education to recalculate their pensions--at a great monetary disadvantage to them.

Vaughn J. Barber, our distinguished immediate Past President has been busy coordinating appointments with our lawmakers and personally making visits. The purpose of these visits is to express our concerns with these lawmakers and to emphasize that RTAC represents 23,000 retired teachers and their families.

Roy Coleman, our Webmaster has been constantly and instantaneously keeping our members informed of the latest news and developments through our website www.RTAC.org

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



Steven A. Kailes

Finally, please note that Ned McCray, another Past President, is busy submitting columns for Letters to the Editor correcting misconceptions, misinformation and laying out the actual facts.

To help complete our goals in the future, the Board is happy that again, our recommended slates for CTPF Trustees--Walter Pilditch, Mary Sharon Reilly, and Jim Ward--have been decisively re-elected. As you well know, throughout the years, these 3 collectively, have demonstrated their experience, knowledge and their concern for the pensions and benefits of all our retirees.

We are sad to see the retirement from our Board of Nate Blackman. I have known Nate for many years and have personally witnessed him act resolutely and honorably on many occasions and in many situations.

The members have elected John A. Butterfield to the Board. John has a distinguished and recognized 39-year CPS career as an educator.

It is at crucial times like this, that we especially miss our long loyal and dedicated Board member Vergel Kenneth Brown. V. K. was Editor of our News Bulletin and originated and organized our website. Our condolences to his wife Betty and their family.

2012 SPRING LUNCHEON DATE SET!

If you attended our **Fall Luncheon** at the Chicago Hilton and Towers you know how important and fun it is to come along with some friends! **SPRING LUNCHEON Thursday, May 3, 2012 – 11:45 a.m.**
Grand Ballroom of the Chicago Hilton and Towers 720 S. Michigan Ave. – Chicago

MARK YOUR CALENDAR. . . . SAVE THE DATE



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By Robert F. Bures

HAPPY NEW YEAR! By the time you read this article Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza and any other holidays you and yours may celebrate are long gone! Nevertheless, I hope your holidays were as nice and pleasant as mine were. Additionally I wish all of you the best New Year ever—healthy, happy, prosperous and full of good spirit!

At our Fall 2011 Luncheon our guest speaker was Illinois Senate President John Cullerton. He assured us that the pensions of those of us already retired had no worries regarding any attempt to lower our pensions—they are constitutionally protected. I believe that, as does the RTAC Board of Directors. However some of our benefits—our annual 3% raise, our medical health protection rebate—are not so protected because they are NOT our pension and thus they are vulnerable to tinkering by the Illinois General Assembly.

I'm not saying this to scare you but to convince you that our most important task is to protect these benefits! Maybe your state senator or state representative is telling you not to worry about these benefits, but I'm telling you that you must be on top of what's going on in the State Capitol and RTAC is there for you. RTAC has Full Time Lobbyists working in Springfield for us! They are meeting with legislators telling them our story and our needs as well as how powerful 25,000 retired teachers and administrators from the Chicago Public Schools can be. RTAC is there. So must you! Maintain your RTAC membership, attend our Luncheons to show them our numbers, write to show your concern, attend the legislator's events so they who you are. Keep up the pressure.

If you think things are going O.K. because the legislators are not in session again until January 31, witness the Governor is calling together a special committee that will discuss "solutions" to the "pension problems" in mid-January ... mainly to discuss a CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNMENT (#5) to change the constitutional protections our pensions enjoy! RTAC is not included by the governor nor is the union, pension fund or other annuitant organizations. How can he ignore us! WE need to show him we mean business.

As 2012 moves along, we will be facing additional unknown problems and issues. RTAC works along side of the CTU, CPAA, The Society of Retired Principals and Administrators, other Illinois retired educators groups. We have contacts with other pension funds—the police and fire, the Chicago MRF, College faculty funds and meet with all of them regularly. RTAC is working diligently for you.

One thing you can do is to keep up your membership with RTAC. It's \$30 a year. Or if you are not a lifetime member yet, think about it. It's the best \$200 you ever will spend. You will never get a renewal bill from us again! Thanks in advance.

In order to keep up to date—read the Chicago newspapers regularly, check on our website – www.rtac.org—call us up If you hear a rumor or read something that sounds like bad news or to check in with me!

On a different note--but just as seriously—RTAC maintains a fully tax deductible charity group, The Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund, Inc., a 501-c-3 not for profit organization that helps retired Chicago Public School teachers who have fallen upon hard times through no fault of their own. We send CASH grants regularly to about two dozen such retired teachers. Yes—CASH. Some a hundred or two and others more, sometimes in rent money or for food cards and YOU wouldn't believe how quickly a small pension of \$900 a month goes. Some are quite old and some were taken advantage of earlier. The case histories are quite varied, but all of them need help! Try to be generous. Make a resolution to send a donation to our Aid Fund. Information is in this *News Bulletin*. Thanks!!

Again ... Happy New Year!...and truly I look forward to seeing each of you at our May 3, 2012, Spring Luncheon at the Hilton!

Thanks!

Bob Bures



Robert F. Bures

CONTINUATION OF ILLINOIS SENATE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH AT THE FALL LUNCHEON

The debate in Springfield is about whether pension benefits can be changed for existing government employees and current teachers going forward. It does not involve those who are already retired, so you can exhale now.

The proposals that seek to reduce benefits for current teachers are controversial enough. Any attempt to reduce pension benefits for those already retired would, in my view, never stand a chance of becoming law.

And my view is the entire idea of reducing pension benefits for existing employees is unconstitutional. My stance was reaffirmed by the voluminous research conducted by my chief legal counsel going back to the very debates that framed our 1970 State Constitution.

It turns out the people who wrote our state constitution and included a very explicit pension protection did so because they envisioned the exact situation we find ourselves in today. Turns out the pension systems weren't any better funded then than they are now. The pension protection was included to protect public pensions for fear the government would renege on its obligations in economic crisis.

In fact,, before those protections were included, Illinois Courts treated most public pensions as a gift from the General Assembly that could be changed or revoked at any time, even after a public servant retired. But thanks to those protections, the Illinois Constitution bars the General Assembly from unilaterally reducing the pension benefit rights of current employees as well as retirees.

I would invite you all to visit our website Illinois Senate Democrats.com and read the research for yourselves. We've also included opposing viewpoints and legal arguments, but once you read them, I believe you'll quickly come to share my opinion that this much-hyped attempt at cutting pensions will be declared unconstitutional if it ever gets enough votes to pass. But even if your pensions are safe, I would recommend you stay alert.

An election year is coming, and pension benefits for those now teaching in your former schools and classrooms are under siege for two reasons. First, the 2008 Stock Market crash placed our nation in a financial crisis and caused state unfunded pension liabilities to skyrocket. Illinois' State Pension System is funded at 39% and has unfunded liabilities approaching \$85 billion.

Second, the so-called pension reform push is not about the law; it's about political agendas and money. Eden Martin of Chicago's Commercial Club candidly states, "This is not about the law at all; it's about the politics and arm-wrestling over money."

Illinois just passed an income tax increase and that revenue will in part simply allow us to make our scheduled pension system contributions. That means there no pot of money to be spent elsewhere.

So after having created this crisis by failing to adequately fund pensions for decades, there are now those in the legislature who would succumb to political interests and use the man-made disaster as cover for their efforts to turn teachers and public employees into scapegoats.

That is the goal of SB512, the so-called Pension Reform Bill pending in the house. Let me be clear. If the House ever passes the proposal, I will vote against it. I won't block a vote in the Senate, but I will vote "No." And should it pass, I believe it will ultimately be an exercise in political, legal and financial futility out of which only the lawyers getting paid handsomely to handle the inevitable lawsuits will benefit.

However, the constitutional pension protections don't mean we can't do anything in regards to pension benefits. In 2010, the Illinois General Assembly lowered the benefits for future employees. Those hired on or after January 1, 2011, started a new pension system that, in general,

[Continued on page 7]

[Continued from Page 6]

started a new pension system that, in general, will require them to work longer in order to begin collecting a pension. In the context of the current workforce, it remains a pretty good deal. It is still a constitutionally protected pension.

Again, this is only for those hired on or after January 1 and in no way touches pensions of those already retired or who were working prior to 2011.

And I have advocated that the state should start using the pension system for Chicago teachers as a model for teacher pensions statewide. Yes, the Chicago system needs to be better funded, but it's far better off than the state retirement fund for suburban and downstate teachers. And that's because the teachers and the city taxpayers are responsible for its financing. Your pension fund gets very little state money, roughly \$10 million this year. Now that's nothing to scoff at, but compare it to the 2.4 billion the state budget includes to fund the suburban and downstate teacher fund.

More than half of our state pension spending goes to TRS. The Chicago Teachers Pension Fund manages to survive on teacher and district contri-

butions. Meanwhile, the suburban and downstate districts pay next to nothing even as Chicagoans pay local taxes to support the teachers pensions and pay state sales and income taxes to support the downstate and suburban teacher pension funds.

I think that needs to change. I believe the suburban and downstate school districts--the employers--can and should pay more rather than rely on their teachers and state taxpayers to shoulder the burden.

In summary, public pensions in Illinois are under siege because the current fiscal climate presents a political opportunity. Frankly, it is politically more palatable to cut pension benefits for public employees and retirees than to raise taxes, cut services or both.

I believe the political opportunists are being shortsighted and ignoring the obvious constitutional conflicts in their zeal to gut public pensions rather than face long-term responsibilities. For decades, you provided tremendous service to our city and our state. You have earned your retirements with each child that passed through your classroom. It would be unconscionable--and unconstitutional--for us to renege on the promises you were given when you signed up for duty.

[The wording of Sen. Cullerton's speech courtesy of RTAC lobbyist Dick Lockhart.]

RTAC JOB OPPORTUNITY

RTAC has an opening for an office assistant. Immediate need.

Applicants must be retired CPS teachers or administrators.

Applicants need to know computer software using Office, Access, Word, e-mail applications, bookkeeping and general office procedures.

Great office atmosphere, choose your own schedule, 2-3 days a week,

5-hour day, wages commensurate with skills, and Loop location.

Please – NO CALLS, LETTERS OF INTEREST OR INQUIRY.

RESUMES ONLY BY E-MAIL. . . SEND RESUMES TO: buress@rtac.org

WEBSITE REPORT

By Webmaster Roy Coleman



With the beginning of a new session in early 2012, it is important that you check the website for any new legislation which may be introduced. Legislation which may affect our pensions along with the current status of that legislation will be posted on the 'Pending Bills' page. If there is any detrimental legislation introduced it is vital that you then visit, call or mail your legislators with your opinions about this legislation. It was YOUR voice through visits, letters, emails and calls that helped to table HB3827, a bill that would have given the Mayor of Chicago complete control of ALL of Chicago's pension funds, including CTPF.

Contact information for all of the legislators is posted, both alphabetically and by district. If you do not know your district(s), there is a link to Project Vote Smart where you can enter your nine digit zip

code and get that information.

In addition to the 'Pending Bills' page, events of interest to retired teachers are posted on the 'Events and Activities' page. There is also an extensive list of organizations that are looking for volunteer help on the 'Volunteer' page. A partial list is included elsewhere in this bulletin. There is also a limited number of employment opportunities posted on the 'Jobs' page.

We would like to thank everyone for their use of this website. Please visit our guestbook and leave your comments. (Note: to avoid robotic additions, you must type the word 'human' in the space provided at the end and then copy the number displayed into the second space.)

RTAC ALERT NETWORK

Be ready for the 2012 session of the Illinois Legislature! Be a part of the RTAC Alert Network and receive news about legislation that might affect your pension.

If you have not already joined the ALERT NETWORK, please send an e-mail to 'webmaster@rtac.org' giving us your name and zip code. This informa-

tion is used to ensure that you are a member, as RTAC is providing the funding for the operation and maintenance of the ALERT NETWORK.

You will then receive an invitation to join the RTAC.Alert Google Group and YOU MUST CLIC the "Accept Invitation" box provided.

Please be aware that RTAC is NOT part of CTPF, CPS or CTU. We are an INDEPENDENT watchdog organization dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of your pension and benefits.

2012 SPRING LUNCHEON DATE SET!

If you attended our Fall Luncheon at the Chicago Hilton and Towers you know how important and fun it is to come along with some friends!

Thursday, May 3, 2012 – 11:45 a.m.

*Grand Ballroom of the Chicago Hilton and Towers
720 S. Michigan Ave. – Chicago*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR SAVE THE DATE



PENSION NOTES

JAMES F. WARD

Past President and Pension Trustee

HALF MEASURES

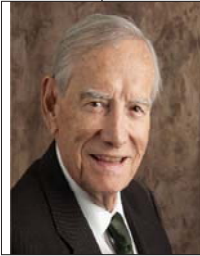
We are at a watershed moment. It seems lawmakers once believed and acted like statesmen and knew that policemen, judges, firemen, and teachers constituted the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago. They are on the front lines of civil society and contribute immeasurably to a more perfect union, social justice, domestic tranquility, common defense, general welfare, and the blessings of liberty. And the politicians treated them so.

For 100 years the Chicago Teachers Pension Fund received adequate funding from city and state allocations of tax monies sufficient to bring the security ratio of asset to liabilities from 30% in 1971 to 100% by 1997. That means enough assets to pay all the benefits to all teachers and pensioners at that date. Since 1995 the waters flow exactly 180 degrees the other way. That is to say that some of our lawgivers see some need for pension reform, e.g., SB 512, and to do that they would raise employee contributions, lower benefits, curtail health insurance for pensioners, and LOWER EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS. They already succeeded in April 2010 when a new reduced benefit package was passed for new hires.

Need proof of this reversal? Since 1995 when the CPS took all of our separate pension tax into the CPS operating budget through 2010 when the Legislature granted CPS the \$1.2 billion "pension holiday," our security ratio has dropped to under 60%. It is true markets fell in 2008 and 2009, but the Pension Fund would have weathered that storm as it has weathered others (like the Great Depression and two world wars) with proper employer contributions.

Not only does the CPS seek endless pension holidays but legions of lawyers in and out of the CPS law department have shown the motivation of the Board of Education by bringing suit to declare unconstitutional the law requiring them to pay the employer's share of pension costs. They lost this suit but it clearly shows what they believe, to wit: It is not their problem to consider pension costs in hiring and

retaining teachers. This is the kind of absurdity that resulted in the TRS (Teachers Retirement System) of Illinois paying six figure pensions to retired school superintendants in suburban districts where cronies gave each other huge raises and promotions in the years just before retirement leaving the TRS system to pay the real bill in grossly inflated pensions.



James F. Ward

The former statesmen who subscribe to the radical pension reforms being tossed about in Springfield have substantial allies in organizations like the Civic Committee of the Commercial Club of Chicago, the Civic Federation, The taxpayers Federation of Illinois, the Chamber of Commerce, and as far as can be determined, the fifth floor of City Hall. A comprehensive list is available at urokward@yahoo.com. Of course, if you have such strong allies you have one more ally, the Chicago and Illinois newspapers that do not let a week go by without demonizing teachers and teacher-pensioners.

Now you would think that at a time like this more teachers and pensioners would take notice. Many have. Through cooperative action the RTAC, the CTU, and the Principals Association have stirred up enough interest to get a good flow of letters, calls, and visits to legislators to stop or slow down some bad bills. Thanks to those who noticed and helped, but there are signs of some inactivity or apathy. At a recent meeting of pensioners where 3500 invitations were sent to discuss bad laws and how to fight them only 150 showed up and most said they would call, write or visit their lawmakers. As RTAC spent over \$80,000 in the CPS lawsuit legal fees it was learned that only half of the 3500 affected pensioners are members of RTAC. In the trustee election November 4, 2011, only 47.9% of pensioners voted by stamped U.S. Mail and 54% of teachers voted for trustees in the schools. Imagine the effect on lawmakers if the other half voted, joined RTAC and the CTU or CPAA and became active. The steady flow of lawmaker contacts would be a deluge. JFW urokward@yahoo.com

PENSION NOTES

WALTER PILDITCH

OUR ECONOMY

Through this last part of our year, there was a bitter debate over the national debt ceiling. After a vote at the last minute, a default was avoided and the economy has moved on only to be faced now with major decisions to be made by a congressional super committee. The country's credit rating has been downgraded to AA+ from the coveted AAA rating. This action did not have as much effect on the markets as was originally feared.

Meanwhile the corporations in the U.S have been performing rather well, building up their cash positions as shown by lower levels of dividend payment increases and a lesser number of stock paybacks as compared to their peaks in 2007.

Since this past summer the markets have had many see-saw movements, many with triple digit figures in a single day or two. These developments mean investors are rather nervous. Much of these feelings about the markets are also caused by the effect of European debt crisis rippling throughout the global banking system. Specifically Greece and now Italy rank as two of the worst performing countries according to the Morgan Stanley Capital International Index (MSCI- benchmarks for international portfolios are set by this organization and reports are issued periodically).

At this point we should mention countries that are doing well according to this index: the best two are Japan and New Zealand.

One point in our favor is that the United States dollar is now stronger against most other world currencies, not because our dollar is that sound considering our debt, but because other countries see it as a better risk against the euro dollar, the British pound and many emerging markets' currencies. We need to keep track of developments throughout the world as we plan for investments here in our country.



Walter Pilditch

OUR PENSION FUND

Our fund seems to be steady as things go ranging between about \$9.8 and \$10.3 billion in total through the past several months. We rank in the 82nd percentile of public funds similar to our own. Some of our investments in the international equity area are doing the best with Lazard, Morgan Stanley and William Blair outperforming others. Our asset allocations have been adjusted recently to invest a larger share of funds in the international area. These funds were subtracted from mid-cap and small-cap equity investments.

Our advice in these areas comes from Callan Associates, our overall fund managers. They also supply the material from which these remarks are drawn. Performance over the past year, our benchmark is in line with other such public funds and the most recent quarter returned 1.65% outperforming our target by 145 basis points and ranking in the 56th percentile of the other such funds. To sum this all up, we could say, "Slow, but Steady" as time marches on and we transition from 2011 to 2012.

PERSONAL COMMENT

As I listen carefully to the many money managers that appear at our meetings and give reports of about twenty minutes each, what amazes me is that the "control" of our investments is often far from our own United States borders. Think of Greece, for example, as one of those countries that affect our overall markets here. Greece is a country slightly smaller than the state of Illinois (about 51,000 square miles) with a slightly smaller population (about eleven million people compared to our twelve million). Yet the management of that country's funds has a direct influence on our markets here. Yes, it has to go through the European area into our country's markets and then into the Chicago Teachers Pension Fund, but the effect is felt often as we progress through considering our investments. By the way, this is not to say that Greece is not a delightful country to visit and some outstanding Greek-Americans have contributed much greatness to our society.

PENSION NOTES

MARY SHARON REILLY

MEDCO TAKES OVER PRESCRIPTION COVERAGE FOR MOST

As pensions and retiree health care continue to be under attack, efforts are being made to conserve assets and maintain quality health care for all retirees of the Chicago Teachers Pension Fund(CTPF). The most recent development in the health plan is the change in the prescription drug program for a number of retirees. This is described below by Mary Cavallaro,RN, CTPF Health Benefits Manager. .



Mary Sharon Reilly

For 2012, CTPF is changing its prescription coverage for most Medicare-eligible enrollees to an enhanced Medicare Part D plan administered by Medco. Both the CTPF BCBS Medicare-eligible plans (supplement and HMO Illinois) as well as the UnitedHealth Medicare Plan F will have the prescription coverage portion of their health insurance coverage provided by Medco.

The change to the Medco plan was made to take advantage of new rules from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services (CMS) that made an enhanced Medicare Part D group plan an attractive option for CTPF because of the significant cost savings that could be achieved.

Premium costs for the plans with the new Medco coverage are decreasing up to 20% in 2012. In general, the new prescription plan will provide the same benefit levels and drug coverage as the current 2011 prescription coverage. Members will not experience a coverage gap or “donut hole” like a standard Part D plan may have. CTPF will also continue to provide coverage for prescription drugs not currently covered by Medicare. The Medco national pharmacy network has over 63,000 pharmacies and includes all major chains as well as a mail service option.

Enrollment in the Medco enhanced Medicare Part D prescription plan is automatic for those enrolled in the affected plans. Medco has already begun the process of mailing out new ID cards and plan information to members. It’s important that members provide their new prescription ID card to their pharmacies with their first prescription fill in 2012. It’s also important to not enroll in any other Medicare Part D prescription coverage as

More information about the prescription coverage change to Medco is provided in the 2012 CTPF Health Insurance Handbook.

PENSION FIGURES FROM 2007 THROUGH 2011

By Past President Walter Pilditch

Long, long overdue is the news the Board of Education and the Pension Board have practically completed all of the detailed information to finalize pension information to thousands of present and former teachers.

You may recall that the Board’s *People Soft* program and the Pension’s *Pension Gold* were incompatible and most pensions from 2007 through this year had to be estimated pensions only because of incomplete or erroneous information from the Board of Education.

For some good news from the Pension board, almost all work on these pension figures has been finished. Just a few special cases (reciprocal, survivor, reversionary and disability) remain to be completed. To date, here are the figures released recently:

Completed Cases	3,391
Average Pension	\$53,924
Average Years	31.06

THE NEW SCHOOL CEO--WILL HE SUCCEED?

For the sake of the children in the Chicago Public schools, I hope the new school CEO is successful. I would not bet on it though.

It will take him six or more months to find his way around our great city and an equal number to become familiar with the hundreds of schools and the thousands of people in them. In addition, he will have to overcome resistance to being an outsider brought in by a mayor who has vowed to shake things up,

This is in a system that has had to endure the tenures of numerous school leaders who were non-educators and who through all of their efforts and changes achieved very little. The morale of teachers has to be affected just as policemen are affected when their leaders are chosen from outside their ranks.

Morale cannot be over looked. It cannot be taken for granted regardless of the level of pay. Resentment can build up when, out of the ranks of thousands in the school system, a person with experience and competence cannot be found to run this system

If no one has risen to the top in the system—and that is hard to believe—then a plan that is well defined and laid out needs to be implemented immediately to allow for advancement through the ranks to the top. It is difficult to promote a sense of family in an organization if the head of the family is always an outsider.

That being said, the new CEO can be successful if he can somehow shed the Rochester image of being autocratic. He must be a collaborator and realize that orders from on high will not get the job done. If he works in a non-adversarial role with all parties as a team, he might survive

If you are part of the decision, you are more likely to buy into the plan and get the job done.

A good starting point for such an effort would be to get all parties together and plan the best way to implement a longer school day. This writer would encourage an increase in course offerings of art, music and physical education—courses that are life enhancing and will allow for many students to succeed who might have difficulty in other subjects.

Ned L. McCray,
Retired Principal of Simeon High School
69 Odyssey Drive Tinley Park, Ill 60477

Remembering the good old days....

1957 SANDWICH MENU FROM WOOLWORTH'S...

They made a malt, gave you the metal container plus your glass, sitting on the high stool, cherry cokes, juke box.

If any of you have a doubt about what we paid for a coke and a sandwich at Woolworth's in the 1950s, here's proof of the era we lived in.

Submitted by Marlene L. Salk



RTAC LOBBYING TEAM GETS TWO NEW PLAYERS



photo courtesy of Vaughn J. Barber

Bukola Bello has joined the RTAC lobbying team, She started her own government affairs firm, Vision Mai, LLC.



World War II Veteran and ex-POW Dick Lockhart will work with new lobbyists John D. Carr (above) founder of IGAM, Inc., and Bukola Bello(left).

RTAC influence in Springfield will be greatly increased with the addition of two new lobbyists to the RTAC team. Joining long-time RTAC lobbyist Dick Lockhart are Bukola Bello and John D. Carr.

Bukola Bello is the former Director of the Illinois Retirement Securities Initiative (IRSI) of the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability. She has over ten years combined administrative, legislative and state government experience with expertise in research and statistical economic analyses particularly regarding pension legislation.

Bukola also worked as a Pension Analyst for the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability, a legislative commission with the Illinois General Assembly. She currently owns her own government affairs firm, Vision Mai, LLC, representing clients and advocating on behalf of their pension and retirement benefit needs.

Bukola received a Master of Arts with honors in Legal Studies with a Graduate Certificate in Law for Human Services and Social Work. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana.

“I hope to be an energetic and supportive voice for all RTAC members down in Springfield.

I want to help pass legislation that will help all members,” she said. Bukola said she learned that RTAC was seeking another lobbyist through her association with RTAC Directors and Pension Board Members Walter Pilditch, Mary Sharon Riley and James Ward.

John D. Carr also brings a varied background of degrees and work experience to his new post with RTAC. John was introduced to RTAC by Dick Lockhart whom he has known for 10 years.

In addition to degrees in accounting (B.A.) and history (M.A.) from the University of Iowa, John also earned a law degree at the University of Illinois. He served as a Judge Advocate General with the U.S. Army Reserves in Iraq from 2009 to 2010.

John also heads his own firm, Illinois Government Affairs Management, Inc. “I learn everything I can from Dick Lockhart,” John said. It was Dick who invited John to apply for the RTAC position. “

“There are many challenges ahead for public pensioners,” John commented. “We need to change the system but do it in a financially sound way that will not hurt retirees. Politicians have to ask themselves what is a good retirement system like the one you have had for a hundred years.”

AID FUND REPORT

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

At our Fall Meeting/Luncheon Dr. Walter Pilditch the CoChair (along with Bob Konen)) of the Grants Committee of the Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund related to us about just a few of our clients. Their needs are great.

The expenses of these needy clients are primarily food, shelter and medication--and little else. These are exactly the expenses which have increased more than others. The Board of Directors of the Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund has voted to increase the monthly benefits to its clients by 5% beginning January 1, 2012.

The Board, again, was able to save the housing of another retired teacher. The 5% increase was possible because of some of the bequests the Aid Fund received in 2011. Those donors are being remembered for their concern for our less fortunate fellow teachers.

The CRTAF is proud of its record of disbursements because virtually--except for auditor's mandate of expenses--all of our bequests, and donations are devoted to helping them. This is due to the diligence of our Officers, First Vice-President Marcella Morrison, Second Vice-President Veronica Chemers, Treasurer Art Keegan and Secretary Jim Ward. Along with Directors Nate Blackman, Dr. Ralph Juss, Ethel Philpott, and Dick Tryba. They do not allow any "administrative expenses."

Bequests to the Aid Fund can be made easily and, if one chooses, with no extra paperwork. One can speak to me directly if there are any questions.I also urge members to call me or our Executive Director Bob Bures if they know of someone who might be needing financial help and is reluctant to apply. We will handle this most discreetly without mentioning your name.

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

This is for me.

In Appreciation. . .

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

Loren C. Aspel, trust; Nate Blackman (memory of Mamie); Louise E. Christensen (memory of Bernice Boye); Beatrice J. Burchfeld (bequest); Florence M. Devenish (memory of Teresa, Lucille and Frances); Frances K. Dykes, estate; Hugh A. Gammel, estate; Helene Gonska, estate; Lois J. Hinkle, estate; Irene E. Johannes, estate; Shirley Klaper estate; Frances H. Knaphurst, trust; Rita Levy, trust; Amanda Moloney trust; Mildred L. Mueller, trust; Lillian Treka trust;

Pruitt Conner Family Trust (Elberta Pruitt)

**Phi Delta Kappa of Chicago State University;
Kappa Chapter--Delta Kappa Gamma ;**

Phoenix, Arizona Chapter of RTAC

Southern California Chapter of RTAC

DONATION FORM

Retired Teachers Association of Chicago, 20 East Jackson Blvd. Suite 1500

Chicago IL 60604-2235

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

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

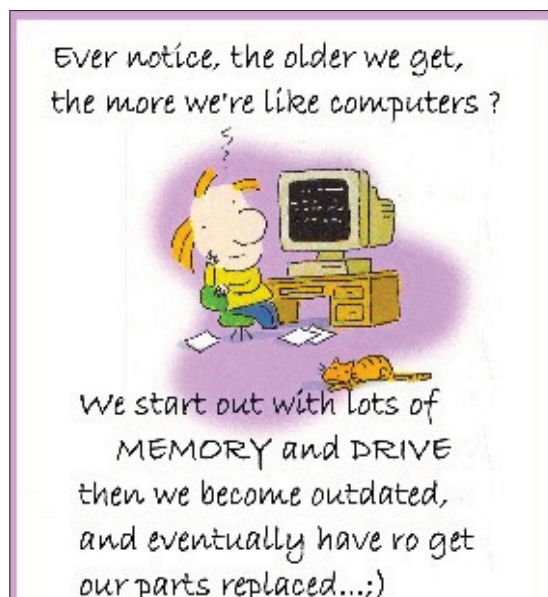
(PLEASE PRINT) Donor_____ Email address:_____

This donation is made (please check below):

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

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

Name:_____ Address:_____



MEMORIAL DONATIONS TO
 CHICAGO RETIRED TEACHERS AID FUND, INC.
 FEDERAL TAX DEDUCTIBLE. In amounts of \$10 and over
 (from July 16, 2011 to December 1, 2011)

DONOR:	IN MEMORY OF:
James J. Matthews	Suzanne Ackerman
Jayne M. Massey	Helen Gallagher
Anonymous	Marie Chapman
	Maureen McMahon
	Patricia Lasar
	Marilyn Schaefer
	Mary Hardiman
John A. Butterfield	Abe Fink
Peter J. Miscinski	Abraham Fink
Burl L. Covan	Abraham Fink
Rosemary L. Tirio	V. K. Brown
Marjorie S. Carlson	Mary Liebner
Sandra Neilson Givens	LaVergne Thomas
	Dr. Barbara Sizemore
	Allegra Podrousky
James J. Matthews	Charles T. McCarthy
Helen Wooten	Joan Ferris
Rick Ronvik	Yossel Naiman
Louise Cafasso	Roberta Kruchten
Arlene R. Crandall	Ethel Joy Polster
June Chenelle	Melvin Walker
Mary Ann Stocking	Jocelyn Simmons
	Dennis O'Dowd
	Andrea Osborn
	Iris Scott & Marianne

Anonymous	Arthur L. Jogielski
Laverne Davis-Sams	Dr. Orpen W. Bryan
John & Donna Moscinski	Hanniba Afrik (Bro. Harold Charles)
Karen Lemki	Tanna Mattingly
Robert Riemenschneider	Suzanne Ackerman
Kurt Kopfstein	Lorenz "Larry" Becker
Mary F. Russell	Margaret A. Stangel
	Jack W. Klaus
Doris J. Coussens	John H. Coussens
Frank M. Lacey	Dr. Loretta Lacey
Paul M. Miscinski	Peter J. Miscinski
Deborah A. Harris	Gwendolyn Manson
	Walter B. Cartwright
	Rose Cartwright
Mellisa A. Tatman	Mary E. Dillingham
	Lois Butler
	Claristine Mason
	Helen Bock
	Lucy Chandler
	Elbert Jones
	Marguerite Murphy
	Mitchell O'Bannon
	Betty Traverso
	Richard E. Thompson
Aretas G. Collymore	V. K. Brown
Frankie W. White	Ms. Frances Clarke
Louise M. Cafasso	Virginia Summaria

Mary F. (Cunnea) Russell	Robert Hodnett Kruchten	Carol A. Moritz	General Purpose
Anonymous	Mr.. Johnny Flowers	Marilyn E. Quas	General Purpose
Johnnie M. Newton	Ella B. Watkins	I. J. McFarland	General Purpose
	Melvin F. Walker	Anonymous	General Purpose
Pat Washington-Holloway	Frank Washington	Jewel L. Anderson	General Purpose
	Robert (Bob) Hambric	Arlene R. Crandall	Ilse Glaser, my special retired English teacher from Sullivan H.S.
S. A. Morrison	Cyril Logan		
	George Ricks	Anonymous	General Purpose
John Keating	Roy Littner	Martha Semisch	General Purpose
Society of Retired Principals & Superint-ents of Chicago	Dr. Dorothy Petak. retired principal of Howe School	Eileen B. O'Malley	General Purpose
Helen Wooten	Dr. Dorothy Petak	Roger & Katy Koenig	The retired staff of Kennedy & Kinzie Schools
Linda R. Williams	Margaret & Grant Cotten, Jr.	Adele Ragins	Hannah Christine's birth
Jewel T. Sims	Dollie Taylor	Jewel Anderson	General Purpose
	Juanita Shields	Albert P. Juengling	General Purpose
Lois Weiss	Peter Miscinski	Robert M. Lamont	General Purpose
Marion T. Hill	Helen E. Hill	Helen Marie Wallace	General Purpose
Isabel Schechter	Reggie Simon	Marina Elizondo	General Purpose
Nancietta L. Stocking	Casimir J. Mika	Jane Yakushiji	General Purpose
	Julio Lopez	Flora Moreno Soto	General Purpose
		James H. Alexander	General Purpose
SPECIAL DONATIONS TO CHICAGO RETIRED TEACHERS AID FUND, INC DONOR OCCASION			
Eugene Jerkatis	All CPS employ ees who have served honorably in theArmed Forces of the United States	Sandra Maison Rosen	General Purpose
		Anonymous	General Purpose
		Rina M. Naddeo	The family of Mr. & Mrs. Ned McCray
Miriam Alpert	Retired teachers in need		In honor of the fine leadership of Steven A. Kailes

	In honor of the fine leadership of Patrick Kenny	Michael O. Ashley	Ophelia Ashley-Mitchell
	In honor of the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Mr. & Mrs. Robert F.. Bures		Eddie B. Tate, Jr.
		SPECIAL DONATIONS TO RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION of CHICAGO	
		DONOR:	OCCASION:
Anonymous	General Purpose	Samuel L. Dolnick Berthold Demsch	Legal Defense Fund General Purpose, Thanks for the lovely flowers(90th Birthday)
Frank C. McClenahan	General Purpose		
Fred R. Hunter	General Purpose	Rosemary B. Wolf	In honor of the Service Committee
Isidore Elbaum	In honor of the retired teachers of John Marshall HS	Mary Ann Stocking	Happy 95th Birthday, Sonja K. Becvar
Barbara R. Jarrow	General Purpose	Marsha Bain	General Purpose
		James A. Dudlicek	Legal Defense Fund
		Joseph J. Eckl	General Purpose
		Carmella Hannon	Legal Defense Fund
		Anonymous	Legal Defense Fund
		Rosemary & Warren Holmes	Celebrating Great Primary Teachers
		Mary M. James	General Purpose
		Ruth R. Kolar	General Purpose
		Paul J. Nesterowicz	Legal Defense Fund
		Diane Smith	Legal Defense Fund
		Rose C. Walsh	Legal Defense Fund
		Antonia Wister	Legal Defense Fund
		Judith M. Dever	Legal Defense Fund
		James H. Alexander	General Purpose
		Joy A. Maddox	Legal DefensFund
		Anonymous	General Purpose
		C. & M. Rayburn	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 July 16, 2011 to December 1, 2011)

DONOR: IN MEMORY OF:

Constance P. Guardi Lillian Frauman

Grace Houston

Eugene Swetin

Nancy Toomey Dr. Patrick Ahern

Gus Jones

Tom Sieracki

V. K. Brown

Tina Panos Marian Panos

Dr. An- gline Caruso

Joe Scarpaci Iris Kalsch

Holly Stephenson

Rose C. Walsh Clarazio & Radamacher, Brentano Teachers

New Life Members

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

MARION ADAMS
 JAMES H. ALEXANDER
 BRENDA AMDERSPM-BRYANT
 PETER J. ARDITO
 AGNES O. ATKINS
 MARYANN BLASZAK-RESENDEZ
 ELLEN BLUESTEIN
 GAIL D. BROOKS
 JOEL BROOKS
 C.J. CELESK-HAJDUK
 NINA C. CONRAD
 ISABEL M. DE PARA
 PATRICIA L. DI BENEDETTO
 CATHERINE B. DOMRES
 RICHARD W. EISNER
 THERESE E. FINN
 HATTYE DELL FLAKES

MARY E. FUNK
 ALANE GRAY
 VIRGINIA E. GRIFFIN
 JAMES M. HALL
 LOU E. HATTON
 BRENDA L. HUMPHREY
 JUANITA HUTCHINSON
 BARBARA R. JARROW
 PATRICIA ANN JOHNSON
 KATHLEEN J. KAHOUN
 RICHARD KANNER
 TANYA KLASSER
 RUTH R. KOLAR
 PATRICIA KORES
 DEBORAH A. MAGGIO
 MARY B. MARSHALL
 JOHN MUHR

LOIS NELSON
 JOHN F. OLSEN
 LINDA PORTER-MILTON
 PHYLLIS L. ROBERTS
 DOUGLAS R. ROBINSON
 MARIA J. RODRIGUEZ
 HAROLD STRAMDBERG
 LLOYD STRONG
 KATHY THREATT
 EDIE R. TILLIS
 LIANE TROY
 GERALDINE L. UPSHAW
 CAROL A. UTSUNOMIYA
 ALICE WICK
 SHARON WILCHER
 NORMA WITTMAN
 DIANN WRIGHT

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

Enclosed is my check or money order (payable to RTAC) for \$_____

- RENEW MY ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP (January 1 - December 31)\$30.00
- ENROLL ME AS A NEW MEMBER\$30.00
- ENROLL ME AS A LIFE MEMBER \$200.00
- Lifetime membership at age 85 or over.....FREE

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Date of Birth _____ Phone_(____)_____

Retired In Year _____ Position _____ School _____

Social Security Number __xxx-xx-_____(Only need last 4 digits)

(For verification purposes - your confidentiality is assured.)

Non-CPS E-mail address _____

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT



PASS IT ON!



THE SPEAKERS....



RTAC President Steven A. Kailes announced the retirement of Nate Blackman from the RTAC Board of Directors at the Fall Luncheon October 6, "I've watched Nate for many years, and he always took the high road. His position might have been at risk, but he always did what was right."



Director Nate Blackman is flanked by two of his many friends. After 17 years of service on the RTAC Board of Directors and a 41-year-career with the Board of Education, Nate has decided to step down. The former principal of the School at Cook County Jail and Nate was the first principal of Metro High School. He has also been a faithful member of the RTAC Social Committee sending out cards and flowers to senior members on their birthdays, as well as Prize Master at RTAC luncheons with the assistance of Marion Hoffing. Nate said he will spend his free time doing R & R, resting and reading and also relaxing at his Florida Time Share. He plans on having many walks and visits to the gym. His wonderful service and sunny personality will be missed by all at RTAC.



"HB 3827, the new bill introduced yesterday [Oct. 5] by Minority Leader Cross, would replace our Pension Board with mayoral appointees This strikes at the very heart of our system of checks and balances." James F. Ward, RTAC Director and CTPF Trustee



CTPF Executive Director told the audience that the Pension Fund is very secure, being funded at 60%. However, he emphasized the need for more funding and pointed out that TRS , the pension fund for suburban and downstate teachers, actually receives \$3 billion from the state, while the Chicago Teachers Pension Fund receives only \$10 million. "The state promised we'd get 20 to 30 percent of what state teachers get....We aren't getting even 2 percent."



Director Robert Cunningham led the assemblage in singing "God Bless America."

THE LUCKY WINNERS



Joice Bakrins, Rogers



Willie Moore, Hearst



Birdell Edwards, Sherwood



Louis Pyster, Austin



*Doris Kamys,
Harriet Beecher Stowe*



*Bernadine Thomas,
Johnson*



*Edwina Beavers, Westinghouse, won a weekend at
the Palmer House Hotel and \$100*



Carol Novak, Clemente, won \$100



*Elaine Messal,
Henry Clay*



Bernice Jackson, Hamline



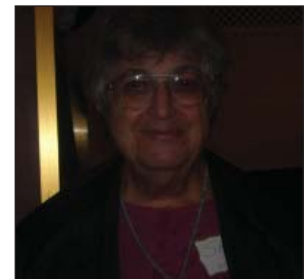
Sandra Steed, Dyett



*Marva Allison,
Englewood*



Muriel C. Thompson,



Sally Nusinson, School Nurse



Monzella Jackson, Curtis



George Legg, Alcott



*Pamela Rice, Stevenson
Principal*



*Regina Connolly,
Hanson Park*

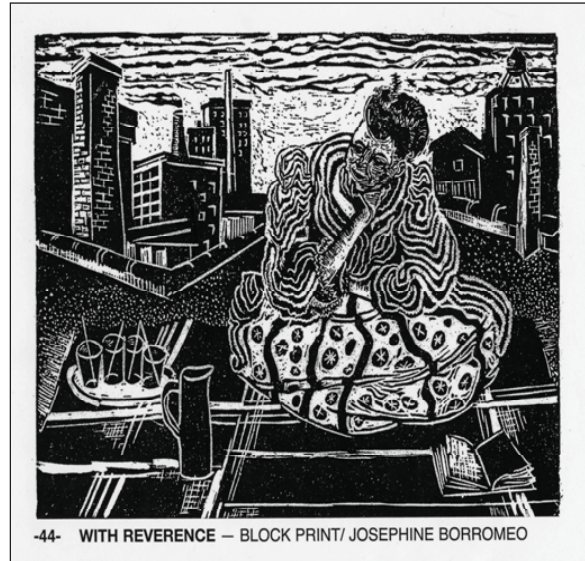
LETTERS. . .

THE FOLLOWING WAS RECEIVED BY THE SERVICE COMMITTEE

On September 8, 2011, I joyfully unwrapped a basket full of plants and flowers that you so graciously sent to me in honor of my special birthday. The enclosed art calendar is my token of appreciation to you for your kind attention. In 2009, I was juried into the Chicago Society of Artists, the oldest continuing association of artists in the U.S.A. My contribution to their yearly calendar was awarded 1st place in block print. Enjoy!Thanks again.

Sincerely,

Josephine Borromeo



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Mounted on the wall, a few feet over my desk, the beautiful framed photograph of the western view of Chicago's skyline dominates and brightens my den. It is no exaggeration to say that visitors to my apartment are as awed as I was the first time I viewed it.

I deeply regret that I was unable to participate in the very special occasion honoring former presidents. I appreciate Bob Bures' personal delivery and I am happy to report that it was on the wall within 48 hours of its receipt.

Thank you again for your thoughtfulness and for this most appropriate gift.

Sincerely yours,

Bob Konen

A very Merry Christmas to all of the Great RTAC Staff! Hope Santa brings us all a safe pension until 2099!!!

Thanks for all your hard work!

Joe Eckl

[Editor's Note: Dr. Konen and all the RTAC past presidents received the view of the skyline at the Spring Luncheon displayed in the photo at left by Immediate Past President Vaughn J. Barber at the Spring Luncheon when the presentation of the awards was made]

Three Cheers for our Director's letter

As one who has worked in both private and public sectors, I commend the excellent explanation and defense of the public pensions put forth in a recent letter from CTPF director, Kevin Huber. He is absolutely right about the many voiceless pension recipients having paid for and diligently earned modest pensions. Unfortunately, headlines gravitate toward a small fraction of beneficiaries who scam the system through abuse and political connection. It is clear, however, that participants have totally met their obligations. Governing institutions have not.

What is truly astonishing is that some working Americans in the private and public sectors--egged on by clever special interests -- squabble with each other over leftover crumbs of the economic pie. Their efforts would be better focused on the enormous gouging of that pie by Wall Street , investment bankers and corporate welfare. Special interests, with their money, influence and control of Congress pose a far greater threat to our economy than civic employees who work for the public, pay their taxes and earn their pensions.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Cittadine

GAINS IN MEMBERSHIP NOTED

Each year, RTAC sends a complimentary copy of the News Bulletin to all new retirees to encourage them to join our organization. This year, the results have been overwhelming especially in comparison with past efforts.

In the past, we usually received 12 or so new memberships from new retirees. As of October 11, however, we have enrolled 138 new members. This can be credited to the bulletin's coverage of RTAC;s intervention in the Board of Education's claim that the Pension Fund overpaid the pensions of those who retired between 1998 and 2004 and its demand that the annuitants return this money. Our members are sympathetic with our intervention in this matter, and this is reflected in the huge increase of new members. New members keep coming in daily, and we look forward to their participation in our mission to protect our pension. We are spreading the message.

APOLOGIES

Member Alice Gutenkauf noticed the following errors in the September issue Memorial Donations: Yossel Naimen's name was misspelled as Nailman, and in the Apologies box Eva Nickolich's name was misspelled as Nickolick. Thank you for your observations, Alice.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

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

Name: _____

NEW Address _____ Apt. _____

NEW City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

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

Email address: _____

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

THE LIGHTER SIDE

A LOOK BACK AT CHRISTMAS IN THE CAPITAL

There was no Nativity Scene in Washington this year. The Supreme Court ruled that there could not be a Nativity Scene at the Capitol Building, not for any religious reason, but because they simply have not been able to find Three Wise Men in the nation's capital.

The search for a virgin continues.

There was no problem, however, finding enough asses to fill the stable!

“Witnessing the Republicans and the Democrats bicker over the U.S. debt is like watching two drunks argue over a bar bill on the Titanic.”

SUBJECT: WHY I'M DEPRESSED

I was so depressed last night thinking about Health Care Plans, the economy, multiple wars, lost jobs, savings, Social Security, retirement funds, etc., I called a Suicide Hotline.

I had to press 1 for English.

I was connected to a call center in Pakistan . I told them I was suicidal. They got excited and asked if I could drive a truck.....

Folks, we're in trouble!

Submitted by Director Art Keegan

ALL PUNS INTENDED

1. Two antennas met on a roof, fell in love and got married. The ceremony wasn't much, but the reception was excellent.

2. A jumper cable walks into a bar. The bartender says, "I'll serve you, but don't start anything."

3. Two peanuts walk into a bar, and one was a salted.

4. A dyslexic man walked into a bra.

5. A man walks into a bar with a slab of asphalt under his arm, and says: "A beer please, and one for the road."

6. Two cannibals are eating a clown. One says to the other: "Does this taste funny to you?"

7. "Doc, I can't stop singing The Green, Green Grass of Home."

"That sounds like Tom Jones Syndrome."

"Is it common?"

"Well, It's Not Unusual."

8. TWO fish swim into a concrete wall. The one turns to the other and says, "DAM!"

9. Two cows are standing next to each other in a field. Daisy says to Dolly, "I was artificially inseminated this morning."

"I don't believe you," says Dolly.

"It's true; no bull!" exclaims Daisy.

10. An invisible man marries an invisible woman. The kids were nothing to look at either.

11. Deja Moo: The feeling that you've heard this bull before.

12. Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly, so they lit fire in the craft. Not surprisingly, it sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it too.

"14. I went to a seafood disco last week, and pulled a mussel.

15. A dwarf, who was a mystic, escaped from jail. The call went out that there was a small medium at large.

16. And finally, there was the person who sent twenty different puns to his friends, with the hope that at least ten of the puns would make them laugh. No pun in ten did.

THE JAMES E. ARMSTRONG AWARD

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

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

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

~~~~~

Please submit the name(s) of your nominee(s) to the Award Committee with a brief rationale for your selection(s). Nominations should be submitted no later than April 15, 2012, for consideration.

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

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

Nominator \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

NOMINATIONS DUE BY APRIL 15, 2012.  
SUBMIT BY E MAIL TO JAMES E. ARMSTRONG AWARD OFFICE @RTAC.ORG  
OR MAIL TO: JAMES E. ARMSTRONG AWARD COMMITTEE  
RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO  
20 E. JACKSON BLVD. SUITE 1500  
CHICAGO, IL 60604-2235



## FRIENDS GONE AHEAD

*Requiescant in pace*

| Name                          | Date         | Age | School          | Yr. Retired | CPS Service |
|-------------------------------|--------------|-----|-----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Sandra Abrams                 | August 6     | 74  | Brown           | 1997        | 35          |
| James J. Ahern                | October 21   | 86  | Bowen           | 1991        | 38          |
| Esma R. Al-Mahdi              | September 8  | 84  | Steinmetz       | 2003        | 34          |
| Frances A. Altman             | August 9     | 86  | Anderson        | 1991        | 14          |
| Rudelle (Edmonds) Anderson    | July 20      | 89  | Powell          | 1987        | 27(4)       |
| Patricia Arentz               | September 12 | 67  | Lovett          | 2000        | 34          |
| Hosea Atkins                  | September 8  | 68  | Frazier         | 2006        | 38          |
| June (Love) Bailey            | June 26      | 73  | J.N. Thorp      | 1994        | 22          |
| Olivia Baker                  | October 27   | 81  | Fulton          | 1997        | 39          |
| Lorenz C. Becker              | September 22 | 75  | Sullivan        | 1993        | 38          |
| Deloris (Hansen) Bengtson     | November 27  | 85  | Bell            | 1990        | 29          |
| Janice (Mazaar) Bennett       | November 6   | 80  | Whitney Young   | 1986        | 21          |
| Warner B. Birts               | September 24 | 76  | Englewood       | 1996        | 40          |
| David S. Blumofe              | August 26    | 81  | Von Steuben     | 1993        | 38          |
| Angela Bottiglieri            | August 20    | 94  | Juarez          | 1984        | 21          |
| Rose (Duncan) Bottom          | October 16   | 73  | Wadsworth       | 1993        | 38          |
| Mary A. Bradford              | July 17      | 70  | Caldwell        | 1994        | 30          |
| Charles R. Brew               | September 21 | 99  | Pulaski         | 1973        | 17(20)      |
| Albert G. Briggs              | November 2   | 95  | Central Office  | 1981        | 30          |
| John J. Broderick             | November 27  | 80  | Central Office  | 1993        | 38          |
| Dorothy M. Brooks             | September 28 | 91  | Dist. 14        | 1985        | 24          |
| Vergil K. Brown               | August 20    | 84  | Lindblom        | 1992        | 34          |
| Virginia (Wayne) Burke        | November 13  | 93  | Kilmer          | 1983        | 17          |
| Lester Burrage                | November 6   | 69  | Irving          | 1994        | 28          |
| Vivian J. Burkett             | August 26    | 93  | Reed            | 1990        | 36          |
| Hettie O. (Gordon) Butler     | October 1    | 94  | Scanlan         | 1983        | 20          |
| Jane W. (Coleman) Callahan    | November 2   | 87  | Dawes           | 1979        | 25          |
| Anita (McCarthy) Carroll      | September 18 | 96  | South Shore     | 1976        | 18          |
| Hollis Chester                | September 7  | 81  | Bethune         | 1991        | 32          |
| Doris J. Clayton              | October 19   | 71  | Orr             | 2004        | 17          |
| Rita (Callaghan) Cochrane     | November 19  | 80  | Wentworth       | 1993        | 31          |
| Ozie M. (Banks) Coleman       | October 22   | 85  | Fuller          | 1992        | 29          |
| Cecilia (Cutsia) Corsiglia    | October 12   | 88  | Substitute      | 1980        | 14          |
| Barbara (Sterling) Courtney   | November 3   | 87  | Skinner         | 1987        | 35          |
| Sharon Alicia Criddell        | August 7     | 65  | Substitute      | 2008        | 19          |
| Juan S. Cruz                  | July 28      | 87  | Central Office  | 1989        | 27          |
| Carolee (Ingram) Cunningham   | August 10    | 84  | Jensen          | 1993        | 32          |
| Leslie A. (Benson) Custus     | August 15    | 77  | Drake           | 2000        | 10          |
| Elizabeth (Cook) Daugherty    | October 22   | 87  | Wacker          | 1985`       | 37          |
| Susan(McKamey)Davidson-Thomas | September 2  | 79  | Wirth           | 1994        | 19          |
| Samuel C. Davis               | September 30 | 82  | Region 3 Office | 2002        | 20          |
| Gertrude G. Dickson           | October 26   | 80  | Kinzie          | 1991        | 38          |
| Eleanor S. Dorman             | November 10  | 86  | Scanlan         | 1985        | 37          |
| Marion R. Douglass            | July 22      | 85  | Mayo            | 1990        | 42          |
| Marianne Duignan              | October 10   | 81  | CVS             | 1987        | 30          |
| Rhoda C. Eisner               | October 31   | 72  | Parkside        | 1993        | 24          |

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

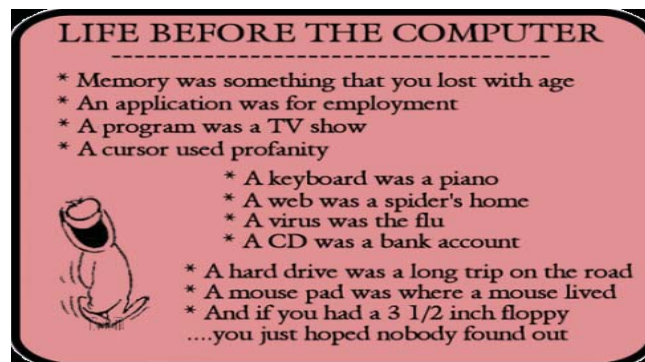
| Name                               | Date         | Age | School           | Yr. Retired | CPS Service |
|------------------------------------|--------------|-----|------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Yvonne P. (Jackson) Eskridge       | July 9       | 77  | McCormick        | 1989        | 32          |
| Earnest E. Fair                    | November 2   | 80  | Dunne            | 2004        | 10          |
| Nancy L. Faron                     | September 21 | 70  | McCormick        | 1993        | 30          |
| Margaret (Tyrell) Figliulo         | August 8     | 81  | Shields          | 1988        | 24          |
| Abraham Fink                       | August 10    | 87  | Mather           | 1983        | 35          |
| Marie S. (Taylor) Firlit           | September 12 | 93  | Dist. 6          | 1987        | 40          |
| Julie J. Fisher                    | October 4    | 84  | Otis             | 1998        | 38          |
| William Foster                     | August 28    | 68  | Park Manor       | 1883        | 27          |
| Virginia (Wells) French            | November 16  | 79  | John Hope        | 1996        | 38          |
| Edna Raye (Erskine) Garrett        | September 25 | 86  | O'Toole          | 1991        | 21          |
| David Goodman                      | September 9  | 86  | Farnsworth       | 1984        | 34          |
| Henrietta Goldberg                 | November 13  | 86  | Sullivan         | 1981        | 23(3)       |
| Luvina L. Gorman                   | July 31      | 89  | Newberry         | 1987        | 30          |
| Kathleen (Goe) Grabo               | August 8     | 69  | Matcalfe         | 1999        | 33          |
| Leslie A. (Paluszewski) Graziano   | November 27  | 73  | Funston          | 1994        | 38          |
| Harold Greenberg                   | August 30    | 86  | Clemente         | 1998        | 42          |
| John T. Gunn                       | August 20    | 87  | Lafayette        | 1988        | 34          |
| Harold Dale Hale                   | August 2     | 65  | Von Steuben      | 2011        | 21          |
| Robert E. Hansen                   | August 8     | 82  | Lane Tech        | 1988        | 36          |
| Marcita A. Hecht                   | August 19    | 90  | Peirce           | 1984        | 30          |
| Beatrice C.(Jiambalvo)Heimerdinger | July 25      | 87  | Ella Flagg Young | 1991        | 30          |
| Tillie (Greenberg) Hilfman         | October 3    | 94  | Decatur          | 1978        | 21          |
| Jean A. (Cirrincione) Hillbruner   | September 15 | 97  | Madison          | 1979        | 21          |
| Marvin D. Hobbs                    | July 29      | 78  | McClellan        | 1992        | 32          |
| Patricia (Heinzman) Hoffman        | November 11  | 80  | Hitch            | 1990        | 35(2)       |
| Ozie (Simmons) House-Johnson       | August 26    | 67  | Calumet          | 2004        | 34          |
| Marguerite W. Howard               | September 7  | 98  | Bateman          | 1980        | 7           |
| Mary Kathleen (Berger) Iglinski    | October 11   | 62  | Fleming Branch   | 2007        | 34          |
| Henry L. James                     | September 24 | 73  | Westinghouse     | 2003        | 17          |
| Jewel Christine James              | September 7  | 59  | Melody           | 2010        | 28          |
| Helen (Dennis) Jeffries            | October 13   | 79  | Pierce           | 1990        | 28          |
| Mary E. Johnson-Hummons            | October 25   | 54  | Mollison         | 2007        | 23\         |
| Elizabeth (Riedle) Jurgensen       | September 4  | 87  | Shields          | 1982        | 21          |
| Josephine R. Kamin                 | October 25   | 90  | Palmer           | 1988        | 29          |
| Caryn (Dale) Kaufman               | September 3  | 61  | Darwin           | 2010        | 31          |
| Robert E. Kennedy                  | August 1     | 89  | Collins          | 1987        | 21          |
| Maxine E. (Penn) King              | October 22   | 84  | Washington       | 1986        | 29          |
| Martha Klueppel                    | May 2        | 97  | Horner           | 1976        | 6           |
| Ivan Komar                         | August 14    | 78  | Hamline          | 1999        | 36          |
| Roberta (Hadnett) Kruchten         | October 6    | 80  | Gary             | 1997        | 42          |
| John D. Lamon                      | November 6   | 79  | Clemente         | 1991        | 34          |
| Patricia Viola Land                | September 10 | 63  | Manley           | 2011        | 24          |
| Estelle (McDougal) Lanier          | August 3     | 85  | Dyett            | 1988        | 31(5)       |
| Mildred (Spencer) Laws             | November 3   | 85  | Ryder            | 1990        | 35          |
| Barbara L. Lebda                   | August 8     | 76  | Morgan Park      | 1993        | 38          |
| Linda Joyce Lewis                  | August 8     | 61  | Gillespie        | 2009        | 36          |
| Lula (Patton) Lewis                | September 8  | 71  | Hyde Park`       | 2001        | 37          |
| Marion Lewis                       | September 8  | 71  | Morgan Park      | 2006        | 31          |
| Joan (Watson) Logan                | October 7    | 94  | Douglas          | 1977        | 34          |
| Lillie L. (Austin) Lonzo           | November 21  | 88  | Parker           | 1994        | 26          |

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

| Name                         | Date         | Age | School         | Yr. Retired | CPS Service |
|------------------------------|--------------|-----|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Julio P. Lopez               | October 25   | 85  | Burr           | 1994        | 28          |
| Shirley (Fredrich) Majewski  | November 27  | 87  | Bateman        | 1984        | 16(4)       |
| Charles McCarthy             | September 5  | 87  | Morgan Park    | 1989        | 39          |
| Joyce M. McCoy               | July 11      | 71  | Spencer        | 2007        | 36          |
| Marilyn G. (Sands) McCullah  | October 25   | 85  | Seward         | 1991        | 27          |
| Willie McGhee                | October 6    | 92  | Madison        | 1984        | 21          |
| Margaret McGuire             | October 26   | 84  | Twain          | 1986        | 37          |
| Walter H. McKinney           | November 16  | 76  | Arai           | 2004        | 31          |
| Anne (Buttimer) McNally      | August 7     | 101 | Byford         | 1971        | 29          |
| William McNerney             | August 25    | 81  | Beasley        | 1990        | 40          |
| William J. Meade             | October 24   | 77  | Higgins        | 1990        | 34          |
| Charles W. Meekins           | November 7   | 62  | Schiller       | 2010        | 24          |
| Charles H. Meyer             | November 20  | 75  | Kosciuszko     | 1993        | 38          |
| Henry Milton                 | October 24   | 76  | Crane Tech     | 2000        | 40          |
| Peter J. Miscinski           | October 13   | 77  | Mather         | 1994        | 38          |
| Frank P. Modica              | November 21  | 80  | Spry           | 1990        | 32          |
| Mary D. Molloy               | October 20   | 88  | Nansen         | 1977        | 25          |
| Naomi (Campbell) Moody       | November 6   | 69  | Smyth          | 1993        | 28          |
| Leon D. Moore                | September 3  | 81  | Bradwell       | 1989        | 23(5)       |
| Lucy S. Morris               | September 4  | 92  | Foreman        | 1993        | 38          |
| Lauretta (Kennedy) Murphy    | September 5  | 100 | Carroll        | 1971        | 34          |
| William S. Murray            | November 11  | 79  | Curie          | 1993        | 38          |
| Robert A. Nesbitt            | October 7    | 77  | Kenwood        | 1993        | 38          |
| Mitchell O'Bannon            | October 9    | 88  | Robeson        | 1988        | 35(2)       |
| Marceline (Kotris) Page      | August 21    | 83  | Dawes          | 1985        | 33          |
| Anthony M. Palese            | August 13    | 86  | Burns          | 1990        | 38          |
| Evelyn (Gollnick) Paradies   | August 31    | 99  | Cameron        | 1972        | 28          |
| Jeanne (Graves) Pearson      | November 3   | 88  | Waters         | 1978        | 21          |
| Antonio Perez                | September 27 | 80  | Lane Tech      | 1994        | 23          |
| Luis E. Perez                | October 11   | 68  | Stewart        | 1993        | 31          |
| Vera C. (Jones) Peterson     | August 9     | 87  | Sherwood       | 1992        | 29          |
| Henriette D. Peters          | July 7       | 74  | Pilsen         | 2004        | 33          |
| Lorraine Pickett             | October 29   | 68  | Pasteur        | 2001        | 34          |
| Claudette (Casper) Pierce    | July 31      | 74  | Pickard        | 2002        | 33          |
| Anthony E. Pilch             | September 26 | 86  | Byrne          | 1988        | 38          |
| Ethel J. (Sharf) Polster     | September 3  | 82  | Taft           | 1986        | 24          |
| Rebecca A. (Wheeler) Porter  | October 26   | 77  | King           | 1998        | 10          |
| Nellie (Towels) Pringle      | August 31    | 93  | Woodson North  | 1992        | 29          |
| Fred C, Purnell              | November 15  | 80  | Avalon Park    | 1993        | 38          |
| Charles R. Randall           | July 15      | 72  | Terrell        | 1994        | 36          |
| Frances Reynolds             | August 19    | 103 | Nansen         | 1973        | 39(1)       |
| Rachel B. (Jenness) Roe      | September 7  | 85  | Bradwell       | 1989        | 19(3)       |
| Robert C. Rogers             | October 13   | 80  | Central Office | 1991        | 33          |
| Irene (Gilbrdt) Rohan        | October 22   | 93  | Arai Middle    | 1980        | 22(3)       |
| Shirley (Goldberg) Rosenthal | October 27   | 91  | Mayo           | 1986        | 18          |
| Julia (Grant) Russell        | September 15 | 93  | Holmes         | 1986        | 19          |
| Iris L. (Robinson) Sabree    | October 9    | 75  | Hyde Park      | 2004        | 25          |
| Mamie L. (Fulton) Sanders    | May 17       | 76  | Peck           | 2001        | 9           |
| Mary A. (Lustig) Sassano     | October 14   | 76  | Harvard        | 1997        | 28          |
| Ira E. Sax                   | September 16 | 80  | Haugen         | 1997        | 39          |



| Name                          | Date         | Age | School         | Yr. Retired | CPS Service |
|-------------------------------|--------------|-----|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Charlotte (Schrik) Schaefer   | October 24   | 98  | Ward           | 1973        | 35          |
| Roy M. Scheid                 | August 20    | 77  | Sawyer         | 1989        | 34          |
| James M. Shannon              | November 17  | 75  | Washington     | 1998        | 37          |
| Juanita (Jenkins) Shields     | August 24    | 79  | Armstrong      | 1993        | 24          |
| Ruth (Djupmsn) Shouba         | July 25      | 98  | Avondale       | 1973        | 21(4)       |
| Vivian G. (Krukas) Simenas    | July 21      | 91  | Bogan          | 1982        | 22          |
| Wilhelmina (Carson) Sloan     | October 26   | 93  | Hyde Park      | 1981        | 23(3)       |
| Phyllis D. Spiegel            | October 13   | 78  | Hamilton       | 1998        | 31          |
| Doris A. Sposta               | November 3   | 80  | Stockton       | 1995        | 39          |
| Florence M. (Esters) Stancy   | July 17      | 74  | Chalmers       | 1993        | 30          |
| John C. Stephens              | August 25    | 84  | Curie          | 1989        | 32          |
| Eleanor (Gudonis) St. John    | October 10   | 91  | Jenner         | 2000        | 32          |
| Evelyn D. (Jenkins) Stemley   | November 15  | 93  | Olive CPC      | 1983        | 19          |
| Anne (Sullivan) Stuerhoff     | August 12    | 85  | Pulaski        | 1992        | 24          |
| Arlene Sudduth                | October 18   | 77  | Delano         | 2004        | 28          |
| Marie E. (Knippel) Sullivan   | July 25      | 87  | Wildwood       | 1986        | 9           |
| Virginia Summaria             | September 24 | 24  | Dever          | 1983        | 38          |
| Herbert D. Tarnor             | October 11   | 74  | Farragut       | 2004        | 19          |
| Dollie M. (Walton) Taylor     | August 15    | 87  | Van Vlissingen | 1994        | 36          |
| Marion W. Taylor              | September 17 | 91  | Drake          | 1986        | 17          |
| Bradena (Payne) Thomas        | October 23   | 83  | Shoop          | 1988        | 36          |
| Dorothy Tisevich              | September 1  | 86  | Pasteur        | 1984        | 38          |
| Josephine (Sukehira) Tomita   | July 27      | 90  | Goudy          | 1993        | 38          |
| John W. Trudo                 | November 20  | 69  | Schiller       | 1994        | 21          |
| Sandra L. (Angel) Tucker      | October 16   | 60  | Sawyer         | 2911        | 20          |
| Milton E. Upshaw              | September 19 | 67  | Caldwell       | 2002        | 35          |
| Ted S. Vaver                  | October 23   | 77  | Anderson       | 1990        | 31          |
| Joseph Villanueva             | September 6  | 80  | Parkside       | 1986        | 33          |
| Madeline Voorhees             | September 12 | 86  | Mather         | 1989        | 36          |
| Anne (Joyce) Wallace          | August 8     | 88  | Sherman        | 1993        | 38          |
| Virginia (Maloney) Walsh      | November 7   | 89  | Owen           | 1984        | 34          |
| Regina (Nalbach) Warner       | September 26 | 89  | Morton C.A.    | 1991        | 24          |
| Marguerite (Weren) White      | October 11   | 84  | Henry          | 1986        | 32          |
| Vivian T. (Powell) Williams   | November 14  | 81  | Donoghue       | 1995        | 29          |
| Harold O. Wingfield           | September 19 | 82  | Central Office | 1991        | 38          |
| Ann Williams                  | September 29 | 70  | Substitute     | 2003        | 22          |
| Bennett M. Wolfe              | September 18 | 76  | Avalon Park    | 1998        | 25          |
| Meyer Yasnoff                 | August 5     | 90  | Hyde Park      | 1979        | 36          |
| Willie N. Young               | August 3     | 79  | Simeon         | 1994        | 33          |
| Catherine (Gionanetti) Zachar | August 8     | 86  | Steinmetz      | 1987        | 38          |





## SATELLITE DOINGS



### SAN DIEGO

*By Sam Dolnick*

Due to illness, the October meeting of the San Diego Satellite was not held last year. Planning for the April meeting is underway, and notifications will be sent out soon.



### SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

*By Rosemary McMahon*

The Retired Teachers of Southwest Florida will hold our annual luncheon on Tuesday, March 6, 2012. We will gather at The Creekside Restaurant located in the Villages of Country Creek at 21131 Country Creek Drive, Estero, FL. Social Hour will begin at noon. Once again, Walter Pilditch has agreed to join us and will give us pension updates. We have had more southwest Floridians join us each year. Mark your calendar now and plan to join us in March. If you need more information

please contact Rosemary McMahon RM9706@aol.com or 239-591-2879. Our menu will be the same as in past luncheons; fish, chicken or beef. Cost will be approximately \$20.00, this includes your beverage, dinner dessert and tip. Please contact me by E-Mail or phone to place your reservation by February 28, 2012 for your meal choice for the luncheon on Tuesday March 6th. Looking forward to seeing all retired teachers in the SW Florida area.



## 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.

|                                           |                    |                    |                   |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| AARP Illinois Center                      | Chicago            | Beverly Moore      | 312-458-3604      |
| Abraham Lincoln Center                    | Chicago Near South | Hannah Katz        | 773-451-3360      |
| Alternatives For The Older Adult          | Outlying Counties  | Tracee Keefer      | 800-798-0988      |
| American Lung Association of Chicago      | Chicago Central    | Alexis Lewis       | 312-628-0234      |
| Centro Loyola                             | Chicago North      | Daniel Loftus      | 312-226-7887      |
| Chicago Botanic Gardens                   | Glenco             | Judy Cashen        | 847-835-6800      |
| ChildServe at Bryant E. S.                | Harvey             | Jennifer Collins   | 773-867-7362      |
| Corazon a Corazon (Heart to Heart)        | Chicago Southeast  | Amanda Koss        | 773-221-0620      |
| CPS Student Science Fair                  | Chicago            | B. Dubielak-Wood   | 773-553-6318      |
| Forest Preserve District                  | Western Suburbs    | Chris Linnell      | 630-942-6169      |
| Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance       | Chicago West       | Kirsten Akre       | 773-638-1766x24   |
| Guide for the Blind                       | Chicago Central    | Kathy Austin       | 312-236-8569      |
| Howard Area Community center              | Chicago Rogers Pk  | Kirsten Pomykala   | 773-262-6622x264  |
| Kids Voting                               | Chicago            | Ellen Solomon      | 312-332-3107      |
| Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing     | Chicago            | Lindsey Ravizza    | 312-347-7600      |
| Madison School                            | Skokie             | Hillary Schab      | 847-414-8920      |
| Maryville Academy                         | Northwest Suburbs  | Jennifer Marks     | 773-205-3606      |
| Mercy Home for Boys and Girls             | Chicago Central    | J. Brown/E. Dordek | 312-738-7554      |
| Metropolitan Tenants Organization         | Chicago            | R. McDannald       | 773-292-4980x223  |
| Midwest Palliative & Hospice CareCenter   | North Suburban     | Elizabeth Grantner | 847-556-1982      |
| Misericordia Home                         | Chicago            | Therese Loftus     | 773-273-4163      |
| North Shore Senior Ctr (Senior Advocacy)  | Northfield         | Paul J. Luzwick    | 847-784-6000      |
| Oakton Community College                  | DesPlaines-Skokie  | Rita Stewart       | 847-635-1434      |
| Oriental Institute, University of Chicago | Chicago Hyde Park  | Cathy D or Terry F | 773-702-1845      |
| Polish Museum of America                  | Chicago Near NW    |                    | 773-384-3352      |
| Prologue Adult Ed. (Literacy Tutoring)    | Chicago North      | Christina Mang     | 773-728-7221      |
| Read to Learn                             | Northwest Suburbs  | Lesley Goldberg    | 847-718-7224      |
| Refugee Program (Summer Tutoring)         | Chicago North      | Kaylee Sonnek      | 773-553-1930      |
| Smith Village                             | Chicago South      | Sarah Jewett       | 773-474-7300      |
| Substance Newspaper                       | Chicago            | C. Blumenthal      | 312-736-1702      |
| The Art Institute's Ryan Education Ctr    | Chicago Central    | Karin Jacobson     | 312-443-3798      |
| The Chicago Lighthouse                    | Chicago            | Dick Carlson       | 312-666-1331x3141 |
| The Learning Center                       | Chicaago Lawndale  | Sr. M. Kavanaugh   | 773-277-3111      |
| The University of Illinois Extension      | South Suburbs      | Karen Meyer        | 708-449-4320      |
| Travelers & Immigrants Aid                | Chicago            | Brian Harvey       | 312-629-4500x5011 |
| Triton College (Literacy)                 | River Grove        | Carol Di Fatta     | 708-456-0300x3407 |
| Vocational Bridge Academy                 | Chicago            | Robert Kos         | 773-772-7170x3002 |
| Woman Made Gallery                        | Chicago near NW    | Pamela Callahan    | 312-328-0038      |
| Working in the Schools                    | Chicago            | Liz Murphy         | 312-368-9487      |

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 also lists requests for volunteers for specific events like the Chicago Marathon or election workers along with requests for information on the history of the Chicago Public Schools.



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

**Return Service Requested**

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***HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT RTAC***



*Front Row: Bob Bures, James F. Ward, Mary Sharon Riley Steven A. Kailes, Art Leegam. Helen Johnson, Vera Paul, John W. Craig; Middle Row: Louella Preston, Rita M. Naughton, Robert V. Cunningham, Marcella L. Morrison, Louise Ponce, Richard Tryba, Ethel Philpott, Helen Wooten, Roy Coleman; Back Row: Walter Pilditch, Zygmunt K. Sokolnicki, David T. Peterson, John J. Garvey, Ned L. McCray, Raphael A. Juss, Vaughn J. Barber, John Butterfield.  
[Not pictured: Veronica Chemers, Sherye Garmony-Miller, Hubert C. Jackson, Jr.]*

*Photo courtesy of Dianna Coleman*